



For immediate release
Date: May 28, 2010

Contact: Pamela Stephens, Dir. of Communications
Phone: 336-251-1111

New Health Clinic to Expand Health Care Access in Eastern Wake County

Winston-Salem, NC: The North Carolina Association of Free Clinics (NCAFC), is pleased to recognize Shepherds Care Medical Clinic as its latest free health care clinic to be voted in to the association's membership network. The new clinic sends NCAFC's membership number to a total of 78 – the largest number of free health care clinics for any state association in the country.

Free clinics that seek membership in to NCAFC are locally run, volunteer-based and provide health care services to those less fortunate that have no financial means to obtain private health insurance. They also do not qualify for Medicaid, Medicare or Veterans Administration assistance. The free health care services and educational programs consist of primary medical care, dental, vision, prescription medication assistance and specialty services.

“The North Carolina Association of Free Clinics is pleased to welcome our newest member,” said Jason Baisden, Executive Director of NCAFC. “In light of the current economic challenges many people are facing today, we believe this clinic will play a positive role in helping the uninsured and underinsured in the Eastern Wake County community.”

The new establishment of the Shepherds Care Medical Clinic will lift some of the burden off the shoulders of the existing free clinics that have been serving patients in the Wake County community. The clinic, located at 304 B Pony Road in Zebulon, will open June 1st to begin scheduling patient eligibility appointments for local residents. The clinic's target service area will include Eastern Wake County and portions of Nash, Wake, Johnston and Franklin Counties. Eligible residents will have the opportunity to receive primary medical care, treatment for chronic disease symptoms and prescription medication assistance.

“Our vision to start a free health clinic in Eastern Wake County is now a reality,” said Leona Doner, Executive Director of the Shepherds Care Medical Clinic. “There are so many uninsured and underinsured people in our community that need medical attention and suffer tremendously from chronic diseases. They need our help and we are glad we can now do just that, make a healthier community by helping the uninsured one person at a time.”

To learn more about Shepherds Care Medical Clinic please visit their website at www.shepherdscareclinic.com or call 919-404-2474.

The North Carolina Association of Free Clinics, founded in 1998, is a private, nonprofit, 501(c) (3) tax-exempt organization that conducts advocacy, research, public relations, resource development, training and technical assistance on behalf of its member Free Clinics. The North Carolina Association of Free Clinics is the largest state association with 78 member Free Clinics, serving 78 counties throughout North Carolina. For more information, please visit www.ncfreeclinics.org or call 336-251-1111.

###
