



**RURAL HEALTH, Inc.**  
*We specialize in you*

*In This Issue*

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**COVID-19 Update**

**Rural Health, Inc.**

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**New Goreville Building Opens**

The end of August saw the surprise opening of the brand new clinic in Goreville! Our organization began operating Medical and Behavioral Health services on August 29. Beginning September 12, our highly anticipated dental services began being provided to patients. We are beyond thrilled to bring this much needed service to Johnson County.

*cont'd p. 06*

# Message From the CEO

Can you believe Fall is almost here? This year is flying by but it has definitely been a year of adaptation, flexibility, and continued growth. The year started with high COVID numbers; however, these numbers have since become lower. This is a great relief for all of us and our patients. Rural Health, Inc. must continue its' efforts in combatting this illness through COVID education, testing, and vaccines.

The Rural Health, Inc. Fall newsletter brings a new beginning with the opening of our Goreville site. Our patients can receive treatment in a beautiful and relaxing environment. While medical treatment and behavioral health will continue, dental treatment will be a new additional service for the community. Our dental clinic will be staffed with two dentists, one hygienist, support staff and have its own entrance.

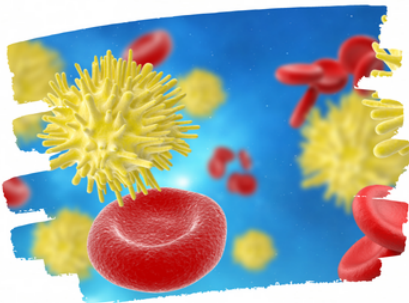
In regards to new growth, the topic of a new Anna Administration/Behavioral Health building office remains in discussion, along with future building plans for Metropolis. New growth also pertains to the quality of care given to our patients. I am humbled every day by each of you--such an amazing Rural Health team.

Health care is about people and those who selflessly deliver it in the face of adversity and those who show continuous support for Rural Health, Inc. I thank everyone for their patience and faith during these unprecedented times. I look forward to working with our Board of Directors' and each of you to secure our growing future. I assure you we remain committed to fulfilling all of our community's health care needs now and into the future.

**-Cynthia K. Flamm, MSW, DHA (abd), LCSW**



# NATIONAL HEPATITIS TESTING DAY



**RURAL HEALTH, II**

## Summer Recap

May 19 was National Hepatitis Testing Day and our organization took advantage of the day to educate the community about our Hepatitis C screening and treatment program. Program Coordinator Tausha Vernon and Outreach Coordinator Chase Hileman spoke with patients about the virus, our screening process and more.

Rural Health, Inc. took part in the Delta Regional Authority's IRT event in Carbondale back in July. Resources and information were dispensed to patients coming for free medical and dental appointments. The event saw 233 medical patients and 1,708 dental patients. It was a tremendous event for the entire southern Illinois area.





National Health Center Week took place August 7 -13. Patients across all clinics got to give our prize wheel a go and enter for their chance to win a \$50 gas card.

August 31 was International Overdose Awareness Day and our organization commemorated the date by hosting Narcan distribution events at each clinic and out at the 141st Union County Fair in Anna.



*Chase Hileman, Community Outreach Coordinator*



*L to R: Ali Brown-MSW, LCSW, Erica Williams-MSN, PMHNP-BC, FNP-C, CARN-AP, Olivia Hand-MSW, LCSW*

# RHI & Doctor of Medical Science Class



*L to R: Jeff Sherrill-DMSc, PA-C, Kassie Jones-PA-C, MSPAS, Jacob Ribbing-DMSc, PA-C, Chelsea Treece-DMSc, MSPAS, PA-C  
Photo Credit: SIU*

On July 30, a Hooding Ceremony took place at Southern Illinois University (SIU) to commemorate this year's graduates of the Doctor of Medical Science (DMSc) class through SIU's Physician Assistants Program. Our very own Jacob Ribbing directs the doctoral program, along with Jeff Sherill and Chelsea Treece on faculty.

The DMSc program advances physician assistants' clinical and educational skills and prepares them for more prominent roles including service to their organizations and patients. RHI Vienna's Kassie Jones was one of the 46 graduates attaining the degree. According to Ribbing, the first year was a great one.

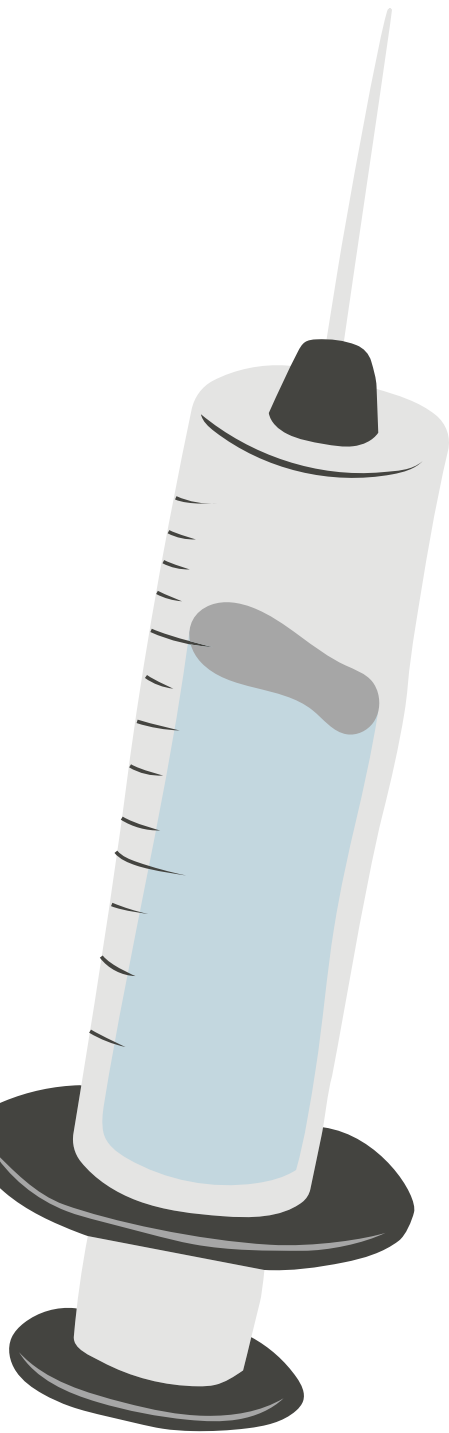
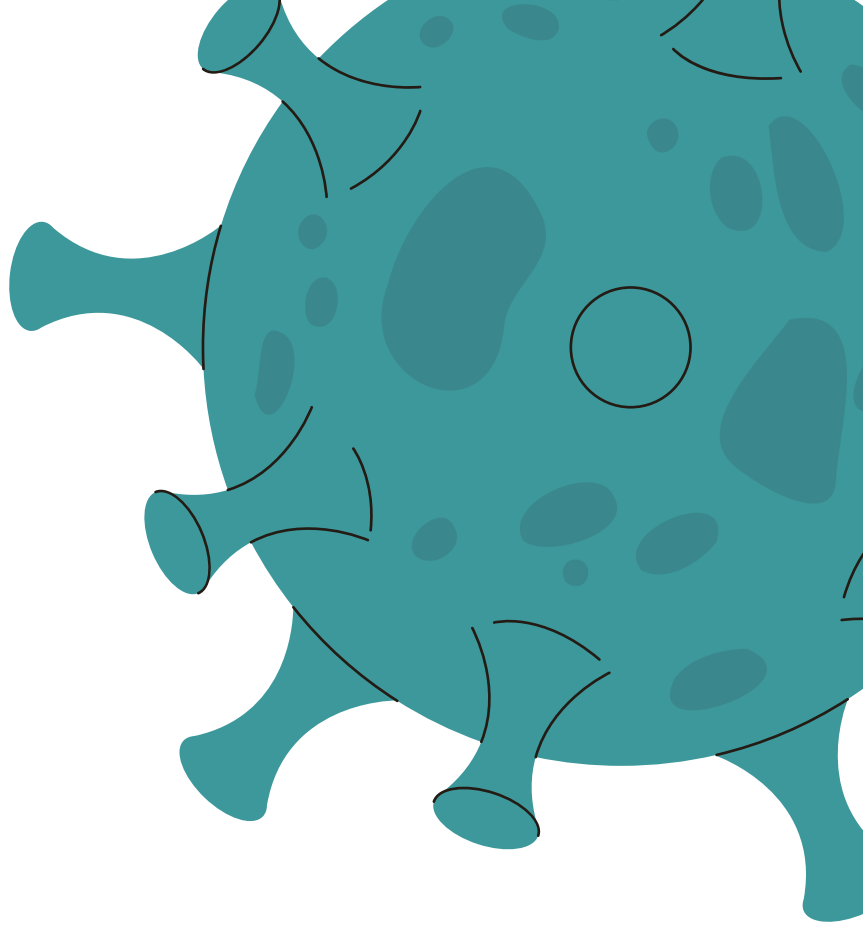




The dental department features new, state of the art equipment, staffed with two dentists, dental assistants, and a dental hygienist, all providing services from an eight (8) operatory suite. In addition to the medical, behavioral, and dental services, our organization will be providing OB/GYN and other specialty services, which will be forthcoming. Despite all the "new-ness" that has taken shape at Goreville, our organization will continue to accept the same insurance plans, as well as continuing to provide patients with a sliding fee discount program.

Rural Health, Inc. strives in the quality care provided to the area communities. We are excited for each patient that gets to experience this new establishment. A commemorative celebration is in the works. We ask that you stay tuned to our website and social media for more information.

# COVID-19 Update



Tests provided: **995**

Vaccines  
administered: **281**

*Numbers reflect time period of late  
April 2022 - September, 14 2022*



## **New team members, same team mission**

Over the past few months, our organization welcomed some new faces. Help us welcome them!

**Kaden Bigler - Temporary IT**

**Florieh Britt - Dental Reception**

**Rachel Flick - Revenue Cycle Specialist**

**Heather Hartline - Patient Service Representative**

**Alyssa Essex - Patient Service Representative**

**Andrew Odum - Accounting Apprentice**

**Brittany Pinnon - Licensed Practical Nurse**

**Aubrey Reichert - Dental Assistant**

**Christie Poe - Certified Medical Assistant**

# **WELCOME**



# In conclusion...

Summer has been a busy and successful season for our organization. With the days beginning to grow shorter and the leaves beginning to fall, even more exciting adventures appear to be on the horizon for Rural Health, Inc. Stay up to date with our news, events, and more by visiting our website and following us on social media. Until next time, thanks for reading!



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