

Community Benefit Annual Report

As part of our commitment to Billings and the State of Montana, St. Vincent Healthcare improves the health of the communities we serve, especially the poor and vulnerable. Our founders, the Sisters of Charity of Leavenworth, developed innovative ways to provide healthcare in their communities more than 150 years ago. Through a comprehensive assessment of community needs and strong local collaborations, we strive to continue that work today.

Preventing Injuries Saves Lives

Many accidental injuries happen in predictable ways, which means they can be prevented. As a regional leader in trauma services, St. Vincent Healthcare provides community education and injury prevention resources so community members can live their healthiest lives possible. This includes Stop the Bleed training on how to recognize life-threatening bleeding and intervene effectively with direct pressure, wound packing, or a tourniquet. This training was recently offered to the freshmen at Billings West High School.

"I've recently taken care of three patients in the last two weeks who came in with tourniquets that saved their lives from arterial bleeding," said Barry McKenzie, MD, St. Vincent Trauma Director. "These injuries resulted from seemingly innocent household chores from cutting a box to pushing a trash can. These people had someone who knew what to do to keep them alive until they got to the hospital. Their injuries and their vessels are repaired, and they are back home."

St. Vincent's also focuses on preventing falls by offering the evidence-based SAIL program (Stay Active and Independent for Life), which is free to community members over 65-years-old. The Centers for Disease Control (CDC) estimates one out of four older people will fall each year often leading to injury. SAIL is a 12-week injury prevention program focusing on balance, strength, and stretching. "In the SAIL program we teach modified aerobics classes and help participants improve their balance and gain back their strength," said Michelle Amundsen, SAIL instructor. Class offerings are expanding to reach more surrounding areas.



Eric Fisher, Trauma Outreach Coordinator, provides Stop the Bleed training for Billings West High School students.

2024-2026 Community Health Priorities

Every three years St. Vincent Healthcare works with public health stakeholders, community members, and other healthcare providers to understand and assess the most important local health needs.

Based on the most recent assessment in 2023, St. Vincent has identified the health priorities that will be the focus of community benefit efforts, programs, and collaborations for the coming three years:



Access to Healthcare



Behavioral Health



Healthy Weight



Injury and Violence Prevention

St. Vincent Healthcare – 2022 Community Collaborators

- Adult and Teen Challenge Pacific NW
- Adult Resource Alliance
- AHEC (Area Health Education Center)
- AIDS Spirit
- All City Graduation
- Alzheimer's Association
- American Cancer Society
- American Foundation for Suicide Prevention
- Better Billings Foundation
- Big Sky Bioscience Alliance
- Big Sky Senior Services
- Big Sky State Games/Montana Amateur Sports
- Billings Catholic Schools
- Billings Chamber of Commerce
- Billings Christian Schools
- Billings Clinic
- Billings Community Foundation
- Billings Family YMCA
- Billings Food Bank
- Billings Library Foundation
- Boys and Girls Club of Lewistown
- Boys and Girls Club of Yellowstone County
- Broadwater Elementary School
- CASA of Yellowstone County
- Catholic Social Services of Montana
- Chase Hawks Memorial Association
- City College at MSUB
- College of Great Falls
- Community Crisis Center
- Community Leadership & Development Inc. (CLDI)
- Continuum of Care Coalition
- Dementia Friendly Billings Coalition
- Dog Tag Buddies
- Dress for Success
- Eastern Regional Trauma Advisory Committee
- Education Foundation for Billings Public Schools
- Family Promise
- Family Service Inc.
- Family Tree Nurturing Center
- Foster Grandparent Program
- Gallatin Valley YMCA
- Habitat for Humanity
- Healthy By Design Coalition
- Healthy Mothers Healthy Babies
- LaVie
- Leadership Montana
- Mary Queen of Peace Parish
- MDT Adopt-a-Highway
- Missions United
- Montana Academy of Family Physicians
- Montana Alzheimer's Association
- Montana Conference on Suicide Prevention
- Montana Department of Public Health and Human Services
- Montana Family Medical Residency Program
- Montana Hospital Association
- Montana Office of Rural Health
- Montana State University
- Montana State University Billings
- MS (Multiple Sclerosis) Society

What is Community Benefit?

Community benefit is integral to the mission of Catholic and other not-for-profit hospitals. It is an extension of our 'historic mission to the communities' especially the vulnerable and disenfranchised. The IRS has federal requirements for nonprofit hospitals like St. Vincent Healthcare to report their investments in Community Benefit activities, which are programs or activities that provide treatment and/or promote health and healing as a response to community needs:

- Improve access to care
- Enhance the health of a community
- Advance medical or health knowledge
- Reduce the burden of health care on local, state, or federal government

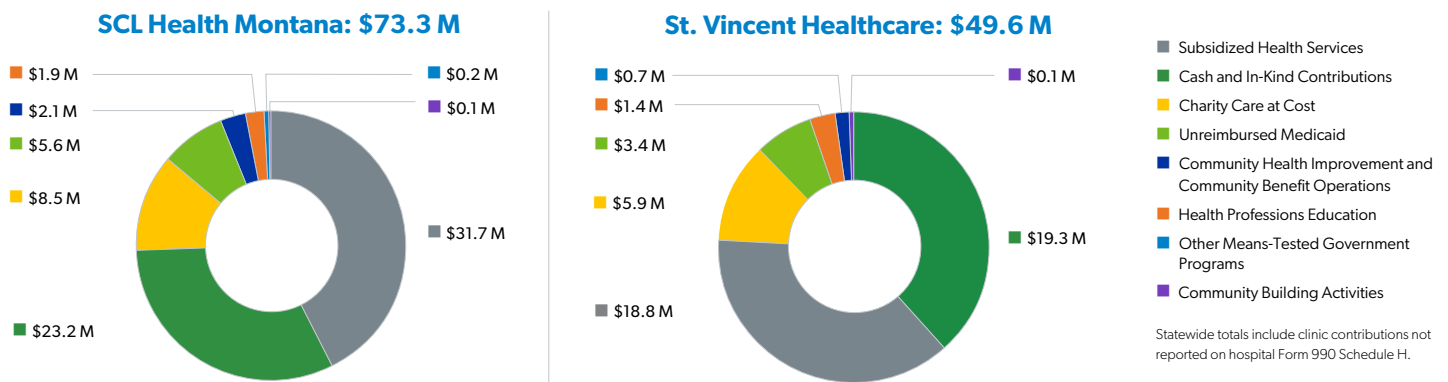
When reporting to the IRS, Community Benefit investments are organized into the following general categories:

- Unreimbursed costs for care provided to Medicaid beneficiaries

- Charity care and financial assistance for patients who are unable to pay for care
- Cash and in-kind contributions to support identified community health needs
- Health professions education, including clinical training for nursing, pharmacy, and other health professions
- Subsidized health services, which are services provided at a loss but without which the community's access to care would suffer

- Means-tested government programs, which includes the unreimbursed care under means-tested programs like the Children's Health Insurance Plan
- Community health improvement services, including health screenings and community health education
- Community building activities, including economic development efforts and other community supports

2022 Community Benefit Investments



2022 By the Numbers



1,310

Hours provided by St. Vincent caregivers in support of community organizations.



94

Community organizations that collaborated with St. Vincent on community benefit activities.

11

Crucial hospital departments that continued offering subsidized health services, including the infusion center for cancer care, neonatal intensive care for premature and ill newborns, and pediatric intensive care unit for critically ill or injured children.



St. Vincent Healthcare – 2022 Community Collaborators (continued)

- No Kid Hungry MT
- NAMI (National Alliance on Mental Illness)
- Pack the Place in Pink
- Project Smile
- Ramsey Keller Foundation
- Rehabilitation Hospital of Montana
- Rimrock
- RiverStone Health
- Rocky Mountain College
- Rocky Mountain Hemophilia
- Rocky Mountain Tribal Leaders Council
- Rocky Vista University Montana College of Osteopathic Medicine
- Ronald McDonald House
- Salvation Army
- School District 2, School Health Advisory Committee
- Sheridan Memorial Hospital Foundation
- Spare Change for Real Change
- Special K Ranch
- Special Olympics Montana
- St. Vincent de Paul Society
- Substance Abuse Connect Coalition
- Suicide Prevention Coalition of Yellowstone Valley
- Thrive
- TrailNet
- Unified Health Command
- United Way of Yellowstone County
- University of Montana
- Vitalant
- Walla Walla University Billings Mental Health Clinic
- Yellowstone County EMS Services
- Yellowstone County School District 3
- YES Kids
- Young Families Early Head Start
- Youth Dynamics
- YWCA Billings