

COMPASSIONATE CARE

Raising funds for the special health needs of vulnerable patients



The Medicine Clinic and Compassionate Care Funds

A grandfather diagnosed with diabetes who speaks little English. A mother managing health problems as a survivor of domestic abuse. A father out of work and struggling with severe depression. For vulnerable members of the community and the family members who care for them, Abbott Northwestern provides comprehensive care and resources through the Medicine Clinic and Compassionate Care Funds.

The Medicine Clinic is a community-based primary care clinic across the street from Abbott Northwestern Hospital. Annually, the Medicine Clinic treats more than 1,500 people from a broad range of backgrounds. Many patients have chronic health conditions such as diabetes, high blood pressure, and severe and persistent mental health conditions that might otherwise go untreated. The Medicine Clinic strives to prevent major health crises before critical and emergency care is necessary. Further, the select group of physicians-in-training at the Medicine Clinic gain valuable skills in cultural competence, preparing future physicians to serve the diverse public health needs of our community.



Complementing the primary care services provided by the Medicine Clinic are Compassionate Care Funds, which provide assistance to patients who have the greatest financial need. Administered by the hospital's Social Services Department, Compassionate Care Funds help people with limited income receive care, access medication and afford accommodations so family members can stay nearby while their loved one is at Abbott Northwestern. Annually, more than \$350,000 is provided to patients and families for these purposes.

"I was feeling so bad, I was missing work. I feel so good now, it's a miracle. I can only say thank you and God bless, and keep doing the great job you are doing." – Grateful patient

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Allina Health 

ABBOTT NORTHWESTERN
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Advancing Excellence

Abbott Northwestern Hospital Foundation, with the generous support of the community, is raising funds for the Medicine Clinic and Compassionate Care Funds. Your gift will help the most vulnerable in our community access innovative and comprehensive health care.

Opportunities to support compassionate care at Abbott Northwestern

- **Patient assistance:** Many under- and uninsured members of our community cannot afford the cost of health care and ongoing treatment. For them, patient assistance helps cover the cost of direct care and prescriptions. Following through on a treatment plan prescribed by a physician is key to continued health and well-being, and these funds ensure that patients have the ability to take the necessary steps toward better health.
- **Patient supplies:** Often low-tech tools like blood pressure cuffs, weight scales and pill dispensers help people maintain good health. But for families on a limited budget, such items may be unaffordable. Funding for supplies allows patients to have access to these simple yet effective tools to help them maintain good health.
- **Community access and patient education:** With an eye toward public health and community engagement, the Medicine Clinic staff participates in outreach activities that promote health and well-being. Philanthropy supports efforts to educate the community on healthy lifestyle practices.
- **Patient-inspired research:** Medicine Clinic physicians engage in research that helps patients better manage chronic health conditions such as high blood pressure and diabetes. From studies that examine the use of blood pressure cuffs at home to exploring ways in which technology can encourage consistent blood sugar checks, research not only informs physician practice but ultimately improves patient health.

“The doctors at the Medicine Clinic not only helped me with my health, they were very kind to me and provided a lot of emotional support.” – Grateful patient

Philanthropic support advances the mission of Allina Health and Abbott Northwestern to restore health, prevent illness and provide comfort. By strengthening the ability of the Medicine Clinic to deliver compassionate care and support the whole person, you ensure that this community resource continues to be a dynamic place of healing and innovation for all patients and their families.

To learn more about the Medicine Clinic and Compassionate Care Funds and how you can help, please contact the Abbott Northwestern Hospital Foundation at **612-863-4126**.