



“No greater glory, no greater honor, is the lot of man departing than a feeling possessed deep in his heart that the world is a better place for his having lived.”

Robert Abbott
Lawyer | Editor
(1870–1940)

Our health system is founded by religious congregations each with a legacy of their own. Their founding stories and the struggles they encountered created in them a fortitude and resilience which we rely on today in carrying out our healing ministry. Our founding sisters made a difference and created health care systems that continue to have a great impact on many people today.

Robert Abbott was born to formerly enslaved parents living in Georgia. He went on to receive a law degree from Kent Law School in Chicago, but was unable to secure a job in law because of race prejudice. In 1905, he founded The Chicago Defender which became the most widely circulated black newspaper in the country, and made Abbott one of the first self-made millionaires of African American descent. He made the world a better place for the work he did as many blacks migrated from the south to the north to secure a better life.

Know that our work of healing, begun by our founding congregations, and our treating of all people with human kindness leaves this world a better place each day by each act of kindness extended to another person.

What is the legacy you want to leave behind?

How do you want people to remember you?