



## **Community Health Connection**

Community Health Connection (CHC) began in January 2000 after a small grassroots group recognized the need to provide health services to the financially eligible and uninsured. It was designed around a referral-based model of care, where patients receive services at a physician's office instead of in a clinic setting. Today the Community Health Connection is funded by York Hospital, United Way of York County and United Way of the Greater Seacoast. Nineteen primary care physicians and over 40 specialists affiliated with York Hospital, plus 4 mental health providers offer free health care to uninsured, financially eligible residents in Kittery, Eliot, York, Ogunquit, Wells and South Berwick. CHC also works to connect eligible people to MaineCare and/or other services which provide assistance with housing, food, clothing, heat or other needs.

Since its inception, York Hospital and participating physicians have donated over \$900,000 in free care to 497 community members. After a simple application process, patients are connected with a primary care physician. Specialist care and hospital services such as x-rays, mammography, physical therapy and lab work are also provided free of charge when necessary. For guidelines on eligibility or other information about CHC, please call Betsy Kelly at 438-9997.