



### **What is health?**

Health is a state of complete physical, mental, social, and spiritual well-being and not merely the absence of disease or infirmity (*adapted from World Health Organization*).

### **What is well-being?**

Well-being includes the presence of positive emotions and moods (e.g., contentment, happiness), the absence of negative emotions (e.g., depression, anxiety), satisfaction with life, fulfillment and positive functioning. (*Centers for Disease Control: [www.cdc.gov/hrqol/wellbeing.htm](http://www.cdc.gov/hrqol/wellbeing.htm)*)

## Community Benefit

**Community Benefit** is the legal term that refers to the broad spectrum of charitable activities and investments that non-profit hospitals undertake to improve health in the communities they serve. As part of their community benefit strategy, these charitable programs, initiatives and resources are in direct alignment with their organizational mission to provide high quality healthcare and advance the health and well-being of their community.

### Among hospital community investments



*Charitable care*



*Community and coalition building*



*Financial support of public health programs*



*Health promotion and education*

**DONATE**

*Donations of funds, property or other resources*

Continued on back >>



# The Community Benefit Process:

## Assess

Assess community health needs data to improve health outcomes.

## Engage

Engage community members & organizations to gather perspectives on health needs.

## Prioritize

Analyze public health input and data to identify significant community health needs.

## Complete

Finalize community health needs assessment & develop implementation strategy, which then serves as the community benefit plan.

## Implement

Implement community benefit action plan to improve community health by working with internal & external partners.

## Evaluate

Evaluate progress of community benefit activities and modify strategies as needed to ensure priority health needs are met.

## Report

Report progress and outcomes of community benefit plan on an annual basis to internal & external audiences.

*The Foundation for Healthy Communities, a non-profit organization that engages in innovative partnerships to improve health and health care in New Hampshire by addressing quality of care, access to care and community prevention.*

## *The charitable activities hospitals engage in are based on community health needs identified in their communities.*

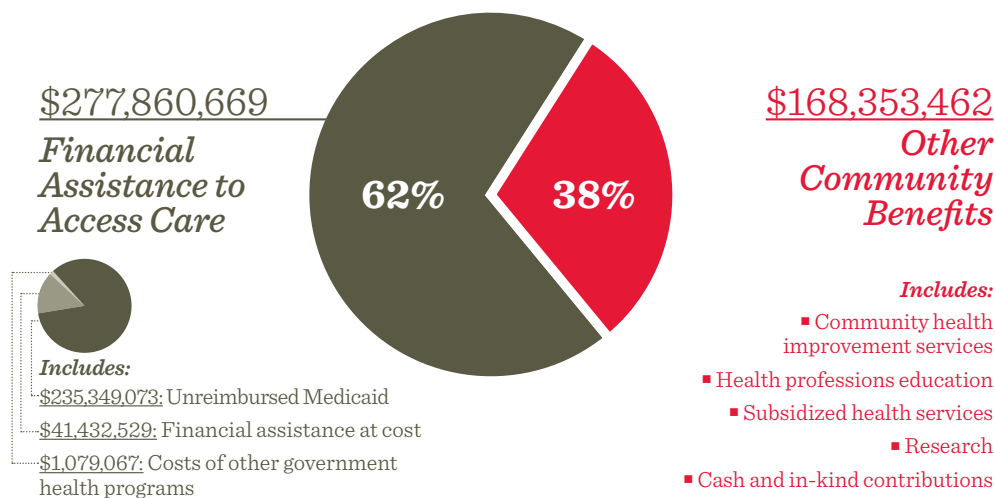
Every 3 years hospitals complete a community health needs assessment by engaging patients, members of the public, and community organizations to gather their perspectives and experiences as they work to manage their health and that of their clients on a day to day basis. The information gathered from patients and the community, combined with public health data, improves a hospital's understanding of how they can use resources and work collectively with their community partners to improve care and support healthy living for better patient outcomes.

## Community Health Improvement Professionals

Those individuals and teams responsible for community benefit planning and reporting specialize in community health improvement. They play a key role in advancing the mission of their organizations to improve the health and well-being of the communities they serve by:

- Collaborating with internal and external partners to conduct community health needs assessments and create community health improvement plans.
- Ensuring these plans build partnerships, leverage community assets and promote effective solutions.
- Leading the development and execution of community health improvement initiatives as part of the implementation plan.
- Measuring their organization's charitable activity and resulting impact on community health.
- Strengthening relationships with internal and external partners critical to advancing community and population health improvement efforts.
- Demonstrating the value of the community investments and charitable activities of their organization.
- Ensuring that the tax-exempt status of their non-profit hospital is maintained through the activities of their community benefit program.

## Value of Community Benefits Provided in 2017 by NH Hospitals: \$446,214,131\*



\*Data reflects the total value in community benefits provided by New Hampshire hospitals in 2017 financial information reported to the IRS.



Foundation for  
Healthy Communities