



From Olivia Wenger, MD

We dedicate this newsletter to Martha Horst, New Leaf's conscientious Executive Director. Martha is retiring in November. We welcome Barb Reinford in her place. Martha isn't particularly comfortable with attention, but her gifts to our clinic deserve acknowledgement. Dr. Elton Lehman first introduced me to Martha in the spring of 2012 at community interest meetings. Martha had recently retired from an administrative/teaching career at Malone University. At that time, I had no staff. New Leaf's board was newly born. Martha's eyes were sharp and her face was steady. She readily agreed to accompany me on home visits a few weeks later.

To organize a clinic around a dreamy pediatrician is no small task. Martha is a person who can tell when you're down. She kept me going through perpetual unknowns in New Leaf's infancy. She continues to be a safe sounding board. She knows when to bring a small gift, write an encouraging email, or capture that one essential detail in problem solving. I know she was pushed well beyond her comfort zone many times. Martha handled everything from overflowing toilets to marketing calls from electric companies. Her attitude toward families reminds me to focus more on the moment and less on the task at hand.

So Martha, thank you for your service to me, to our staff, and the children we love. Many of us are in the crazy busy stage of life. We work day after day. It is easy to forget that we will retire someday too. You've modelled how to gracefully handle life's transitions. Your prayers brought us strength.

In light of Martha's example, I will close with some comments from the Akron Childrens residents after trips to Mount Eaton. To be a pediatrician, a young doctor is required to spend at least three years training in a children's hospital. Akron's pediatric trainees spend one day in their

three years at New Leaf. Being their mentor takes patience, but the job is rewarding in the end. Many visiting residents are inspired after they see our unique practice. One day, one of them may partner with me. So when you see them in the hospital, say hello. They are like any other young person and appreciate a positive word.

"I think it is so important to be aware of the backgrounds of your patients to effectively treat them and I was reminded of this by travelling to the New Leaf Clinic. The patients felt so comfortable with Dr. Wenger and you could tell that they had trust in her, which is something that I would like to establish with my patients as well. I took away from my experience with Dr. Wenger the desire to know more about my patients than just their disease process." -Christine Bacha,

First Year Pediatric Resident

"To work with clinic staff and a physician who were so passionate towards benefiting this specific patient population was inspiring. I realized the foundation of community pediatrics and health care in general is working to help people regardless of culture, values and obstacles. One needs to address a specific health care need that they find motivating. I hope to apply this experience to my personal and professional life by remembering to be passionate and open minded toward the people we serve in the health care community as well as viewing differences in cultures as a strength in our communities as a whole." —Bethany Brown,

First Year Pediatric Resident

We want to do our best at every stage of life. Really, our training never stops.



New Leaf Center is seeking for a second physician. Interested persons can inquire at 330-359-9888 or frontdesk@newleafclinic.org.



Barbara A. Reinford –
Executive Director
- by Stephen Steiner – Board Chair



The New Leaf Center Board is pleased to announce the appointment of Barbara A. Reinford as the Executive Director. Barb spent the past 14 years working as Market Operations Manager at Everence (formally Mennonite Mutual Aid). She is a Registered Nurse. Prior to her work at Everence she worked in community health in North Carolina and Alabama. We look forward to Barb's leadership as she takes New Leaf Center to the next level in supporting the children with special needs in our plain community. Please join us in welcoming Barb as she gives leadership to New Leaf Center.



Janice Rufener –
Part-time Assistant Office Manager–
Janice Rufener has come to work at

NLC on a part-time basis as the Assistant Office Manager/ Receptionist. This gives Arie the opportunity to have a few days off now and then. Also she is a great support in doing the monthly inventory of medications and nutrition supplements. She is an RN and raised a family of seven children. She had a special needs grandchild whom she loved dearly and helped to give care. By Martha Horst

Electronic Medical Record Update

To date we have reviewed three systems, Medent, Aprima and Greenway. We hope to make a decision by Mid November and have a system in place by early 2016. By Arie Troyer

Austin Bailey Grant

New Leaf Center was recently awarded a \$25,000 grant from the Austin Bailey Health and Wellness Foundation. This grant will help to improve the care of our children with Propionic Acidemia (PA) by providing funds to purchase an EKG machine. Funding from this grant will also allow New Leaf's children with Cystic Fibrosis to have improved care by providing Spirometry testing and telemed-visits with an Akron Childrens Hospital dietitian in our Mount Eaton office, as well as funding a CF Family Education day. We are extremely grateful for the support of the Austin Bailey foundation. Kathy Troyer

Ohio Crippled Children's Fund (OCCF)

Ohio Crippled Children's Fund would like to encourage families who have children with inherited disorders to see Dr. Olivia Wenger at New Leaf Center. New Leaf Center is located in Mt. Eaton and has been very helpful to families with special needs children. If children need to be hospitalized, the families have great comfort in getting assistance, guidance, direction and follow-up with Dr. Wenger. New Leaf Center is also a cost savings to OCCF and the community. Often care can be managed without hospitalization or expensive testing.

New Leaf Center concentrates on complex Genetic disorders and wants the community to be aware that the practice exists for a specific special need. OCCF is thankful to be able to work with New Leaf Center. Atlee Raber for the OCCF Board

Subspecialty Clinics

It is important to us here at New Leaf Center that we provide our patients with the best care that we



possibly can. Due to the complex nature of the children we serve at the clinic, Dr. Wenger often finds it necessary to consult with other doctors who are specially trained in various areas. Since she is currently the only physician at the clinic, she finds it very beneficial to interact with other doctors. We have several doctors who come to New Leaf Center to do focus clinics for our patients. These doctors provide support to Dr. Wenger by acting as additional sets of eyes and ears to see and hear what patients and families are going through. In this way, they can work together to develop a better plan of care for the children. Here is a small snapshot of each physician and what they bring to the patients at New Leaf Center.

Dr. Margaret McBride is a pediatric Neurologist who worked at the University of Rochester for 19 years before coming to Akron Children's Hospital. She then worked at Akron for another 16 years before retiring this past April. She comes to NLC every three months to see patients with Dr. Wenger who suffer from disorders of the brain, often involving seizures. Her expertise in managing

seizures and seizure medications has been extremely valuable.

Dr. Dennis Weiner is an orthopedic doctor who comes to us from the Skeletal Dysplasia Center at Akron Children's hospital. He works several days a week at his practice and comes to our clinic every 3 months to see patients with Dr. Wenger, who have Cartilage Hair Hypoplasia (Dwarfism). It has been helpful for Dr. Wenger to have Dr. Weiner's advice when it comes to the skeletal problems that these patients encounter.

This past April we had the privilege of having Doctor Holmes Morton speak at our fundraiser dinner. He is the founder of the Clinic for Special Children in Lancaster, PA, and takes a special interest in children suffering from Propionic Acidemia. He also did a focus clinic with Dr. Wenger last April where, together, they saw a large number of children and some adults with Propionic Acidemia. Dr. Wenger has seen Dr. Morton as a mentor as she has developed her clinic and is grateful for what she has learned from him, especially as she continues to see more and more patients with PA.

Dr. J.R. Bockoven, a pediatric cardiologist, also came to the Propionic Acidemia focus clinic we had in April. Patients with Propionic Acidemia are at increased risk for heart problems. Dr. Bockoven and his assistant have agreed to come to the clinic periodically to do Echocardiograms and EKG's. These tests help Dr. Wenger monitor how well the heart is working. By having these tests done regularly, heart problems can be picked up much quicker and by having Doctor Bockoven come to New Leaf to do these tests, families are able to avoid additional trips to Akron.



Dr. Emma Baple is a clinical Geneticist who is from Exeter, England. She and Andrew Crosby (a scientist), are part of the Windows of Hope research group. Doctor Wenger has found their expertise in diagnosing genetic disorders to be extremely valuable. They have a particular interest in the inherited disorders of the Amish communities in this area. They come to New Leaf every 6 months to do focus clinics and aid Doctor Wenger in seeing

patients who have been difficult to diagnose. This diagnostic advice further helps Doctor Wenger in caring for and supporting these children and families. Most recently Dr. Baple and Dr. Crosby were here from October 14-16, seeing patients with Doctor Wenger both in the home setting and at New Leaf Center. By Angela Zuercher



Volunteers at NLC

Volunteers are a valuable asset to New Leaf Center. We have volunteer drivers who take our patients to Akron Children's Hospital when they have check-ups for the cost of gas. The families pay \$25.00 + parking. Paul Miller, Wanda Beattie, Linda Schrock, and Mark Watson from Akron Children's hospital have been involved with this service. If you know of anyone who would like to be a volunteer driver we would love to hear from them.

Anna Mae Miller and Lexi Miller (Arie's Jr. High niece) have been a great help in assembling charts, stamping envelopes and restocking rooms.

Diane Hartzler has made several hundred "Mic-Key covers". These are soft covers that fit around the opening of a feeding tube. They help to absorb any drainage or moisture. We provide families with 12 covers, along with a mesh bag so the covers can be washed with regular laundry.

Virgil Troyer, Kathy's husband, volunteered his time to help assess the need for accounting assistance.

Dale Curran, a friend of Virgil Troyer, has donated over 56 hours to New Leaf Center. Dale is retired from the Wooster Community Hospital where he has a background in accounting and in Information Technology. Dale has helped us set up a new Donor Data base, is helping with accounting issues, and he is helping to review and research Electronic Medical Record options. Dale's contribution helps bring professional oversight in all of these areas and his contribution is invaluable. By Arie Troyer



Love is patient, love is kind. It does not envy, it does not boast, it is not proud. I Cor. 13:4



Mission Statement

To provide medical care to Anabaptist children with inherited disorders through:

- 1. Access to population-specific diagnostic evaluation.**
- 2. Access to consultation for urgent medical issues (call coverage).**
- 3. Family-centered guidance regarding treatment options.**
- 4. Participatory research that focuses on immediate needs.**
- 5. Facilitation of productive discussion across cultures, disciplines, specialties and institutions about the needs of special children.**
- 6. Development of long-term sustainability through networking, fundraising, and recruitment.**

Board of Directors:

Stephen Steiner, Chair, Dalton
Scott Brace, Secretary, Chagrin Falls
Brian Kempf, Treasurer, Apple Creek
Dr. Dan Miller, Walnut Creek
Jason Miller, Vice Chair, Millersburg
Atlee Raber, Public Relations, Berlin
Dannie Troyer, Parent, Fredericksburg
James Troyer, Parent, Baltic

New Leaf Center is also under the direction
of a Bishop Advisory Board.

NLC is a non-profit 501(c) (3) tax exempt organization and a registered charitable organization in Ohio. Tax deductible receipts will be given for all contributions.

**New Leaf Center (NLC)
PO Box 336**

15988B East Chestnut St.

Mt. Eaton, OH 44659

Phone: 330-359-9888

Fax: 330-330-359-9890

Email: frontdesk@newleafclinic.org

www.newleafclinic.org

Office Hours: M-F 9:00 AM- 5:00

After Hours Phone #: 330-263-8500