



## COMMUNITY CRISIS RESPONSE FUND

*"We walk into the crisis to care for our most vulnerable. The whole team works in overdrive to keep the hospital a safe place for everyone—patients and staff alike."*

Dr. Kathleen Jordan, MD, Infectious Disease Specialist  
and Saint Francis Memorial Hospital Chief Medical Officer

### OVERVIEW

**The Saint Francis Foundation seeks philanthropic leaders to create the Community Crisis Response Fund** in support of **Saint Francis Memorial Hospital** which has always cared for San Francisco community members during critical times.

The role of the Community Crisis Response Fund is to be a dedicated, reliable financial resource and support to the Hospital and community members during times of intense difficulty, trouble, or danger. This can include a crisis due to infectious disease, victims of natural disasters or violence, and general support of on-going critical and emergency care.

Areas of community crisis that Saint Francis Foundation has funded in the past include: the HIV epidemic, victims of earthquakes, emergency department, Bothin Burn Center, mental health and substance use disorder needs.

### ABOUT SAINT FRANCIS

**Saint Francis Memorial Hospital saves and rebuilds lives.**

Saint Francis Memorial Hospital is your community hospital. We serve downtown San Francisco, Nob Hill, the Tenderloin, Chinatown, Russian Hill, North Beach, and the surrounding neighborhoods.

Saint Francis Memorial Hospital has been a fearless, first responder to the City's health crises for more than 100 years. From the 1906 earthquake to a devastating AIDS epidemic in the 1980s and today's opioid overdoses and other mental health and substance use disorders – we have always stepped up as the City's hospital.

Saint Francis never turns anyone in need away. With COVID-19, we once again, find ourselves in that critical leadership position as San Francisco prepares itself to meet the COVID-19 challenge. **Saint Francis is San Francisco's first COVID-19 dedicated treatment unit providing 48 additional hospital beds.**

The most vulnerable in our community are often the ones most at risk. These individuals often have limited to no financial or material resources; they are generally marginalized in society and are at great risk for infectious disease outbreak. These individuals are very often our patients.

### CRISIS RESPONSE FUND DETAILS

The Community Crisis Response Fund is essential to our ability to respond immediately to community health needs in times of intense difficulty, trouble, or danger.

The fund will:

- Enable funds to be designated solely to community crisis response.
- Be a primary mainstay for disaster preparedness and response.
- Can be designated for specific urgent needs as they arise, such as: emergency department, COVID-19 response, Bothin Burn Center, substance use disorder, mental health, staffing increases and relief needs, and hospital infrastructure support, supplies, and equipment needed during crisis.
- Provides ability for immediate response / release of funds dedicated to crisis.
- Be used during emergency declarations by municipal, state or federal governments or agencies.
- Ensure grants will be made through an expedited approval process and in alignment with foundation grantmaking policies.
- Follow current grant and investment oversight policies.

## **CURRENT NEED**

Our current funding needs are for the COVID-19 pandemic, including:

1. SFMH COVID19 Triage Center Fund of \$250,000.00 to cover supplemental services and supplies not covered by operating cash flow or Common Spirit.
2. Hospital staff Emergency Relief Fund of \$250,000.00 to support extraordinary expenses due to crisis (e.g. childcare, senior care, etc.). These will be needs-based.

As governments, businesses, and individual community members face the COVID-19 pandemic, our needs at Saint Francis are greater than ever.

- Our infection control team needs equipment and personnel to increase safety.
- Clinicians urgently need increased access to trial treatment for patients.
- The hospital needs flexibility and resources to rapidly respond to changes in staffing to serve a higher volume of patients.

## **THE CASE FOR DEDICATED CRISIS RESPONSE FUNDING**

- Even with the most careful planning and preparedness communities can be overwhelmed quickly by large-scale health and humanitarian crises.
- Zero-based budgeting and careful management of (margins/costs) don't usually allow for much contingency planning and stockpiling of resources.
- Disasters and pandemics are unpredictable and can happen outside traditional grant making cycles and every minute spent on bureaucracy and routine approvals allows these unexpected events to gain the upper hand.

## SAINT FRANCIS FACTS AND NUMBERS IN RESPONSE TO COMMUNITY CRISIS

- Since 1905, surviving two world wars and major earthquakes.
- San Francisco first responder to HIV/AIDS care and research.
- Primary Northwest hub for victims of fire: largest and most advanced burn center in Northern CA, the Northwestern U.S., seeing more than 3,000 patients annually, many of whom many are children and seniors.
- Busiest Emergency Department for ambulance traffic in San Francisco, 2nd busiest overall with approximately 45,000 patients treated per year.
- San Francisco's largest inpatient adult behavioral health unit with 1,200 patients per year.
- Hospital leader in providing funding support to community charity care, far outpacing most other large hospitals in San Francisco.
- First COVID-19 Critical Care Unit in San Francisco.



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