



SKETCHES FROM OUTSIDE THE MARGINS 2016 - 2018

Stories from Seattle/King County Clinic

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Maggie by David Lasky, 2017

ABOUT THE PROJECT

For four days every fall during the past five years, Seattle/King County Clinic opened its doors at Seattle Center to offer free dental, medical and vision care. No insurance was needed, no documentation required, and all were welcomed. And people came by the thousands, waiting in line for hours, even overnight, for the range of services offered at this volunteer-run healthcare event.

Who were these patients, and what were their reasons for waiting in line for healthcare in an arena? Community stakeholders, healthcare agencies and policy makers wanted to find out what brought them here and what experiences they have had with healthcare, both at the Clinic and every day. So, for three years Clinic organizers invited artists who work in a storytelling medium to roam through the giant venue, talk to patients and volunteers, and document the stories that were generously shared. The experiences they heard resonated with the artists, many who have also struggled to pay for healthcare, or delayed treatment because they could not afford it, or know people undergoing the same difficulties with healthcare access.

Through these stories, we aim to draw attention to the diversity of circumstances that brought people to Seattle/King County Clinic and the humanity of a community that came together to help those in need. We hope these stories will stimulate conversations about the struggles many people face with healthcare and the need for solutions so that everyone can have the opportunity to thrive.

Meredith Li-Vollmer, Editor

ACKNOWLEDGMENTS

Thank you to Seattle Center, Seattle Center Foundation, and Public Health—Seattle & King County for supporting this project, and to all the patients and volunteers who shared their stories.

Cover artwork by Tatiana Gill. Back cover artwork by Amy Camber.

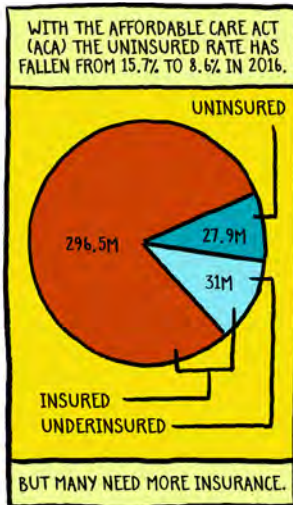
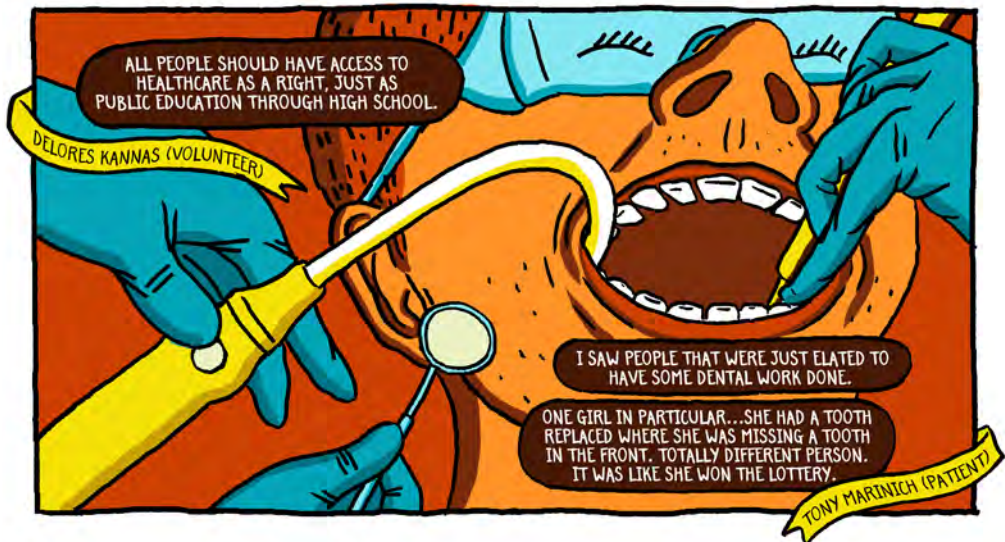
Graphic layout by Sarah Sherman.

More on Seattle/King County Clinic at seattlecenter.org/skccclinic

THIS CLINIC TAKES EVERYONE

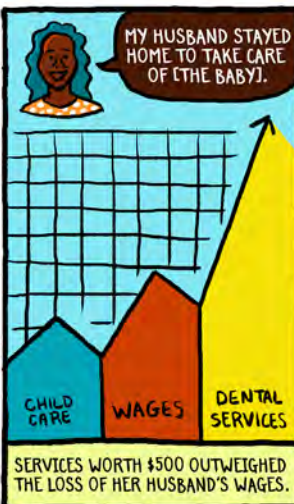
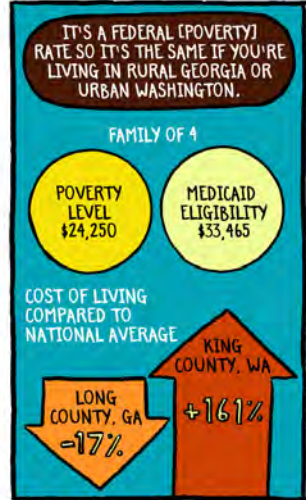
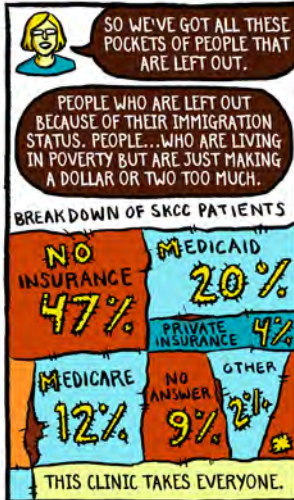
The Origins of Seattle/King County Clinic







*INCLUDING DC

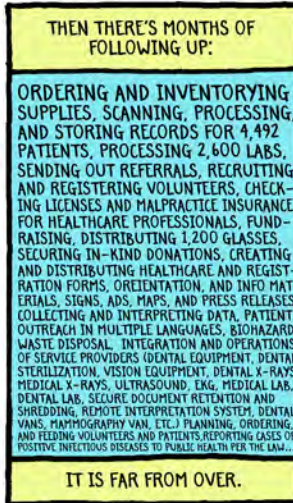




*PATIENTS CAME FROM 262 ZIPCODES





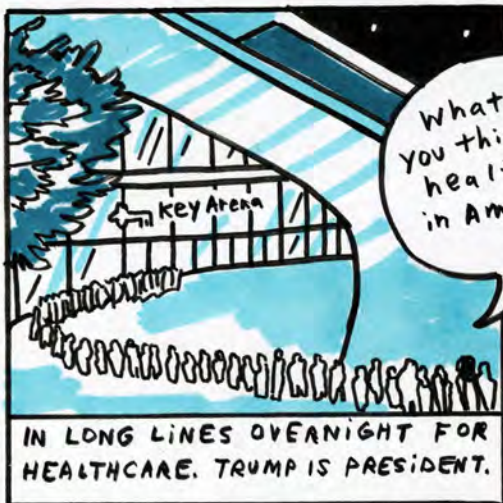




IT'S 2017 AND ANOTHER YEAR
AT THE KING COUNTY FREE CLINIC.



MARIAH CAREY PLAYED HERE
RECENTLY. NOW, PEOPLE WAIT



IN LONG LINES OVERNIGHT FOR
HEALTHCARE. TRUMP IS PRESIDENT.

What do
you think of
healthcare
in America
?



It's
good!

TAGHRID

Really, it's amazing.
We don't have
like this in Yemen.



Very
Bad.

VALENTINA

Medicare doesn't cover
glasses. I got mine
here last year.



This
Free
clinic
is
good.

TUAN

Low income people can't
afford. Costs are
going up.

ETR 2017

IT'S OUR TURN NOW

An Introduction to the Patient Experience



IRINA

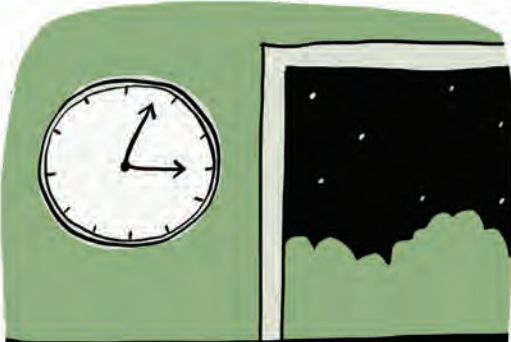


On TV they make this clinic seem like it's only for the homeless, but look -

I'll bet that 90% of these people are the working poor. It is so difficult to pay rent, feed your family, and then afford the dentist or insurance co-pays.



I'm amazed by how nice this is. The waiting room was warm, they came around with snacks... You can't walk 20 feet without someone offering to help.



IRINA ARRIVED LATE LAST NIGHT. SHE CAME TO GET GLASSES BUT WHEN SHE SAW HOW MANY SERVICES WERE AVAILABLE, "I got back in line."



It's awesome.

A.CAMBER 2018

DEISY (14), OCTAVIO (7),
& VANESSA (10) TRAV-
ELED to THE CLINIC
FROM MILL CREEK.



OUR MOM'S HERE
FOR DENTAL SERVICES.



WE'VE BEEN PLAYING
I EYE SPY.



HEY!!



WE'VE BEEN HERE
SINCE 10 a.m.



IT SHOULD BE EASIER
TO GET HEALTHCARE
WITHOUT INSURANCE.

WE ARE
ALL
EQUAL!



THAT'S WHAT I'D
SAY TO POLITICIANS.

WAITING



LINE BUDDIES





THOMAS IS A MUSICIAN.

I'M HARD
OF HEARING

I HEARD ABOUT
THE CLINIC FROM
MY P.T.S.D. COUN-
SELOR.

THERE ARE A.S.L.
(INTERPRETERS) FOR
PEOPLE LIKE ME.

WHICH IS
NICE. IT'S
UNUSUAL.

BUT THEY DIDN'T
HAVE MY FIRST
LANGUAGE.

HE'S HERE FOR A GENERAL
CHECK-UP/EXAM. HE HAS
WAITED FIVE HOURS, WITH
MORE TO GO.

MY FIRST LANG-
UAGE IS APACHE;
I'M APACHE.

THEN CASTIL-
IANO, THE LANG-
UAGE OF SPAIN.

THEN ENGLISH,
THEN A.S.L. —
TWO DIALECTS.

THEN
GAELIC,
ALL FOUR
DIALECTS,
INCLUDING
ELVISH.

FOUR MONTHS AGO HIS HEAR-
ING AIDS WERE STOLEN, SO
LATELY HE'S GONE WITHOUT.

IT'S NOT LIKE
'LORD OF THE RINGS!'

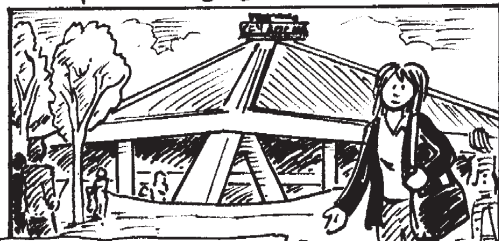
IT'S A
REAL, HIST-
ORICAL LANG-
UAGE.

ROBYN JORDAN 2016

THE FREE CLINIC

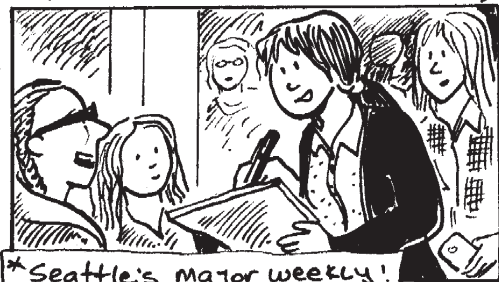
© 2016 Roberta Gregory

Once a year, Seattle has a big medical/dental/vision Free clinic in a stadium. This year, comics artists were invited to tell patients' stories.



I was one of them!

So, I was late getting there. Jen Graves from The Stranger* arrived and, since everyone else had already done interviews, she accompanied me (and I got a lot of mention in her article..)



*Seattle's major weekly!

I got up at 2:30 AM and went through the system. I thought it would be some awful ordeal but it was -- GOOD! And, good news: my tooth was NOT decayed!



What were the chances my tooth would break THAT DAY?

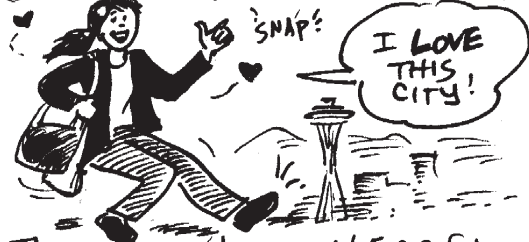
But, the morning I was to go in, I broke a crown off my tooth! My dentist couldn't see me until Monday. Last time they replaced a crown I had to pay \$1400 out of pocket. (The tooth had gotten decayed!)



I was very impressed by all the patients and volunteers. I was kvetching about my tooth, so everyone said I should come in as a patient the next day.



After three dental consultations and X-rays, my crown was glued back on and I was out by 11 AM! (With a new pair of shoes, too!)



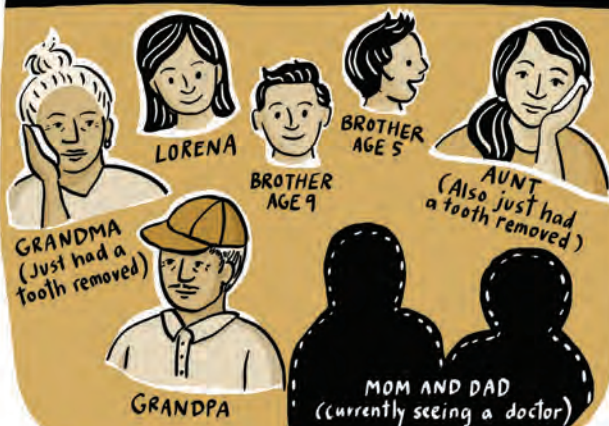
This year, almost 4,500 folks got helped -- including a few of my comic-artist colleagues! ♥

LORENA



THIS IS LORENA. SHE'S TEN.
SHE'S THE PRIMARY ENGLISH
SPEAKER IN HER GROUP.

HER FAMILY DROVE DOWN FROM EVERETT.



THEY ARRIVED AT 2AM ON FRIDAY
MORNING AND HAVEN'T SLEPT MUCH.



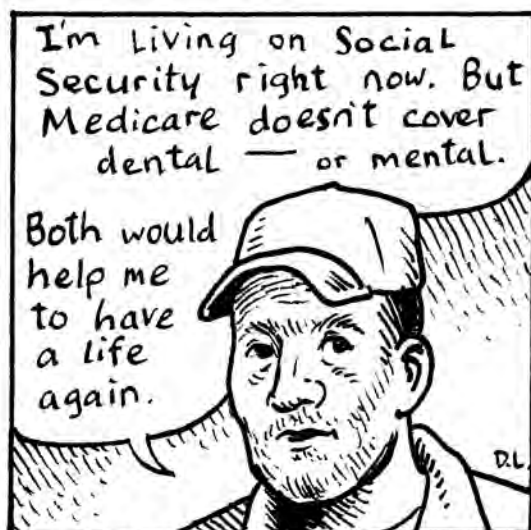
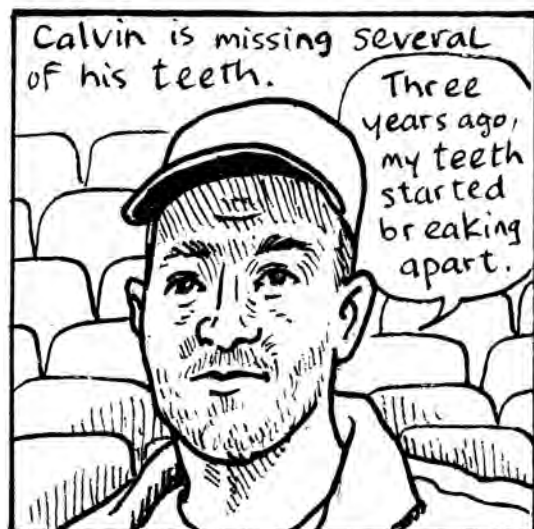
A. CAMBER 2018

I WISH WE COULD BUILD UP A SOCIAL SAFETY NET

Everyday Gaps in the Healthcare System



Calvin



STORIES FROM
THE SKC CLINIC:

NICK

I had a
BAD childhood
and was homeless for
5 years. Over the last
10, I've been working
out and getting
better.

A clinic
that I was going
to for mental health
issues told me about
Key Arena.

I've been
coming here for all
my physical and dental needs.
This may be a little graphic but
they tore out 12 of my teeth. That
way I could get my DENTURES
so now I've got a really good
smile. I've been here
all 3 years.

This time
I'm here for
Vision.

insurance?
I DO have Medicare
but they are becoming
a bit of a stickler. They only
pay for 80% of an eye exam
and pay NOTHING on glasses.
TEETH? Only ONE silly root
canal. They don't pay for
any kind of repairs,
dentures, crown...
no nothing.

It makes you
ask, why do we
need to have a clinic at a
BASKETBALL COURT
So badly? And why are
more people HERE than
going to Hospitals
and clinics?

The problem is
that smaller clinics
can only see you so far
and if you want to see spe-
cialists like anything at the
UW, you're going to need
TOPNOTCH insurance
or one hell of a
pocketbook.

So something this big
attracts a lot of people. It brings
awareness of what people need to
know, so they can get the ball rolling
on what they need to do to help
themselves get better.



The Lottery

Kelly Froh

Breast cancer runs in Dwayne's family.



Dwayne is a trans-male and wants his breasts gone for several reasons.



Coming to the free clinic was a way to get the dreaded mammogram out of the way.

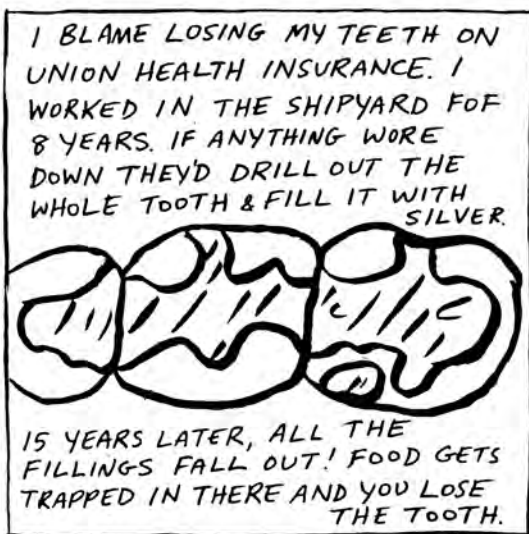
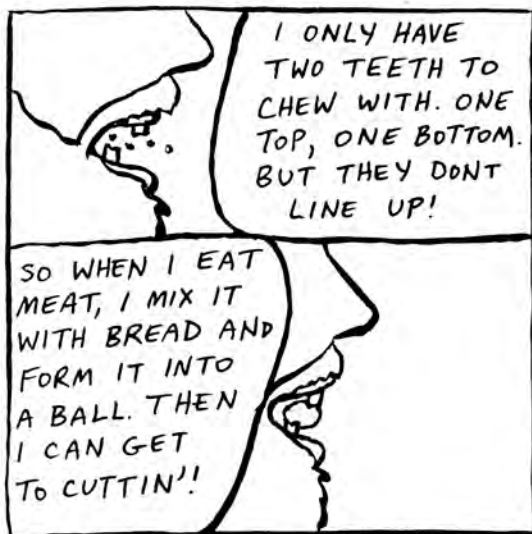
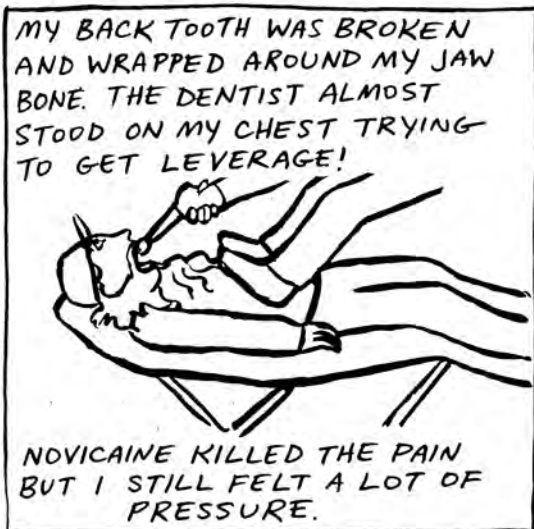
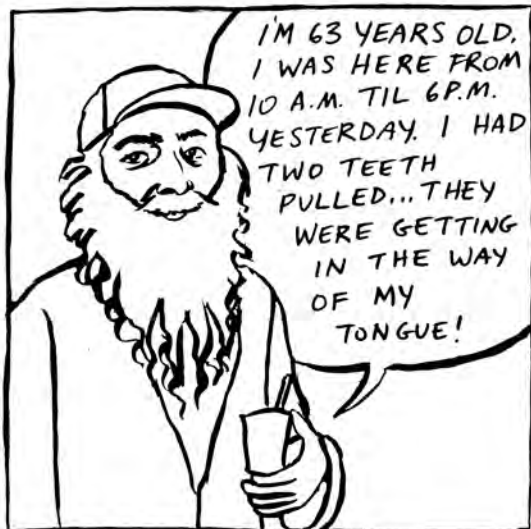


I have insurance but they don't cover more than one a year.

Dwayne wishes to have a preventative mastectomy, but only sees it happening -

If I won Power ball!





BY TATIANA GILL

Emiko

by Tatiana Gill



John

by Tatiana Gill

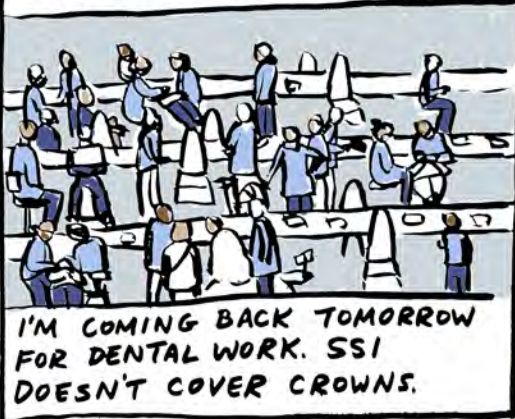


Sharnell

by Tatiana Gill



I'M IN TRANSITIONAL HOUSING
BUT STILL NEED TO PAY FOR
FOOD, BILLS, CHILD SUPPORT.



DRAKE

MY NAME IS DRAKE. I'M 47 YEARS OLD. I'M AN ARTIST-SCULPTING & GLASS BLOWING.



I'M HERE FOR GLASSES AND DENTAL.

BY TATIANA GILL

MY FILLING CAME OUT. I'VE HAD A CAVITY FOR YEARS AND IT'S GIVING ME HEADACHES.



I FOCUS ON STAYING HEALTHY SINCE I CAN'T AFFORD HEALTHCARE. BUT I'VE ALWAYS HAD TOOTH PROBLEMS.

I WAS ON DISABILITY FOR BIPOLAR, BUT NOT CURRENTLY. YOU HAVE TO JUMP THROUGH A LOT OF HOOPS AND I MISSED A HOOP.



ON DISABILITY I HAVE... MEDICAID? OR MEDICARE? I'M CONFUSED ABOUT THE DIFFERENCE. IT'S HARD TO PARSE WHAT'S GOING ON.

I WISH WE COULD BUILD UP A SOCIAL SAFETY NET, INSTEAD OF DISMANTLING IT.



THERE'S A STIGMA AGAINST HELPING PEOPLE, AGAINST THE GOVERNMENT PROVIDING INFRASTRUCTURE.

IT'S STRESSFUL NOT TO BE SURE IF OBAMACARE IS GOING TO EXIST IN A YEAR!



IT'S EASY FOR RICH PEOPLE TO MAKE DECISIONS FOR PEOPLE WHO AREN'T RICH, WITHOUT UNDERSTANDING THEIR LIVES.

THIS CLINIC IS REALLY COOL. I ONLY WISH IT WAS TWICE A YEAR.



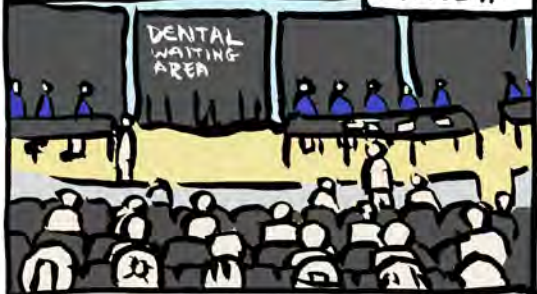
PEGGY & BRIAN

I'M PEGGY, THIS IS MY SON BRIAN. MY HUSBAND IS GETTING HIS TEETH CLEANED.



WE'VE BEEN UP SINCE 6:30 A.M. YESTERDAY. WE GOT HERE AT 11:30 P.M. LAST NIGHT - NO SLEEP.

HIS INSURANCE MAKES OUT AT \$1500 BUT THE DENTIST COSTS \$4000. WE DON'T HAVE THE MONEY.



MANY DENTISTS WON'T TAKE MEDICARE INSURANCE, OR ONLY IF YOU ARE UNDER 18 YEARS OLD.

BY TATIANA GILL

WE'RE RETIRED, SO MAKE \$600 A MONTH, AND HAVE A LARGE HOUSE PAYMENT.



BRIAN HAS BROKEN TEETH. HE HAS INSURANCE THROUGH MEDICARE AND THROUGH HIS JOB.

AFTER THIS, WE'LL NEED MORE CARE. I'LL HAVE TO KEEP RESEARCHING AND TRY TO FIND SOMETHING.



READY FOR MY CLOSE-UP

Call me Trombone Larry.
I moved here after Katrina
hit New Orleans.



- BWAH
BWAH

I need a crown or somethin' to
cover my broken tooth.



Without that piece of tooth, I can't
put the real **OOMP** into the
music. If you can't get that, what
else you got?



I have a disability, so I have some
coverage, but it's not enough.
I need \$500 to cover my tooth.



I used to play Christmas carols,
but I can't do it right now.

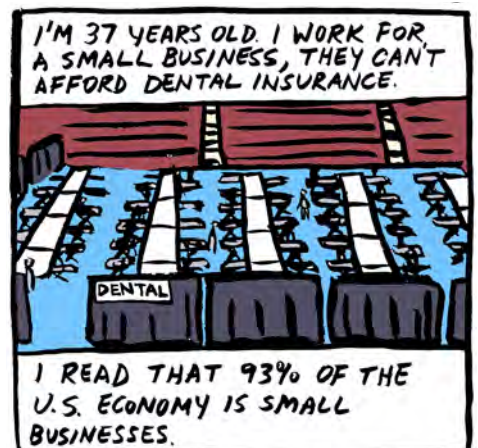


The dental work would stop all the
struggling, you know? The smooth,
tasty jazz when my lips hit the
mouthpiece
again! It's
going to
broaden out
the sound!

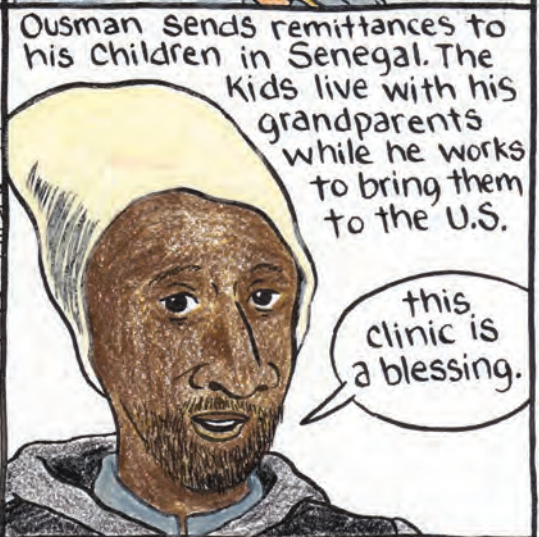
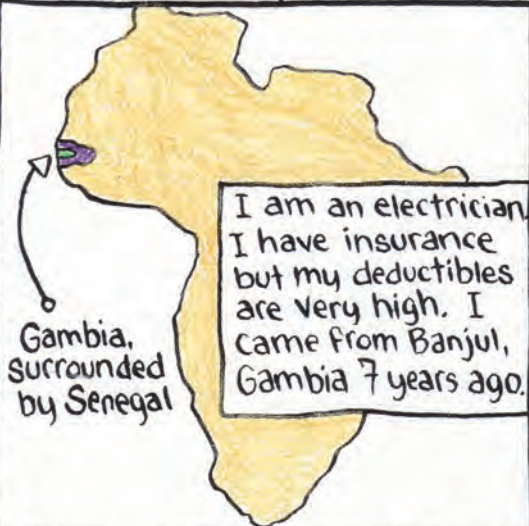


HAVING INSURANCE IS EXPENSIVE.
NOT HAVING INSURANCE IS
EXPENSIVE.

Working People's Struggles with Healthcare



Ousman



Megan Kelso 2016

Phyllis

Most of my friends are younger women. I'm 66, I raised 4 kids and I'm a grandmother to many...



I'm here for glasses and a mammogram. I've got glaucoma.



...maybe they lost their mom or moved away...

Phyllis has a new job managing housing for the elderly and disabled for a small non-profit that can't offer much of a health plan.



I think they like me because I tell them the truth. I don't make anything up cuz that's lying - you want my picture? Here, wait -

Now you see my knots!



Megan Kelso 2016

TAYLOR AND JOSH

BOTH TAYLOR AND JOSH WORK BUT THEIR COMPANY PAYS AN ANNUAL FINE RATHER THAN PROVIDE EMPLOYEES WITH ADEQUATE HEALTH INSURANCE. THEY MAKE TOO MUCH TO QUALIFY FOR MEDICAID BUT CAN ONLY AFFORD TO BUY ONE PLAN THROUGH THE EXCHANGE. BECAUSE JOSH NEEDS A MONTHLY PRESCRIPTION, HE'S THE ONE WITH INSURANCE. NEITHER HAVE DENTAL COVERAGE.



LAST YEAR, THEY BOTH RECEIVED MAJOR DENTAL WORK AT THIS CLINIC. JOSH HAD BEEN LIVING FOR MONTHS WITH A SHATTERED WISDOM TOOTH AND AN EXPOSED NERVE. HE'D BEEN COATING THE TOOTH IN HONEY EACH DAY TO PREVENT PAIN AND FURTHER INFECTION.

THEY REMOVED THE TOOTH AND THE RELIEF WAS PRACTICALLY IMMEDIATE.

Dental care should be free. It's a BASIC NEED.



TO PREVENT A POSSIBLE EXTRACTION LAST YEAR, TAYLOR HAD A TOOTH FILED DOWN AND WAS GIVEN PRESCRIPTION TOOTHPASTE.



"I thought they'd have to do a lot more today but it ended up just being a cleaning."

TAYLOR USED HER EXTRA TIME TO HAVE A PHYSICAL EXAM AND BLOOD WORK DONE. NEXT, THEY WERE GOING TO TALK WITH A VOLUNTEER ABOUT INSURANCE OPTIONS.



A. CAMBER

I WORK AT LABOR-READY AS A TRAFFIC FLAGGER. IT'S BEEN RAINING SO HARD I GET SOAKED UP TO MY LEG BRACES! I MAKE ABOUT \$12 AN HOUR, UNLESS IT'S A RARE UNION JOB.



I PRINTED OUT THE FLYER FOR THIS EVENT AND PUT IT ON THE BULLETIN BOARD AT WORK. I WANT TO POST IT AT ALL THE TEMP LABOR PLACES!

RY
FOR
SS12

OCT 27-30
SEATTLE/KING
COUNTY CLINIC

LOST

PEOPLE COME TO THIS CLINIC FROM ALASKA, MONTANA, CALIFORNIA... THEY DON'T HAVE THIS DOWN THAT WAY. THE LOW INCOME AND HOMELESS PROBLEM IS NOT JUST HERE

I'M ON WASHINGTON APPLE INSURANCE. I DON'T PAY A DIME FOR IT AND IT'S BEEN PERFECT. IT PAID FOR THESE BRACES!



BUT I CAN'T AFFORD \$50 A POP TO GET ACCUPUNCTURE OR MASSAGE.



I'VE COME HERE 3 DAYS IN A ROW, WAITING OVERNIGHT. I'VE GOTTEN 3 ACCUPUNCTURE AND 2 CHIROPRACTIC VISITS.



IT'S SO NICE NOT HAVING THIS CONSTANT MEAN PAIN! I LIVE WITH IT EVERY DAY.

I'M MESSED UP FROM MY HEAD TO MY TOES! MAJOR LOW-BACK ISSUES.



BUT TODAY IT FEELS LIKE IT'S NOT THERE! I'M GOOD TO GO!

DAVE

BY TATIANA GILL

I'M DAVE, I'VE BEEN HERE SINCE 4:45 AM, 7 HOURS. THIS IS MY WIFE & DAUGHTER, THEY STOPPED BY TO VISIT ME.



I'M 37 YEARS OLD. I WORK FOR A SMALL BUSINESS, THEY CAN'T AFFORD DENTAL INSURANCE.



I READ THAT 93% OF THE U.S. ECONOMY IS SMALL BUSINESSES.

MY TOOTH IS FRACTURED & KEEPS GETTING WORSE. IT'S IMPACTED AND CAVED IN. I MAKE TOO MUCH TO GET LOW INCOME ASSISTANCE, BUT TOO LITTLE TO AFFORD CARE.



THEY LOOK AT YOUR GROSS INCOME FOR ASSISTANCE BUT THE LOW-END ON RENT IS \$1200 A MONTH!

IN ANOTHER HOUR I'LL HAVE DENTAL SURGERY, AN EXTRACTION.



WITHOUT THIS CLINIC, "DENTAL" IS MYSELF AND A PAIR OF PLIERS. I'VE DONE IT BEFORE. NOT FUN.

Pressure

by Meredith Li-Vollmer



My son last got glasses two years ago.



His vision is blurry in the classroom from watching too much TV, doing homework on the computer.



Homework is mostly on the computer these days, you know.

Now his eyesight is worse than mine. If we can afford it, we go to Costco for glasses.

"Other worlds?" John Faa said. "Pardon me, sir, worlds would those be? Do you mean the stars?"
 "Indeed no."
 "Perhaps the world of spirits?" said Farder Coram.
 "or that."
 "the city in the lights?" said Lyra. "It is, en't it?"
 "oose turned his stately head toward L.
 rounded by a thin line of
 tense,
 said



We're at the Clinic because the economy is not so good. We need another way to save money.

We don't have insurance.

We got here at 4:50 am.



But you're fine, right?



It's easy getting up early. But it's not fun.

Not Optimistic

by Rachel Scheer



Rick



interview by David Lasky

SHOULDN'T OUR EYES AND TEETH BE INCLUDED?

Insurance without Dental and Vision



Daniel was waiting patiently for part two of a dental procedure -

His tooth ached and his gums were so tender he could no longer chew. He didn't have dental insurance.



The free clinic pulled the problem tooth and were making him a replacement with a 3D printer.

It's really cool.



Did you ever imagine having access to this kind of technology?

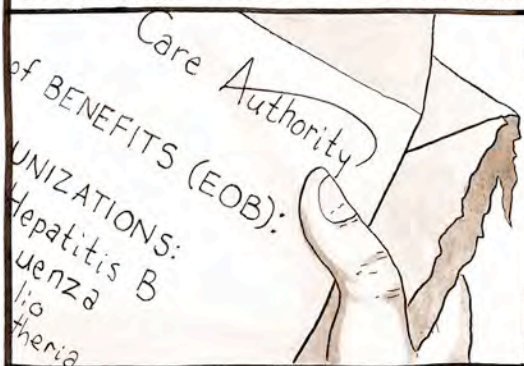


THIS IS GEORGE. HE'S
IN HIS FIFTIES AND IS
HOMELESS.

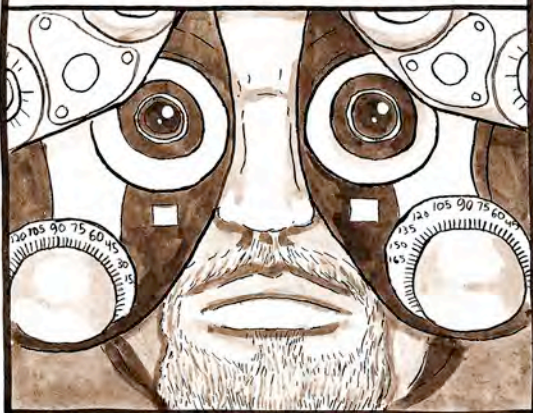
I'm here for
an eye exam.



HE'S GOT MEDICAID UNDER
OBAMACARE, BUT DOESN'T GET
REGULAR VISION COVERAGE.



IT'S BEEN TEN YEARS
SINCE HIS LAST EYE EXAM.



SINCE THEN HE'S BEEN BUY-
ING GLASSES FROM THRIFT
STORES, LUCKY TO FIND PAIRS
WITH LENSES HE NEEDS.



Graham

David Lasky

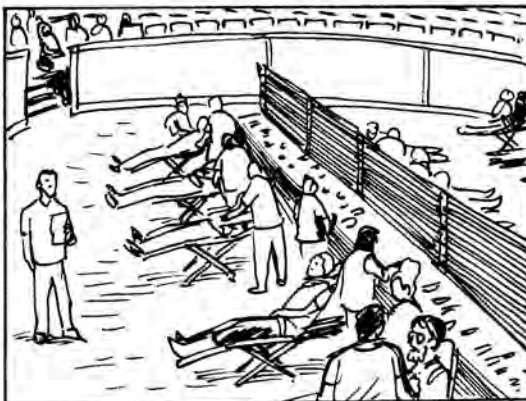
Graham is a P.T. nanny and P.T. tour guide at the Pike Place Market...



He pays for insurance, but it doesn't include dental or vision.



Even sliding-scale clinics are expensive for him.



Graham thought he might have a cavity, but didn't. He's getting a cleaning today.



Under the umbrella of "healthcare," shouldn't our eyes and teeth be included?

D.L.



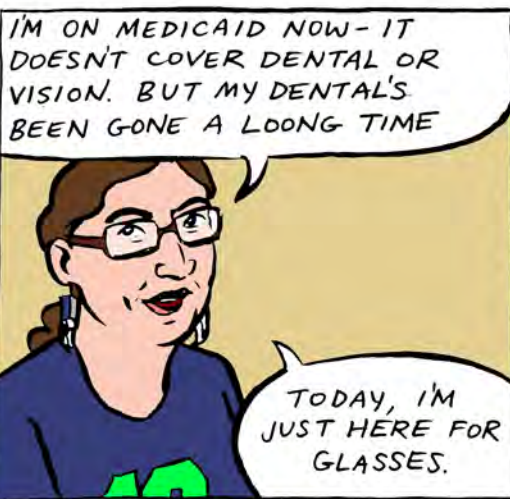
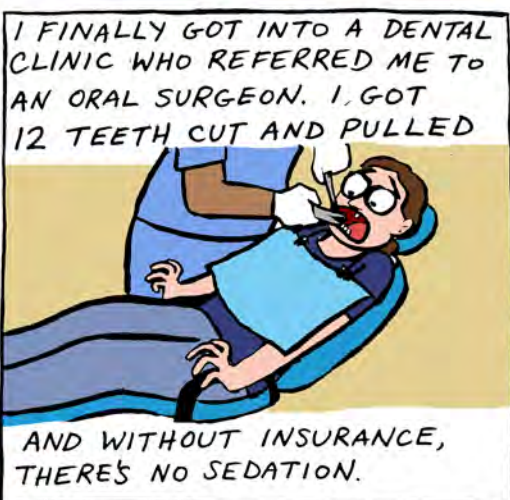
PIRATE TREASURE

BY TATIANA GILL



TOOTHLESS IN SEATTLE

BY TATIANA GILL



Margie

by Tatiana Gill

I'VE BEEN HERE SINCE MIDNIGHT.
I GOT GLASSES, SHOTS, NOW I'M
WAITING FOR MEDICAL.



I LIVE IN PUYALLUP AND GOT A
RIDE WITH A FRIEND, SO I HOPE I
CAN GET EVERYTHING DONE TODAY.



IT'S BEEN A LONG DAY! I REALLY
APPRECIATE THE DOCTORS AND
HELPERS HERE - IT'S A GREAT PROGRAM.

I HAVE INSURANCE BUT IT DOESN'T
COVER GLASSES OR DENTAL.



I NEED SPECIAL 'PRISM' GLASSES.
MY EYES ARE BACKWARDS -
THEY DON'T LINE UP PROPERLY.

THEY GAVE ME 2 PAIRS OF
GLASSES HERE. THE EYE
DOCTOR IS WRITING A
RECOMMENDATION FOR SURGERY,
SO MY INSURANCE WILL COVER IT.



I LOVE TO READ BUT I
COULDN'T - UNTIL TODAY.

Nathan

by Tatiana Gill

TODAY I'M HERE FOR MY DAD. I'M COMING BACK TOMORROW FOR DENTAL. I HAVE ACID REFLUX WHICH IS BAD FOR TEETH.



MY TEETH ARE PULLING AWAY FROM MY GUMS- I COULD LOSE THEM IF I LET THEM GO ANOTHER YEAR.

I LIVE WITH MY FAMILY IN EVERETT. I'M 32 YEARS OLD. I'VE BEEN CLEAN OFF HEROIN FOR ONE MONTH.



I NEEDED OBAMACARE BUT COULDN'T FIGURE OUT HOW TO GET IT. FINALLY MY SISTER SHOWED ME. I FELT LOST AND NEEDED INFORMATION.



I WISH THE NEWS WOULD TALK MORE ABOUT HOW TO SIGN UP.

I'VE HAD TWO THROAT SURGERIES AND A HERNIA. I HAVE A RING IN MY THROAT FOR THE ACID REFLUX. MY BIGGEST FEAR IS COLON CANCER AND THROAT CANCER.



MY NAME IS BEN. I'M HERE TO GET ACCUPUNCTURE FOR MY PAIN. I'M IN SERIOUS HIP & BACK PAIN EVERY MINUTE.



I DIDN'T THINK ACCUPUNCTURE WOULD WORK BUT ITS WORTH A TRY. I'VE TRIED EVERYTHING ELSE.

I GOT NEW GLASSES TODAY TOO. THESE OLD ONES ARE SUPERGLUED & WIRED TOGETHER.



I HAVE INSURANCE - OBAMACARE, APPLE CARE, BUT IT DOESN'T COVER GLASSES.

I LIVE IN SEATTLE. I'VE BEEN HERE SINCE 5 A.M. I GOT UP AT 1 A.M. TO GIVE MY GIRLFRIEND A RIDE HERE FROM DARRINGTON.



I WAS IN A CAR WRECK. I HAVE CRUSHED DISKS AND A TUMOR INSIDE THE BONE OF MY LOWER BACK.



DOCTORS SAID THERE'S NOTHING THEY CAN DO, "JUST TAKE PAIN PILLS." THEN THEY TOOK THOSE AWAY.

I TRIED TO GO BACK TO WORK AS A WELDER, BUT WAS IN TOO MUCH PAIN. I HAVEN'T WORKED IN A YEAR. I APPLIED FOR SSI BUT DIDN'T GET IT.



I TRY TO THINK POSITIVE, BECAUSE OTHERWISE I DON'T HAVE ANYTHING.

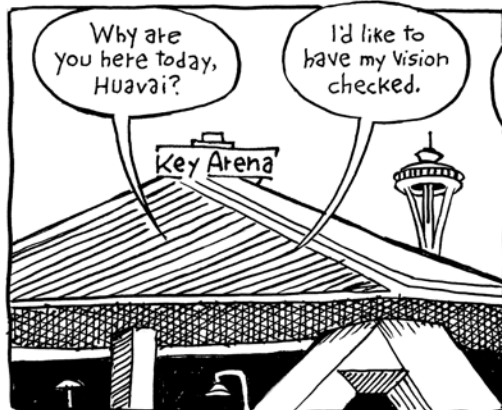


I THINK I'LL GO WORK FOR STARBUCKS

Out of Work, Out of Insurance



STORIES FROM THE SKC CLINIC: **Huavai**



Cybil & Ann @ the Free Clinic

I do home healthcare. I'm in between jobs. My recent clients just died. Mom's on ^{*Supplemental Security Income} but it doesn't cover everything she needs.



That's how it is with homecare. They die. But I like caring for people in their homes. I can give them more attention.



Homecare is the fastest growing occupation in the workforce, but it doesn't pay well enough for these workers to afford their own healthcare needs.



The median annual income for home-care workers is \$13,000.

With care workers projected to be the single largest occupation by 2030, we need to find a way to value this workforce.



2017 Megan Kelso

KARL

I found out about the Clinic when I saw people lined up at Seattle Center.

What's this for?

It's free healthcare.



I've come every day because I need a LOT of services. I've had no benefits since I got a serious brain injury. My health has deteriorated ever since. It started with a work-related injury.



While I was waiting for my company to approve worker's comp, my knee blew out.



After, I had no idea who I was. I have trouble reading and remembering things.

I lost my high-paying job and my insurance. My former company fought my claim. They said I got my brain injury playing football for Tampa Bay. I never played pro-football!

I ended up homeless.



I got lost getting here the second day. I can't do numbers, so buses are confusing. I know the one bus I take all the time, but I can't transfer.



One of the Seattle Center security guards recognized me and helped me find my way. So I'm giving back where I can.

See you tomorrow, Andrew!

Thanks for the cookie, man.



FRED (OR WHEN PLAN B IS THE E.R.)



A. CAMBER 2018

Aging Out

Kelly Froh

Teresa was forced out of her job at the credit union after 32 years.

They refused to pay me out all the sick time I had accrued.



They paid 3 months of healthcare, then she was dropped. She doesn't qualify for Medicaid, but can't afford private insurance.

So now I have nothing.



This whole experience has taken a toll on her mental health.

So what's next for you? I'd like a job with no emotional investment...



I think I'll go work at Starbucks!



MANY CLOSED DOORS

Stories from Immigrant Patients





Timing

by Kelly Froh

A month before the free clinic, Ike paid \$600 out of pocket for a tooth extraction.



His motto has always been,

Wait till it hurts.



But for his daughter who just arrived from Africa, and doesn't yet have a greencard,



Spending 10 hours waiting for free dental care -

It's worth it.



FOR THIS YEAR'S CLINIC COVERAGE, I CHOSE TO FOCUS ON THE IMMIGRANT EXPERIENCE. IN 2016 (THE LATEST DATA SHOW) OVER 35% OF SKCC PATIENTS REPORTED SPEAKING SOMETHING OTHER THAN ENGLISH AS A FIRST LANGUAGE. FOR THEM, THE CLINIC HAS ON-SITE INTERPRETERS AND INDEMAND, A SORT OF SKYPE WITH MEDICALLY-CERTIFIED INTERPRETATION.



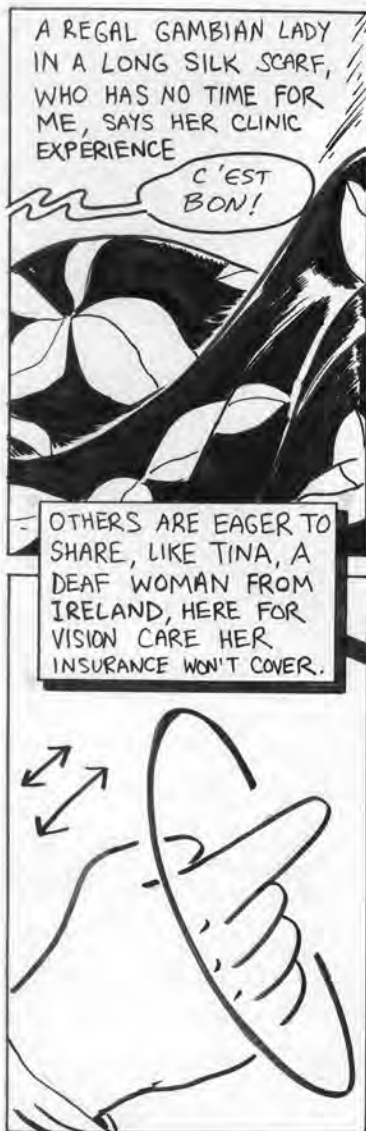
PATIENTS LUCAS AND MARIA ROSA, RESTAURANT WORKERS FROM PUEBLA, MEXICO, WAITED OVERNIGHT BECAUSE THEY CAN'T PAY FOR SOMEONE TO LOOK AT LUCAS' FOOT.

"DOCTORS TAKE ADVANTAGE OF THE UNDOCUMENTED," MARIA ROSA SAYS. "BUT AT THIS CLINIC THEY RESPECT YOU."



"I PLAY SPORTS TO STAY HEALTHY," HE ADDS (HE'S 37, BUT LOOKS 10 YEARS YOUNGER).

RUSLAN, AN ETHNIC RUSSIAN FROM KISHINIAU, MOLDOVA, ALSO AP APPRECIATES THE SERVICE. A FURNITURE DEALER, HE CAME WITH FRIENDS FOR DENTAL WORK. "BUT THEY'VE ALL LEFT!" HE SAYS, WITH A MISCHIEVOUS SMILE.



A REGAL GAMBIAN LADY IN A LONG SILK SCARF, WHO HAS NO TIME FOR ME, SAYS HER CLINIC EXPERIENCE

C'EST BON!

OTHERS ARE EAGER TO SHARE, LIKE TINA, A DEAF WOMAN FROM IRELAND, HERE FOR VISION CARE HER INSURANCE WON'T COVER.



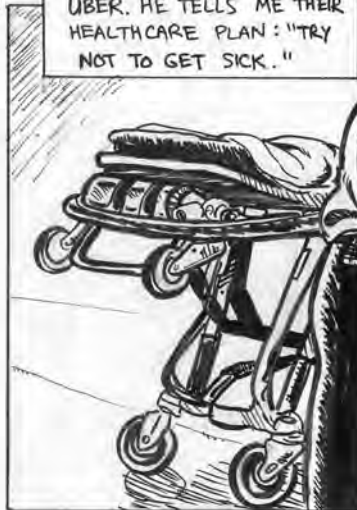


"SOMETIMES I ONLY HAVE MY KID TO INTERPRET. IT'S SO, SO FRUSTRATING," SHE FUMES.

ACCESS TO DOCTORS IS ALWAYS A STRUGGLE FOR DEAF PEOPLE. "THEY EITHER DON'T HAVE ASL INTERPRETERS, OR THEIR TRANSLATION OVER A SCREEN FREEZES UP BECAUSE OF NETWORK TROUBLE," SHE SAYS. "ONCE I WAS IN THE EMERGENCY ROOM WITH NO INTERPRETER! I WAS TERRIFIED."

KY, A VIETNAMESE INTERPRETER, TELLS ME MOST OF THESE PATIENTS COME IN WITH CHRONIC CONDITIONS, FEVER, AND NO INSURANCE. "BUT SKCC CAN REALLY HELP CONNECT IMMIGRANTS TO SERVICES THEY DIDN'T EVEN KNOW ABOUT," HE SAYS.

I'M REMINDED OF THAT WHEN I SEE AN ELDERLY LADY FROM NEW DELHI, IN A WHEELCHAIR, HAVING CHEST PAINS. EMTS ARE CHECKING HER; THEY'VE BROUGHT A GURNEY. BITTU, HER SON, DRIVES AN UBER. HE TELLS ME THEIR HEALTHCARE PLAN: "TRY NOT TO GET SICK."



THE LADY LOOKS VERY SCARED. I HOLD HER HAND. IT FEELS CLAMMY.

I ASK BITTU TO PLEASE TRANSLATE:



EVERY-BODY HERE WANTS TO HELP YOU.

My name is Ali Like Muhammad Ali!

I came from Burkina Faso as a student.

But, I had a blood leak in my brain. After surgery, I have impaired mobility on this side.



I came on Thursday for dental work. But yesterday I got chiropractic, and for the first time, Acupuncture!

You can't risk spending for something that may not work.

Today, I'm here with my girlfriend!

I really liked it and want more.



Roberta Gregory -17-

FATMA AND FAMILY



A. CAMBER

ANGELICA

I MET ANGELICA AND HER 2-YEAR-OLD DAUGHTER IN THE MORNING. SHE WAS WAITING TO SEE A DERMATOLOGIST. THIS IS HER SECOND DAY AT THE CLINIC.

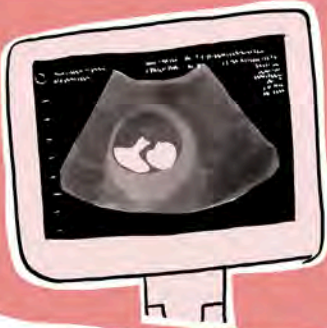


Me duele

Whenever it gets wet, it hurts.

SHE'S HOPING TO GET TREATMENT FOR PAINFUL ECZEMA.

ANGELICA IS PREGNANT BUT UNLIKE HER DAUGHTER, SHE DOESN'T HAVE INSURANCE. YESTERDAY, SHE SPENT THE DAY SEEING AN OBSTETRICIAN AND HAVING PRENATAL LAB WORK DONE.

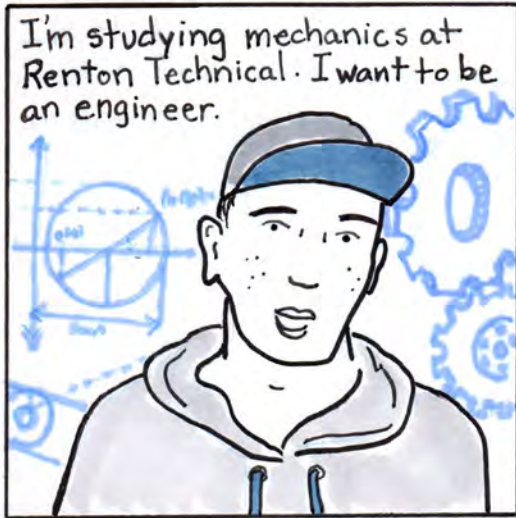


I love being here. Everyone is smiling.



SHE CAME TO THE CLINIC 2 YEARS AGO AND PLANS TO RETURN NEXT YEAR. SEEING AN EYE DOCTOR IS HER NEXT PRIORITY.

A. CAMBER 2018



Meredith Li-Vollmer

MIXED BLESSING

These two women are sisters. They have a house cleaning business.



We get general check-ups at a community health center. We feel blessed and thankful to get our teeth cleaned here.



It's important to have access to general care, but when you need specialized services you have to go somewhere you don't know and you have to pay even more.



Look at how her smile lights up because she got dental care here! Immigrants work hard for this country. It's important that we can get health services too.



In this country, if you're dying, everything is done for you. They don't want you to die.



But if you're sick, they charge you. It's very costly.



Time for Myself

by Rachel Scheer



FELIPE

BY TATIANA GILL

I'M FELIPE, I LIVE IN LYNWOOD. I'VE BEEN HERE SINCE 4 A.M. IM HERE FOR CHIROPRACTIC & DENTAL.



I ALREADY GOT THE CHIRO. WHEN I GOT HERE, I COULDN'T EVEN WALK! NOW I CAN.

I DON'T HAVE INSURANCE - I WISH! I HAVE NO WAY TO GET INSURANCE OR HEALTHCARE.



I'M AN IMMIGRANT FROM MEXICO. I'VE BEEN IN THE U.S. SINCE I WAS 5 YEARS OLD, AND I'M 26 NOW. MY WHOLE LIFE.

I WISH I COULD HAVE HAD A BETTER LIFE. BEING UNDOCUMENTED CLOSED MANY DOORS: SCHOOL, A BETTER JOB, BETTER PAY.



I'M WORKING, BUT I'VE BEEN TOO INJURED THE PAST FEW DAYS.

I HAVE 2 DAUGHTERS, 7 MONTHS AND 3 YEARS OLD. I'M GOING THROUGH A DIVORCE. THEIR MOM ABANDONED THE FAMILY.



MY MOM IS BABYSITTING THEM TODAY.

NOW I GOT HURT AND CAN'T WORK. I DO FRAMING. IF I GET FIRED FOR BEING INJURED, I'LL HAVE TO MOVE AGAIN.



I MOVED HERE FOR THE JOB.

I NEED TOO MUCH DENTAL! IT'S TOO EXPENSIVE TO GET A CHECKUP.



MOST CLINICS REJECT ME BECAUSE I'M NOT LEGAL. I WISH I WOULD BE GIVEN THE CHANCE TO PROVE THAT NOT ALL IMMIGRANTS ARE BAD PEOPLE.

WHY DO PEOPLE GOTTA SUFFER LIKE THIS?

Stories from Patients Living
Unhoused or Homeless



Imagine

Kelly Froh

Can I ask you how you feel about the current state of healthcare?



Well, it's my second biggest worry after my homelessness.



It's been a hard year. The healthcare system affects all of us. There are no more illusions...



It shouldn't sound UTOPIAN to envision a free healthcare clinic that is open more than once a year.



LIMITED TIME

YOU WANT A STORY?
I'LL GIVE YOU A STORY:
FOR 12 YEARS I WAS
A POLICE OFFICER
IN NEW ORLEANS.
THEN HURRICANE
KATRINA HIT.
I WAS SO BUSY
HELPING
EVERYBODY
ELSE THAT
I LOST MY WIFE
AND CHILD. THEN I HAD
A NERVOUS BREAKDOWN.



BY TATIANA GILL

I'M 50 YEARS OLD AND I'VE
BEEN LIVING ON THE STREETS
FOR FOUR YEARS.



MY WHOLE BODY IS IN PAIN AND
MY FOOT'S BEEN IN PAIN FOR
DECADES. I CAME TO SEE A
FOOT DOCTOR AND ACCUPUNCTURIST.

I CAN'T LIVE ON THE STREETS
FOR ANOTHER TEN YEARS. IT'S
RAINING, IT'S ABOUT TO GET
COLD.



I'M SUPPOSED TO GET RETIREMENT
MONEY WHEN I'M 65. I WON'T
LIVE UNTIL THEN.

WHY DO PEOPLE
GOTTA SUFFER
LIKE THIS?

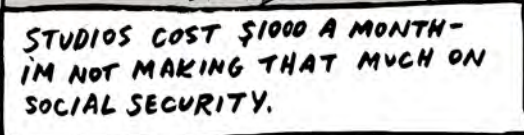
YOU DO BAD,
YOU GET
EVERYTHING
YOU WANT.

YOU DO GOOD,
YOU GET NOTHING.



Gabriel

by Tatiana Gill



Ashley, 25 years old

Ashley just had 3 teeth extracted. Now she's waiting in the line for chiropractic care.



When I was younger, I went to the chiropractor often.

I came here on the Ferry at 9pm and slept in my car until midnight.

I got in line at 1am.



I'm partially homeless, and sleep different places. Car... tent... sofa...

I was in a lot of pain for five months—I had teeth broken in half with the nerve exposed... treating it with Orajel, Ibuprofen, Tylenol...



I had insurance when I was pregnant. It expired after I had my daughter.

What do you think about this clinic?

It's really cool that they're doing this for everybody.

They cared about my comfort. I was nervous. I'd never had a tooth pulled.



Do you have anything to say to the politicians?

Come here and look and see all these people's faces.

interview by David Lasky

MEETING PEOPLE WHERE THEY ARE

Social Support Services at the Clinic



Stereotypes

Kelly Froh

Lisa gets basic healthcare from her tribe but says there are noted exclusions, such as care for symptoms relating to fetal alcohol syndrome.



How has F.A.S affected your life?

I have to work at constant self-care to overcome laziness, poor memory, coordination, jitteriness... I sometimes forget to shower for days.



So many of these symptoms are synonymous with negative stereotypes about Native people.

This does not help us as we struggle with F.A.S



I'm happy to be seeing a social worker today to hopefully get back on track.



Also, Sam helps me a lot!

MIKE ARCHER, PSY D SKCC BEHAVIORAL HEALTH CO-LEAD



IF YOU COULD CHANGE 3 THINGS ABOUT MENTAL HEALTH CARE... ^{what would they be?}



IT'S VERY PERSONAL

Volunteer Stories



Volunteer

Last year I volunteered as a nursing student...



"...those who already had the money and privilege to get prenatal care, and others who never knew what resources were available."



"This year I am a licensed neonatal nurse. My patients are babies, but I work with a wide range of mothers..."



"Here, I'm very impressed by the well-organized patient intake - and all patients are equally welcome without having to provide information"



"But, in a hospital there seem to be so many barriers, mostly due to insurance. In an ideal world, you wouldn't need clinics like these..."



"...because medicine would be this accessible for everyone. I want to be optimistic that this can be someday fixed with ingenuity and creativity."



(Apologies to folks whose language I mangled!)

Roberta Gregory © 2018

MICHAEL



MICHAEL IS A VOLUNTEER TRANSLATOR
HE SPEAKS MANDARIN.



"I'm an ultrasound engineer.
My company advertised that
they needed volunteers for this
clinic. I've come every year!"



TRANSLATORS WAIT TOGETHER
UNTIL THEY ARE NEEDED.



"We stay with patients as much as
possible. We do triage then
translate for the providers."



I ASKED, IS IT HARD TO
TRANSLATE MEDICAL TERMS?

"Well, I looked up some
words before I came."



It's been really
rewarding
being here.
Really humbling.
To hear people's
struggles...
It's very personal,
not like reading
about it or seeing
it on TV.

A. CAMBER

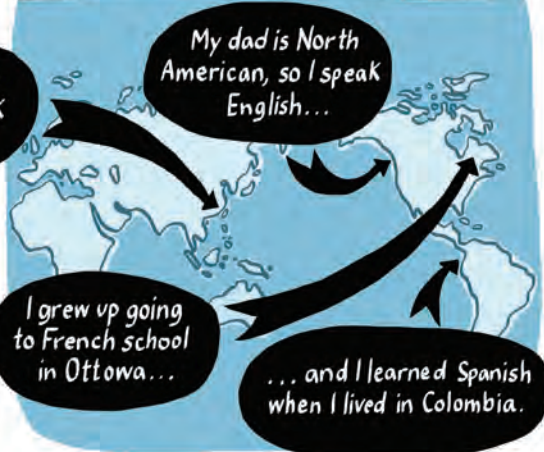
CATHERINE



My mom is from Taiwan, so I speak Mandarin...

CATHERINE IS A PROFESSIONAL TRANSLATOR. TODAY, SHE'S VOLUNTEERING HER SERVICES.

SHE SPEAKS FOUR LANGUAGES



THIS IS HER FIRST TIME AT THE CLINIC. SHE WAS PUT TO WORK BEFORE SHE EVEN CHECKED IN!

"It's so great to be here. I'm surrounded by people who speak lots of languages and everyone seems so excited and passionate about what they're doing."



A. CAMBER 2018

LOLINDA



LOLINDA AND LANA ARE DENTAL INSTRUCTORS. TODAY, THEY'VE BROUGHT NINETEEN STUDENTS TO VOLUNTEER AS DENTAL ASSISTANTS.



LOLINDA DESCRIBED HELPING REPLACE A ROTTEN TOOTH WITH A COMPOSITE.



HER FAVORITE PROCEDURE IS FIXING FRONT TEETH.



A. CAMBER 2018

Empathy Allowed

by Rachel Scheer

I've been here every single day for the last 5 years...

J.D., volunteer

I think this was the first opportunity I got to do something other than my day job.

Take a seat right over there...

Thanks!

You meet a lot of people... a lot of like-minded people, their hearts are in the right place.

This is one place where if you have empathy for others you are not automatically considered a socialist...

Health Fair

by Meredith Li-Vollmer

In the volunteer break room

This is my first year volunteering. I help in the dental waiting area.



Patients wait such a long time. If I slip up telling someone where to sit, they might have to wait even longer.

What time did you get here?

About 3:30 am.



It's hard to see that this is what people need to do to get healthcare. It's not right.



I have to check myself. I had made assumptions that patients would be poor. Now I see it easily could be me.



You don't need to be very desperate to need help with medical care.

The patients are so gracious, even when they are tired.

The middle rows will go first since they've been waiting the longest.

Sure, they should go ahead of me.



There's so much that's unfair about the healthcare situation. I want to make this clinic experience as fair as I can.

When you see the people in row 8 go, you'll know you're next.

Thank you.



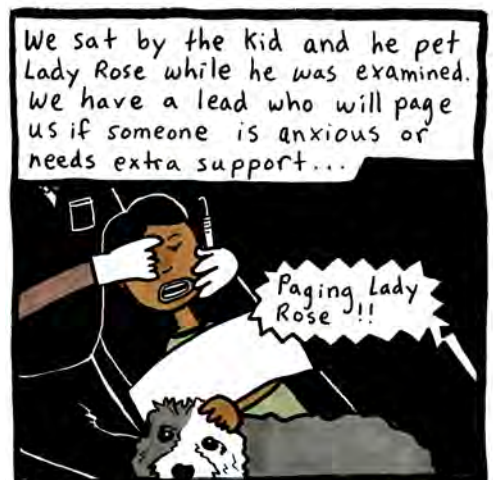
Too Good

by Meredith Li-Vollmer



THESE POOCHES ARE PROFESSIONALS!

Comfort Dogs at the Clinic



STORIES FROM THE SKC CLINIC: PICKLES

I couldn't help petting PICKLES at Key Arena, greeting people at the clinic. Then I spoke with Raquel, of HOPE Animal-assisted Crisis Response.



The first year we were amazed at the DIVERSITY of the population that was served. Everybody was SO NICE, and happy.



Happy to have access to health care services?

I think the patients felt...Grateful. I heard over and over again they felt valued and respected. Grateful that people were kind to them, actually saw them as people. Grateful they could help provide help for them.



I was told that people actually camp the night before so they can jockey for position to get in here. Where do they camp at?

They're in a building across the way...where they can be safe and out of the elements. They line up, all night long, and early in the morning, at I think 4 or 5 am they're given a ticket with a number on it, and it puts them in order. Then they bring them over and back, in case it's raining or cold...



How does PICKLES fit into all this?

He's a service dog, a therapy dog, here for people to pet to relieve tension and stress. Anyone needing emotional support can pet Pickles and he's a sweetheart to anyone who may need his warmth and love.

PAT MORIARIY

END

Paging Lady Rose

by Rachel Scheer

This is Lady Rose, she's coming off her 4-hour shift. She's here for comfort and distraction.

Lady Rose, Volunteer

There was a request down to the dental floor for a child...

We sat by the kid and he pet Lady Rose while he was examined. We have a lead who will page us if someone is anxious or needs extra support...

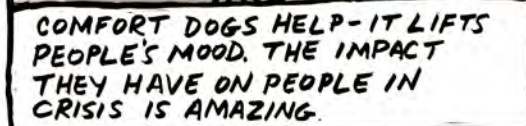
Paging Lady Rose !!

Lady Rose also participates in "Reading with Rover," she listens to kids read... Here, take her card!

La
R

NANCY & BANER

BY TATIANA GILL



Puppy Love ♥

Comfort Dogs and their Humans put in many hours at the Free Clinic...



"You can't walk five feet without somebody reaching out to pat one of the pups..."
"Dog" is a universal language!"



These pooches are professionals! Trained, certified therapy dogs who go through a three-hour intensive screening, testing with high-stress situations...



... making sure their personality is appropriate for crisis work.



They walk the hallways... or the Team Leader is texted if a Comfort Dog is requested.



But, humans aren't the only ones who need some T.L.C.



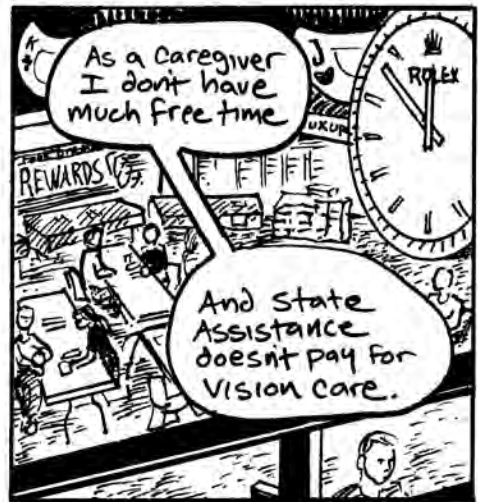
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THIS IS THE REAL AMERICA

Outcomes from Five Years

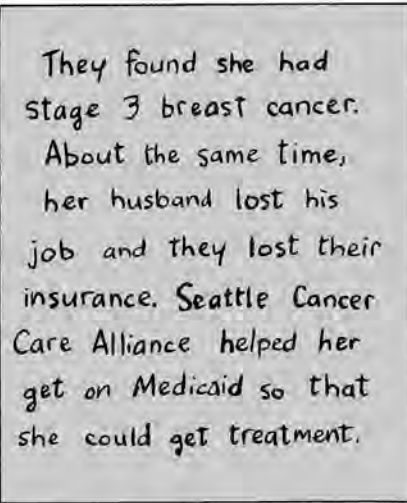
Seattle/King County Clinic





FOR JANET







As told to Meredith Li-Vollmer and David Lasky

MOLLY

BY TATIANA GILL

I'M MOLLY, I'M 73 YEARS OLD. I CAME FOR DENTAL WORK. I HAVE MEDICARE BUT NO DENTAL COVERAGE.



I WAS HERE LAST YEAR. I HAD AN AGONIZINGLY PAINFUL TOOTH PULLED.



WITHOUT THIS CLINIC, I WOULD HAVE WOUND UP IN THE E.R. I PAY ALL MY BILLS BUT HAVE NO RESIDUAL FOR EMERGENCIES.

I FOUND A CLINIC THAT DOES SLIDING SCALE, IT'S \$400 FOR X-RAYS AND A TEMPORARY FILLING.



DENTAL IS GROSSLY EXPENSIVE BUT EVEN AT A DISCOUNT IT'S HARD TO ACCESS. I STILL OWE THEM \$60 WHICH I'LL PAY NEXT MONTH.

EVERYBODY FROM EVERY WALK OF LIFE COMES TO THIS CLINIC. I'VE HAD NO TRAGEDIES, NO DRUGS, I HAVE AN APARTMENT.



I'M A RANK & FILE NORMAL HUMAN BEING TRYING TO LIVE ON SOCIAL SECURITY.

THERE'S A BOOM IN SEATTLE RIGHT NOW, BUT IT'S NOT GREAT FOR EVERYONE.



I LIVED IN LIBYA AS A CHILD. THE KING'S CASTLE WAS GOLD BUT PEOPLE WERE STARVING IN THE STREETS. WE HAVE THAT HERE.

WE'RE IN THIS TOGETHER. IF THE FRINGE IS FALLING APART, THEN SO ARE WE. IT'S LIKE THE WEAKEST LINK IN A CHAIN.



I CAN'T TELL YOU HOW GRATEFUL I AM FOR THIS PLACE.

Catching Up

by Meredith Li-Vollmer

I last got dental care at this clinic a few years ago. I'm a vet, so I get medical at the VA, but not dental.



I had my own business and I was also going to school. My toothache made it hard to eat.



It affected my ability to focus and I had to miss classes.

At the Clinic, I got cavities filled, x-rays, and help with problems with my partial dentures.



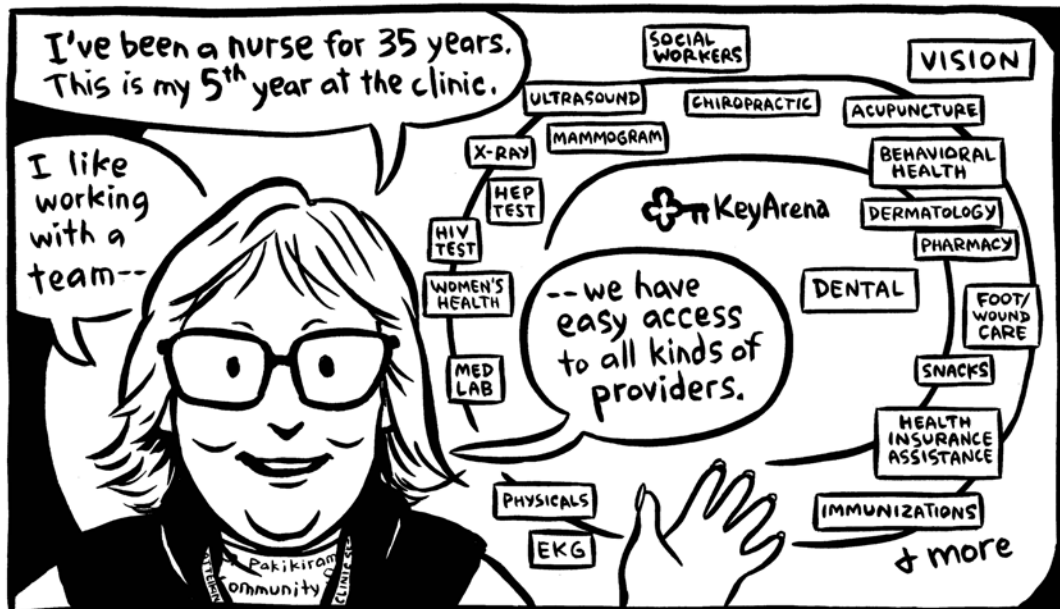
It relieved a big stressor so I didn't fall too far behind. I'm getting certified as a biomedical equipment technician.



ROSA



A. CAMBER



IF YOU COULD CHANGE 3 THINGS ABOUT HEALTH CARE, WHAT WOULD THEY BE?



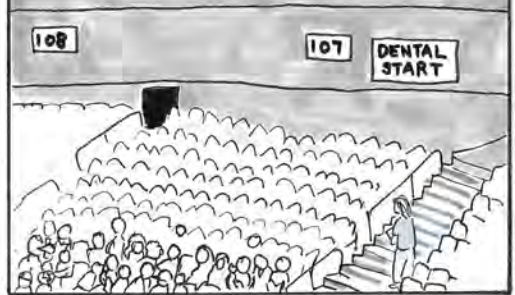
EPILOGUE

by Meredith Li-Vollmer

It's been 5 years
since the first
Seattle/King County
Clinic.



In those five years,
20,000 patients had
their immediate healthcare
needs met.



More than **\$17 million** in direct
services were provided for free.



But the impact has been more
than just the services.

The SKC Clinic shone a spotlight
on the magnitude of need for
expanded healthcare access
in our community.

It's 5am and hundreds
of people are in
line for free
healthcare.



It made visible the lack of options for people without insurance or financial means.



It challenged stereotypes about who is in need.



There were almost as many volunteers as patients.



The SKC Clinic facilitated collaboration between health care organizations, professional associations and public agencies that often work in silos.



But this pop-up event was never envisioned as a long-term solution to healthcare.



Free clinics are not enough.

We need to move the needle in more systemic ways.



We need expanded Medicaid for anyone who is income eligible, regardless of immigration status.



We need to improve our public mental health funding.



We need increased reimbursement rates for Medicaid providers so that more providers serve this population.



We need to get rid of bureaucratic hoops that make it harder to get care.



Meanwhile, it's 2019 and the future of the Seattle/King County Clinic is a little up in the air.



When the Clinic started, the Affordable Care Act was in it's infancy. There was so much hope.





THE ARTISTS

José Alaniz is an associate professor in the Department of Slavic Languages and Literatures and the Department of Comparative Literature (adjunct) at the University of Washington - Seattle, chairs the Executive Committee of the International Comic Arts Forum (ICAF), the leading comics studies conference in the United States. His comics have appeared in the *Moscow Tribune*, *Seattle Weekly* and *Dune*.

Amy Camber is an artist and teacher. She writes about everything from feminism and parenting to periodontal disease and professional sports. Her comics have appeared in *The Huffington Post*, *Mutha Magazine*, *The Establishment*, *The Seattle Weekly*, *Bust*, and *Grab Back Comics* among others. amycambercomics.com

Owen Curtsinger is a comic artist and illustrator. His work focuses mostly on science and research-based topics, such as narwhal evolution, solar magnetism, and other natural wonders. He holds a certificate in Natural Science Illustration and a BA in Creative Writing, both from the University of Washington.

Ellen Forney is the author of bestselling graphic memoir *Marbles: Mania, Depression, Michelangelo, and Me*, and its self-care companion book *Rock Steady: Brilliant Advice From My Bipolar Life*. Ellen curated the traveling exhibition, *Graphic Medicine: Ill-Conceived & Well-Drawn!* for the National Library of Medicine, and teaches comics at Cornish College of the Arts in Seattle. ellenforney.com

Eroyn Franklin is a comics artist, illustrator, arts educator, and Creative Director of Short Run Comix and Arts Festival. She has written 2 graphic novels, the Xeric-winning *Another Glorious Day at the Nothing Factory*, and *Detained*, which is part of a permanent Wing Luke Museum exhibit at Inscape in Seattle. eroynfranklin.com

Kelly Froh is a comic artist, art instructor, and co-founder and Executive Director of Short Run Comix & Arts Festival in Seattle. Her work can be found at cargocollective.com/kefroh and previously in *The Seattle Weekly*, *The Seattle Review of Books*, *Moss*, *The Women's Review of Books* and *Popula*.

Tatiana Gill is a Seattle-based cartoonist who uses her art to show strength and vulnerability, often on themes of mental health and diversity. Gill has created dozens of self-published comic books and contributes to publications across the world. tatianagill.com

Roberta Gregory has been creating (and publishing) her unique comics since the 1970s. She is best known for her character "Bitchy Bitch". robertagregory.com

Robyn Jordan is a cartoonist, illustrator and teacher. Her non-fiction memoir and journalism comics have been featured in various publications, including *The Stranger*, *Seattle Weekly*, *Narratively*, *Vox*, and *The Huffington Post*. She is a member of THE HAND, an art collective that creates collaborative comics. robynjordan.com

Megan Kelso, a Seattle native, has published comics since the 1990s, starting with the *Girlhero* mini comic, later compiled into a book titled *Queen of the Black Black*. Kelso received two Ignatz awards for her graphic novel *Artichoke Tales*. In 2007, she was invited by *The New York Times Magazine* to serialize her *Watergate Sue* comic as part of a weekly *Funny Pages* feature. Kelso is currently at work on her third collection of short stories.

David Lasky coauthored the graphic novel *The Carter Family: Don't Forget This Song*, which won the comics industry's Eisner Award, and is currently drawing a graphic novel which will focus on Seattle's historic Georgetown Steam Plant. Among his best known work is the comic book, *No Ordinary Flu*, made in collaboration with Public Health – Seattle & King County.

Meredith Li-Vollmer communicates about health issues for Public Health – Seattle & King County. Her experience staffing the Seattle/King County Clinic inspired her to organize this project. Her comics projects have been published in *MUTHA*, *The Stranger*, *PEN America* and *The American Journal of Public Health*. She is currently working on a book about comics for health communication.

Pat Moriarity, a former art director at *Fantagraphics Books*, is an award winning designer, illustrator, animator and cartoonist. His work has appeared in many publications including *Zero Zero*, *Big Mouth*, *Real Stuff*, *Nickelodeon* and *Mineshaft Magazine*. He teaches storyboarding at Seattle Art Institute and also at Seattle Film Institute.

E.T. Russian is a multi-sensory artist, author, filmmaker and healthcare provider from Seattle. Russian is the author of *The Ring of Fire Anthology* and has published work in *The Stranger*, *The Seattle Weekly*, *Gay Genius* and *The Collective Tarot*. Russian is a member of cartooning collective THE HAND, an Advisory Board Member for Seattle's Short Run Comix & Arts Festival, a featured artist with Sins Invalid and dance company Light Motion, and Co-Director of the movie *Third Antenna*. etrussian.com

Rachel Scheer is a comic artist living in Seattle, Washington. Rachel's mostly autobiographical comics have been published by *The Stranger*, *The Seattle Weekly*, *Narratively*, *Lilith Magazine*, and *Fantagraphics*. When she isn't making comics, Rachel works as a second grade teacher. rachelcomics.com

