



Joseph Marino

Why are you a part of our I Give \$25 campaign? As a medical student and former employee of the Church Health Center, the mission of serving the uninsured and underinsured of Shelby County with affordable healthcare is something near to my heart. During my year as a Clinic Assistant, my perspective on healthcare changed dramatically for good. Helping the patients served by the Clinic brought me great joy and satisfaction. I began to see the health of body and spirit as one intertwined objective. I know that the ongoing work at the Church Health Center is not only desperately needed in the Memphis area, but it is improving our city, our families and our way of living. I want this work to be able to continue. That is why I am a member of the I Give \$25 campaign.

What do you think about I Give \$25 so far? I am very happy to be a part of the campaign. The administrative staff has made monthly online giving a very easy and convenient way for me to continue to support the work of the Church Health Center. This campaign makes supporting the Clinic accessible to all who would like to give, and as a whole, our small contributions collectively make a big difference.

What does it mean to you to be able to support the mission of the Church Health Center in this way? I have seen first-hand the great need of Memphians who walk through the doors of the Clinic with physical ailments and no access to care. Yet the staff of the Church Health Center has stood by these hard-working people to ensure that everything is done that needs to be done to bring hope and healing to their lives. Even though my studies prevent me from physically being in the Clinic to serve, this campaign allows me to contribute in a small way and know that others can now serve and be served. If we all give a little, great things can happen.

Would you tell your friends or loved ones about this campaign? Absolutely. No one knows what his or her future may bring. I know many people who have personally benefitted from the Church Health Center in a time of need. I know that if I were ever in a difficult place in my life and could not afford medical care

without insurance, I would come to the Clinic. I hope others continue to join the campaign, so that everyone who needs care can be served.

What's your favorite part about the I Give \$25 campaign? I think that the ability of giving just \$25 a month and becoming a part of a large group of individuals is a great idea. I like that the campaign makes it easy for lots of people to get involved and feel that together we are making an impact in Memphis.

Do you think it's important for younger people to give to the Church Health Center? The earlier you start, the better. Giving is a good habit and one that takes time and effort to form. I started early so that, as the years pass, I can look back and know that even in tough times, God was faithful. If I can be faithful and trust in Him, giving can always be joyful and not stressful.

Was it hard for you to find \$25 in your budget to join I Give \$25? As a medical student, between tuition and school loans, I am sure I could have found another necessary use for \$25. However, being able to give from what I have helps me appreciate the great blessings I do have and realize the tremendous needs of others who have much less. If I can help meet such a need with one fewer trip to the movies a month, it's totally worth it.