

KANSAS CITY

# MEDICAL SOCIETY FOUNDATION

CHARITABLE CARE, EDUCATION, PREVENTION & WELLNESS

## Improving Access to Care and Advancing Health Equity in Kansas City

The Kansas City Medical Society Foundation is the charitable arm of the Kansas City Medical Society. A 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization, we are dedicated to improving access to medical care along with advancing the overall wellness of people across greater Kansas City. To address the needs the underserved, we operate the Wy Jo Care and Metro Care charitable care programs that deliver over \$8 million worth of donated specialty care to uninsured patients each year. In addition, we carry out health equity initiatives working to increase wellness and well-being, especially among vulnerable populations.

### Coordinating Charitable Care for the Uninsured

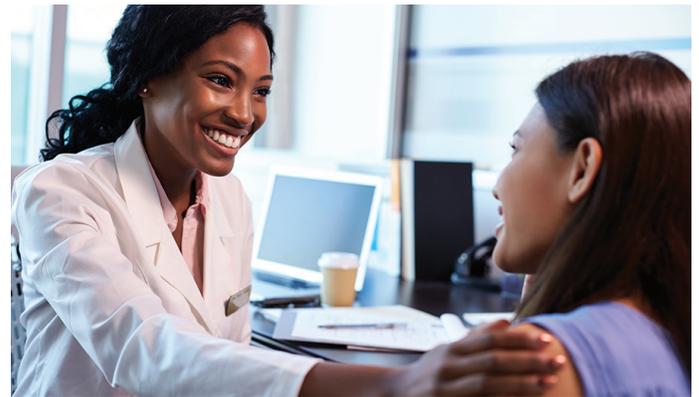
Too many people in our Kansas City community delay or go without needed care, or take on burdensome debt because they don't have health insurance. More than 1 in 10 residents—189,720—of the five core counties of the Kansas City metropolitan area were uninsured in 2016. The uninsured are less likely to receive recommended care for chronic conditions such as diabetes, cardiovascular disease, cancer and mobility difficulties—damaging their long-term health and quality of life.



**“It is important to have a local program for people who do not have the means for medical care. ... I am grateful to give back to the community as a provider for WyJo Care.”**

—Bruce B. Snider, MD

Through our charitable care programs—Wy Jo Care in Kansas and Metro Care in Missouri—the KCMS Foundation works to make specialty care available to uninsured, low-income patients at no cost. Thanks to the generosity of hundreds of specialty physicians along with area hospitals and allied health services, patients receive the care they need. They can get their lives back to normal and resume being contributing members of society.



Patients are referred to our programs by 27 safety net clinics around the region where they receive low-cost primary care. KCMS Foundation staff work with safety net clinics in referring patients and ensuring they meet program criteria. Staff also coordinate the delivery of care by the donating physicians, hospitals and others, supporting the patient through each step of the process.

**“I want to thank the Wy Jo Care program and staff from El Centro for having supported me for my surgery on my right knee, helping me cover the cost of the surgery and medicine. I give thanks to the surgeon and his team; may God bless you and shower you with blessings.”**

—Oscar, former Wy Jo Care patient

**METRO CARE**  
**WYJOCARE**  
VOLUNTEER DOCTORS FROM KCMS

**WY JO CARE  
AND METRO CARE  
2019 HIGHLIGHTS**

- › 797 uninsured, low-income individuals served
- › 2,913 medical services delivered at no cost to the patient
- › More than \$8 million in donated care provided
- › Over 10,000 patients treated and able to return to work since 2006

## Promoting Community Health and Health Equity

More than 65% of greater Kansas City residents are overweight or obese. These chronic conditions are especially prevalent among African Americans. The KCMS Foundation works to improve health equity along with community health and well-being by:

- › **Advancing access to care through Medicaid expansion.**  
The KCMS Foundation supports advocacy efforts for KanCare expansion in the Kansas Legislature and has endorsed the campaign to place Medicaid expansion on the November 2020 Missouri ballot.
- › **Supporting community health education volunteers.**  
Members of the KCMS Retired Physicians Organization give free health education presentations to community groups and mentor Kansas City-area medical students and residents.
- › **Building a diverse medical workforce.**  
The KCMS Foundation leads a Wyandotte County coalition working to develop an education-to-employment pipeline for multilingual, multicultural health professionals.
- › **Promoting wellness and prevention.**  
A physician-led committee is working to address key health issues across the community through education and advocacy. Priorities include diabetes and lifestyle medicine, smoking and vaping, immunization and health equity.



Members of the KCMS Retired Physicians Organization gather at a recent meeting of their board.



**“It is a privilege to work with the generous physicians of Kansas City so that members of our community without the means to pay for their care receive the health care they need with dignity.”**

– Sheila McGreevy, MD

## Accountability

The KCMS Foundation is recognized by the Greater Kansas City Community Foundation with its “Reviewed” designation, demonstrating that the Foundation meets quality standards for governance, finances and transparency.



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