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**FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS**  
Regarding the St Luke Guild and Mobile Clinic  
04/25/13

**ST. LUKE GUILD**

**1. What is the St. Luke Guild?**

The St. Luke Guild is an organization of Catholic health care professionals within the Diocese of Knoxville. Its purpose is to participate in the New Evangelization of the culture of health care by providing its members with education on Catholic health care principles, opportunities for service in support of the Diocesan mobile clinic and spiritual enrichment to enhance their individual relationship with Jesus Christ.

**2. Is there a fee to join?**

No. Registration is free.

**3. Is the St. Luke Guild part of the Catholic Medical Association (CMA)?**

No. Although members should consider joining the CMA separately, the Diocese desires membership in the St. Luke Guild to be free at this time.

**4. What events are planned for the St. Luke Guild?**

The St. Luke Guild has already conducted a Lenten Retreat and conducted spring mini-conference on End-of-Life care. A National Catholic Bioethics Center workshop is schedule for November 16<sup>th</sup>. We have Days of Reflection scheduled throughout the Diocese and are also planning for small-group catechism classes throughout the Diocese in the fall.

**5. How do I register for the St. Luke Guild?**

Registration is on-line at [www.stlukeguild.org](http://www.stlukeguild.org). By registering, you will receive a monthly newsletter and other information regarding the St. Luke Guild and mobile clinic.

**6. I do not have a computer or e-mail. How can I register?**

We can register you over the phone if you call Emily Jacobssen at the Office of Health Service at (865) 584-3307 x5761. Right now newsletters are being sent only electronically via e-mail. We are investigating how we can also send them out by mail for those who do not have e-mail.

**7. Do I have to have a professional license to join the Guild?**

No. Anyone in health care may join the Guild, whether your license is still active or not, or whether your field requires a license or not. See below regarding licensing options for those who are retired and may want to volunteer on the mobile clinic.

**8. Who will cover the liability insurance for physicians who volunteer for the mobile clinic?**

The Voluntary Health Care Services Act grants immunity from civil liability for health care professionals in Tennessee who provide free services in registered clinics, as long as they maintain their license and practice within their usual scope of practice. Moreover, the Act prevents private insurance companies from withholding insurance coverage because a health care professional provides voluntary services. Contact Sr. Mariana in the Office of Health Services to learn more.

## **MOBILE CLINIC**

### **1. What is the mobile clinic?**

The St. Mary's Legacy Clinic is a mobile clinic providing free primary health care to the poor of East Tennessee.

### **2. What is the relationship between the St. Mary's Legacy Foundation and the mobile clinic?**

The St. Mary's Legacy Foundation was established by the Diocese of Knoxville in 2011 as a result of the sale of the St. Mary's hospital system (Mercy Health Partners) to Health Management Associates. The purpose of the foundation is to continue the ministry begun by the Sisters of Mercy with the opening of St. Mary's Hospital in 1930. One of the primary reasons for starting the Foundation was to fund the mobile clinic. The clinic will be operated as a separate legal entity under the auspices of the Diocese of Knoxville and receive grant money from the Foundation for its operation.

### **3. How will the mobile clinic differ from Remote Area Medical (RAM)?**

The goal of the mobile clinic is to make regular predictable scheduled visits to underserved communities in order to have a sustained impact on the health of a community over time. RAM typically visits communities on a yearly basis.

### **4. When do we expect the mobile clinic to be operational?**

We have entered into a purchase agreement with Lifeline Mobile, Inc, which guarantees delivery by mid-October 2013. We hope to be operational shortly thereafter.

### **5. I am retired or getting ready to retire and do not want to pay for an active license. Can I still volunteer for the mobile clinic?**

Tennessee state law allows for "Special Volunteer Licenses" for many licensed health professions. These are free licenses for those who may want to volunteer their services on a limited basis. You still have to meet the continuing education requirements of your licensing board. The Office of Health Services has information for physicians and nurses at this time. Other professionals should contact their licensing board directly.

### **6. I am a health care professional but do not plan to volunteer in the mobile clinic. Should I still register for the St. Luke Guild?**

YES. The St. Luke Guild still offers benefits beyond registering volunteers. Its mission also includes education, such as conferences and spiritual enrichment, such as retreats. See the section on the St. Luke Guild for more information.

### **7. I am not a health care professional but I want to help with the mobile clinic. How can I sign up?**

You can register through the St. Luke Guild website: [www.stlukeguild.org](http://www.stlukeguild.org). The registration form includes a place for "Non-medical volunteer." This will get you on the mailing list for receiving updates regarding the mobile clinic and provide the information needed for staff to contact you.

### **7. How can I bring the mobile clinic to my parish?**

The process for identifying potential sites for the mobile clinic is still in development. It will be important to have community partners in each local area the mobile clinic visits. Having a supportive parish will be crucial. If you would like to begin exploring the possibility of the mobile clinic visiting your parish, please contact Sr. Mariana in the Office of Health Services. ([srmarianarism@dioknox.org](mailto:srmarianarism@dioknox.org) or (865) 862-5760)