



# A New Life Starts Here!

## Clinical Pharmacy Services

**CPS identified and corrected 525 adverse drug events and 710 potential adverse drug events among clinic patients in 2009 and 2010.**

### Clinical Pharmacy Services (CPS)

Improves patient health outcomes by:

- ensuring a patient's various medications aren't creating adverse side effects,
- decreasing medication lapses and other problems,
- educating patients about their medications, and
- actively engaging patients in their health care.

### Program Personnel

**Stephen P. Raffanti, MD, MPH**, Medical Director  
**Bud Blackwell, MSN, BSN, RN** Nurse Case Manager  
**Leslie Modena, BSN, RN, CWOCN**, Nurse Case Manager  
**Ryan Moss, PharmD**, Pharmacist

### Program Benefits

- Avoiding hospital and ER visits due to adverse drug events and problem drug-to-drug interactions.
- Patient education creates solid understanding of the critical role meds play in staying healthy.
- Increasing patient's "ownership" of their disease; creating a sense of pride in being able to manage their meds on their own. Thus they become better educated health care consumers.
- Additional programs like smoking cessation and diabetes education; and helping patients understand how other chronic conditions can affect HIV disease.

### Program Success

Six months after the CPS program became involved with clinical antiretroviral (ART) conferences, median time to start meds was reduced from 17 to 9 days; 92% of patients were taking recommended meds in 30 days, up from 64% before the CPS program.

### Success Stories

*Ruth, a 51-year-old woman, was admitted to a local hospital due to low blood pressure and low potassium levels. The CPS Team learned that she was taking old HIV meds with new HIV meds that were started in the hospital. She was also double dosing a diarrhea medication because the bottles had different names on them. The team also found she was taking an old blood pressure medicine that she no longer needed. All issues were corrected and Ruth is now safely maintaining her medication regimen.*

*James was diagnosed with HIV in 1998. When the CPS Team began working with him in 2009, his CD4 count was 10 and his viral load was 189,000 copies. As of April 2010, his CD4 count was 475 and his viral load was undetectable.*

### Bottom Line: Unequaled Health Care & Savings/Every Donated Dollar!

The mean cost of an HIV hospital stay was \$13,290 in 2005 (AHRQ, H-CUP, 2007). The CPS Program has a budget of \$400,000. The program served 846 clients in 2009 for an annual per patient cost of approximately \$473.

**CPS saves \$12,817 for every patient kept out of the hospital due to drug errors and lapses. Keeping just 6% of CPS patients out of the hospital saves \$653,667 per year, over \$250,000 more than the cost of the program.**

### How You Can Help

- **\$50** purchases adherence supplies (pill boxes, alarm watches) for 5 patients.
- **\$100** provides services for 1 patient for 2.5 months.
- **\$475** provides services for 1 patient for 1 year.

