



Northern Minnesota Network

29 West Main St. Isanti, MN 55040

Phone: 763-444-8283 Fax: 763-444-9637

Monday—Friday—8:00am—4:30pm

www.northernmnnetwork.org

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SRHS Dentrax

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INK CallJune 11

NMN Board

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MN Rural Health

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Beyond EHR....

NMN Members Reach Out to Help

Ever traveled eight hours in a dusty, crowded van down bumpy dirt roads that teeter on the edge of a 40 foot drop? Ever dared to lie down in bed and actually close your eyes after just squashing a spider the size of your hand on the wall? Ever do either of these things willingly because it allowed you to help those in need? Patty Doherty and Teresa Borak, both nurses at Sawtooth Mountain Clinic would say “Yes!” with enthusiasm to all three of these questions.

Once a year, Patty and Teresa and the rest of their “team” (a General Surgeon and an OB-GYN) traverse the bumpy dirt roads of Guatemala with Partner for Surgery, a non-profit organization based in Virginia and Guatemala, committed to helping impoverished, rural Guatemalans get access to much needed medical care.

Patty, Teresa and their team spend a week in Guatemala, visiting some of the most rural communities in the country to set up the temporary clinics that will bring this much needed care to the people. Over the course of a week, the team fields four different clinics and cares for over 500 patients.

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Message from the Director — Jackie Moen

A prime activity this month was the semi-annual EHR-MU Meeting sponsored by the Network for our members. More than 35 people attend the two-day meeting in Duluth, Minnesota. A benefit noted by many participants was the opportunity for networking and sharing best practices.

The segment “EHR Tips and Tales” was a crowd favorite! MHSI’s Kristi Jacobsen discussed their medication referral process. SMC registered nurse Amy Schmidt captured attention with a delightful presentation about their journey to find the perfect spirometry application – and they found it! R.N. Cathy Amorde with LSCHC discussed their sample medication program. SRHS Bigfork site manager, Carmen Heinecke, presented an overview of the NCQA Patient Centered Medical Home Three Year Demo Project they are participating in. Dr. Cia Kamara and Carrie Bueche, Patient Resource Specialist with CHP of Illinois teamed up to discuss dynamics of their “patient care redesign workgroup” that is part of their Patient Centered Medical Home initiative. Thank you to all for sharing the great work you’re doing at your health centers!

Additional engaging presentations were given by Betty Hanna, consultant and HCH site evaluator, about “The Road to MDH Health Care Home Certification.” This topic was very popular and timely, as was the Meaningful Use update delivered by Linda Ridlehuber, QI Specialist with the MN Association of Community Health Centers.

Please visit our website to see the full meeting agenda and all presentations.



The group pausing for a picture break during the EHR-MU meeting.

This Month's Technology Tips

By Kyle Gilbertson

File Extensions

When you save a file on your computer it will automatically get a “.” and a 3 letter extension added to it.
i.e. Document.doc

The following are common file extensions:

- .doc or .docx is a Word Document
- .ppt or .pptx is a Power Point
- .xls or .xlsx is an Excel Spreadsheet
- .pdf is an Portable Document Format (typically opened with Adobe Reader)
- .url is an Internet Shortcut
- .lnk is a Link Shortcut
- .jpg, .png, or .gif are Image extensions
- .mpg is a movie or animation file
- .mp3 or .wav is an Sound or Music file
- .htm is a Web page
- .zip is an Archived or Compressed file
- .rtf is a Rich Text document (opens with Word)



The process isn't all that different from what you might see here in the USA. Patty and Teresa listen to the patients: they gather a health history, they ask the patient to describe symptoms and then they assess them. If they assess the patient might be a candidate for surgery, the patient is then seen by one of the doctors on the team. From there, the patient's need is either acutely met or, if surgery is indeed a necessity, a referral is immediately established and the patient is connected with a Guatemalan Health Promoter employed by Partner for Surgery who facilitates travel, follow up and other logistics for the surgery, ensuring there are no gaps in the patient's care. "We see a lot of things you would never see in the US because it would have been taken care of immediately." Patty says. "Things like 17 year-olds with cleft lip and palate or women who have been living with a prolapsed uterus for years."

This process doesn't come easy though—there are many hurdles. For one, the Guatemalan patients don't speak English and in most cases, not even Spanish. "They speak one of the 32 dialects of Mayan," says Teresa. "We rely a lot on our translators." But the effort is worth it—during their last visit there, 150 people were set-up to receive much needed surgery.



"We've been doing this for eight years," says Patty. "I don't see us stopping any time soon. Partner for Surgery is an extremely effective organization, helping countless indigenous people in Guatemala to access the health care they deserve."

If you would like to know more about Partner for Surgery, contact Patty or Teresa at Sawtooth Mountain Clinic, 218-387-2330 or visit the Partner for Surgery website:

www.partnerforsurgery.org. Article Submitted by -Amymarie Schmidt



*Introducing
Campbell Reed Klobucher
May 6, 2012 at 8:48am
6 pounds, 10 ounces and 20 inches
Proud parents,
Jason and Leah Klobucher*

**2012 Minnesota Rural
Health Conference**

June 25-26

Duluth, MN

**[www.health.state.mn.us/divs/
orhpc/conf/](http://www.health.state.mn.us/divs/orhpc/conf/)**



NMN Member Clinics

Migrant Health Service, Inc.

www.migranthealthservice.org

Moorhead 218-236-6502

Grafton 701-352-4565

Rochester 507-529-0503

Willmar 320-214-7286

Sawtooth Mountain Clinic

www.sawtoothmountainclinci.org

Grand Marais 218-387-2330

Grand Portage 218-475-2235

Tofte 218-663-7263

Cook Area Health Services dba

Scenic Rivers Health Services

www.scenicrivershealthservices.org

All SRHS Clinics can be reached Toll Free at 877-541-2817

Bigfork, Big Falls, Cook, Floodwood and Northome

Lake Superior Community

Health Center

www.lschc.org

Duluth 218-722-1497

Superior 715-392-1955

Community Health Partnership of Illinois

www.chpofil.org

Aurora 630-859-0015

Hoopeston 217-283-5523

Kankakee 815-932-6045

Mendota 815-539-6124

Rantoul 217-893-3052

Woodstock 815-337-9640

Admin. Office 312-795-000

The Northern Minnesota Network

We take our mission to heart and commit to serving our member organizations through customized service.