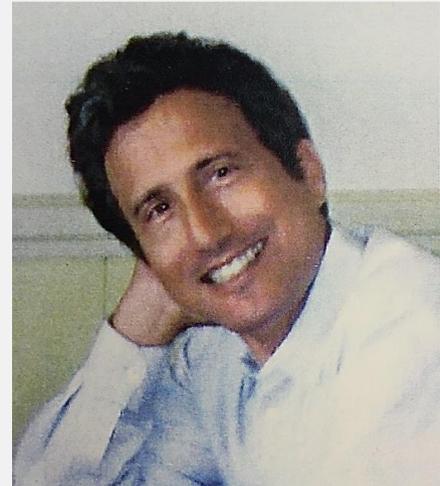


The Lee Weinstein Memorial Fund

2019 Annual Report

Introduction

The Lee Weinstein Memorial Fund was established in 2017 by Michael Berman in honor of his late partner Lee Weinstein at The Achievable Foundation (Achievable) - a nonprofit health center focusing on individuals with intellectual and developmental disabilities (I/DD). Lee worked for 32 years at the Westside Regional Center (WRC) in service of children and adults with I/DD. Lee served in several capacities at WRC ending his career as the Director of Client Services. Helping those in need was the essence of who Lee Weinstein was, whether it was marching with Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. in Chicago for housing rights for the poor, working with individuals with mental health challenges at Camarillo State Hospital, or in his role at WRC.



About the Lee Weinstein Memorial Fund

The Lee Weinstein Memorial Fund was created in Lee's spirit - to help vulnerable patients at Achievable, both with I/DD and without, who need a champion to help them navigate complex health care and social services systems. At Achievable, this role falls on the Patient Care Coordinator whose job is to work with patients that require extra guidance and assistance above and beyond the needs of the average Achievable patient. Achievable's Patient Care Coordinator engages in many critical activities that help ensure patients get access to adequate care including ensuring patients are getting to their appointments, following up on referrals to specialists, and advocating for patients with their insurance companies.

Snapshot of Patients Assisted in 2019 through the Lee Weinstein Memorial Fund

Access to Prenatal and Postnatal Care

One of the responsibilities of Achievable's Patient Care Coordinator is to help ensure that pregnant patients receive appropriate pre- and postnatal care. For some women pregnancy can be an overwhelming experience and often times getting this critical care can be a challenge. In 2019, Achievable's Patient Care Coordinator worked with approximately 40 high risk prenatal patients to ensure they received necessary care throughout their pregnancy journey. If a patient was not getting to their appointments or missing some element of their care, Achievable's Patient Care Coordinator helped to identify barriers preventing those patients from getting the care they needed, and helped facilitate solutions.



Assistance to Psychiatry Patients

Patients with psychiatric conditions are particularly fragile, but can thrive when they receive proper treatment. These patients often struggle with self-care, keeping appointments, and other aspects of their care plan, so care coordination is critical to ensuring that they receive the care they need. In 2019 Achievable's Patient Care Coordinator worked with just over 90 patients who were receiving psychiatry services. The Patient Care Coordinator checked to see if these patients were regularly visiting their doctor and reached out to those who weren't in order to ensure they received proper care. For patients struggling to keep their appointments, the Patient Care Coordinator helped address barriers and ensured these patients had the ability to see their doctor.

Referral Management

For some patients managing a disability or serious medical condition, the process of keeping appointments or following through with their doctor's prescribed care plan can seem insurmountable. One of the most important aspects of any care plan is to ensure that patients who are referred for specialty care by their specialist actually receive this care. Achievable's Patient Care Coordinator played a crucial role in helping patients with I/DD or serious medical conditions, like cancer, manage all aspects of their care plan. Achievable's Patient Care Coordinator provided referral coordination for 25 complex cases in 2019. For these individuals, our Patient Care Coordinator helped ensure they had a seamless experience with access to their specialist by helping to arrange transportation, scheduling appointments, ensuring clinical information was received by the specialist, and making certain that test results made it back to Achievable so that our doctors could decide on next steps.



Testimonial

Two years ago an elderly Achievable patient with Multiple sclerosis was in a serious car accident. Up until that time she scheduled regular physician visits and was able to care for herself without any assistance. The accident resulted in severe injuries and the patient learned she would live with paraplegia for the rest of her life. As a result she was no longer able to care for herself.

Suddenly, she found herself unable to make it to her doctor's appointments without assistance and she needed a higher level of health care on a variety of fronts. She required in-home physical and occupational therapy to recover from her accident and maintain a high quality of life given her new circumstances. She also required assistance making it to her numerous doctors' appointments. Unfortunately, receiving these services through her existing insurance proved to be extremely difficult.



When faced with the hurdle of obtaining her newly needed services, she turned to Achievable at the beginning of 2019. She shared her story with Achievable's patient care coordinator, Krystle Powell, who immediately began to work on improving the quality of this patient's care. There was a tremendous amount of red tape surrounding each issue. Finally, Achievable's staff determined that she needed new insurance and they worked to switch her. Krystle is now working with the patient's new insurance provider to get this patient the care she needs.