

September 18, 2020

Children's Health and Education Charitable Foundation
c/o Ms. Vandana Narang
11802 Forest Heights Court
Herndon, Virginia 20170-2408

Dear Members of the Children's Health and Education Charitable Foundation,

We hope this letter finds you well and safe. It is with great enthusiasm that we share this new funding opportunity for visual screening that can further your Foundation's impact on the health of our pediatric Health Center patients.

We respectfully request \$5,500 to purchase the *iScreen Vision Screener 3000*, a pediatric photo-screening vision machine that captures images of a child's eye to detect visual abnormalities. Patients from infancy to school-age will be screened at Germantown Health Center. With the proper screening equipment, visual acuity can be assessed at an earlier age and stage. Currently, our Health Center's vision screening does not provide the full spectrum of information needed for early diagnosis and referral. State-of-the-art equipment such as the *iScreen Vision Screener 3000* will allow the pediatrician to refer to the appropriate specialist and educate parents about the diagnosis and the required follow-up.

Germantown's Health Center began serving pediatric patients when it opened in 2015 and the Aspen Hill location began serving pediatric patients this year. Each clinic provides primary care services with links to wrap around services and specialty care for some of our most vulnerable patients. Although the care provided is at low or no cost to the patient, the clinics look, feel, and operate like a private physician's office—keeping the dignity of the patient at the forefront of everything we do.

Education is one of the most important social influencers of health and is highly correlated with life expectancy and health status. Barriers to development and learning in children can include transportation, poverty, and health issues, including visual impairment. Impaired vision in children can seriously impede learning (adequate vision is paramount to educational performance) and contribute to the development of emotional and behavioral problems. Early discovery and treatment can prevent or at least alleviate many of these issues, helping to address health disparities and inequities in uninsured and underinsured children.

It is also with great pleasure that we thank you for your continued commitment to Holy Cross Health and our Health Centers serving as safety net clinics for our most vulnerable patients. We are extremely grateful for your last grant that provided fluoride and varnish treatments for 58 pediatric patients at the Holy Cross Health Center in Germantown. Due to your funding, more patients had access and completed the course of their fluoride and varnish treatments.

Thank you for your consideration of this new funding opportunity and we look forward to hearing your response to this letter.

With warm regards,



Wendy Friar, RN, MS
Chief Development Officer
301-943-4288
Wendy.Friar@holycrosshealth.org



Eric Miller
Senior Development Specialist
301-754-7101
Eric.Miller@holycrosshealth.org