How Hospitals Care for their Communities

Investing in Long Island & the Future of Healthcare

Long Island's hospitals care for a diverse population, offering specialized programs, targeted interventions, and innovative health solutions, every day, 24 hours a day. They expertly meet patients' varied needs because they listen to what the community says is important to its health and well-being. In 2019, there were 2,834,974 visits to hospitals. (1) The majority were insured by Medicare and Medicaid, government payers.

\$1 Billion Invested

Community Investment Highlights

EDUCATION AND RESEARCH Millions are invested each year in training physicians, nurses, and other health professionals through residency programs, internships, and clinical rotations to prepare the next generation of healthcare workers for the region. Long Island's hospitals also participate in cutting-edge research, clinical trials, and other evaluative studies for the benefit of the broader provider and patient communities.

CHARITY CARE/BAD DEBT Long Island's hospitals exceed federal and state charity care requirements, offering free care for those with incomes up to 300% of the federal poverty level, and discounted care ranging from 400-500%. (2) Hospitals absorb these losses, which are classified as bad debt.

COMMUNITY HEALTH ACTIVITIES Every hospital provides programs and services to the community in response to an assessment of the community's needs. These include free screenings, mobile health vans, free disease-specific education, and partnerships with community-based organizations to provide a range of social and behavioral determinants of health interventions, such as food assistance, transportation services, and mental health counseling. Through the Long Island Health Collaborative, hospitals and other providers, community-based organizations and county departments of health collaborate to address community health goals.

Community Health and Charity Care data from 2019 IRS 990, all other data from 2019 Medicare Institutional Cost Reports

Regional Health Priorities

Chronic disease, which affects one in every two adults according to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, drives much of healthcare delivery. Community health assessments reveal this time and time again. Concerns about cancer, diabetes, heart disease, and mental health are top of mind for Long Islanders. In response, our region's hospitals support centers of excellence in diagnostics, treatment, and prevention for a range of both chronic health conditions and acute diseases and injuries.

Ensuring Access for All

Our hospitals work collectively with community-based organization providers, school systems, and regional planning organizations to reduce health disparities and ensure that all have access to quality care. Between 2012 and 2019, the percentage of uninsured individuals dropped from 9.5% to 4.6%. (3) Our region is a microcosm of the state health department's ambitious Prevention Agenda, which seeks to dramatically reduce health disparities and improve the health of all New Yorkers. Our collective Prevention Agenda priorities for the region are prevent chronic diseases and promote well-being and prevent mental and substance use disorders.





Despite restrictive financial circumstances, Long Island hospitals make all of these investments.

