

# Go and Tell John

NEWS FROM  
CHRIST COMMUNITY HEALTH SERVICES AUGUSTA, GA  
INTERNAL MEDICINE AND PEDIATRICS

Go and tell John what you have seen and heard: the blind receive their sight, the lame walk, lepers are cleansed, and the deaf hear, the dead are raised up, the poor have good news preached to them. And blessed is the one who is not offended by me.

-Jesus  
Matthew 11:2-3

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## The Widows Home is Open!

On Monday, August 22, a new chapter in the Christ Community Health Services story began. Almost four years after Dr. Robert Campbell, Dr. Grant Scarborough, Nurse Karen Hobbs and Office Manager Sandra Duncan opened

the doors at the D'Antignac Street clinic, the Ann Boardman Widows Home is a reality.

Located in the heart of Augusta's Olde Town community, the first floor of

the new facility features 12 exam rooms, a spacious patient waiting room, full sized lab and provider work stations. The Widows Home is a testimony to God's faithfulness and His provision for Christ Community Health Services. We give Him all the praise and thanks.



Dr. Campbell, Dr. Ayers,  
Dr. Hoover & Dr. Scarborough



Ann Boardman



More than 250 friends attended  
the dedication



Ready for the patients



One of the new exam rooms



IT Central during set-up at the  
Widows Home



Janet and Kristen

## Columbus Bound: CCHSA bids farewell to Dr. Scarborough and Nurse Karen

When Dr. Grant Scarborough and Dr. Robert Campbell founded Christ Community Health Services Augusta in 2007, one of their goals was to serve as a sending station for others to go out and duplicate the CCHSA concept. The first 'child' of CCHSA is about to make its entrance into the world as Dr. Scarborough and Nurse Karen Hobbs venture west to Columbus, Georgia to establish MercyMed.

Grant and Karen, two of the original four CCHSA staffers,

will leave Augusta in September with the goal of opening the new clinic in November.

All of us at CCHSA will miss Grant and Karen and their caring spirits. We send them off with our prayers and support knowing that God will provide for MercyMed just as He has provided for Christ Community Health Services. Godspeed, friends!

*For special messages from both Dr. Scarborough and Karen, please turn to page 3.*



# Executive Director's Update

from Jeff Drake

When the first shovel went into the ground in the back yard of the Widows Home last October it was hard to imagine what the finished product would look like. Now, here we are at the other end of the first floor renovation process. When I stand in the new waiting room at the Widows Home I am amazed at how God has provided for Christ Community Health every step of the way.

Our desire is that this health center will be a place of refuge for our new neighbors in the Olde Town Community and the entire CSRA. We are excited about joining the other incredible ministries that are already at work in Olde Town: Heritage Academy, Broad Street Ministries, the many churches in the area and other organizations that are already bringing the light of the gospel to this area.

Special thanks to R.W. Allen Construction, Nick Dickinson & Associates, all of the sub-contractors,

the hundreds of volunteers and everyone who played a part in the work at the Widows Home. This was truly a labor of love.

I want to extend an invitation to all of our friends to visit this incredible new facility. We would welcome the opportunity to show you how God is working through CCHSA to reach our neighbors who are in need of affordable health care.

Now that we've opened the first floor of the Widows Home, we are eager to finish the second floor. Your gifts to the Widows Home campaign will help us complete the second phase of the renovations. Please use the enclosed envelope to send a donation today – or give online at [www.christcommunityaugusta.org](http://www.christcommunityaugusta.org). Thank you for your support.



## Widows Home History

1818 The property on which the Widows Home building is located was the site of Augusta's first **City Hospital**. Constructed in 1818, the hospital provided for the "sick poor" of Augusta and later evolved into the present University Hospital.

1829 Using two borrowed rooms at the City Hospital, Georgia's first school of medicine opened its doors as the **Medical Academy of Georgia**. This location served as an academic facility until 1835, when the school, then reamed the **Medical College of Georgia**, moved to the corner of 6th and Telfair Streets.

1871 The **Widows Home Society** is formed. The Widows Home was originally located in the 1818 City Hospital building after that institution moved to Walker Street in 1869.

1887 The current Second Empire structure is built to house eight to ten Confederate widows deemed "worthy women."

1895 Records show that the Widows Home had 46 occupants, 19 of which were children.

1980 The Parks, Recreation and Historic Sites Division of the Georgia Department of Natural Resources approves a request for **a historical marker** designating the Widows Home property as the site of Georgia's first school of medicine.

2002 The Board of Directors announces it would be closing the Widows Home.

2003 The Widows Home building is purchased by an Atlanta developer and an easement is donated to **Historic Augusta, Inc.**

2005 **Augusta Capital LLC** purchases the Widows Home.

2007 **Christ Community Health Services Augusta** opens in the Laney Walker Community at 1226 D'Antignac Street. **Augusta Capital** donates the Widows Home to CCHSA.

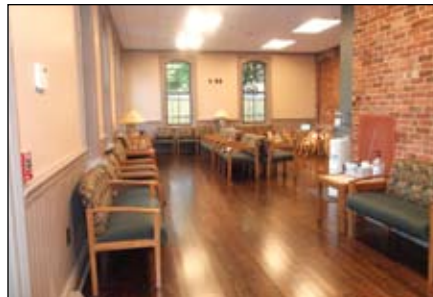
2010 Renovations on the first floor of the Widows Home begin.

2011 Christ Community Health Services dedicates the **Ann Boardman Widows Home** and opens the Olde Town Community Health Center.

Sources: Georgia Health Sciences University, Historic Augusta, Inc., University Health Care System.



The New Lab



The Waiting Room



The CCHSA Staff - ready to serve



## Jumping from eight stairs up

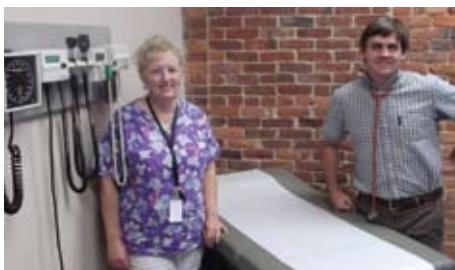
*A special message from CCHSA Co-founder Dr. Scarborough...*

Jessie, my six year old, broke her ankle, I thought. She leapt from the top of the stairs. Jessie is so light that when she jumps she kind of floats, almost like a feather. The first and second time she jumped from eight stairs high, she floated like a feather down to the grass, barely missing the bottom step. The third time her ankle caught that bottom step. The feather was wounded.

When I think of Jessie, I am reminded of that first jump we took starting this clinic in Augusta. When I think of that feather, I think of Forrest Gump and the feather that followed him. Christ Community leapt into Augusta trusting Jesus to provide. We were committed to what Jesus is committed to. Jesus loves the poor. He calls us to feed the hungry, clothe the naked, and care for the less fortunate. He calls us to humble ourselves, like He did, and serve our neighbor. We leapt holding onto a mission near and dear to God's heart.

There have been a few broken ankles along the way, but Jesus is faithful. He provided and has been lifted high allowing us to be a light in this community. God is so good. I recently wrote a letter to a company in Memphis who gave us our first donation, \$15,000. What an amazing seed that was planted. Through August of this year, over 26,000 patient encounters at CCHSA have given us the opportunity to heal the sick and offer the touch of Christ.

That feather of health clinics started in Memphis. The original Christ Community Health Services encouraged us to take a leap of faith in Augusta. Our dream has been to mimic Memphis by starting and encouraging clinics where there is a need. The feather of adventure for me floated from Memphis to Augusta and now is leading me to start a clinic in Columbus, Georgia. It is time to jump once more from eight steps high trusting that God will provide as I respond to His call to care for the poor.



Karen Hobbs, RN and Dr. Grant Scarborough

I am leaving CCHSA in mid-September to move to Columbus. My goal is to open MercyMed of Columbus in November. I am not going alone, my nurse, Karen Hobbs, is coming with me to start the new clinic. The need in Columbus is similar to Augusta; nearly 1 out of 5 individuals does not have health insurance.

I hope this news excites you even more about the work that is being done here. CCHSA is not only caring for the needy of Augusta, it is sending out missionaries to other areas where there is a need. I hope this is the first of many missionaries sent out. Think of the impact this community can have as they send missionaries out throughout our state and beyond.

As the co-founder of CCHSA, it is very hard to leave. I would remind you to remember the disciples' words to Paul: "remember the poor." CCHSA is doing a great work and needs your support, prayers, and time. Invest in this group of broken sinners living out the gospel to the poor in Augusta. Invest in CCHSA as they become mission senders to the world to be good Samaritans to all in need.

Thank you for believing in me these last four years. Thank you for your generosity and your prayers. I will always be grateful for your kindness. You can follow my leap from eight stairs high at [www.mercymedcolumbus.com](http://www.mercymedcolumbus.com).

Pray I will trust Jesus entirely and He will be lifted high. Pray I can have even some of the impact in Columbus that CCHSA has had on this community. Looking back over these four years of adventure, I leave you with the song that floats beside me like that feather, always present....

"Great is Thy faithfulness," O God my Father,  
There is no shadow of turning with Thee;  
Thou changest not, Thy compassions, they fail not  
As Thou hast been Thou forever wilt be.  
"Great is Thy faithfulness!" "Great is Thy faithfulness!"  
Morning by morning new mercies I see;  
All I have needed Thy hand hath provided—  
"Great is Thy faithfulness," Lord, unto me!

## A Letter from Karen Hobbs, RN

Dear friends and family of CCHSA,

Though I cannot see you and haven't met many of you; I feel and experience your gifts, love, passion and prayers daily here in the clinic! I get to be like UPS....daily delivering the gifts of love, hope and medical care that have been sent by you, and ultimately by Jesus Christ our Lord!

Things have changed a lot since November 2007. I feel like now we are a legion instead of a small unit. And with that growth comes much change. It is my part of that change that I want to share with you!

I have a new job at CCHSA and a new assignment. I have been inspired by God to move to Columbus, Georgia to birth a new clinic. I agree with Dr. Scarborough that MercyMed of Columbus is a worthy cause and will fulfill a need in that city just as CCHSA has here in

Augusta. I am shifting my responsibilities as nurse manager/nurturer at Christ Community to Kristin McLoughlin, RN. Kristin loves the Lord and has served with me for several years, not being fully recognized for all she does and all the responsibilities she carries. Though it is amazing to watch, it is not surprising to see our God supply another servant to yoke with Kristin in the position she had with me – our new CMA, Kim Losier. God misses nothing. No detail or need goes unmet under His watchful eye! I thank God for His amazing touch at CCHSA.

I will continue to serve as Dr. Scarborough's nurse through mid-September when I anticipate moving to Columbus. I have been at CCHSA since day one. It has been a marvelous adventure and one I would not have missed! I documented my story in an interview for

the Story Corps program last fall. If you are interested in hearing about the early days at CCHSA, please contact Ron Skenes at CCHSA for a copy of the CD.

So, I am off on another adventure! Only God knows the days and the direction of my life. Wherever I go, my memories of CCHSA and you will go with me! Thank you for being obedient to God in supporting our mission here at Christ Community Health Services. I hope you will come and see us at MercyMed in Columbus (after God lets us know exactly where that will be!).

Please keep us in your prayers and check our website at [mercymedcolumbus.org](http://mercymedcolumbus.org).

With a sincere love ....and a BIG hug and  
THANK YOU!!  
Karen Hobbs, RN



**Christ Community**  
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**Internal Medicine and Pediatrics**

THE NEWSLETTER OF  
CHRIST COMMUNITY HEALTH SERVICES AUGUSTA, GA  
INTERNAL MEDICINE AND PEDIATRICS

P.O. Box 2344  
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***Now Open for Business!***

**Olde Town Community Health Center**

**127 Telfair Street. Call (706) 922-0600 for an appointment.**



**Mission:** Christ Community Health Services Augusta exists to proclaim Jesus Christ as Lord and to demonstrate His love by providing affordable, quality primary health care to the underserved of Augusta.

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