

December 2017: Dr. Frank Catalanotto



ACORN Clinic is pleased to honor Dr. Frank Catalanotto as the December 2017 Volunteer of the Month. Dr. Catalanotto is a pediatric dentist and has been serving as Chair of the ACORN Clinic Board of Directors for a year and a half now.

In 1995 Dr. Catalanotto began his involvement at ACORN Clinic while serving as The University of Florida's (UF) Dean of The College of Dentistry. Over the years he has transitioned into other roles both at the College of Dentistry and at ACORN; he is currently a professor in the department of Community Dentistry at UF. Serving on the Board of Directors at the ACORN Clinic is a family affair for Dr. Catalanotto; two of three his children have also been or are currently members of the board as well.

Previously Dr. Catalanotto had been a member on boards of national organizations. It was while serving as the dean and his involvement with ACORN he was able to see his desire to channel this service back into his local Gainesville area community. Dr. Catalanotto said, "I felt it was the right thing to do, to give back to the community that had given so much to my family and I," and was his inspiration to begin volunteering with ACORN Clinic.

When asked what stands out to him the most about ACORN Clinic he said, "The number of people in the clinic who volunteer their time says a lot about local healthcare workers and ACORN's ability to inspire these volunteers." He wishes that more people in the community knew about the "wonderful resource they have available to them at the ACORN clinic."

ACORN Clinic is a 501 (c)(3) non-profit serving over 20 Florida counties with full-service medical and dental clinics. ACORN Clinic provides high quality, affordable medical care, dental care, and social services by staff and volunteers. In partnership with educational institutions, ACORN Clinic also functions as an exemplary service-learning site for health professionals.

-Madison Cernohous

