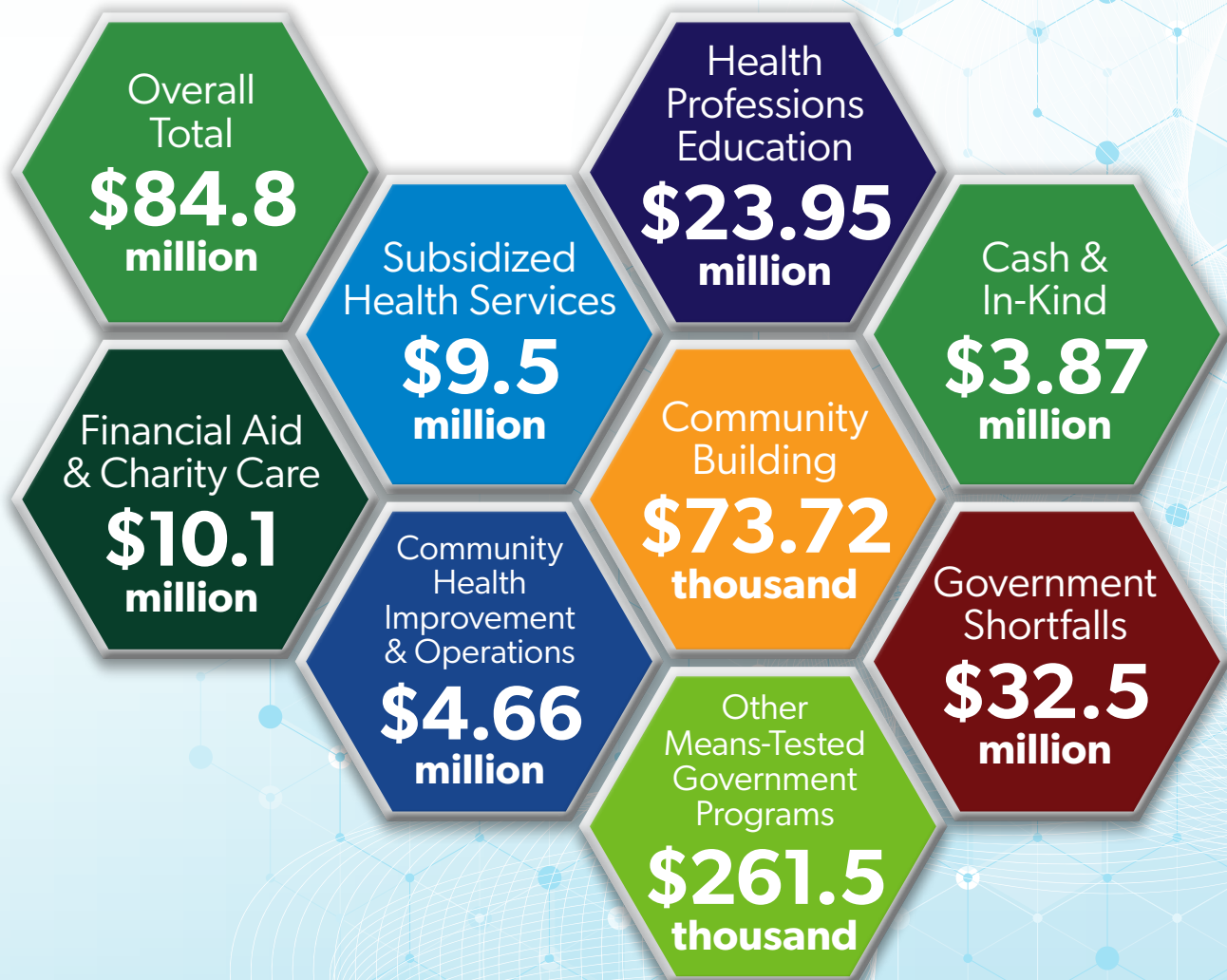


Community Benefit 2020

*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 system provided **\$294.4 million** in community benefit, supporting areas such as community health improvement services, health professions education programs, community building activities and subsidized health services. Care site specific totals are highlighted below.*



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.



50 trainings,
reaching nearly
1,000 individuals

**2 mental health
first aid instructors**



trained in Montana and Grand Junction



Re-launched **Let's Talk CO**
with the Metro Denver Partnership for Health
Collaborative



30% increase

in depression and anxiety
symptoms since 2020



**Grant funding to
Denver Public Schools**



(Bruce Randolph) to purchase a flash
freezer. Freezer enables take home meals for
families experiencing food insecurity.

Leveraging anchor strategies to increase
economic stability by using hyper-local caterers.



Over **\$30,000** spent in
the local community.

Co-sponsored
a **Diabetes
Carnival** with Metro



Caring to reach over 100 residents with
nutrition and exercise education.

Donated **6,100 pounds
of frozen, unused food**
from the Saint Joseph Cafe to Senior
Resource Center



Changing the Way We do Business to Change Community Health

Since 2017, Saint Joseph Hospital (SJH) has been a key health partner in a collective community effort in northeast Denver called East5ide Unified/Unido (EJU). It has become clear over time that the health challenges experienced by many residents living in northeast Denver are rooted in historical conditions that have limited accumulation of community wealth. In 2018, SJH prioritized community wealth building as part of its Community Health Needs Assessment as a vehicle for improving the condition of health in the neighborhoods near the hospital. To operationalize efforts toward community wealth building, SJH has been actively engaged in the Denver Anchor Network and helped to form EJU's Anchor Action Team.

The Anchor Action Team (AAT) has been meeting for several years and is now chaired by a member of the SJH Community Health team. Much of the group's time together has been spent learning more about Anchor mission work, understanding the mission of each participating organization, and building trust. 2021 was identified as the year the AAT would move forward with a substantial Anchor/community-led effort in zip code 80205. An event titled "MOVING2ACTION" (M2A) served as the community springboard for these efforts.

In May 2021, M2A brought together 40 community members and six local Anchor Organizations including Denver Health, The Museum of Nature and Science, Metropolitan State University, Colorado State University Extension, Metro Caring, and Saint Joseph Hospital to learn more about national and local anchor efforts and to be inspired to move forward together.

This format aimed to clarify the important role anchor institutions can play in building community wealth, inspire creative ways of thinking about what is possible in Denver



and specifically in zip code 80205. Finally, the goal is to generate interest among community members to participate with the AAT to conceive and execute a project together.

Fourteen community members have volunteered to join the efforts of the AAT to craft a plan to increase community wealth in northeast Denver. To date, efforts underway at SJH include:

- Opening access to Certified Nurses Aid training at SJH to include community members, offering a clear pathway to other health care careers, including nursing.
- Increased use of local, BIPOC-owned caterers to meet some of the external catering needs of the hospital.
- Exploration of local, worker-owned cooperatives to provide some contracted services at SJH.
- A partnership with neighborhood training organizations and local schools to provide internship, externship, and hiring opportunities.

Working to Eliminate Suicide

Through a partnership with Rocky Mountain Crisis Partners, Saint Joseph Hospital's Emergency Department implemented a follow-up program for individuals who have attempted suicide. When patients present in the Emergency Department or an inpatient unit with a suicide attempt, they are offered a warm handoff for follow up by a skilled provider from Rocky Mountain Crisis Partners. Research shows that support offered during this critical period can lead to stabilized mental health, an increased

likelihood of follow-up care, and fewer future suicide attempts. In 2020, 138 patients were referred for follow-up care. Of those referred, only one returned to the Emergency Department with a mental health concern and none attempted suicide. When reporting the strength of suicidal thoughts, the average for this group was significantly lower than that of the general population (average risk of 1.00 for these patients vs 1.50 in the general population).

Freight Farm Update

The Freight Farm project was established on the SJH campus in partnership with Metro Caring in 2018. Since then, urban farmers have been growing greens year-round in a 40-foot shipping container. The greens are stocked in the Metro Caring store where they are available to community members struggling to put enough food on the table. Students from local high schools have interned in the shipping container to learn about hydroponics and the importance of healthy food availability in urban areas. The latest expansion of this powerful community activation project has taken shape through the entrepreneurial lens of a community member named Juan. Juan approached Metro Caring with the idea



of using a small portion of the Freight Farm to grow desirable herbs like cilantro and basil, which he could then sell at local farmers' markets and ultimately to local restaurants. Juan now has a weekly presence at the Globeville Community Market where he frequently sells out of his

herbs. Soon, he will be taking a business course through Focus Points Community Center and, with support from Metro Caring, will plan the next step in his business development journey. This program underscores the intersections between food security, economic stability, and community health improvement. One investment can propel many, many more.

COVID Response

SCL Health's community impact efforts would be incomplete without including highlights of our response to urgent and essential needs during the COVID-19 pandemic. At the onset of the pandemic, President and Chief Executive Officer Lydia Jumonville, partnered with peers at all large Colorado health systems to form a collaborative which enabled improved patient outcomes and reduced mortality rates. In the Montana region, hospital leaders worked similarly to create multi-stakeholder emergency response collaboratives aimed at maximizing resources and minimizing community impact.



In partnership with community-based organizations, SCL Health redirected the Mother Xavier Ross Community grants to support individual and family needs for food, housing, personal protective equipment and eviction assistance. For many, social distancing mandates amplified disparities in access to the internet and computer equipment. Grant funding for computer equipment and online access became a life-line to increase social connectedness, access to health services (telehealth) and education for older adults and families with children. In 2021, an extension of our care for the community efforts would shift to developing multi-access points for COVID-19 vaccine delivery. Partnering with the State of Colorado, City of Denver and over 40 community partners, SCL Health hosted a mass vaccination event in February and March 2021 dedicated to reaching vulnerable and disproportionately impacted populations. Over 5,000 individuals were served.

Please visit the Saint Joseph Hospital website to access the full Community Health Needs Assessment:
<https://www.sclhealth.org/locations/saint-joseph-hospital/about/community-benefit/>



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