

# NEWS & UPDATES

February  
2026

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*Audra Nissen Boyer, Dr. Radha Krishna Kumar, Lisa Soupir, and Nora Sande attended the School-Based Health Center Summit, hosted by the Minnesota School-Based Health Alliance.*

## ODHC & MAPS Attend SBHC Summit

ODHC attended the School-Based Health Center Summit last quarter to build connections as we expand access to care into the Mankato Area Public Schools. Staff enjoyed networking and creating sustainable development work plans aimed at meaningful improvement in SBHCs.

## Scott County Integrated Health Center

The ribbon-cutting ceremony for the Scott County Integrated Health Center (SCIHC) was held on Tuesday, January 20. Open Door was in attendance, along with partners St. Francis, Allina Health, Scott County, and Canvas Health, to celebrate collaborative health care. Speakers included Scott County Commissioner Barbara Weckman Brekke, Representative Brad Tabke, Vice President of Medical Affairs at St. Francis, Dr. Monte Johnson, and ODHC CEO Kelly Kenley.

**COMING  
SOON**

Open Door will begin serving patients at the new SCIHC on Tuesday, March 24, 2026.

Located on the second floor of the SCIHC, ODHC will provide medical, dental, behavioral health, enrollment assistance, and more!



*Partners and stakeholders "cut the ribbon" for the new Scott County Integrated Health Center (SCIHC) on Tuesday, January 20, 2026.*



**DONATE NOW**

ODHC is a 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization. Your tax-deductible donations help us provide patient-centered care to people from over 24 counties in Southern Minnesota. You can donate online at [odhc.org](https://odhc.org) or mail a check to: Open Door Health Center, ATTN: Donations, 309 Holly Ln, Mankato, MN 56001



LDTs Payton and Kaci in Mankato

## What is a Dental Therapist?

Open Door utilizes a variety of professional degrees within our dental practice, including dentists, dental hygienists, assistants, and dental therapists. Never heard of a dental therapist (DT)? According to Minnesota State Mankato's Dental Education program (whose students complete internships at ODHC!), "Because DTs provide oral health services including limited restorative dental care, dentists are able to focus on complex care. This is critical in communities where the need for dental care is highest—in rural, low-income, underserved, and underinsured settings—and creates a demand for DTs in these areas." Dental Therapists are licensed, mid-level oral health professionals who work under the supervision of a dentist to provide essential preventative and routine restorative care, such as filling cavities, placing temporary crowns, and performing simple, nonsurgical tooth extractions. ODHC has three DTs in our practice.



[MNSU, Mankato offers multiple programs in dental careers. Check it out by clicking here!](#)

## ODHC Attending Star of the North Dental Conference in April

Open Door will be attending the Minnesota Dental Association's annual Star of the North conference in April at St. Paul's RiverCentre. This conference is the largest dental convention in Minnesota. All areas of practice--from dental assistants to dentists--come together for continuing education credits, networking, and field exhibitions. Staff plan to attend both the conference portion of the event, as well as answer questions about career opportunities at Open Door Health Center in the exhibit hall. If you know someone who works in the dental field, tell them to check out our careers page for sign-on bonuses and flexible scheduling!



## Coming Soon! New system. New site. New brand.

*Same commitment to patient-centered care.*

Quarter One of 2026 is an exciting time! We are launching a new Electronic Health Record (EHR), opening a new location in Shakopee, and introducing our new brand (and website), all on March 24, 2026!

Upgrading our EHR to OCHIN Epic will allow us to serve patients more efficiently, coordinate care more seamlessly, and make it easier for patients to interact with their providers. This will be more important than ever as we expand our services. ODHC will begin providing care at the Scott County Integrated Health Center in Shakopee beginning on March 24, 2026. (See page one for more!) Finally, the opening of a new site in Shakopee was the perfect time to make some changes in our brand and improve the usability of our website...so that's what we did! Our new website will be easier to navigate, with a simplified view and fewer paths to follow for information.

*Look for a full logo reveal and complete rebranding next month!*



COO Lisa Soupir and Dental Manager Tammy Altenburg survey the new lobby



## Monthly Health Topics



- Heart Health
- Children’s Dental Health



- Colorectal Cancer
- National Nutrition Month



- Child Abuse Prevention Month
- National Minority Health Month

## Upcoming Community Events

ODHC partners with the **St. Peter Free Clinic** to provide childhood vaccinations and nursing support **twice a month in February, March, and April.**

Outreach RN Kim VanHoudt will be at the Mankato **Salvation Army** providing blood pressure checks and patient education on the **second Wednesday of the month in February, March, and April**

ODHC providers will be at **Connections Shelter every other Monday** to oversee Mayo residents providing clinical care throughout the shelter season (Oct-May).

Join us at **Project Community Connect** at the Mayo Clinic Health System Event Center on April 21.

## Grant Updates for 2026: Garden, Glass, and More!

Open Door received a **Blue Earth County SHIP Grant** at the end of 2025. The Statewide Health Improvement Partnership (SHIP) is a plan to make Minnesota healthier for everyone. It works in all 87 counties and 10 tribal nations. SHIP helps communities have better chances to get healthy foods, exercise more, and be commercial tobacco-free. **ODHC will be using our grant to build a garden to offer fresh produce in our food pantry.** On April 18, a team of volunteers from MNSU, Mankato’s “Maverick Day of Service” will assemble raised beds, haul mulch and soil, and start our seeds! We were also excited to receive **an anonymous donation of \$10,000** to help continue to build our patient support services, including our **food pantry and hygiene products** for our patients experiencing need. All patients can access these services at our clinics.

We received a **MN Department of Health Workplace Safety Grant** to increase feelings of security in the workplace. **ODHC is using this grant to install safety glass at our front desks in both locations.** Our patient access staff requested this measure, and we are thrilled to make it possible.

Many other grants are active in our system going into 2026. Further highlights include an **Emerging SBHC Grant for our ongoing work with MAPS** and an **Immunization Reminder Grant, both from MDH.**

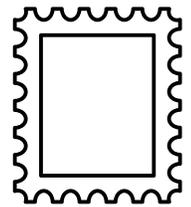
## You Can Advocate For Community Health Centers



ODHC is a Federally Qualified Health Center that utilizes grants from city, county, state, and federal governments. Patients have asked how they can advocate for Community Health Centers like ODHC, to ensure they are open to the public for years to come. The first step is to join the Health Center Advocacy Network. This grassroots organization supports the work of health centers across the country and keeps advocates informed of developments at the federal level. The Health Center Advocacy Network sends out email alerts when advocacy is needed, with multiple ways to add your voice by email, phone, and more. Please advocate for Open Door by going to the Health Center Advocacy Network and signing up for alerts here: <https://www.hcadvocacy.org/>.



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### CONNECT WITH US



odhc.org

To receive this newsletter and other updates via email, please email [communications@odhc.org](mailto:communications@odhc.org) to join our mailing list.

For outreach and events opportunities, please email [marketing@odhc.org](mailto:marketing@odhc.org).

### FEBRUARY 2026 NEWS & UPDATES



Open Door Health Center is a community health center with locations in Mankato and Jordan. We provide medical, chiropractic, dental, and behavioral health services, as well as human services such as insurance enrollment and on-site resources. We accept all major insurance, including Medicare and Medicaid, and offer a sliding fee scale for uninsured and under-insured individuals and families. Our **mission** is to be a partner in improving the health of all community members, and we **envision** a future where everyone has what they need to live a healthy life.

#### Mankato

Behavioral, Dental,  
Medical, Chiropractic

Monday: 8am-5pm  
Tuesday: 8am-5pm  
Wednesday: 8am-5pm  
Thursday: 9am-5pm  
Friday: 8am-5pm

309 Holly Lane  
Mankato MN 56001

#### Jordan

Dental  
**We are moving!**

Monday: 8am-5pm  
Tuesday: 8am-5pm  
Wednesday: 8am-5pm  
Thursday: 9am-5pm  
Friday: 8am-5pm

115 Broadway St. S., #600  
Jordan MN 55352

#### Coming Soon!

Open Door Health Center  
at the SCIHC

**The Jordan Dental Clinic  
will close at 5 p.m. on  
March 13, 2026, and  
open at the new location  
in Shakopee on  
March 24, 2026.**

1617 Weston Ct. #200  
Shakopee MN 55379

#### Open Door Health Center at the SCIHC



**TO MAKE AN APPOINTMENT AT ANY LOCATION, PLEASE CALL (507) 388-2120.**