

Mercy Jefferson Community Benefit Report

Mercy Partners with SafeRide for Patients



Mercy Hospital Jefferson is greatly invested in the health and wellness of Jefferson County. Access to care, complicated by lack of transportation, has been identified by the hospital's 2016 Community Health Needs Assessment as a top health priority, and MHJ leaders are working on creative strategies to address this ongoing problem.

Mercy Hospital Jefferson manages a transportation department with 11 vehicles that provided over 300 trips between October and December to low-income patients with no other means of transportation.

In addition to Mercy Hospital Jefferson's robust transportation department, the hospital is partnering with SafeRide Health to improve access to care and management of high acuity populations such as cardiac care and oncology patients.

Across the U.S., patient "no-shows" for appointments are as high as 30 percent in select populations. It is a large and growing problem.

Within 24 hours of program launch, an elderly, at-risk patient called Mercy to cancel his wound care appointment after his ride canceled at the last minute. He thought his only option was to call 911 for an ambulance that could have cost up to \$2,000.

Mercy Hospital Jefferson enlisted SafeRide to provide a medically appropriate transport in minutes. The care coordinator tracked the arrival, pick up and drop off in real time. The patient arrived for his scheduled appointment two minutes early.

Mercy Hospital Jefferson will continue to build a stronger and healthier Jefferson County by working creatively with its internal transportation department and SafeRide to breakdown transportation barriers for patients.

Total Community Benefit \$(586,165)

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: \$1,415,135

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: \$256,748

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: \$111,776

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: \$16,572

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: (\$2,386,396)