**ACORN Clinic Receives $27,000 Grant for Women’s Health Program**

GAINESVILLE, FL (November 23, 2015) -- ACORN Clinic of Alachua County received the Avon Breast Health Outreach Program Grant in the amount of $27,000 this month to help fund its *Across the Generations: Improving Women's Health Partnership Program.*

ACORN Clinic has a longstanding tradition of providing medical and educational outreach services to the rural low-income, uninsured and underinsured population of north central Florida.

When compared to breast cancer patients in the general population, low-income and less-educated women are more likely to be diagnosed with advanced breast cancer and are less likely to survive years and receive standard or adequate treatment.

According to CommunityCommons.org’s “identify vulnerable populations” assessment tool, Alachua, Bradford and Union Counties contain highly vulnerable populations with poverty rates of 31.7 percent in Alachua County, 19.4 percent in Bradford County and 21.3 percent in Union County. Cancer is the leading cause of death among the residents of these counties.

"We are very grateful that the Avon Foundation is providing support for women's health through the Breast Health Outreach Program (BHOP) grant,” Candice King, executive director of ACORN Clinic, said.  “Women's health has always been a priority for ACORN Clinic and this grant allows us to provide information out in the community."

In 2016, ACORN clinic will target low-income women 40 years or older with an array of primary clinical services. These services will include first time clinical breast exams and mammograms and annual or bi-annual testing dependent on the results of the primary screening.

The clinic will also provide outreach and community education on women's breast health to the medically underserved female population of north central Florida and provision of low-cost mammograms to women who do not qualify for the Florida’s Department of Health Breast & Cervical Cancer Early Detection Program (BCCEDP), Medicaid, or Medicare programs

For more information on ACORN Clinic and how we serve the community, visit our website, [www.acornclinic.org](http://www.acornclinic.org), or contact Candice King at [CKing@acornclinic.org](mailto:CKing@acornclinic.org).

**About ACORN Clinic:** The Alachua County Organization for Rural Needs, Inc., dba ACORN Clinic, is a nationally recognized program that provides low-cost sliding scale medical, dental, behavioral healthcare and social service referrals for residents of north central Florida. ACORN Clinic is a not-for-profit 501 (c)(3) organization serving residents of Alachua, Bradford, Columbia, Union and other counties in North Central Florida.