



*A National Solution to America's Uninsured,  
One Community at a Time*



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## Latest News from Volunteers in Medicine

### Teledermatology Pilot Project

Volunteers in Medicine has partnered with Dr. Stephen Schleicher in a pilot teledermatology consultation project for VIM clinics in Pennsylvania. Dr. Schleicher is founder and medical director of the DermDOX Centers for Dermatology & Teledermatology in Hazelton, Pennsylvania. Seven clinics will participate in this pilot project. Initiated by the VIM Clinic in Wilkes-Barre, it soon became apparent that expanding dermatology consultation services to additional VIM clinics would greatly benefit the clinical care of patients. We are profoundly grateful to Dr. Schleicher for providing his services pro bono.

Dermatology is a specialty that lends itself to telemedicine, since much of the consultation process is visual. The program works by simply taking a digital photo of the patient's affected skin area, completing a brief consultation form, and sending both to Dr. Schleicher via the internet. He will respond within two days with a diagnosis and treatment plan.

Nationally, there is a huge shortage of dermatologists, so VIM clinics often have difficulty securing dermatology consultations for uninsured patients. Clinic directors talked of long waiting lists of patients with dermatology needs. Thankfully, this project can use low-cost technology to fulfill the need. This is the first telemedicine project for VIM clinics, from which we will learn a great deal about the potential for this application to assist with clinical care in the future.

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