Responding to community needs is core to our heritage. Decades ago, men and women religious, assessed these needs and heroically developed plans to improve the health of the community. In their efforts and today through our community benefit, we continue to respond to needs and prioritize those who are poor, underserved, and marginalized.

Our community benefit flows from our mission to extend the healing ministry of Jesus. Our commitment to healthcare that leaves no one behind, goes beyond the walls of our hospitals and clinics. It is a commitment to our communities to work closely to develop robust partnerships and relationships with community organizations, government agencies, schools, community members and other providers to identify and address the top health needs.

In fiscal year 2019, AMITA Health provided $253 million in community benefit including care of people living in poverty. The purpose of community benefit programs, activities, partnerships, and interventions is to provide or promote health and healing in response to identified community needs or to do one or more of the following:

- Improve access to health services
- Enhance public health
- Advance medical knowledge
- Relieve or reduce the burden of government to improve health

**OUR TOTAL CONTRIBUTION IN FY2019**

- Community Health Improvement & Community Building: $3.9M
- Health Professions Education & Research: $58.8M
- Financial Assistance (Charity Care): $63.2M
- Subsidized Services: $3M
- Unpaid cost of public programs (Medicaid shortfall): $121.7M
- Community Donations & In-Kind Contributions: $1.9M
- Community Benefit Operations: $337K
- TOTAL: $253M
COMMUNITY BENEFIT IN ACTION

Focus On: Food Access & Insecurity Programs

Just as our Sisters would leave bread out during the Great Depression for those in need, we continue to feed our communities today. Access to nutritious food has quickly risen to the top need among social determinants of health. Those in poverty are likely to reduce or eliminate their budget for food to make ends meet at the end of the month.

In partnership with Northern Illinois Food Bank, AMITA Health hospitals piloted two food insecurity interventions in 2019: Screen & Intervene Food Box Program and the Rx Mobile Pantry Program. Over 1,200 households were served from these programs in 2019.

Additionally, in 2019, micro pantries were introduced to the campuses of several AMITA Health hospitals. These 24/7 emergency food pantries were added based on data indicating over 30% of the population are food insecure, including many of our own associates. The pantries are filled through food drives, with donations from the community and by hospital departments or physicians that graciously “adopt” the pantry to help keep it stocked.

Across the system our hospitals are hosting food markets, mobile pantries, community gardens, weekend food backpack programs and much more to reduce food insecurity.

Focus On: Mental Health First Aid Trainings

Increasing access to behavioral health services, especially those that are poor and vulnerable, is a top concern in our communities. Along with access, a common barrier to treatment is stigma associated with having a substance use disorder or a mental health illness.

In response to a demonstrated system need of addressing barriers to accessing and utilizing mental health services, AMITA Health and its community partners have implemented an evidence-based program, Mental Health First Aid (MHFA), to reduce the stigma associated with mental illness and improve the coordination of mental health care. MHFA trains community residents and first responders to recognize, respond, and seek assistance for signs of mental illness and substance abuse.

In 2019, over 1,330 persons were trained through collaboration with AMITA Health hospitals.

Focus On: Faith Community Nursing

Faith Community Nursing enlivens our mission that is dedicated to promoting wellness and whole person health by addressing emotional, physical, and spiritual needs. Our Faith Community Nursing programs bring that whole-person care to various churches and congregations in the AMITA Health service area. A faith Community Nurse (FCN) is a registered nurse who serves as a member of the staff of a faith community and has specialized education in integrating faith and health.

Clinical screenings, spiritual support services, vaccinations, phone consultations and more are provided by these skilled nurses each year. In 2019, AMITA Health partnered with 25 churches to provide Faith Community Nursing.

COMMUNITY HEALTH NEEDS ASSESSMENTS

AMITA Health conducts community health needs assessments (CHNAs) every three years to better understand and prioritize community benefit planning. Our CHNAs are completed in collaboration with other health providers, health departments and key community organizations. These assessments include both stakeholder and community member surveys as well as both primary and secondary data collection. As a result of our CHNA work, four overarching focus areas have been identified across our system:

- Access to health care
- Behavioral health (including both mental health and substance use disorders)
- Social determinants of health
- Chronic diseases

Based on identified needs, each hospital develops a three-year implementation strategy to create partnerships, programs, or policies to improve health.
OUR COMMUNITY BENEFIT PARTNERS

Transforming communities in no easy task. Through support and collaboration with key community partners, we can uplift the communities we serve together.

**Chicago Metro**
- 1st Congregational Church of Christ
- 2nd, 3rd, and 26th Aldermanic Wards
- Access Community Health Network
- Alderman Burnett’s Office
- Alliance for Health Equity
- Alliance of Logan Square Association
- American Diabetes Association
- Asian Human Services
- Association House
- Between Friends Chicago
- Bickerdike Redevelopment Council
- Block Club Federation
- Boy Scouts of America - Troop 626
- BUILD, Inc.
- Care for Real
- Casa Central
- Catholic Charities, Diocese of Chicago
- CEDA La Casa Norte
- Chicago Fire Department
- Chicago Police Department – 13th, 14th, 16th Districts
- Children’s Behavioral Health Center
- City of Evanston Department of Health and Human Service
- Commonwealth Edison
- Connections for the Homeless
- Depression Bipolar Support Alliance
- Diabetes Empowerment Ct.
- Evanston Township High School
- Evanston Public Library
- Evanston Mayor’s Employer Advisory Council
- Greater West Town
- HAS (Healthcare Alternative Systems)
- Heartland Alliance
- High Ridge YMCA
- Howard Area Community Center
- Howard Brown Health Center
- Illinois Public Health Institute
- Industrial Council
- La Casa Norte
- Levy Senior Center
- Linden House
- Logan Square Neighborhood Association
- LUCHA
- Lurie Children’s
- MADD, Inc
- Maine Community Youth Assistance Foundation
- Mary, Seat of Wisdom Parish
- Meals On-Wheels
- Misericordia Heart of Mercy
- Mr. Kites
- Music Institute of Chicago
- National Diabetes Prevention Program
- New Hope Community Food Pantry
- Niles Family Services
- Niles Fire Department
- Northside Learning Center
- Northwest Food Partners Network
- Norwood Crossing
- Norwood Life Society
- Norwood Park Chamber of Commerce
- Norwood Park Fire Department
- Norwood Senior Center
- Oakton Community College
- Oakton Elementary School Evanston
- Our Lady, Mother of the Church
- Park Ridge Fire Department
- PEER Services
- PrimeCare Health Clinic
- Puerto Rican Cultural Center
- Rainbow Hospice and Palliative Care
- Resurrection College Prep
- Ricky Byrdsong Memorial Race Against Hate
- Ridgeville Park District
- Rosemont Park District
- Rosemont Public Safety
- Rosemont Senior Center
- Salvation Army
- Sandy McDermott Memorial, Nichols Middle School
- Schiller Park Fire Department
- School District 207
- Second Baptist Church
- Silver Lining Foundation
- Sinai Community Institute
- Skokie Fire Department
- Spanish Public Media
- St. Aloysius Parish
- St. Beatrice Parish
- St. Juliana Parish
- St. Maria Goretti Parish
- St. Mark Parish
- St. Thomas Orthodox Church
- Susan G. Komen
- Trilogy Health Services
- Turning Point, Skokie
- Union Ridge Elementary School
- District #66
- Voices 4 Kids
- We’re Out Walking, City of Evanston
- West Town Bikes
- West Side United
- West Town Leadership United

**Northwest Region**
- Access DuPage (DuPage Health Coalition)
- Activate Elgin
- American Cancer Society
- Aurora Interfaith Food Pantry
- Aurora Police Department
- Aurora University
- Bethany Lutheran Church
- Care for the Underserved
- Catholic Charities, Dioceses of Rockford & Joliet
- Centro de Información
- City of Aurora
- City of Aurora Emergency Operations Center Council
- Compañeros en Salud
- Cosmopolitan Club of Aurora
- East Aurora School District
- Ecker Center
- Elgin Community College
- Elgin Hispanic Network
- Family Focus
- Family in Faith Neighborhood
- Food Pantry
- Food for Greater Elgin
- FORWARD DuPage
- Fox Valley Health & Faith Network
- Fox Valley Park District
- FUSE Coalition
- Gail Borden Library
- Glen Ellyn Seventh-day Adventist Church
- Greater Elgin Family Care Center
- Healthy Living Council of Greater Aurora
- Hesed House
- Hope for Tomorrow
- ICNA Relief Food Pantry
- Impact DuPage
- Interfaith Mental Health Coalition
- Kane County Health Department – Circle of Wise Women & AOK Network
- Kane County Mental Health Coalition
- Kane County Ospid Task Force
- Kane County Tobacco Control Coalition
- Kane County Health Counts Collaborative Executive Council & Action Teams
- Main Baptist Church
- Marie Wilkinson Food Pantry
- Meals on Wheels of America
- Muslim Family Services
- NAMI KDK
- Northern Illinois Food Bank
- Northern Illinois University
- Our Lady of Mercy Catholic Church
- Renz Addiction
- Saint Katharine Drexel Catholic Church
- Salvation Army
- Southern Illinois Valley EMS System Providers Council
- Two Rivers Head Start Food Pantry
- Versiti Blood Banks
- Waubonsee Community College
- Wayside Cross
- WINGS Program, Inc

**South Region**
- Access DuPage (DuPage Health Coalition)
- Alliance for Health Equity
- Aunt Martha’s Health & Wellness Beds Plus
- Bloomingdale Chamber of Commerce
- Bolingbrook Chamber of Commerce
- Bolingbrook Park District
- Bradley-Bourbonnais Park District
- Bradley-Bourbonnais School District 307
- Catholic Charities, Diocese of Joliet
- Community Mental Foundation
- Economic Alliance Group of Kane County
- Elmhurst Seventh-day Adventist Church
- Family Guidance Center
- Fortitude Community Outreach
- FORWARD DuPage
- Glendale Heights Chamber of Commerce
- Glen Ellyn Chamber of Commerce
- Greater Joliet Area YMCA
- Helen Wheeler Center for Community Health
- Hinsdale Seventh-day Adventist Church
- Hippocrates Clinic
- Impact DuPage
- Joilet Junior College
- Kankakee Chamber of Commerce
- Kankakee Community College
- Kankakee County Community Services, Inc.
- Kankakee County Health Department
- Kankakee County Hispanic Partnership
- Kankakee Public Library
- Kankakee Salvation Army
- Kankakee School District 114
- KCCASA/ISAS – Kankakee County Center
- Against Sexual Assault
- Lewis University
- Linden Oaks Mental Health First Aid Training
- Manteno Chamber of Commerce
- NAACP
- Northern Illinois Food Bank
- Olivet Nazarene University
- Options Center for Independent Living
- Partnership for a Healthy Community

**Post Acute**
- Bessie’s Table/First United Methodist Church
- Catholic Charities - North/Northwest Center of Concern
- City of Des Plaines Chamber of Commerce & Industry
- City of Des Plaines Health & Human Services
- City of Des Plaines Ministerial Association
- City of Des Plaines Park District
- City of Des Plaines Policy & Fire
- City of Des Plaines Public Library
- City of Des Plaines School District 62
- First Congregation Church of Des Plaines
- Frisbie Senior Center
- Latsof YMCA
- Maine Community Youth Assistance Foundation
- MaineStay Youth and Family Services
- Maryville Academy
- Oakton Community College
- Rotary Club of River Cities
- Science & Arts Academy
- Self-Help Closet and Food Pantry of Des Plaines
- Shrine of Our Lady of Guadalupe
- Unaccompanied Children’s Program

**Kane County**
- Alliance for Health Equity
- Coalition
- Kane County Health Department – South Region
- Kane County Opioid Task Force
- Kane County Mental Health Coalition
- Kane County Tobacco Control Coalition
- Kane County Health Counts Collaborative Executive Council & Action Teams
- Main Baptist Church
- Marie Wilkinson Food Pantry
- Meals on Wheels of America
- Muslim Family Services
- NAMI KDK
- Northern Illinois Food Bank
- Northern Illinois University
- Our Lady of Mercy Catholic Church
- Renz Addiction
- Saint Katharine Drexel Catholic Church
- Salvation Army
- Southern Illinois Valley EMS System Providers Council
- Two Rivers Head Start Food Pantry
- Versiti Blood Banks
- Waubonsee Community College
- Wayside Cross
- WINGS Program, Inc

**Pills Community Health**
- Police and Fire Departments of Kane County
- Project Sun
- Romeoville Chamber of Commerce
- Senior Services of Will County
- United Way of Kane & Iroquois Counties
- United Way of Will County
- University of St. Francis
- VNA Health Care
- Wheaton Chamber of Commerce
- Will County Board of Health
- Will County MAPP Collaborative
- Will-Grundy Medical Clinic
- Workforce Board of Kane, Grundy, and Livingston Counties
- YMCA of Kane

**Elgin**
- American Cancer Society
- Aurora Interfaith Food Pantry
- Aurora Police Department
- Aurora University
- Bethany Lutheran Church
- Care for the Underserved
- Catholic Charities, Dioceses of Rockford & Joliet
- Centro de Información
- City of Aurora
- City of Aurora Emergency Operations Center Council
- Compañeros en Salud
- Cosmopolitan Club of Aurora
- East Aurora School District
- Ecker Center
- Elgin Community College
- Elgin Hispanic Network
- Family Focus
- Family in Faith Neighborhood
- Food Pantry
- Food for Greater Elgin
- FORWARD DuPage
- Fox Valley Health & Faith Network
- Fox Valley Park District
- FUSE Coalition
- Gail Borden Library
- Glen Ellyn Seventh-day Adventist Church
- Greater Elgin Family Care Center
- Healthy Living Council of Greater Aurora
- Hesed House
- Hope for Tomorrow
- ICNA Relief Food Pantry
- Impact DuPage
- Interfaith Mental Health Coalition
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- Kane County Mental Health Coalition
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- Saint Katharine Drexel Catholic Church
- Salvation Army
- Southern Illinois Valley EMS System Providers Council
- Two Rivers Head Start Food Pantry
- Versiti Blood Banks
- Waubonsee Community College
- Wayside Cross
- WINGS Program, Inc