

iCARE IMPACT - WINNSBORO

ABOUT THE PROGRAM

Operating a practice in a rural town can be difficult with challenges in recruiting and retaining qualified support staff, maintaining aging infrastructure, and limited financial margins to weather emergencies and economic downturns.

In 2017 the John A. Martin Primary Health Care Center, one of the main healthcare practices and the only obstetric and gynecological providers in Winnsboro, the county seat of Fairfield County, approached the SC Center for Rural and Primary Healthcare for assistance to keep the clinic from closing. This healthcare center is the home of one full time, and one part time medical doctor as well as a full time Nurse Practitioner.

In an average year, they serve approximately 10,000 visits and provide the following services:

- Prenatal care
- Minor Outpatient and GYN procedure
- Medical assisted treatment of narcotic addiction (Suboxone)
- Dental fluoride varnish for pediatrics
- Weight loss counseling



IMPORTANCE OF THE CLINIC

Losing this clinic would put an extreme strain on the remaining providers in the county and would force all women seeking prenatal care to travel up to 60 miles to receive care in neighboring counties. Through the iCARE program, the clinic received support dollars that have allowed them to remain solvent and operational as they transition to a new Rural Health Clinic status. In the last year alone, this clinic had over 9,800 appointments and served over 7,000 patients. Since the clinic was able to maintain provisions of prenatal and maternal care services, over 90 obstetric appointments were conducted locally resulting in over 5,000 miles of travel avoided for expecting mothers.



**1,300
TRAINEES**

Over 1300 students trained in rural healthcare at this clinic

**THE ONLY
PRENATAL CARE
PROVIDERS IN
FAIRFIELD
COUNTY**

**7,000
PATIENTS**

The clinic serves over 7,000 patients each year

ABOUT THE CENTER



The John A. Martin Primary Healthcare Center is an asset to the Winnsboro community and Fairfield County. Their goal is to not only take care of patients, but also to promote education in the community and help to train future rural healthcare providers. Since the center opened, over 1300 students and trainees have rotated through the Center, including medical students, residents, social workers, nurses, and public health students.

In recent years, they have established a rural family medicine resident clinical track where resident will complete their second and third clinical years at the John A. Martin Center. This program not only increases the clinic's capacity to see patients, but it also allows new medical providers to gain experience in rural health, essentially growing the pipeline of physicians that may choose to continue working in rural South Carolina. The success of this pipeline was demonstrated when Dr. Nicolas Limogiannis returned to the John A Martin Center in July 2021 for his residency.



The John A. Martin Primary Healthcare Center continues to operate today and anticipates gaining Rural Health Clinic designation in December 2021.

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I went to medical school in Columbia, SC which is when I first was introduced to Winnsboro. I fell in love with the clinic the first day I was here, and when I found out a residency was being offered through this clinic, I knew I couldn't pass up the opportunity. I love the idea of practicing in a small town like Winnsboro.

- **Dr. Nicolas Limogiannis** ”

John A. Martin Center's Newest Resident Provider

