



The Franciscan Center

News Release

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CAREFIRST CONTINUES ITS SUPPORT FOR THE FRANCISCAN CENTER

For the second year in a row, CareFirst BlueCross BlueShield has made a substantial contribution to the Franciscan Center's Health Services Initiative. The recent \$30,000 donation will allow the Center to add podiatry care, nutrition education and other assistance to the health services currently offered.

The contribution to the Franciscan Center furthers CareFirst Commitment, the company's continuing initiative to increase the accessibility, affordability, safety and quality of health care. Karen Heyward-West, the Franciscan Center's Chief Executive Officer, explained, "CareFirst's support will allow us to provide essential emergency health services to our clients. The contribution enables us to do that much more for the underserved in the community."

The Franciscan Center is a comprehensive, nonprofit emergency outreach agency that offers help to the needy with dignity and respect. Its programs include a food pantry; a weekday hot lunch; medical screenings and treatment; HIV/AIDS outreach; emergency services; men's clothing distribution and a technology resource center.

Founded in 1968 by the Franciscan Sisters of Baltimore, the Center is certified by the Maryland Nonprofits Standards for Excellence. It serves the needy regardless of age, race, creed or national origin.

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