

Mercy Hospital Washington Community Benefit Report

Total Community Benefit: \$4,119,158

Total Persons Served: 28,534

EPICC Opioid Overdose Response Project

Beginning Q4, FY18, Mercy Hospital Washington joined other Mercy East hospitals in partnering with Behavioral Health Network 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.

Behavioral Health Network 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. This program aims to identify and support those people most at risk of a fatal overdose.

Since the implementation of the EPICC project at Mercy's East Hospitals in July 2017, recovery coaches have met with 254 patients and scheduled 232 follow-up treatment appointments. Mercy Hospital Washington saw 31 patients and 28 were scheduled for 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.

Mercy and Behavioral Health Network also work 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.

These partnerships are examples of the ways Mercy Washington 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 Behavioral Health Network 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: \$3,697,705

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: \$216,089

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: \$93,571

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: \$111,793

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: \$0

Behavioral Health Network
of Greater St. Louis