



**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

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## **ThinkGen Partners With Volunteers in Medicine America**

**Hilton Head Island, SC, September 11, 2020** – ThinkGen’s CEO, Noah Pines, is pleased to announce that effective immediately, ThinkGen will become a supporting partner of VIM America, a network of 92 clinics nationwide that provides free medical care to uninsured patients. More than 4,250 volunteer physicians, dentists, nurses, pharmacists and others staff these clinics in 30 states. This model constitutes a genuine win-win, since many of these professionals are retired but nonetheless want to continue to use their clinical skills. VIM also has thousands of lay volunteers who provide invaluable support. Dr. Jack McConnell created the extremely efficient VIM model on Hilton Head Island in 1993 (VIM HHI).

In 2019, VIM clinics nationally saw almost 95,000 patients for nearly 380,000 patient visits, including medical, dental and mental healthcare appointments. VIM HHI alone, relying on a budget of a little over \$2 million, delivered over \$10 million in services in more than 27,000 patient visits. VIM HHI saves its local hospital close to \$7 million in uncompensated emergency department visits. That impact is far greater nationally.

How does ThinkGen come in? Through this partnership, ThinkGen will look to enhance the ability of its bio-pharma company clients to get even more involved in programs that benefit uninsured patients. The goal is to eliminate the healthcare disparity that has become increasingly apparent in the United States during 2020. ThinkGen wants to join several pharma CEOs in their pledge to be of real assistance to these uninsured patients, most of whom are members of ethnic minorities. Their numbers are rapidly growing due to the COVID-19 pandemic.

ThinkGen also announced today that its Chief Innovation Officer, Dr. Richard B. Vanderveer, has joined the Board of Directors of VIM’s flagship clinic on Hilton Head Island, SC. A healthcare psychologist, Dr. Vanderveer will be seeking creative ways for VIM to extend the reach of its efficient health care delivery model. Additionally, he will explore ways for VIM to become a test bed for the kinds of disparity reduction programs that the pharmaceutical industry has pledged to support.

For further information about these organizations, visit:

ThinkGen. [Think-Gen.com](http://Think-Gen.com)

VIM America. [Volunteersinmedicine.org](http://Volunteersinmedicine.org)

VIM HHI. [Vimclinic.org](http://Vimclinic.org)

### **About Volunteers in Medicine Hilton Head Island**

Volunteers in Medicine was established on Hilton Head Island in 1993 and now provides free medical, dental, mental health, vision and prescription drug care for those residents of the community who live and or work on Hilton Head or Daufuskie Island, earn less than 200% of federal poverty levels and are underinsured or uninsured. Last year, VIM HHI provided care across more than 30,000 patient visits and is the model for 92 free health clinics throughout the country. Funding is through grants and donations. VIM neither seeks nor accepts government support.

More than 600 volunteer physicians, nurses, dentists, chiropractors, social workers and lay persons manage 23 medical specialties and five disease management clinics for those patients with chronic disease such as diabetes and hypertension.

Volunteers in Medicine Hilton Head Island is located at 15 Northridge Drive. For information call 843.689.6612 or visit [www.vimclinic.org](http://www.vimclinic.org).