

## Some things never change



Some things never change. One of those things is that kids get sick. And when they do, parents need somewhere to turn.

The Lubbock Children's Health Clinic has a long history with the Lubbock community. It began as the Well Baby Clinic in 1939. The clinic then became a United Way Community Partner in 1952.

For a part of this history, Dora Salazar has turned to the clinic for the health of her children.

Dora is the mother of 6 children. She and her husband began bringing their children to the clinic back in 1982. Dora says, "It helps me a lot and it benefits a lot of people."

She said, "I feel comfortable at the clinic." Dora trusts the clinic and the staff that work there. Being able to trust your health care provider and being able to communicate with them, is so important.

It becomes that much more important when you are a parent of a special needs child. Not long ago, Dora and her husband obtained legal custody of a relative's daughter. This daughter was born with Spina Bifida.

Spina Bifida is a birth defect that occurs when the spine of the baby fails to close during the first months of pregnancy. This causes nerve damage. No two cases of Spina Bifida are ever the same.

People born with Spina Bifida can face a range of conditions including paralysis, hip, foot and leg deformities and more. \*

The medical costs of caring for a child with Spina Bifida can quickly add up. There is the need for constant check-ups and necessary appointments with a range of specialists including urologists, neurologists, orthopedic surgeons and more.



Lubbock Area United Way

Dora and her husband traveled to pick up their new little girl. Then, Dora brought her directly to Lubbock Children's Health Clinic. Dora says, "At the time, I didn't really know anything about Spina Bifida. But, if you have any questions or health concerns, they will help you." Within a matter of days the clinic staff connected Dora with the doctors and specialists she needed to see and helped set all of the necessary appointments.

Dora says that the staff at the clinic are very understanding. She says, "I really appreciate all of them."

The staff at both locations of the Lubbock Children's Health Clinic are there for the parents and the children. They see children of all ages, up to the age of 18, and provide health care services regardless of the ability to pay.

Dora and her husband have brought another little girl, who is now 14-months old, into their home. That is a change for the entire family. But, Dora knows that she and her family can count on Lubbock Children's Health Clinic, and that won't change.

\* Information about Spina Bifida obtained from Lubbock Children's Health Clinic and the Spina Bifida Association.

## Find out more . . .

Funding from the Lubbock Area United Way helps Lubbock Children's Health Clinic provide quality, low cost, comprehensive primary health care to the medically indigent children of Lubbock without regard to race, color, sex, national origin or ability to pay.

Find out more by visiting:  
[www.lubbockchildrenshealthclinic.org/](http://www.lubbockchildrenshealthclinic.org/)  
or call 806.749-3800