

Clinics worthy of foundation's help

THE MARIN Community Foundation deserves credit for stepping forward with another significant contribution to the Marin Community Clinics.

The \$1 million donation is a big shot in the arm for the group's push to establish a larger health clinic in Novato for low-income and uninsured residents.

The foundation already has made major contributions toward the clinics' much-needed medical center on Kerner Boulevard in San Rafael.

Helping needy people is exactly what philanthropist Beryl Buck wanted when she left Marin millions of dollars.

The Marin Community Foundation administers the Buck Trust.

Finding affordable and accessible medical care is a growing challenge for needy and uninsured Marin residents.

The foundation's latest contribution brings its support for both clinics to more than \$4 million.

It is also important to note that in addition to Buck Trust money, the foundation's contribution includes donations from more than 40 individual and family trusts managed by the foundation.

The Novato clinic will help address a growing need in Northern Marin.

The foundation's donation

will help transform an older commercial complex at 61 Redwood Blvd. into a new clinic that will provide health care and advice to young and old.

Marin Community Clinics' current Novato building is

on Hill Road and serves about 6,000 patients every year. The new clinic will be about twice the size and allow the clinic to serve far more patients.

TO HELP

For information about making a gift, go to the clinics' Web site at www.marinclinics.org/support1gift.html or call 448-1546.

Its location, across Highway 101 from Novato Community Hospital, also is important.

The nonprofit group's goal is to open the new Novato clinic before the end of the year. The foundation's helping hand should encourage other donations to the fund-raising efforts still under way for both the San Rafael and the Novato clinics.

When Beryl Buck died in 1975, her will created the Leonard and Beryl Buck Trust. Her \$9.1 million bequest has grown over the years to \$875 million, which is about two-thirds of the foundation's holdings.

Her bequest specifically listed care for Marin's needy as one of the trust's primary goals.

Through its impressive and consistent support for the Marin Community Clinics, the foundation has stayed true to her wishes by making sure that quality medical care is more accessible and affordable to all local residents.