



Coming Together While Socially Distanced



A Special Message from HealthWell Foundation President, Krista Zodet

When I last wrote to you in December 2019, I never would have imagined that our world would be turned upside down just a few short months later. As we all face very real fears and anxieties over the COVID-19 public health crisis, one thing is for sure – distancing does not mean disconnecting. In fact, each day we are apart seems to bring us all closer together. We're all on the same mission – to do all we can to keep ourselves and those around us safe and healthy. We're teaming together as a society and looking out for each other – assisting those in need.

Our nation's strength has been abundantly apparent over the past several weeks since social distancing has become a daily part of our lives and of the lives of those we serve. On behalf of our Board of Directors, myself and my dedicated corporate and contact center teams, thank you for making your safety and the

safety and well-being of those around you your number one priority. We'd also like to thank our first responders and health care workers who are on the front lines not only during the pandemic, but every day. Our thoughts and prayers continue to go out to those who have been affected by COVID-19 and the HealthWell Team stands ready to continue assisting those in need during this unsettling time.

Later in this edition, I'll share information regarding our new COVID-19 Ancillary Costs Fund, valuable resources from our alliance partners and government agencies, and updates on our 2019 results and 2020 progress, so I hope you'll continue to read.

Fund Updates and Initiatives

The HealthWell Team is always looking for new ways to assist those in need. Amid this public health crisis, we remained steadfast in our mission to reduce financial barriers to care for America's underinsured.

On March 17, we were honored to launch our [COVID-19 Ancillary Costs Fund](#) to assist individuals who are at risk or have been quarantined due to COVID-19. Through this HealthWell-sponsored fund, we will provide up to \$250 in financial assistance for a 12-month grant period to eligible patients who have annual household incomes up to 500 percent of the federal poverty level. Grants awarded through the fund will provide reimbursement assistance for delivered food and medication, transportation costs to manage COVID-

19, drive-thru coronavirus testing, delivery of coronavirus test kits and future COVID-19 treatments. In addition, eligible copayment and incidental costs associated with tele-health treatments and diagnostics related to COVID-19 will also be covered under the fund. To learn more about the fund or how you can support this special initiative, visit us at www.HealthWellFoundation.org.

I'd like to take this opportunity to thank our friends at [Homes for Heroes](#) for their generous \$25,000 donation to the fund. Thank you for helping us in our efforts to ensure that those who have been affected by COVID-19 do not have to forgo lifesaving necessities due to cost. Thank you also for the life-changing work you do every day to assist those in need.

During the first quarter, we were excited to open a fund to assist individuals living with Cushing's Disease. Through the fund, HealthWell will provide up to \$10,000 in financial assistance to cover copayment or premium costs for patients living with the disease. Grants are awarded for a 12-month period to eligible patients living with Cushing's Disease, or Cushing's Syndrome, who have annual household incomes up to 500 percent of the federal poverty level. To learn more, visit the [Cushing's Disease Fund](#) page.

In addition, we recently launched a fund to provide copayment and premium assistance to Medicare patients living with [Small Cell Lung Cancer \(SCLC\)](#). Under the fund, HealthWell will provide up to \$8,000 in financial assistance for a 12-month grant period to eligible patients who have annual household incomes up to 500 percent of the federal poverty level. Thank you to our valued alliance partner, LUNGeivity, for helping us share the news about the fund and for the lifesaving work you

do for the lung cancer community. To learn more about LUNGevity, visit: www.LUNGevity.org.

Remember to check our [Disease Funds](#) page regularly for real-time information for all of our funds.

Please know that while the team is working remotely, rest assured there is no change in operations and all active grants will remain active. In order to maximize our agents' ability to answer calls, we ask that providers and pharmacies continue to use the dedicated [portals](#) through our website. This will allow patients the opportunity to speak directly with a HealthWell representative with as little wait time as possible.

Alliance Partners

In our continued efforts to reach the patients who need us the most, we partner with national patient support and advocacy organizations to help us spread the word about our Funds, including our COVID-19 Fund, and share resources to assist those in need. We'd like to say a special Thank You to: the [Anxiety and Depression Association of America](#), [Mental Health America](#), [Homes for Heroes](#), and to many others for the life-changing work you do and for your help in spreading the word about HealthWell. I hope you'll take the time to check out these valuable resources and to learn more about the amazing work they do. Here are a few additional resources we thought you might find helpful:

- [Centers for Disease Control and Prevention](#)

- [National Institutes of Health](#)
- [World Health Organization](#)

I'd like to share a special thank you to our newest alliance partner, Hormone Health Network (HHN), for helping us spread the word about the Cushing's Disease Fund and for the wonderful work they do to positively impact the health and well-being of patients by moving them from educated to engaged, and from informed to active partners in their own health care. To learn more about HHN, visit: <https://www.hormone.org/>.

Foundation Updates

My heart is filled with gratitude for our continued growth and the ability to assist the tens of thousands of underinsured patients who turn to us every year. In 2019, our tremendous growth would not have been possible without the gracious contributions of our individual and corporate donors. As a result of their selfless generosity, continued commitment and trust, HealthWell received more than \$480* million in individual and corporate donations, which allowed us to broaden our funds across a variety of disease areas and increase the number of patients we were able to assist through our programs.

We assisted more than 150,000 patients in 2019 – over 32,000 more patients than in 2018. Since awarding our first grant in 2004, HealthWell has been able to help over 500,000 underinsured patients by awarding more than \$1.67 billion in

financial assistance. Thank you to our dedicated donors who continue to place their trust in the HealthWell Foundation and support our mission to reduce financial barriers to care for underinsured patients with chronic or life-altering diseases. We continue to set new records year-over-year and look forward to serving even more patients in 2020! For more information about our achievements, including open funds and program enhancements, visit our [2019 Year in Review](#).

Our first quarter of 2020 has been very busy. Over the past several weeks, the team has worked tirelessly to ensure that the Foundation maintains social distancing protocols during the COVID-19 crisis, as advocated by public health experts. I'm proud to say that our corporate and contact center teams are all working remotely, and we continue to help patients across all of our open funds during this time. While we were able to set the wheels in motion very quickly, I'd like to thank my entire team for their miraculous efforts to continue our life-changing work without missing a beat! I'm truly humbled by your dedication and commitment.

As mentioned in the last edition, the team had planned to increase its presence at industry and disease-specific conferences during 2020. Unfortunately, but understandably, many of the conferences have been postponed or cancelled due to the COVID-19 pandemic. While we are truly saddened by this news, we applaud those organizations for their decisions and stand ready to resume participation and travel to the rescheduled events later this year. I'll have updates to share on this front in the next edition.

* Unaudited

Meet the Team

As the need for our services continues to grow, so does the need to grow our team. It's heartwarming to watch our Foundation family expand and to know that we can do even more to assist those in need. Over the past few months, we welcomed five new members to our corporate team who share our passion to help underinsured Americans access life-changing, often lifesaving, medical treatments. I hope you'll take a few minutes to meet our newest members of the team!



Chelsea Lindgrel

Digital Strategist



Erica Mata

Project Manager



Sarina Robbins

Development Support
Manager



Brian Katz

Manager, Development and
Individual Giving



Sabrina Howard

Office Assistant

[Learn more about the HealthWell team →](#)

Making a Difference

During this COVID-19 pandemic, the HealthWell Team wishes all of you safety and good health. We are all looking forward to brighter days and gatherings with family and friends. Through the difficult days ahead, we hope that you will remember to reach out to friends and loved ones to let them know you are thinking of them. We also hope that if you are able to help us provide assistance to those affected by COVID-19, that you will consider the HealthWell Foundation worthy through a donation of any amount to our [COVID-19 Ancillary Costs Fund](#). As always, 100% of your donated dollar goes directly to patient grants and services AND your donation is put to work immediately to assist patients who have nowhere else to turn.

Can't make a financial contribution? You can help spread the word about our COVID-19 fund and the life-changing work we do. Connect with us through our social communities!



Thanks and Inspiration

“Thank You! Those words pale in significance when I think of all the ways in which you positively impact my life.

Yes, I have Medicare but, after fighting Multiple Sclerosis (MS)

for 40+ years, I need the financial assistance you alone offer to continue my infusions. Recent MRI's confirm the treatments are lessening the appearance of new lesions, but the cost is unaffordable. Your organization has enabled me to continue to live independently and well.

Now, I am even more challenged as my neurologist told me to postpone my infusion until the pandemic lessens its grip on the world.

So, I have a chronic disease – MS – and the treatments are financially prohibitive. The HealthWell Foundation is helping me pay for the treatments. The treatments are working – hooray! Now, a pandemic limits my access to the needed treatments.

No one can erase COVID-19 from our lives, but the work you do, and the people you help, offer strong testimony to the final outcome which will be good triumphs. Thank You!”

Janey G.

Montgomery, TX



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A nationally recognized, independent non-profit organization founded in 2003, the HealthWell Foundation has served as a safety net for more than 500,000 underinsured patients in more than 70 disease areas by providing access to life-changing medical treatments they otherwise would not be able to afford. For more information, visit www.HealthWellFoundation.org.

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