

Mission Matters

Winter 2023



Learn more about the immediate
impact of our Mobile Health
Outreach Ministry



Ascension St. Vincent's
Foundation

A letter from our president

Friends of the Foundation,

It is an honor and privilege to be serving as your new President and Chief Development Officer for Ascension St. Vincent's Foundation. As Jeremiah 29:11 states, "For I know the plans I have for you", I truly believe the opportunity to lead the foundation is the path God set for me and I cannot be more thrilled. I would like to thank our Florida Gulf Coast Ministry Executive, Don King, and our Foundation Board Chair, Mac McGehee, for trusting me to lead the Ascension St. Vincent's Foundation.

It cannot be understated how blessed I am to have an amazing team to work with at the foundation. When I arrived in June, we had five full-time staff members that have been through COVID-19, leadership transitions, and unsettling news within the St. Vincent's system. Not only have they persevered, but they have helped me welcome three new members to our team. These eight individuals embody our mission of serving all persons and especially the poor and vulnerable. They will help me rebuild a culture of philanthropy within our health system and Foundation community.

My first five months have come and gone quickly. Much of my time has been spent meeting with Ascension St. Vincent's leadership, physicians, board members, community leaders, staff and friends like you. This time is invaluable and has allowed me to assess our current state at the Foundation and our path forward. This will include modernizing our operations and how we engage our constituents in a more strategic and thoughtful way.

In the coming months we will also begin moving in a direction that helps better align our Ascension St. Vincent's strategy with the Foundation. This includes cultivating new partnerships with hospital leaders to identify our greatest needs. One of those leaders is our new President of Ascension St. Vincent's Riverside Hospital, Scott Kashman, who previously served as market president for St. Dominic Health Services and CEO of St. Dominic Hospital in Jackson, MS. Scott and I have already started working together on how we can "Reimagine Riverside".

Finally, I would like to thank everyone for welcoming me to Ascension St. Vincent's. It is no secret we have experienced tumultuous times the past few years, but God said, "in Jesus, all things are made new, and the former things fade away" (Hebrews 8:12). I thank you for your unwavering support and I look forward to serving you in this ministry.

Thank you and God Bless!



Patrick N. Henry II, MS
President
Ascension St. Vincent's Foundation

Meeting patients where they are

Mobile Health Delivers Hope to Vulnerable Communities



Sara Rowe feels called to serve.

Rowe began working in Mobile Health Outreach Ministries more than 22 years ago. "I learned about Mobile Health and interviewed for a clinic coordinator position," Rowe said. "Immediately I knew I was answering that call. I was immediately drawn to serving the underserved."

Now, as community outreach manager, she manages a dedicated team to deliver healthcare to populations that need it most – but cannot access it because they are uninsured, lack transportation, or do not have a primary care physician.

Mobile Health at Ascension St. Vincent's serves five counties in the region and provides services ranging from medical exams to laboratory services, school physicals and immunizations. The combined services add up to more than \$2.7 million in care delivered across the region – and more than 12,000 visits for those in need of medical care. The work is divided into four ministries:

- The Rural Outreach Ministry serves the families working the agricultural fields of Putnam and St. Johns counties.
- The Urban Outreach Ministry helps the working poor, homeless and families in Duval, Clay and Nassau counties.
- The Pediatric Outreach Ministry touches students attending 23 middle and high schools in Duval County's Full Service Schools and gives them the medical care they need.
- The Senior Outreach Ministry provides medical care and wellness education in underserved senior housing apartments.

"It is particularly meaningful to me when we are able to get to know our patients," Rowe said. "When they begin to share their lives and the hardships they have endured, we are able to understand empathetically."

Those connections can change lives for the better. Rowe remembers an uninsured patient with sepsis and a leg wound who also suffered from diabetes and other chronic conditions. Without insurance, he would not be able to pay for his wound care, IV antibiotic therapy or ongoing lab work.

Mobile Health dispensed multiple medications and adjusted his medication regime to better control his chronic conditions. They also referred him to WeCare, a local network of volunteer providers, for his wound care. The patient is also receiving his IV antibiotic through funds provided by the Good Samaritan fund.

"If not for generous donations that support programs like Mobile Health and the Good Samaritan fund, this patient would not have gotten the care he needed after discharge," Rowe said.

Rowe believes that the donations Mobile Health receives are making a major impact across the region by preventing unnecessary ER visits, keeping children in school and providing a medical home to the uninsured.

"Without our donors, we simply would not exist," Rowe said. "The generosity of others allows us the freedom to care for patients that could not receive care anywhere else."

A gift to our Mobile Health Outreach Ministry this holiday season can be the reason a patient in your community receives the care they need. Go to givistvincents.org/donate to give your gift today.

For more information about how you can support the Mobile Health Outreach Ministry program at Ascension St. Vincent's, please visit our community outreach page on GiveStVincents.org.

Mission moments



Helping Stephanie take the next step

Stephanie* came to the hospital with a bone infection in her foot, which unfortunately escalated to a below-the-knee amputation. Soon after surgery, it became clear that Stephanie would have trouble walking. She needed a rolling walker to avoid further complications and to preserve her ability to move around independently.

Stephanie expressed her concerns over not being able to afford a rolling walker. Her mother was already paying for her medication and could not assist further. Through the Good Samaritan Fund, she received the rolling walker for free and can now navigate normal life and complete daily activities. She and her family are deeply grateful to the donors who keep this fund in operation.

Supporting Ben when things got tight

In order to leave the hospital, Ben* needed several weeks' worth of IV antibiotics, at-home nursing care and medical equipment. His IV antibiotics alone would cost \$8,800. Ben told hospital workers he would have to sell his car to pay for the medicine.

Case management workers stepped up and used our Good Samaritan Fund to cover the costs, ensuring Ben could safely leave the hospital and keep his car.

Connecting Meghan to lifesaving care

Meghan* came to the mobile health unit for her first routine mammogram. The scans showed a concerning mass. Our team referred her to a free service provider that performed a diagnostic mammogram. Unfortunately, she was diagnosed with breast cancer.

The biopsy and diagnosis meant Meghan needed life-saving surgery. She received that crucial surgery at our Riverside Campus from volunteer physicians via We Care Jacksonville. Had it not been for our Mobile Health Outreach Ministry, it may have been too late for Meghan. Our collaboration with the community offers uninsured and underinsured people access to health care, which is essential in catching illnesses in early, treatable stages.

Lending a hand to a mother in need

Isabel* recently moved here from Argentina with her daughters. Her eldest, who has developmental disabilities, needed medical prescriptions filled. However, because her daughter was 19 and officially an adult - and Isabel did not have official legal guardianship yet - she could not obtain the prescriptions. While she was completing the process, our Mobile Health Outreach Ministry helped her daughter get the medications she needed.

We also assisted Isabel with her younger children by helping with immunization records and connected the whole family with needed financial resources. Isabel was overjoyed at our ability to help her ensure her daughters would be okay.

Happenings



Delicious Destinations: Foodies wine, dine and support Community Outreach Programs

Ascension St. Vincent's Foundation recently hosted the 21st annual Delicious Destinations event presented by Miller Electric on Sept. 8 and 9 at the AAA Five-Diamond-rated Ponte Vedra Inn & Club. It featured some of the region's most celebrated chefs as they created a luxury tasting experience with "Salt and Fire" inspired plates and thoughtfully selected wine pairings. Most importantly, this year's event raised more than \$230,000 to benefit our community outreach programs, which connect those in need with quality, compassionate healthcare.



Upcoming Events: **Fun Shoot**

Dec. 7, 2023 | Jacksonville Clay Target Sports

At the time, of press, we were in the midst of preparing for the 31st annual Fun Shoot presented by Miller Electric Company and W. W. Gay Mechanical Contractor, Inc. This event has long supported the Ascension St. Vincent's Good Samaritan Fund (GSF), and most recently helped 7,285 patients in need of emergency assistance by offering medications, transportation, medical equipment and more to people in need. Thank you for your ongoing support!



Mulligans for the Mission

April 7 & 8, 2024 | TPC Sawgrass

Be a part of this exciting annual event which raises funds for Ascension St. Vincent's Mobile Health Outreach Ministry. Your contributions help us go beyond the walls of our hospitals to provide free acute and preventative medical care to those who would otherwise have no access to healthcare. Last year, your support raised more than \$238,000 to fund this critical program. Save the date to participate and to become a sponsor please contact the Foundation at (904) 308-7306 or fljacfoundationevents@ascension.org.

Blessing & Dedication of the C. Herman & Mary Virginia Terry Labor and Delivery Suites

St. Vincent's Southside campus celebrates a transformative update with the addition of Labor, Delivery, Recovery, and Postpartum (LDRP) rooms, enhancing care for families.

The \$5 million gift from Mary Virginia Terry made this expansion possible, and the new unit, named the C. Herman & Mary Virginia Terry Labor and Delivery Suites, reflects her generous contribution.

This milestone improves access to care, elevates the birthing experience, and provides a nurturing space for moms, babies, and families, showcasing the profound impact of community support.



Thank you to our generous supporters



Clay Electric Co-op awarded us a generous \$5,000 grant to support Ascension St. Vincent's Mobile Health Ministry in Clay County! These funds are going to make a huge impact by ensuring that the most vulnerable members of our community get the free, high-quality and compassionate healthcare they truly deserve.



Jessie Ball DuPont Fund generously approved our request for \$100,000 to fund our Ascension St. Vincent's Mobile Health Outreach Ministry. Thank you to the Jessie Ball DuPont Fund for your support. Thanks to you, thousands of our community's most vulnerable patients have access to free, compassionate healthcare services.



American Cancer Society provided \$25,000 for patient transportation assistance through our Oncology Support Services Program. This includes free gas cards, bus passes and ride share services necessary for cancer related medical appointments. Your support provides patients with much-needed financial assistance. Thank you for partnering with Ascension St. Vincent's.

Gratitude for our givers

Thank you to our grantors for supporting our various community and hospital programs. Without your support, we could not continue to provide patients with access to free healthcare, dental care and financial assistance. Thank you for partnering with Ascension St. Vincent's to fulfill our Mission of providing quality, compassionate care to all, with special love and attention to our community's most vulnerable patients.



Ascension St. Vincent's
Foundation

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