



Fostering Community Health and Well-Being

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

HC HOLY CROSS
HEALTH
A Member of Trinity Health

Fiscal Year 2025 Impact Report

TABLE OF CONTENTS

The Kevin J. Sexton Fund	3
Investing in Compassionate Care	4
Addressing Our Community's Social Needs	5
Closing the Gap	6
Patient story: Expanding Access to Lifesaving Dialysis Care	7
Patient story: Community Safety Net in Action	8
Patient story: Breathing Easier, Living Better	9
Meeting Tomorrow's Needs	10
About the Holy Cross Health Foundation	10



Through this fund, patients of Holy Cross Health receive assistance with:



Medications



Transportation



Nutritious food



Rental support



Specialized medical care



Mental health services



Community support

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

The Kevin J. Sexton Fund plays a vital role in supporting the most vulnerable members of our community by providing essential health and social services when no other resources are available or limited.

These services are delivered by a dedicated team of skilled providers at our Health Centers in Aspen Hill, Gaithersburg, and Silver Spring, as well as at our obstetrics and gynecology clinics located at Holy Cross Hospital in Silver Spring and Holy Cross Germantown Hospital.

Donations to the Kevin J. Sexton Fund have a profound impact, offering hope and tangible relief to those in need. Your generosity directly strengthens Holy Cross Health's mission to be a transformative healing presence in the communities we serve.

On behalf of those whose lives you've touched, we extend our deepest gratitude.

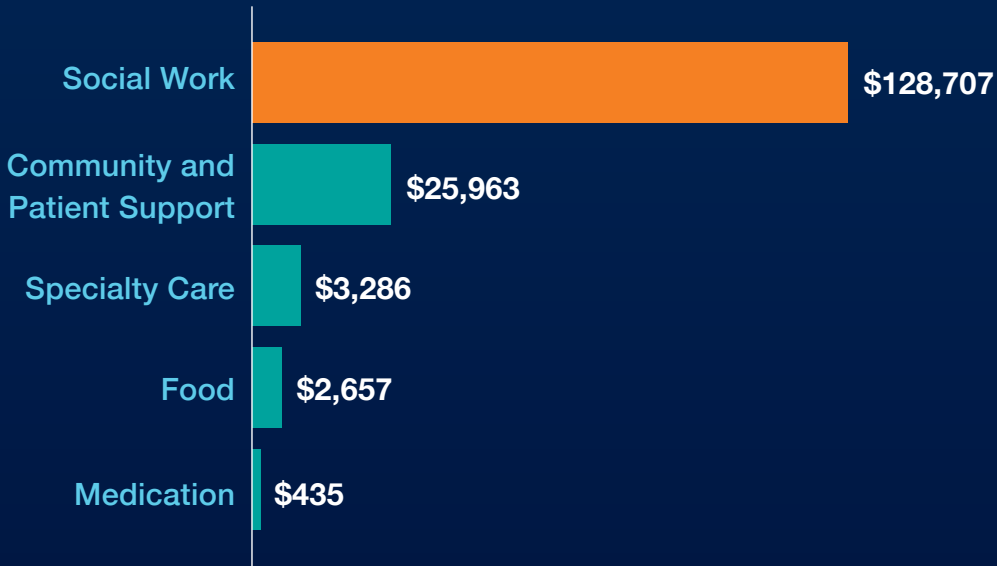
Investing in Compassionate Care

Holy Cross Health is deeply grateful to the community members, families, foundations, and businesses whose generous contributions make the work of the Kevin J. Sexton Fund possible. Your philanthropic partnership helps us advance our mission to provide compassionate, high-quality care to our community. Thanks to your support, the Kevin J. Sexton Fund continues to make a meaningful impact across several key areas of need, helping us serve our neighbors with dignity and excellence.

The majority of the funding, **nearly 80%, was dedicated to expanding our team of master's-level social workers and community resource coordinators**, ensuring that patients receive high-quality, personalized care from dedicated professionals. Additional resources went toward community support, specialty medical services, and essential needs like food, medication, and patient assistance.

These investments reflect our commitment to addressing both the medical and social determinants of health, reinforcing the Kevin J. Sexton Fund's role as a vital resource for those in need.

PURPOSEFUL SPENDING: Advancing Health and Community



Your Giving Impact:
\$161,047
distributed across
all categories



INTEGRATING SOCIAL CARE into Clinical Practice

Addressing Our Community's Social Needs

With financial support from the Kevin J. Sexton Fund, Holy Cross Health is committed to identifying and responding to the social needs that affect our patients' health and quality of life. Over the past year, nearly **6,500** patients were screened for social needs such as housing, food insecurity, transportation, and safety. Of those screened, **70%** self-identified at least one need, and **822** patients requested assistance, showcasing the importance of integrating social care into the clinical setting.

Also, our Social Care Team provided **3,141** visits with patients, offering personalized guidance and connection to community resources. Whether helping someone navigate housing instability or access transportation, the ensures that patients receive the support they need to move toward greater stability. Together, these efforts reflect our holistic approach to care, ensuring that patients do not face hardship alone.



PATIENTS SCREENED

6,500 individuals assessed for social needs (housing, food transportation, safety)



IDENTIFIED NEEDS

70% reported at least one social need



ASSISTANCE REQUESTED

822 patients actively requested help with their needs



SOCIAL CARE ENGAGEMENT

3,141 visits conducted by the Social Care team, providing personalized support and resource connections



INTEGRATION IMPACT

Highlights the value of embedding social care within clinical settings



Closing the Gap

In addition to screening for social needs, the Kevin J. Sexton Fund offers support programs that meet patients where they are. This spring, five individuals participated in our Domestic Violence Support Group, which provides a safe and healing space for survivors to share, connect, and rebuild.

One participant shared (translated from Spanish):

“ I feel happy to have participated in this group because at this time I am going through therapy to overcome the domestic violence I was going through. I am very thankful for the teachings that the social workers taught us. I have learned different ways to feel good despite the difficult situations and **I know that I am not alone, that I am heard and that my voice matters.**”

This powerful reflection underscores the importance of trauma-informed care and the healing that can happen when individuals are supported with thoughtfulness and dignity.

Holy Cross Health also helped ease food insecurity through the Hungry Harvest program. Established patients who report needing food are eligible to receive a Hungry Harvest order every two weeks for 6 months. In Fiscal Year 2025, **our health centers distributed 898 pounds of food**, allowing individuals and families to worry less about where their next meal would come from.



We are forever grateful for the help of the Kevin J. Sexton Fund that has changed the lives of our patients...Because the Kevin J. Sexton Fund request was initiated, Mr. Benitez was able to complete surgery in a safe and timely manner.



—CINDY CALLEJAS

Community Resource Coordinator
Holy Cross Health



Expanding Access to Lifesaving Dialysis Care

During Fiscal Year 2025, Holy Cross Health successfully supported three patients undergoing hemodialysis in obtaining consultations for permanent vascular access, an essential step in their treatment journey. These individuals faced significant financial barriers that prevented them from accessing the specialized surgical care required for arteriovenous (AV) fistula placement, the gold standard for long-term dialysis access.

Thanks to the generous contributions of our donors, we were able to utilize the Kevin J. Sexton Fund to cover the cost of vascular surgeon consultations and procedures, approximately **\$900 per patient**. This funding enabled each patient to pursue AV fistula placement, which offers substantial clinical benefits, including lower infection rates, improved blood flow, and greater durability compared to other access types. These outcomes not only improve quality of life but also reduce the need for future medical interventions.

One of our patients, Mr. Joaquin Benitez, has been receiving care at Holy Cross Health for many years. After developing stage 5 kidney disease, he urgently needed a new dialysis access site due to complications with his previous one, which had developed an aneurysm. Without timely surgical intervention, Mr. Benitez's health was at serious risk. Through the Kevin J. Sexton Fund, he was able to receive the necessary procedure safely and promptly. Today, Mr. Benitez reports doing well and expresses deep gratitude, saying he "would not be here if it was not for this assistance."

We are proud to share this story as a testament to the tangible impact of donor generosity. The Kevin J. Sexton Fund continues to be a vital resource in ensuring equitable access to life-sustaining care for our most vulnerable patients.

Community Safety Net in Action

Elvis Cadenas, a Holy Cross Health patient facing a temporary but significant medical hardship, was three months behind on rent due to an extended period of recovery following surgery. Now living with a colostomy bag, Elvis has been physically unable to work and earn income, placing him at serious risk of housing insecurity.

The Kevin J. Sexton Fund provided short-term rental assistance that offered critical stability during this vulnerable time. **This support prevented eviction, reduced stress during healing, and helped ensure a smoother path back to financial self-sufficiency.** Elvis is actively working toward recovery and intends to return to work as soon as his health permits.

In addition to support from the Kevin J. Sexton Fund, Elvis also proactively sought help from various community resources to access essentials like food, hygiene products, and medical supplies, which our staff helped facilitate. These efforts, combined with the Sexton Fund's intervention, reinforced a community safety net that helped stabilize the patient's situation and prevent longer-term consequences.



Pictured on the left are our three health centers.



Breathing Easier, Living Better

Raul Rodriguez is deeply grateful for the compassionate care he receives at the Holy Cross Health Center in Silver Spring. **“The help and services I receive are excellent—100%,”** he shares. Through the support of the Kevin J. Sexton Fund, Raul experienced a transformative journey that he describes as **“wonderful.”**

He credits his social worker, the providers at Holy Cross, and God for the assistance that has made a meaningful difference in his life. **“All the providers are friendly, and their services are excellent,”** Raul says.

One of the most impactful moments in Raul’s care was receiving a bi-pap machine, which has significantly improved his quality of life. **“It has changed my life,”** he says.

“I sleep better, wake up with more energy, and my mood has improved. I can keep moving forward.”

Raul’s journey was made possible through your generosity to the Kevin J. Sexton Fund, which continues to ensure life-changing support for those in our community who need it most.



“My hope is that Holy Cross can always be a helping presence in the community for those in need, like me.”

—Raul

Meeting Tomorrow's Needs

As Holy Cross Health continues to respond to the evolving needs of our community, additional funding will be essential. We anticipate growing demand in critical areas such as food security, access to medications, and transportation for medical appointments.

With your continued support of the Kevin J. Sexton Fund, we can meet these rising needs and ensure that no one in our community is left behind. Together, we can expand access to care because health and dignity should never depend on circumstance.

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.

ANTICIPATED GROWTH in Critical Service Areas

Food Security



Increasing need for reliable access to nutritious food

Access to Medications



Rising demand for affordable and timely medication availability

Transportation for Medical Appointments



Greater requirement for safe and accessible patient transport

Behavioral Health Needs



Addressing essential needs to improve emotional, psychological, and social challenges that affect our community



To learn more about the Kevin J. Sexton Fund to Increase Access and Improve Community Health, **please scan the QR code.**



A Member of Trinity Health

10720 Columbia Pike
Silver Spring, MD 20901

holycrosshealth.org/donate
301-557-GIVE (4483)