

HealthSET

JCAF Award Distribution 2018

HealthSET is a nonprofit organization that serves and empowers the low-income and frail elderly in the Denver metro area by providing vital nursing care, health education, and advocacy in order to transform and significantly improve the quality of their lives.

This year, the generous award from the Joint Senior Coalition Fund provided medical necessities to nearly 100 low-income individuals. These gifts help clients maintain their independence, reduce isolation, and navigate complicated health care systems.

Many older adults are at-risk for falls, which can result in injury, disability, even premature death. The JCAF award was used to purchase an anti-slip bath mat for one fall-prone client, as well as five rollator walkers. Many clients struggle to obtain a walker through their insurance or cannot afford to pay out-of-pocket.

Our clients live on a tight budget and often have no funds left at the end of the month. They utilize food banks and other care organizations when money is low, and therefore struggle to afford basic care items that can be expensive or just out of reach. We utilized the JCAF to purchase one month's worth of incontinence products for six individuals and one month's worth of Protein drinks for 18 individuals.

Older adults face barriers with their health insurance when needed durable medical equipment (DME) is not covered. HealthSET used the JCAF award to purchase five automatic blood pressure machines for clients that struggle with regulating their blood pressure, even when using medications, or trying diet changes or exercise. One client with heart disease noted "I don't know how I can say thank you enough for this." Another client said we brought "tears to her eyes" when she tried on one of five pocket talkers purchased, a hearing device for those who do not have the \$1,200 average cost for a traditional hearing aid.

One of the biggest barriers for older adults is transportation. HealthSET purchased 100-one way RTD vouchers in order to assist 50 individuals in getting to their medical appointments, pharmacies, or care in emergency medical situations.

Comfort care was offered to clients with chronic pain or swelling in the form of compression sleeves, compression stockings, and a back brace. The St. Anthony's Patient Assistance Fund was able to generously leverage the JCAF award by providing these items. HealthSET staff, clients, and volunteers continue to be thankful for the impact the Joint Senior Coalition has made in the lives of older adults in our community.

<https://www.centura.org/locations/healthset>