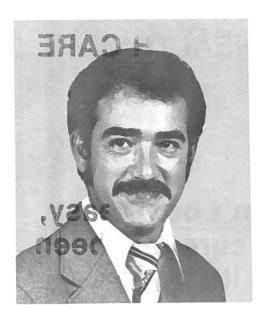


YEARS OF HEALTH CARE

## 10 YEARS of HEALTH CARE

It hasn't been easy, but it sure has been worth it!!



## From the Director

#### TO OUR PATIENTS, BOARD AND STAFF:

It has been 10 years since Su Clinica Familiar opened its doors to provide badly needed health care services to the poor and rural population of Cameron and Willacy Counties, but it has been 12 years since the concept was envisioned and introduced in the center of the communities' secret thoughts and emotions. The health care system that has since been developed by this introduction has provided our patient population with health care of the highest quality at a reasonable price.

The continuity of this service is a must in our area of the country and we must all strive together to assure that health care services are not hindered by a difference in opinions as to how these services are to be delivered. Differences in opinion are frequently healthy elements in bringing about change, but these same differences can also backfire and cause severe damage. These are the differences that we have to worry about. They're unhealthy for our patient population. Cooperation and understanding are our best bet for the coming years.

To all those who have somehow extended their assistance and services throughout the years on our never ending journey to a healthier population in Cameron and Willacy Counties, we extend "UN FUERTE ABRAZO" and the warmest "THANK YOU".

Sincerely,

Francisco G. Gonzalez Executive Director

Francisco J. Gonzalez

# A LOOK BACK

Late in 1968, the concept of a family outpatient clinic was imbedded in the minds and hearts of residents of Cameron and Willacy Counties. The need of an ambulatory health care system for migrants and seasonal farmworkers was quite evident in the area and Organizaciones Unidas, a federation of Community grass-roots organizations, made a concerted effort to fulfill this need.

The concept drew widespread support during 1969. In 1970, a delegation of community leaders approached Catholic Charities of the Diocese of Brownsville for sponsorship of a proposal that would be submitted to the Department of Health, Education, and Welfare, Migrant Health Division. That same year, Catholic Charities agreed to sponsor the development of a medical services system for the two county area.

In mid-1971 an announcement was made by the Department of Health, Education and Welfare awarding a grant to Su Clinica Familiar for the provision of medical services.

In May, and later on in November of 1971, Harlingen and Raymondville, respectively, opened their doors for medical services. Local doctors, nurses and other personnel donated time, their efforts, equipment, medicine and office supplies in support of the badly needed health services. Later on that year, the clinic was joined in practice by Dr. Bill Heusel, the clinics' first full-time doctor.









In May, 1972, the Raymondville Clinic started providing maternity services to its patients. Prenatal care and post-partal home visit follow-up were the services offered for two months before Jose Eliseo Salinas became the first baby born at the clinic. This was the initiation of full maternity services of Willacy County.

By July, 1978, the Raymondville clinic had delivered over 1,200 babies. This number accounted for 75% of all recorded births in Willacy County during these six years.





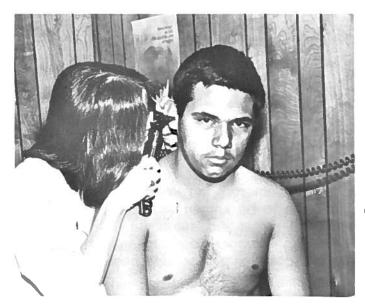


In 1972 an outreach program was initiated to provide medical and social services to the rural population of Cameron and Willacy Counties. This program came to be known as Project MANO, an acronym for Medical and Nutritional Outreach. The mobil unit was designed to go to small rural communities and colonias and provide basic health services.



Later on that very same year, Su Clinica Familiar went in agreement with the National Health Service Corps of the Department of Health, Education and Welfare. The agreement provided medical personnel to Su Clinica Familiar. Dr. Paul Todd became the first doctor to be assigned to this new National Health Service Corps site under the agreement.

In July, 1973, Migrant Health funds were received to develop and implement a demonstration program of delivering comprehensive health services to 1,000 individuals on a prepaid capitation basis. The initiation of this program, the El Valle Community Health Plan, marked the first time that complete in-patient services were available to migrant and seasonal farmworkers.



October, 1973, marked the beginning of the Valley Home Health Agency, under sponsorship of Su Clinica Familiar. The Agency provided nursing services to the aged, disabled or post-operative patients within the home. Within a few months the Texas State Department of Health gave the Agency State Certification.





In December, 1973, the Migrant Hospitalization Program, designed to provide in-patient hospital care for migrant farmworkers, was implemented.



In the early part of 1974, pediatric services were expanded at the Raymondville Clinic with the addition of Well Child services under the direction of the clinic pediatrician. These services were initiated at the request of the Willacy County Health Department and were an addition to existing Well Baby sessions (provided to infants under the age of one), thus making available health maintenance and developmental evaluation to those from birth through school age.

In September, 1974, the neo-natal intensive care unit was opened at Valley Baptist Medical Center. Su Clinica Familiar's pediatrician, Dr. Stanley I. Fisch, was one of the founders of this intensive care unit. It has since provided life-support to many pre-mature or seriously ill infants.



In-house dispensaries were established during 1974 with the employment of a pharmacist to augment the program's medical staff. Per patient prescription costs were reduced by one third due to this addition to Su Clinica Familiar's medical services.







The initiation of the Women, Infants and Children Program (WIC) in Willacy County, under the sponsorship of Su Clinica Familiar, has provided badly needed supplemental foods to pregnant and lactating women, and to infants. This program is designed to link nutrition education, nutritional need and assistance to buy specific foods.



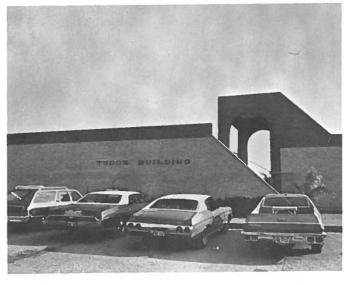
In response to the critical need for a new X-Ray machine, the Project Policy Board initiated a campaign to raise funds for the purchase of an X-Ray machine for a central clinic. This came to be known as "CAMPAIGN X," and the support of our patients and other interested people made it highly successful.

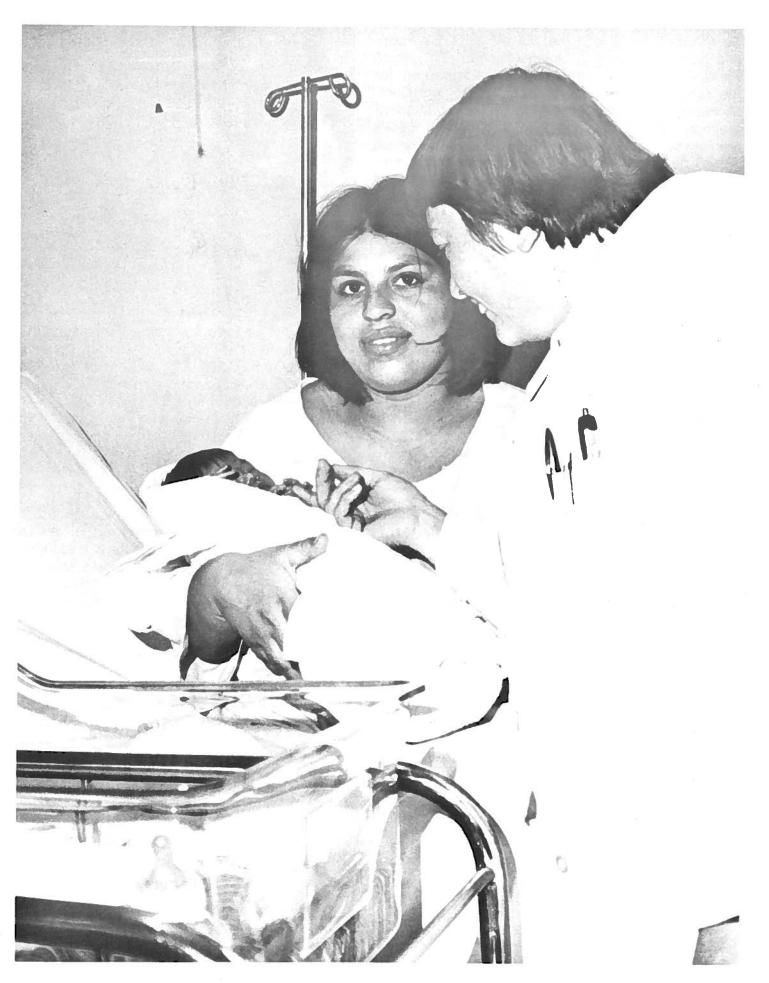




Space was undoubtedly the single most hampering factor in attempting to handle the increased patient demand during 1975. The need for a bigger and more modern clinic for residents of Cameron County was indeed the plan for the future. During 1976, a new clinic site with building was purchased. The building was most appropriate for the continuation of quality medical service to Su Clinica's patient population. It was strategically located across from Valley Baptist Medical Center and close to the offices of many of our consultants.

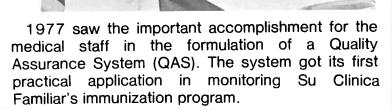
In retrospect, 1975 was a complex year. In the early months, programmatic forecasts were badly thrown out of balance by the threat of Presidential vetoes, rising energy costs, and the continuing inflationary spiral. The potential impact of inflation and the energy crunch was successfully restrained by conservative accounting and careful management of clinic dollars. Yet, even with these rapidly changing conditions, Su Clinica Familiar's professional and support staff were able to turn 1975 into one of our best years.





An agreement was negotiated in 1975 between Su Clinica Familiar and the University of Mississippi's Nurse Midwifery Training Program. Su Clinica Familiar's maternity department was accepted for the rotation of students in their "Obstetrical Complications and Integations Module." Each student electing to complete the course spent 8 weeks working with and in observing the Nurse Midwives in their daily activity. In return for the program's service, the University of Mississippi accepted a staff nurse practitioner to the Nurse Midwifery Training Program.

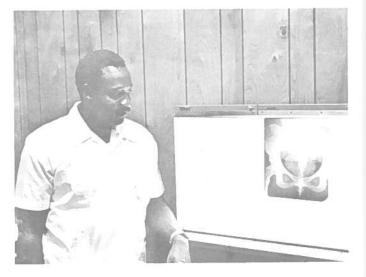


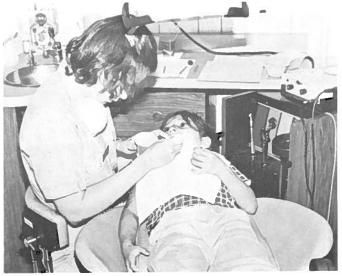


January of 1977 saw the beginning of full maternity services at the Harlingen clinic. For the first time there was a full complement of Certified Nurse Midwives at both clinics. With sufficient staff, the Harlingen branch was able to continue its growth and expand its services and the Raymondville branch was able to improve quality of care; most notably, the initiation of a patient education program.

During this same month, the first baby, Irma Garcia, was born. Up to December 1980, the Harlingen clinic had delivered 1,949 babies.







It was during this same year that Su Clinica Familiar initiated a Sanitation Program for its patients. The program stressed the need for improvement of environmental conditions, which in turn, improved the patients' health. The Sanitation Aide became an integral part of the community in which he/she worked.



During July, 1978, the maternity service was ioined practice by three Obstetrician/Gynecologists provided through the National Health Service Corps. The added professional staff made possible the accessibility of care for those patients who previously would have been referred elsewhere because they were high risk patients. In addition, the nurse-midwives now had in-house accessibility to medical consultations on any problems they encountered.





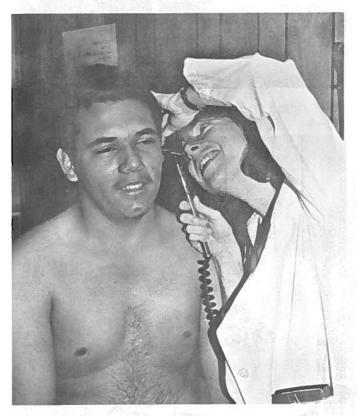


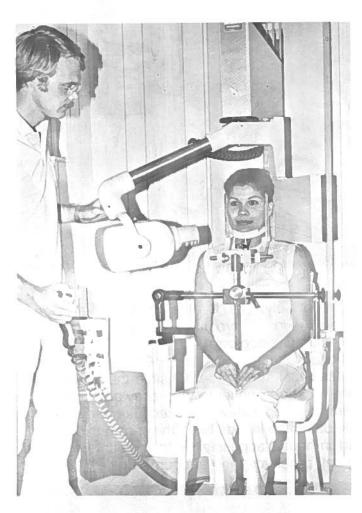




Early in the planning, a dental component was deemed an important part of comprehensive health care. On September 4, 1978, Su Clinica Familiar opened its dental clinic with the hiring of two dentists and one dental hygienist. The need for dental services could not be met completely with the staff and resources available. Only patients with the most need, or the lowest income categories, with no outside resources and primarily children or patients with severe discomfort or pain qualify for these services.

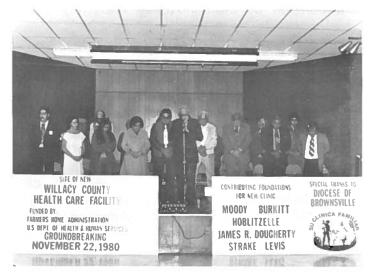
September of 1978 was the starting point for the provision of specialized adolescent health services at Su Clinica Familiar. The new component enabled Su Clinica Familiar's teenage patients to grow with a better knowledge of their health, environment and especially of themselves. Begun through a Department of Health, Education and Welfare Initiative, the program set out to provide adolescents with the added specialized counseling, physical assessment and patient education so vital to the promotion of good health.



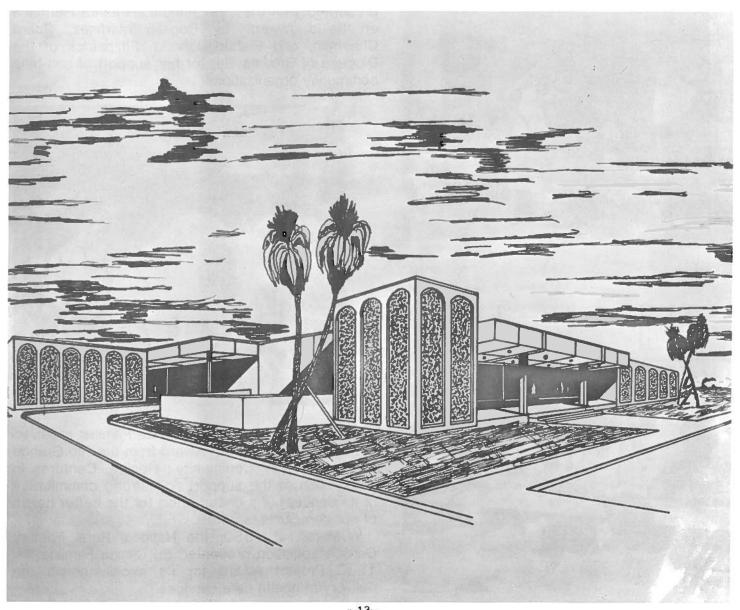


During 1979, Su Clinica Familiar was successful in initiating the first step toward providing quality health care for thousands still in need. Conscious of the need for a modern replacement facility for Raymondville and the large influx of patients from the Southern Cameron County area, the construction of these two new facilities was proposed. Certificate of Need hearings were completed and approval given for the construction of the new facilities. In November, 1980, Groundbreaking Ceremonies were held for the start of construction of the replacement facility badly needed by Willacy County residents and for a new facility for Southern Cameron County.





## ARCHITECT'S DRAWING FOR A NEW CLINIC FOR RESIDENTS OF SOUTHERN CAMERON COUNTY AND A REPLACEMENT FACILITY FOR RESIDENTS OF WILLACY COUNTY.



Expansion of the innovative maternity services was a notable accomplishment in 1979. Similarly, obstetrics and gynecology completed their first year with a remarkable achievement of 440 high risk deliveries.

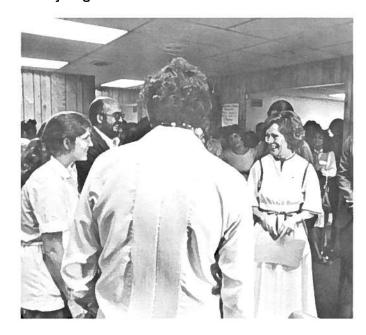
During this same year, Su Clinica Familiar entered into agreement with Georgetown University of Washington, D. C. With this agreement, students were assigned to Su Clinica Familiar as part of their nurse-midwifery education. Su Clinica Familiar's Director of Nurse-Midwifery served as clinical faculty to the students. The program has since then graduated four Certified Nurse Midwives who have agreed to provide nurse midwifery services at Su Clinica Familiar for one year.





On July, 23, 1979, First Lady Rosalynn Carter visited Su Clinica Familiar. During this time she was presented with the First Annual "Nuestra Hermana en Salud Award" by Rogelio Martinez, Board Chairman, and Bishop John J. Fitzpatrick of the Diocese of Brownsville, for her support of self-help community organizations.

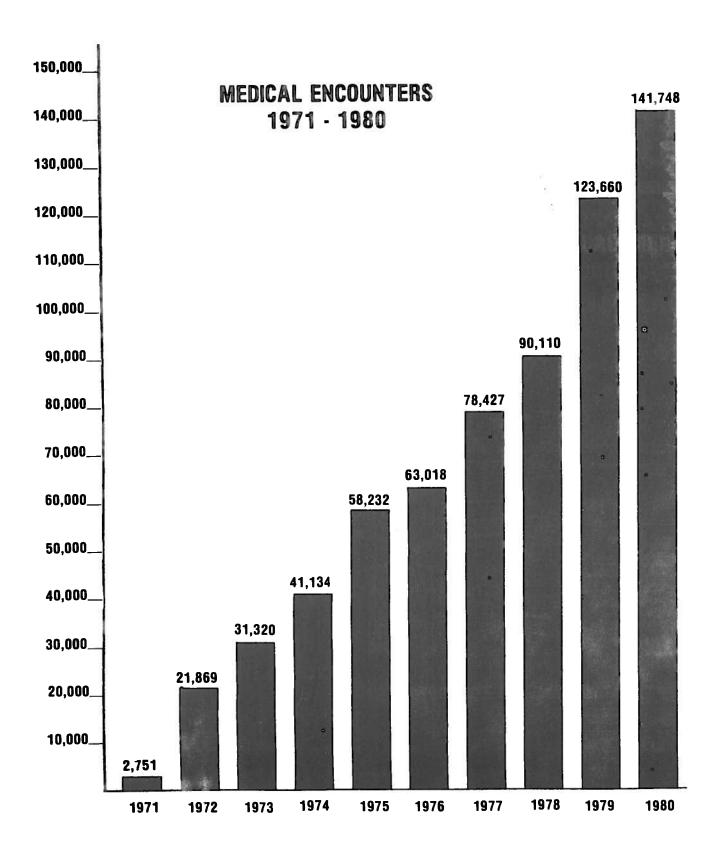


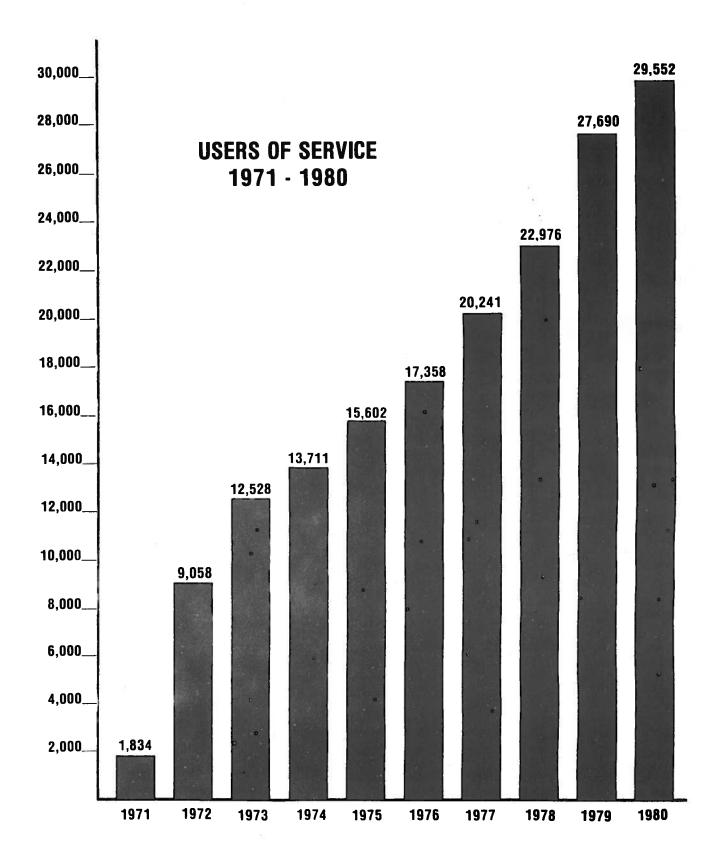


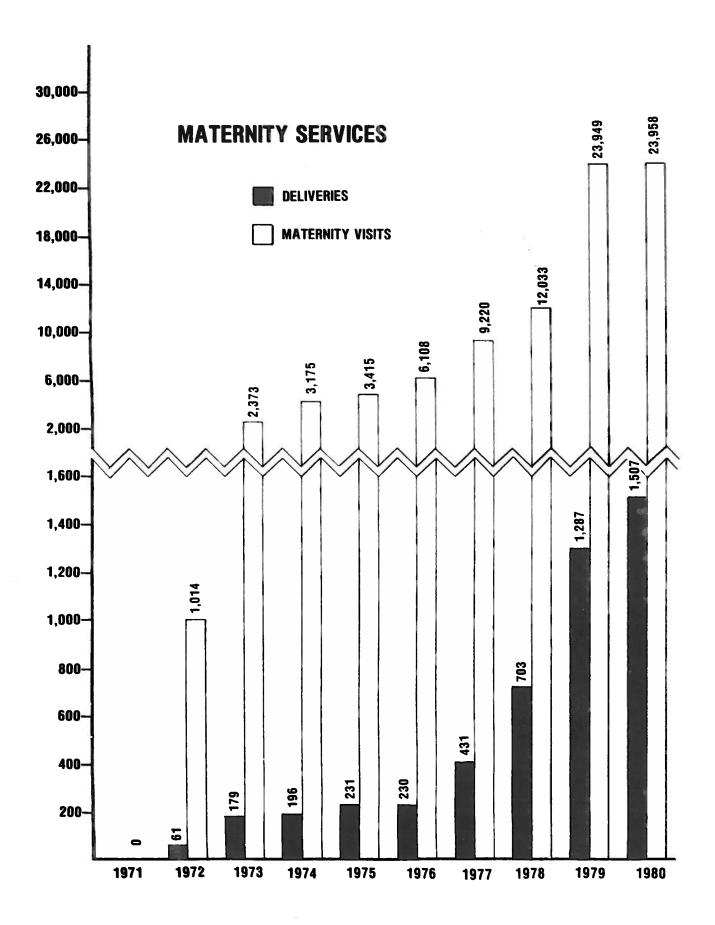
On August 9, 1979, Su Clinica Familiar received the Outstanding Project Award from the Rio Grande Federation of Community Health Centers in recognition of the support and strong commitment of its concept of a united effort for the better health of our communities.

In March of 1980, the National Rural Primary Care Association presented Su Clinica Familiar the 1980 Project Award for its excellence in the delivery of health care services.

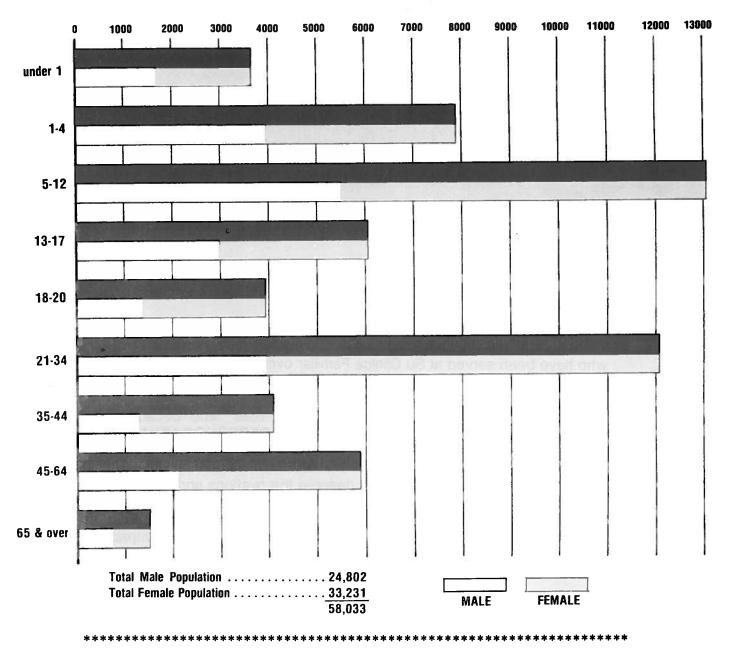
# GRAPHICS







## REGISTERED PATIENT POPULATION DISTRIBUTED BY AGE AND SEX



### PRODUCTION TOTALS 1971 - 1980

Total Visits	652,269
Total Maternity Visits	
Total Deliveries	4,825
Total Laboratory Procedures	
Total Radiology Procedures	
Total Pharmacy Prescriptions	
Total Social Service Contracts	
Total Hospital Admissions	
Total Active Registrants	

## From the Chairman

#### Dear Friends:

The words are trite and really do not express the thanks from all those who have been served at Su Clinica Familiar over the last 10 years.

Gracias for the dedication to those many community and professional people who gave of their time and their families' time because they believed in our motto — "VIDA Y SALUD SON DERECHOS HUMANO" — Life and Health are Human Rights.

It is these people — YOU — who deserve the ovations and applause; for without each of your expressed desires to help your fellow man, Su Clinica Familiar would still be only in the minds of a few. Without your willingness to work as a team in the provision of health care, the impact we have had on the lives of our people in Cameron and Willacy Counties would never have come to be.

Some of you helped for a short while, a few of you still remain, but all of you are profoundly imbedded in the philosophy, in the structure, and in the provision of quality health care called, Su Clinica Familiar.

Sinceramente,

Rogelio Martinez /

Chairman, Board of Directors

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PAULA S. GOMEZ

**Personnel Director** 

**GLORIA REYES** 

Raymondville Clinic Manager

"The dedication of the staff plays a major role in determining the level of success which any health program can and will achieve. The growth and success of Su Clinica Familiar would not have been realized without the continued hard work and dedication of the staff, a primary reason why this project has survived over the years; a reason that the future will come to its planned fruition."

Francisco G. Gonzalez Executive Director

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