

HOPE LIVES HERE

The Donor Newsletter of Chase Brexton Health Care

"I Had COVID and Chase Brexton Took Care of Me"

At every turn during the pandemic, Chase Brexton has been there: fighting to keep our entire community—including our staff—safe, cared for, and informed. One employee shares how overcoming COVID—and making the decision to get vaccinated—was easier with Chase Brexton by their side.

Despite taking every possible precaution, I was diagnosed with COVID in December of 2020. No one from my limited circle was affected. I could only guess that I contracted it through a fluke. I was one of the lucky ones: my symptoms were mild. But it was still scary, especially when I learned that days 7-8 could be the worst. What would come? Chills, fever, achiness, shortness of breath, hospitalization?

What comforted my family and me during this time was Chase Brexton. Our Employee Health Nurse, Mary Stagg, an infectious disease specialist, would call me daily, monitor my symptoms, answer my questions, and alert me to what might come and how to handle it.

While all of this was happening, the vaccine was being released. I recall being apprehensive and leery. But thanks to Chase Brexton's providers, led by Dr. Sebastian Ruhs, our Chief Medical Officer and Director of our Infectious Diseases Center of Excellence, I learned about the efficacy of the vaccine. Our providers hosted frequent information sessions to teach us everything they knew about the history



Nurses Kimberly Cromwell (left) and Mary Stagg (right) were instrumental in coordinating our COVID preventative measures and vaccine roll-out.

of vaccine production, how vaccines are made, and how clinical trials are used to prove a vaccine's efficacy.

In addition, our Marketing Department, led by Director of Marketing and Communications Daniel McEvily, created clear, informative resources that taught me about the rigorous work done on this vaccine, and how it was comparable to other treatments that have become a trusted part of our lives. I particularly remember one infographic, which showed just how extensive the vaccine's clinical trials have been.

My family and I are forever grateful for the care that I received during my COVID diagnosis. But just as importantly, I am appreciative of Chase Brexton's commitment to sharing the facts about the vaccine and allowing me to make

my own choice. In the end, getting the vaccine was the right choice for me.

If I could give one piece of advice it would be to not let fear and misinformation stop you from protecting your health. **Learn the facts and get the vax.** Chase Brexton can help you make an informed choice, too.

Learn the Facts, Get the Vax

Visit ChaseBrexton.org/COVID-19-Vaccines for the latest vaccine information, including booster shot updates.



SAVE THE DATE!

Thanksgiving Food Drive

Through November 17 Contact Social Worker Andy Zipay at azipay@chasebrexton.org to arrange drop-off of your non-perishable goods.

#GivingTuesday

Tuesday, November 30
Honor the global day of giving by making a gift to Chase Brexton at ChaseBrexton.org/Giving-Tuesday-2021-Diabetes-Awareness.

World AIDS Day

Wednesday, December 1
To get involved, follow The POWER
Project, Chase Brexton's HIV screening,
testing, and prevention program, at
Facebook.com/CBHCPower.

SIX: A Royally Unique Gala

Saturday, May 14 See back cover for details, and get tickets at ChaseBrextonEvents.org.

Visit ChaseBrexton.org/Calendar for a complete calendar of events.

	CY2021*	CY2020
Columbia	\$8,400.00	\$9,123.12
Easton	\$0	\$0
Glen Burnie	\$5,860.00	\$7,544.68
Mt. Vernon	\$84,948.32	\$106,674.82
Randallstown	\$10,998.00	\$5,871.88
Total	\$110,206.32	\$129,214.50

An Update from Our President and CEO

In the beginning of the HIV/AIDS epidemic, almost nothing was known about the disease that was killing so many. Fear and blame were the dominant narratives. But Chase Brexton was different. We were one of the first—and, sadly, the few—to stand on the frontlines, caring for the sick and fighting to keep the community safe and informed.

So it's no surprise then that, 40 years later, Chase Brexton has faced down the COVID-19 virus with the same relentless courage. **Those values—choosing facts over fear, compassion over blame—are part of our DNA, and always will be.**

And just like HIV/AIDS—which we now have the power to control with medications like PrEP—COVID-19 is becoming more and more manageable thanks to the vaccines now available to us. As of September of this year, 82 percent of Chase Brexton employees were already vaccinated, and now—thanks to your support—we're working hard to achieve similar numbers in our communities through an educational outreach effort that rivals some of the largest healthcare systems. You can explore the incredible vaccine education library we've built at ChaseBrexton.org/COVID-19-Vaccines.

The fight is not over, but the foe is getting weaker, and it's because of people like you—our staff, our volunteers, our donors—people who understand that facts, compassion, and courage will always win the day.

Sincerely,

Patient F. Mutch

Patrick F. Mutch President & CEO

was Used

How and Where Your Donation

Mental Health: \$710.00

Utilities:

\$3,865,67

Since the start of 2021, your gifts to our Hope Lives Here program have helped more than 3,100 of Chase Brexton's most vulnerable patients get the care and wraparound services they need to take control of their health. Thank you for making a difference. Go to HopeLivesHereMaryland.org to learn more about the program or to renew your support today.

Hope Lives Here Report:

*CY2021 through August
Does not include
uncompensated care

Patient Nutrition:
\$60,425.00

Housing:
\$9,002.44

Specialist
Consultant:
\$15,058.15

Medical:
\$2,103.47

-Virtual AIDS WALK & MUSIC FESTIVAL Surpasses \$165,000 Fundraising Goal

Although COVID-19 added a virtual twist to the 2021 Baltimore AIDS Walk & Music Festival, it didn't dampen participants' philanthropic spirits.

The two-week-long event, which ended on June 5 with a livestreaming celebration, surpassed its \$165,000 fundraising goal, bringing in more than \$189,000 to support HIV testing, treatment, and prevention services for Chase Brexton and our community partners.

Chase Brexton's pharmacy delivery program was the primary focus of this year's fundraising efforts. The service, which is FREE to patients, delivers more than 10,000 prescriptions to patients' homes—at a cost of \$30,000 to Chase Brexton each month.

The service is not simply a convenience—it's also one of the most effective solutions for helping patients adhere to their treatment plans and, ultimately, take control of their health. Proceeds from the Baltimore AIDS Walk & Music Festival will enable Chase Brexton to deliver an additional 60,000 prescriptions to patients' doorsteps.

Thank you to our sponsors and the more than 270 participants who walked, ran, danced, and jumped for making this tremendous accomplishment possible.

Walk With Us in 2023!

Follow us at Facebook.com/AIDSWalkBaltimore to be the first to hear about the 2023 Baltimore AIDS Walk & Music Festival.

PRESENTING SPONSOR









GOLD SPONSORS



Donor Spotlight: Dana Rhone

Dana Rhone is a celebrated makeup artist with a passion for art—and HIV activism. We asked Dana to share why the Baltimore AIDS Walk & Music Festival is an event that he puts his heart (and soles) into.

"I have been HIV positive since 2011. The Baltimore AIDS Walk & Music Festival has always been an important reminder to stay strong and to be proud of who I am. Being HIV positive is nothing to be ashamed of, and I want to spread that pride across the world. I am a proud gay black man that has overcome the trauma of being a newly positive teen. I want young boys who have just become positive to know that you are worthy of a happy life, love, and success."



See Dana's Story

Go to BaltimoreAIDSWalk.org and click on the "Why We Walk" section under "Walk Information."

SAVE THE DATE. THE KING COMMANDS IT, AND THE KING ALWAYS GET HIS WAY. (OR DOES HE?)



FROM MONARCHY TO MUSICAL TO MARYLAND

SATURDAY, MAY 14

Inspired by the blockbuster Broadway musical SIX, Chase Brexton's signature biennial event has been dramatically reimagined to let you celebrate as you wish. Choose from one of six intimate house parties hosted by Chase Brexton's loyal and royal supporters, or stream the gala virtually from the comfort of your own home.

Get ready to make history at ChaseBrextonEvents.org.

Chase Brexton Board of Directors

We are grateful to our Board of Directors for their commitment to Chase Brexton:

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Easton, MD 21601

BALTIMORE COUNTY Randallstown Center

3510 Brenbrook Drive

Randallstown, MD 21133

HOWARD COUNTY

Columbia Center

5500 Knoll North Drive Suites 370 & 400

Columbia, MD 21045

Chase Brexton Health Care is also the provider of primary care services at Sheppard Pratt's Way Station, as well as the MICA Student Health Center.

OUR MISSION IS TO PROVIDE COMPASSIONATE, QUALITY HEALTH CARE THAT HONORS DIVERSITY, **INSPIRES WELLNESS & IMPROVES OUR COMMUNITIES.**