MedStar Union Memorial Hospital

Helping Those in Need Heal Holistically

Integrative medicine has proven to be beneficial in the treatment of individuals with a wide range of physical and psychological conditions and concerns. A holistic approach to care that addresses the full range of physical, emotional, spiritual, and environmental influences that affect a person's health is not a service commonly available to those with limited means. That's what makes the Shepherd's Clinic Joy Wellness Center so special.

One of the first integrative medicine centers for the economically disadvantaged and uninsured, the Joy Wellness Center offers programming in movement education, healing arts, stress reduction, and nutrition education. Staffed by experienced professionals from MedStar Union Memorial Hospital as well as hundreds of dedicated volunteers, the center offers classes such as yoga, massage therapy, nutrition, smoking cessation, and much more. Services provided are made possible through the generosity of private foundations, community organizations, and individuals, as well as participant donations. With approximately 3,000 visits a year, the Joy Wellness Center is thriving and making a positive difference in the lives of hundreds of individuals.

Letter From the President

MedStar Union Memorial Hospital has a tradition of caring that's endured for more than 160 years. It's a tradition built on ensuring the good health of all residents in the area, especially those who face barriers to care. Simply put, we dedicate each day to doing whatever is needed to enhance the community's health and well-being. You'll read about two of our initiatives in this 2017 Report to the Community. As we look ahead, you will be assured of our unwavering commitment to this important work far into the future.

Sincerely,

Bradley S. Chambers
President, MedStar Good Samaritan Hospital
President, MedStar Union Memorial Hospital
Senior Vice President, MedStar Health

Individuals without insurance often turn to the emergency department for care. At the Shepherd's Clinic and Joy Wellness Center, they get the ongoing care they need.
Empowering Ability

According to the United States Bureau of Labor Statistics, the majority of adults with intellectual and developmental disabilities (I/DD) are either unemployed or underemployed, despite their ability, desire, and willingness to work. They also face significant gaps in pay and compensation compared to others. It’s a serious problem—and one that MedStar Union Memorial Hospital, in partnership with The Arc Baltimore, is helping to address through Project SEARCH.

Project SEARCH is a one-year internship program for motivated adults with disabilities who reside in Baltimore City and Baltimore County. Launched at MedStar Union Memorial in 2012, it provides 10 to 12 individuals, on average, with the experience needed to explore career options and develop real job skills. In the program, which runs every weekday from September through May, participants begin in the classroom where they receive instruction in employability and independent living skills. They spend the remaining 10 weeks in the workplace, participating in one of three unpaid internships of their choice. Through these internships, participants gain marketable skills that empower them to be competitive job applicants in the healthcare industry or elsewhere. In fact, since the program began, MedStar Health has hired 10 of these individuals, who now work in meaningful healthcare jobs across the region.

To learn more about MedStar Health’s programs and initiatives across Maryland and the Washington, D.C., region that are contributing to healthier communities, visit MedStarHealth.org/CommunityHealth.