Many low-income working people in Washington County go without health care services because they can't afford them. Now children and adults who are unable to pay for care can seek help at a free clinic that opened earlier this year at Hartford Memorial Hospital.

The clinic is the second in Washington County operated by Donated Health Care Services Inc., a volunteer organization that provides free health care to needy people. The clinic sees patients two Tuesday evenings a month for short-term basic health care needs. In addition, appropriate treatment, screenings, education and referrals are provided. Qualified patients have access through referrals and a voucher system to a network of hospitals, clinics, dentists, chiropractors, pharmacies and eye care specialists.

"The program was developed by the community to serve the people," explains Diane Reif, RN, nursing outreach and ICU coordinator at Hartford Memorial. "Everyone is contributing in a different way and everyone is really appreciated and needed."

The clinic is staffed entirely by volunteers. Hartford Memorial provides the space for registration, examination and consultation rent-free.

"This effort brings people together to serve a humanitarian need in the community," explains Loretta Klassen, director-patient care services at Hartford Memorial and a Donated Health board member. Loretta has provided administrative leadership for this project at the hospital.

The clinic and vouchers are possible because of ongoing community fundraising and volunteer efforts. Donated Health began as a formal non-profit organization after retired General Clinic of West Bend physician James Albrecht successfully rallied local support for the idea. Donated Health's board of directors includes members from both Washington County hospitals, the county's department of social services, Bank One and other health professionals and volunteers.
The Sports Medicine Institute of Sinai Samaritan Medical Center and Adventure Rock, 21250 W. Capitol Dr., have formed a partnership to provide free injury evaluations to members, staff and patrons of Adventure Rock, a new climbing center in the Town of Brookfield.

Physical therapist Megan Batha, a sport climber, began providing the evaluations March 10. She’s on duty at Adventure Rock from 5 to 6 p.m. the second and fourth Tuesday of each month to evaluate sports injuries and give recommendations about treatment and prevention.

“It’s a great facility,” says Megan, also a certified strength and conditioning specialist, who works at the Sports Medicine Institute. “It’s a good place for beginners and experienced climbers. The climbing surface allows for many different climbs, and the holds can be changed to make it more or less challenging.”

Adventure Rock is a new climbing center designed solely for rock climbing. The walls are 35 feet from floor to ceiling and there’s more than 9,500 square feet of climbing surface. Some of the climbing surface includes overhangs that lean back toward the floor to really challenge climbers. The owners say it’s the tallest climbing gym in the state.

Megan says the essential equipment a person needs to get into climbing are special climbing shoes, a rope and a bag of chalk to keep your hands dry. Adventure Rock rents all essential climbing equipment to get started.

The Sports Medicine Institute also provides free injury evaluations by appointment at the following locations: 1218 W. Kilbourn Ave., suite 305; 19601 W. Bluemound Rd. and 12121 N. Corporate Pky, suite 350.
Join a March of Dimes WalkAmerica Team

Help support a nation-wide campaign for healthier babies. The Milwaukee area WalkAmerica is at 9 a.m. Saturday, April 25 at O'Donnell Park, south gardens. Washington County's WalkAmerica is at 9 a.m. Sunday, April 26 in West Bend. There's no limit on the number of people who can join a team. Employees are encouraged to invite family members, friends and neighbors to participate. Team leaders are Denise Brown, (414) 670-7286, Hartford Memorial Hospital; Brian Neal, (414) 389-0604, St. Luke's Medical Center; and Percy Tyler-Waranka, RN, OB Clinic, (414) 937-5800, Sinai Samaritan Medical Center.

Aurora Nursing Education - Metro Region - introduces:
Outcomes management: Theory + Process + Tools = Results!
8 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. Friday, May 1
Aurora Conference Center
Presented by Marita Schifalacqua, Lee Jeske & Paula O'Hearn
For information, call Paula O'Hearn, (414) 649-7031.
To register, call nursing education, (414) 647-6370.

Lombardi Run for Daylight
8:30 a.m. on Saturday, June 6
Menomonee Falls High School
The setting: A beautiful 5K (3.1) mile course in Menomonee Falls.
The extras: A T-shirt, 2 spectator tickets to the Vince Lombardi Golf Classic (also taking place on June 6), a post-run celebration and a packet of handouts.
The benefits: All pledges and donations will support the Vince Lombardi Cancer Clinic and the Gene Therapy Research Lab at St. Luke's Medical Center.
Sign up today! Entry forms are available at St. Luke's Gift Shop, the Credit Union and the Vince Lombardi Cancer Clinic. For information, call Jerry Anderson, (414) 649-7143 or the VLCC Hotline, (414) 649-7200. To volunteer, call Gloria at (414) 649-6225.

Employee Rummage Sale
8-9 a.m. Saturday, April 25
Furniture, cabinets, office items, chairs, tables, miscellaneous. Basement level, enter building at shipping and receiving on south side. Cash & carry only! Items must be removed immediately upon purchase. No previews or pre-sales. Personal checks okay. Call Donna Babcock, (414) 649-7397 with questions.

National Medical Laboratory Week
April 12-18
This year's theme "Laboratory Professionals: Making the World a Healthier Place" is a reminder of the profound impact the medical laboratory has on health care throughout the world. The week of April 12th is set aside to recognize the dedicated professionals who staff our medical laboratories and the importance of their work.

April is National Occupational Therapy Month
During April, observances in Aurora facilities will offer information on the role occupational therapists (OTRs) and certified occupational therapy assistants (COTAs) play in helping people handle "skills for the job of living." This year's theme for National OT Month. Each person's daily life is made up of a variety of activities in the "job of living." Health problems can seriously interfere with skills needed in the job of living. OTRs and COTAs, trained in the structure and function of the mind and body, evaluate and treat people of all ages to improve their function and satisfaction in life.
May 1998 Nursing Education Classes
These classes are held at the Aurora Conference Center and are free to Aurora employees unless a different location or fee is indicated in the course or class description. Courses or classes may be canceled if the minimum registrations are not received. Pre-registration is required for every class and course in March. For more information and to register, call nursing education, (414) 647-6370, or fax the registration to nursing education, (414) 647-4878, or send e-mail on cc:Mail to nsg_ed or to nsg_ed@aurora.org on the Internet.

7  Chemotherapy precertification class begins, 9:30 a.m.-5 p.m., Eastern Wisconsin Regional Cancer Center. To register, call Nancy O'Brien, administration, Sheboygan Memorial Medical Center, (920) 451-5410. Two-day workshop plus two-hour exam two weeks after last class. $50 fee to Aurora employees.

12  Concepts in psychosocial nursing 7:30 a.m.-4 p.m., Aurora Conference Center. Content geared to the advanced beginner, includes family violence, suicide prevention/evaluation, ethics, death and dying and compassion fatigue avoidance.

14  RN preceptor workshop, 8 a.m.-4:30 p.m., Aurora Conference Center.

15  Organ & tissue donation: the vital connection between life and death, 7:45 a.m.-4:45 p.m., Aurora Conference Center. $20 fee to Aurora affiliate employees. Register via flyer or call Peggy Wipplinger, (414) 647-3347. For more information, call Sue Truchan, (414) 647-3597.

18  Critical care module - hemodynamic monitoring, 8 a.m.-4:30 p.m., Aurora Conference Center.

19  Critical care module - cardiovascular, 8 a.m.-4:30 p.m., Aurora Conference Center.

21  Care of the cardiovascular patient (formerly monitored bed orientation). Content geared to those new to cardiac care, 8 a.m. to 4:30 p.m., Aurora Conference Center.

28 12 lead ECG: what's normal and what's not, 8 a.m.-4 p.m., Aurora Conference Center.