MedStar Washington Hospital Center



Helping patients with HIV thrive.

Today with effective treatment, people with HIV can live longer, healthier lives. Some patients must rely on a wide array of support to achieve this positive outcome. In Washington, D.C., two critical programs at MedStar Washington Hospital Center are providing hundreds of men, women, and children the critical services they need to realize their best possible lives.

Since 2001, the hospital's Ryan White program has linked patients to important public and community resources, and to vital medical and mental health care. The federally funded program is a safety net for people who have no insurance coverage or face coverage limits.

"Our patients with HIV run the gamut. About 20 percent live in poverty and are struggling," says Leon Lai, MD. "Health care comes last, but we know how important adherence is to a drug regimen. It's lifesaving and an important tool for prevention."

"The program's case managers help ensure that patients get the services they need. They make phone calls when patients miss appointments, provide assistance getting to our clinic, and connect them to visiting nurses when home health visits are necessary. Community health

"The virus is undetectable in 84 percent of our patients, and that is among the highest rates in the country." –David Gaviria-Munoz, MD

Letter from the president.

MedStar Health's patient first commitment is demonstrated every day at MedStar Washington Hospital Center as we work diligently to ensure the health and wellbeing of everyone in the Washington, D.C., communities we serve.

The Ryan White program and the Gilead HIV Age Positively program described in this report are tangible examples of this important mission. The hospital's HIV team is helping hundreds of patients access the care they need and the community resources they may require to break through barriers to critical services.

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Gregory J. Argyros, MD Senior Vice President, MedStar Health President, MedStar Washington Hospital Center





MedStar Health



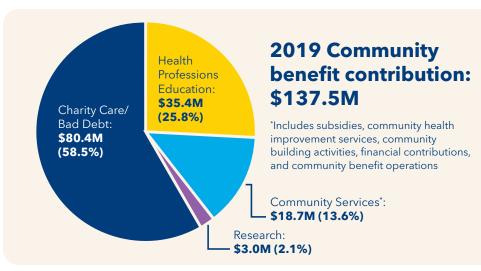
workers go to patients' homes to assess their needs and refer them to services for everything from housing to transportation."

"We care for nearly 700 patients a year and understand that their lives can be complex. We work to try and minimize the challenges."

The hospital's newest program–Gilead HIV Age Positively–addresses the full range of health needs for older patients with HIV, which now comprise 50 percent of those infected.

"Our goal is to incorporate other health services into HIV care. We have found that while patients adhere to HIV treatment, they may neglect other health issues," Anjali Majumdar, MD, explains. "We are first conducting a life survey to better understand patients' needs and any barriers that may exist to accessing care. We anticipate using a variety of tools to navigate them toward services, including prompt phone calls and real-time appointment scheduling with specialists."

The entire HIV team collaborates closely to ensure that patients receive the resources they need to thrive. Statistics prove the initiatives' success. "We are proud that the virus is undetectable in 84 percent of our patients—and that's among the highest rates in the country," adds David Gaviria-Munoz, MD.



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It's how we treat people.