



2010 Community Benefit Report

St. Mary's Health Care System

Introduction to Community Benefit

Community Benefit is the way in which St. Mary's carries out its mission. It is how we demonstrate a commitment to our core values and a reflection of how we serve our community as a not-for-profit organization.

St. Mary's offers many programs and services to ensure the best quality of care is given to our patients and to help those in need who may never enter our facilities. Through our health education programs, health care support services, valued community partnerships, and charity care provisions, St. Mary's is improving the health and well-being of individuals and families that make up our community.

In 2010, St. Mary's provided more than \$14 million in Community Benefit programs and services. St. Mary's is required by Catholic Health East as well as the U.S. Internal Revenue Service to track and report all Community Benefit activities and values each year. These requirements help hold St. Mary's accountable as a not-for-profit health care system.

St. Mary's was named Large Hospital of the Year in 2010 by the Georgia Alliance of Community Hospitals in part because of our strong commitment to Community Benefit. Many thanks to all those who supported and participated in our Community Benefit programs and services throughout the past year. We look forward to another great year in 2011 and hope to expand our programs and services to continue meeting the needs of the Greater Athens community.



Pictures - Left: Local students get up close and personal with St. Mary's DaVinci Surgical System. Middle: Staff puts in extra hours at St. Mary's Habitat for Humanity build. Right: Sally Baker crosses the finish line at the inaugural Next Step 5k.

2010 Community Benefit: By the Numbers

Overall Community Benefit

Total Community Benefit:

\$14,448,621

Unpaid Cost of Medicaid¹:

\$6,714,331

Traditional Charity Care²:

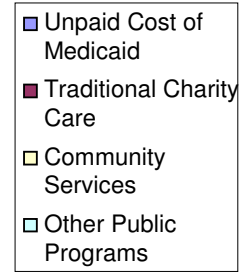
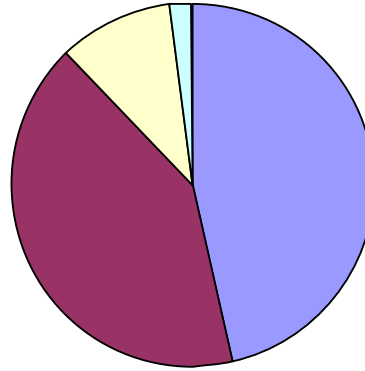
\$5,970,978

Community Services (see below):

\$1,463,195

Other Public Programs³:

\$300,117



¹Unpaid Cost of Medicaid is the costs to the hospital that remain un-reimbursed by the government when treating patients with Medicaid insurance.

²Traditional Charity Care is the cost of free or reduced health services provided to patients who cannot afford to pay and meet St. Mary's Health Care System financial assistance policy criteria.

³Other Public Programs include the un-reimbursed costs of services provided by St. Mary's Health Care System Pediatric Subspecialty Clinic and Emergency Medical Services.

Community Services

Total Community Services:

\$1,463,195

Health Improvement Services⁴:

\$120,237

Health Professions Education:

\$1,123,048

Contributions⁵:

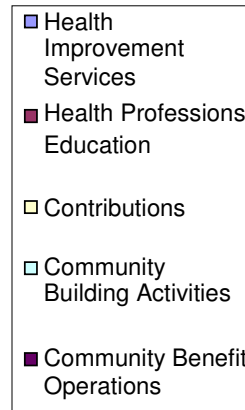
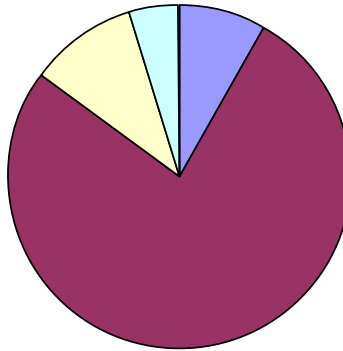
\$150,407

Community Building Activities⁶:

\$67,856

Community Benefit Operations⁷:

\$1,647



⁴Health Improvement Services include programs that offer education or clinical services to community members at no cost.

⁵Contributions include financial and in-kind donations to individuals or organizations not affiliated with St. Mary's Health Care System.

⁶Community Building Activities include programs that address the root causes of health problems, such as poverty, homelessness and environmental problems.

⁷Community Benefit Operations include costs associated with assigned staff in relation to community assessment and community benefit operations.

2010 Community Benefit: Telling Our Story

Health Improvement Services

Athens Goes Pink

St. Mary's participated in a community wide initiative, Athens Goes Pink, to promote breast health and raise awareness about breast cancer. This was a one day event in which many local organizations and business participated. The Radiology Department of St. Mary's provided free mammograms to 41 women who otherwise would have been unable to access this service. The value of this community benefit was more than \$7,500.

Family Birth Center

Healthy infant development and parenting are important to St. Mary's and the staff of the Family Birth Center (FBC). St. Mary's FBC offers several different classes for new mothers and babies. Bundles of Joy is a monthly class offered to mothers who choose to breastfeed. This class offers women a chance to learn from trained nurses and lactation specialists as well as each other. During each class babies are weighed and the staff help monitor each baby's development. Furthermore, FBC staff spends many hours each month calling new mothers at home to provide support, encouragement, and answer questions about breastfeeding or parenting. Finally, Toddle Time is a weekly group for mothers and toddlers which allows mothers to connect with one another and promotes healthy child development. Family Birth Center staff donated more than 1,600 hours to these programs in 2010.

Health Fairs

In 2010, St. Mary's participated in 20 health fairs in Athens and surrounding areas. Numerous departments donated time and supplies to provide health education and health care services to the community. Some of the many services offered included blood pressure and blood sugar screenings, nutrition and fitness education, and information on home health care and hospice services. The total value of time and contributions to health fairs in 2010 was nearly \$14,000.

Global Health Ministries

St. Mary's President & CEO, Don McKenna, traveled to Peru in July 2010 as part of a Global Health Ministry team supported by St. Mary's and Catholic Health East. While in Peru, Mr. McKenna and his wife, a physician, visited a clinic operated by the Sisters of Mercy in a rural, mountainous region of the country. Mr. McKenna delivered numerous supplies and pharmaceuticals that were donated by St. Mary's to the clinic.

Health Professions Education

Student Mentoring

Each year St. Mary's welcomes hundreds of students into our hospital who are studying at local universities and colleges to become health care professionals. The St. Mary's staff spends countless hours mentoring and educating students in the clinical setting. A wide array of students participate in internships and preceptorships including students studying nursing, physical therapy, speech therapy, pharmacy, public health, nutrition, EMS, and public relations. The experience and knowledge gained through these programs is invaluable to their future careers as well as the health care field.

Financial & In-Kind Contributions

Habitat for Humanity

Through a partnership with Habitat for Humanity, St. Mary's had the opportunity to participate in a very meaningful project to address homelessness in Athens. St. Mary's funded the renovation of five apartments which were part of a larger 16 unit complex. The apartments were being renovated in order to be offered to previously homeless families at an affordable rate. Besides providing funding for the renovations, countless St. Mary's staff donated their weekends and days off to provide manual labor in the renovation process. St. Mary's was proud to partner with Athens Area Habitat for Humanity to address a major need in our community.

Athens Health Network

In 2009, St. Mary's became a founding partner of the Athens Health Network. This partnership was originally formed between St. Mary's, Athens Regional Medical Center, Athens-Clarke County government, and the University of Georgia. It was established in order to reduce health disparities of the uninsured and underinsured by creating a seamless, user-friendly safety net of care. Along with the founding four agencies, many other health care providers and stakeholders participate in the Network. Through the work of all partners, the Network is beginning to expand the capacity of the local clinics, implement affordable pharmaceutical programs, and facilitate the introduction of electronic medical records in the clinics. This year, St. Mary's Vice President of Mission Services, Sister Patricia Loomer, was selected to serve as the Chair of the Network. St. Mary's commitment of personnel and other resources to the Network is yet another way in which our organization demonstrates its care for the community.

St. Mary's Health Care System

1230 Baxter Street, Athens, GA 30606

For questions or comments regarding Community Benefit, please call (706) 389-3273.