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:

- 67 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.
- 15 patients were referred to Open Arms Free Clinic (OAFC) to establish a health home.
  - 80 vouchers for radiology and diagnostic services for OAFC patients were accepted at our hospital.
  - 46 OAFC patients received specialty care in the cardiology clinic conducted by our Aurora Health Care Medical Group.

**Priority #2**  
*Build links between our clinical services and local community health improvement plans.*

**Focus | Behavioral Health**

According to our hospital’s most recent Community Health Needs Assessment, mental health and alcohol and other drug use (behavioral health) are ranked among the top five health issues for Walworth County. In 2016, 22% of Walworth County adults reported a mental health condition (such as anxiety disorder, depression, or post-traumatic stress disorder) in the past three years, a significant increase from 2007 (10%). To address this community priority in 2018:

- 67 individuals received suicide screenings in our ED and 62 individuals received problematic alcohol use screening. All individuals were referred for additional care.
- 28 women were referred to the Women’s AODA Wrap-Around program; 16 previously-referred women remained engaged in the program.
- 23 local law enforcement agencies were provided Narcan administration medical oversight by our director of emergency services.
Priority #3 | Address the underlying causes of persistent health problems.

Focus | Chronic disease

Chronic disease, long-lasting conditions that can usually be controlled but not always cured, ranked among the top five health issues for Walworth 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 Walworth County during 2018 we:

- Hosted 30 community BP screening events where 666 individuals were screened. As a result, all received educational information packets, and 29 individuals were referred for follow-up care. Participants also agreed to the following behavioral changes:
  - 52 to call a provider
  - 78 to lose weight
  - 83 to have their BP re-taken in a week
  - 87 to consume less salt
  - 172 to exercise more
  - 9 to quit smoking
- Engaged 419 individuals in discussion on a variety of chronic disease-related topics at the Walworth County Fair.

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.

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 30 individuals at our hospital and conducted 25 education, prevention, and outreach programs for 256 community members.
Focus | Newborn health and safety

Increasing breastfeeding initiation, duration, and exclusivity is part of the 2013-2020 Wisconsin Nutrition, Physical Activity, and Obesity State Plan. To address this at our hospital in 2018:

- 90% of mothers who gave birth in our hospital were breastfeeding at discharge.
- 304 outpatient breastfeeding consults were scheduled with our lactation specialist.
- 423 telephone breastfeeding consults were provided to community members.

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

- 100% of mothers who gave birth at our hospital were educated on car seat safety and safe sleep practices.
- 21 portable cribs were distributed by the Walworth County Public Health Department for patients who delivered at our birthing center.
- 10 infant CPR classes were provided to 73 community members.
- 4 Spanish-language childbirth classes were offered.
- 2 babysitting classes were conducted for 31 attendees with 100% showing knowledge gain between pre- and post-tests.

Focus | Senior care

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

- 1,371 aging adults were served through our SRN program.
- 182 patients were educated on Advance Directives, with 107 completing an Advance Directive.
- 173 families received guidance and support services.
- 34 individuals received medication management and safety education.
- 4 Stepping On series of classes were offered for 32 attendees.
- 9 BP screening events were conducted by our SRNs for 49 attendees.
Every gift can change a life.

Advocate Aurora Give Well Campaign

During 2018, a total of 102 hospital team members pledged $66,897 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

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Community benefits by the numbers

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Description</th>
<th>Amount</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Financial assistance (charity care) at cost*</td>
<td>$1,300,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Medicaid shortfall at cost*</td>
<td>$2,305,000</td>
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<tr>
<td>Other means-tested programs at cost*</td>
<td>$99,000</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Subtotal</strong></td>
<td>$3,704,000</td>
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<tr>
<td>Community health improvement and education services, and community benefit operations</td>
<td>$319,390</td>
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<tr>
<td>Health professions education and GME**</td>
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<tr>
<td>Other cash and in-kind contributions</td>
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<td><strong>Subtotal</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td>Language assistance services**</td>
<td>$35,228</td>
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<tr>
<td>Volunteer services**</td>
<td>$26,864</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total 2018 Community Benefits</strong>*</td>
<td>$4,435,309</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 $10,609,309.

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