



Arlington Hospital • Arlington Clinic • Gaylord Clinic • Henderson Clinic • Winthrop Clinic • Home Health Care

New Medical Staff Directors



Ehtaisham Mohammed, MD & Assen Chekerdjiev, MD

Sibley Medical Center is pleased to announce the appointment of Dr. Assen Chekerdjiev as Medical Chief of Staff beginning January 1, 2009. Dr. Chekerdjiev is an internal medicine physician and has been with Sibley Medical Center for 5 1/2 years. He has a passion for patient care at SMC and will provide outstanding leadership in the coming years. Dr.

Chekerdjiev replaces Dr. Dean Bergersen who served as Chief of Staff for many years.

Dr. Ehtaisham Mohammed has accepted the position of Vice Chief of Staff. Dr. Mohammed is a family practice physician and has been with SMC since July of 2007. His compassion for patients and their families is a wonderful asset to SMC. Dr. Mohammed replaces Dr. Vener who has served for several years in this position.

Congratulations to both of these physicians. SMC is fortunate to have them on staff.

SMC Prepares for Electronic Medical Records

Sibley Medical Center is currently working on a very important project that will affect patients, employees and SMC as a whole. Depending on whom you ask, it can be referred to as either Electronic Medical Records (EMR) or Electronic Health Record (EHR). EMR is changing how hospitals and clinics do business today by moving from the typical "paper" charting to an electronic version. This will allow for better quality of care for patients, increased patient safety, and improved performance. Initially, the first step will be to have access to EMR throughout SMC and ultimately to other health care facilities.



Chris Bulau, I.T. Manager

An EMR project can take anywhere from 2-5 years to implement because of the complexity of the project. Here at Sibley Medical Center we have been working on our EMR project since January of 2008 when our EMR committee was formed. We have been busy with vendor selection including demonstrations and site visits to other health care facilities using these products. We have also been reviewing internal processes and procedures (a time consuming task) to ready our facilities for the move to EMR.

The Sibley Medical Foundation Holds Their 21st Annual Benefit!

Mark your calendar for **April 17th!** The Sibley Medical Foundation is excited to bring you their 21st Annual Benefit featuring local talents from around Sibley County! The event will be held at the Arlington Community Center and begins with social a hour at 6:00, dinner at 6:30, with entertainment to follow. Tickets for the event are \$20.00 per person and can be purchased at all of our clinic locations, area businesses, or from our Foundation members. An exciting portion of the evening will be the drawing for the playhouse pictured (tickets are \$5 and can be purchased at the above mentioned locations as well).

Your contributions to this event have made it possible for us to make many upgrades and additions for patient care and comfort. This year we continue to focus on the hospital inpatient "Adopt-A-Room" remodeling project. We look forward to seeing you there!



Playhouse (currently on display in front of our Arlington Clinic) was built by Ray Haggemiller and generously donated by Haggemiller Lumber.

Check out our health resources at sibleymedical.org

Administrator's Corner



We hope you and your families are staying warm with the cold temperatures we have been experiencing this winter. We are all looking forward to the spring season arriving.

As we begin another year at SMC we want to congratulate Dr. Chekerdjiev on his appointment as Chief of Medical Staff. We look forward to his leadership at our facility.

This year will begin some major capital projects at SMC. We are in the process of implementing a complete electronic medical record. We are on schedule to begin the project this fall. With the electronic medical record we look forward to improving patient care with greater access to your patient chart in all of our facilities. We will also be replacing the heating and cooling system in our facility. This project should be completed prior to next fall. Both of these projects will be an important part of the quality care we provide to our patients.

Thank you for your continued support of our facility,

Rhonda Matz
Administrator

SMC Auxiliary's Annual Style Show & Luncheon!

March 28th brings "The Magic of Fashion"! The event will be held at the Arlington Community Center at 11:30 beginning with lunch followed by the style show featuring local residents modeling the latest spring fashion. Tickets are \$7:00 and \$3.50 for 10 and under.



SMC Auxiliary Members

What is the Difference Between an NP vs. a PA?



Cheryl, Katie, & Melanee

Sibley Medical Center is fortunate to have nurse practitioners and a physician's assistant on its staff of health care providers. The main difference between the two

is in the training and education. The nurse practitioner is an advanced practice registered nurse. Most NPs have first worked as a nurse before going back to get their Master's degree in nursing. There is usually a year of clinical training involved as well. They then must pass national board certification.

A PA goes into a specialized physician's assistant program, most enrollees in the program have a 4 year plus degree in some area of medicine, including nursing. They then must pass a national certifying examination and are licensed under the State Medical Board of Medicine.

At SMC nurse practitioners and physician's assistants function in primarily the same way. They order, perform and interpret diagnostic tests such as lab work and x-rays. They diagnose and treat acute and chronic conditions such as diabetes, high blood pressure, infections and injuries. They prescribe medications and various other treatments. NP's and PA's are both supervised by physicians.

Certified Nurse Practitioners at SMC are Melanee Buckentin and Cheryl Lindgren, Catherine (Katie) Phillips is a Certified Physician's Assistant. To schedule an appointment with any of these providers, please call toll free 888-974-2539 or your local SMC clinic directly.

Comfort and Safety Come First at Sibley Medical



Our surgical services department at Sibley Medical Center strives to bring patients safe and comfortable care. Recently the endoscopy area has enhanced the comfort and safety of the colonoscopy and gastroscopy procedures by having the anesthetist administer the moderate sedation. Our anesthetists are highly skilled in administration of medications used for moderate sedation and can select the right one for each patient. They can also closely monitor the patient through out the procedure for the level of comfort and depth of sedation. Here at SMC, we are serious about our patients' comfort and safety. We welcome patients to come in to discuss this safety initiative with our surgery staff.

Surgeons, Chad Robbins, DO, and John Bergseng, DO, FACOS, perform colonoscopy and gastroscopy procedures at Sibley Medical Center.

Visit us at sibleymedical.org

THE HENDERSON CLINIC: TRULY A MEDICAL BLESSING by Jane Schuette

Two years ago, when my mother was 93 years old, her insurance company informed us that the clinic she had used for over 40 years was no longer in their network. Suddenly we had to find a new clinic. We tried a new one and found that it did not meet Mom's needs with respect for the elderly that she deserved. Then we discovered the Henderson Clinic. The staff there is so kind and truly understands the needs of both patients and their families.

The Sibley Medical Center staff at Henderson was a God-send to our family this past year. When it became very difficult for my mother to go to the Henderson Clinic, Physician Assistant, Katie Phillips, offered to make house calls to see her. Having Katie come to the house to treat Mom was a blessing without measure. Nurse Terri Karau also was so very kind and sometimes accompanied Katie on home visits to give the best care possible.

For anyone who has been a caregiver, you can understand how much time and effort it can take to help someone to get ready and to travel to a doctor's office. When Katie came to the house, my mother could just relax and her needs could be evaluated much easier in a home setting. Katie showed such empathy for Mom and for all of her needs, physical, spiritual, and emotional. She treated her as a valuable person who deserved dignity and respect.

Katie is an expert medical professional who accurately diagnosed my mother's medical situations. She phoned prescriptions in to the local pharmacy so that medications were available within minutes, and she even phoned us to check on Mom's medical status. Knowing that Katie would make house calls, whenever it was necessary, was so very reassuring. It was a great comfort knowing that medical care at home was just a phone call away.

Her compassionate honesty helped us to be better caregivers. Katie encouraged us in our mission to care for Mom at home, rather than in a facility. When it became apparent that Mom's earthly life was nearing the end, Katie gave us hospice information and arranged for that care. She came to the house several times to see Mom and gave us suggestions of how to make Mom's last days more comfortable. She truly cared about us, as together, we walked Mother to her heavenly home.

What a blessing is was to have Katie Phillips of the Henderson Clinic make house calls to give Mom the best, most compassionate care available anywhere! Henderson is truly blessed to have this clinic right in town. It is such a valuable resource for local medical care, provided with professionalism, empathy, and understanding. We hope that many others will use this most helpful clinic for their medical needs. It made all the difference in the world to us! We are very grateful for Katie Phillips, her home visits, and the Henderson Clinic.



Katie Phillips, PA-C, & our Henderson Clinic

Article submitted by Jane Schuette

Your Neighbors Are Saying . . .

"I love Sibley Medical!! I always recommend having local clinic/hospital. I like seeing local workers, too!"

Ruth Narr (Arlington Clinic)

"The emergency room staff were very friendly and caring towards my son and my family."

Krista Kube (ER)

"The whole crew was busy (3 of us in the emergency room) and they handled everything very professionally"

Jerome Battcher (ER)

"Dr. Eelma is a kind, caring person as is her nurse. Pam at the front desk does an excellent job, too"

Joann Weber (Specialist Clinic)

Have something to say? Feel free to provide feedback regarding your Sibley Medical Center experience on sibleymedical.org

Contact us for an appointment at 888-9-SIBLEY (974-2539)

Primary Care Providers



Dean Bergersen, MD
Family Practice



Assen Chekerdjiev, MD
Internal Medicine



Muhamed Durakovic, MD
Family Practice



Ehtaisham Mohammed, MD
Family Practice



Joseph Sierra, MD
Family Practice



John Vener, MD
Family Practice



Melanee Buckentin, CNP
Family Practice



Cheryl Lindgren, CNP
Family Practice



Katie Phillips, PA-C
Family Practice

Specialty Care Providers



Sandford Anderson,
MD, FAAPP
Pediatrics



John Bergsens,
DO, FACOS
General Surgery



John Bernhardson, MD
Cardiology



Gerard Busch, DPM
Podiatry



Jean Eelma, MD
Orthopedics



Michael T. Hopfenspirger,
MD
Otolaryngology



John Mark Johnson, DO
OB/Gyn



Birendra Kumar, MD
Oncology



Andrew Lundquist, DPM
Podiatric Surgery



Jeffrey Mair, DO
Orthopedics



Sherman Reeves, MD, MPH
Cataract Surgery



Chad Robbins, DO
General Surgery



Chase Sovell, MD
Urology



Ravi Vaela, MD
Pulmonology



See Our Specialty Care Provider Calendar on sibleymedical.org

Clinic Hours

Arlington Clinic: (507) 964-2271

Monday, Wednesday, Friday	9:00 AM - 5:00 PM
Tuesday	9:00 AM - 7:00 PM
Thursday	8:00 AM - 5:00 PM
Saturday	8:30 AM - 11:30 AM

Gaylord Clinic: (507) 237-5523

Monday, Tuesday, Thursday, Friday	9:00 AM - 5:00 PM
Wednesday	9:00 AM - 7:00 PM

Henderson Clinic: (507) 248-3433

Monday	1:30 PM - 7:00 PM
Wednesday	9:00 AM - 12:00 PM
Friday	1:30 PM - 5:00 PM

Winthrop Clinic: (507) 647-5318

Monday	9:00 AM - 5:00 PM
Tuesday	9:00 AM - 7:00 PM
Wednesday, Thursday, Friday	9:00 AM - 5:00 PM

SIBLEY
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CENTER *Heartfelt Care*



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Central Appointment Scheduling at 888-9-SIBLEY (974-2539)