



Olde Towne Medical & Dental Center

To assure access to quality health and wellness care to the residents and workforce of the Greater Williamsburg community

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For Immediate Release

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Olde Towne Medical & Dental Center Celebrates 30th Anniversary on July 6

Williamsburg, Virginia, July 6, 2023 --- Olde Towne Medical & Dental Center turned 30 years old on Thursday July 6, 2023 and the non-profit organization embarks on a year of celebration to mark the occasion.

Olde Towne began in 1993 as a result of a needs assessment conducted by what was then the James City County Community Services Department, now JCC Department of Social Services, and the local hospital. At the time, Williamsburg had only one hospital emergency department that was being overwhelmed with non-emergency care needs of patients due to a lack of insurance or means of affording traditional health care options. In 1993, the nearest health department was in Hampton, Virginia, and transportation to that facility was even more of a challenge than it is today. The assessment was led by Tony Conyers, the manager of the Community Services Department at that time. The results of the assessment indicated that there was a definite need of affordable health care in greater Williamsburg that could provide for uninsured and under insured as well as Medicaid and Medicare eligible patients. The community was experiencing high incidences of chronic illnesses and teen pregnancies at that time and establishing a primary care facility to assist with the needs of the growing population was key. Olde Towne was created as the solution.

Former Executive Director, Judy Knudson, who began the position in 1999, was a fundamental part of the early success of Olde Towne. Under her leadership, the non-profit organization began to thrive through retaining volunteer physicians to staff it along with managing paid employees and focused on development of outside donors and grant funders to maintain its services. In 1996 the center was expanded to offer dental care. Referencing the success of Olde Towne during the celebration, Judy Knudson said "From day one, Olde Towne was an integral part of health care in the area. It was wonderful to be one of so many

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people who made Olde Towne successful. The need was so great and the vehicle to meet that need finally existed. The outpouring of community support was truly extraordinary.”

Fast forward to 2023 and you will find an incredible health center that has expanded to offer primary care integrated with behavioral health, a full-service dental practice, a vision suite for optometry care, pre-natal, maternity and OB/GYN services, multi-specialty care including nephrology, pulmonology, sports medicine, counseling and other specialties, chronic health management and education and a Medication Access program that allows patients to receive low cost and often free prescriptions to manage their health - all under one roof.

The center also connects patients to other resources as needed for issues such as food insecurity, housing insecurity, physical abuse incidents and other issues to help alleviate certain health stressors and narrow the gap of health disparities for specific populations in the Williamsburg community.

The center has 5 full-time Nurse Practitioners, a full-time Dentist along with multiple volunteer specialty providers and various administrative positions that allowed 3,788 patients to be seen in approximately 12,724 visits last year. Through strategic planning and development, Olde Towne is positioned to continue to be a viable health resource for greater Williamsburg.

Aaron Thompson, Executive Director since 2020 says: “As we celebrate the 30th Anniversary of Olde Towne Medical & Dental Center, we reflect on our journey with immense pride and gratitude. Over the past three decades, we have been committed to providing quality healthcare services to our community. Our success is a testament to the dedication of our staff, the trust of our patients, and our unwavering commitment to excellence. As we look forward to the future, we remain dedicated to our mission of assuring access to quality health and wellness care to the greater Williamsburg community.”

Olde Towne will be celebrating the anniversary with multiple events throughout their fiscal year, which began on July 1 and will run through June 30, 2024. The largest celebration will be the 30th Anniversary Gala on September 30, 2023 at the Williamsburg Lodge. The evening will include dinner, dancing, an awards program recognizing those that have made a significant impact on the organization, a live and a silent auction including trips and other fun items as well as champagne toasts to recognize the 30 years of services to the community. The event will serve as a fundraiser to continue those services for years to come. Tickets may be purchased at www.otmdc.org and sponsorships to support the event are available.

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Olde Towne Medical & Dental Center, located on 5249 Olde Towne Road, Suite D, Williamsburg, is a nonprofit, community-based rural health clinic providing health and dental services to the uninsured and underinsured residents living and working in the City of Williamsburg, James City and York Counties. Visit our website at www.oldetownemedicalcenter.org

For more information about Olde Towne Medical & Dental Center, please visit our website at www.oldetownemedicalcenter.org or call 757.259.3244.

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