

Why I Work for The Clinic's Future

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by Melissa Napoli, Board Member

A rural health clinic should be a community treasure; a local source for information, vaccinations, primary care services, referrals to specialists, and ongoing, personal support when our community members need it the most, but further, they can be advocates for rural individuals who may need support navigating the intricacies of the greater healthcare system or who may be limited by transportation needs, medical disabilities or income barriers.

I can say with confidence that this board is fresh, bright, and indeed capable of turning a bad situation around and finding success. When Dr. Farris asked that I return to the board, my answer was a resounding yes. I am hoping my experience in business management, marketing, and development will aid the new Board revive the clinic. I want my blind 85 year old neighbor who can no longer drive to The Dalles to have a local option for her flu shot and her annual checkup. I want my friend's children to have a convenient place to go for sports physicals and urgent care needs. But most of all, I want the residents of South Wasco County to have the resources they need and deserve so that they can thrive in this rugged, rural life we've all chosen.