



MercyHealthClinic

Quality Health Care from
the Heart for Those in Need

**NEWS RELEASE
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**MERCY HEALTH CLINIC BOARD OF DIRECTORS
DEDICATES HELEN WALSH RECEPTION AREA**

*Devoted and beloved Clinic volunteer and benefactor honored
during annual Board meeting ceremony.*

January 20, 2010

Gaithersburg, MD—Mercy Health Clinic is pleased to announce the dedication of one of the Clinic's most visible areas in honor of Mrs. Edward F. (Helen) Walsh, who gave her time and talents as a volunteer there for over 4 years. Helen Walsh died in 2007, after which the Clinic received a bequest of \$100,000 from her estate. Her devotion and generosity were celebrated at a ceremony held during a meeting of the Clinic's Board of Directors on Wednesday, January 20, at Shady Grove Hospital in Gaithersburg.

During the meeting, a resolution naming the Helen Walsh Reception Area was presented to Ms. Walsh's two daughters, Maureen and Joan, and her son John. Board member and Clinic volunteer Dick Perry, MD, shared his remembrances of Ms. Walsh, recalling her warm smile and devotion to the Clinic's patients. He recounted how she was the first person to greet patients when they entered the Clinic, and how she taught herself Spanish in order to better serve the Clinic's large Hispanic population.

Ms. Walsh's daughter Maureen Burns addressed the Board on behalf of the family. "Our mother always told us that volunteering your time is the most personal gift you can give," she said. Ms. Burns also mentioned how important the Clinic and its mission were to her mother, who was scheduled to be at the Clinic on the day she died.

The Walsh family was presented with one of two matching plaques, the other of which will be displayed prominently in the Clinic's newly named reception area along with a photo of Ms. Walsh. Her gift enables the Clinic to continue the mission she hoped others would support.

Established in 2000, Mercy Health Clinic is among the larger free health clinics in Montgomery County. Fully qualified volunteer clinicians deliver a full spectrum of primary and specialty care, education, and pharmaceutical support to qualifying low-income residents. The Clinic occupies a modern, well-equipped facility in Gaithersburg near the Motor Vehicles Administration.

For more information, including details on the Clinic's 10th Anniversary Gala scheduled for May 2010, visit the Mercy Health Clinic website at www.mercyhealthclinic.org or phone Ryanne Clarke, Clinic Administrator, at 240.773.0307.
