

Community Benefit 2020

*Inspired by our faith, SCL Health addresses the most critical needs of the communities we serve; especially of those who are poor and vulnerable. In 2020, SCL Health Montana Region provided **\$44.7 million*** in community benefit, supporting areas such as community health improvement services, health professions education programs, community building activities and subsidized health services.*


*In 2020, **37** St. James Healthcare leaders performed **472** hours of service, benefiting **33** community coalitions and organizations.*



* These numbers reflect clinic contributions not included on 990 Schedule H

2020 Community Benefit Highlights

Across the health system, SCL Health supported the mental health of its community members and associates through one of the most trying years by engaging with community collaboratives and offering virtual mental health and well-being training. The trainings focused on suicide prevention, stigma reduction, compassion fatigue and trauma-informed practices.

 **30% increase**
in depression and anxiety symptoms since 2020

2 mental health first aid instructors 
trained in Montana and Grand Junction

50 trainings, 
reaching nearly 1,000 individuals

 **88.4% of communities**
did not have enough mental health providers to serve residents in 2020


 **Provided \$410,666**
in Mission Fund grant awards to 6 behavioral health organizations



Improving Cardiovascular Outcomes, St. James Healthcare is committed to providing a high standard of care for heart attack patients and has received the American College of Cardiology NCDR Chest Pain MI Registry Platinum Performance Achievement Award. One of only 212 hospitals nationwide to receive the honor. The addition of a two-lab cardiac catheterization suite in February 2021 has increased access to lifesaving procedures for residents in Southwest Montana

88.7% of Butte Silver Bow residents report one or more cardiovascular risk factors (overweight, smoking, being physically inactive, high blood pressure or cholesterol)



Butte-Silver Bow reports an average age-adjusted heart disease mortality rate of **217.8 deaths per 100,000 population** 

30-50% of St. James' heart attack patients come from outside of Butte



Increasing Access (Virtual Health). For rural residents, virtual health can overcome barriers such as transportation access. In 2020, virtual health was an important tool for healthcare access during the pandemic.

255 virtual health visits 
for primary care in 2020

10 specialties are currently offering telemedicine services 

Increasing Access to Life Saving Cardiovascular Care

Silver Bow County has a higher age adjusted heart mortality rate than rates for the state of Montana and the United States. St. James Healthcare recently opened a two-lab cardiac catheterization suite, thanks in large part to a \$4.68 million grant from The Leona M. and Harry B. Helmsley Charitable Trust. The new cardiac catheterization suite provides the communities of Southwestern Montana with improved access to high-quality cardiovascular care which has resulted in better patient outcomes.

This access to timely, high-quality, definitive medical care can be lifesaving when rural residents have a heart attack as experienced by Sheridan resident and former US Air Force serviceman, Bob Bates. When the pain began to radiate from his shoulder down his arm and he felt a tightness in his chest, Bob's experience as a CPR instructor made him realize he needed medical care. He went to Ruby Valley Medical Center where the EKG readings showed that he needed catheterization. Ruby Valley Medical Center does not have a catheterization lab, so Bates was transported to St. James Healthcare via Life Flight.

Doctors aim to have heart attack patients ready for catheterization within 90 minutes of their arrival at the hospital doors. That time budget is extended to 120 minutes for patients transported from other hospitals. Bates



arrived in the St. James catheterization lab 115 minutes after coming through the doors of Ruby Valley Medical Center. Bates had one completely blocked vessel and another that was narrowed by about 70%. Dr. Daniel Langdon at St. James Healthcare successfully used the catheter to put in two stents.

For patients throughout southwestern Montana, St. James Healthcare provides access to quality specialty care to address the health needs of the community. The two-lab cardiac catheterization suite allows residents to receive life saving care regardless of where they live.

Bringing Early Screening for Breast Cancer to Boulder

Linda Brandt knows all too well the importance of cancer screenings. Her husband died from cancer and her sister fought it. The problem for Brandt however, is that access to specialty care like a mammogram to screen for breast cancer is over 30 miles away, and she is unable to drive.

"My kids say no more driving so that means they have to take me to wherever I need to go," said Brandt. She moved to Boulder because she likes how quiet it is, but it puts her farther away from certain amenities. That's why having the SCL Health Montana Mobile Mammogram Coach arrive in Boulder was so important. "So that means nobody has to pick me up, take me (to Butte) and take time off of work to get me there. So it's a good deal," said Brandt.

The 2020 Community Health Needs Assessment found that



48% of women ages 50-74 in St. James Healthcare's service area had not had a mammogram within the past 2 years. Early detection is the best chance to increase breast cancer survival rates. In 2021, it is estimated 950 women in Montana will be diagnosed with breast cancer, with an estimated 140 breast cancer deaths.

SCL Health Medical Group – Boulder's Lori Lagerquist, PA has deep ties to the Boulder community. She arrived in 1991 and she says the demographics are changing but it is still an older community with limited mobility. "I think that we've improved that a lot through SCL Health and St. James," said Lagerquist, but she knows there could be more, "It's definitely a convenience and a needed service to have mammography brought to the community."

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Bringing Early Screening for Breast Cancer to Boulder (cont.)

"About 10% of breast cancers are diagnosed in women who are between 40 and 50 years old so there is a lot of opportunity to catch that really early stage disease in that age group," said SCL Health Medical Group's Laura Twist, MD, OB-Gyn.

"You come on (the Coach), you get it done in 5 to 7 minutes. Then you're done, you're off, you're happy and everybody is very happy, they're appreciative, they're very happy that we're there," said mammography Coach driver, Tamara Miller. She drives the truck all over rural Montana and said they're always shown a generous welcome. Miller wants to urge all women over age 40 to get their screenings done.

Something upon which Lagerquist and Twist agree is that it is essential to find cancer in its earliest stages when the disease is most treatable. "Being a breast cancer survivor — early screening to me is the key. It's the key to less treatment, it's the key to less illness, it's the key to less death," said Lagerquist.

St. James Healthcare Foundation is currently raising funds to enable a second Mobile Mammography Coach to be located at St. James Healthcare to provide even more access to mammography services across Southwestern Montana

COVID Response

St. James Healthcare coordinated with the Butte-Silver Bow Unified Health Command to vaccinate the community for COVID-19. Butte-Silver Bow County has among the highest vaccination rates in the state of Montana. In April 2021, St. James Healthcare was proud to be the site where the 500,000th dose was administered. By July 2021, 57% of the eligible population of Silver Bow County were fully vaccinated.



"Silver Bow is one of the leading counties in Montana for vaccinations. So, if you look at the number per thousand, we're one of the top counties in the state and Montana is in the top tier of the states in the country. So that puts Silver Bow as one of the top counties in the country for vaccinations. That's a huge, huge honor to be able to do that," said St. James president, Jay Doyle.

On March 23, almost 2,200 people filed through the Butte Civic Center doors in one day for vaccinations. It would not have been possible without all the hard work and cooperation from the associates at St. James, Butte-Silver Bow County, Southwest Montana Community Health Center, The North American Indian Alliance, and the Butte Civic Center.

"I think we're just really proud. St. James has been a huge player and a huge leader in the vaccination clinics and it's just cool to be a part of," said St. James Director of Pharmacy, Risik Rask, Pharm. D., "We're that much closer to getting the pandemic behind us."

Please visit the St. James Healthcare website to access the full Community Health Needs Assessment:
<https://www.sclhealth.org/locations/st-james-healthcare/about/community-benefit/>



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