



## **DR. SARAH A. KEMBLE MEMORIAL SCHOLARSHIP**



"At times our own light goes out and is rekindled by a spark from another person. Each of us has cause to think with deep gratitude of those who have lighted the flame within us."

**Albert Schweitzer**

Sarah Kemble, MD, MPH, died of cancer at her home on December 13, 2017. She was 59 Years old. Her life was committed to social justice and the development of quality services for undeserved children, adult and families in rural Franklin County, where she lived. Health care is a right, not a privilege.

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Sarah worked tirelessly with a grassroots committee to establish the Community Health Center of Franklin County in 1995, in Turners Falls, MA. She served in numerous health center roles including Executive Director, Medical Director and Primary Care Physician until 2011. During her tenure, Sarah spearheaded the opening of a second site in November of 2006, the Desmond Callan Health Center in Orange and two school-based clinics in the Mohawk and Pioneer Regional High Schools. In 2018, the health centers moved to a new site in downtown Greenfield. Both health centers offer primary health and dental care, behavioral health, nutrition, transportation and outreach services.

Dr Kemble wore many hats and will be remembered as a leader, advocate, activist, educator, mentor and clinician. She found time to participate on many New England regional and local health care organizations. Her public service was far-reaching. In 2011, she testified before the Senate Subcommittee on Primary Care and Aging hearing, titled "Is Poverty a Death Sentence?"

In 2014, as a Chief Medical Officer for a VA Central Western MA Healthcare System in Northampton, she observed what she believed were "systemic dangerous practices" resulting in inferior care for veterans. It was her final wish to complete a facility. She died five days after the release of the report. Both WCVB-TV (Boston) and WWLP (Chicopee) investigative teams, as well as local newspapers, followed the story of the investigation of the Northampton facility by the VA Office of Accountability and Whistleblower Protection in Washington, D.C.

In 2018, the Community Health Center of Franklin County established the "Dr. Sarah A. Kemble Memorial Scholarship". Each year, in honor of Dr. Kemble's legacy, the scholarship committee will award three scholarships to promising high school seniors who are pursuing careers in health care.

The Scholarship Committee is dedicated to establishing a \$30,000.00 endowment in Sarah's honor and to date, we have successfully raised two-thirds of the funds needed to achieve this goal. Funding will support our on going commitment to honoring Sarah's legacy by presenting scholarships annually to Franklin County applicants who best exemplify her dedication and commitment to health care for all.



To make a contribution, please make your check payable to:

**Sarah Kemble Scholarship Fund  
c/o Greenfield Savings Bank  
Main Street  
Greenfield, MA 01301**

(This is a tax-deductible charitable donation)

***We will send you a confirmation of your donation***

**THANK YOU ON BEHALF OF THE  
SCHOLARSHIP COMMITTEE**