The problem:

Access to specialist care for cardiovascular disease can be expensive, geographically limited and unavailable to many communities that need it the most, and these communities also have a disproportionately higher incidence of chronic and debilitating conditions including cardiovascular disease.¹

The solution:

Doctors With Heart: Doctor-to-doctor cardiology consultations via telemedicine to under-resourced communities in participating Federally Qualified Health Centers and community health centers, at no cost to patients. Health consultations that include cardiovascular considerations can improve life expectancy without extra costs.²

How it works: doctor-to-doctor expert consultation

1. Patient visits clinician at participating health center.
2. Clinician identifies need for cardiovascular consultation.
3. Patient completes appointment and leaves the health center.
4. Clinician schedules and conducts a telehealth visit with an American Heart Association volunteer cardiologist to discuss the patient’s case. The consultation is doctor-to-doctor only; there is no interaction between the cardiologist and patient.
5. After the consultation, the clinician calls the patient to discuss treatment or plan of care. The clinician and health facility are the ultimate providers of care, and solely responsible for the patient’s medical journey.

2020-2021 pilot:

Success story: A participating primary care physician used the program for consultation for a patient with heart failure. The consultation was conducted digitally, and the physician and cardiologist collaborated to create a treatment plan that is expected to be highly successful.

"With the plans we have in place for this patient, you’re going to add years to his life, and he’s going to feel so much better."

- John Osborne, M.D., American Heart Association volunteer cardiologist

For more information or to get involved, visit heart.org/DoctorsWithHeart