

House call primary care in D.C. helps elder adults age with dignity at home.

2025 Impact Report: Geriatrics at MedStar Washington Hospital Center

The support of donors and grants for D.C. Geriatrics and our House Call program makes it possible for us to help vulnerable elders and their families in Washington live with dignity in their own homes until the last day of life.

Our team provides access to superb primary and specialty care to ill and disabled elders who have suffered from a legacy of poverty and lack of health care services. Our team provides a top quality level of care to those who are often invisible in our community.

Thank you for your continued support!



- Eric De Jonge, MD

Director of Geriatrics,
MedStar Washington
Hospital Center

Director, MedStar D.C.
House Call Program

Meeting older patients where they are—and need us most.

With philanthropic support, the MedStar Health D.C. House Call Program—one of few practices in Washington, D.C., that offers access to medical care at home for Medicare patients—**grew by 15% in 2025.**



Thanks to your generosity, **more than 700 elders** have received home-based primary care from our team over the past year. We are staffed with three geriatricians, four nurse practitioners, three social workers, one nurse, and five office staff.

Donor support has allowed us to work and grow in a new Geriatrics Center space, recruit new staff, and expand our services in the face of major challenges from reduced Medicare payments.

Year in review: 2025 by the numbers



700

individual patients received house calls, with ongoing active census surpassing 575

5,000+

house calls conducted by our dedicated team

250

other patients seen by the Hospital Geriatrics Consult service

150

House Call patients served by our geriatricians while hospitalized, providing close continuity of care

40

residents and medical students received comprehensive geriatrics training, with an additional 80 attending our annual curriculum of 9 lectures

Impacting real lives

A 78-year-old woman in our House Call program was diagnosed with metastatic lung cancer. We ensured her comfort on house calls after she came home on hospice support. Unfortunately, her Medicaid home aide services were suddenly discontinued, and her only child was unable to provide 24/7 care. The patient was bedbound and confused in her final days of life.

Thanks to donor support, social worker Sade Clark was able to access the John A. Sargent Fund to put urgent home aide services in place as the patient was dying. She received close bedside care as a result of this emergency home support, dying peacefully soon after.

Donor gifts were essential to this outcome, supporting social work staffing, covering home health aides in a crisis, and ensuring she had peace and dignity in her final days.

Research that powers change

Launched in 2023, our team developed a Geriatrics Research Collaborative (GRC) with MedStar Health scientists at the Health Economics and Aging Research (HEAR) Institute. With your support, we have:

- **Conducted clinical studies** of our House Call program and family caregivers
- **Published five abstracts** with Georgetown University medical students and MedStar Washington Hospital Center medicine residents at regional and national meetings
- **Published four papers** in peer-reviewed journals

Donor support allowed us to sponsor a total of seven Georgetown medical students for research projects, support our PhD research colleagues, and engage researchers from Johns Hopkins and Harvard University to collaborate on outcomes projects.

Opportunities for support

The **John A. Sargent Fund** supports family caregivers with respite care, home modifications, and coverage of essential services. The Fund also bolsters staff wellbeing and professional development. **GRC research** supports outcomes study of our homebound patients and family caregivers.

Training tomorrow's leaders

A five-year grant from The Washington Home supports the annual mentorship of medical students and residents, helping us build a healthcare workforce for high-risk older adults. Our goal is to teach 20 medical students and 80 residents each year, building geriatrics skills and compassion that they can carry throughout their careers.



Your support makes this care possible.

We are grateful for the generosity of many individuals and foundations who support our mission. Donations support the daily work of our staff, who drive throughout the city to care for those most in need. Medicare does not cover the full costs of our team, travel time, and intensive efforts needed to care for elders until the last day of life. To learn more, contact Campbell Frank at **202-877-2725** or **campbell.l.frank@medstar.net**.



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It's how we treat people.



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