



September 2018

### Schwartz Center Welcomes New CEO

We're pleased to announce that the Schwartz Center has a new leader! **Matt Herndon**, an attorney with deep roots in the healthcare industry, has been appointed as [our new Chief Executive Officer](#). Matt comes to us with more than two decades of successful strategic organizational growth and leadership experience, most recently at Boston Medical Center's HealthNet Plan, where he was Chief Legal Officer & Vice President of Government Affairs. He has a deep knowledge of healthcare and extensive leadership experience in organizational oversight, operations, and program and product development.

[Read More](#)

### Boston Marathon Bombing Survivor Patrick Downes to Speak at Dinner

The theme of this year's [Annual Kenneth B. Schwartz Center Compassionate Healthcare Dinner](#) is "The Impact of Community Tragedy on Professional Caregivers: Caring in the Aftermath of Violence," and joining us as keynote speaker will be Boston Marathon bombing survivor **Patrick Downes**. Downes and his wife, **Jessica Kensky**, were newlyweds when they sustained serious injuries in the 2013 attack. **The dinner will take place on Thursday, Nov. 8, 2018 at the Boston Convention and Exhibition Center.**

[Learn More & Register](#)

### Meet Our Dinner Chairs



We're honored to announce that serving as our dinner chairs this year are:

- **Troyen Brennan, MD**, Executive Vice President and Chief Medical Officer, CVS Health
- **Clare Reilly**
- **Mark E. Reynolds**, President, CRICO
- **Peter L. Slavin, MD**, President, Massachusetts General Hospital

They will be joined by 1,500 healthcare leaders, caregivers, patients and other industry leaders at our [annual dinner on Nov. 8, 2018](#).

### Compassion Scholars Program Leads to Winning Essays



[Intima: A Journal of Narrative Medicine](#) recently published the five winning essays in its Compassion in Healthcare Essay Contest, conducted in partnership with the Schwartz Center. The contest, the project of **Connie Shi**, a Harvard Medical Student participating in the Schwartz Compassion Scholars program, received more than 80 entries, which were judged by a committee that included author **Haider Warraich**. The powerful essay topics ranged from a nurse's struggle to care for refugee patients fleeing genocide, to a physician survivor of child abuse who recognizes signs of child abuse in her patient.

The Schwartz Center Compassion Scholars program introduces students in various disciplines to the positive impact of compassion in healthcare and creates a network of compassion ambassadors who will work to create a culture of compassion in health professional education and clinical practice. **For more information or to support the Compassion Scholars program, contact [Lisa Crane](#) at 617-643-5490.**

[Read Essays](#)

### Last Month's Top Facebook Posts



Here are the top [Facebook](#) posts that resonated most with our followers last month:

1. "[Compassion is not a relationship between the healer and the wounded. It's a relationship between equals. Only when we know our own darkness well can we be present with the darkness of others. Compassion becomes real when we recognize our shared humanity.](#)" - Pema Chödrön
2. [What can pre-med students learn from courses on the history of disability and the role of medicine in literature? As more universities offer studies in medical humanities, students are learning how to become better healthcare professionals...](#)
3. [A new report finds that getting patients to weigh in on how to improve their own care is key to improving healthcare as a whole. As one doctor notes, "Providers see the care that they're directly engaged in, but the patient sees all the care."](#)

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Save the Dates!

**Compassion in Action Webinars**

**Wednesday, Sept. 26, 2018**  
3:00-4:00 PM EDT

"Clinician Wellness"

[REGISTER NOW](#)

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**23rd Annual Kenneth B. Schwartz Compassionate Healthcare Dinner**

**Thursday, Nov. 8, 2018**

Boston Convention and Exhibition Center  
415 Summer St.  
Boston, MA

[REGISTER NOW](#)

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**2019 Compassion in Action Healthcare Conference**

**Sept. 8-10, 2019**

The Westin Boston Waterfront  
425 Summer St., Boston, MA


*Details to come*

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