



KATAHDIN VALLEY HEALTH CENTER

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NEWS RELEASE

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Katahdin Valley Health Center Opens Houlton Medical Clinic

PATTEN and HOULTON, ME – December 16, 2005 – Katahdin Valley Health Center (KVHC), headquartered in Patten, Maine, announced today that its Houlton Medical Clinic opens on Monday, December 19.

KVHC purchased the building at 59 Bangor Street in Houlton in June 2005 with the express intent to expand its clinical operations to better serve the people of the Houlton area. KVHC's Houlton Medical Clinic is open full-time, 40 hours a week, and accepting new patients of all ages.

Renovations to the existing structure began on September 6, 2005 to ready the medical practice. As part of the overall project, KVHC also modernized the medical offices of Dr. Janet Parker and Dr. Donald Brushett, located in the same building. KVHC purchased the building in June 2005 and invested \$550,000 in the overall project.

KVHC partnered with D&S Engineering of Millinocket who prepared design plans and Buildings Etcetera of Houlton who serves as the general contractor for KVHC's Houlton clinic.

The modernized facility houses KVHC's primary care medical practice in phase one of the project.

A public open house is planned in February for the new facility.

Durward Humphrey, KVHC executive director, said, "We are very pleased to offer expanded healthcare services to the uninsured and under insured people in the Greater Houlton Region. We offer sliding fee to those who meet the federal income guidelines. Discounts range from 20 % to 80 % per visit, depending on income level. Individuals and families with earnings below 100% of poverty level qualify for a \$10 co-pay per visit.

"This new medical facility allows us to better serve our customers and is staffed by medical doctors, Dr. Donald Blagdon and Dr. Lisa Nielsen, a physician assistant, Audie Horn, PA-C, registered nurse Teri-Ann Miller and patient assistance technicians Jerry Gould and Connie Ouellette, who provide quality, cost effective services to those in the Greater Houlton community who need our services. KVHC's services include family medicine, men and women's health, prescription assistance, laboratory services, occupational medicine, podiatry, mental health counseling, substance abuse counseling, diabetes education and optometry. KVHC also has a full-service dental clinic in Millinocket.

"We are accepting appointments at our new clinic. Appointments can be made by calling our Patten office at 207-528-2285 or 1-866-366-KVHC (5842 / toll free)."

Katahdin Valley Health Center (KVHC) is a provider of high quality, cost effective primary health, dental, substance abuse and mental health care to the people in the Greater Katahdin Region. A Federally Qualified Health Center, KVHC is a nonprofit business governed by a board of directors, comprised of area volunteers, funded by a federal grant under Section 330 of the Public Health Service Act of the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services. KVHC employs 50 people at its facilities in Island Falls, Houlton, Patten and Millinocket.

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Distribution:

KVHC Employees

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