

# Mercy Kansas Community Benefit Report

## Health Care and Industry Team up to Tackle Type 2 Diabetes

Total Community Benefit  
**\$1,290,000**



Mercy Hospital Fort Scott and Peerless Products, Inc., joined forces to support a pilot program aimed at preventing Type 2 Diabetes in Bourbon County.

The Mercy Diabetes Prevention Program, a new service line at Mercy, is funded through a "Pathways to a Healthy Kansas" implementation grant from Blue Cross and Blue Shield of Kansas. It is part of the CDC-led National Diabetes Prevention Program. The program is supervised by Jody Hoener, clinic quality and community benefit liaison; and Sherise Beckham, registered dietician. It uses an evidence-based approach proven to motivate and support individuals in making practical, real-life and lasting change. "This is not a diet and this is not a well-intended, short-lived weight loss program. This is a lifestyle change program," Beckham said.

As part of this pilot, Peerless Products financially sponsored each of its employees and allowed them to participate in activities during the work day.

According to the AMA, Type 2 Diabetes hurts business, with \$69 billion in lost productivity and \$176 billion in direct medical costs. Typically, one in three employees has prediabetes, which is a reversible condition. People can reduce up to 58 percent of the risk of developing Type 2 diabetes by participating in the lifestyle change program.

Working outside of hospital walls, Mercy is taking steps to improve the culture of health and wellness through The Healthy Bourbon County Action Team. Programs like this can go a long way in creating a more promising health future for our residents.

### 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: \$399,000

### 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: \$141,000

### 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: \$27,000

### 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: \$8,000

### 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: \$717,000