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, Saint Joseph Hospital addressed these social determinants through investments in education, housing stability, food security and poverty reduction.

Saint Joseph Hospital – Denver, CO

- **400** beds
- **4,444** births
- **Top 2%** in the Nation for Clinical Excellence
- **System Total** $259.4M
- Magnet Accredited
- Accredited Chest Pain Center
- SCL Health Community Benefit 2017
- Government Shortfalls
- Financial Aid and Charity Care
- Community Health Improvement Services
- Health Professions Education
- Community Building
- In-Kind Contributions
- Other Means-Tested Government Programs
- Subsidized Health Services

We reveal and foster God’s healing love by improving the health of the people and communities we serve, especially those who are poor and vulnerable.
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 \textbf{1,600 individuals} across \textbf{3 states} and \textbf{17 counties}.

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

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

\textbf{1 in 5} Americans will experience a mental illness in a given year.

Suicide is often associated with symptoms of mental illness.

\textbf{10th leading cause of death in the U.S.}

\textbf{2nd leading cause of death among people aged 15-34.}

\textbf{Just over 20\% of children} have had a seriously debilitating mental disorder.

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**Saint Joseph Hospital Initiatives**

**ACCESS TO CARE**

\textit{Food = Health: Food Insecurity Screening}

Graduate Medical Education clinic patients are screened for food insecurity and referred to various community-based organizations for a variety of stabilizing resources. Metro Caring, a healthy food bank near the clinic, generously provides priority to clinic patients and offers vouchers for a two-week supply of fresh, healthy foods. In 2017:

- **1,347 patients referred to community-based resources**
- **11 active community partners, including Metro Caring, Meals on Wheels, and farmers markets**

**EDUCATING FOR THE FUTURE**

\textit{Denver Public Schools Healthcare Internships}

Students from neighborhood high schools with interest in healthcare careers are placed in internship positions in the Saint Joseph Hospital Emergency Department each semester. Students receive training in the Hospital Elder Life Program (HELP), preparing them to skillfully serve patients in the Senior Emergency Department. Additionally, students rotate through the Operating Room, Radiology and Cath Lab, and receive training in disaster preparedness. In 2017:

- **3 associates and 4 volunteer mentors dedicated 1,680 hours to training high school students during the school year**
- **21 associates volunteered 96 hours for food delivery**
- **3,983 lbs. of prepared food were donated**

**TAKING CARE OF OUR MOST VULNERABLE**

\textit{Food Donation to Senior Support Services}

Food that has been prepared but not used in the Saint Joseph Hospital Café is delivered frozen, twice a week to Senior Support Services, a day shelter serving meals to homeless seniors. In 2017:

- **21 associates volunteered 96 hours for food delivery**
- **3,983 lbs. of prepared food were donated**

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Growing with Community

Although Saint Joseph Hospital is in the business of healthcare, our mission guides us to go much deeper when it comes to the people we serve. Delivering medical care is a fairly small part of what contributes to the health status of individuals. Factors like housing, recreation, spirituality, access to transportation and cultural activities can play a large role as well. Recognition of this fact has led to the development of partnerships to help improve community health, such as our strong working relationship with Denver Urban Gardens (DUG). DUG’s mission is to come alongside residents and cultivate gardeners, grow food and nourish community by providing technical expertise and resources.

Timothy Payne, a gardener in the Saint Joseph Hospital neighborhood, is a resident of Marian Plaza. Mr. Payne can be found tending to his section of the Gateway Garden on the hospital campus and is “very proud of my broccoli” according to a recent story published in The Life on Capitol Hill newspaper. The article highlights the collaboration among DUG, Marian Plaza and Saint Joseph Hospital. Offering space for the garden is a shining example of how our work in the community supports the other key elements of health outside of providing patient care.

Saint Joseph Hospital Residency

In an effort to provide care to our most vulnerable community members, including new moms and seniors, Saint Joseph Hospital supports the largest, private, non-university-based medical residency program in the state of Colorado. With programs in Family Medicine, General Surgery, Internal Medicine, and Obstetrics and Gynecology, over one hundred residents serve Saint Joseph Hospital and our clinics, increasing healthcare access to individuals who may not otherwise have the means to receive services.

Over the years, our residency programs have earned a reputation for excellence. Our residents have been some of the best entering their discipline and are recruited from all over the country. Our trainees have been and continue to be our programs’ strongest attribute. The faculty is diverse in experience and interest. Across our four residency programs, we offer diverse experiences that include urban and rural practices, team-based care, strong clinical training and research opportunities. Our hospital utilizes the Lean process improvement methodology and involves residents in quality improvement and patient safety initiatives. Saint Joseph Hospital enjoys full accreditation from the Accreditation Council on Graduate Medical Education (ACGME) and has been commended by that body for its work.
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/