

God's Promise To Us and Through Us

Some of the most encouraging words in the Bible are when God promises: "When you go through deep waters and great trouble, I will be with you" (Isa. 43:2, TLB). This verse speaks to the inevitable truth that we will face challenges in our lives, but God lovingly commits to be with us always.

In fact, throughout the Bible, God offers a steadfast connection on a very personal level. Even when we might feel alone or vulnerable, we can remember God's vow. Things might get tough, but knowing that God also experiences loss, heartbreak, betrayal and pain can give us confidence that we can turn to God for strength and comfort every step of the way.

But the connection doesn't stop there. As healthcare workers, we are also by the side of our patients when they are faced with "great trouble." Accordingly, when we serve we become one of God's channels for providing healing and comfort. We are the tangible expression of God's promise as we live out our Mission to extend God's care through the ministry of physical, mental and spiritual healing.

What a blessing to be both blessed by God directly and to serve as a way for God to work through our hands to heal, comfort and support others! Strengthened by God's abiding love, we are then able to extend compassionate service to patients entrusted to our care, to their families and to our community. And as we know, being assured of heartfelt, high-quality care during life's most vulnerable moments can be a source of hope and lead to the best outcomes.

May you feel the deep well of love and strength promised to each of us that – no matter the challenges – a caring God is always present to help us and to help others through us.

Terry Forde
President and CEO
Adventist HealthCare



Adventist HealthCare Earns Top Honors for Social Responsibility and Racial Inclusivity

Adventist HealthCare's three acute-care hospitals were each honored on the Lown Institute's 2023–24 Hospitals Index of the country's most socially responsible hospitals. A national nonpartisan healthcare think tank, Lown analyzed over 3,600 hospitals in the nation to provide a holistic evaluation of hospital performance across health equity, value of care and patient outcomes to shed insight on which hospitals are exemplary community partners.

Adventist HealthCare White Oak Medical Center was named No. 1 in Maryland in three major metrics: Social Responsibility, Health Equity and Community Benefit. This impressive triple recognition is a testament to the hospital's unwavering commitment to serving the community in ways that earned top marks in inclusivity, clinical outcomes, patient safety, health equity, cost efficiency and community benefit. Of special note was the hospital's strong performance on financial assistance spending, service of Medicaid patients and investing in community health needs.

Adventist HealthCare Fort Washington Medical Center was named No. 1 in Maryland for Racial Inclusivity. Disparities in healthcare outcomes and access are well-documented in communities of color, including higher rates of chronic conditions, lower life expectancy and lower rates of private insurance. This honor shows Fort Washington Medical Center's commitment to serve more patients of color than expected – based on the demographics of their service area, including Medicare and Medicare Advantage claims and data from the U.S. Census Bureau.

Adventist HealthCare Shady Grove Medical Center was also honored with high marks for the hospital's investment in community health, cost efficiency and clinical outcomes.

Overall, Adventist HealthCare earned an "A" Grade in Social Responsibility, ranking in the top 10% of all health systems nationally. The system performed especially well in health equity, community benefit and inclusivity areas.

While most rankings just measure patient outcomes, the Lown Index looks at the full breadth of hospitals as care providers, employers and community partners. "When communities have access to socially responsible healthcare, our nation grows stronger," says Vikas Saini, M.D., president of the Lown Institute. "That's why it's so important to hold up these high-performing hospitals as examples for others to follow."