Our community benefit plan is guided by our community health needs assessment (CHNA). To see our CHNA report, please visit www.aurora.org/commbenefits. This annual report provides updates on our community benefits implementation strategy in 2015.

People who have little or no insurance often arrive to hospital emergency departments (ED) seeking nonemergency care for common illnesses. In 2015, to help individuals establish a health home and receive the care they need, we:

- Referred all patients who arrived in our ED and did not have insurance to establish a “health home” with Kenosha Community Health Center (KCHC), a federally qualified health center (FQHC) that provides quality primary, medical, dental and behavioral health care and addresses the financial, cultural and language barriers that prevent access to health care
- Expedited admissions or referrals for behavioral health services for 523 patients who arrived in our ED with an acute mental health or AODA crisis
- Assisted un- and under-insured patients in applying for coverage through the Federal Insurance Marketplace and Aurora’s Helping Hand Patient Financial Assistance Program to cover their medically necessitated and follow-up care

Priority #1: Increase access for persons in our community with disproportionate unmet health needs.

The Aurora Better Together Fund aims to increase access to primary care and behavioral health services and sexual assault and domestic violence prevention and treatment programs across eastern Wisconsin. Three of our community partners received Aurora Better Together funding in 2015:

- Kenosha Community Health Center
- University of Wisconsin – Parkside
- Women and Children’s Horizons

Visit www.aurorahealthcare.org/better-together to learn more about these organizations and Aurora’s Better Together Fund.

Priority #2: Build links between our clinical services and our local health department’s community health improvement plan.

Infant mortality and child safety
To support the Kenosha Health Department in raising greater awareness about safety for infants and children born in Kenosha County, we:

- Educated 843 new parents (and grandparents) on safe sleep practices, car seat safety and the effects of second-hand smoke
- Completed car seat checks for community members conducted by our certified car seat technician
- Provided more than 50 sleep-sacks to parents to promote safe sleeping practices for infants
- Supported breastfeeding mothers by staffing a lactation consultant who provides telephone consults, advice and support, and facilitates free prenatal and breastfeeding classes, which are open to all.

Diabetes and high blood pressure
*Living Well with Diabetes* is a six-week session during which patients come together to learn about their newly diagnosed type 2 diabetes, the best way to self-manage and share their successes and challenges. Our diabetes educator conducted this workshop two times in 2015 for a combined total of 21 registrants, with a 100% completion rate.

To help community members track and appropriately manage their blood pressure, we continued to offer blood pressure clinics and educational sessions at Westosha Senior Center the second Monday each month and the Twin Lakes Senior Dining Program the fourth Monday each month. In 2015, our nurses completed 108 screenings and provided one-on-one counsel on maintaining control.
Our Aurora Parish Nurse also plays a crucial role in chronic disease management for many community members through outreach at Lord of Life and St. Mary’s Lutheran churches in Kenosha. She is a registered nurse (RN) specialist who encourages physical and spiritual health and wholeness by providing a holistic approach to care and promoting health and wellness to individuals, families, congregations and the community.

Senior Resource Nurse (SRN) Program, chronic disease management, and falls prevention

Our NICHE-certified† Senior Resource Nurses (SRN) responded to 2,549 referrals from physicians and community members for aging adults experiencing degenerative conditions. They provided on-site or in-home assessments and connected vulnerable seniors to community services.

The BRIDGES transition program is a partnership with the Aging and Disability Resource Center to prevent health complications of older and high-risk/complex patients being discharged from inpatient hospital care. Our SRNs connected 504 individuals and their families with community services that helped them experience a smooth transition and avoid rehospitalization.

Falls can cause moderate to severe injuries, such as hip fractures and head injuries, and can increase the risk of early death. Fortunately, there are prevention strategies to reduce falls and related injuries. Including the evidence-based Stepping On program focused on reducing the risk of falls in the elderly. In 2015, a total of 55 participants completed the program at our hospital.

Aurora's Sexual Assault Nurse Examiner (SANE) program

Sexual assault is underreported and definitions can vary across different agencies; therefore, the number and rate may vary depending on the source. Despite these reporting differences, estimates indicate domestic violence and sexual assault are a substantial health concern and continue to be a major health issue in every community with far-ranging complications for victims. Our hospital’s Sexual Assault Nurse Examiner (SANE) is a specially trained registered nurse who offers trauma-Informed and victim-sensitive services to people of all ages. In 2015, our SANE provided forensic evaluations, medical assessment and emotional support to 712 victims of sexual assault.

In 2015, our SANE also:
- Served as a content expert and provided training for law enforcement and fire departments
- Provided educational sessions to students, parents and educators at local elementary, middle, high schools and colleges
- Actively participated on local coalitions and case review teams including but not limited to the Sexual Assault Response Team, Organized Review Committee for Child Abuse, CORE Case Reviews Children and the Wisconsin Coalition Against Sexual Assault

†Nurses Improving Care for Healthsystem Elders

2015 Community benefits by the numbers

| Financial assistance (charity care) at cost* | $713,000 |
| Medicaid shortfall at cost* | $8,912,000 |
| Other means-tested costs at cost* | $465,000 |
| **Subtotal** | **$10,090,000** |
| Community health improvement and education services, and community benefit operations | $742,570 |
| Health professions education | $92,899 |
| Subsidized health services (clinics) | $287,305 |
| Cash and in-kind contributions for community benefit | $136,221 |
| **Subtotal** | **$1,258,995** |
| **Total 2015 community benefits** | **$11,348,995** |

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

** Unlike some community benefit reports that include additional categories as community benefits, Aurora Health Care has elected to exclude Medicare shortfalls and bad debt expenses from the community benefit calculations. However, when Medicare shortfalls are added, Aurora Medical Center Kenosha’s total benefit to the community is $21,237,995.