



The Kevin J. Sexton Fund to Increase Access and Improve Community Health is a driving force behind Holy Cross Health's commitment to breaking down the barriers to good health for the most vulnerable members of our community.

Through the fund, we can fulfill needs that may otherwise go unmet, including specialty care, medications, and medical devices, for people who receive health care services at Holy Cross Health Centers and OB/GYN Clinics. Our social work team, supported by the fund, navigates resources for people in need and provides direct support for emergency challenges such as food, housing, and transportation. The team also works with local grassroots partners to promote health and well-being priorities identified by the community.



Sexton Fund Lets Leady B. Focus on Cancer Fight, Not Bills

Leady B.'s terminal cancer causes her constant pain, making it impossible for her to work to support herself and her teenage daughter. The Sexton fund pays for her transportation to and from cancer treatments and helped pay her rent. She says:

"I thank God that this help exists and for putting angels in my path because, without that help, I would not have been able to pay the rent, which would have generated more stress on top of all the pain I was already feeling. May God bless everyone who makes this program possible, and I hope this program continues to bless more people."



On behalf of the many who have benefited from the Kevin J. Sexton Fund, thank you!

Your generosity has empowered Holy Cross Health to think holistically and act in the best interest of the people we care for and their communities. This work creates sustainable solutions for their health conditions and their challenges. You have made it possible for Holy Cross Health to help those who have nowhere else to turn.



About the Holy Cross Health Foundation

A 501(c)(3) tax-exempt charitable organization, the Holy Cross Health Foundation exists to improve the health of our community through the generosity of our patients, colleagues, community members, foundations, and corporations. Your partnership enables us to continue providing equitable care to our most vulnerable patients and their families.

For more information, please visit HolyCrossHealth.org/Donate, call us at 301-557-GIVE (4483) or email Foundation@holycrosshealth.org

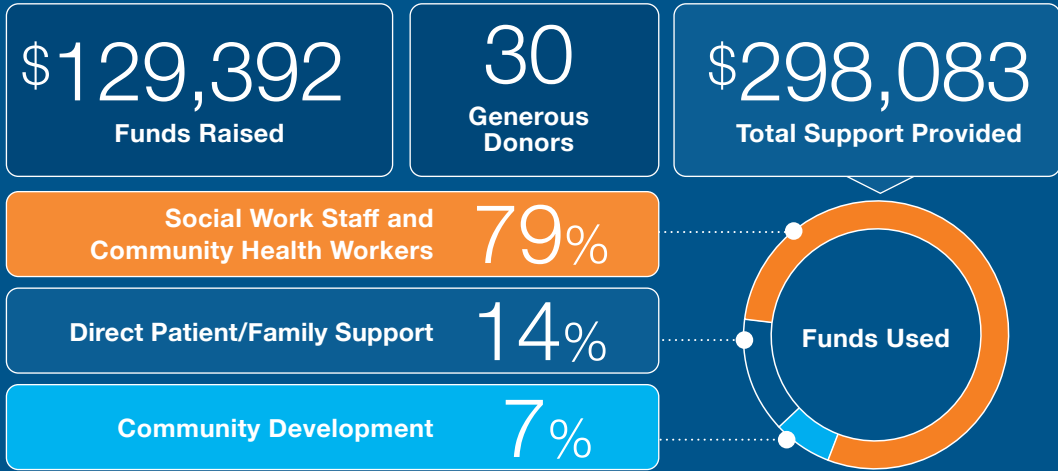


Fostering Community Health and Well-Being

Kevin J. Sexton Fund to Increase Access and Improve Community Health



Fiscal Year 2023 by the Numbers



Reverence

Commitment to Those Experiencing Poverty

Safety

At Holy Cross Health, our **core values** guide our mission.

Justice

Stewardship

Integrity

A Sense of Safety for Jennifer R. through the Sexton Fund

The Sexton fund gave this mother the ability to secure legal services and apply for a Special Immigration Juvenile visa for her son.

“The funds are a huge help! It was the catalyst I needed to start my son’s immigration case. This will make him feel safe in this country and not have the lingering worry of being deported. His journey to the U.S. was traumatic. Starting this pathway to documentation gives him and me peace of mind.”

– Jennifer R.

Social Workers Bring Strength and Passion to People and Communities



Social workers are an invaluable part of the healing process at Holy Cross Health. With support from the Sexton fund, they are able to improve lives by helping address social needs as well as providing mental and behavioral health therapy. The impact of this work has a ripple effect throughout the community.

“Through the generosity of our donors, we are able to confront the underlying problems of economic and health inequity,” says Annice Cody, president of Holy Cross Health Network. “The Kevin J. Sexton fund supports our social work team who are essential in helping our patients develop long-term plans to avoid crisis situations. They ask, ‘What is going on with your unique economic situation? How can we work with you to find more sustainable pathways to good health, not just a one-time solution?’”

Silvia Fuentes, clinical manager of social work, says, “Our patients and their families have benefited greatly from the fund. Some need rental assistance if they are out of work due to long-term illness. Others may not be able to afford medical equipment like oxygen tanks. We have helped these patients

become more independent and take a proactive approach to their health.”

“We have amazing people at Holy Cross who are passionate about their work,” says Jacqueline Williams-Hubbard, director of the Holy Cross Health Centers. “They understand the culture of their patients, they are bilingual, they can connect with them. This goes a long way in addressing social drivers of health.”

The biggest impediments to a person’s well-being may have nothing to do with their blood pressure or what happens in their doctor’s office. There are many other factors that play a role in how someone responds to and recovers from a health condition.

“We can provide a safe space for our patients to come and talk about what is going on in their lives and in their communities, and how we can support them,” says Silvia Fuentes. “The most rewarding part is seeing them accomplish their goals and improve their health. Now they can get back to work, support themselves, provide for their families, and give back to their community.”

Pathways for Independent Employment (PIE) Program Helps Break the Cycle of Unemployment

The Pathways to Independent Employment (PIE) program helps people who may otherwise be considered “hard-to-hire” find and keep employment through Holy Cross Health.

Through funding from the Sexton fund, Holy Cross Health’s Human Resources and Community Health departments partner with Career Catchers, a nonprofit organization that provides employment and job skills counseling to under-employed, unemployed, and low-income residents of the Washington, D.C. region. Career Catchers works with people from the neighborhoods surrounding all three Holy Cross Health Centers to develop and improve skills they need to strengthen their job applications and equip them to succeed in the workplace. Job candidates — some of whom are veterans returning to the community, youth aging out of foster care, homeless individuals, or people who have a criminal record — are then connected with Holy Cross recruiters. When candidates are hired, they continue to work with Career Catchers coaches on career development and life skills. Holy Cross community health workers can also assist them with addressing social needs.

“The community health worker addresses those wrap-around services, such as transportation, childcare, housing, and financial literacy, that help break down barriers to full employment,” says Kimberley McBride, vice president of Community Health. In FY23, Career Catchers referred 30 job candidates. Nine of them joined Holy Cross in departments including registration, food services and patient transport.

The PIE program helps people facing long-term unemployment reverse a downward cycle where lack of income leads to increased social challenges, such as housing or food insecurity, which in turn lead to poor health and can further hinder employment prospects.

“Through a relatively small intervention - helping someone get and keep a job - we can make a meaningful difference in the health and well-being of that person, their family and ultimately their community,” says Annice Cody. “The Kevin J. Sexton Fund makes that possible.”

