OUR MISSION  We provide high quality, comprehensive and affirming care.

The mission of Fenway Health is to enhance the wellbeing of the LGBTQIA+ community and all people in our neighborhoods and beyond through access to the highest quality health care, education, research and advocacy.

OUR HISTORY  Health care should be a right, not a privilege.

Since 1971, Fenway Health has been working to make life healthier for the people in our neighborhood, the LGBTQIA+ community, people living with HIV/AIDS and the broader population. Fenway was founded in 1971 as part of the free clinic movement by students who believed that “health care should be a right, not a privilege.” In its early days, Fenway was a drop-in clinic providing free blood pressure checks and STD screenings.

Two years later, Fenway obtained permanent space and incorporated as a freestanding health center with a staff of one volunteer doctor, one nurse and one intake worker. Today, Fenway Health has a budget of $131 million, a staff of over 600 and a patient base of over 30,000.

In 2001 Fenway started The Fenway Institute, an interdisciplinary center for research, training, education and policy development focusing on national and international health issues. In 2009, Fenway Health moved into the Ansin Building at 1340 Boylston Street in Boston’s West Fens neighborhood, the largest LGBTQIA+ health care, education and research facility in the nation.

The Sidney Borum, Jr. Health Center became a part of Fenway Health in 2010. The Borum serves at-risk youth, including LGBTQIA+ young people, homeless teens and young adults, those struggling with substance abuse, involved with gangs or doing sex work.

Fenway Health entered a historic partnership with AIDS Action Committee of Massachusetts in 2013 that has allowed the two organizations to work more closely together and improve delivery of care and services to people living with HIV/AIDS. In 2017, that relationship grew to formally unite AIDS Action and Fenway Health as one strong organization.

In 2016, Fenway added Family Medicine, providing services to patients of every age group. That same year, the Massachusetts Health Policy Commission named Fenway: South End the first practice in the state to achieve Patient-Centered Medical Home PRIME Certification for integrating behavioral health in primary medical care. Fenway’s Ansin Building Practice followed quickly, attaining PRIME Certification in early 2017.

In 2020, Fenway welcomed Ellen LaPointe as our new CEO just as the COVID-19 pandemic rolled across the globe. Fenway Health pivoted to respond, moving the majority of our medical and behavioral health appointments to telehealth, standing up testing programs in Boston and Everett, and activating several research studies, including COVID-19 vaccine trials.
INTEGRATED CARE At Fenway, we treat the whole person.

Fenway has helped pioneer a philosophy of integrated care that looks at each patient as a whole person, and our staff works as a team to meet the needs of everyone who comes through our doors. Fenway Health cares for our community from three Boston locations:

The Ansin Building, a 10-story, 10,000 square foot health care and research facility. It is the largest building ever constructed by an organization with a specific mission to serve the LGBTQIA+ community.

Fenway: South End, a private practice setting for medical and behavioral health care, women’s health, and pharmacy services conveniently located for those who live and work in Boston’s South End and Back Bay neighborhoods.

The Sidney Borum, Jr. Health Center, quality health care for young people ages 12 to 29—many of whom are LGBTQIA+, HIV-positive, living on the streets, using drugs or alcohol, engaging in sex work or gang involved—who may not feel comfortable going anywhere else.

BREADTH OF SERVICE

Family medical care
Behavioral health
Dental care, including cleanings, oral health screenings, x-rays, fillings and aesthetic consultations and tooth whitening
Eye care, including exams, diagnosis and management of common eye diseases and consultations for eye wear
COVID-19 Testing
Women’s health
OB/GYN care
Transgender health
Digital imaging, including mammography
LGBTQIA+ family and parenting
HIV/AIDS care and services
Care and services for LGBTQIA+ and other at-risk youth
Financial assistance programs
Health education and outreach
Complementary therapies
Specialty care, including podiatry and geriatric care such as bone density screening

1,475 patients made 2,287 visits to our Financial Assistance department. Under Fenway’s health insurance enrollment program, patients without insurance can be enrolled in coverage under MassHealth, Commonwealth Care and Health Safety Net.

Approximately $12 million in free and discounted medication was given to patients in need by the Fenway pharmacy’s two branches. The pharmacies also offer a free home delivery service for homebound patients and others unable to pick up their medication. Together, the two locations fill over 500 prescriptions per day.

Over 600 babies have been conceived through Fenway’s Alternative Insemination (AI) Program since its start in 1983, believed to be the first of its kind in the United States. In fiscal year 2020, the AI program saw 17 new pregnancies and 26 births. In addition to insemination, the AI Program offers social and emotional support for LGBTQIA+ parents and prospective parents through a variety of workshops and groups.

4,423 transgender patients currently receive care at Fenway Health locations, an increase of over 3,500 patients since 2007. The Transgender Health Program continues to expand to comprehensively address the needs of our rapidly growing transgender and gender non-conforming patient base.

257 patients were brought into care through Fenway’s Substance Abuse Treatment Program, which treats those struggling with substances like alcohol, cocaine and crystal methamphetamine. There were 4,339 appointments made. We never turn anyone away for lack of ability to pay, and many patients in the program are referred into other services at Fenway.

344 survivors of domestic violence, sexual assault, hate violence and police misconduct were helped by the Violence Recovery Program (VRP) at Fenway Health. The VRP of ers individual and group counseling to LGBTQIA+ survivors. VRP staf a lso conducts outreach and educational sessions to community groups and professional groups about LGBTQIA+ violence issues on a local, state and national level, including providing technical assistance and training to the Boston Police Department, District Attorney’s of ces, hospitals, health centers, social service agencies and community and school groups.

Fenway’s LGBTQIA+ Helpline and Peer Listening Line for LGBTQIA+ Youth answered 2,339 calls, providing resources, support, and a friendly ear to people from across North America and all walks of life.

Two pharmacy locations
The Fenway Institute is Fenway Health’s research, education, and public policy arm, working to improve the health of the LGBTQIA+ community, people living with HIV, and other populations impacted by health disparities.

- Received its first research grant in 1983 from the Massachusetts Department of Public Health to better understand the spread of HIV among men who have sex with men in the Boston area. This was soon followed by funding from the U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention to help characterize how HIV is transmitted.

- Became the sole community-based health center selected as one of eight sites to recruit participants for the nation’s first HIV vaccine trials by the U.S. National Institute of Allergy and Infectious Diseases. To this day, Fenway plays a prominent role in both the HIV Prevention Trials Network (HPTN) and the HIV Vaccine Trials Network (HVTN).

- Participated in the nation’s first report on lesbian health in 1997.

- Published The Fenway Guide to LGBT Health in 2007, the first American medical textbook to address the specific health care needs of LGBTQIA+ people, and was selected by the National Institutes of Health as a Population Research Center on LGBT Health, becoming the first community-based organization to be awarded such a grant.

- Became one of only two U.S. sites involved in the iPrex study in 2010, which demonstrated that taking a daily dose of anti-HIV oral medication, or PrEP, provides protection against HIV transmission in HIV-negative gay and bisexual men and transgender women.

- Created the National LGBT Health Education Center in 2011 to train health center providers, administrators, and staff in how to better serve and care for LGBTQIA+ patients, funded by the United States Health Resources and Services Administration.

- Welcomed the LGBT Aging Project to Fenway in 2013. The Aging Project is dedicated to ensuring that lesbian, gay, bisexual, and transgender older adults have equal access to the life-prolonging benefits, protections, services, and institutions that their heterosexual neighbors take for granted so that they can age with the dignity and respect they deserve.

- Launched the Advancing Excellence in Transgender Health conference in 2015, developed in response to the high volume of inquiries from clinicians and health care staff seeking to learn about providing high-quality care for adults, adolescents, and children who are questioning their gender identity or who identify as transgender or gender non-binary.

- Was awarded the Evidence-Informed Interventions Coordinating Center for Technical Assistance (E2i CCTA) grant in 2017, in partnership with AIDS United, funded by the United States Health Resources and Services Administration. Working with 26 Ryan White HIV/AIDS Program (RWHAP) recipient organizations across the United States to implement effective, culturally-tailored HIV interventions.

- Hosted the inaugural Advancing Excellence for Sexual and Gender Minority Health conference in 2019, designed to train attendees in providing competent, confident, and affirmative health care, grounded in research evidence and best clinical practices.

- Selected by the National Institutes of Health to serve as a COVID-19 Prevention Network (CoVPN) research site, which will help to address the pressing need for vaccines and other strategies against the novel coronavirus.
HIV TESTING AND CARE

Fenway Health has been a community resource and safe space since the early days of the AIDS epidemic. Our health center saw the first HIV/AIDS cases in New England and, in 1985, was awarded the first HIV counseling and testing contract by the Massachusetts Department of Public Health. Today, Fenway remains one of the largest confidential HIV counseling and testing sites in the state and is New England's largest provider of outpatient HIV/AIDS care.

14,968 HIV tests were administered by Fenway staff in fiscal year 2020.

100% of all those who test positive for HIV are triaged into care and services here at Fenway.

6,686 patients seeking HIV tests in fiscal year 2020 identified as men who have sex with men (MSM), with the remainder describing their HIV risks as heterosexual sex, injection drug use or occupational exposure.

LOCATIONS

Fenway Health Ansin Building
1340 Boylston St Boston MA 02215

Fenway: South End
142 Berkeley St Boston MA 02116

The Sidney Borum, Jr. Health Center
75 Kneeland St Boston MA 02111

JOIN US ONLINE

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youtube.com/thefenwayinstitute

APPOINTMENTS

Medical ................................................. 617.927.6000
Behavioral Health .................................. 617.927.6202
Dental .................................................. 617.927.6127
Optometry ............................................. 617.927.6190
Fenway: South End ................................. 617.247.7555
Sidney Borum, Jr. Health Center .............. 617.457.8140
Información En Español ......................... 617.927.6460

HOSPITAL AND ACADEMIC AFFILIATIONS

Fenway Health is affiliated with Beth Israel Deaconess Medical Center. All physicians hold faculty appointments at Harvard Medical School. Research affiliations include Massachusetts General Hospital, Brigham and Women’s Hospital, and Brown University Medical School.

PAYMENT

Fenway accepts most insurance plans as well as Medicare and Medicaid. Other government-sponsored programs are available for those who qualify. No one is denied care based upon ability to pay.

MORE INFORMATION

For more information, visit fenwayhealth.org or call us at 617.927.6350.
For information about research studies, call 617.927.6450.

SUPPORT OUR WORK

We are reimbursed for only 63% of what it actually costs to provide care to our patients. The ability to help anyone who walks through our doors, regardless of their ability to pay, has been of critical importance to us ever since we were founded. It is something we need to continue, and with your support, we can. To learn more, call 617.927.6350 or visit fenwayhealth.org and click on “DONATE.”