

St. Joseph Community Partnership Fund

OUR STRATEGIC SYSTEM-WIDE PRIORITY AREAS OF FOCUS



Housing Instability and Homelessness

- Convene multi-sector partners to create, support, and fund key partnerships related to housing instability and homelessness
- Further initiatives such as the *Fund's Emergency Food & Shelter* program, deploying \$1 million annually to nonprofits engaged in direct service support to those experiencing homelessness and hunger



Disaster Response

Response, Rebuilding, Resilience, Preparation; the Fund works to bolster the efforts of nonprofits on the front line of relief and remains engaged with supportive and strategic investments as the region works its way through recovery



Education

- Sponsor innovative strategies supporting education as a core determinant of health
- Support, develop, and strengthen leaders within communities by addressing barriers based on social inequity



Capacity Building

Partner with and provide resources to strengthen and enhance our non-profit partners; through core operating grants, technical assistance, investment loans, and strategic partnerships, the Fund invests in the nonprofits that serve the health needs of their communities



The St. Joseph Community Partnership Fund serves as the catalytic community wellness investment arm of Providence St. Joseph Health.

We envision communities where all people live with optimum health and wellness. The St. Joseph Community Partnership Fund (“The Fund”) is a bridge between our legacy as a Catholic health system and our future as a dynamic health partner in our communities. We continue to seek proactive ways to support our communities, our caregivers, and our most vulnerable throughout our system towards the achievement of health equity.

Defining who we are as we grow with PSJH. In 1986, St. Joseph Health (SJH) worked to further its commitment to the poor by creating a plan to transcend traditional efforts of providing care for those in need. The Fund was created as a result of that plan, designed to work in partnership with each region to improve the health of low-income individuals residing in local communities. The Fund is an independent, 501(c)(3) private foundation that exists to support SJH, and works under the governance of a board that is comprised of Providence St. Joseph Health executives and community experts/leaders.

Today, the Fund is embracing an exciting opportunity – bringing the work of the Fund to the entire system of PSJH. In partnership with key stakeholders and regional leadership, the Fund will be planning how to scale this community strengthening model to new locations, bringing the legacy of the Sisters of St. Joseph of Orange into more than 50 communities throughout our health system. The Fund can more fully realize our Mission and achieve greater impact with modernization and growth. Scaling the Fund allows PSJH to create a predictable funding commitment for key strategic priorities such as housing instability & homelessness best addressed as a system. Regional and system priorities will be aligned to ensure collective impact, and these investments position us to provide proactive and sustainable change in our communities.

We help communities view challenges from a wider angle, and a different perspective. Rather than directing our investments into singular programs that may serve as temporary fixes to a crisis, we focus on approaches resulting in positive long-term impact. The Fund takes a community approach in order to intentionally invest toward solving the ROOT problem. For example, instead of investing in programs that build housing, we search for the source of the lack of housing and fund the areas of inequity that are causing the housing shortage. We fund holistic **approaches** rather than siloed **projects**.

This approach affirms our commitment to working upstream with the poor and the vulnerable. The term ‘upstream’ has become so common in our language that people have almost forgotten what it means. We aspire to recapture the power of proactivity, and dive deeper to focus on the conditions of the community that **foster resilience and make a profound change at the preventative level**.

“Within traditional health environments, we can help people think differently, more from a socio viewpoint than from a medical one. Let’s say we meet with hospital staff from multiple ER rooms within a given community, and each is experiencing high levels of patients with gunshot wounds. We aren’t going to look at funding programs for more doctors with experience in potentially lethal wounds, we are going to ask the critical questions around WHY this community has the crisis, and then think strategically about the environment where the gunshots are happening. We will engage with our advocacy and population health sectors to research social determinants within that space, and find the organizations with the best collective solution approaches to help these communities rise above their crisis.”

- Gabriela Robles

Chief Executive, Community Partnership Fund

LEADERSHIP

- **Gabriela Robles,**
Chief Executive, St. Joseph Community Partnership Fund
- **Jason Lacsamana,**
Senior Program Officer, St. Joseph Community Partnership Fund
- **Alisa Barrios,**
Grants Manager, St. Joseph Community Partnership Fund
- **Christine Bui,**
System Director, Finance, PSJH
- **Jim Watson,**
Deputy General Counsel, PSJH

