





I've been in Rome [Georgia] for 16 years. The genesis of the Floyd Medical Center heart failure clinic actually starts at the other hospital in town [at AdventHealth Redmond]. I was probably here in Rome for two years when one of my senior partners told me to take over the Redmond heart failure clinic. I took it from there and I'm proud to say we've grown it so much. When I walked in, the clinic had maybe 30-40 patients. Now we have our own building and we probably have over 1,000 patients.

Because of the success of that first clinic, Floyd Medical Center wanted to do it, as well. So, we opened up the heart failure clinic there and it's probably got about 700 patients now after starting with zero patients five years ago.

At Floyd Medical Center, we have acquired heart failure care kits that include information we give to patients who are frequently readmitted or don't have insurance or are diagnosed with new-onset heart failure. This kit has a blood pressure monitor, a pill organizer, a scale, and lots of heart failure education information. We also recently initiated Aquapheresis ultrafiltration therapy here at the hospital ... I would say that since I've been in this role for about two years, those are probably our two biggest accomplishments.

Even pre-COVID we expanded our care to home health. We partnered with a home health company and made them hire nurses who have cardiac experience, and then these nurses go out to the houses and administer similar therapies and education that would be done in the clinic for elderly patients and those in rural areas. Following COVID, the virtual visits we've incorporated into the heart failure clinic also help our patients.

Another program started p



Also, we are a rural hospital — you don't get much more rural than us. We work closely with Emory Health Care and Piedmont Health Care, in Atlanta, to send our really sick pati