

# Mercy Hospital St. Louis Community Benefit Report

Total Community Benefit  
**\$86,191,000**

## EPICC Opioid Overdose Response Project

### Behavioral Health Network of Greater St. Louis

Mercy Hospital St. Louis has partnered with the Behavioral Health Network (BHN) to implement a new project working to address our communities' current opioid crisis.

EPICC (Engaging Patients in Care Coordination) creates access to recovery coach peers and other treatment services for those who present with or recently experienced an opioid-related overdose in the emergency department.

BHN recovery coaches perform outreach 24/7 and meet with patients in the emergency department right after an overdose has occurred. They accept referrals, enhance engagement and maintain contact to support retention in services, foster recovery, and reduce overdose rates that have reached epidemic levels in the region.

Since the implementation of the EPICC project at Mercy Hospital St. Louis, recovery coaches have met with 97 patients and scheduled 92 follow-up treatment appointments. Patients opting into this intervention method

maintained a 40 percent engagement rate in treatment services, which is significantly higher than the national average.

The BHN also works closely with the MO-Hope Project to provide opioid overdose education and distribute Narcan (a medication that blocks opioids and reverses overdose) to prevent overdose and reduce harm.

Over the last year, the EPICC Program has expanded to all Mercy emergency departments in Jefferson, Lincoln and Franklin County. This program aims to identify and support those people most at risk of a fatal overdose.

This partnership is one of several ways that Mercy Hospital St. Louis is addressing the top health priority of substance use, as determined by the hospital's 2016 community health needs assessment.

For more details on the EPICC project and other BHN collaborative programs, visit: <http://www.bhnstl.org/current-projects/>.

#### Charity Care

Includes the actual cost of providing free or discounted care to persons who cannot afford to pay and who are not eligible for public programs. Charity care does not include bad debt.  
Benefit: \$33,196,000

#### Community Outreach Services

Includes activities carried out to improve community health and services that are subsidized because they are needed in the community. Examples: education, support groups, health screenings, and immunizations.  
Benefit: \$3,618,000

#### Health Professionals

##### Education and Research

Includes the cost of providing clinical placement for physicians, nurses and other health professionals plus the costs of the nursing anesthesia, EMS and radiology schools.  
Benefit: \$6,223,000

#### Cash, In-Kind Donations, Workforce

##### Enhancement and Fundraising

Includes cash, in-kind donations, fundraising costs, food & supplies to shelters, use of Mercy rooms and facilities, donated office space and recruitment of health professionals in medically underserved areas.  
Benefit: \$308,000

#### Medicaid Subsidies

Includes the actual unpaid cost of providing care to Medicaid patients and represents the shortfall between cost of care and the payments received by the government.  
Benefit: \$42,845,000.