Giving InterFaith a Try: the Dale Jefferson Story

Dale Jefferson, a manager at Alliance Press here in Knoxville, found himself without insurance and unable to afford going to see his family doctor due to the high cost of health care. His physician suggested he give InterFaith a try. Skeptical of the quality of health care he would receive, Dale agreed to check us out…and the rest is history.

“The people there are just wonderful people,” he said, “They took me in and took great care of me. Everyone there knows me now. I never felt like I was getting anything less than the best care possible.”

As time went on, Dale ended up needing two expensive surgeries—knee surgery and a complicated neck surgery that would have cost him over $100,000 out of pocket without InterFaith. He still marvels at the help that InterFaith provided to allow him to receive the surgeries he needed and not lose everything in the process. “It’s a lot better than going for broke to try to figure out how you are going to pay for everything. I mean, the next thing you know you are losing your house, your family, your kid can’t go to college. InterFaith has been a big help in my life.”

Not only has InterFaith given Dale a new lease on life, but InterFaith helped provide his son with the opportunity to go to college instead of foregoing that dream to stay home and try to pay for his father’s medical bills. His son has gone on to receive an Engineering degree and has landed a great job with health benefits. “InterFaith is a blessing,” says Dale, They have helped make me who I am. They helped keep my son in college. It’s just wonderful to find people that help other people that way.”
Thank you, Dr. Gray!

InterFaith extends a special ‘thank-you’ to longtime volunteer and clinic advocate, Dr. Frank Gray, who served InterFaith’s patients for over 24 years before retiring from his volunteer role in August. Dr. Gray, who specialized in arthritis of the hip and knee and total joint replacement during his 25-year career at Knoxville Orthopedic Clinic, began his relationship with InterFaith by accepting orthopedic referrals, but soon began coming to the clinic on a monthly basis to treat our patients on-site. Dr. Gray says he’s a firm believer in the concept of InterFaith and its mission to help the working uninsured. He especially enjoyed seeing InterFaith patients he treated – like small business owners – out in the community. "When I went to their place of business to get their help, it was very rewarding knowing that I’d previously been able to help them,” Dr. Gray said. On behalf of the hundreds of grateful patients you touched during your tenure at InterFaith, thank you.

Did you know with just a few clicks you can make a lasting impact on patients at InterFaith Health Clinic? Visit https://givingtools.com/interfaith/ to set up secure donations to InterFaith on a weekly, monthly, quarterly, or yearly basis. It’s safe, it’s simple, and it makes a big impact on low-income workers in our community.

From our Executive Director

This time of year means so many things to different people. For some it brings joy while others experience sadness. For me it is a time of celebration. As a Christian, this season should be a time to reflect on how blessed I am to serve a Savior who came to make the ultimate sacrifice for all of us who didn’t deserve it. And in doing so, gave hope. Regardless of your situation, I want each of you to know you have given more than healthcare to our patients. Your generosity has given hope. Thank you for all you have done.

Stability. We all crave it, especially when it comes to our health. For the patients at InterFaith Health Clinic, stability means having a team of doctors you can trust with your health.

Today’s health care situation is far from stable. But InterFaith Health Clinic continues to serve as the brick with which our patients’ health is built.

A new gift of $500 or more entitles you to one engraved brick on the front exterior of the clinic, showing that you helped bring health and stability to the less fortunate in our community, Brick by Brick. Email missy@interfaithhealthclinic.org for more info.

*This is a great gift idea to honor or memorialize loved ones during the holiday season!*