

## Community Benefit 2018

### Investing in the Social Determinants of Health

Healthcare is undergoing significant transformation, and with it, a growing focus on integrating care activities with public health, community-based organizations and social support services. In 2018, SCL Health completed Community Health Needs Assessments for six of our eight hospitals. Persistent health needs in behavioral health, substance abuse and cardiovascular disease continue to be prevalent. However, we are also seeing needs prioritized for root cause areas like housing and economic development. These social determinants of health reveal the next generation of community benefit and health improvement investments, further amplifying the need to incorporate population health strategies to leverage multi-sector stakeholder engagement. The 2018 Community Benefit report highlights all of these trends and moves our health ministry toward greater impact on building a culture of health and overall well-being.

#### Montana Region Community Benefit 2018



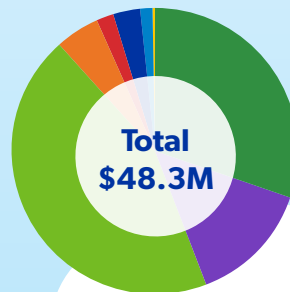
**Holy Rosary Healthcare**  
MILES CITY, MT



**St. James Healthcare**  
BUTTE, MT



**St. Vincent Healthcare**  
BILLINGS, MT



- Subsidized Health Services\*
- Financial Aid & Charity Care\*
- Unreimbursed Medicaid\*
- Community Health Improvement & Operations
- Health Professions Education
- Community Building
- Cash and In-Kind
- Research

\* These numbers include clinic contributions not included on 990 Schedule H

#### St. James Healthcare | Butte, MT

In 2018, St. James Healthcare supported over

**30**  
organizations in

**Butte**  
and **Southwest Montana**

in improving health and well-being in the community.



## Mental illnesses are among the most common health conditions in the United States.

In 2018, SCL Health continued its efforts to support the ongoing need for mental health **awareness, education and prevention** by offering a variety of mental health trainings to community members and associates. Offering these additional training opportunities allowed SCL Health to educate individuals around stigma reduction, suicide prevention and trauma-informed attitudes.

Over **2,000**  
individuals  
trained

**23%**  
increase  
from 2017

**4 new Mental  
Health First Aid  
instructors** trained



**1 in 5**  
U.S. adults experience  
mental illness each year

**1 in 6** U.S. youth aged  
6-17 experience a mental health  
disorder each year

Montana and  
Colorado are among the  
**top 10 states**  
with the **highest suicide rates**

**Depression**  
is the leading cause  
of disability worldwide



### St. James Healthcare Initiatives

#### Increasing Specialty Care for Rural Communities

Critical access hospitals in Southwestern Montana often have a shortage of physician specialists. Specialty outreach clinics offered by St. James Healthcare are increasing access.

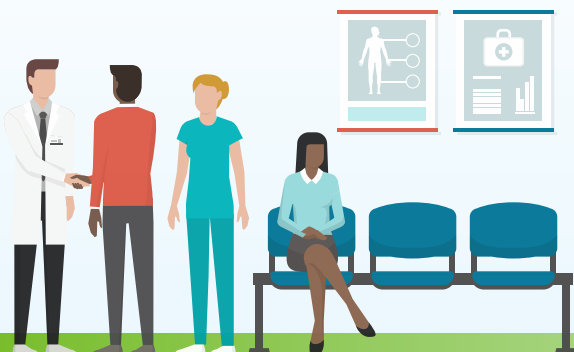
**Oncology** outreach in  
**Deer Lodge** and **Dillon**

**Urology** outreach in  
**Dillon**

#### Responding to Individuals in Crisis

Nearly a third of residents report experiencing symptoms of chronic depression. To address this need, St. James Healthcare provides financial support for the Crisis Hotline at Western Montana Mental Health Services. Community members in crisis have access to professionals to address their mental health needs, including suicide prevention.

**392** crisis calls  
in 2018



#### Healthy Babies and Healthy Families

St. James Healthcare is improving the health of mothers and their children by screening women for behavioral health and social determinants of health needs. Women determined to be at high-risk are supported throughout their pregnancies, with support continuing into the second year of the child's life. These first 1,000 days form 80% of the baby's brain growth and are vital for future health.



**143** pregnant women  
screened to date

**71** women considered high-risk  
are followed through the program

---

## Expanding Specialty Care for Rural Communities

It began as a conversation during a basketball game. An administrator at St. James Healthcare was talking to Ken Westman, CEO at Barrett Hospital and Healthcare, about working as a healthcare administrator and the challenges of addressing community needs. This early relationship started larger conversations of how St. James Healthcare could help to support critical access hospitals in Southwestern Montana.



Marwan Massouh, MD



Nathaniel Readal, MD

Thirty-six percent of Montanans live in a rural county. These counties have just 38 specialists per 100,000 population compared to 171 specialists per 100,000 in urban areas. Inequities in access to specialty care can impact health outcomes for residents in rural communities. Ensuring rural communities access to high-quality specialty care such as urology and oncology is an important part of addressing community health needs.

St. James Healthcare physicians Nathan Readal, MD, and Marwan Massouh, MD, began providing urology and oncology services in Dillon. For Dillon residents, these outreach clinics meant access to specialists without the need to travel 130 miles roundtrip. This means more individuals are able to address their health needs sooner and with greater ease, allowing people to take a proactive approach in their own health. Dr. Massouh also began offering oncology outreach to the Deer Lodge community.

To meet the needs of critical access hospitals in the area, quarterly meetings are held with the CEOs of hospitals in Ennis, Dillon, Deer Lodge, Sheridan and Townsend. As St. James Healthcare continues to recruit specialists, outreach to surrounding rural communities is a vital part of increasing access to healthcare services regionally.

---

## Finding Solutions for Those Most in Need

Homelessness is a complex problem that requires collaboration across the community to address the diverse needs of the individual. St. James Healthcare recently joined with community stakeholders including the Montana Healthcare Foundation, Action, Inc., Public Housing Authority of Butte, Butte Silverbow Government, Butte Silverbow Sheriff's Department, Southwest Montana Community Health Center and Western Montana Health Center to address the challenges of chronic homelessness. Frequent Users Systems Engagement (FUSE), a project funded through a planning grant from the Montana Healthcare Foundation, identifies frequent users of the emergency department, jails and other social services. Nineteen individuals were identified as being frequent users having an overall cost to the community in excess of one million dollars. On average, each of the 19 individuals spends 45 nights per year in jail and 25 nights per year in the emergency department.

Solutions to community challenges like chronic homelessness are best approached through shared commitments from a broad group of stakeholders. The FUSE project examined a variety of community data sources which enabled a deeper understanding of the unique needs of this population. More importantly, the project encouraged discussions for potential solutions such as supportive housing and homeless preference voucher programs, as well as

combined housing and mental health case management.

Kevin Dennehy, VP of Strategy & Business Development at St. James Healthcare, noted,

"One person visited our 11-bed emergency department 110 times in a year. He came to the emergency department to warm up and receive a hot meal. His needs didn't require admission to the hospital. Identifying these 19 individuals, who consistently struggle to maintain a safe place to live and account for a disproportionate amount of the total cost for healthcare, law enforcement and social services, will allow us to implement interventions to address those with the highest need.

Since identifying these individuals, five of the 19 have successfully been placed in permanent housing through collaborative efforts. Additional supports and interventions are being developed through this community partnership to successfully meet the needs of this at-risk group. As these services are developed and implemented, individuals will be served through more appropriate and cost-effective coordination of services in the community. The FUSE project is a wonderful example of the power of community collaboration to improve care coordination and well-being.



## Healthy Babies, Secure Families in Butte

In response to the awareness of high-risk pregnancies involving drug use, St. James Healthcare sought a grant from the Montana Health Care Foundation to implement 'The First 1,000 Days of Life' initiative. Dr. George Mulcaire-Jones, Medical Director of this program, states, "We talk with pregnant women about how using drugs is hurting their babies. We are dealing with their underlying mental health issues through this program, which gives them relief and asks, 'What has happened in their lives that has led to these living situations?' Through this program, the health community is there to help support families."



As part of the program, all pregnant women who seek OB care at St. James Healthcare are screened for mental health concerns, substance abuse and social determinants of health needs by Social Worker and Coordinator, Joslin Hubbard. The emphasis of the program at St. James Healthcare is on the first 1,000 days of the baby's life: 270 days from conception to birth, 365 days for the first year of the baby's life and 365 days for the second year. The first 1,000 days are considered the most critical time in a child's development, where 80% of the brain is formed.

After filling out a questionnaire, needs are assessed and soon-to-be parents are provided with resources including WIC, mental health therapy, food stamps, Medicaid coverage, housing support, chemical dependency assistance, transportation, domestic violence assistance and access to programs that provide in-home parenting

education and support. To date, St. James Healthcare has screened 143 women and is following 71 women who are considered high risk. Recently, a behavioral health therapist has joined the staff at the clinic and is available to patients needing or wanting that service. All expectant families have received education around postpartum depression, safe sleep and other services offered at St. James Healthcare, such as

birthing classes.

A significant focus of the program is substance abuse deterrence. This extends beyond support for the pregnant woman, with services offered to the father as well. If a father is using drugs, he is offered help to assist in decreasing and/or eliminating use. This in turn helps to support the pregnant mother who is also trying to avoid the influence of drugs.

Dr. Mulcaire-Jones has helped many women access needed resources and support as they work through adverse childhood experiences (ACEs), poverty and broken relationships. The larger story, according to Mulcaire-Jones, is informing the Butte community, making it aware of the first 1,000 days of a child's life and its critical importance. Through this awareness, agencies and the public can come together to help families through a more collaborative approach. The First 1,000 Days of Life strives to help every family with access to resources and services. This support promotes safe and healthy pregnancies and gives new moms and dads the ability to parent in a safe and healthy environment.

Please visit the St. James Healthcare website to access the full Community Health Needs Assessment:

**<https://www.sclhealth.org/locations/st-james-healthcare/about/community-benefit/>**



400 S Clark St. | Butte, MT 59701 | 406-723-2500

**[sjh-mt.org](http://sjh-mt.org)**