

# Care without Borders

*“The vast possibilities of our great future will become realities only if we make ourselves responsible for that future.” —Gifford Pinchot*



Patients Russell and Christine

The Sister Mary Philippa Health Center is the heart of St. Mary's Medical Center's response to the community. As San Francisco's largest non-tax supported clinic, the Center provides primary and specialty health services free of charge or at a reduced rate to thousands of uninsured and underserved members of our community. Of the 5,000 patients currently registered, 1,700 do not have public or private health insurance coverage.

Health is something most of us take for granted. However, anyone who has faced an illness or cared for someone sick knows just what a blessing good health is. For many, illness not only means losing one's vitality, it can also mean having nowhere to turn for help. There are very few hospitals in the United States that still provide charity care like we do. In the true spirit of the Sisters of Mercy, and with your help, we hope to remain one of them.

**Please give what you can...**

## Compassion Means Never Having to Say, "I'm Sorry, it's Not My Problem."

Singer, songwriter, and poet, Rod McKuen, once said that the reason we need to find the cure for AIDS is "because it's everyone's disease." Clearly, it is a disease that has blurred the boundaries of nations, populations, and families.

A Center patient was one of the far too many people whose life was cut short by AIDS. During the long course of his treatment and his eventual decline, the staff at the Center became his family. In fact, it was discovered following his passing that he had no "real" family, as his body remained at the morgue unclaimed. Those at the Center who had grown to love him refused to let his life end without a proper service and burial. The Center held a memorial to celebrate his life and the St. Mary's Medical Center Foundation paid to have his body buried. ♦

*“From what we get, we can make a living; what we give, however, makes a life.”*

—Arthur Ashe

### Giving made easy...

By fax: 415.750.8132

By email:  
msako@chw.edu

By good old-fashioned mail:  
St. Mary's Medical Center Foundation  
450 Stanyan Street  
San Francisco, CA 94117

By phone: 415.750.5790

From \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_

Telephone \_\_\_\_\_ Email \_\_\_\_\_

#### My Gift to Sister Mary Philippa Health Center in the amount of:

\$25  \$50  \$100  \$250  \$500  \$1,000  \$2,500  \$5,000  \$10,000  \$25,000  Other \$ \_\_\_\_\_

is enclosed. (please make checks payable to St. Mary's Medical Center Foundation)

will be paid. (please check one)  quarterly  in monthly installments of: \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Please charge my gift to:  VISA  MASTER CARD  AMEX

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A gift of any size is deeply appreciated! • [www.stmarysmedicalcenter.com](http://www.stmarysmedicalcenter.com) • 415.750.5790

St. Mary's Medical Center Foundation respects your privacy. If you prefer not to receive any further communications from us, please send a brief note to Margine Sako, Executive Director, 450 Stanyan Street, San Francisco, CA 94117 and include the mailing label from this annual report, if possible. Please understand it may take up to thirty days to process your request.



St. Mary's Medical Center Foundation

CHW

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