



Taking to the road to put **food on families' tables.**

When the pandemic swept through the capital region, normalcy was upended. People lost lives, jobs, and homes. For hundreds of families served by MedStar Georgetown University Hospital's KIDS Mobile Medical Clinic/Ronald McDonald Care Mobile in Wards 7 and 8, COVID-19 brought anxiety of another sort: food insecurity.

"COVID-19 had an enormous impact on our families who rely heavily on school meals," explains Janine Rethy, MD, chief of Community Pediatrics. "Grocery shelves were emptied. Transportation became difficult. We saw the need and gathered as a team to find a solution."

The solution came through an innovative pilot program, Healthy Children and Families, in partnership with No Kid Hungry and Chef Erik Bruner-Yang's Power of 10 Initiative to take food directly to families.

"Deliveries were made by the Mobile Clinic, as well as Power of 10 drivers," explains Coordinator Nichelle Johnson. "Between April and July 2020, 14,000 prepared meals and grocery packages were provided to 40 families, along with wrap-around support to help them with other challenges they were facing during COVID-19."

"The pilot proved so successful the program has continued with support from additional partners," says Program Administrator and Social Worker Joanne Odom.

"We couldn't have achieved this without an infrastructure that has provided medical care and supportive services for decades, and strong relationships with our families and community," adds Dr. Rethy.

Letter from the president.

The Jesuit tradition of *cura personalis*—care of the whole person—upon which our hospital was founded is reflected in the special things we do to serve our community.

During the COVID-19 pandemic, we have successfully supported the unique medical and social needs of our neighbors and assisted in providing food to at-risk families. The programs that provided this support are detailed in this report. We are very proud to share these examples of our long-standing tradition of serving the families of the District of Columbia and beyond.

Thank you for your interest and support of our hospital and recognizing our commitment to the community we so proudly serve.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "M. Sachtleben".

Michael C. Sachtleben
Senior Vice President, MedStar Health
President, MedStar Georgetown University Hospital

In just four months, 14,000 prepared meals and grocery packages were provided to 40 families.



Screening and referral program provides families needed support during the pandemic.

Last spring, COVID-19 hit the region like a tsunami, ripping lives apart. That’s when MedStar Georgetown’s Department of Family Medicine reached out to clinic patients, targeting the most vulnerable—the elderly and families with children. A volunteer team of 150 medical students and resident physicians began making calls with the goal to reach 3,500 patients and identify their most critical pandemic-related issues.

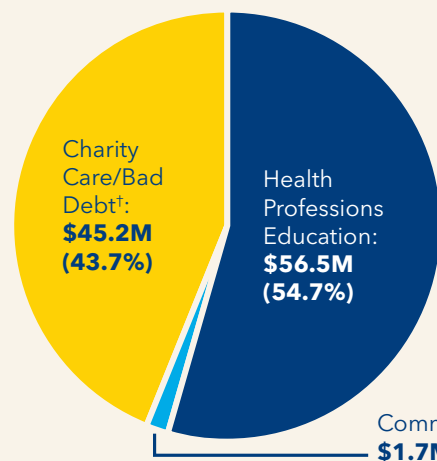


“We found a range of problems—everything from anxiety to food insecurity,” says Michelle Roett, MD, department chair.

“Then we provided solutions through a variety of resources,” explains Administrator Vanessa Tunstall, MPH. “We tapped existing food services in D.C. and Prince George’s County, referred patients to our clinic’s behavioral services, and provided information about rent assistance and medication delivery, for example.”

“We even raised \$2,600 from our staff, family, and friends to provide food gift cards to families at a local PG County elementary school,” says Dr. Roett.

Now follow-up calls are underway, and patients are receiving vaccine information. “However, we know when the medical crisis is over, we’ll continue to address the social and economic damage the pandemic has caused,” she adds.



2020 Community benefit contribution: \$103.4M

*Includes subsidies, community health improvement services, community building activities, financial contributions, and community benefit operations

†Includes unfunded government-sponsored programs

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It’s how we treat people.