

Hospitals are caring for West Virginia

by advancing wellness and driving economic growth in the communities they serve.



\$1.02B

\$12.5B

West Virginia hospitals contribute \$1.02 billion in community benefit and drive \$12.5 billion in economic impact.

West Virginia Hospitals

Focus on Patient Education and Engagement to Make Our Communities Healthier, Safer and More Productive

West Virginia hospitals collaborate to support communities by:

- Providing high-quality and compassionate care
- Improving health outcomes
- Ensuring access to affordable care
- Advancing health education and research
- Responding to community-specific needs
- Creating and sustaining jobs



The West Virginia Hospital Association is the united voice of 69 hospitals in West Virginia.

For nearly a century WVHA has collaborated with our member hospitals to ensure a healthy West Virginia.

West Virginia Hospitals Statewide Community Benefit Report

West Virginia Hospitals' Community Benefits Reach Nearly \$1.02 Billion Annually

While leading the state's response to the pandemic, West Virginia hospitals and caregivers increased their overall outreach to provide vital wellness services, health education, immunization clinics, health screenings and family support services.

The results of the community investment by West Virginia's nonprofit hospitals are measured annually in hospital - or health system - specific Community Benefit Reports. WVHA aggregates the data for a statewide report. A national standard, set by the Catholic Health Association (chausa.org), defines what counts as community benefit. Nonprofit hospitals report their community benefit investments on Schedule H of their IRS 990 filing. Data here reflects the most current public information available.

Source: Hospital IRS 990 tax returns and Medicare Cost Reports.

The total \$1.02 billion reflects the total community benefit hospitals provide through taxes paid to fund the WV Medicaid program, shortfalls from Medicare and Medicaid services, investments in community programs and education as well as the cost of charity care and bad debt.

\$214M

Provider Taxes

West Virginia Hospitals pay \$214 million annually in provider taxes to help fund the WV Medicaid program.

\$523 M

Medicare & Medicaid Shortfalls

Medicare and West Virginia Medicaid reimbursement are both below the cost the hospital incurs to provide the service, resulting in payment shortfalls.

\$102M

Community Programs & Education

West Virginia Hospitals offer free resources and support to their communities via activities like diabetes education and health fairs, along with providing a setting for health professions education to complete training or certificates in their field of study.

\$177M

Uncompensated Care

West Virginia hospitals provide \$177M in uncompensated care (services for which the patient was unable or chose not to pay). In addition to uninsured West Virginians, the number of patients with high deductible plans is contributing to a growing volume of patients who find themselves unable to pay their portion of a hospital bill after the insurance reimbursement is received.

West Virginia Hospital Patient Visits: 6.8 million

5.6 million outpatient

300,000 inpatient discharges

900,000 treated and released from ERs.

The exponential growth in outpatient treatment options is lowering overall health care costs and reflects hospitals' expanding role in providing wellness services.



West Virginia Hospitals Serve the Needs of Patients 24/7/365

WVHA leverages data and expertise to drive quality improvement initiatives, support economic sustainability, and adoption of sound public policy so hospitals can better serve their communities.



West Virginia Hospitals Best of Care Close to Home

WVHA staff works with hospital members and government officials to lead statewide and regional hospital preparedness and response for public health emergencies, natural disasters, mass-casualty events and national events held in West Virginia.

Hospitals Are Major Economic Catalysts, Supporting West Virginia's Economy and Expanding Community Outreach

WV HOSPITALS:

DIRECTLY EMPLOY NEARLY

49,000

WEST VIRGINIANS.

PAY

\$3.5 BILLION

IN DIRECT WAGES AND BENEFITS

INDIRECTLY SUPPORT ANOTHER

42,000

WEST VIRGINIA JOBS



Clinical/community research and studies



Free/discounted prescriptions and supplies



Health professional education



Meals and nutrition services



Community health education



Immunization clinics



Health screenings



Family support services

Hospitals Expanding Their Role Advancing Community Wellness

West Virginia hospitals invested more than \$102 million in community benefit activities to improve the health of the local citizens, neighborhoods and communities they serve. Data here reflects the most current public information available.

Community benefit activities include providing screening services, working to improve public health through wellness and nutrition activities, educating medical professionals and conducting research to fight disease.

Arrival of COVID in 2020 and the triple surge of flu, RSV, and COVID in subsequent years further heightened the hospitals critical role in supporting their community. With limited staff, supply chain issues, and skyrocketing cost, the hospitals continued to care for their neighbors.

Hospitals Create New Programs to Serve the Community

West Virginia hospitals adapt and expand community programs during challenging times. Many of the innovative approaches remain and will drive wellness outreach in future years.



Farm to Childcare with Pop-Up Kids Markets at Childcare Centers and Fruit & Vegetable Prescriptions

The current health of children in WV predicts the future health of the state's population. This is because children who are overweight/obese as preschoolers are five times as likely as normal-weight children to be overweight/obese adults. West Virginia is only one of four states that has an increasing rate of obesity in two to four-year-old children. Charleston Area Medical Center's Fruit and Vegetable Prescription Project plan is modeled after two evidence-based interventions that have proven successful for increased fruit and vegetable intake in low-income families. Providers at the HealthyKids Wellness and Weight Management program write prescriptions for fruits and vegetables and patients redeem them at local farmers markets or receive a produce box at their appointment.

Nearly 2,500 meals served at Boone Memorial Health's Annual Drive-Through Thanksgiving Dinner



Boone Memorial Health's Dietary Department prepared a total of 2,473 hot, ready-to-eat meals, which were packaged and distributed to community members – free of charge – by volunteers in under three hours. More than 80 volunteers participated, including BMH employees and BMH Auxiliary members, as well as students and staff from Boone County Schools. "This was not just a Boone Memorial Health initiative – it was truly a community-driven effort," said Ray Harrell, BMH General Counsel and Chief External Affairs Officer. "We are incredibly grateful to our local partners for not only donating their time and resources on the day of the event, but for coming to the table with us over the past several weeks to lend their expertise in planning and logistics to ensure traffic and distribution ran smoothly. To see our community come together to support one another with a warm meal and a smile was truly a wonderful thing."

Holiday at the High-Rise

Each year, St. Mary's Medical Center (SMMC) employees and volunteers provide a free holiday dinner and care items to the senior residents who live at Riverview East in Guyandotte. The men and women at the high-rise live on limited incomes and have no food service in their building. SMMC Food and Nutrition Services provided dinner for the residents in December and employees made monetary donations to the SMMC Foundation for the purchase of gift cards for residents to pay for needed items, such as clothing and toiletries. Employees also donated several items. This year, more than 70 hot meals were served, more than \$1,600 in gift cards were distributed and more than \$1,400 in household, food and personal care items were donated.



Jefferson Medical Center sponsors year-round walking program in Ranson



WVU Medicine Jefferson Medical Center sponsored a year-round walking program at the Ranson Civic Center to promote physical wellness and pain management through movement. In addition to providing a free, temperature-controlled space for indoor walking six days a week, Ranson Walks featured two free walking programs – Walk with Ease and Walk 100 Miles in 100 Days®. Walk with Ease is a walking program specifically tailored for those with arthritis to safely make physical activity part of their everyday life. 100 Miles in 100 Days encourages daily movement and incentivized participation by offering a \$10 gas gift card to anyone who completed the full 100 miles and a prize drawing for those who completed at least 50 miles. Nearly 100 community members participated in the two programs and took their first steps towards a healthier future.

Health Fairs on the Rise

The WVU Medicine Wheeling Hospital Quality Department, along with Medical Park Pharmacy and Population Health, hosted 65 health fairs at local high-rise retirement communities, senior services centers, and other area facilities in Ohio County, WV, and surrounding areas. Their pharmacies now offer free next-day delivery of prescriptions, increasing the ease of medication access for patients. Plans are in the works to continue the mini health fairs in Brooke County, WV as well. The fairs featured on-site blood pressure checks, medication reviews, diabetes, CHF, and COPD education, as well as vaccination information.



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