Intermountain Health

Lutheran Hospital

Community Benefit Annual Report

As part of our commitment to metro Denver and Colorado, Lutheran Hospital addresses the most critical needs of the communities we serve with a mission of helping people live the healthiest lives possible. We were founded in 1961 to address health needs, and through strong community collaborations and thoughtful assessment of needs, we continue that work today.

Food for Health – Connecting Patients to Community Resources

In collaboration with Food Bank of the Rockies, Lutheran Hospital is combating food insecurity by delivering medically tailored food boxes to community members with chronic illnesses. The U.S. Department of Health and Human Services published a literature review with studies that link food insecurity to obesity, chronic disease, depression, anxiety, and development delays.

With conclusive evidence on the efficacy of nutritious food on health outcomes, Lutheran proactively screens all patients for food insecurity. Those individuals who screen positive and are also identified with a chronic illness are connected to Food for Health. This program provides free grocery boxes with items selected based on health conditions. The Food Bank makes deliveries weekly for a period of six months. During this time, recipients work with a navigator to make an ongoing plan to select and access healthy food. In 2023, 71 Lutheran patients received food boxes from the program.

2022-2024 Community Health Significant Health Needs

Every three years Lutheran Hospital works with public health stakeholders, community members, and other healthcare providers to understand and assess the most important local health needs.

Based on the most recent assessment in 2021, Lutheran identified the significant health needs that will be the focus of the Implementation Strategy and the Community Benefit programs to address the following needs:

- **Mental Health and Substance Use**
- **Food Insecurity**
- **Housing**

Lutheran Hospital – 2023 Community Collaborators

- The Action Center
- Arvada West High School
- Centura Health
- City of Arvada
- Community First Foundation
- Edgewater Collective
- Food Bank of the Rockies
- Health Jeffco Alliance
- Jeffco Homeless Navigators
- Jefferson County Public Health
- Jefferson County Public Library
- Jefferson County Public Schools
- Recovery Works
- Red Rocks Community College
- STRIDE Community Health
- Warren Tech

What is Community Benefit?

The Internal Revenue Service (IRS) has federal requirements for not-for-profit hospitals to report their investments in Community Benefit activities, which provide treatment and/or promote health and healing as a response to community needs:

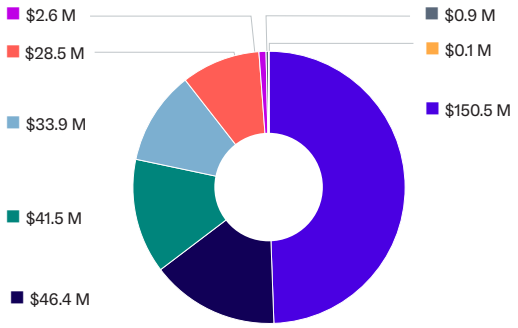
- Improve access to care
- Enhance the health of a community
- Advance medical or health knowledge
- Reduce the burden of health care on local, state, federal government, or other community efforts

When reporting to the IRS, Community Benefit investments are organized into the following general categories:

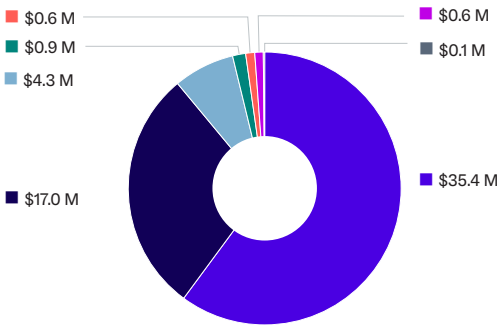
- Unreimbursed costs for care provided to Medicaid beneficiaries.
- Charity care and financial assistance for patients who are unable to pay for care.
- Cash and in-kind contributions to support identified community health needs.
- Health professions education, including clinical training for nursing, pharmacy, and other health professions.
- Subsidized health services, which are services provided at a loss but without which the community's access to care would suffer.
- Means-tested government programs, which includes the unreimbursed care under means-tested programs like the Child Health Plan Plus (CHP+).
- Community building activities, including participating in community coalitions to advance health and physician recruitment to maintain health care access.
- Research, including studies or investigations that increase knowledge made available to the public. (Note: No Research investments were reported in 2023.)

2023 Community Benefit Investments

Intermountain Health Colorado: $304.5 Million



Lutheran Hospital: $58.9 Million



- Unreimbursed Medicaid
- Subsidized Health Services
- Health Professions Education
- Financial Assistance at Cost
- Cash and In-Kind Contributions
- Community Health Improvement Services and Community Benefit Operations
- Cost of Other Means-Tested Government Programs
- Community Building Activities

Statewide totals include clinic contributions not reported on hospital Form 990 Schedule H.

Significant Health Needs - By the Numbers

107

Jefferson County Public School students received mental health services in school with funding support from Lutheran Hospital.

71

patients with chronic health conditions and food insecurity received free grocery delivery to their home for six months.

2,630

bus rides were provided to Jefferson County Library patrons experiencing homelessness who needed transportation to services,

38

community members experiencing homelessness were discharged from Lutheran to medical respite where they received services for housing, substance use recovery, and mental health.