

Fiscal Year 2018 (First Quarter: July 1, 2017 - September 30, 2017)

Mercy Fort Smith Community Benefit Report

Foster Care Awareness Evening- Paris, AR



Mercy Fort Smith has been asked by Arkansas Governor Asa Hutchinson to take a leadership role in spreading awareness and helping to find a solution to the foster care crisis in the state of Arkansas. On Thursday, November 2, 2017, Mercy Paris and the Paris Community Health Council hosted an evening dedicated to raising awareness of the foster care situation in Logan County. Local residents, not-for-profit organizations and elected officials were provided information and statistics on children in foster care. In Arkansas at the end of fiscal year 2017, there were 5,170 children in the foster care system with 96 of the children from Logan County.

Speakers for the evening included; Cheri Garcez, executive director, CASA of the Tri-Peaks; Laquita Wellborn, a foster care parent of four children; Carol Geels, supervisor

department of human services; and Phyllis Bell, senior advisor for Governor Asa Hutchinson's office.

Vendors at the event included The CALL, CASA, Optimist International (a world-wide volunteer organization) and Project Zero with the Arkansas Heart Gallery. Vendors provided information on ways to volunteer to help support foster children.

Mercy Paris and the Paris Community Health Council will continue to support the ongoing efforts in spreading awareness of the foster care situation in Logan County and throughout Arkansas.

Total Community Benefit
\$7,748,000

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: \$1,536,000

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: \$12,700

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: \$

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: \$41,000

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: \$6,045,000