

Clínica Msr. Oscar A. Romero

Medication Adherence and Pharmacy Project

Clínica Msr. Oscar A. Romero (CMOAR) began in 2007 to address the expressed needs of patients in accessing convenient pharmacy services and learning about medication adherence. It was with much pleasure, therefore, that CMOAR received a two-year \$600,000 grant from UniHealth Foundation awarded in December 2007. CMOAR will document and chronicle the development of this project in order to share best practices with other community health centers interested in learning from our experience.

The monies will be used to address CMOAR's need to be an integrated one-stop primary healthcare facility. This vision entails providing access to full-scope, licensed pharmacy services in a linguistically and culturally proficient manner. The benefits of an on-site, full-service, licensed pharmacy are many. It removes barriers to receiving medications, and improves patient adherence to medication treatment plans by improving the quality and availability of patient education and counseling. It reduces healthcare disparities and improves chronic disease management. Moreover, it increases CMOAR's efficiency and sustainability in a competitive marketplace for insured patients. The project will allow CMOAR to increase its revenue to the point it is able to pay for the salary portion of the pharmacy expenses.

The CMOAR 123 South Alvarado Street clinic is now a one-stop healthcare facility with the convenience of medical, dental, mental health, education, community organizing, advocacy and now a pharmacy all under one roof. This development is indicative of the type of treatment CMOAR advocates for the uninsured and underserved – high quality and affordable.