Our community role  Aurora Medical Center in Kenosha, Wis., opened in 1999 to serve the growing Greater Kenosha community. We know that the best care is delivered through kindness and compassion in a safe, accessible care environment. We take a holistic approach to meeting the needs of each patient's body, mind and spirit. As caregivers of Aurora Medical Center, we understand the hospital's connection to the community and are actively engaged with community agencies and organizations at all levels. During 2012, more than 16,300 people were reached through our community benefit programs and activities.
Assessing community health status – an ongoing commitment

Improving the health of our communities is a community-wide effort and begins with assessing community health status. Since 2003, we have underwritten a community health assessment of our service area every three years, conducted in partnership with the Kenosha Health Department. This enables the health department to focus resources on population health issues and enables us to align our charitable resources and expertise to be responsive to identified community health needs. To see community health research dating back to 2003 and our Community Benefit Plan for 2013, please visit: Aurora.org/CommBenefits

Improving access for uninsured persons

Kenosha Community Health Center is a Federally Qualified Health Center that addresses the financial, cultural and language barriers of uninsured people seeking access to health care. The center provides affordable, quality primary medical, dental and behavioral health services to residents of Kenosha County. Our caregivers support Kenosha Community Health Center by donating their time to care for patients in the clinic and connect Aurora Medical Center patients from our Emergency Department obstetrics unit to the clinic for follow-up care. In 2012, we collaborated with the center on an initiative to reduce infant mortality and improve birth outcomes in the Kenosha community.

Combining faith with healing

During 2012, two parish nurses supported by our hospital were familiar faces to parishioners at Lord of Life and St. Mary’s Lutheran churches in Kenosha. These parish nurses assured that people who were dealing with health challenges received the appropriate level of care, support and referrals they needed, and assisted parishioners in managing their health concerns in ways that addressed their spiritual and emotional well-being. Working within these faith communities, our parish nurses were able to respond to parishioners’ questions and concerns about medications, blood pressure, diabetes, nutrition, weight control and end-of-life issues.

Creating a new standard of care with the Sexual Assault Nurse Examiner program

A sexual assault nurse examiner is a specially trained and certified nurse who is available 24 hours a day to collect medical evidence and provide forensic evaluations to assist victims of assault in reporting the crime that has been committed against them, testify as an expert witness in court, and offer emotional support and referrals to vital services, such as counseling and other health care providers. Our nurse examiner advances the capacity of the broader community in Kenosha to respond to issues related to sexual assault and personal violence. In addition, our nurse shares her expertise as faculty for basic and advanced sexual assault nurse examiner training across the region. In 2012, she provided more than 161 hours of training for the Kenosha Fire Department, University of Wisconsin - Parkside incoming freshmen, Kenosha County school counselors, and other local groups and agencies. These educational sessions raised community awareness of the role of sexual assault nurse examiners and how to best advocate for and support victims of sexual assault.

Helping seniors stay in their homes

Our senior resource nurse is a registered nurse who assists aging adults and their families by providing evaluations that take into account all aspects of their lives so as to connect them to community resources that enable elderly persons to either remain independent in their homes or be transitioned to the most optimal environments for their care and well being. During 2012, our senior resource nurses responded to 1,337 referrals and provided professional training and community education that included:

- Working with the Care Transitions Coalition to develop strategies for decreasing 30-day hospital readmissions, which are traumatic for seniors
- Providing presentations for members of the community to learn about Five Wishes advance directives
- Teaching Living Well with Chronic Illness, a six-week course designed to instill seniors with self-care and management skills
- Providing blood pressure screenings at a variety of senior housing facilities and community events
**Other Community Benefit focus areas**

**Behavioral health screenings** – To identify behavioral health needs and expedite care coordination for patients with behavioral health issues, our dedicated **behavioral health navigator program** provided a total of 251 mental health screenings to patients of our hospital, 202 of which were screened in our Emergency Department. As a result, these patients received necessary and appropriate referrals both with and beyond Aurora’s service providers.

**Aurora Sports Medicine Institute** – In 2012, the licensed athletic trainers from Aurora Sports Medicine Institute partnered with local schools across Kenosha County to coach faculty and student athletes on injury prevention and treatment, rehab services and athletic safety education, in addition to providing medical coverage for local school sporting events.

**Stroke support group** – Our stroke support group is open to anyone in the community who has experienced a stroke during his or her lifetime, and their loved ones. This group provided emotional support, helpful tools and strategies, information and education to help stroke survivors live well.

**Cancer support group** – Members of the community who have been affected by cancer participated in our cancer support group, which is held the second Monday of each month. During 2012, our caregivers provided a healing environment and offered support and education for patients and families going through the cancer journey.

**Car seat safety** – We partnered with the Safe Kids Coalition to offer a car seat safety event in 2012. Certified car seat technicians checked car seats and coached parents on how to properly install their infant and child- protection car seats. Our caregivers also provided this service to parents who came to our hospital and requested a car seat safety check.

**Mini medic programs** – Volunteers brought first graders from local schools to our facility, and our caregivers enthusiastically educated them about what it would be like to visit the hospital.

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**Preparing the next generation of health care professionals**

During 2012, our physicians and caregivers partnered with Concordia University, Drake University, Gateway Technical College, Milwaukee Area Technical College, Midwestern University, Mount Mary College, Rosalind Franklin College, South University, University of Minnesota, University of Wisconsin – Milwaukee, and University of Wisconsin – Whitewater to provide internships, preceptors, clinical rotations, and job shadowing for multiple health professional careers. In 2012, our caregivers reported more than 5,500 hours dedicated to health profession education and supervision.
| Financial assistance (charity care) at cost* | $1,375,000 |
| Medicaid shortfall at cost* | $7,574,000 |
| Other means-tested programs at cost* | $722,000 |
| **Subtotal** | **$9,671,000** |
| Community health improvement and education services, and community benefit operations | $286,562 |
| Health professions education | $599,906 |
| Cash and in-kind contributions for community benefit | $381,856 |
| **Subtotal** | **$1,268,324** |
| **Total 2012 community benefits** | **$10,939,324** |

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

During 2012, as part of a patient service area including Kenosha, Racine and northern Illinois, a total of 584 Aurora caregivers pledged $114,375 to the Aurora Partnership Campaign – their show of support for the not-for-profit agencies, organizations and causes in our community that are most important to them. The campaign offers more than 1,600 funds that include more than 300 Aurora funds, local United Way agencies and other not-for-profit organizations responding to important community needs.

To learn how you can make a gift to support programs described in this report, please visit: Aurora.org/Foundation