Community Benefit 2017

Investing in the Social Determinants of Health

Improving the health of our communities is a call to action embedded in our mission. As a Catholic health system, we realize that wrapped within this call to action is a need to address the number of factors that impact overall health beyond access to healthcare. These social determinants of health include: economic stability, education, social and community context, and neighborhood and built environment. In 2017, Good Samaritan Medical Center addressed these social determinants through investments in education, housing stability and poverty reduction.

In 2017, Good Samaritan Medical Center served the community by performing over 200 hours of service... through a variety of programs in areas including child safety, ...injury prevention and health education... to touch over 1,100 lives.
In 2017, SCL Health made strides to address mental health needs in the communities it serves by offering a variety of mental health trainings to community members. As a system, SCL Health was able to provide mental health education to over 1,600 individuals across 3 states and 17 counties.

SCL Health trained 4 new Mental Health First Aid instructors to continue educating their communities and sustain the initiative well beyond the grant year.

**Good Samaritan Medical Center Initiatives**

**ACCESS TO CARE**

*Retreat and Refresh Stroke Camp*

As the only one of its kind in Colorado, the Retreat and Refresh Stroke Camp is a unique opportunity for stroke survivors and their caregivers to relax, enjoy fun activities and socialize with others. With scenic Estes Park as the backdrop for this impactful event, participants were able to enjoy a variety of activities such as fishing, massages, manicures, arts and crafts, bingo, swimming and golf cart rides. Participants also had a chance to attend multiple support groups and a presentation from Dr. Patrick Bushard, Medical Director of Good Samaritan Medical Center’s Stroke Program.

56 participants including:
stroke survivors
caregivers and volunteers

**INVESTING IN COMMUNITY**

In 2017, Good Samaritan Medical Center focused donations on organizations working toward mental health efforts and those who work with community members with low income.

Total of $59,585 donated to 5 organizations

- Mental Health Partners
- Community Reach Center
- Via Mobility Services
- Clinica Family Health Services
- Sister Carmen Community Center

**EDUCATIONAL PARTNERSHIPS**

Local college students with interest in healthcare careers from schools including Regis University, Metro State University and University of Northern Colorado are placed in clinical rotations throughout various departments of the hospital. Placement duration varies from one to two months.

Partnered with 8 schools to provide clinical placement

125 students participated
28,568 total student hours

**Mental illnesses are among the most common health conditions in the United States.**

Just over 20% of children have had a seriously debilitating mental disorder.

1 in 5 Americans will experience a mental illness in a given year.

Suicide is often associated with symptoms of mental illness.

10th leading cause of death in the U.S.
2nd leading cause of death among people aged 15-34.
**Bone Marrow Registry Drive**

On Monday, March 6, 2017, Good Samaritan Medical Center hosted a “Be the Match” bone marrow registry drive to help make a patient’s dream come true.

John,* a local man from Erie, was a strong, active guy. He enjoyed volunteering with Habitat for Humanity and was also a member of the Mending Faces team, which travels to the Philippines once a year to repair cleft lips and palates of children who would otherwise never have the opportunity to have the surgery.

In 2016, John was hospitalized with an infection after a camping trip. After multiple abnormal blood screenings and a bone marrow biopsy, he was diagnosed with Acute Myeloid Leukemia (AML).

John made good progress with induction chemotherapy and was lucky to achieve remission. He endured two additional rounds of consolidation chemotherapy while preparing for a stem cell transplant. John was lucky to find a match on the “Be the Match” registry but unfortunately, complications prevented him from receiving his transplant.

Throughout this journey, John simply wished for others to be able to find a match. He often pestered his nurses about having a drive at the hospital. Even if he wasn’t able to get his transplant, he was always concerned about making sure everyone who needed one could find a match.

The oncology nurses at Good Samaritan Medical Center helped to make this patient’s dream come true and hosted the bone marrow registry drive. Participants consented to a cheek swab to register. Registered individuals may never be called but could be the hero that helps to save a life. One hundred people registered to be a bone marrow donor.

* Names changed to protect privacy

**Good Samaritan Medical Center Giving Tree Donates to the Santa Cop Program**

When the holiday season approaches, many people are heading to stores and malls to gather gifts for friends and family. But what if you can’t afford gifts for your loved ones? This is the reality facing many families in the Lafayette community who have significant financial barriers that make holiday gift-giving nearly impossible. That’s why Good Samaritan Medical Center was proud to be the primary partner for the Lafayette Police Department’s annual Santa Cop program in 2017. This program provides gifts for young children in families that live in Lafayette and are financially struggling and cannot afford gifts.

Each year families and children are nominated for the Santa Cop program through organizations, such as Boulder County Housing & Human Services and the Sister Carmen Center. From November 27 to December 4, the Good Samaritan Medical Center Foundation hosted a Giving Tree, allowing associates and community members to “adopt” a child or family.

Thanks to all the good samaritans in our hospital, we provided clothing, shoes and a toy for 119 children from 43 families in Lafayette, totaling a contribution of $10,000 to Lafayette Police Department’s Santa Cop program. Additionally, because donations received exceeded the wish list from the Santa Cop program, the Good Samaritan Medical Center Foundation worked with the Sister Carmen Center to donate the additional presents to members of this community center.
Meds-to-Beds Service

Good Samaritan Medical Center’s Outpatient Pharmacy introduced a new service, “Meds-to-Beds,” in 2017. As part of this service, patients can sign up for an outpatient pharmacist to deliver discharge medications and counseling, right at the patient’s bedside prior to being discharged. All at no cost to the patient.

The service was first trialed in August of 2017 and has since rolled out house-wide with great success. Many patients have voiced their gratitude for the added convenience and personal touch. Meds-to-Beds provides services beyond routine discharge planning and standards of care to vulnerable and disadvantaged individuals facing barriers to accessing healthcare services. We were delighted to celebrate our 1000th patient to take advantage of this great program!

On November 6, 2017, a group of associates, including two outpatient pharmacists, helped celebrate the 1,000th patient to utilize the service, a new mom on our Mom & Baby Unit. The new mom conveyed her thanks for the added convenience and received a couple mementos for the occasion – a “med bouquet” (containing M&Ms) and a goodie bag of Good Samaritan Medical Center swag.

In 2017, the program served 4,342 patients, providing 6,343 prescriptions. Good Samaritan Medical Center spent over $15,000 on mobile computers, educational materials and other supplies in order to provide this service.

Please visit the Good Samaritan Medical Center website to access the full Community Health Needs Assessment: https://www.sclhealth.org/locations/good-samaritan-medical-center/about/community-benefit/