

# THE SPOTLIGHT

Spotlighting healthcare-related educational topics that matter to you

April 2024



The Patient Education and Empowerment Department creates resources that address a range of topics from medical debt to insurance access and disability benefits. The resources we produce are reflective of real-world experiences that meet the needs of the patients PAF serves.

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## Empowering Our Communities: Shining a Light on National Minority Health Month



In April, we recognize National Minority Health Month! It's a time to raise awareness about the health disparities faced by racial and ethnic minorities, as well as American Indian/Alaska Native communities.

This year's theme, "Be the Source for Better Health," focuses on understanding how factors called Social Determinants of Health (SDOH) impact our well-being. These are factors like background, culture, and access to resources in your community. Imagine how poverty, limited healthcare options, or lack of education can hinder a person's ability to get and stay healthy.

National Minority Health Month is a call to action for all of us. We can work together to bridge the gap in healthcare equity and ensure everyone has the opportunity to thrive.

For more info, visit the National Minority Health Month [website](#). And as always, our [Education Resource Library](#) provides information about where to find care, health insurance, managing medical bills, and more. It's easy to find and share

helpful resources with your community.

Patient Advocate Foundation is doing our part to help eliminate health disparities felt by some of our most vulnerable communities. Two major programs are our focused Case Management services and our Co-Pay Relief Funds. These initiatives target specific populations and places experiencing intense social and financial needs.

### PAF Health Equity Initiatives:

The **Health Equity Case Management Program** helps patients and their caregivers, living in the zip codes covered by the program, understand health insurance coverage options, address coverage issues, connect to resources that respond to the financial challenge of paying for care and cost of living expenses, and to access income replacement through disability enrollment support.

The **Health Equity Co-Pay Relief Funds** provide needed financial support to eligible patients living in the counties covered by the funds, which is verified using the zip code of the patient's home

address. All other eligibility requirements, and fund operations, are the same as our general funds.

### Coming Soon:

We have some very exciting health equity events coming up!

Our Ignite 2.0 Community Initiative will be expanding to Hampton Roads, Baltimore, Philadelphia, and Detroit. This initiative is designed to work with local community-based organizations to expand their capacity to address insurance and other social and financial barriers to care for women of color living with breast cancer or triple-negative breast cancer by increasing awareness of resources available through PAF.

Additionally, later this April, we will be standing up the Chicago Breast Cancer Disparities Thinktank in partnership with **Elevated Survivorship** to address environmental, social, and financial challenges impacting the breast health of Black women on Chicago's Southside.

Stay tuned to learn how we are trying to help make all health care equitable!