

IMPROVING COMMUNITY HEALTH: Community Benefit Impact 2020

Access to Care Highlights

IMPROVING CARE COORDINATION FOR THE VULNERABLE

- In continued partnership with Maryville Academy, 124 unaccompanied immigrant children were provided with health care services by AMITA Health in FY20.
- AMITA Health continues to provide in-kind clinic space for Aunt Martha's Health & Wellness (FQHC) to ensure ease of access to quality health care for the low-income community. This location had over 9,500 visits in FY20 including over 4,600 unique patient visits.
- A joint operating committee was established between Access Community Health Network (FQHC) and AMITA Health to ensure low-income mothers have access to proper prenatal care as well as planned delivery location.
- The New Beginnings Prenatal Program assisted 540 high risk and low-income women with education and access to care in FY20.
- Through our support & collaboration with Access DuPage, over 4,900 vulnerable persons were provided with access to free, on-going medical care as well as over 840 persons were able to purchase insurance coverage with subsidies AMITA Health supported.

CREATING LINKAGES TO SERVICES

- The Nurse in Library program provided 45 personal consultations to those patrons in need of assistance to health services or social services.
- 416 AMITA Health associates utilized our social determinant of health software, AMITA Health Community Resources, to connect and refer patients to local resources such as food pantries, health clinics, utilities support and more. Over 3,000 searches for resources were conducted in 2020.

Behavioral Health Highlights

INCREASING EDUCATION & REDUCING STIGMA OF MENTAL ILLNESS

- AMITA Health has committed to providing free mental health first aid training and workshops in all our hospital communities. In FY20, trainings were provided to 293 community members in English & 22 community members in Spanish.
- AMITA Health has committed to providing free education on mental health issues each year. These trainings are offered to parents, teachers and other persons in need of support, education and resources. In FY20, 73 different sessions were offered assisting over 4,100 community members.

PROVIDING LINKAGE TO SERVICES

- Our hospitals continued to provide free clinical assessments to assist in increasing access to mental health care. During the fiscal year, over 7,500 free assessments were completed for the community.

IMPROVING CARE COORDINATION FOR THE VULNERABLE

- AMITA Health began offering a warm hand-off program in two of our hospitals to identify patients with substance use disorder, assess and navigate to local treatment options. In FY20, over 3,200 persons were screened, navigated to treatment and/or provided with free naloxone to prevent future overdoses.
- Keys to Recovery, an inpatient and outpatient substance abuse treatment program that provides treatment for substance abuse with a holistic approach, and Saint Michael's House, a program for law enforcement and first responders to obtain confidential access to substance abuse disorder treatment, assisted 1,195 persons in 2020.

Chronic Disease Prevention & Management Highlights

REDUCING DIABETES PREVALENCE

- AMITA Health is committed to providing free diabetes prevention programs to our most vulnerable community members. In FY20, 113 persons were assisted through this free community program.
- Our Diabetes Centers and Community Health Nurses provided free screenings and community health education events to help reduce the risk for undiagnosed diabetes. Additionally, when the COVID-19 pandemic began, the diabetes staff began conducting free counseling phone calls to current and new diabetes patients.
- In partnership with Pillars Community Health, low-income patients were able to stabilize or reduce A1C levels with routine care and disease management.

STABILIZING HEALTH IN THE COMMUNITY

- AMITA Health continued to provide the Faith Community Nursing program to local churches and parishes. In FY20, over 7,900 health visits & services were provided in partnership with 22 parishes and churches.

INCREASING PHYSICAL ACTIVITY & EDUCATION

- AMITA Health continued to provide free exercise and fitness program in low-income settings to reduce transportation barriers and increase access to physical activity. Through the Fit N Healthy and We Fit programs in FY20, over 900 persons attended free classes.
- Our annual CANDO camp for urban, low-income youth that focuses on nutrition education and physical activity was provided to 44 students.

Social Determinants of Health Highlights

INCREASING YOUTH WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT

- AMITA Health continued to partner with Chicago Public Schools & Evanston Public Schools on workforce development education & experiences. In the 2019-20 school year, 153 students shadowed health professionals and participated in internship programs.
- Beginning in the fall of 2019, AMITA Health began hosting high school students in partnership with Kankakee District 111, to complete their CNA certificates to increase workforce readiness skills. In FY20, twenty-seven students completed their training program at AMITA.

PROVIDING LINKAGES TO SERVICES

- AMITA Health partnered with Lyft transportation services & other transportation services to assist patients with transportation to and from the hospital for services. Over 980 patients were helped with this service in FY20.
- AMITA Health continued their partnership with WINGS, a domestic violence prevention organization, to provide on-site intervention services to 179 individuals, who have been harmed.
- In collaboration with Beds Plus & Pillars Community Health, the La Grange Family Medicine Residency Clinic continued to offer day center program health consultations and linkages to routine health services for the homeless.

INCREASING ACCESS TO FOOD

- Rx Mobile Food Pantry was initiated, in partnership with Northern Illinois Food Bank, to bring an on-site mobile food pantry truck twice per month to provide free produce, meat and dairy. This initiative provided food to over 15,100 persons in FY20.
- AMITA Health continued to host its 24/7 emergency food pantry, a micro pantry, at five hospitals in FY20. Associates time was spent organizing and coordinating donations for the pantry that provides 500 meals per month to those in need.
- AMITA Health was a summer meal hosting site that provided meals for children without access to food in the summer months. At the peak of programming (June 2020) over 700 boxed meals were provided each week to children in need.
- During the school year, over 60 backpacks filled with nutritious foods were given to children in need of food on the weekends. In partnership with local schools, AMITA worked to identify and provide this reliable food source for low-income children and their families.
- Through our three hospital community gardens, over 4,500 pounds of fresh produce and herbs was given to local food pantries or directly to our patients in need.
- The West Town Health Market increased the availability of free produce to SNAP recipients. During the 2020 market season, over 4,600 vouchers were redeemed by SNAP participants for free fruit and produce.