



FISCAL YEAR 2020 IMPACT REPORT

KEVIN J. SEXTON FUND to Increase Access and Improve Community Health

Thank you for supporting the Kevin J. Sexton Fund to Increase Access and Improve Community Health. Support from this fund allows us to think holistically about the well-being of our socio-economically vulnerable patients and communities. You have made it possible for Holy Cross Health to meet patient needs when there is nowhere else to turn.

Your Impact

In fiscal year 2020, Holy Cross Health disbursed \$282,770 from the Kevin J. Sexton Fund to support the primary care patients cared for at Holy Cross Health Centers, the maternity patients seen at Holy Cross Hospital's and Holy Cross Germantown Hospital's OB/GYN Clinics, and to engage the communities surrounding these sites regarding their most significant health needs.

COVID-19 had a double-edged impact on our patients. Many contracted the disease or cared for loved ones who became ill. The economic downturn particularly affected lower-wage workers, many of whom lost their jobs or experienced a reduction in hours. This twin effect compounded the existing barriers to good health that many of our patients face.

Fortunately, the Kevin J. Sexton Fund was available to help meet the current needs of our patients and to invest in developing solutions to mitigate future needs.

Counseling Support (\$160,354)

Many of our patients experienced grief, depression and adjustment disorders as a result of the COVID-19 pandemic. Our clinical social workers are able to provide counseling, integrated with primary care and care management, to address the behavioral health needs of our patients. Our social workers and community resource coordinators also can help our patients develop a sustainable path toward improved health and well-being, with supplemental financial assistance to help implement it. For example, for a patient who became ill, lost his job and had his gas service disconnected for non-payment, we were able to help him apply for and secure emergency assistance, reconnect his gas, and secure food supplements.





Community Building (\$33,581)

Supported by the Kevin J. Sexton Fund, Holy Cross convened community conversations with patients from the four health centers and in the surrounding community to identify their health priorities and their barriers to well-being. This information will form the basis for developing local partnerships to address community priorities, with a focus on food security in the coming year.

Holy Cross also funded a pilot outreach program to increase the enrollment of eligible health center patients in Maryland's Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP). The program was particularly successful in engaging Spanish-speaking households and resulted in 41 submitted applications from eligible households. This is particularly valuable because SNAP enrollment has been shown to reduce annual health care costs by \$1,409 compared to those not enrolled.

Patient Support (\$88,835)

- **Food Security** — for 86 patients' families we purchased six-month Hungry Harvest subscriptions to have a box of fresh fruits and vegetables delivered to their home twice a month. Each box provides enough fresh produce for eight meals over two weeks.
- **Rent Support** — for 26 patients who fell behind on rent due to illness or job loss, we provided rental assistance.
- **Specialty Care** — the fund paid for 153 specialty care visits, which included 119 sonograms for uninsured pregnant women cared for in the Holy Cross OB/GYN Clinics and visits to medical and surgical specialists for Health Center patients.



ABOUT THE KEVIN J. SEXTON FUND TO INCREASE ACCESS AND IMPROVE COMMUNITY HEALTH

This fund was established in 2016 in recognition of Kevin J. Sexton, Holy Cross Health's former and longest-tenured President and CEO. Mr. Sexton's commitment to equitable and accessible care inspired the creation of this fund as a way to help low-income, uninsured and underinsured patients at our four primary care Holy Cross Health Centers (located in Aspen Hill, Gaithersburg, Germantown and Silver Spring) and our two OB/GYN Clinics (located at Holy Cross Hospital and Holy Cross Germantown Hospital).

This fund began with the Holy Cross Health Board of Directors earmarking the earnings from \$2 million in investments to establish the Kevin J. Sexton Fund to Increase Access and Improve Community Health.

ABOUT THE HOLY CROSS HEALTH FOUNDATION

Every donation matters. 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.

The Holy Cross Health Foundation is a 501(c)(3) tax-exempt charitable organization. It is through your partnership that we are able to provide continued care to our most vulnerable patients and their families.

To make a donation, please visit Giving.HolyCrossHealth.org or call us at 301-557-GIVE (4483).