



### The benefits of the community Health Advocate Team

Community Health Advocates effectively address many barriers to better health, including:

- Improving access to services
- Helping people understand the health and social service system
- Enhancing client and health provider communication
- Improving adherence to health recommendations
- Reducing the need for emergency and specialty services
- Improving overall community health status



### How can I contact a community health advocate?

MedStar Health's program is a collaborative partnership between Community Health and Case Management. Please contact the Community Health office at each hospital for additional information.



# Community Health Advocate program.

Dedicated to improving the health of the communities we serve.

Please visit [MedStarHealth.org](https://www.MedStarHealth.org) to learn more about our Community Health Advocate program.

## It's how we treat people.

## Community Health Advocate program

At MedStar Health, we are dedicated to providing community health programs to improve the well-being of the communities we serve. The Community Health Advocate program, a team of frontline public health workers for MedStar Health, helps address the non-medical challenges that interfere with overall health.

Community health advocates are hired from the areas they serve, further boosting the connections between community and hospital.

Community health advocates improve the health of their communities by:

- Linking their neighbors to healthcare and social services, including food access, examples include: food access, transportation, housing, and utility assistance
- Educating their peers about disease and injury prevention
- Working to make available services more accessible
- Mobilizing their communities to create positive change

**Helping patients with needs that extend beyond the hospital doors.**

Connecting patients to community support services through the Community Health Advocate program.



### Who we are.

The MedStar Health community health advocates are trained frontline public health workers; trusted members of the communities served. This trusting relationship enables the worker to serve as a liaison between health and social services and the community.

### Who we serve.

As part of our Community Health initiative we will work with patients from our MedStar Health hospital network in Maryland and the District of Columbia. The services are offered at no charge.



### Who is the MedStar Health Community Health Advocate team?

The team helps patients once they leave the hospital and return home. We help patients understand and follow discharge instructions, learn how to manage their illness, navigate the health system, and connect them to community support services.

### What can you expect?

A community health advocate will be in touch shortly after the hospital stay. Our trained team will visit patients at home to ensure they have the support they need.