

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

# Mercy Northwest Arkansas Community Benefit Report

## Mercy Motel Ministry Mentoring Program

Total Community Benefit  
\$5,440,000



Volunteer mentor Dean Vlaovich reaches out to individuals at a local motel who find themselves in poverty and homeless in Northwest Arkansas (NWA). Mentors like Dean connect those living at the motel with available community resources and help families and individuals move from homelessness to permanent housing.

Mike is one such individual who has benefited from Dean's help. Dean gradually got to know Mike over several weeks by listening to his needs and attempting to understand his barriers. Dean offered Mike concrete suggestions and literally gave Mike homework every week. Some of the homework assignments included: obtain a driver's license, create a weekly savings plan, find out what your fines are and systematically start paying them off, distinguish between wants and needs, develop a budget and stick to it.

As Mike was able to successfully complete his weekly assignments, he began to realize that his life could truly improve. His self-confidence

increased, he began to reclaim his God-given dignity and he realized that obtaining his own apartment was now a possibility. Once Mike was able to save up a sufficient amount of money, Dean helped offset the cost of Mike's deposits and first month's rent using a dedicated Mercy grant fund.

Dean is quick to share that most families living at the motel are stuck in a vicious cycle of poverty and homelessness. Working full-time in a minimum wage job does not allow people to save enough money to move into permanent housing, especially given NWA's high rents and lack of affordable, low-income housing.

Despite this bleak reality, Mike has beaten the odds through hard work and help from his mentor, Dean.

### 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: \$1,636,000

### 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: \$140,000

### 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: to be reported Q2

### 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: \$3,000

### 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: \$3,661,000



Your life is our life's work.