Our Mission
Baptist Health Foundation of San Antonio is committed to improving the health of our community by fostering and funding clinical, educational, spiritual and scientific initiatives while honoring God and our Baptist heritage.

Our Vision
Baptist Health Foundation of San Antonio is one of the Lord’s conduits to provide spiritual and healthcare services to His people and be a reflection of His presence in the community.

Who We Are
The Baptist Health Foundation of San Antonio was incorporated in 2004 to distribute grants annually to not-for-profit organizations which provide healthcare services and health education throughout Bexar County and contiguous counties in South Texas.

San Antonio Police Department’s Mental Health Detail Honored with Spirit of Health Award

San Antonio Police Department’s Mental Health Detail Honored with Spirit of Health Award

Landmark Grants Awarded to CentroMed and ChildSafe

Creative Giving Option: IRA Charitable Rollover

$2 Million in Scholarships Dedicated to Support Healthcare Career Dreams for Economically Disadvantaged Students

About Us

Connect with us!

Everything comes from you, and we have given you only what comes from your hand.

1 Chronicles 29:14
More than 100,000 people have been diverted away from jail or emergency rooms thanks to the work of the San Antonio Police Department’s Mental Health Detail and its Crisis Intervention Training program. The program has reduced the need to use force and instead has helped to connect people with the mental health services they need.

For their innovative work in helping San Antonio residents get mental health help, SAPD’s Mental Health Detail is the 2017 Baptist Health Foundation’s Spirit of Health award recipient.

The mental health detail is made up of officers who are specially trained to recognize and handle mental health calls, said San Antonio Police Sgt. Bart Vasquez. The department provides 40 hours of crisis management training.

“The 10 individuals, the 10 officers, are truly deserving of this award,” Vasquez said. “These 10 officers are some of the most caring officers I have met in my time with the police department, when it comes to individual mental illness.”

“These 10 officers are some of the most caring officers I have met in my time with the police department...”

— Sergeant Bart Vasquez

Vasquez said the unit takes its work home with them. “At night, they are taking calls when they’re off. They’re advising families with where to take their loved ones and where to get help and treatment. These 10 officers truly are the best of the department.”

Each year BHFSA honors a person or organization that has contributed to improving community health. SAPD’s Mental Health Detail exemplifies that spirit and has helped thousands of people in the San Antonio community.

Previous recipients of the Spirit of Health Award include CentroMed Founder Dr. Ernesto Gomez; Lindsey Painter, a teacher in New Braunfels who donated a kidney to one of her students; Fernando Guerra, M.D., former Director of Health for the San Antonio Metropolitan Health District; George Gaston, Ph.D., retired Vice President of Mission and Ministry for Baptist Health System; and Jim Potyka, M.D., a former Baptist Health System Emergency Department Physician.

Tenet Healthcare Foundation and Baptist Health System (BHS) announced a $2 million scholarship program that will help make a higher education accessible for economically disadvantaged high school graduates in our community who want to pursue a career in healthcare.

As a part of BHFSA’s traditional scholarship program (initiated in 2005), this new initiative is being managed by and funded with a $1,076,000 grant from BHS. A generous gift of $1,000,000 to be paid over the next five years is being given to the scholarship program from the Tenet Healthcare Foundation, part of Tenet Healthcare, the parent company of BHS.

The need-based scholarships will go to students enrolled in health-related academic programs at the Bachelor’s degree level and below. Priority will be given to graduates from six school districts: Edgewood, Harlandale, San Antonio, South San Antonio, Southside, and Southwest. After being awarded to students in the six school districts, remaining funds will be awarded to graduates from other San Antonio area school districts. Scholarship dollars will be given to 12 universities and colleges in the San Antonio area that have health-related academic programs such as Nursing, Pharmacology, Social Work, Psychology, Nutrition, Dental, Medical, Counseling, Therapeutic Care, Hospital Administration, and EMT. Scholarships will also be awarded to students enrolled in post-baccalaureate health-related programs on the basis of need and merit.

In 2017, BHFSA awarded CentroMed a grant in the amount of $600,000 to help fund its new Indian Creek Clinic located on a 6-acre site at Ray Ellison Boulevard and Old Pearsall Road. That’s an area that the federal government, as well as the Metropolitan Health District, recognizes as medically underserved and in need of more health care professionals.

In 2017, ChildSafe received the third largest grant ever awarded by BHFSA in the amount of $479,850 to help fund its new $30 million Salado Creek campus for children and teens who have been neglected and abused. ChildSafe outgrew its previous 13,000-square-foot building because demand for its services increase each year. For example, the nonprofit served 1,408 clients in Fiscal Year 2015, an increase of 5 percent over the previous year. And in Fiscal Year 2016, client numbers climbed another 13 percent to 3,845. They also conducted 1,230 forensic interviews in 2015 and another 1,485 forensic interviews in 2016, a 21 percent increase.

If you have questions, need more information, or would like to expedite an IRA charitable rollover, please contact the Foundation Office at 210-735-9009 or email at info@bhfsa.org.

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