Improving community health begins with assessing community health status every three years. We obtain input from community members and public health representatives, consult with our partners to prioritize identified community health needs, and develop specific targets and measures for the needs we are best positioned to address. Our implementation strategies are organized into three main priorities in alignment with three core principles of community benefit as shown in this progress report.

Priority #1

*Increase access for persons in our community with disproportionate unmet health needs.*

**Focus | Access is an Aurora Health Care signature community benefit focus**

Along with having a consistent primary care provider and medical home, access to medical care offers an opportunity to detect and treat disease at an earlier stage, improve overall health, prevent disease and disability, and reduce preventable deaths. To address this in 2018:

- 82 patients who arrived at our Emergency Department (ED) seeking non-emergent care and did not have a primary care physician were seen by an Aurora Health Care Medical Group primary care provider within 28 days following their ED visit.
- 1 patient was referred to Health Care Network, Inc. (HCN) to establish a health home. Additionally, we accepted 120 vouchers for radiology, laboratory, and specialty care services for HCN patients.
- 53 behavioral health assessments were conducted in our ED for people presenting in acute mental health or substance use distress to expedite referrals.
Priority #2  
**Build links between our clinical services and local community health improvement plans.**

**Focus | Alcohol and drug use in our community**

The Central Racine County Health Department, key informants, and residents all identified alcohol and drug use/abuse as one of the top three health issues challenging the community. To address this community priority in 2018, our director of emergency services and other hospital team members:

- Provided 60 trainings for Emergency Medical Service (EMS) agencies, with 1,500 individuals trained.
- Established 4 contracts with local law enforcement for Narcan administration oversight; 33 trainings on Narcan administration were conducted for 125 law enforcement officers.
- Screened 114 individuals presenting in our ED after experiencing a fall or injury for which alcohol use was a cause; 31 patients were referred to drug and alcohol follow-up services.
- Helped collect 297 pounds of drugs during a local Take-Back initiative.

**Focus | High blood pressure and chronic disease**

Chronic disease, long-lasting conditions that can usually be controlled but not always cured, ranked among the top five health issues for Racine County. High blood pressure (BP) increases the risk for certain chronic disease development and is often an early sign that there is a problem developing. To address this in Western Racine County during 2018 we:

- Hosted 42 community BP screening events, with 410 individuals screened. As a result, 388 participants received educational information packets and 20 were referred for follow-up care. Participants also agreed to the following behavioral changes:
  - 58 to call a provider
  - 85 to lose weight
  - 85 to retake BP in a week
  - 214 to exercise more
  - 142 to consume less salt
  - 214 to consume less salt
- Provided 32 free drop-in BP screenings at Aurora Health Care Medical Group clinics, with 542 participants; 57 were referred to a provider for high BP management.

As part of Aurora’s population health strategy, 2,261 patients in Aurora’s Burlington and Walworth service area were tested for hepatitis C; 43 tested positive, 22 had positive confirmatory tests, and 21 patients entered treatment.
Priority #3  Address the underlying causes of persistent health problems.

Focus | Senior care

Our NICHE-certified Senior Resource Nurses (SRNs) ensure that older adults receive care that promotes function, autonomy, and dignity. During 2018:

• 2,329 aging adults were served through our Senior Resource Nurse program.
• 928 patients were educated on advance directives, with 296 completing an advance directive.
• 182 families received guidance and support services.
• 24 individuals received medication management and safety education.
• 2 Stepping On series were offered, with 21 attendees.
• 62 Strong Bodies sessions were provided for 67 participants; 53 completed both pre- and post-tests, with 28 showing improvement.

Focus | Sexual assault

Sexual violence can have harmful and lasting consequences for survivors, families, and communities including, but not limited to, unintended pregnancy, sexually transmitted infections, long-term physical consequences, immediate and chronic psychological issues, health behavior risks, and financial costs.

During 2018, our Forensic Nurse Examiners provided trauma-informed care for 20 individuals at our hospital and conducted 39 education, prevention, and outreach programs for 725 community members.

Focus | Newborn health and safety

Raising awareness around infant health and safety is important for preventing illness and unintentional injury. During 2018:

• 4 Spanish language childbirth classes were offered.
• 2 babysitting classes were provided to 31 participants, with 100% showing knowledge gain between pre- and post-tests.
• 59 community members attended an Infant CPR and Safety class conducted by our community outreach nurse.

Students learn how to safely care for infants in the babysitting class at our hospital.
Advocate Aurora Give Well Campaign
During 2018, a total of 110 hospital team members pledged $45,669 to the Advocate Aurora Give Well Campaign, their show of support to the not-for-profit agencies, organizations, and causes in our community that are most important to them. The campaign offers more than 1,300 funds including 350 Aurora funds, local United Way agencies, and other not-for-profit organizations responding to important community needs.

Aurora Health Care* Foundation
give.aurora.org

Community benefits by the numbers

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Category</th>
<th>Amount</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Financial assistance (charity care) at cost*</td>
<td>$1,168,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Medicaid shortfall at cost*</td>
<td>$5,956,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Other means-tested programs at cost*</td>
<td>$125,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Subtotal</strong></td>
<td><strong>$7,249,000</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Community health improvement and education services, and community benefit operations</td>
<td>$578,117</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Health professions education</td>
<td>$127,432</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Other cash and in-kind contributions</td>
<td>$48,987</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Subtotal</strong></td>
<td><strong>$754,536</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Language assistance services**</td>
<td>$7,417</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Volunteer services**</td>
<td>$80,591</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total 2018 Community Benefits</strong>*</td>
<td><strong>$8,091,544</strong></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

* Cost-to-charge ratios are based on Wisconsin Hospital Association percentages.

** In 2018, Advocate Health Care in Illinois and Aurora Health Care in Wisconsin joined together to create Advocate Aurora Health, the 9th largest not-for-profit health system in the country. The State of Illinois requires the inclusion of graduate medical education expenses and the provision of non-employee volunteer and language-assistance services in community benefit reporting. These categories have been added to Aurora’s public reports to create consistency across all Advocate Aurora Health community benefit reports.

*** Aurora Health Care has elected to exclude Medicare shortfalls and bad-debt expenses from the community benefit calculations. However, when Medicare shortfalls are added, our hospital’s total benefit to the community is $20,475,544.

To see our most recent Community Health Needs Assessment report and Implementation Strategy plan, please visit www.aurora.org/commbenefits.