

# Saint Joseph Hospital Community Benefit Annual Report



As part of our commitment to Denver and Colorado, Saint Joseph Hospital works to improve the health of the communities we serve, especially the poor and vulnerable. Our founders, the Sisters of Charity of Leavenworth, developed innovative ways to provide healthcare in their communities more than 150 years ago. Through a comprehensive assessment of community needs and strong local collaborations, we strive to continue that work today.

#### **Creating Employment Opportunities at Saint Joe's**

Saint Joseph Hospital is collaborating with two community organizations on workforce development programs that are touching individual lives and changing the community's economic fabric. These efforts are part of the strategy to address community wealth building.

Saint Joseph is working with Cross Purpose, a not-for-profit that provides local workforce training, career preparation, and personal development for some of Denver's most vulnerable residents. Program



A Project SEARCH candidate learns bed making skills from a Saint Joseph's caregiver.

participants face social and economic barriers including transportation, affordable housing, childcare, and a high prevalence of substance use disorder.

Within the first year of the program, the hospital hired 12 Cross Purpose graduates, allowing them to increase their average annual income from below \$8,000 to \$38,400. The new caregivers are also eligible for health, dental, education, and retirement benefits. Five Cross Purpose leaders have been hired in the first two quarters of 2024.

Additionally, Saint Joseph launched a collaboration with Project SEARCH to provide job training to intellectually and developmentally disabled young adults from the Denver Public School System. The program aims to prepare the students for competitive, entry-level employment through work and life-skills training. Six students are currently training at the hospital.

## 2022-2024 Community Health Significant Health Needs

Every three years Saint Joseph 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, Saint Joseph 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



Community Wealth Building



Health Equity

#### Saint Joseph Hospital - 2023 Community Collaborators

- Catholic Charities
- Center for African American Health
- Center for Community Wealth Building
- Civic Canopy
- Colorado Coalition for the Homeless
- Colorado Vincentian Volunteers
- Cross Purpose
- Denver Public Health and Environment
- Denver Public Schools
- Marisol Clinic

- Mental Health Center of Denver
- Metro Caring
- Metro DEEP (Diversity & Economic Equity Partners)
- Mile High Health Alliance
- Museum of Nature and Science
- Regis University
- Robert A. Miller Educational Resource Center (RAMERC)
- Rocky Mountain Crisis Partners
- Urban Peak

#### What is Community Benefit?

Community Benefit is integral to the mission of Catholic and other not-for-profit hospitals. It is an extension of our 'historic mission to the communities' especially the vulnerable and disenfranchised. 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

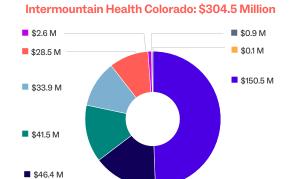
When reporting to the IRS, Community Benefit investments are organized into the following general categories:

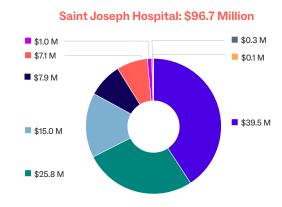
- Unreimbursed costs for care provided to Medicaid beneficiaries.
- Charity care and financial assistance for patients who are unable to pay for care.

- 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**







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

## **Significant Health Needs - By the Numbers**



**508** 

women received services to address perinatal mood and anxiety disorders



241

community members received training in worker/owner cooperatives as a means of increasing economic stability.



478

low-income families who sought regular prenatal care received baby-related incentives through the hospital's Baby Bootique program, which significantly decreased low-birthweights among participants.