

LEE HEALTH COMMUNITY BENEFIT REPORT 2023

Our Unwavering Commitment to Caring for Our Community

Lee Health is driven by our mission to be a trusted partner, empowering healthier lives through care and compassion, and we have been for more than 107 years. Our mission extends to every person in our community.

To ensure we respond appropriately to our community's needs, we use the Community Health Needs Assessment as our guide to identify areas where we can join our local partners to affect the overall health of Southwest Florida. Over the past year, we once again focused on enabling access to the highest quality, compassionate care and finding ways to inspire healthier habits and behaviors.

The people of Southwest Florida have our unwavering commitment and our undivided attention. This Community Benefit Report helps illustrate that dedication. We look forward to continuing our tradition of competently and compassionately caring for and serving our community every day and night. We will continue to find ways to show you that we see you, we celebrate you, and we are here for you.



Donna Clarke
Chair, Board of Directors
Lee Health



Larry Antonucci, M.D., MBA
President & CEO
Lee Health

LEE MEMORIAL HEALTH SYSTEM BOARD OF DIRECTORS

DISTRICT ONE
Stephen R. Brown, M.D.
Therese Everly, BS, RRT

DISTRICT TWO
Donna Clarke
Nancy M. McGovern, RN, MSM

DISTRICT THREE
David F. Collins
David Klein, MBA

DISTRICT FOUR
Diane Champion
Dane Allen, JD

DISTRICT FIVE
Kathy Bridge-Liles, RN, MS
Daniel Adler, JD

Financial Report

	System Overall	Lee Memorial Hospital	HealthPark Medical Center	Cape Coral Hospital	Gulf Coast Medical Center
Cost of Charity Care	\$112,942,088	\$36,114,885	\$19,366,059	\$24,079,571	\$33,381,573
Cost of Unpaid Medicaid	\$88,784,451	\$22,460,602	\$38,113,900	\$7,715,889	\$20,494,059
Total Value of Charity Care & Medicaid	\$201,726,538	\$58,575,487	\$57,479,959	\$31,795,460	\$53,875,632
Cost of Providing Community Benefit & Outreach	\$71,269,676	\$17,817,419	\$17,817,419	\$17,817,419	\$17,817,419
Total Charity Care, Means-Tested Programs, and Other Community Benefits	\$272,996,214	\$76,392,906	\$75,297,378	\$49,612,879	\$71,693,051
Less the Benefit of Taxes	\$94,200,280	\$21,955,788	\$22,338,457	\$22,469,577	\$27,436,457
Net Value of Community Benefit	\$178,795,934	\$54,437,117	\$52,958,920	\$27,143,302	\$44,256,594

► See page 4 for definitions.

• **Cost of Charity Care: \$112,942,088**

• **Cost of Unpaid Medicaid: \$88,784,451**

• **Cost of Providing Community Benefit and Outreach: \$71,269,676**

• **Cost of Unpaid Medicare: \$479,643,386**

* Since Medicare is not a means-tested program, it is not included in the overall total of Lee Health's community benefit expenditures.

• **Lee Community Healthcare low income clinics: \$16,056,121**

• **Bob Janes Empowerment Center: \$300,006**

• **Community health education: \$29,301,452**

• **Residency Programs: \$11,921,643**

• **Family Medicine: \$7,137,376**

• **Internal Medicine \$4,784,267**

Hurricane Ian

In the aftermath of Hurricane Ian, Lee Health provided services and support to team members and the community. Our team members showed dedication to the community by providing quality care despite the devastating storm and challenges. Those on Team A stayed and worked days without knowing if their families and property were okay until staff from Team B relieved them. We reimbursed the cost of insurance deductibles for employees who lost their cars due to flooding at the Healthpark/Golisano campus and also provided Lyft transportation to and from work. Lee Health brought in gas tankers and also arranged for large gasoline vendors to provide access to their pumps. We coordinated relief efforts in partnership with state and local agencies, organizations individuals.

Other noteworthy items in the wake of Hurricane Ian:

- **Guaranteed wages for employees in the weeks after the storm and identified special ways to utilize PTO**
- **No layoffs or redeployments of Lee Health staff**
- **Arranged donations of scrubs, cleaning supplies, food, toys, clothes, and furniture**
- **Offered free child care**
- **Lee Health Foundation donated \$150,000 to United Way for employee support programs**
- **Peer-to-peer stress support program**
- **Aid for help with legal issues**
- **Established a call center for general information and assistance**

While none of this technically counts as community benefit, we wanted to highlight Lee Health's efforts to support our employees, who, in return, support the community.

Community Highlights

Healthy Lee

Over 300 organizations across Southwest Florida are

currently engaged in the Healthy Lee initiative, which enhances the well-being of our residents and refines the healthcare delivery system.



Healthy Eats

Lee Health's Lee Community Healthcare (LCH) provides healthcare to the low-income and uninsured in Lee County. In partnership with Healthy Lee, this program has provided complimentary fresh produce to qualified families over a six-month period, with the participants showing positive results such as weight loss, lower A1C and blood pressure.

Preventing Chronic Health Conditions: You Can Do It!

In this engaging workshop, attendees learn how to decipher food labels and make healthier food choices. The session covers essential nutrition principles and outlines physical activity guidelines. Groups craft a community newsletter, reinforce the importance of label reading, daily fruit and vegetable intake, and recommended exercise amounts.

Family, Fun Sports Expo

The Family, Fun Sports Expo introduced children in grades 3 through 5 to a variety of sports, including basketball, martial arts, boxing, skating, yoga, and hockey. The event also included 13 partner organizations, CPR demonstrations, blood pressure and ECG screenings, sports injury prevention tips, and healthy food presentations.

Health is Wealth Workshop

The Healthy Lee Lifestyle Coalition Access to Healthcare partners collaborated to develop "Health is Wealth" for our unhoused community members. The workshop includes presentations covering:

- The importance of prioritizing healthcare
- A review of chronic diseases and specialists who treat them
- The importance of insurance
- An insurance navigator explains the different levels of insurance through the marketplace (Affordable Care Act), possibly at no cost
- Enrollment assistance through health plan navigators

Child Advocacy

Golisano Children's Hospital's Child Advocacy team promotes children's health and safety. They focus on injury prevention, mental health awareness, and mental health navigation. With a primary emphasis on child passenger safety, they provide education and distribute car seats. Additionally, the team conducts courses on mental health awareness, equipping both children and teachers with valuable tools and resources.

- **\$179,532 community benefit**
- **6,065 staff hours**
- **51,849 people served**

Injury Prevention

The Lee Health Trauma Center Injury Prevention team provides community-based services, education and training on prevention of violence, bullying, substance abuse, vehicle crashes, sports injuries, falls, mentor programs and support groups.

- **\$75,213 community benefit**
- **673 staff hours**
- **7,832 people served**

Health Professional Education and Support

Lee Health collaborates with educational institutions to support training initiatives for our workforce. These programs encompass a wide range of professions, including nurses, APRNs, pharmacists, physicians, social workers, radiologists, lab scientists, and more.

- **\$20,146,565 community benefit**
- **475,140 staff hours**

Family Medicine & Internal Medicine Residency Programs

Sponsored by the Florida State University (FSU) College of Medicine in partnership with Lee Health. These residents ultimately work into our clinical rotations.

- **\$11,921,643 community benefit**
- **\$7,137,376 Family Medicine Residency Program**
- **\$4,784,267 Internal Medicine Residency Program**

Neighborhood Liaison

The Neighborhood Liaison Program identifies needs, fills health and social gaps with new or revamped programs and amplifies diverse voices to promote equity and community engagement. The pilot program launched in the Spring focused on improving access to health care.



Lee Community Healthcare

Lee Community Healthcare (LCH) has emerged as a leader in the delivery of healthcare to the medically underserved people of Southwest Florida. LCH patient care teams provide access of social services and support to individuals who have historically used emergency rooms to meet their primary care need.

- **\$16,056,121 community benefit**

Sports Safety

In partnership with the School District of Lee County, the Lee Health athletic trainer program supports young athletes. Certified athletic trainers work closely with coaches, athletes, and parents to prevent, assess, and manage sports-related injuries. With an athletic trainer stationed at each of the public high schools, students receive immediate attention in case of injuries.



Community Conversations

In partnership with the American Heart Association the Life's Essential 8 Program was introduced to small groups of women at Café of Life.



American Heart Association.

This program, in both English and Spanish, provides education and services in a safe and comfortable environment. Life's Essential 8 program (Eat Better, Be Active, Quit Smoking, Get Healthy Sleep, Manage Weight, Control Cholesterol, Manage Blood Sugar, and Manage Blood Pressure) included health providers for in-depth discussion each month.

Military Support Program

Since its inception in 2003, the Military Support Program has sent over 125,000 pounds of care packages to deployed service members and aided local veterans by fostering job connections and offering automobile repairs for transportation to work or medical appointments. Celebrating its 20th Anniversary in 2023, the program expanded its initiatives, introducing in partnership with the American Red Cross Veterans Visitation Program and partnering with Home Base to provide free mental health counseling. Volunteers actively engage in VA pantry sessions, distributing essential items and supporting veterans and their families.

Kids' Minds Matter

Kids' Minds Matter program includes 9 mental health navigators who have served 137 families and 411 individuals. Clients enrolled in the program have been able to reduce Baker Act hospitalizations by 71%. Children improved attendance and grades, parents increased employment, and families connected to more home services.



- 17 Youth initiative groups
- 7 Parenting the Exceptional Child: Children with special health care needs class with
- 22 community presentations focused on mental health awareness
- 19 Mental Health First Aid classes
- **\$ 481,280 community benefit**
- **17,602 staff hours**
- **6,464 people served**

Helping Kids Manage Their Asthma

Through extensive community outreach, the Asthma and COPD Management team assists children, teens, and adults in managing asthma. The ultimate goal ultimate goal is to decrease asthma mortality rates.

This year, the team worked with childcare facilities and schools to

help them earn the 'Asthma Friendly' designation, providing education and resources to childcare centers.

Minnesota Twins Health Fair

The Minnesota Twins health fair featured the team's first full-squad workout of the spring alongside a health fair. This was an opportunity for kids to get on the Hammond Stadium field and play ball with Twins players. Utilized information booths and free health screenings including: EKGs for children ages 17 and under; dermatology screenings; blood pressure screening; information on stroke and injury prevention; nutrition and other healthy life habits.



Telehealth

Lee Health recognizes the important role technology plays in patient care. We use digital technology to drive a new era where patients are empowered, clinicians are better informed, and the delivery of care is more efficient. After Hurricane Ian, Lee Health eliminated the costs of our 24/7 Lee TeleHealth platform to encourage telemedicine usage.

- **\$ 170,844 community benefit**
- **2,476 people served**

► Definitions from page 2.

• Cost of Charity Care

Charity care is free or discounted health services for patients who cannot afford to pay and meet the eligibility criteria of Lee Health's financial assistance policy. Reported costs, not charges.

• Cost of Unpaid Medicaid

Government-sponsored healthcare includes unpaid costs of public programs for low-income patients, the shortfall created when Lee Health receives payments that are less than the cost of caring for public program beneficiaries.

• Community Outreach

Lee Health invests in activities aimed to improve community health and extend beyond patient care.

- **Clinical Education:** Educational programs for physicians, interns and residents, medical students, nurses and nursing students, pastoral care trainees, and other health professionals for a degree, certificate, or training.
- **Community Donations:** Donated funds and in-kind services include staff hours to the community while on Lee health work time, the cost of meeting space provided to community groups, and donations.
- **Community Health Promotion and Education:** Programs and activities that extend beyond patient care improve community health. Examples include education, services and health screenings, lectures and workshops, self-help programs and support services.

• Less the Benefit of Tax Exempt Status

Lee Health is a not-for-profit public hospital system. This calculation illustrates our Community Benefit investments are six times greater than the dollar amount of taxes Lee Health would pay if it were a tax-paying entity.

Cost of Unpaid Medicare

Government-sponsored healthcare programs, such as Medicare, contribute to the story of Lee Health's investment and dedication to the community. Since Medicare is not a means tested program, it is not included in the overall total of Lee Health's community benefit financials.

