



NEWSLETTER

“You mean I get to keep coming back?”

"My experience has been nothing short of humbling. One interaction with a new patient stood out to me. He had recently lost his apartment and health insurance and he was trying to figure out how to get his medications. We connected him with our social worker who qualified him for services. I brought his prescriptions out to him through our curbside delivery.



He was grateful from the start, saying how much he appreciated what we were doing for him and for other people like him. I then told him that we had set up another appointment for him to return to get refills of his prescriptions. He looked at me and said, “You mean I get

to keep coming back?” In his mind, 30 days was all he was going to get, and he would have to figure out the rest on his own. I could tell that a huge burden was lifted off his shoulders. Stories like these are what makes the work here so rewarding. The Charitable Pharmacy is a place that helps individuals get the medical care that they need."

- Brooke Maletic,
Advanced Practice Intern, OSU College of Pharmacy

Access to medication is critical, especially now.

Make your gift at www.charitablepharmacy.org/donate

Pharmacy remains resilient with historic gift

The Charitable Pharmacy of Central Ohio received nearly \$250,000 of 2020 CARES Act funding through the City of Columbus and Franklin County Resilience Initiative.

“The City and Franklin County have been with us from the beginning. We would not be celebrating our 10th Anniversary without their support,” Executive Director Jennifer Seifert said. “This gift is the largest the pharmacy has ever received and could not have come at a more critical time. It will get us through our immediate financial concerns.”

Board of Directors

Rev. Cyndy Garn
President
Worthington United Methodist Church

Rev. James Donnan
Secretary
Livingston United Methodist Church

Chamese Jarrett, CPA, MSA
Treasurer
Trinity Health

Jerry Friedman
The Ohio State University
Wexner Medical Center (retired)

Jay Godfrey
American Electric Power

Rev. Greg Henneman
Community Development for All People

Sarah Hudson-DiSalle, PharmD, RPh
The Ohio State University
Wexner Medical Center

Steve Lawrence
Cardinal Health

Charles F. McCluskey III, PharmD., MBA, BCPS
OhioHealth

Brian Pierson, RN, EMT-B
Mount Carmel Health System

Rev. Deanna Stickley-Miner
West Ohio Conference,
United Methodist Church

“We introduced curbside pickup and a prescription mailing service in early March and moved to 60-day fills as opposed to our usual 30-day fills to help our patients shelter safely at home. Those first few weeks saw a 30% increase in the number of patients and an astronomical 332% increase in the value of medications dispensed.”

Funding will be used to cover staff salaries, medication, and equipment through November.

“I don’t think there’s a nonprofit anywhere that can predict what 2021 will look like,” Seifert said, “but we’re fortunate to live in Columbus, and we appreciate all of our supporters who have stuck with us during the pandemic. Thanks to them, our medically underserved residents will get the medication they need regardless of their ability to pay.”

Farmacy in the City program aims to improve heart health

The Charitable Pharmacy’s innovation and commitment to improve the heart health of Franklin County residents was recognized with a grant from the AstraZeneca HealthCare Foundation’s Connections for Cardiovascular HealthSM Next Generation program. The grant will fund *Farmacy in the City*: Cardiovascular Care at a Co-located Pharmacy and Fresh Market program. The program launched at the Livingston Avenue site this month and will transition to the second location in South Linden in Spring 2021.

“As a pharmacist, I know that cardiovascular health can be improved by incorporating a better diet as a complement to a well-managed prescription medication regimen,” Jennifer Seifert, executive director of the Charitable Pharmacy said. “We are excited to co-locate a second pharmacy with a fresh market to emphasize ‘food as medicine’.”

The program will help patients with cardiovascular disease, obesity, or hypertension to lose weight, reduce blood pressure, and optimize their medication regimen by pairing healthy food (fresh produce) with pharmacy care.



Charitable Pharmacy obtains Insulin at no cost for some patients



At approximately \$400 per vial, insulin is a high-cost medication. Many of our patients living with diabetes use two vials, for a total cost of \$800 a month. For the majority who make do with a monthly income of \$1,200, \$800 is simply too much.

This same financial barrier has long been a challenge for the Charitable Pharmacy. While the pharmacy benefits from donations of medication from a number of distributors, obtaining insulin has always been a challenge ... until now.

September brought long-awaited and welcome news. Through our partnerships with our distributors, we are now able to access insulin products at no cost for any county resident without prescription coverage and a household income at or below 200% of the federal poverty level. We will still need to purchase medication for our patients who are under-insured (approximately 30%), but a great burden has been lifted.