

Hospitals are caring for West Virginia

by advancing wellness and driving economic growth in the communities they serve.



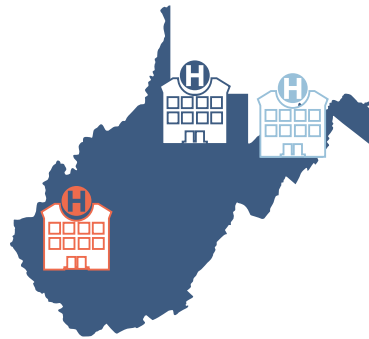
\$1.05B

\$13.9B

West Virginia hospitals contribute \$1.05 billion in community benefit and drive \$13.9 billion in economic impact.

West Virginia Hospitals

Focus on Patient Education and Engagement to Make Our Communities Healthier, Safer and More Productive



West Virginia hospitals collaborate to support communities by:

- Providing high-quality and compassionate care
- Improving health outcomes
- Ensuring access to affordable care
- Advancing health education and research
- Responding to community-specific needs
- Creating and sustaining jobs

The West Virginia Hospital Association is the united voice of hospitals in West Virginia.

For nearly a century WVHA has collaborated with our member hospitals to ensure a healthy West Virginia.

West Virginia Hospitals Statewide Community Benefit Report

West Virginia Hospitals' Community Benefits Reach Nearly \$1.05 Billion Annually

West Virginia hospitals and caregivers continue to increase their overall outreach to provide vital wellness services, health education, immunization clinics, health screenings and family support services.

The results of the community investment by West Virginia's nonprofit hospitals are measured annually in hospital - or health system - specific Community Benefit Reports. WVHA aggregates the data for a statewide report. A national standard, set by the Catholic Health Association (chausa.org), defines what counts as community benefit. Nonprofit hospitals report their community benefit investments on Schedule H of their IRS 990 filing. Data here reflects the most current public information available.

The total \$1.05 billion reflects the total community benefit hospitals provide through taxes paid to fund the WV Medicaid program, shortfalls from Medicare and Medicaid services, investments in community programs and education as well as the cost of charity care and bad debt.

\$214M

Provider Taxes

West Virginia Hospitals pay an estimated \$214 million annually in provider taxes to help fund the WV Medicaid program.

\$550M

Medicare & Medicaid Shortfalls

Medicare and West Virginia Medicaid reimbursement are both below the cost the hospital incurs to provide the service, resulting in payment shortfalls.

\$81M

Community Programs & Education

West Virginia Hospitals offer free resources and support to their communities via activities like diabetes education and health fairs, along with providing a setting for health professions education to complete training or certificates in their field of study.

\$203M

Uncompensated Care

West Virginia hospitals provide \$203M in uncompensated care (services for which the patient was unable or chose not to pay). In addition to uninsured West Virginians, the number of patients with high deductible plans is contributing to a growing volume of patients who find themselves unable to pay their portion of a hospital bill after the insurance reimbursement is received.

West Virginia Hospital Patient Visits: 6.8 million

5.6 million outpatient visits

318,000 inpatient stays

870,000 ED visits (treated and released)

The exponential growth in outpatient treatment options is lowering overall health care costs and reflects hospitals' expanding role in providing wellness services.



West Virginia Hospitals Serve the Needs of Patients 24/7/365

WVHA leverages data and expertise to drive quality improvement initiatives, support economic sustainability, and adoption of sound public policy so hospitals can better serve their communities.



West Virginia Hospitals Best of Care Close to Home

WVHA staff works with hospital members and government officials to lead statewide and regional hospital preparedness and response for public health emergencies, natural disasters, mass-casualty events and national events held in West Virginia.

Hospitals Are Major Economic Catalysts, Supporting West Virginia's Economy and Expanding Community Outreach



Clinical/community
research and studies



Free/discounted
prescriptions and
supplies



Health professional
education



Meals and nutrition
services



Community health
education



Immunization clinics



Health screenings



Family support
services

WV HOSPITALS:

DIRECTLY EMPLOY NEARLY

53,000

WEST VIRGINIANS.

PAY

\$3.77 BILLION

IN DIRECT WAGES AND BENEFITS

INDIRECTLY SUPPORT ANOTHER

45,000

WEST VIRGINIA JOBS

Hospitals Expanding Their Role Advancing Community Wellness

West Virginia hospitals invested more than \$81 million in community benefit activities to improve the health of the local citizens, neighborhoods and communities they serve. Data here reflects the most current public information available.

Community benefit activities include providing screening services, working to improve public health through wellness and nutrition activities, educating medical professionals and conducting research to fight disease.

Hospitals play an unparalleled role within the health care sector, serving as vital pillars in promoting the health and well-being of their communities. Particularly commendable is the manner in which hospitals respond to a myriad of challenges: limited staff, supply chain issues, and skyrocketing costs associated with labor, medical supplies and drugs. Hospitals are continuing to care for their neighbors and are committed to delivering essential services and programs for all West Virginians.

340B Drug Pricing Program Provides Community Support

For nearly 30 years, the 340B Drug Pricing Program has helped West Virginia hospitals and other providers serving vulnerable patients and communities stretch scarce resources to expand access to care.

Congress created the 340B drug savings program to help hospitals serving vulnerable communities stretch scarce resources as far as possible in order to support essential services for their patients. Because it is funded by drug company discounts, not federal or state tax dollars, the 340B program doesn't cost the government one penny – but it makes a big difference to community hospitals and to the patients that depend on this program.

Hospitals in West Virginia use 340B savings to provide free care for uninsured patients; provide services in mental health clinics; and implement medication management and community health programs, among many other services. To be eligible for the program, hospitals must either care for high-numbers of low-income patients, be a rural hospital, or a hospital that treats a specific patient population like cancer patients or pediatric patients.

The 340B Drug Pricing Program is a small program with big benefits for vulnerable patients and communities. It allows eligible hospitals to stretch scarce resources to establish and support a variety of programs that are improving access and quality of care for low-income and uninsured individuals. Given the increasingly high cost of pharmaceuticals, the 340B program remains essential to creating healthier communities.



How the 340B Drug Pricing Program Impacts our Communities

Cabell Huntington Hospital

- Cash Card program to assist patients who need help paying for prescriptions;
- Meds to beds program to help ensure medication adherence;
- The MOMS (Maternal Opioid Medical Support) program to assist drug addicted mothers;
- The NTU (Neonatal Therapeutic Unit) to provide drug addicted babies with the best possible care and opportunity for recovery;
- Clinical Pharmacists working directly with physicians and patients to determine the best medication to be given.

WVU Health System Hospitals

- Funding to support the Hemophilia program;
- Discharge prescription delivery to bedside including counseling;
- Disease State based Clinical Pharmacists embedded in units;
- Rosenbaum Family House supports patients and families;
- WVU Children's Hospital Kids Fair;
- WVU Healthcare Expo;
- Bonnie's Bus – Women's health services and mobile mammography unit;
- Diabetes Support Group;
- LUCAS – Mobile Lung Cancer Screening Unit.

Boone Memorial Health

- Providing affordable health care, support community health initiatives, and enhance care for underserved populations;
- Helps fund activities of the BMH Foundation for Community Health, including the launch of a Farmers Market and Greenhouse project with \$2.5 million in funding;
- Substance use and mental health treatment programs;
- Initial funding source to support construction of a new hospital facility;
- Increase the meals provided each year through the Annual Community Drive-Through Thanksgiving Dinner.

Davis Medical Center, Broaddus Hospital, Webster Memorial Hospital, Mon Health Preston Memorial Hospital, and Mon Health Stonewall Jackson Memorial Hospital

- Expansion of uncompensated care programs;
- Multiple offerings at patient discounts at community health fairs;
- Offering of substance use peer recovery services;
- Offering health and diabetes education and training in the communities;
- Expansion of oncology and infusion programs across the rural regions.

Hospitals Create New Programs to Serve the Community

West Virginia hospitals adapt and expand community programs during challenging times. Many of the innovative approaches remain and will drive wellness outreach in future years.

Partnership Seeks to Reduce Food Insecurity and Improve Health of the Community

The Vandalia Health Network joined Highmark West Virginia Charitable Fund for Health, of the Highmark Foundation, in announcing a \$1.5 million grant to fund the “Healthy Neighborhood” pilot, a transformational food insecurity program with collaboration between Marshall Health, Mountain Health Network and Dollar General. The initiative plans to address food insecurity and improve health outcomes for eligible West Virginia residents by providing prefunded, restricted-use debit cards for use at Dollar General stores, which provide an assortment of nutritious foods, including produce at select locations. Participants may use the debit card exclusively to purchase any of Dollar General’s “Better for You” food items, which are specially identified on store shelves and highlight healthier product options.



Marshall Health Network Welcomes Future Health Care Leaders Through MedEx Program

Students, their family members, and education leaders from Cabell and Wayne County Schools joined Marshall Health Network to celebrate the inaugural class of the region’s first Medical Explorers (MedEx) program. The MedEx program is a two-year education and health care program that will introduce high school students to Marshall Health and give them first-hand, on-the-job experience in health care careers. This Marshall Health Network program, which is a partnership with both school systems, the Education Alliance, and the West Virginia Department of Education, also serves as a direct pathway to a possible health care career after graduation. During a ceremony at the St. Mary’s Education Center, students signed on the dotted line to show their commitment to the program and were recognized with certificates, their MedEx badge, and a special commemorative coin.



Cancer Survivorship Program at Grant Memorial Hospital

WVU Grant Memorial Hospital Cancer and Infusion Center introduced a Survivorship program shortly following the opening of their Cancer Center in late 2021. This endeavor emerged to meet the desire for fellowship and enjoyable activities among cancer survivors and their loved ones and/or caregivers. The survivorship program is open to all cancer survivors in the community. A survivorship program committee comprised of WVU-GMH hospital employees and community members, oversee the program and organizes an annual color run in October to raise funds to support the program’s activities. These activities include an array of experiences such as an annual dinner with educational and survivor speeches, artistic paint nights, a visit to local lavender farm, engaging bingo sessions, and therapeutic exercise evenings. The impact of these gatherings has been profoundly positive, significantly uplifting the spirits and overall wellness of participants.



FARMacy Program Tackles Food Insecurity

In the U.S., social determinants of health such as where people live, their social support, access to health care, education and healthy food, financial distress, etc. can impact their health. Many adults and children in West Virginia face food insecurity. The FARMacy Program is designed to provide fresh fruits and vegetables and nutrition and physical fitness education to patients managing diabetes. “We are thrilled to introduce our FARMacy program, which represents a significant step forward in our commitment to promoting health and wellness in rural West Virginia,” said Michelle Coon, president, Vandalia Health Network. “We plan to have more locations in different areas of the state.” Vandalia Health Network and its partners plan to expand the FARMacy program to five rural regions across West Virginia identified as food deserts or food swamps. Funding supports a 15-week program offering food, labs, health education classes, cooking classes and incentives.



WVU Medicine Jackson General Hospital Provides Vape Prevention Education to Local Youth

WVU Medicine Jackson General Hospital has partnered with the West Virginia Department of Health's Bureau for Public Health and the West Virginia Department of Education to launch an anti-vaping campaign in West Virginia schools. Jackson General Hospital Cardiopulmonary Director, Tim Ritz, RRT, is working to implement national CATCH My Breath curriculum at Ravenswood Middle School. The CATCH My Breath Program is offered as part of the state initiative, "West Virginia's Clear Future: Don't Let Vaping Cloud It." The national CATCH My Breath curriculum consists of four one-hour sessions delivered in the classroom setting. The program aims to teach students about the harmful effects of e-cigarettes, nicotine addiction, and the marketing tactics used by big tobacco. The program also covers the "ARE" technique to avoid, resist, and exit situations where vaping may occur.



Minnie Hamilton Health System Providing Specialized Rural Health Care

Harvard TEECH, through the Technology Enabled Education for Community Health program, developed by the Harvard Medical School Center for Primary Care, utilizes the ECHO+ Model to equip rural primary care practitioners with specialized knowledge. This model integrates Project ECHO's tele-mentoring and case conferences with Harvard's formal certificate courses and quality improvement methodologies. Minnie Hamilton Health System's team focuses on chronic disease management, setting SMART goals, and documenting PDSA cycles. The program has positively impacted health care delivery in low-income communities in Calhoun and neighboring counties, with all 13 Minnie Hamilton providers completing courses on Long-COVID, cardiovascular diseases, behavioral health integration, and metabolic risk. Continuous quality improvement measures include follow-up care for COVID patients and hypertension management. Regular reviews by QI teams and Harvard faculty enhance the program's effectiveness, fostering a dynamic learning environment that elevates community health care.



Toddler Tuesdays and Wellness Wednesdays

In partnership with the Huntington Mall, Marshall Health Network (MHN) hosts monthly Toddler Tuesdays and Wellness Wednesdays for those in Huntington and surrounding communities. Toddler Tuesdays gives families the opportunity to bring their toddler for a visit with MHN physicians to learn more about healthy habits for children. The Wellness Wednesday event provides a chance for one-on-one interaction with specialists from across MHN as they provide free screenings and share information on important health topics.



Beckley ARH Offers Weekly Rails and Trails Walks

Beckley ARH has partnered with Active Southern West Virginia to encourage community members to engage in regular physical activity. Through this collaboration, Beckley ARH hosts weekly walks along their local rails and trails pathways, featuring a different doctor each time. During these walks, the participating doctors discuss a variety of health and medical topics, providing valuable insights and practical advice. Participants are encouraged to ask questions, allowing for an open dialogue and the opportunity to get to know the doctors personally. This initiative not only promotes physical fitness but also fosters a greater understanding of health and wellness within the community.



Pocahontas Memorial Hospital Educates Community on Breast Cancer and Risk Reduction

FNP Donna Lidel-Burley from the Pocahontas Memorial Hospital (PMH) Rural Health Clinic delivered an educational presentation on breast cancer and risk reduction to a large community audience. Following the presentation, the PMH Dietary department prepared a buffet luncheon. Afterwards, the Mammography team conducted small group tours of their brand-new Mammography unit within the Radiology Department.



Source: Data generated for this Report was compiled from Hospital IRS 990 tax returns, Medicare Cost Reports, Discharge Data, and other publicly available sources.

September 2024