

Our History and Mission

The Mission of the SSM Health Foundation – St. Louis is rooted in a rich legacy of courage. For over 150 years, SSM Health has been helping those in need gain access to the highest quality of care — using the Franciscan Sisters of Mary as a guiding light to caring for the most vulnerable.

Today, the SSM Health Mission continues to guide us: ***Through our exceptional health care services, we reveal the healing presence of God.*** With shared courage for a common good, our health care providers, staff, donors, and volunteers are committed to providing highly advanced, compassionate care to patients and their families — in and outside of the walls of SSM Health.

The support we receive comes to life in many ways, from ensuring that SSM Health caregivers have access to and training in cutting-edge, lifesaving technologies to funding state-of-the-art facilities, patient-centered impact programs, and resources throughout the greater St. Louis region.

givetossmhealth.org

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From diagnosis to survivorship

In the past five years, our SSM Health hospitals have cared for more than 20,000 cancer patients, and every year, the number diagnosed continues to grow.

A cancer diagnosis is a heavy and difficult experience — and it's something nobody should have to go through alone. At SSM Health, **we focus on treating the whole patient, not just the disease.** This provides a comprehensive approach to care from initial diagnosis through survivorship.

Support from our benefactors allows us to continue to bring exceptional care for all who need it in the greater St. Louis region.

SSM Health medical professionals diagnose **3,000+ new cancer cases annually.**




SSMHealth[®]
Foundation
ST. LOUIS

The why: Comprehensive care saves lives

Gary came to SSM Health concerned about a lump in his neck. Doctors diagnosed him with stage 4 squamous cell carcinoma. Gary needed surgery immediately, and the team of specialists was concerned with both saving his life and preserving his speech and movement of his tongue.

The SSM Health team developed a plan for coordinated care, bringing in advanced care options including precision diagnostics, specialized surgical procedures, and the newest radiation therapies. In addition to quality health care, SSM Health made sure he had transportation to his radiation and physical therapy appointments, as well as nutritious food to aid his recovery. An SSM Health radiology nurse even worked with Gary's insurance company so his feeding tubes would be covered — taking one more worry off his mind.

The comprehensive and integrated care for Gary's body, mind, and soul aided him through treatment and recovery from his life-altering cancer diagnosis.

The need: Expanded services with enhanced efficiency and coordination

For Gary and the thousands of other cancer patients cared for by SSM Health, the likelihood of a cure and excellent quality of life has never been greater.

Thanks to new discoveries fueled by clinical research, treatments for cancer have become more targeted and precise, minimizing long-term impacts. In addition, comprehensive care therapies — such as the physical and verbal therapies Gary received during treatment — help improve the patient's overall well-being.

By centralizing our SSM Health Cancer Care programs, resources, and treatments, patients can focus more on their healing and less on the coordination of services. The benefits of integrated care can provide efficient, managed, and cohesive patient-centric care for all patients during their cancer journeys — from early diagnosis to survivorship.

The how: Centralized care is the future

Your gift could support SSM Health Cancer Care initiatives that provide access to care for all who need it, including:



Dedicated cancer care institute



Community-based research



Life-saving, patient-centered treatment programs



Innovative diagnostic machines and technology



Cutting-edge caregiver training



Clinical trials and precision medicine



In just one month, over **600** high-risk patients have been served with added advanced technology like the upright tomotherapy (3D) biopsy table at SSM Health St. Clare Hospital – Fenton.

Give today at givetossmhealth.org.

Generous support needed

