



# Tapestry Healthcare, Inc.

Mr. Ray Coleman, CEO and founder of Tapestry Healthcare, saw a need for affordable healthcare in McKinney and decided to do something about it. Tapestry Healthcare, Inc. located at 402 N. Tennessee St. in McKinney is McKinney's first non-profit health center. This non-profit organization was established in 2001 with a mission to weave uninsured, underinsured, and the underserved population together through a healthcare system. Tapestry Healthcare offers basic primary care to residents on a sliding fee schedule that ranges from \$7 - \$30. No one is turned away or denied services based on inability to pay and the center is open to all individuals, not just McKinney residents.

Since its opening in February of this year, it has provided services to more than 500 individuals who might otherwise not have received healthcare. Coleman expresses that patients have been very grateful to Tapestry Healthcare. We have heard "thank you", "you were our last hope," "this has been a long time coming", and "Thank God for you" from the patients, said Coleman. "Not only have the patients embraced Tapestry, but the entire community has been supportive of our efforts," he said. The center also provides relief to local emergency rooms where individuals who have no insurance or are underinsured are sometimes forced to seek healthcare.

Until now, Tapestry was completely operated by volunteers. On August 30, Tapestry welcomed Lucio

Gonzalez, a member of the American Academy of Physician's Assistants (AAPA) and the Texas Association of Physician Assistants (TAPA) to be the center's permanent provider. The center will now be open 10 hours a day Monday through Thursday.

Tapestry is working towards becoming a Federally Qualified Health Center (FQHC). "Ultimately our funding will come from the Bureau of Primary Health Care, which is a part of the federal government. However, this funding will not cover everything," said Coleman. A FQHC is geared towards the uninsured, underinsured and underserved populations of a community.

Based on the 2000 census, there were approximately 15,000 people living within the medically underserved area in McKinney. Since McKinney's population has grown significantly, so has the number of uninsured, underinsured and underserved residents.

As a non-profit organization, Tapestry Healthcare ultimately depends on grants and donations from corporations and the community.

"Tapestry is always interested in collaborative efforts. We cannot do it all and collaborative efforts are what it will take to better serve this population," said Coleman. ◀

For more information on Tapestry Healthcare, visit [www.tapestryhealthcare.org](http://www.tapestryhealthcare.org)  
Or call 972-540-7700 or 888-540-7701.

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**MKM Comprehensive Community Calendar**

- \* Email your events to [calendar@mckinneykids.com](mailto:calendar@mckinneykids.com) for a free posting
- \* Free, non-profit, and kid's events are given priority.
- \* Events should be submitted at least two weeks in advance