

PARTNER HIGHLIGHTS

Health Services

How does N.E.W. Community Clinic play a role in addressing homelessness?

At NorthEast Wisconsin Community Clinic (NEWCC), while we don't provide housing, we offer essential health services at our three locations and through our Mobile Health Unit (MOBY). We provide quality, compassionate care regardless of insurance or housing status. We recognize that poverty, housing instability, and other social inequities affect both people's vulnerability to and capacity for dealing with health issues. For those facing homelessness, health may not be their top priority, but we are here to support them and bring care directly to them with MOBY, offering the compassion and consistency they need.

We're dedicated to consistently evolving our approach to Case Management for everyone we serve, always being mindful to approach our patients with trauma-informed care. We believe in staying actively involved with our community members to collaborate on creating a mission-driven community. When we encounter patients facing challenges like homelessness, we ensure they have access to resources and can connect them with trusted agencies that can help. By working hand in hand with other organizations, we strive to think creatively and develop effective plans together.



Kim Franzen
Chief Executive Officer
NorthEast Wisconsin
Community Clinic

How can other health professionals or clinics contribute to ending homelessness?

- **Volunteer:** Make volunteering at a non-profit organization an essential priority in your practice. It truly only takes a few hours a week to profoundly change the lives of those in need.
- **Remove your Bias:** This can be as simple as listening to a story of someone who is homeless and connecting people to resources.
- **Be an Advocate:** Pay attention to legislation around housing or policies that contribute to homelessness and participate in support.

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Use the power of your mind, ears to listen, and voice to be heard as you support the topic of homelessness
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Mobile Health Unit

What impact have you seen when health services are accessible to people experiencing homelessness?

We've witnessed many patients come to our clinics and our mobile unit who, without our support, might not have sought care at all. In our Mobile Health Unit (MOBY), we've treated wounds for individuals who were sleeping on the streets; if we hadn't reached their neighborhood and cared for them, their infections may not have healed. We recognize that there can be fears surrounding health care, so having a community clinic that meets patients where they are at – mentally, physically, and financially – makes a real difference. By assisting them in accessing benefits, providing payment options, and ensuring that no one is turned away, we can help lighten the burden of seeking care.