

Wasatch Homeless Health Care, Inc.

Fourth Street Clinic:

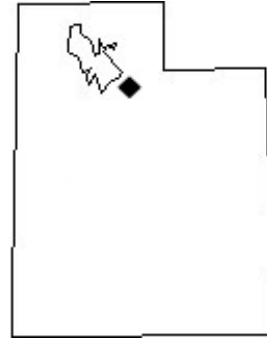
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Project Description

The Fourth Street Clinic is part of Wasatch Homeless Health Care (WHHC), providing primary and ancillary health care services free of charge to adults and children who are homeless in the Salt Lake City metropolitan area. The clinic provides a range of services under one roof, including primary and specialty health care, oral health care, case management, behavioral health, and a pharmacy. A full range of services is delivered through referrals to community partners.

Services

WHHC provides primary health care, medical referrals to specialists, patient assistance prescription program, on-site pharmacy, behavioral health and substance abuse treatment, lab work, transportation, immunizations, dental care, eye glasses, nutritional counseling, health education, HIV/AIDS referral and counseling, TB testing/follow-up, temporary medical emergency housing, respite care program, WIC, family planning, women's health services, podiatry, dermatology, physical therapy, and case management. WHHC also supports primary care clinics at Fourth Street Clinic on Monday and Thursday nights and Saturdays. WHHC provides primary health care services to homeless and runaway youth off-site Monday and Wednesday evenings. Medical outreach is conducted in parks, homeless camps, and on the streets. The program employs three full-time, mid-level providers, a part-time family practice medical director, a full-time pediatrician, a full-time pediatric RN, five care coordinators, three medical assistants, and two client services advisors. Half of the staff are Spanish-speaking. Additional clinical support is provided by Primary Children's Hospital IHC and volunteer physicians, nurses, medical students, and others. WHHC oversees housing for up to eight people in treatment for tuberculosis and provides respite care through local facilities. Fourth Street Clinic participates with other local agencies in a pilot project called Pathways which has successfully housed 17 individuals in permanent supportive housing. It is entering into a new phase which will house about 185 more homeless individuals.

Linkages

Psychosocial casework and entitlement assistance are provided under an agreement with The Road Home (shelter). Mental health case management and treatment for severe diagnoses are referred to Valley Storefront, a division of Valley Mental Health Services. WHHC also refers clients to substance abuse treatment under an agreement with the Substance Abuse Services Division of Salt Lake County. WHHC works closely with city, county, and State health departments and the University of Utah Health Sciences Center on disease control, particularly TB, West Nile Virus, and Hepatitis. City and county housing authorities are partners in helping homeless service providers solve the critical housing shortage for people who are homeless. WHHC co-manages a housing unit for TB patients with Housing Authority of Salt Lake County. WHHC also has linkages with Youth Resource Center and Open Door Clinic, two drop-in centers for homeless youth. WHHC participates with area nursing schools, to provide learning experiences for nursing students, and the University of Utah's School of Medicine to educate and train medical students and residents.

Statistics

Estimated homeless population: 3,500 Patients served: 5,700