



2024 Community Benefit Plan and Report Our Promise to the Community

In fiscal year 2023, Scripps Health provided

\$768 million

in community benefit services



The Mobile Health and Resource Fair in Southeast San Diego, supported by Scripps funding, serves hundreds of people monthly, offering cardiovascular, neurocognitive, breast cancer and cardiometabolic screenings. Regularly attended by those who need additional resources and support, it provides essential services in one location. Scripps staff collaborate with the fair team, offering education and consultations on various health topics. Many community members visit the Scripps booth for support, reflecting Scripps commitment to comprehensive health care and community well-being.

Serving Our Community

In 2023, Scripps Health continued its dedication to enhancing the well-being of our community and supporting those in need. Scripps takes pride in our community initiatives, which deliver essential health care services and enhance the overall quality of life for individuals across the region. As we celebrate the 100th anniversary of Scripps Health, our commitment to quality health care continues to be a cornerstone of our mission as we focus on ways to innovate and improve the health of our community.

2024 Scripps Community Benefit Plan and Report

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Letter from the CEO



Our founders, Ellen Browning Scripps and Mother Mary Michael Cummings, were both women ahead of their time. Their commitment to provide for the health care needs of a growing community resulted in the Scripps Health of today.

Miss Ellen, as she was known, preferred the term “investment” over “donation,” and her contributions were carefully considered as much for their future promise as for their immediate impact. Decades earlier, Mother Mary Michael’s patient logs illustrated her fundamental mission to make quality health care available to all who need it.

Today, more than 20,000 employees, physicians, and volunteers continue to build on our rich history and keep the spirit of community service alive. The pages that follow provide a comprehensive account of how we achieved that: our community benefit programs and services, and our plans for continued action in the future.

In Fiscal Year 2023 Scripps community benefit contributions totaled \$767,851,896. This includes \$716,656,565 in uncompensated care, \$40,779,945 in professional education and health research, \$7,285,612 in community health improvement services, \$2,867,155 in subsidized health, and \$262,620 in community building activities.

Scripps has been part of the community for more than 100 years, longer than any other health care provider in San Diego. Today, Scripps continues to look forward with the launch of its Here for Good campaign, which reflects both its tenured, century-long legacy in San Diego and its dedication to continued excellence, Scripps is making lasting investments in the community — for now and for generations to come.

As we look ahead, Scripps remains dedicated to enhancing the quality of life, health, and overall well-being of our community and we are continually changing to better meet our patients’ needs. When Ellen Browning Scripps and Mother Mary Michael Cummings brought quality health care to San Diego 100 years ago, they could never have imagined the care we provide today or the more than 600,000 lives we touch each year. As a private, tax-exempt health care system, Scripps will continue our legacy of making a vital and measurable difference in our community.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Chris Van Gorder". The signature is fluid and cursive, written in a professional style.

Chris Van Gorder, FACHE
President and CEO

Mission, Vision, and Values

Mission Scripps strives to provide superior health services in a caring environment and to make a positive, measurable difference in the health of individuals in the communities we serve.

We devote our resources to delivering quality, safe, cost-effective, socially responsible health care services. We advance clinical research, community health education, education of physicians and health care professionals and sponsor graduate medical education.

We collaborate with others to deliver the continuum of care that improves the health of our community.

Vision Scripps Health will continue to be the leading health care delivery system in the greater San Diego community, as evidenced by the highest clinical quality, patient safety, and patient, physician, and employee satisfaction. This will be achieved through unending focus on patient-centered and compassionate care, cost-effective operations, research, advanced technology, and innovation.

Values

We provide the highest quality of service

Scripps is committed to putting the patient first, and quality is our passion. In the new world of health care, we want to anticipate the cause of illness and encourage healthy behavior for all that rely on us for service. We teach and encourage patients to participate in their care and to make well-informed decisions. We will be their advocates when they are most vulnerable. We measure our success by our patients' satisfaction, their return to health and well-being, and our compassionate care for dying patients, their families, and friends.

We demonstrate complete respect for the rights of every individual

Scripps honors the dignity of all people. We show this by our actions toward one another and those we serve. We embrace the diversity that allows us to draw on the talents of one another. We respect and honor the cultural, ethnic, and religious beliefs and practices of our patients in a manner consistent with the highest standard of care. All of this is done in a compassionate setting. Our goal is to create a healing environment in partnership with all caregivers committed to serving our patients.

We care for our patients every day in a responsible and efficient manner

Scripps serves as a major community health care resource for San Diego County and, as such, we are accountable for the human, financial and ecological resources entrusted to our care as we promote healing and wholeness. We begin from a base of excellence and collaborate with co-workers, physicians, patients, and other providers to find new and creative ways to improve the delivery of health care services. All members of our community will have access to timely, affordable, and appropriate care.

About Scripps Health

Founded in 1924 by philanthropist Ellen Browning Scripps, Scripps Health is a \$4.3 billion private, tax exempt, integrated health system based in San Diego, California. Scripps Health consists of four acute-care hospitals on five campuses, along with a robust network of 31 outpatient centers (including 15 Health Express locations), palliative care, clinical research, and ancillary services to serve our San Diego community and beyond. Scripps treats more than 600,000 patients annually through the dedication of more than 3,000 affiliated physicians and more than 17,000 employees. Scripps also offers payer products and population health services through Scripps Accountable Care Organization, Scripps Health Plan, and customized narrow network plans in collaboration with third-party payers.

Scripps Health is a leading provider of medical care, improving community health and advancing medicine in San Diego County. Scripps is a recognized leader in the prevention, diagnosis and treatment of disease, and is at the forefront of clinical research and the only health system in the region with two level 1 trauma centers. With three highly respected graduate medical education programs, Scripps is a longstanding member of the Association of American Medical Colleges. Our hospitals are consistently ranked among the nation's best by U.S. News & World Report and numerous other organizations. Scripps is frequently recognized by Fortune magazine, Working Mother magazine, and the Advisory Board as one of the best places in the nation to work. Importantly, Scripps culture is one of caring. The spirit and culture established by two pioneering founders, Ellen Browning Scripps and Mother Mary Michael Cummings, still define who we are today. More information can be found at www.scripps.org.

Excellence in Primary and Specialty Care

The system is known for its expertise in various areas, including cancer care, cardiovascular disease prevention and treatment, orthopedics, women's health, and neurocognitive care. Generations of San Diegans have relied on Scripps for excellence in health care, starting with primary care doctors who act as the patient's personal health advocate including a focus on preventive care and wellness. For patients' convenience, Scripps physicians offer several options for ongoing care, including extended office hours, telemedicine options, three urgent care centers and HealthExpress walk-in clinics throughout the county for same-day treatment of minor illnesses and injuries. With some of the most advanced technology available today for the diagnosis and treatment of acute and chronic illnesses, Scripps offers patients a complete range of medical and surgical services including many that have been nationally recognized for clinical quality and patient outcomes.

Governance

As a tax-exempt health care system, Scripps takes pride in its service to the community. The Scripps system is governed by a 17-member, volunteer Board of Trustees. This single point of authority for organizational policy ensures a unified approach to serving patients across the region.

Organizational Foundation

Scripps provides a comprehensive range of inpatient and ambulatory services through our system of hospitals and clinics. In addition, Scripps participates in many partnerships with government and not-for-profit agencies across our region to improve our community's health. And our partnerships do not stop at our local borders. Our collaborations extend beyond our local community to include state, national, and global efforts in disaster preparedness and relief, emergency medical services, healthcare advocacy, physician education, and direct patient care. In all that we do, we are committed to quality patient outcomes, service excellence, operating efficiency, caring for those in need today while planning for the healthcare needs of future generations.

Scripps Health Board of Trustees - Professions 2024

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**Denotes Ex Officio*



2024 Community Benefit Plan and Report

Our Promise to the Community

In fiscal year 2023, Scripps Health provided

\$768 million

in community benefit services

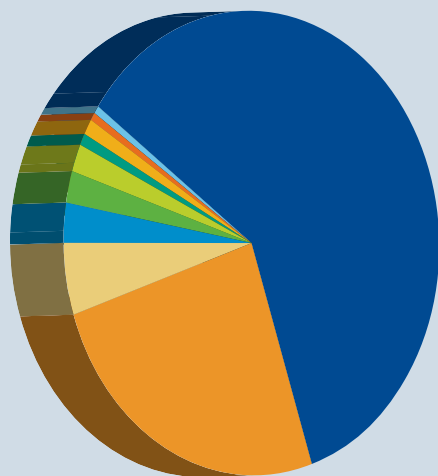


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Serving Our Community

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Total Community Benefits in FY23: \$767,851,896



Medicare Shortfalls	\$482,963,101	62.9%	Health Research	\$3,273,273	0.4%
Medi-Cal and other means tested government programs*	\$210,054,857	27.4%	Subsidized Health Services	\$2,867,155	0.4%
Professional Education	\$37,506,671	4.9%	Cash and In-Kind Contributions	\$586,100	0.1%
Charity Care	\$18,248,321	2.4%	Community Building Activities	\$262,620	0.0%
Community Health Improvement Services & Community Benefit Operations	\$6,699,512	0.9%			
Bad Debt	\$5,390,286	0.7%			

Colors coordinate clockwise from Medicare shortfalls.

17.7% of our total operating expenses in 2023 were devoted to community benefit services at cost.

*Hospital provider fee was reported as offsetting revenue from Medi-Cal.

Scripps Facts

- More than 3,000 affiliated physicians and 17,000 employees treat and support more than 600,000 patients each year.
- Scripps cares for people throughout San Diego with four acute care hospitals on five campuses, 31 outpatient locations, 15 Scripps HealthExpress sites.
- Three highly respected graduate medical education programs and two pharmacy resident programs train the next generation of caregivers.
- Operating revenue: \$4.298 billion
- Operating expenses: \$4.335 billion
- Total inpatient discharges: 73,042
- Total outpatient visits: 3,085,322
- Emergency visits: 191,133

Investing in Our Community

In fiscal year 2023 Scripps Health devoted more than \$768 million to community benefit programs, including over \$18 million in charitable care. We offer many free and low-cost services, as well as support groups, screenings for key health indicators, youth programs, professional education, prevention and wellness programs, patient advocacy services, and more.

Keeping patients at the center of everything we do, Scripps collaborates with other health systems, community groups and organizations, government agencies, businesses, and community clinics to identify and serve the greatest needs in the health of our community. For more information, visit [Scripps.org/CommunityBenefit](https://www.scripps.org/CommunityBenefit).

Financial Assistance

Scripps' financial assistance policy reflects our commitment to help low income and uninsured patients with discounted hospital charges, charity care, and flexible billing and debt collection practices. These programs are consistent with state and federal legislation, and are available to everyone in need, regardless of their race, ethnicity, gender, religion or national origin.



For more information about the programs and services offered by Scripps Health, visit [Scripps.org/CommunityBenefit](https://www.scripps.org/CommunityBenefit) or contact the Scripps Health Office of Community Benefit Services at **858-678-7095**.



Section 1

Community Benefit Overview

Community Benefit Overview

This report was developed in response to Senate Bill 697, enacted in 1994,¹ which mandates that California's not-for-profit hospitals annually describe and document the full range of community benefit services they provide. Scripps has gone beyond this legislative requirement by incorporating not only documentation of community benefit services but also providing a more detailed explanation of the specific community benefit activities offered by our five acute-care hospital campuses, wellness centers and ambulatory care clinics.

Covering the period of Fiscal Year 2023 (October 1, 2022, through September 30, 2023), this report highlights Scripps dedication of \$767,851,896 (refer to Figures 1.1 and 1.2) to community benefit programs and services. Community outreach efforts are focused on those areas with proximity to a Scripps facility. Scripps hosts, sponsors, and participates in many community-building events throughout the year. Our programs emphasize community-based prevention efforts and use creative approaches to reach residents at the highest risk for health problems.

The report details programs and services that extend beyond standard practices of care, categorizing community benefit services into three main areas:

- **Community Health Improvement Services:** These activities are designed to enhance community health and include community health education and prevention services, provided without generating patient bills.
- **Professional Education and Health Research:** This category includes educational programs open to all health professionals in the community, as well as research contributing to generalizable knowledge made available to the public. It encompasses the communication of findings and observations, including publication in a journal. Internally funded research and research funded by tax-exempt, or government entities are eligible for reporting.
- **Uncompensated Care:** This comprises charity care, bad debt, and shortfalls from Medi-Cal and Medicare.

The documented activities in this report reflect our commitments to improving the health of both our patients and the diverse communities of San Diego. As a longstanding member of these communities and as a not-for-profit community resource, our goal and responsibility are to assist all who seek care, particularly those who are vulnerable and lack support. This responsibility is an intrinsic part of our mission.

Through our continued actions and community partnerships, we strive to enhance the quality of life across the entire community. Definitions of terms used in this report can be found in Appendix A.

Schedule H (Form 990)

Community benefit services are a well-defined set of activities outlined by the Internal Revenue Service (IRS) in its instructions to Form 990 Schedule H, which became mandatory starting with tax year 2009². Hospitals with tax-exempt status are required to provide organization-specific information on Schedule H, Form 990, which is the annual information return filed by tax-exempt organizations.

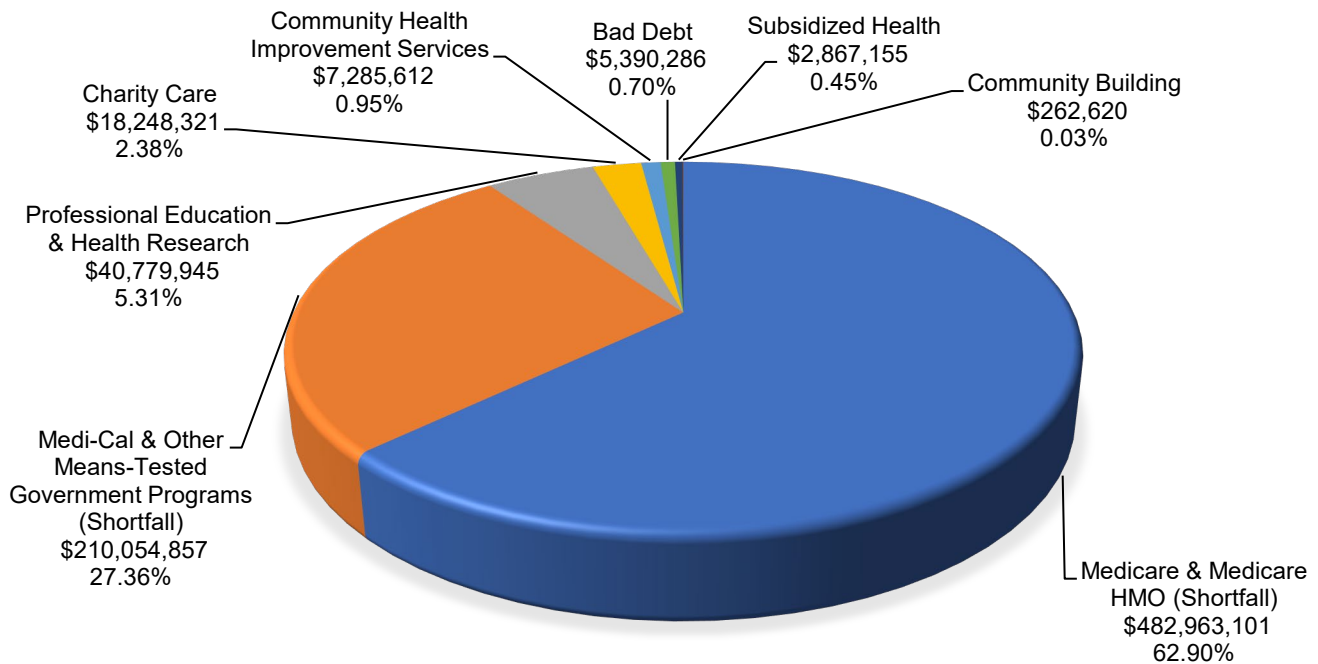
Scripps has aligned the 2024 Community Benefit Plan and Report to the Federal Schedule H categories. According to the IRS guidelines, community building activities, bad debt, and Medicare shortfalls are reported separately and are not included in the overall community benefit totals on Form 990 Schedule H.

Organization of the Report

The report is organized to provide systemwide data in sections four through six, offering detailed insights into community health improvement services, professional education and health research, and uncompensated care. Sections seven through twelve follow an organizational framework focused on individual entities, including hospital sites, Scripps Medical Foundation, and Scripps Health Administrative Services. These subsequent sections offer specific details on FY23 accomplishments and FY24 goals and objectives tailored to each respective site.

Figure 1.1

Fiscal Year 2023 Scripps Total Community Benefit Services by Category, \$767,851,896



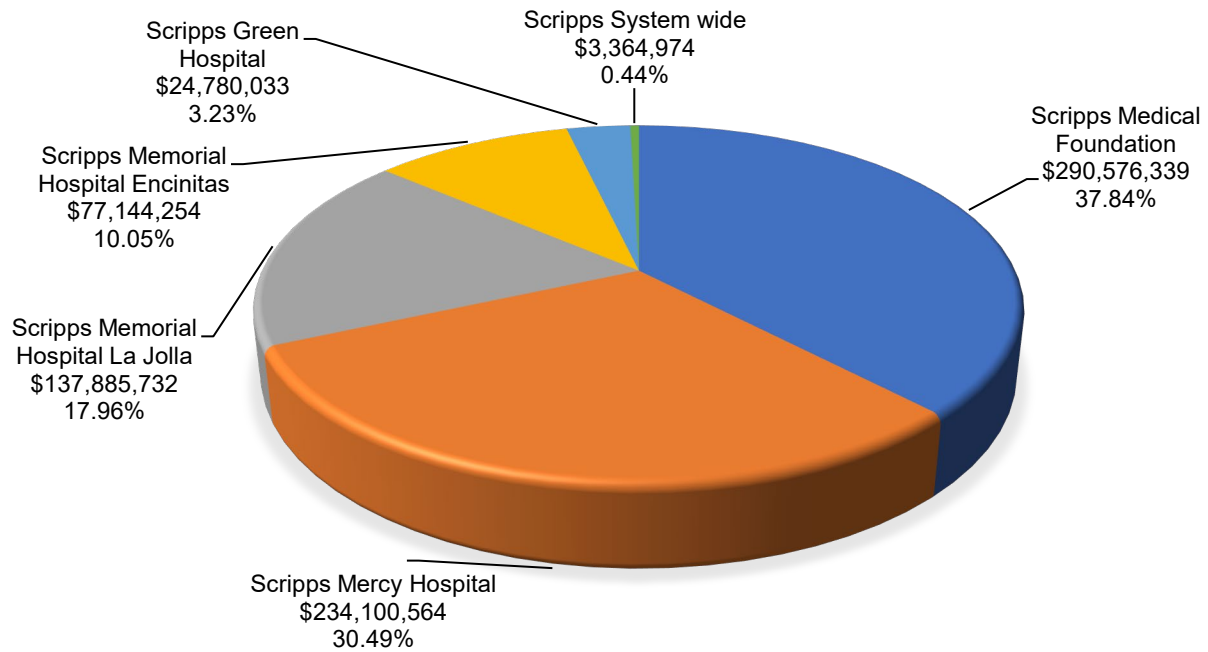
Community Benefits Services (Provider Fee Impact)	Bad Debt	Charity Care	Medi Cal & Other Means Tested Government Programs (Shortfall)	Medicare & Medicare HMO (Shortfall)	Community Health Improvement Services	Professional Education & Health Research	Subsidized Health Services	Community Building Activities	Total
Before Provider Fee	\$5,390,286	\$18,248,321	\$215,140,464	\$482,963,101	\$7,285,612	\$40,779,945	\$2,867,155	\$262,620	\$772,937,503
Provider Fee	-	-	(\$5,085,607)	-	-	-	-	-	(\$5,085,607)
Net After Provider Fee	\$5,390,286	\$18,248,321	\$210,054,857	\$482,963,101	\$7,285,612	\$40,779,945	\$2,867,155	\$262,620	\$767,851,896

Community Benefit Services

Community benefit services include those programs offered to the community that go above and beyond what is provided as a normal part of patient care. Scripps divides community benefit services into three categories, including uncompensated health care, community health services, and professional education and health research. Uncompensated care includes charity care, bad debt, and Medi-Cal and Medicare shortfalls.

Figure 1.2

Fiscal Year 2023 Scripps Total Community Benefit Services by Operating Unit, \$767,851,896



Community Benefits Services (Provider Fee Impact)	Scripps Memorial Hospital La Jolla	Scripps Green Hospital	Scripps Memorial Hospital Encinitas	Scripps Mercy Hospital	Scripps Medical Foundation	Scripps System wide	Total
Before Provider Fee	\$135,633,890	\$24,780,033	\$75,798,977	\$242,783,390	\$290,576,339	\$3,364,974	\$772,937,503
Provider Fee	\$2,251,842		\$1,345,377	(\$8,682,827)	-	-	(\$5,085,607)
Net After Provider Fee	\$137,885,732	\$24,780,033	\$77,144,254	\$234,100,564	\$290,576,339	\$3,364,974	\$767,851,896

Community Benefit Services

Community benefit services include those programs offered to the community that go above and beyond what is provided as a normal part of patient care. Scripps divides community benefit services into three categories, including uncompensated health care, community health services, and professional education and health research. Uncompensated care includes charity care, bad debt, and Medi-Cal and Medicare shortfalls.



Section 2

Scripps Health Community Served

Demographic Profile of San Diego County

The San Diego region is known for its 70 miles of beautiful beaches, perfect weather, and innovative economy. Many do not realize how large and diverse the county is demographically and geographically. With a population of 3.3 million people, San Diego ranks as the second-largest county in California and the fifth-most populous in the U.S. The region encompasses 18 incorporated cities as well as extensive unincorporated areas. For further insights into the demographic data of San Diego County, please refer to the [County of San Diego's 2022 Region SRA Demographic Profile Study](#).

Regional Approach to Health Care

Hospitals and health systems define the community served as individuals residing within the service area, encompassing all residents in a specified geographic vicinity surrounding the hospital, without exclusion based on income or underserved status. Given the diverse range of hospitals in the region, the service area is designated as the entire County of San Diego for both Scripps and the Community Health Needs Assessment. The San Diego County Health and Human Service Agency (HHSA) organizes its planning areas into six geographic regions: Central, East, North Central, North Coastal, North Inland, and South. The geographical regions are represented below.



Scripps Health Community Served

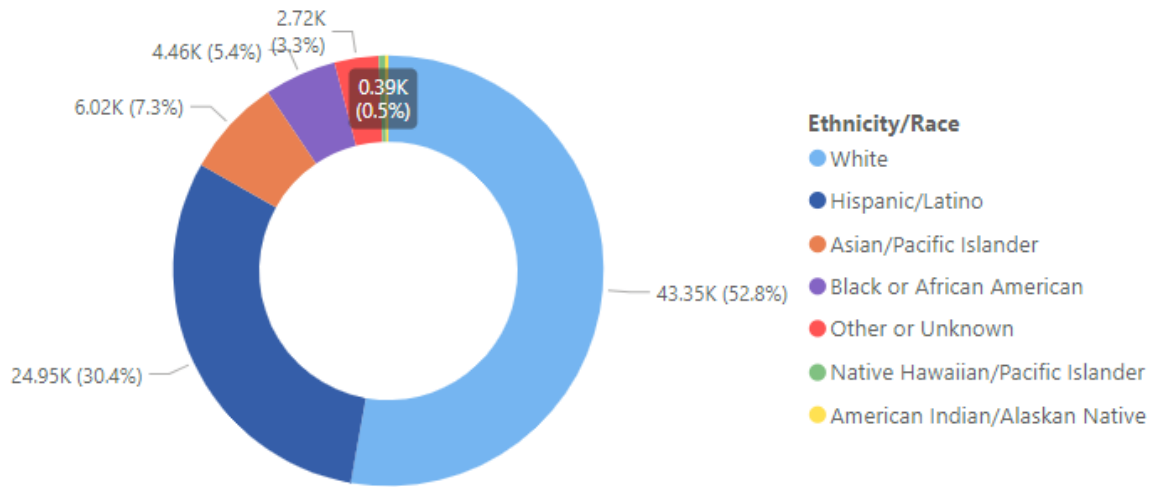
Scripps serves the entire San Diego County region with services concentrated in North Coastal, North Central, Central and Southern region of San Diego. Scripps provides significant volumes of inpatient, emergency, outpatient, specialty and primary care. In Fiscal Year 2023, Scripps provided a total of 3,085,322 outpatient visits and facilitated 73,042 hospital discharges. Community outreach efforts are focused in those areas with proximity to a Scripps facility. The hospital's patient population includes all who receive care without regard to insurance coverage or eligibility for assistance. Figure 2.1 on page 9 displays a map of Scripps Health service area.

- Scripps Memorial Hospital Encinitas
- Scripps Green Hospital
- Scripps Memorial Hospital La Jolla
- Scripps Mercy Hospital San Diego
- Scripps Mercy Chula Vista
- Scripps Clinic
- Scripps Coastal Medical Center
- Scripps HealthExpress
- Scripps Urgent Care



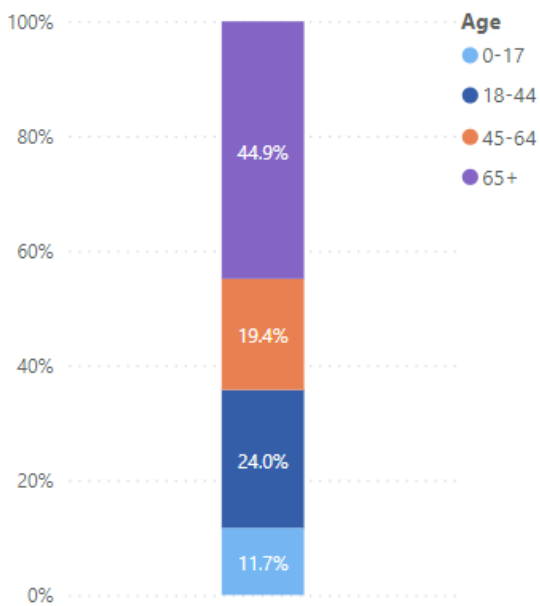
Scripps Health Fiscal Year 2023 Patient Community Demographics

Scripps Fiscal Year 2023 Inpatient Discharges by Race/Ethnicity

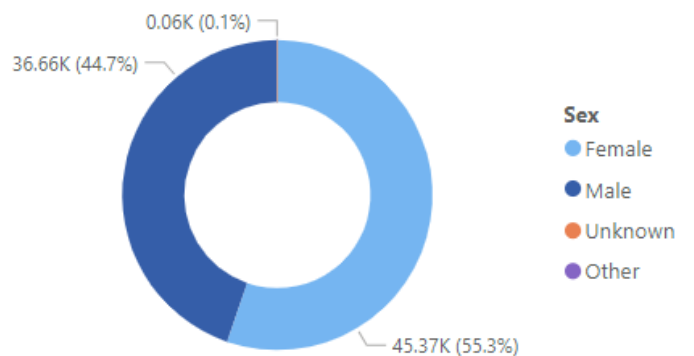


In the Scripps Health service area 52.8% of the Inpatient Discharges are White, 30.4% are Hispanic/Latino, 7.3% are Asian/Pacific Islander, 5.4% are Black or African American.

Scripps FY 2023 Inpatient Discharges by Age

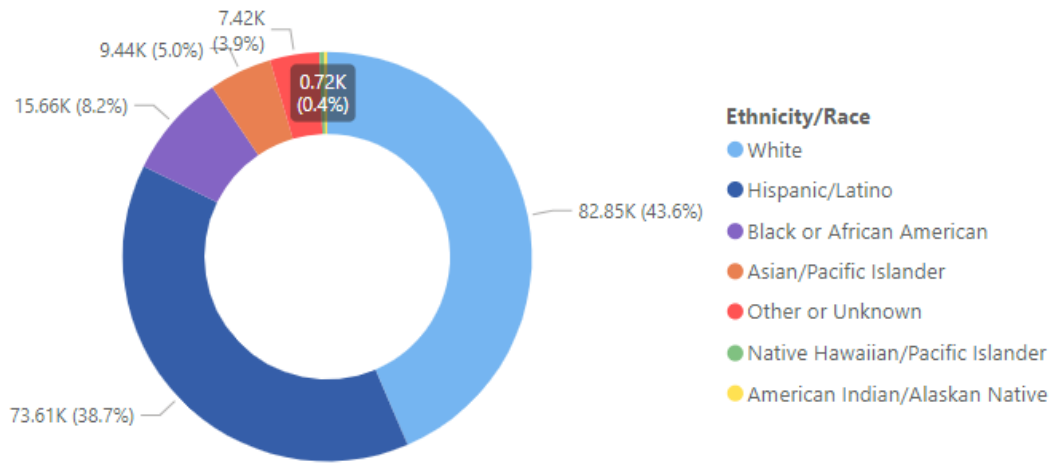


Scripps FY 2023 Inpatient Discharges by Sex



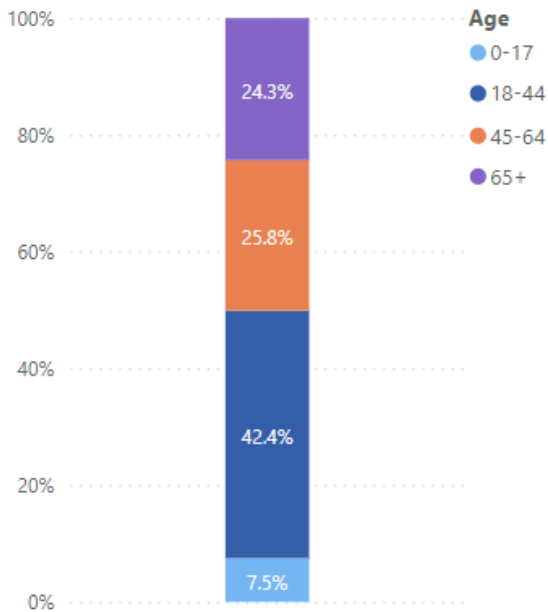
In the Scripps Health service area 55.3% of the Inpatient Discharges are Female and 44.7% are Male.

Scripps Fiscal Year 2023 Emergency Department Encounters

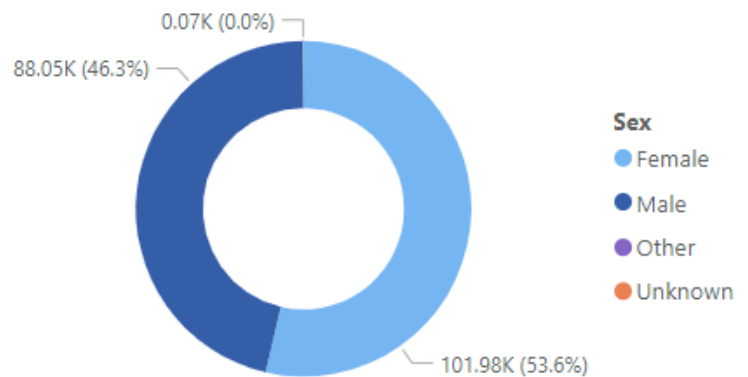


In the Scripps Health service area 43.6% of the Emergency Department encounters are White, 38.7% are Hispanic/Latino, 8.2% are Black/African American, 5.0% are Asian/Pacific Islander.

Scripps FY 2023 ED Encounters by Age

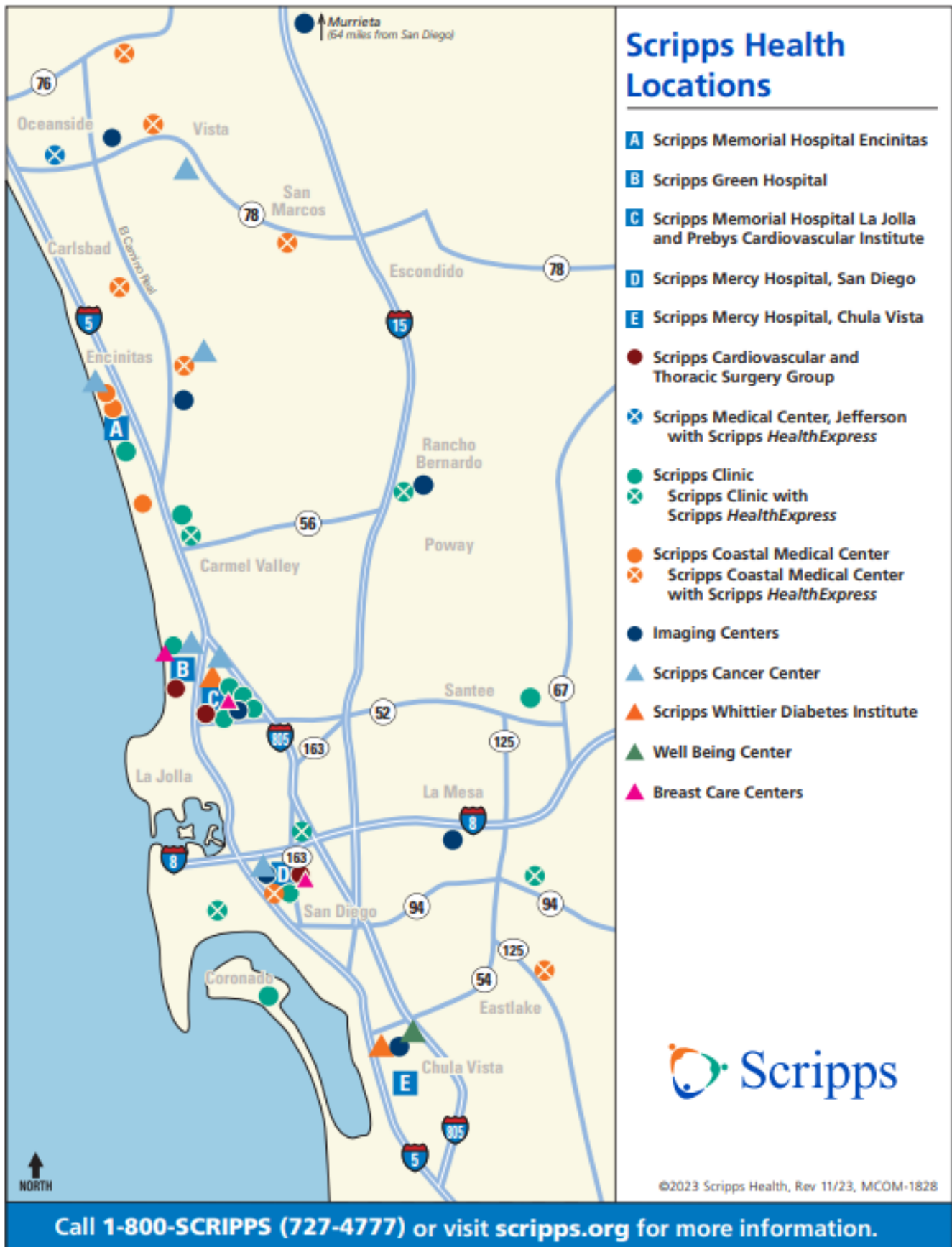


Scripps FY 2023 ED Encounters by Sex



In the Scripps Health service area 53.6% of the Emergency Department encounters are Female and 46.3% are Male.

Figure 2.1 - Scripps Health Service Area



Section 3

Advancing Health Equity

Advancing Health Equity

The mission of Scripps Health is to provide superior health care services in a caring environment and to make a positive difference in the health of individuals throughout our diverse communities. That mission has been our driving force for the past 100 years and will always be at the heart of everything we do.

In support of Scripps mission, Scripps is committed to advancing health equity in our organization and community to address disparities in patient care and improve the quality of care and clinical outcomes for all we serve.

Definition of Health Equity at Scripps Health

To guide our health equity efforts across the Scripps system, Scripps has adopted the following health equity definition:

At Scripps, health equity is addressing disparities in clinical quality, outcomes, and experience, regardless of patients' diverse backgrounds which include, but are not limited to, race, ethnicity, disability, sexual orientation, gender identity, age and socioeconomic status.

Health Equity Structure at Scripps Health

Under the leadership of our two chief medical officers, Scripps' health equity structure is composed of an acute care council, an ambulatory council, and a system workgroup, which serves to coordinate the health equity efforts across the system. Scripps Health's work improving health equity is supported by the Scripps Health Equity Information Center.

Health Equity Information Center (HEIC)

The Health Equity Information Center was created in 2023 to identify and deepen Scripps understanding of health disparities in the populations served by Scripps and across the region, and to support Scripps efforts to reduce these disparities. It is a collection of the latest data, original analytics research, and business intelligence information. It serves as a research and development resource for Scripps groups currently providing equity-focused care and a springboard to develop future enterprise health equity strategies. The goal is to enhance and share the collective knowledge of Scripps' regional and local efforts to address health equity, areas of need and opportunity, and the holistic problems affecting patients in their communities beyond the walls of our health system. The HEIC is supported and maintained by the Health

Data Science team in conjunction with other analytics groups, the Scripps Collaborative for Health Equity (SCHE), and the Community Benefits and Government Relations teams.

Scripps Collaborative for Health Equity

Scripps Collaborative for Health Equity (SCHE) is one initiative among our regional and local efforts that seeks to fulfill Scripps commitment to multicultural diversity and promoting equity in the delivery of health care. SCHE was established as part of the Krueger-Wyeth (KW) funding award to benefit women's health in patient care, research and health equity in the areas of breast cancer, cardiovascular disease and neurocognitive conditions. SCHE is dedicated to enhancing community health equity and its outcomes in our vulnerable populations through three strategic priorities:

- Focus and expand research efforts on healthcare disparities.
- Improve access to culturally appropriate healthcare resources.
- Expand community interventions and programs for multicultural populations.

Fiscal Year 2023 Health Equity Accomplishment Highlights

- Increased data collection levels for health equity focus populations, to enable an increased understanding of health disparities and to support the development of health interventions:
 - Raised known race, ethnicity and language (REaL) data collection for Scripps patients to 94.1% (race), 95% (ethnicity) and 99% (language), exceeding target goal.
 - Raised sexual orientation and gender identity (SOGI) data collection to 23% (sexual orientation) and 23% (gender identity), exceeding target goal.
- Improved interpretive services through added training, embedded interpretive tools in Epic templates for physicians and nurses, and flowsheet redesign.
- Focused on enhanced nursing communications systemwide, including drill down on patient experience scores by race, ethnicity, gender and age, establishing shared data and trend analysis, leading to the development of standard processes and countermeasure creation.
- Launched Scripps Health Equity Information Center.
- The Scripps Whittier Institute collaborated with the Mobile Health and Resource Fair team in Southeast San Diego, reaching over 2,500 patients and offering education and services focused on breast cancer prevention/early detection and cardiovascular health strategies.
- Partnered with the Jackie Robinson YMCA, resulting in offering a Diabetes Prevention Program (DPP) to provide additional support to patients at risk of cardiovascular and related cardiometabolic disease.

- Established a collaboration between Scripps Wellbeing Center and Mama’s Kitchen to pilot providing medically tailored meals post-discharge to heart failure patients. The Wellbeing Center served 6,300 participants in its programs in 2023.
- Collaborated with Olivewood Gardens and Learning Center to educate underserved communities in healthy culinary and nutritional practice.
- Initiated an integrated medicine program focusing on cardiovascular health for underserved patients. This program offers wellness and exercise sessions, educational workshops, nutrition guidance and other services to enhance health maintenance and disease prevention. The cardiometabolic educational programming, branded under the "Live Fit" suite of programs, includes Project Dulce, Dulce Digital, Healthy Living and Su Corazon Su Vida. A total of 426 participants attended these educational sessions which are delivered at various community locations, such as low-income housing complexes, senior residential centers, faith-based organizations and community-based organizations.
- Developed and executed a peer-review process to promote trainee research focused on health disparities in breast cancer, cardiovascular disease, and neurocognition. SCHE awarded \$75,000 across six research projects, ranging from cardiovascular care, genetic counseling and testing, diabetes care, substance abuse screening and research support, focused on women and multicultural populations.
- Sponsored a breast cancer support group through SCHE, reaching the underserved community, which featured care pathways and educational tools for monitoring treatment-related concerns. Launched digital Spanish language campaigns to increase rate of breast care screening.
- Focused on studying racial and ethnic disparities in breast cancer screening rates. Utilizing the Electronic Platform for Health Disparities, patterns of care within the health care system were analyzed to assess compliance with recommended mammographic screening guidelines. Previous national data indicated a screening rate of approximately two-thirds among eligible patients. Scripps set a health care system goal of 76% screening rate, and in the preliminary analysis of more than 50,000 eligible individuals, the actual rate achieved was 77.6%. Minor variations by race and ethnicity were observed, with Asian, Black, Pacific Islander and Native American groups falling slightly below the targeted rate. New intervention strategies are under development to address these disparities.
- Conducted studies on financial toxicity's impact on breast cancer patients undergoing multidisciplinary treatments, focusing on medically underserved individuals at our South/Central San Diego location through longitudinal survey studies.
- Implemented a patient survey to assess cultural and linguistically appropriate health care resources and supportive program for patients.

- Provided post-discharge support for more than 300 patients, the majority of whom are underserved, recovering from conditions such as acute myocardial infarction (AMI), coronary artery bypass grafting (CABG), congestive heart failure (CHF), and stroke.
- Launched an Annual Research Symposium with more than 75 participants attending. The symposium is a partnership between Scripps Health Research and SCHE made possible through funding by the Krueger-Wyeth award. Among the presentations:
 - Financial Toxicity in Spanish Speaking Cancer Patients
 - Understanding Disparities in Substance Use Screening
 - Be Well at Work: Low-Wage Hospital Workers and Well-Being Intervention
 - Dulce Digital-COVID Aware Texting Platform
 - Quality and Health Equity Update and Next Steps

Fiscal Year 2024 Health Equity Goals & Objectives

- Continue to increase the achievement levels of data collection for REaL and SOGI information.
- Implement the social drivers of health (SDOH) inpatient screening tool, in the areas of food security, housing instability, transportation needs, utility difficulties and interpersonal safety. Screen all patients 18 years and older at hospital admission, capture “screen positive” rates for each domain, and implement process to respond to positive screens by connecting patients with community resources.
- Continue health equity understanding and improvements in heart failure readmission, breast cancer screening and patient experience.
- Advance 2023 health equity initiatives and related efforts in accordance with resource availability.

Ongoing Health Equity Programs and Services

As Scripps undertakes the work of identifying and reducing disparities in clinical outcomes and ensuring our compliance with government directives regarding health equity, it is important to recognize that Scripps has been engaged in a broad range of programs and initiatives that address health disparities for underserved populations for many years. Below are some examples, with further details on these programs throughout this community benefit report.

- **Aging Care and Support:** Provide, proactive, medical and social services to adults living with multiple chronic diseases. Partner with local senior centers, churches, and senior housing and conduct senior health chats that are designed to provide health education to the older adult community.

- **Behavioral Health:** Establish initiatives to create a more robust behavioral health care system with emphasis on vocational training, reducing opioid use and substance abuse.
- **Cancer:** Offer wig banks to support individuals undergoing cancer treatment and/or experiencing hair loss, transportation for appointments, lodging, Survivor’s Day events, breast health outreach and education and more.
- **Cardiovascular Disease:** Address cardiovascular disease through sudden cardiac arrest (SCA) screenings, virtual cardiac rehabilitation, cardiometabolic health education and improving food insecurities.
- **Diabetes:** Advocate for diabetes prevention, research and education, through in-person and virtual programs and events for the various communities and patients impacted by the diabetes epidemic.
- **Maternal Child Health and High-Risk Pregnancy:** Provide perinatology services, health education and awareness and other key programs to support the health of mothers, infants, and families.
- **Professional Education:** Support physician training and clinical research for residents and fellows through various residency programs and curriculum dedicated to uplifting health equity, reducing bias and caring for the underserved.
- **Health Research:** Identify how to measure health equity through the work of the Scripps Collaborative for Health Equity, related research grants, the Health Equity Information Center and more.
- **Youth Career Pathways/Pipeline Programs:** Promote health care as a rewarding career to students via internship programs, outreach programs, scholars’ programs and more.
- **Community Outreach:** Help the homeless, food insecure and un-insured/under-insured low-income patients through programs specifically designed to supplement their overall health care and living needs.



Section 4

Uncompensated Health Care

Uncompensated Healthcare

Scripps contributes significant resources to providing low and no-cost health care for our patients in need. During Fiscal Year 2023, Scripps contributed \$716,656,565 in uncompensated health care, including \$18,248,321 in charity care, \$693,017,958 in Medi-Cal and Medicare shortfall, and \$5,390,286 in bad debt.

The health care safety net in San Diego County is highly dependent upon hospitals and community health clinics to care for uninsured and medically underserved communities. Medi-Cal provided health insurance coverage for 1,000,000 in San Diego County in 2022 (almost 1 out of 3 people in San Diego County are Medi-Cal beneficiaries). San Diego County has the 2nd largest Medi-Cal population in California. Five percent of enrollees with the highest-cost needs account for over half of Medi-Cal spending. Finding more effective ways to coordinate and enhance the safety net is a critical policy challenge. While public subsidies help finance services for San Diego County's underinsured populations, these subsidies do not cover the full cost of care. Combined with Medi-Cal and Medicare funding shortfalls, Scripps and other local hospitals absorb the cost of caring for uninsured/underinsured patients in their operating budgets. This places a significant financial burden on hospitals and physicians.

Scripps Mercy Hospital (including San Diego and Chula Vista campuses) provides 56% percent of the charity care within the Scripps system (refer to figure 4.2). Scripps Mercy's service area has a more economically disadvantaged population compared to the county, with the lowest numbers of insured adults in the county and a much higher percentage of ethnic minorities, primarily Hispanic and Asian.

In 2023, both Scripps Mercy Hospital San Diego and Scripps Mercy Hospital Chula Vista were designated by the government as a Disproportionate Share Hospital, recognizing the economically disadvantaged communities they serve. Both hospital campuses play crucial roles in delivering healthcare services to the Central/Southern San Diego County area, ranging from Interstate 8 to the United States-Mexico border. Over half of the patients served by Scripps Mercy San Diego and Chula Vista are covered by government insurance programs, including Medicare and Medi-Cal.

Scripps Uncompensated Health Care

Bad BadDebt	\$5,390,286
Charity Care	\$18,248,321
Medi-Cal & Medicare Shortfall	\$693,017,958
Uncompensated Health Care Total	\$716,656,565

Financial Assistance

Assisting Low-Income, Uninsured Patients

The Scripps financial assistance policy is consistent with the language of both (AB 774) State of California Hospital Fair Pricing and (AB 1020) Health Care Debt and Fair Billing legislation and the Internal Revenue Code (IRC) 501(r) Regulations. These practices reflect our commitment to assisting low-income and uninsured patients with discounted hospital charges, charity care and flexible billing and debt collection practices. These programs are available to everyone in need, regardless of their race, ethnicity, gender, religion, or national origin.

Scripps makes every effort to identify patients who may benefit from financial assistance as soon as possible and provide counseling and language interpretation. Additionally, Scripps does not apply wage garnishment or liens on primary residences as a way of collecting unpaid hospital bills.

Eligibility for financial assistance is based on family income and expenses. For low-income, uninsured patients who earn less than twice the federal poverty level (FPL), Scripps forgives the entire bill. For those patients who earn between two and four times the FPL, a portion of the bill is forgiven. Patients who qualify for financial assistance are not charged more than Scripps discounted financial assistance amount. For 2024, the Department of Health and Human Services defined a family of four at 200 percent federal poverty level as \$62,400.³

Economic Value of Community Benefits Provided by Scripps Health in Fiscal Year 2023

CA Senate Bill (SB) 697 & AB1204 Definitions	Community Benefit Programs & Services	Net Benefit
Medical Care Services		
	Charity Care	\$18,248,321
	Medi-Cal & Other Government Means Tested Programs (Shortfall) *	\$210,054,857
	Medicare & Medicare HMO (Shortfall) **	\$482,963,101
	Bad Debt	\$5,390,286
	Total Costs of Uncompensated Care	\$716,656,565
Benefits for Vulnerable Population		
Definition: Any population that is exposed to medical or financial risk by virtue of being uninsured, underinsured, or eligible for Medi-Cal, Medicare, California Children’s Services Program, or county indigent programs.		
	A – Community Health Improvement Services	\$5,625,079
	C – Subsidized Health Services	\$2,867,155
	E – Cash, Grants, and In-Kind Contributions	\$405,000
	Total Benefits for Vulnerable Populations***	\$8,897,234
Benefits for the Broader Community		
Definition: Services that improve overall community health and can include grants, in-kind donations and sponsorships.		
	A – Community Health Improvement Services	\$401,883
	E – Cash, Grants, and In-Kind Contributions	\$181,100
	F – Community Building Activities	\$262,620
	G – Community Benefit Operations	\$672,549
	Total Benefits for Broader Community	\$1,518,152
Professional Education & Health Research		
	B – Professional Education	\$37,506,671
	D – Health Research	\$3,273,273
	Total Professional Education & Research	\$40,779,945
	Total Community Benefit and Economic Value	\$767,851,896

Financial Support: The economic value of all community benefit is reported at cost. Calculations for bad debt and charity care are estimated by extracting the gross write-offs of bad debt and charity care charges and applying the hospital ratio of costs to charges (RCC) to estimate the cost of care. Calculations for Medi-

Cal, other means-tested government programs and Medicare shortfall are derived using the payer-based cost allocation method. Other net community benefit expenses are calculated using a cost accounting methodology. Restricted offsetting revenue for a given activity, where applicable, is subtracted from total expenses to determine net benefit in dollars. Bad debt, community building activities and Medicare shortfall do not count as community benefits under Schedule H 990 but are still reportable outside the community benefit table.

** Medi-Cal & Other Government Means Tested Programs include Provider Fee as a part of Medi-Cal shortfall. The Hospital Fee Program was established in 2009 with the intent of improving hospital Medi-Cal reimbursement and maximizing federal financial participation in the Medi-Cal program. Hospital Fee Program, also known as the Hospital Quality Assurance Fee (HQAF), provides private hospitals with federally matched supplemental payments for inpatient and outpatient Medi-Cal services, both in fee-for-services (FFS) and managed care, while also generating state General Fund savings to support children's health care and provide direct grants for public and district hospitals.⁴ The Hospital Fee Program was reported as offsetting revenue from Medi-Cal. The pledge/grant (separate from the quality assurance fee) is reported in Cash and In-Kind Contributions for other vulnerable populations.*

*** Unpaid cost of Medicare is calculated using Scripps' cost accounting system. In IRS Form 990, Schedule H, the Medicare cost report is used.*

**** Assembly Bill 1204 (2021) expanded the definition of "vulnerable populations" for community benefits planning purposes and also adopted the same definition for hospital equity reporting. In addition to including populations exposed to medical or financial risk by virtue of being uninsured, underinsured, or eligible for Medi-Cal, Medicare, California Children's Services Program, or county indigent programs, the new definition adds racial and ethnic groups experiencing disparate health outcomes, and socially disadvantaged groups. Effective January 1, 2022, hospitals will need to apply this newly expanded definition when developing their Community Health Needs Assessments.*

"Vulnerable populations" includes racial and ethnic groups experiencing disparate health outcomes including the following:

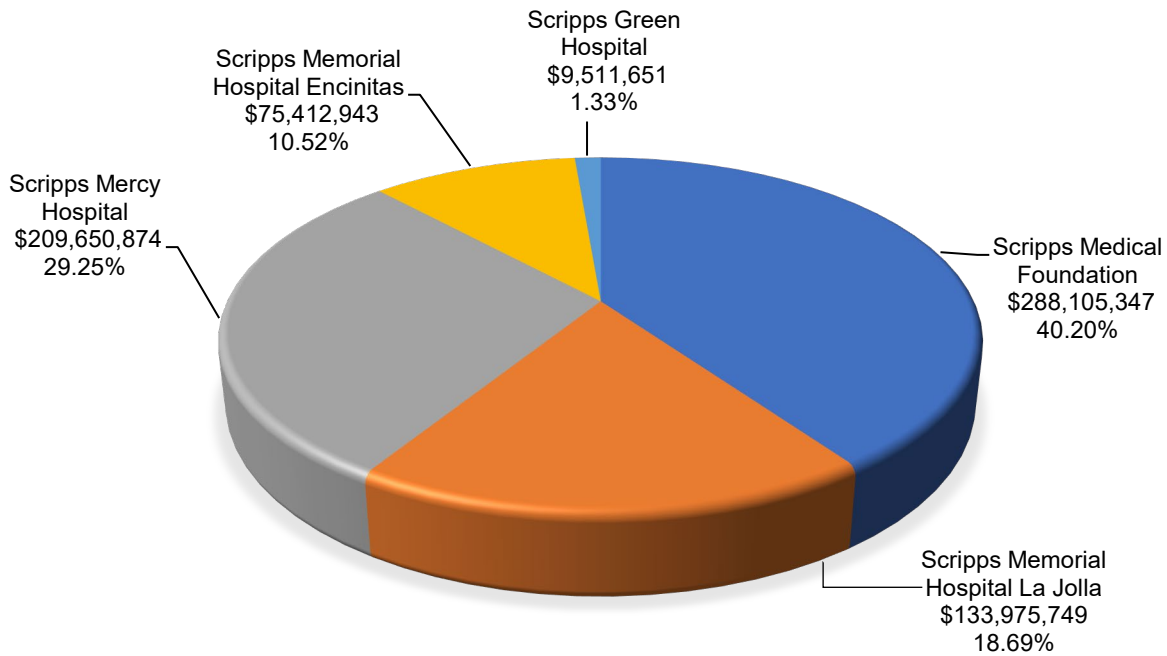
Black/African American, American Indian, Alaska Native, Asian Indian, Cambodian, Chinese, Filipino, Hmong, Japanese, Korean, Laotian, Vietnamese, Native Hawaiian, Guamanian or Chamorro, Samoan, or other nonwhite racial groups, as well as individuals of Hispanic/Latino origin, including Mexicans, Mexican Americans, Chicanos, Salvadorans, Guatemalans, Cubans, and Puerto Ricans

"Socially disadvantaged groups" include the following:

- The unhoused*
- People with disabilities*
- People identifying as lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender, or queer*
- Individuals with limited English proficiency*
- Communities with inadequate access to clean air and safe drinking water, as defined by an environmental California Healthy Places Index score of 50 percent or lower*

Figure 4.1

Fiscal Year 2023
Scripps Total Uncompensated Care by Operating Unit,
\$716,656,565⁵



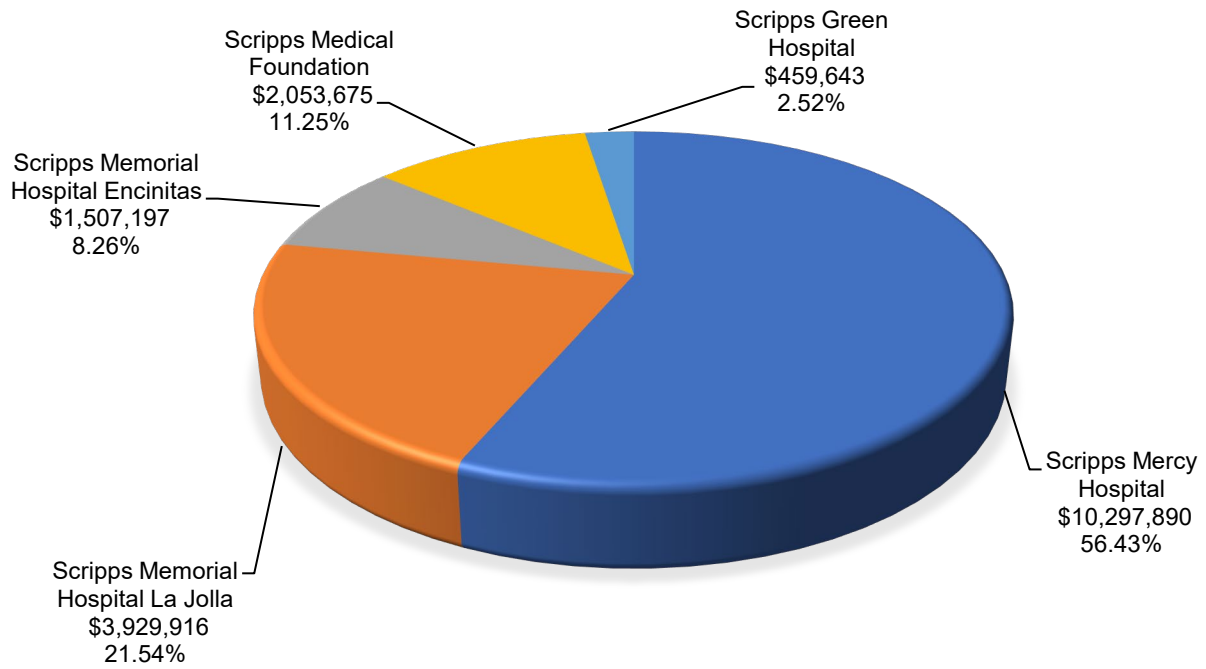
Community Benefits Services (Provider Fee Impact)	Scripps Memorial Hospital La Jolla	Scripps Green Hospital	Scripps Memorial Hospital Encinitas	Scripps Mercy Hospital (San Diego & Chula Vista)	Scripps Medical Foundation	Total
Before Provider Fee	\$131,723,907	\$9,511,651	\$74,067,566	\$ 218,333,701	\$288,105,347	\$721,742,171
Provider Fee	\$2,251,842	-	\$ 1,345,377	(\$8,682,827)	-	(\$5,085,607)
Net Community Benefit Services After Provider Fee	\$133,975,749	\$ 9,511,651	\$75,412,943	\$209,650,874	\$288,105,347	\$716,656,565

Uncompensated Health Care

Uncompensated health care includes the sum of expenses associated with charity care, Medi-Cal and other means-tested government programs, Medicare shortfalls and bad debt. A detailed account of Scripps Fiscal Year 2023 uncompensated care expenditures is contained in the following graphs.

Figure 4.2

Fiscal Year 2023
Scripps Charity Care by Operating Unit,
\$18,248,321⁶

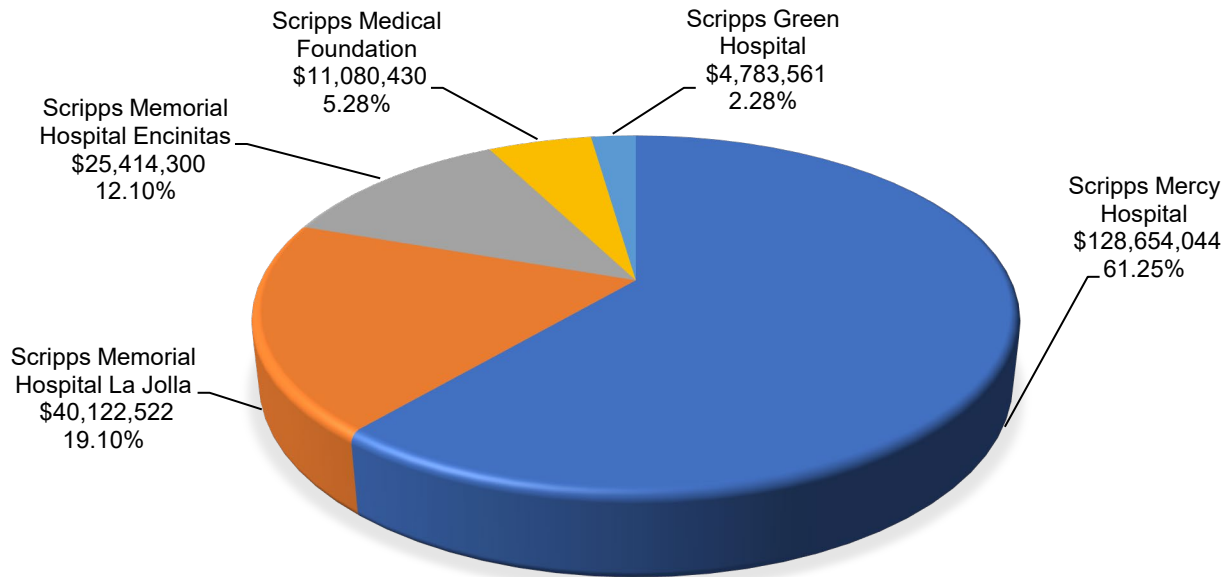


Charity Care

Part of Scripps legacy is its commitment to providing services for vulnerable populations. Scripps provides charity care for patients with little or no resources at all its hospitals. Charity care is included in the Internal Revenue Service (IRS) Form 990 Schedule H Part I Line 7a.

Figure 4.3

Fiscal Year 2023 Scripps Medi-Cal⁷ & Other Means-Tested Government Programs by Operating Unit, \$210,054,857



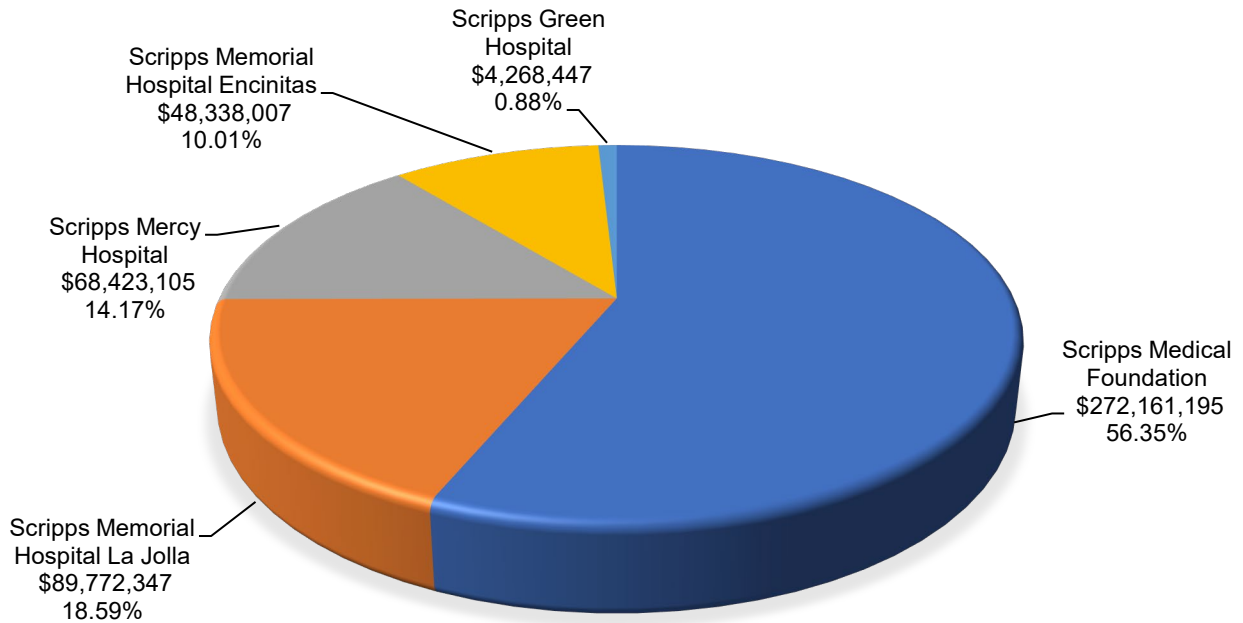
Community Benefits Services (Provider Fee Impact)	Scripps Memorial Hospital La Jolla	Scripps Green Hospital	Scripps Memorial Hospital Encinitas	Scripps Mercy Hospital	Scripps Medical Foundation	Total
Before Provider Fee	\$37,870,680	\$4,783,561	\$24,068,923	\$137,336,870	\$11,080,430	\$215,140,464
Provider Fee	\$2,251,842	-	\$1,345,377	(\$8,682,827)	-	(\$5,085,607)
Net After Provider Fee	\$40,122,522	\$4,783,561	\$25,414,300	\$128,654,044	\$11,080,430	\$210,054,857

Medi-Cal (Shortfall)

In addition to providing charity care services, Scripps accepts patients for whom it is reimbursed under various county, state, and federal indigent care programs (Medi-Cal and Medi-Cal HMO) at amounts that, in most cases, do not cover the full cost of care. These costs are included in the IRS Form 990 Schedule H Part I Line 7b. In the state of California, the Medicaid program is called Medi-Cal.

Figure 4.4

Fiscal Year 2023
Scripps Medicare & Medicare HMO Shortfall by Operating Unit,
\$482,963,101⁸

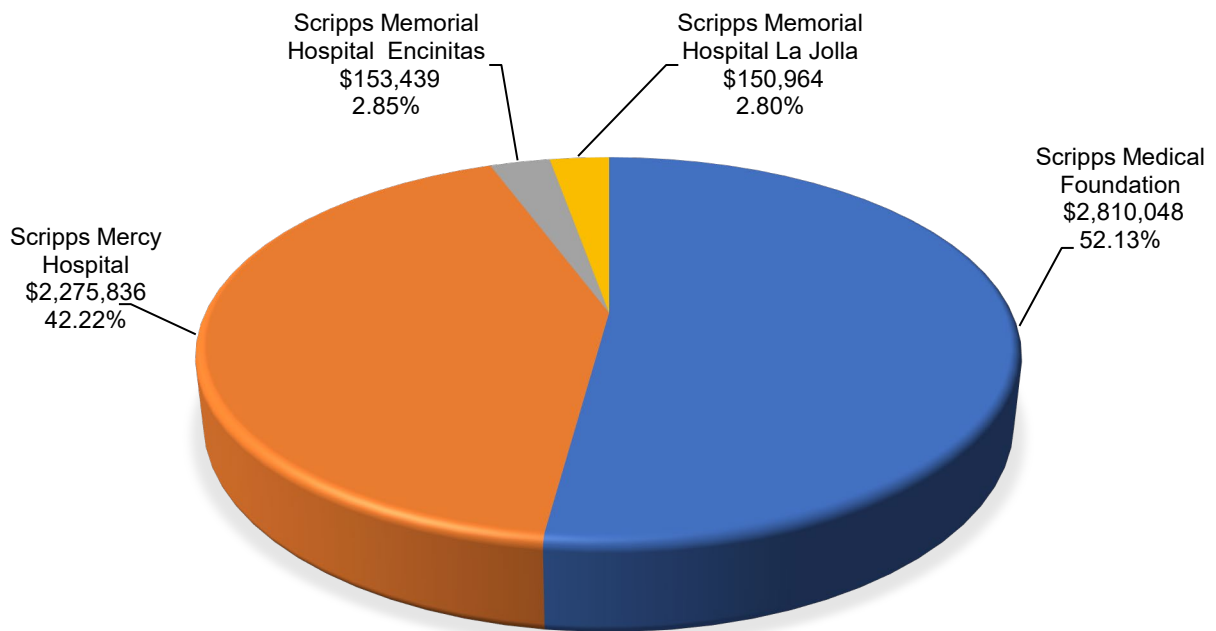


Medicare and Medicare HMO Shortfall

In addition to providing charity care services, Scripps accepts patients for whom it is reimbursed under various county, state, and federal programs (Medicare, Medicare PPO, Medicare HMO and Medicare SHPS) at amounts that, in most cases, do not cover the full cost of care. These costs are included in the IRS Form 990 Schedule H Part III Section B.

Figure 4.5

Fiscal Year 2023 Scripps Bad Debt by Operating Unit, \$5,390,286⁹



Bad Debt

Each year, Scripps provides uncompensated care to people who do not meet the criteria for charity care, are not covered by a third-party payor or have a co-payment obligation that is not met. These costs are included in the IRS Form 990 Schedule H Part III Section A.



Section 5

Community Health Improvement Services

Community Health Improvement Services

Community Health Needs Assessment

Scripps Health completed a Community Health Needs Assessment (CHNA) in Fiscal Year 2022 as required by state and federal law. The CHNA aims to identify, understand, and prioritize the health-related needs of San Diego County residents facing inequities. The CHNA is a primary tool used by the hospital to determine its community benefit plan and report and to inform and adapt hospital programs and strategies better to meet the health needs of San Diego County residents. Through a prioritization process described in the [Scripps Community Health Needs Assessment \(CHNA\)](#)¹⁰ the following seven needs were identified as the top community needs within San Diego County (listed below in alphabetical order).

- Access to Health Care
- Aging Care & Support
- Behavioral Health
- Children & Youth Wellbeing
- Chronic Health Conditions
- Community Safety
- Economic Stability

Figure 5.1.



2022 CHNA Top Community Needs

Addressing Scripps Priority Health Needs

The health focus areas identified above were determined through data collection, analysis, and a prioritization process that incorporated community input. The results of the CHNA are used to inform and adapt hospital programs and strategies better to meet the health needs of San Diego County residents. Therefore, in response to the 2022 CHNA findings, Scripps Health created a [FY23-25 Implementation Strategy](#) that highlights the programs, services and resources provided by the Scripps hospitals to address the identified top community needs in its community. Scripps is addressing access to care (community outreach, aging care & support, behavioral health, children & youth wellbeing, chronic health conditions which includes cardiovascular disease, cancer and diabetes, community safety and economic stability.

Community Benefit Programs

The programs included in this section raise public awareness and understanding of the community needs documented in Scripps 2022 Community Needs Assessment Report and additional needs that Scripps addresses via community benefit programs and initiatives. Scripps community benefit efforts are multifaceted to meet the diverse need of those we serve, from seniors and uninsured/underinsured to the house bound. Community benefit services promote health and healing and are focused on addressing the identified unmet health needs of the community. Programs include prevention and wellness initiatives, screenings, health education, support groups and health fairs, supported by operational funds, grants, in-kind-donations and philanthropy.

Scripps Health strives to improve community health through collaboration with a wide range of partners and like-minded organizations. Working with other health systems, community groups and organizations, government agencies, businesses and community clinics, Scripps is better able to build upon efforts to achieve broad community health goals and partner with a wide variety of organizations on community health improvement programs. See Appendix H for a list of our community partners.

Scripps categorizes Community Health Improvement Services according to the Schedule H 990 IRS categories. The categories are broken down into two primary areas (see the Scripps Community Health Improvement Services Summary list for more details, page 60. These costs are included in the IRS Form 990 Schedule H Part I Lines 7 e, and i.

- Community health improvement services and community benefit operations
- Cash, grants, and in-kind contributions

During Fiscal Year 2023 (October 2022 to September 2023), Scripps invested \$7,285,612 in community health services (does not include subsidized health). This figure reflects the costs associated with providing these programs, salaries, materials, and supplies minus revenue.

The rest of this chapter highlights Scripps activities, programs and services conducted by Scripps during Fiscal Year 2023. Refer to Figures 5.2 and 5.3 for a graphic representation of the Fiscal Year 2023 Scripps System Community Health Services program distribution.

Access to Care (Community Outreach)

The [Scripps 2022 Community Health Needs Assessment](#) identified Access to Care (community outreach) as a significant priority need, evident in both the secondary data analyses and community engagement discussions. Access to high-quality, comprehensive healthcare plays a critical role in preserving good health, preventing and managing disease, reducing disability, preventing premature death, and achieving health equity for all.¹¹ During the community engagement process, several factors were identified as significant barriers to accessing healthcare in San Diego, including transportation challenges, healthcare costs, medical debt, the need for culturally competent and linguistically appropriate care and LGBTQ+ experience in health care.

As of 2021, 92.5%¹² of adults between the ages of 19 and 64 in San Diego County had health insurance coverage, leaving 7.5% without coverage. Among children under the age of 19, only 3.9% were without health insurance, while the vast majority (96.1%) had coverage. Notably, uninsured rates have decreased among all racial and ethnic groups. However, individuals identifying as Hispanic faced a disproportionately higher lack of health insurance, with 14.3% lacking coverage compared to 4.3% of non-Hispanic white individuals. Challenges related to persistent difficulties in accessing and navigating healthcare were recurring concerns voiced in community engagement interviews.

During Fiscal Year 2023, Scripps provided for the following community outreach programs demonstrating its commitment to serving the community.

340 B Drug Pricing Program

Scripps Mercy Hospital in [San Diego](#) and [Chula Vista](#) participate in the 340B Drug Pricing Program. Designated as a disproportionate share hospital (DSH), Scripps Mercy is eligible to purchase outpatient drugs at a reduced price, allowing it to stretch scarce federal resources as far as possible, reaching more eligible patients and providing more comprehensive services. The 340B Drug Pricing Program is a vital lifeline for safety-net providers such as those at Scripps Mercy Hospital who provides critical health services in our communities. The program is tailored to reach only hospitals that provide a high level of services to low-income individuals or that serve isolated rural communities. Savings from the 340B program help hospitals meet the healthcare needs of underserved patients across the country.

Public Resource Specialist Team

The Public Resource Specialists (PRS) are experienced staff with strong knowledge of county programs. PRS screens all uninsured and underinsured patients who have received services at any of the five Scripps hospital facilities. They offer support to patients and provide guidance on available funding options for county, state, and federal programs.

Medication Patient Financial Assistance Program

The Medication Patient Financial Assistance Program serves patients that may be uninsured, under-insured as well as those that have insurance. Staff members search out funding sources from grants and manufacturers for high dollar medications so that patients do not have to make a choice between their physical health and financial health. The purpose is to make medications available to patients that would otherwise be unaffordable.

City of Refuge (CoR) Recuperative Care Unit Program (RCU)

Scripps Health partners with City of Refuge San Diego Recuperative Care Shelter (RCS) to offer recuperative care for homeless individuals after hospital discharge, providing them with a safe place to recover and prevent a return to the streets. Scripps pays a daily rate to City of Refuge for housing and services for these patients.

Father Joe's Villages Street Health Project

Scripps Mercy Hospital San Diego serves a large volume of San Diego's unsheltered homeless population in the Emergency Services Department. Because of the scarcity of shelter and treatment program beds available for these patients, they often leave the Hospital to return to their previous outside location. A collaboration has been established between Father Joe's Village Street Health Intervention Project and Scripps Mercy Hospital targeting unsheltered discharged patients who could benefit from a follow-up visit in the community setting where they reside.

Mercy Outreach Surgical Team (MOST)

The Mercy Outreach Surgical Team (MOST) is a volunteer surgical team based out of Scripps Mercy Hospital. MOST began providing free surgical care to children in need in Mexico more than 35 years ago. Since the inception of the program, the team has provided surgeries for 14,000 children. To maintain consistency in the care provided, teams include a core group of volunteers and a few new volunteers each trip. Each team comprises 40 to 50 volunteers. Volunteers are not compensated and use PTO when volunteering on a MOST trip.

Scripps Sponsored American Red Cross Blood Drives

Scripps Health's partnership with the American Red Cross in Fiscal Year 2023 involved hosting blood drives. This collaboration aimed to encourage blood donations and contribute to the community's blood supply.

Scripps Mercy Hospital Chula Vista Well-Being Center

The Chula Vista Well-Being Center collaborates with Scripps Family Medicine residents to provide monthly community educational sessions addressing critical health needs, including mental health, burnout, chronic disease prevention, hypertension and diabetes. Working closely with Scripps Family Medicine residents who

often present the topics, the center works collaboratively with the promotoras to develop and deliver educational content tailored to the needs and interests of the community.

Scripps Health Community Benefit (CB) Fund

In Fiscal Year 2023, Scripps Health continued its commitment to enhancing the health of our community with the Community Benefit Fund. Over the course of the year, it awarded a number of community grants to programs in San Diego. The funded projects address some of San Diego County's high priority health needs, seeking to improve access to vital health care services for at risk populations, including the homeless, economically disadvantaged, mentally ill and others. Since the Community Benefit Fund began, Scripps has awarded \$4.5 million to date.

Consumer Center for Health Education and Advocacy (CCHEA)

The Consumer Center partnership is a Medical Legal Partnership with Scripps Mercy hospital. The program helps to educate consumers about health care benefits and changes occurring with eligibility and enrollment in coverage programs.

The Mobile Health and Resource Fair

The Mobile Health and Resource Fair in Southeast San Diego, supported by Scripps funding, serves hundreds of people monthly, offering cardiovascular, neurocognitive, breast cancer and cardiometabolic screenings. Regularly attended by those who need additional resources and support, it provides essential services in one location. Scripps staff collaborate with the fair team, offering education and consultations on various health topics. Many community members visit the Scripps booth for support, reflecting Scripps commitment to comprehensive health care and community well-being.

Aging Care and Support

The [Scripps 2022 Community Health Needs Assessment](#) identified aging care and support as a priority health issue affecting members of the communities served by Scripps. San Diego County, in line with the national trend, is witnessing an unprecedented increase in the number and proportion of adults over sixty-five, marking a historic demographic shift in the United States. According to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC), two main factors—longer life spans and aging boomers—will combine to double the population of Americans aged sixty-five or older during the next 25 years to about 72 million. By 2030, older adults will represent 20% of the U.S. population. In San Diego, there are currently half a million residents aged over 65, a number projected to reach one million by 2030. This trend aligns with state-level data indicating a similar doubling of the aging population within that timeframe.

Seniors visit emergency departments (EDs) at higher rates than non-seniors for conditions or accidents that require rapid or advanced treatments, including surgery, which are only available in hospital settings. Older adults have age specific challenges and needs — from fall protection and mobility assistance to social services and care coordination to reduce risk of readmission. Older adults are at greater risk of having multiple chronic conditions such as Alzheimer's and dementia.

An analysis of mortality data in San Diego County for 2021¹³ revealed that Alzheimer's was the sixth leading cause of death, contributing to 1,391 deaths, or 5.3% of the total. Scripps is committed to providing specialized care and support for individuals with Alzheimer's, offering services such as cognitive screening, memory testing, standard imaging tests, and advanced radiology studies. Additionally, Scripps collaborates with local agencies to provide guidance and assistance to patients and their families.

During Fiscal Year 2023, Scripps engaged in the following programs and services to meet the needs of the aging population.

Scripps Health Geriatric Emergency Department Accreditation by the American College of Emergency Physicians (ACEP)

All four Scripps Health emergency departments have been accredited by the American College of Emergency Physicians as geriatric emergency departments, a distinction that recognizes excellence in providing specialized care to elderly patients. The San Diego Senior Emergency Care Initiative (Initiative) aims to improve older adults' experience and outcomes in EDs by supporting geriatric emergency department accreditation for EDs across the San Diego region.

Scripps Advanced Care Clinic

The Scripps Advanced Care Clinic offers comprehensive care for adults with multiple chronic diseases. This program goes beyond medical treatment to address patients' psychosocial, economic, and spiritual needs, recognizing that diseases impact all aspects of their lives.

The Alzheimer's Project – San Diego Unites for a Cure and Care

The Alzheimer's Project is a countywide initiative aimed at accelerating the search for a cure and helping the estimated 100,000 San Diegans with the disease, along with their caregivers.

Understanding Alzheimer's and Dementia

Scripps partnered with the Alzheimer's Association on hosting various community education sessions in North County. Participants learned about the impact of Alzheimer's, the difference between Alzheimer's and dementia, disease stages and risk factors, current research and treatments to address symptoms.

Fall Prevention Resource Guide

Scripps Health has developed a Fall Prevention Resource Guide which includes information on fall prevention resources, exercise programs, minor home repairs and fall prevention options, education and resources for caregiving, mental health resources, emotional support resources, social connections, meditation & cultural/mental stimulation, and coronavirus resources.

Fall Prevention and Home Safety Workshop

Scripps Social Workers and nurses educate seniors on ways to reduce fall risk, improve safety awareness, and utilize available resources to promote independence and overall safety.

A Matter of Balance: Managing Concerns About Falls

Scripps educates older adults on preventing falls through exercise and being proactive through safety measures in the home. An eight-week program and lecture series provide practical strategies to manage falls, improve safety awareness and utilize available resources to promote independence and overall safety.

Standing Strong Fall Prevention Workshop

Scripps Trauma partnered with Scripps Encinitas Rehabilitation Center along with the County of San Diego Health and Human Services, Aging and Independence Services and the San Diego Fall Prevention Task Force on free, in-person events. Individuals participated in classes to improve balance and learned how to reduce fall risk, completed a fall risk assessment by a physical therapist, consulted with a pharmacist to review medications, and learned about product/services.

Bingocize-Fall Prevention Class Series

The 10-week program creatively combines bingo with exercise and health education, making it engaging and effective for older adults. The program aims to enhance functional fitness, health knowledge, and social engagement among older adults, promoting mobility, independence, and overall well-being.

Tai Chi for Arthritis and Fall Prevention

Scripps provides a Tai Chi for Arthritis and Falls Prevention class which helps people with arthritis to improve all muscular strength, flexibility, balance, stamina, and more.

Senior Health Education, Prevention & Wellness Programs

Established over two decades ago, this program is focused on the interests and needs of the senior community. Monthly sessions are conducted in partnership with local senior centers, churches, and senior housing, and are organized by Scripps Mercy Hospital Chula Vista San Diego Border Area Health Education Center (AHEC) and Scripps Family Medicine Residency Program.

Behavioral Health

The [Scripps 2022 Community Health Needs Assessment](#) identified behavioral health as a priority health issue affecting members of the communities served by Scripps. Key themes emerged such as increasing behavioral health needs and the impact of COVID-19, increase in substance use, stigma and access to behavioral health care, lack of behavioral health services and behavioral health workforce challenges.

In the United States, nearly one in five adults lives with a mental illness, estimated to be around 52.9 million individuals in 2020.¹⁴ An analysis of mortality data in San Diego County for 2021¹³, uncovered that intentional self-harm, or suicide, stood as the twelfth leading cause of death, with 344 recorded suicide-related deaths, contributing to 1.3% of total deaths in the county. Behavioral health issues encompass a spectrum of concerns, including severe psychological distress, mental and substance use disorders, suicide, as well as alcohol and drug addiction.¹⁵ Behavioral health is a critical health need because it significantly affects an individual's overall health status and is frequently associated with multiple chronic conditions, such as diabetes, obesity, and asthma.

Scripps Health offers inpatient behavioral health care for adults who are admitted to our hospitals via our emergency departments or urgent care centers. Additionally, our outpatient behavioral health care services are made available through partnerships with various community organizations. Like many behavioral health programs throughout the country, funding remains a challenge, as payment rates have not kept pace with the actual cost of providing care. In Fiscal Year 2023, the Scripps Mercy Behavioral Health Program reported a total operational loss of \$7.5 million, with \$4.3 million of this deficit being attributed to Medi-Cal/CMS and Charity Care. Notably, 0.3% of patients in the inpatient unit were uninsured, underscoring the financial pressures faced by such programs.

During Fiscal Year 2023, Scripps engaged in the following behavioral health and community programs to reduce the stigma of mental illness and help affected individuals live and work in the community.

Scripps Mercy Inpatient Behavioral Health

Individuals suffering from acute psychiatric disorders are sometimes unable to live independently or may even pose a danger to themselves or others. In such cases, hospitalization may be the most appropriate alternative. Scripps Mercy Hospital's Behavioral Health Inpatient Program has a 36-Bed Psychiatric Adult Inpatient Unit to help patients and their loved one's work through short-term crises, manage mental illness and resume their daily lives.

Outpatient Behavioral Health Services: Scripps Mercy and Family Health Centers of San Diego Behavioral Health Partnership

Scripps Mercy Hospital formed a partnership with Family Health Centers of San Diego (FHCS) in 2016 to provide comprehensive outpatient behavioral health services. This collaboration aimed to enhance mental health care for Medi-Cal patients at Scripps Mercy Hospital. Over the past eight years, the partnership has expanded community-based services and integrated primary and mental health care for patients discharged from various hospital settings. This includes placing social workers and Substance Use Disorder (SUD) counselors in emergency departments to assist with connecting patients to appropriate resources. FHCS also offers concentrated outpatient therapy near Scripps Mercy Hospital's San Diego campus. Patients are referred from Scripps Mercy Hospital Chula Vista and Mercy San Diego, for assistance with a wide variety of behavioral health needs including addiction, loss, anxiety, and other mental health issues.

Mental Health Outreach Services, A-Vision Vocational Training

Finding employment can be difficult for people with mental health conditions, so in 2002 Scripps created the A-Vision Vocational Training Program to help decrease the stigma surrounding mental illness. This program helps patients receiving mental health treatment by giving them vocational training and employment or volunteer roles alongside a mentor. Recruitment is currently closed but Scripps continues to support the current A-Vision's participants.

Psychiatric Liaison Team (PLT)

The Psychiatric Liaison Team provides excellence in psychiatric evaluation and triage services throughout the Scripps system. The team aims to help people adhere to treatment plans, reduce hospital readmission rates, relieve symptoms, and ensure the long-term stabilization of the patient's mental health. The Psychiatric Liaison Team covers four emergency departments, two urgent care locations, and all inpatient medical floors.

Scripps Substance Use Disorder Service (SUDS) Nurses

Scripps deploys specialized nurses certified in addiction; they see patients at their bedside and work closely with the patient's entire health care team to help facilitate a safe detox while hospitalized. The Substance Use Disorder Service (SUDS) nurses are dedicated to helping patients who have been admitted to the hospital and are at risk for detox or who are actively experiencing detox from addictive substances.

Community Collaboration to Address Substance Use: McAllister Institute

Scripps leases five beds at McAllister Institute to provide detox services for up to five patients weekly. The Scripps Drug and Alcohol Resource Nurses (SUDS nurses) serve as liaisons between the Scripps emergency rooms and Scripps inpatient hospitals to ensure that patients admitted to one of the 5 Scripps hospitals or Emergency rooms meet admission criteria and are safely transferred to McAllister. The SUDS nurses then maintain communication with McAllister to ensure the patients detoxification needs are effectively met.

Additionally, Scripps has established connections with two distinct treatment programs designed to address the community's diverse needs:

- **Hazelden Betty Ford Center:** In 2016, Scripps initiated a partnership with the Hazelden Betty Ford Center, which expanded its drug and alcohol treatment services into San Diego.
- **Family Health Centers of San Diego:** The Family Health Centers of San Diego offers a comprehensive range of services, including outpatient mental health drug and alcohol treatment, medication-assisted treatment, and harm reduction programs, to address substance use and addiction issues in the community.

Transitions of Care (ToC) Program

Scripps Health and Family Health Centers of San Diego (FHCS) expanded to a Family Health Center of San Diego site by co-locating the Graduate Medical Education (GME) program. This partnership includes various initiatives to benefit the medically underserved population, such as a pediatric residency training program, prenatal care, behavioral health program, and Transitions of Care (ToC) Program. The ToC Program includes two successful strategies: Scripps Mercy Hospital staff scheduling post-discharge follow-up visits with FHCS's appointment system and FHCS Social Work staff assisting patients with post-discharge needs in the Emergency Department or Inpatient setting.

Opioid Stewardship Program (OSP) and Medication Assisted Treatment (MAT)

In 2018, Scripps launched the Opioid Stewardship Program (OSP) with the goal of reducing opioid use to help prevent patient overdose or addiction. Led by a multidisciplinary group of physicians, pharmacists, nurses, substance-use navigators and other health professionals, the program focuses on educating patients and health care providers about opioid use, addiction, and the benefits of non-opioid approaches to pain management. Scripps currently receives a state grant from the California Department of Health Care Services to help remove barriers to identifying and treating patients with OUD and to provide Medication-Assisted Treatment (MAT).

The California Bridge Behavior Health Navigation Program

Scripps hospitals have collectively received grant funding from the California Bridge Behavior Health Navigator Program which supports emergency departments increasing access to medication-assisted treatment for opioid use disorders and co-occurring mental health conditions. Program counselors meet patients in the emergency department and other inpatient areas of both Scripps Mercy campuses to provide rapid evidence-based medication-assisted treatment education.

Scripps Drug Take Back Kiosks

Scripps provides year-round access to safe and free prescription medication disposal through drug take-back kiosks. This initiative is part of the Scripps Opioid Stewardship Program, which focuses on reducing opioid use and preventing patients from becoming dependent on these powerful pain-relieving medications.

Children and Youth Wellbeing

The [Scripps 2022 Community Health Needs Assessment](#) identified Children and Youth Wellbeing as a high priority need. Throughout the CHNA interviews and focus groups, there was concern for the well-being of children and youth, and the lack of workforce and resources available to address the most serious needs. The strongest concerns were consistently related to the behavioral health needs of children and youth. Almost a quarter of San Diego County's population is children and youth under the age of 18, with nearly one in six children living below 100% of the Federal Poverty Level.

Scripps is committed to supporting the educational attainment and well-being of children and youth. This commitment encompasses providing opportunities for young individuals to explore potential health careers and gain valuable hands-on experience with Scripps health professionals. By doing so, we actively contribute to nurturing the future workforce and fostering community leadership in the healthcare sector.

During Fiscal Year 2023, Scripps engaged in the following youth wellbeing and career pathway programs in order to build and support a diverse, culturally competent primary health care workforce in San Diego's medically underserved communities.

Improving Health Education and Awareness for Parents

Scripps Mercy Hospital Chula Vista Well-Being Center provides parenting classes tailored for foster, adoptive, and kinship parents, spanning all age groups of children. These sessions cover diverse topics such as health, learning/development, family/safety, advocacy, and parenting tips. Conducted by Scripps Family Medicine Residents, these classes are available in both English and Spanish.

School Collaborations and Affiliations

Scripps collaborates with local high schools, colleges, and universities to help students explore health care roles and gain firsthand experience as they work with Scripps professionals. Scripps is affiliated with more than 110 schools and programs, including clinical and nonclinical partnerships.

Student Research

Scripps supports student research for master's, doctoral, and young biomedical scholars at affiliated institutions. This includes students in various healthcare disciplines, such as public health, physical therapy, pharmacy, nursing, and high school through graduate students.

Center for Learning and Innovation - High School Program Collaborations

Scripps is dedicated to promoting health care as a rewarding career, collaborating with several high schools to offer students opportunities to explore a role in health care and gain firsthand experience working with Scripps Health care professionals.

- **Scripps High School Exploration Internship Program**

Launched by Scripps Health, the program reaches out to young people to pique their interest on health care occupations in need of recruits now and in the future. Students rotate through numerous departments, exploring career options and learning life lessons about health and healing along the way.

- **Young Leaders in Health Care**

Scripps Encinitas hosts the "Young Leaders in Health Care" program for local high school students in grades 9–12. This initiative introduces students to healthcare careers and involves community service projects focused on health and wellness, culminating in final presentations.

Scripps School to Health Career Pathway Programs

Scripps offers diverse student health career activities at the Chula Vista Well-Being Center. These programs, including internships, aim to introduce students to healthcare roles and provide hands-on experience with Scripps professionals. Over 75% of participating youth are pursuing healthcare careers.

Below are some of the programs Scripps provides through the Chula Vista Well-Being Center:

- **Residency Led Youth Programs**

The Family Practice Medicine Residency program use health care professionals, such as medical residents, dieticians, nurses and doctors, to enlighten high school students on health care careers and health related topics.

- **Health Careers Opportunity Program (HCOP) - Camp Scripps**

Scripps offers a three to six-week camp experience to inspire youth about healthcare careers. Participants gain insights and hands-on experience in different medical fields, including interactions with professionals, mentoring, clinical shadowing, hospital tours, and themed workshops.

- **Career Mentoring Program**

Scripps Career Mentoring Program pairs youth with volunteer mentors in healthcare, providing exposure to different roles and departments in a hospital setting to inspire and educate them about career pathways in healthcare.

- **Health Professionals in the Classroom**

The program offers self-paced webinar presentations on various healthcare careers, health/wellness, leadership, and job readiness to enhance and support the high school classroom curriculum and to introduce youth to healthcare careers.

- **Youth Surgery Viewing**

Interested students have an opportunity to observe elective surgeries such as total knee and hip replacements.

- **Cristo Rey Work Study Program**

Scripps collaborates with Cristo Rey High School to introduce students to healthcare careers, provide hospital insights, and offer job readiness skills. This program helps prepare students for future health careers and leadership roles.

- **California Medicine Scholars Program (CMSP)**

The California Medicine Scholars Program (CMSP) aims to support students of color in their journey from community college to medical school. It involves mentorship, career workshops, and collaboration with healthcare institutions. Students interact with physician mentors and participate in career workshops developed by medical students, Family Medicine Residents, and attending physicians during five sessions.

Chronic Condition – Cancer/Oncology

The [Scripps 2022 Community Health Needs Assessment](#) identified cancer as a priority health issue affecting members of the communities served by Scripps. While the continuing decline in cancer deaths over the past 3 decades is encouraging, the American Cancer Society report shows cancer remains the second-leading cause of death after heart disease, and is the leading cause of death among women aged 40 to 79 years and among men aged 60 to 79 years.¹⁶ An analysis of mortality data in San Diego County found that in 2021, cancer was the leading cause of death, 5,050 deaths due to cancer (all sites in San Diego County, responsible for 19.3% percent of deaths).¹³

Scripps Health currently cares for one-third of cancer patients in San Diego and is committed to providing care for all those in need and serves an ethnically and economically diverse population including caring for the traditionally marginalized and underserved community regarding health care. At Scripps, cancer care is more than just medical treatment, and many resources are provided such as specialized breast care centers, infusion clinics, nurse navigators, nutrition program, genetic counselors, Shiley Fitness Center, rehabilitation services, counseling, support groups, educational workshops, and complementary therapies through the Scripps Center for Integrative Medicine.

During Fiscal Year 2023, Scripps engaged in the following cancer programs and cancer patient support services and resources to help patients with emotional, psychological, financial and lifestyle needs. Various cancer programs listed in this section are not included in the quantification of community benefit totals as they are only offered to Scripps patients.

Scripps Cancer Center Registry¹⁷

Since 1975, the Scripps Cancer Registry has been collecting cancer data on Scripps patients for research, epidemiological studies, education, and patient treatment. Analysis of this data gives Scripps physicians the ability to measure the quality and effectiveness of the care cancer patients receive within the Scripps system.

Scripps Cancer Center Registered Nurse Navigator Program¹⁸

Scripps provides a registered nurse, dedicated to assisting cancer patients and their families with navigating through the journey from diagnosis, treatment, and survivorship from cancer. The focus is on education and outreach, as well as support services in this population.

Scripps Cancer Center Outpatient Social Worker and Liaison Program¹⁹

Scripps provides specially trained oncology social workers who understand the complexities of living with cancer and are dedicated to assisting cancer patients, along with providing education to health professionals and caregivers. The social workers help access the most appropriate community and medical resources, provide short-term counseling, and assist with transportation, lodging and financial concerns.

Scripps Cancer Center Heredity and Cancer Gene Counseling Program²⁰

Scripps Cancer Center genetic counseling team helps individual, and their families understand their cancer risks so that individualized cancer screening and risk reduction plans can be designed.

Scripps Cancer Center Lung Screening and Survivorship Program²¹

Scripps Cancer Center launched a wellness and ongoing care program (Cancer Survivorship) with clinics opened to see breast and thoracic patients. A Lung Cancer Screening Program was also launched for people at elevated risk for developing lung cancer.

Scripps Cancer Center Support Groups

Through generous community support, Scripps Cancer Center provides free professionally facilitated support groups at various locations to help patients and loved ones find support, guidance, and encouragement. The support group is hosted virtually.

Scripps Cancer Center Survivor's Day Events

Throughout the month of June, Scripps Cancer Center invites cancer survivors, cancer patients, their families and caregivers to take part in free cancer webinars, classes and support groups. These events are part of a monthlong celebration of [Cancer Survivors Day](#) and are designed to provide the emotional, mental and physical support that's needed to balance and restore well-being.

Scripps Cancer Center Wig Boutique and Prosthesis Bank

Scripps Cancer Center provides a Wig Boutique and temporary Breast Prosthesis Bank to support women during cancer treatment. Scripps has assisted 149 women with wigs and temporary prostheses since late 2020, awaiting certification for permanent prostheses.

Scripps Cancer Center Oncology Patient Resource Library

Scripps Cancer Center features a resource library to help patients and their families better understand their diagnoses and access a variety of educational programs and patient information. Scripps offers free evidenced based patient education, materials, booklets, and pamphlets regarding cancer information and care at the Scripps Mercy Hospital campus.

Scripps Cancer Center Restorative Yoga and Sound Therapy Classes for Cancer Survivors and Caregivers

Scripps provides restorative yoga and sound therapy classes that focuses on relaxation and rejuvenation.

Scripps Cancer Center Living Life Well Sessions: Nutrition and Fitness Focus

Classes are offered by Scripps Shiley Fitness staff and the Scripps Cancer Center Oncology Nutrition teams providing much needed evidenced based education to patients on maintaining and improving their level of health and wellness via fitness and nutrition interventions.

Scripps Cancer Center Lymphedema Stretch

The Scripps Cancer Center provides therapeutic exercises known to help relieve swelling and pain caused by lymphedema. Scripps therapists provide proper exercise techniques to alleviate swelling and reduce discomfort.

Scripps Mercy Hospital Chula Vista Breast Cancer Support Group - Helping Address Breast Health and Awareness

The Scripps Mercy Hospital Chula Vista Well-Being Center hosts a bi-monthly support group for the community, specifically designed to assist individuals who are supporting breast cancer survivors. These support group sessions cover a wide range of topics related to navigating the intricate cancer care system and include educational presentations by local healthcare providers. The primary objective is to enhance education, outreach, and access to early detection and screening services, particularly for breast health.

Chronic Condition – Cardiovascular Disease And Stroke

The [Scripps 2022 Community Health Needs Assessment](#) identified cardiovascular disease (including cerebrovascular disease/stroke) as a priority health issue affecting members of the communities served by Scripps. Cardiovascular disease refers to a set of conditions related to the heart and blood vessels, including heart disease, heart attack, stroke, heart failure, arrhythmia, and heart valve problems²². Heart disease claims more than 950,000 American's²³ lives every year and Stroke is a leading cause of serious, long-term disability. An analysis of mortality data in San Diego County found that in 2021¹³, 'disease of the heart' were the second leading cause of death, 4,961 deaths due to disease of the heart in San Diego County, responsible for 19.0% percent of deaths. In addition, 'Cerebrovascular Diseases' (Stroke) were the fifth leading cause of death and 'Essential (primary) hypertension and hypertensive renal disease' was the ninth.

Scripps is a nationally recognized heart care leader, consistently ranked by U.S. News & World Report as one of America's Best Hospitals for cardiology and heart surgery and treats more heart patients than any other health care provider in San Diego. We have state-of-the-art technology and highly trained heart care specialists, providing an innovative and expansive scope of services and high-quality outcomes. Along with the tremendous care Scripps provides within our hospitals and outpatient clinics, Scripps also supports our surrounding communities with resources, outreach programs and partnerships to ensure the heartbeat of our community continues.

During Fiscal Year 2023, Scripps engaged in the following heart health, cardiovascular disease and stroke prevention and treatment activities.

Live Fit Su Vida Su Corazon Healthy Living Program

The Live Fit Su Vida Su Corazon Healthy Living Program is an educational-based community intervention program that supports Latino women diagnosed with heart disease and hypertension. Education and support outreach is provided to those already living with heart disease and other related chronic diseases such as diabetes and high blood pressure.

Cardiac Treatment Center: Group Exercise Programs

Cardiac Treatment Center Group Exercise Programs are designed for cardiovascular health improvement. Classes include training in Balance, Slow Flow Yoga, Tai Chi, Chair Yoga, Harmonica Music Therapy, Drums Alive Music Therapy and Meditation, Mindfulness, Meditation and ARM Exercise.

Cardiac Treatment Center: Pulmonary Cardiac Class

The Scripps Cardiac Treatment Center offers a comprehensive six-week education program designed for pulmonary patients. This program equips individuals with the knowledge and tools necessary to effectively manage their pulmonary disease.

Cardiac Treatment Center: (Long COVID Support Group)

The Scripps Cardiac Treatment Center initiated a support group tailored for individuals dealing with Long COVID. This support group serves as a platform for connecting patients, providing valuable education, sharing community resources, and teaching effective coping mechanisms.

County of San Diego Love Your Heart Blood Pressure Screenings

Scripps is a Live Well partner with the County of San Diego. High blood pressure is a major risk for strokes and heart disease. Scripps and other organizations from across the U.S. and Mexico join to provide free blood pressure screenings to the public on Valentine's Day.

Left Ventricular Assist Device (LVAD) Support Group

Scripps offers a support group for patients with a Left Ventricular Assist Device. This group provides education and support to those patients and their caregivers/partners.

Eric Paredes Save A Life Foundation-Cardiac Arrest Screenings

Scripps Health is raising awareness of sudden cardiac arrest in young people through sponsorship of the Eric Paredes Save A Life Foundation. This program helps to prevent sudden cardiac arrest and death in middle and high school aged children, including underserved areas in San Diego County, through awareness, education, and action. Volunteers²⁴ from Scripps, including physicians, nurses, and echocardiograms techs screen students throughout San Diego County.

Eric Paredes Save A Life Foundation-Prescription for Prevention

Prescription for Prevention is a free, accredited training for primary care practitioners on incorporating a robust cardiac risk assessment in youth into their practice. The Eric Paredes Save A Life Foundation provides Continuing Medical Education (CME) credits on incorporating Sudden Cardiac Arrest prevention into primary care practices.

Eric Paredes Save A Life Foundation-Smart Hearts Don't Miss A Beat

Smart Hearts Do Not Miss A Beat is a program that empowers young people to prevent sudden death at home, in school, on the field, at the doctor's office and in their future families, and workplaces. This program offers Sudden Cardiac Arrest prevention learning for school aged students to empower the next generation of life savers.

Parkinson's Boot Camp

Scripps provides a full day of education and fun activities for people with Parkinson's disease. Patients and families learn about the psychological impact of Parkinson's, the benefits of exercise and positive attitude, dietary considerations, and integrative approaches to treatment.

Stroke Care Programs

Stroke is a serious and potentially deadly medical conditions. Scripps sponsors a wide variety of stroke related education and awareness programs. Team members provide stroke risk and blood pressure screenings along with BE-FAST education and tips to maintain a healthy blood pressure. The BE-FAST screening tool is a straightforward way to recognize and remember the signs of stroke. The acronym stands for Balance, Eyes, Drooping, Arm, Speech, and Time.

San Diego County Stroke Consortium/Stroke Advisory Committee

Scripps Stroke Program is actively involved in the San Diego County Stroke Consortium/Stroke Advisory Committee, a county-wide stroke group focused on coordinating stroke care. They lead efforts to promote a unified message about seeking emergency treatment for stroke symptoms in the community.

Scripps Health Stroke Program Community Outreach Events

Scripps Health educates and engages the San Diego community for stroke by attending at least one community event and screening for stroke via a stroke risk factor score card and educating individuals on [BE FAST](#) (how to recognize symptoms of stroke and calling 911 for someone exhibiting stroke symptoms).

Stroke and Brain Injury Support and Education Group

Scripps offers stroke and brain injury support groups for survivors, caregivers and loved ones at the Scripps Mercy Hospital Chula Vista Well Being Center. The key role is to help patients by assisting in navigating the health care system, reduce any barriers to care that may prevent the patient from accessing care post hospital discharge, and provide community resources/referrals to assist in the patient's wellness.

BrainMasters: Stroke & Brain Injury Survivors Support Group

In 2017, Scripps Memorial Hospital Encinitas launched a program called BrainMasters to address the communication challenges of stroke and brain injury survivors. BrainMasters is an improvisational speaking group for adults coping with acquired brain injury and is facilitated by a brain injury survivor.

San Diego Brain Injury Foundation

Scripps Health provides meeting space to the San Diego Brain Injury Foundation. The organization provides quality of life improvements for brain injury survivors and support to family members.

Healing Arts Class and Support Group

Scripps offers a self-expression through art class to brain injury survivors. Participants develop a new leisure interest and increase their art skills.

Mamma's Kitchen Medically Tailored Meals Post-Discharge/Management of Congestive Heart Failure (CHF) Patients

The Scripps-Mama's Kitchen Medically Tailored Meals Post-Discharge from Heart Failure Hospitalization is a pilot study that aims to provide meals and an individualized medical nutrition therapy intervention. In collaboration with Mama's Kitchen, Scripps Mercy aims to improve healthcare outcomes and reduce hospital readmissions within 12 weeks for individuals diagnosed with Congestive Heart Failure (CHF) in San Diego County. The goal is to empower individuals to effectively manage their CHF, with a focus on enhancing patient longevity, symptom control, and overall quality of life. Congestive heart failure patients admitted to Scripps Mercy Chula Vista and Scripps Mercy San Diego are eligible to be recruited for the Mama's Kitchen-Scripps Pilot Study. They are randomized into either group 12- weeks of meals only, or meals and registered dietitian group. This partnership highlights a commitment to comprehensive care and improved health outcomes for individuals dealing with congestive heart failure.

Chronic Condition - Diabetes

The [Scripps 2022 Community Health Needs Assessment](#) identified diabetes as a priority health issue affecting members of the communities served by Scripps. Diabetes is an important health need because of its prevalence, its impact on morbidity and mortality, and its preventability. Diabetes is a set of diseases that affect the way the body metabolizes sugar (glucose). The three primary types Type 2 (the most common type), Type 1, and gestational (occurring during pregnancy)²⁵. Focus groups and key informant interviews conducted as part of the Scripps 2022 CHNAs identified numerous barriers to care for chronic conditions, such as diabetes, including lack of access to healthy food; lack of transportation; physical limitations or limited mobility; high health care costs; economic insecurity; low health literacy; poor health behaviors, such as unhealthy diet or lack of physical activity; poor medication management; unsafe neighborhoods and unstable or complete lack of housing. More than 37 million Americans suffer from this chronic disease. An analysis of mortality data for San Diego County found that in 2021¹³. Diabetes mellitus' was the seventh leading cause of death, 895 deaths due to diabetes in San Diego County responsible for 3.4% percent of deaths. Diabetes is an important health issue because of its prevalence, its impact on morbidity and mortality, and its preventability.

More than 37.3 million people in the United States are living with diabetes and another 96 million are likely to develop the disease within 10 years. Founded in 1982 Scripps Whittier stands alone as the region's leading comprehensive diabetes institute. The mission at Scripps Whittier has always been to achieve excellence in diabetes care, research, and education. Scripps Whittier Diabetes Institute provides screenings, education and support services including customized nutrition counseling, professional training and education programs, leveraging technological advancements in diabetes care by educating patients on how to use their continuous glucose monitors and insulin pumps, access to clinical trials and community programs including peer support groups.

During Fiscal Year 2023, Scripps made significant effort to support patients and communities across the county with prediabetes and diabetes to lead healthier lives by disseminating the following diabetes self-management and education programs and initiatives.

Woltman Family Diabetes Care and Prevention Center in Chula Vista

The Woltman Family Diabetes Care and Prevention Center, located in Chula Vista, is dedicated to addressing the diabetes epidemic that has disproportionately affected this community. The center provides essential services including wellness programs, prevention strategies, diabetes education, medical nutrition services, and specialized endocrinology visits. These services are offered in both English and Spanish to ensure accessibility and inclusivity for the community.

Whittier - Project Dulce Care Management

Internationally recognized as one of the most effective approaches to diabetes management in low-income and diverse populations, Project Dulce has provided diabetes care and self-management education at community health centers, and other community-based locations for over 20 years. The program provides culturally sensitive diabetes care management programs for people in high-risk, underserved communities and uses nurses, dieticians and specially trained educators known as “Promotoras” to counsel diabetes patients while educating them to support others with diabetes within their own cultural groups. The diabetes management classes have been tailored for Hispanic, African American, Arabic, and Filipino populations, ensuring instruction in the patients' native languages.

Whittier - Diabetes Prevention Program (DPP)

Scripps Whittier Diabetes Institute offers diabetes education and counseling in both English and Spanish, covering various aspects of diabetes care, including diet, lifestyle, monitoring, medications, coping skills, insulin management, and technology. Participants also receive personalized guidance from a lifestyle coach to help them achieve their goals.

Whittier - Dulce Digital

This program tests the effectiveness real time digital feedback to people with diabetes by using health technology via text messages tailored to support patients with managing Type 2 diabetes with prompts ranging from healthy eating habits, physical activity reminders and behavior change management. Dulce Digital has been adapted for Hispanic, African American, Arabic, Filipino and Vietnamese populations delivering messages in native languages.

Whittier - Behavioral Health Integration Program in Diabetes (BeHIP)

BeHIP is an integrated, interdisciplinary approach to managing emotional and behavioral needs that often lead to burnout of individuals with Type 1, Type 2 diabetes and Gestational Diabetes. Through individual visits and group sessions with psychologists who have diabetes expertise, people struggling with “diabetes distress” find support and appreciate being part of a group with others who share similar experiences.

Whittier - COVID Recovery Bag Distribution

Scripps Whittier Diabetes Institute partnered with local organizations and distributed 100 COVID "survival bags" to underserved communities in collaboration with the Chula Vista Fire Department. An additional 200 bags were given to the National American Tongan Society and the Maricopa Salt River Pima Indian Community in 2023. These bags contained essential information on boosters, isolation periods, long COVID, and vaccination/testing locations, benefiting Hispanic, Pacific Islander, and Native American communities disproportionately affected by the pandemic.

Whittier - Healthy Living

Healthy Living is designed to help communities make positive lasting changes in their lives. During these 3 sessions, participants are taught what food, exercises, and behaviors protect them against many lifestyle-related disease such as type 2 diabetes, cancer, lung disease and heart disease. Classes are taught throughout San Diego County at various community-based organizations, housing complexes, faith-based organizations, senior centers and schools.

Community Safety – Injury and Violence

The [Scripps 2022 Community Health Needs Assessment](#) identified community safety as a priority health issue affecting members of the communities served by Scripps. There was a noticeable rise in the number of community members concerned about being safe in their homes, communities, schools, and workplaces. Exposure to violence and neighborhood safety were cited as priority health needs for San Diegos. Neighborhood safety was discussed as influencing residents' ability to maintain good health, while exposure to violence was described as traumatic and impactful on mental health.

An analysis of mortality data for San Diego County found that in 2021¹³, accidents (unintentional injuries) were the fourth leading cause of death, 1,795 deaths due to unintentional injuries in San Diego County responsible for 6.9% percent of deaths. The deaths associated with unintentional injuries are significant yet represent only a small part of a much larger public health problem. Hospitalization data is a better measure of the injury problem than the death data alone. Unintentional injuries, motor vehicle accidents, falls, pedestrian related, firearms, fire/burns, drowning, explosion, poisoning (including drugs and alcohol, gas, cleaners, and caustic substances) choking/suffocation, cut/pierce, exposure to electric current/radiation/fire/smoke, natural disasters, and injuries at work, are one of the leading causes of death for San Diego County residents of all ages, regardless of gender, race, or region.

According to Healthy People 2030, "unintentional injuries and violence-related injuries can be caused by a number of events, such as motor vehicle crashes, and physical assault can occur virtually anywhere." There are many risk factors for unintentional injury and violence, including individual behaviors and choices, such as alcohol use or risk taking; the physical environment both at home and in the community; access to health services and systems created for injury related care; and the social environment, including individual social experiences.

During Fiscal Year 2023, Scripps engaged in the following unintentional injury, violence, and community safety activities.

Trauma Outreach and Community Safety and Injury Prevention

The trauma and safety injury departments at Scripps La Jolla and Mercy San Diego are dedicated to community service and outreach, focusing on injury prevention and safety education. Injury prevention is a fundamental component of inclusive trauma care systems. Led by the trauma injury prevention community outreach coordinator, the department collaborates with various organizations to deliver educational programs to the community. These outreach initiatives cover a wide range of topics, including preventing elderly falls, addressing concussions and sports-related injuries, raising awareness about distracted and impaired driving, spinal cord injury prevention, suicide prevention, and more.

Car Seat Program

Scripps Memorial Hospital La Jolla Emergency Department provides car seats to patients who have been in an automobile accident and their child's car seat has been rendered unsafe to use.

Bicycle/E-Bike Safety and Education

Scripps La Jolla Injury prevention received a Neighborhood Investment Grant to expand Injury Prevention efforts due to rapid increase in bike/e-bike crashes. Scripps held 6 collaborative events at schools for families that included school administrators, law enforcement, the San Diego County Bike Coalition and local E-Bike manufacturers. Scripps also participated at several community bike safety events by hosting a resource table with information, fun activities, provided free helmets and fittings.

Violence Against Healthcare Workers Taskforce

Hospital workforce safety due to violent incidents – including threats, intimidation, physical assault and verbal harassment – were highlighted in the 2022 Scripps Community Health Needs Assessment. In 2023, under the leadership of Scripps Health CEO and the San Diego County District Attorney, a regional Hospital Violence Task Force has been established to work together to address these issues with local action and legislative advocacy. The Task Force membership includes 20 health systems and law enforcement agencies in the county.

Shop With a Cop Fundraiser

Scripps Memorial Hospital La Jolla Injury Prevention had a booth at the annual Shop with a Cop and provided helmets and fittings. Shop with a Cop is an annual event sponsored by local law enforcement agencies, SeaWorld, Target, and STAR/PAL that aims to provide children with a happier holiday season and encourage positive relationships with police.

San Diego County Lifeguard Education Conference

In Fiscal Year 2023 Scripps Memorial Hospital La Jolla Trauma department hosted an in-person San Diego County Lifeguard Education Conference. Scripps partnered with California State Parks and California Surf Lifesaving Association (CSLA) to host and moderate the conference. This conference is a continuing education and training opportunity for lifeguards to learn from doctors, nurses, and other experts on a variety of topics related to professional ocean lifeguards.

San Diego Human Trafficking Task Force and Project Life

Our hospitals and providers are on the front line in the fight against human trafficking because of their ability to identify and help survivors who come into health care settings. Scripps partners with the San Diego Human Trafficking Task Force and Project Life to offer “soft rooms” at all Scripps hospital facilities except Scripps Green Hospital, which has no Emergency Department. These soft rooms are available to Project Life on a moment’s notice to serve as a safe, confidential environment for law enforcement to interview victims

of human trafficking and for service providers to connect with the victims with emergency shelter and community resources.

La Maestra Community Health Centers' Victim Assistance Services Division

The program provides emergency hotel stays and follow up telemedicine case management services for survivors of trafficking, domestic violence, and sexual assault. Scripps Mercy Hospital has a longstanding partnership with La Maestra Family Clinic and is referring and tracking patients as appropriate to La Maestra Emergency Hotel Stay for Victims of Violence Assistance Services.

Saving Lives Through Stop the Bleed Campaign And Program

The course is developed for a nonmedical audience to address the needs of the immediate responder to control life-threatening bleeding until help arrives. The initiative is a national awareness campaign to teach the civilian population to provide vital initial responses to stop uncontrolled bleeding in emergency situations. Scripps provides a 90-minute course including a formal presentation and hands-on practice of direct pressure application, wound packing, and use of a tourniquet.

Scripps Disaster Preparedness Expo

Scripps holds an annual disaster preparedness expo. Booths at the event covered topics such as fire safety, infection control, workplace violence, evacuation tools and routes, trauma prevention, personal preparedness and more.

Economic Stability – Social Determinants of Health

The [Scripps 2022 Community Health Needs Assessment](#) identified economic stability as a top community need. The profound impact that economic stability has on a person's health and well-being was a universal concern and topic of discussion among all interviews and focus groups. Economic stability refers to the ability to meet essential financial needs sustainably, including those for food, shelter, clothing, hygiene, health care, and education²⁶. In addition to the health outcome needs that were identified in the 2022 CHNA, social determinants of health (SDOH) were a key theme in all the community engagement activities.

In Fiscal Year 2023, Scripps Health engaged in collaborative efforts with community organizations to combat food insecurity, facilitate screenings, enhance transportation access, manage eligibility benefits, and support unhoused individuals. These programs and interventions are designed to embrace a more comprehensive and patient-centered approach to healthcare. This approach acknowledges the critical role of social determinants of health and aims to assist patients in managing chronic diseases while promoting their overall health and well-being. Through the hospital's community health improvement services, these efforts provide an excellent example of how collaboration between healthcare providers, community organizations, and social service agencies work to advance community outreach, provide health education, and enhance patient outcomes.

Scripps Health Cal Fresh Screenings

The 2022 CHNA emphasized the importance of safety-net programs for economic stability and highlighted ongoing challenges related to food insecurity in our community. Food insecurity has far-reaching health implications, contributing to issues like poor mental health, diabetes, hypertension, pediatric asthma, and adult oral health problems. Programs like Cal Fresh aim to address food insecurity by increasing food budgets and ensuring access to fresh and nutritious food. In San Diego, over 1.35 million individuals are enrolled in safety-net programs like Medi-Cal, CalFresh, and CalWORKs, with CalFresh playing a crucial role in providing healthy meals to low-income households each month.

Hospitals are proactively addressing food insecurity among individuals to improve their health. The Public Resource Specialist (PRS) Team is dedicated to screening and enrolling patients in CalFresh, a program that helps people access food. Integrating food assistance into healthcare settings encourages eligible residents to sign up for food support as part of their patient care plan.

Helping Patients Navigate Post Discharge Services and Support

Scripps Mercy Hospital Chula Vista's Well-Being Center offers a program called "Helping Patients Navigate Post Discharge Services and Support" aimed at addressing social determinants of health for chronic disease patients. It focuses on improving access to primary and specialty care, navigating the healthcare system, and connecting patients with necessary services. This initiative has already served nearly 800 patients, leading to

positive outcomes such as reduced readmissions and improved patient continuity. The program includes several programs like the Stroke Transitional Care Program, Medicare Readmission Prevention/Transitional Care Program, Complex Hospital Patient Referrals, and Helping Patients With Food Insecurity To Heal.

Promotoras in Action Prevention, Education and Wellness

In collaboration with the Scripps Family Medicine Residency Program, Chula Vista Community Collaborative and the Scripps Mercy Hospital Chula Vista Well-Being Center offer community education programs for 20 community health workers (or, as commonly known in Spanish as Promotoras) who are local community members. Through the Promotoras in Action: Prevention, Education and Wellness program, Promotoras are trained in health promotion and education and work to disseminate information concerning health and wellness to individuals and groups in San Diego's South Bay community.

Greater La Jolla Meals on Wheels

Greater La Jolla Meals on Wheels is a non-profit senior service organization that provides nutritious meals to seniors, the homebound and the disabled residing in the communities of La Jolla and University City. Scripps La Jolla Hospital provides office space to the La Jolla chapter of Meals on Wheels.

Facilitating Access to Coordinated Transportation (FACT) Inc.

Scripps collaborates with FACT Inc. to provide on-demand transportation services for patients. This partnership simplifies medical transportation by offering various options through a single contact point at FACT. Patients, including those with specialized needs, can access rides for appointments and post-discharge transportation. The service covers curbside, door-to-door, wheelchair-accessible, and gurney rides, benefiting patients across several Scripps facilities. Scripps has been using the FACT transportation service at Scripps Mercy Hospital, Prebys Cancer Center, Green Hospital, Scripps Encinitas and Radiation Therapy centers for those patients that do not have other means of transport.

Maternal Child Health & High-Risk Pregnancy

Mothers, infants, and children constitute a significant portion of the U.S. population, and their health is indicative of the next generation's overall health. According to the Kaiser Family Foundation there is a substantial focus on maternal health and mortality, as well as infant well-being and survival, including key factors such as infant mortality rates and various infant-related fatalities. Black, American Indian, and Alaska Native (AIAN) women experience higher rates of pregnancy - related deaths when compared to White women. Specifically, pregnancy-related mortality rates among Black and American Indian and Alaska Natives (AIAN) women are more than three and two times higher, respectively, than the rate for White women (41.4 and 26.2 per 100,000, as opposed to 13.7 per 100,000)²⁷. Maternal and infant health concerns encompass:

- The use of alcohol, tobacco, and illegal substances during pregnancy, all of which pose significant risks for low birth weight and other adverse outcomes.
- Extremely low birth weight, which is associated with preterm birth, spontaneous abortion, low pre-pregnancy weight and smoking.
- The highest rates of infant mortality are observed among infants born to very young teenagers and mothers 44 years and older.

High-risk pregnancies can arise from pre-existing medical conditions or conditions that develop during pregnancy, affecting either the mother or the baby. These pregnancies are associated with an increased level of risk and may present challenges before, during, or after delivery, necessitating specialized monitoring throughout the gestation period. Scripps, as a leading maternal and fetal medicine center, is dedicated to offering expert and comprehensive care to expectant mothers and their high-risk babies. This care is grounded in evidence-based clinical perinatal medicine, education, and ongoing research to ensure the best possible outcomes.

Scripps Health continued to enhance prenatal education for low-income women in San Diego County in Fiscal Year 2023. The following are some examples.

Scripps Partnership with San Ysidro Perinatology Services

Scripps has developed a strong perinatology program to care for patients of San Ysidro Health who are experiencing [high-risk pregnancies](#). This affiliation with San Ysidro reflects our dedication to improve access to the community.

My Brain and My Baby

Maternal Mental Health (MMH) Program, My Brain and My Baby, is designed to provide acute therapy, support, and resources to mothers with a high-risk pregnancy and/or experiencing maternal mental health

conditions. Scripps Health makes referrals My Brain and My Baby which improves developmental outcomes for all babies by shifting the mother's mental health to a basic need.

Maternal Child Health Community Benefit Services

Scripps offers a wealth of prenatal, breastfeeding and childbirth resources to support families. Scripps offers classes and support groups such as Getting Ready for the Baby and Grand Parenting Today throughout San Diego County to enhance parenting skills. Low-income women attend classes at on a sliding fee scale.

Centering Pregnancy, Healthy Moms, Healthy Babies

Scripps Mercy Hospital Chula Vista is improving perinatal care for underserved Latina women through the "Healthy Women, Healthy Babies" program. Centering Pregnancy is a key part of this initiative, enhancing prenatal care, breastfeeding, and relationships between mothers and healthcare providers. The program includes services like home visits, referrals, follow-up calls, and parenting education to foster a healthier community.

Scripps Mercy Supplemental Nutrition Program for Women, Infants and Children (WIC)

Scripps Mercy Hospital administers the state-funded WIC program in San Diego County, serving around 6,200 women and children monthly, with a focus on low-income families. This program promotes prenatal care, good nutrition, and breastfeeding support, especially in low-income communities.

Other Community Benefit Services

Scripps is committed to serving the community through various programs and services, showcasing its dedication to its mission. Some of these programs are exclusive to employees and specific services within the community, and their expenses are not counted as community benefit expenses.

Scripps Employee Food Sharing Program²⁸

Scripps employees initiated the Scripps Employee Food Sharing Program during the COVID-19 pandemic. They organized multiple drives, receiving donations from staff, distributing over 43,000 pounds of food to 903 colleagues and their families, providing essential support to those facing food insecurity.

Helping Our Peers in Emergencies (HOPE) Fund

Scripps has an employee-funded program that provides PTO and financial assistance to employees in need. Staff can donate PTO and contribute financially.

Supporting Hawaii Wildfires Relief

In response to catastrophic wildfires in Hawaii, Scripps partnered with the American Red Cross to facilitate employee donations for their Maui relief efforts and general disaster relief fund through payroll or direct online contributions. These funds support the Red Cross in offering shelter, meals, healthcare, mental health services, and relief supplies to those affected by the disaster.

Fostering Volunteerism

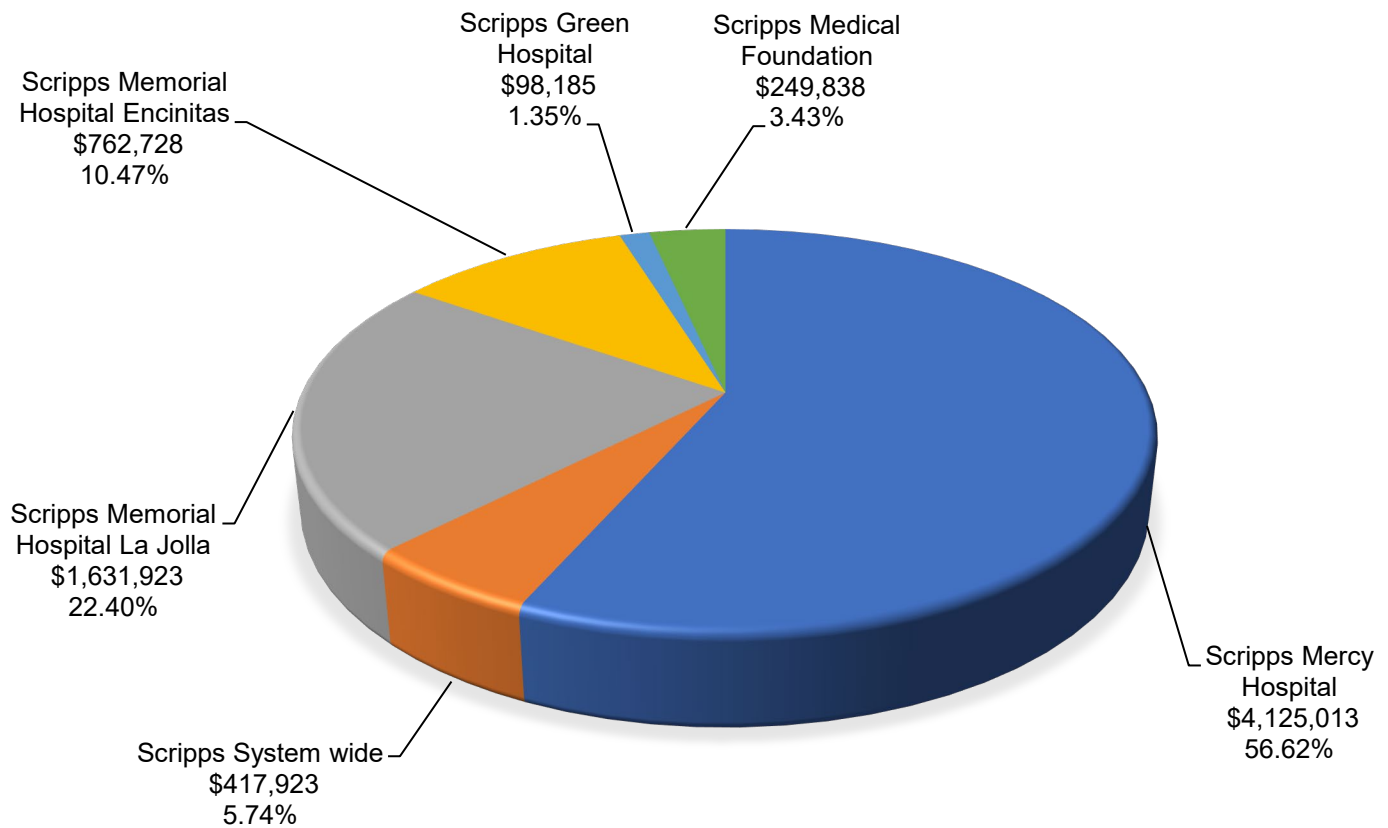
Scripps believes health improvement begins when people take an active role in positively impacting their community. For this reason, Scripps supports volunteer programs for Scripps employees and affiliated physicians who want to make an even larger impact on their community. Scripps matches the talents and interests of employees and physicians with community needs, such as mentoring partnerships with local schools and providing free medical and surgical care for patients in need.

In addition to the financial community benefit contributions made during Fiscal Year 2023, Scripps employees and affiliated physicians donated a sizable portion of their personal time volunteering to support Scripps sponsored community benefit programs. With close to 8,141 hours, the estimated dollar value of this volunteer labor is \$508,492.97²⁹ which is not included in the Scripps Fiscal Year 2023 community benefit programs and services totals.

Figure 5.2

Fiscal Year 2023 Scripps Community Health Improvement Services by Operating Unit \$7,285,612

(does not include subsidized care)



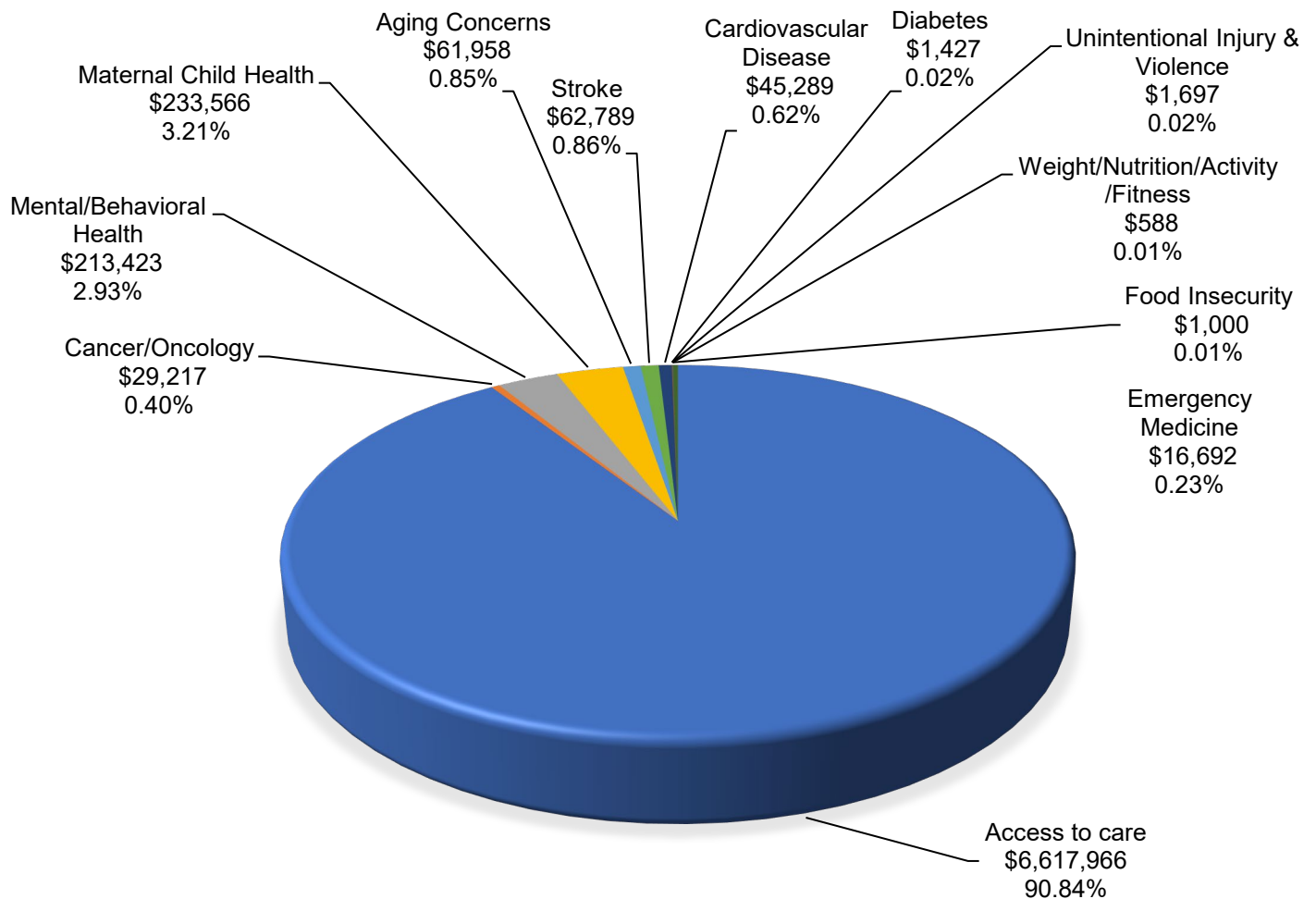
Community Health Improvement Services

These services include prevention and wellness programs, screenings, health education, support groups, health fairs and other programs supported by operational funds, grants, and in-kind donations. Calculations are based on cost, less "direct offsetting revenue," which includes any revenue generated by the activity or program, such as payment or reimbursement for services provided to program patients. According to the Schedule H 990 IRS guidelines, "direct offsetting revenue" also includes restricted grants or contributions that the organization uses to provide a community benefit.

Figure 5.3

Fiscal Year 2023 Scripps Community Health Improvement Services by Health Issue \$7,285,612

(does not include subsidized care)



Community Health Improvement Services

These services include prevention and wellness programs, screenings, health education, support groups, health fairs and other programs supported by operational funds, grants, and in-kind donations. Calculations are based on cost, less “direct offsetting revenue,” which includes any revenue generated by the activity or program, such as payment or reimbursement for services provided to program patients. According to the Schedule H 990 IRS guidelines, “direct offsetting revenue” also includes restricted grants or contributions that the organization uses to provide a community benefit.

FY23 Scripps Community Health Improvement Services & Community Benefit Operations Summary List

Community Health Improvement Services

Community Benefit Categories	Person Served	Staff Hours	Volunteer Hours	Financial Support*
Community Health Education	108,065	39,793	157	\$633,691
Community-Based Clinical Services	3,790	1,662	1,083	\$29,351
Health Care Support Services	15,066	5,361	-	\$5,300,550
Social & Environmental Activities	555	1,708	-	\$63,372
Community Benefit Operations	-	-	-	\$672,549
Totals FY 2023 Community Health Improvement	127,476	48,524	1,240	\$6,699,512

Cash, Grants, and In-Kind Contributions

Community Benefit Categories	Person Served	Staff Hours	Volunteer Hours	Financial Support*
Cash Donations	-	-	-	\$326,800
Grants	-	-	-	\$216,000
In-Kind Donations	9,382	72	-	\$43,300
Totals FY 2023 Cash, Grants and In-Kind Contributions	9,382	72	-	\$586,100

Community Building Activities**

***Community building activities, bad debt and Medicare shortfall do not count as community benefits under Schedule H 990 but are still reportable outside the community benefit table.*

Community Benefit Categories	Person Served	Staff Hours	Volunteer Hours	Financial Support*
Physical Improvements/Housing	100			\$4,311
Economic Development	-	320	-	\$27,149
Community Support	-	206	-	\$24,800
Leadership Development and Leadership Training for Community Members	-	-	-	\$35,000
Advocacy for Community Health Improvement and Safety	-	62	-	\$5,260
Workforce Development	2,248	3,530	94	\$166,100
Totals FY 2023 Community Building Activities	2,348	3,736	94	\$262,620

Totals FY 2023 Community Health Improvement	\$6,699,513
Totals FY 2023 Cash, Grants and In-Kind Contributions	\$586,100
Totals FY 2023	\$7,285,612

** "Financial Support" reflects the cost (labor, supplies, overhead, etc.) associated with the program/service less direct revenue. This figure does not include a calculation for physician and staff volunteer hours. In some instances, an entire community benefit program cost center has been divided between several initiatives.*

Section 6

Professional Education and Health Research

Professional Education & Health Research

Quality health care is highly dependent upon health education systems and medical research programs. Without the ability to train and inspire a new generation of health care providers, or to offer continuing education to existing health care professionals, the quality of health care will be diminished. Medical research also plays a vital role in improving the community's overall health by developing new and innovative treatments.

Each year, Scripps allocates resources to advance health care services through clinical research, medical education, and health professional education. During Fiscal Year 2023 (October 2022 to September 2023), Scripps invested \$40,779,945³⁰ in professional training programs and clinical research to enhance service delivery and treatment practices in San Diego County. This section highlights some of our professional education and health research activities.

Table 6.1 and Figure 6.1 in this section have a more detailed overview of Fiscal Year 2023 Scripps Professional Education and Health Research distribution. These costs are included in the IRS Form 990 Schedule H Part I-line 7f and 7h. Refer to Scripps Professional Education and Health Research Summary for an individual breakdown of each activity, page 80).

Health Professional Education and Training

Health Professional Education includes educational programs for physicians, interns and residents, medical students, nurses and nursing students, pastoral care trainees and other health professionals when the education is necessary to retain a state license or certification by a board in the individual's health profession specialty.

Scripps Health Graduate Medical Education

A key component of Scripps mission is to advance the education of physicians and health care professionals and sponsor graduate medical education. By investing in these areas, we help secure quality care for our community. Scripps has been training future physicians longer than any other institution in San Diego. For more than 70 years physicians in Scripps graduate medical education programs have helped care for underserved populations throughout the region.

Scripps offers a comprehensive range of graduate medical education programs across multiple hospitals, including Scripps Mercy San Diego Hospital, Scripps Mercy Hospital Chula Vista, and Scripps Green Hospital. These programs are renowned for their commitment to excellence and feature a hands-on curriculum that places a strong emphasis on patient-centered care. They encompass a wide array of medical specialties, such as internal medicine, family medicine, podiatry, trauma, pharmacy, palliative care, emergency and surgical critical care, as well as research-focused programs.

Scripps Graduate Medical Education programs serve our community in two equally important ways: providing much-needed medical care to the diverse patient population of San Diego County; and developing the talent and skills of new leaders in medicine, who together with Scripps will continue to break new ground in innovative, compassionate medical care.

In Fiscal Year 2023, Scripps enrolled a total of 162 medical residents, 50 fellows across the Scripps health system, underscoring our commitment to medical education and community healthcare. [Graduate Medical Education \(GME\)](#).

Scripps Green Hospital Internal Medicine Residency

The Internal Medicine Residency Program at Scripps Clinic and Scripps Green Hospital prepares physicians to become excellent practitioners of general and subspecialty internal medicine. The program includes rotations in all internal medicine specialties and most related or affiliated specialties. Inpatient residency training takes place on the campuses of Scripps Clinic, Scripps Green Hospital and Scripps Memorial Hospital La Jolla. In addition, the program offers unique outpatient experiences that involve working with vulnerable populations. This commitment to serving diverse and underserved communities further enriches the residents' clinical training. [Scripps Green Internal Medicine Residency.](#)

St. Leo's Mission Medical Clinic

The Graduate Medical Education (GME) program at Scripps Green Hospital and Scripps Clinic focuses on physician training and clinical research, residents, and fellows. As part of their training, residents at Scripps Green Hospital help staff an evening clinic at St. Leo's Mission Community Clinic in North County. Residents volunteer to provide medical care to uninsured patients with various conditions, including diabetes, high blood pressure and high cholesterol.

Scripps Green GME Diversity Committee and Equity Curriculum

Scripps Green Hospital has established a graduate medical education diversity equity, inclusion and belonging committee and curriculum. The mission is to systematically cultivate a more diverse health care workforce to allow residents and fellows to work and be educated in an environment reflecting and respecting diversity.

Scripps Mercy Hospital Graduate Medical Education

Scripps Mercy Hospital offers residency programs for multiple specialties, including family medicine and internal medicine. Each offers a unique variety of learning environments. Trainees have opportunities to conduct research and collaborate with top-notch faculty at Scripps Mercy. The Scripps Mercy Family Medicine Residency Program and the Internal Medicine Residency Program are described below in more detail.

Scripps Mercy Family Medicine Residency

The Family Medicine Residency Program at Scripps Mercy Hospital Chula Vista provides training and experiences for family medicine physicians to prepare for full spectrum care in both the inpatient and outpatient settings. The curriculum has a strong emphasis on community medicine which is integrated longitudinally throughout the three years of training. Scripps partnerships with local community health programs allow residents to focus on medically underserved communities,

particularly those along the California and Baja border regions. Of the graduates, over half are from ethnically diverse backgrounds, reflecting the cultural and ethnic mix of the region. The Family Medicine residency program collaborates with the Chula Vista Wellbeing Center and the San Diego Border Area Health Education Center Scholar (AHEC) to offer a variety of youth programs that prepare for a future diverse workforce and will reflect the community they serve. [Scripps Mercy Family Medicine Residency](#).

San Ysidro Health Centers Clinical Training Experiences

Scripps Mercy Hospital has forged a valuable partnership with San Ysidro Health, participating as a training site for Mercy's Internal Medicine Residency Program since 2020. This collaboration allows residents in this program to receive comprehensive medical education training within a community setting, providing exposure to diverse patient populations across various outpatient clinical settings.

RPriDE (Residency Promoting Inclusion, Diversity and Equity)

Scripps Family Medicine Resident leadership has played a pivotal role in creating the "RPriDE" curriculum (Residency: Promoting Inclusion, Diversity, and Equity). This longitudinal curriculum serves as a valuable addition to traditional medical training, with a primary focus on health equity and addressing issues of racism within the medical field.

Scripps Mercy Maternal Health Fellowship

Scripps received grant funding from the Health Resources and Services Administration (HRSA) and is one of thirty-one medical residency programs in the U.S selected as an award recipient in HRSA's highly competitive grant funding opportunity, which was open to primary care residency programs nationwide. Scripps Mercy Family Medicine Residency has created a fourth-year Maternal Health Fellowship that offers advanced maternal health training with a focus on underserved communities on the US-Mexico border. The goal is to train family physicians with a passion and commitment to address health disparities, advocate for their patients and improve maternal health outcomes. This includes enhanced clinic case presentations, ultrasound training, rural rotations, and substance use disorder training for residents. Additionally, Scripps perinatology provides comprehensive services to the Chula Vista community in collaboration with the Scripps Family Medicine Residency.

Residents and Career Pathway Programs

The Family Practice Medicine Residency program at Scripps is dedicated to nurturing the interest of high school students in healthcare careers and imparting valuable knowledge about health-related topics. This educational initiative engages various healthcare professionals, including medical residents, dietitians, nurses, and doctors, to interact with high school students. This program plays a crucial role in inspiring and preparing the next generation of healthcare professionals.

Scripps Mercy Internal Medicine Residency

Scripps Mercy Hospital is a major teaching hospital with the longest existing medical education program in San Diego County. Scripps Mercy Hospital San Diego is the primary clinical education site for more than 50 residents annually from their GME programs. These include the internal medicine, transitional year, pharmacy and podiatric medicine residency programs. It is also a participating training site for residents from the University of California, San Diego (UCSD); Kaiser Permanente San Diego; Scripps Mercy Hospital Chula Vista; Family Health Centers of San Diego; San Ysidro Health Center; and the Naval Medical Center. [Scripps Mercy Internal Medicine Residency](#).

Scripps Resident Clinic at Family Health Centers of San Diego (FHCS)

In 2014, Scripps Mercy Hospital (SMH) began a partnership with Family Health Centers of San Diego to provide inpatient and subspecialty teaching to family medicine residents who were part of the new Teaching Health Centers Residency programs. The GME affiliation with FHCS has proven to be a significant opportunity for the continuity of care patients to have access to much more comprehensive interdisciplinary care including dental, behavioral health outpatient services and a variety of social care support interventions.

Underserved Medicine Curriculum for Medical Residents

The Internal Medicine Faculty at Scripps offers an optional rotation designed to provide residents with valuable insights and skills for serving vulnerable populations. This rotation encompasses training at diverse community-based facilities that cater to medically underserved populations. This rotation equips residents with the knowledge and expertise needed to address healthcare disparities and provide high-quality care to underserved communities.

Teaching Health Center Psychiatric Residency Program

In 2022, Family Health Centers of San Diego (FHCS) secured a Health Resources and Services Administration (HRSA) grant to establish a psychiatry residency program in partnership with Scripps Mercy Hospital and Acadia Healthcare. This initiative aimed to address the shortage of psychiatrists, enhance the quality of behavioral health programs, and strengthen community collaboration. Scripps Mercy Hospital entered into a subcontract agreement with FHCS to provide support for the development of infrastructure required for the psychiatry residency program and is scheduled to begin their training on July 1, 2024. This program will play a crucial role in addressing the shortage of psychiatrists and improving the delivery of behavioral health services in the community. The program will focus on training future psychiatrists with a balance between psychotherapeutic techniques and psychopharmacology.

Scripps Hospital Pharmacy Residency

Scripps has a pharmacy residency program at Scripps Mercy Hospital and Scripps Memorial Hospital La Jolla which trains residents with Doctor of Pharmacy degrees. The Scripps Hospital Pharmacy Residency Program offers residents a challenging academic experience in a progressive environment that prepares residents for leadership roles in the pharmacy profession. Scripps pharmacists enjoy sharing their breadth of knowledge by precepting both pharmacy residents and students.

Additional Professional Education and Training Programs

Scripps Conference Services and Continuing Medical Education (CME)

Scripps Conference Services and Continuing Medical Education (CME) is committed to improving the quality of health care and advancing the practice of medicine by providing evidence-based, up-to-date, and clinically relevant continuing medical education courses. The educational programs can be accessed via the link, [Continuing Medical Education \(CME\) - San Diego - Scripps Health](#).

Scripps Mercy Emergency Medical Services (EMS)

Through the Scripps Mercy Emergency Medical Services (EMS) Base Hospital Program, a variety of health professionals participate in hospital-based clinical internships and continuing education opportunities. The program collaborates with local and regional educational institutions to provide hands-on training to multiple levels of healthcare professionals such as: First Responders, EMTs, Paramedics, Law Enforcement, Military, Mobile Intensive Care Nurses, and Resident Physicians.

Scripps Mercy Hospital Professional Education and Training Program – Trauma

Since 1986, Scripps Mercy Hospital Trauma Services has provided graduate medical education in trauma and critical care for the Naval Medical Center San Diego (NMCS D) General Surgery Residency Program and has developed education programs for partnering health care providers such Family Health Centers of San Diego, Kaiser and UCSD. The trauma service provides training opportunities for residents in other programs, including: NMCS D oral maxillofacial surgery, otolaryngology, emergency medicine; transitional year residencies; Scripps Mercy Hospital transitional year residency; and Children’s Specialists of San Diego Pediatric Emergency Medicine Fellowship.

Scripps Memorial Hospital La Jolla Professional Education and Training Program – Trauma

Scripps La Jolla and Scripps Mercy are part of a countywide, six-hospital trauma system that was created in 1986 to reduce preventable deaths by coordinating the care of patients with the most severe and life-threatening injuries. As a level 1 trauma center Scripps Memorial Hospital La Jolla offers physician medical education and trauma physician training in addition to trauma research. The program offers exceptional

training opportunities to various residency and fellowship programs across San Diego. Residents and fellows have the chance to expand their skills through hands-on experience and receive valuable mentorship from attending physicians, contributing to their professional growth and development.

San Diego Day of Trauma Awareness Conference

The San Diego Day of Trauma is a nationally accredited continuing medical education conference designed for physicians, nurses, physician assistants and first responders in the fields of trauma, emergency and critical care medicine. Scripps participates annually with local agencies, giving attendees the opportunity to learn more about Trauma Services.

Trauma Research Graduate Student Internship

The Trauma Research Graduate Student Internship is designed for active students with an interest in public health, epidemiology, trauma and injury prevention, biomedical statistics, and health policy. Students learn to construct study samples, clean data, analyze data, and write manuscripts for submission to medical journals. This program runs concurrently with the Clinical Research Fellowship and provides for an innovative and multidisciplinary approach to applied research.

Scripps Whittier Diabetes Institute Professional Education and Training

Scripps Whittier Diabetes Institute offers comprehensive professional education programs led by experts, including endocrinologists, nurses, dietitians, psychologists, and more. These programs aim to enhance the diabetes management knowledge and skills of healthcare professionals, community partners, clinical providers, federally qualified health centers, community-based organizations, and peer educators.

UCSD/Scripps Health Hospice and Palliative Medicine Fellowship

The UCSD/Scripps Health Hospice and Palliative Medicine Fellowship Program prepares doctors to provide hospice and palliative care. The program is designed specifically for physicians seeking a subspecialty in hospice and palliative medicine, and equips fellows to practice in diverse settings, including acute care hospitals, outpatient clinics, patients' homes and long-term care facilities.

Nursing, Allied Health and Clinical Student Preceptorships

Through various student programs, Scripps aims to inspire the next generation of healthcare professionals, contribute to shaping the future healthcare workforce, and develop future leaders in the community. These programs provide students with valuable real-world experience and the opportunity to interact with healthcare professionals in clinical settings, enhancing their education beyond the classroom. Scripps employees play a pivotal role as preceptors, dedicating their time and expertise to create meaningful learning experiences for students, enriching their understanding of healthcare practices.

In Fiscal Year 2023, Scripps demonstrated its commitment to education by hosting a total of 1,392 students across its healthcare system. These students collectively accumulated 243,091 development hours while gaining experience in nursing and various allied health settings. Table 6.1 provides a detailed breakdown of student placements at various Scripps locations, highlighting the organization's commitment to nurturing the next generation of healthcare leaders and professionals.

Table 6.1 Scripps Health Student Placements for Fiscal Year 2023

	Nursing		Allied Health		Total	
Scripps Location	# of Students	Precepted Hours	# of Students	Precepted Hours	# of Students	Precepted Hours
Scripps Medical Foundation (Clinic & SCMC)	2	438	260	43,350	262	43,788
Scripps Memorial Hospital, Encinitas	117	14,963	75	19,962	192	34,925
Scripps Green Hospital	62	9,793	73	22,274	135	32,067
Scripps Memorial Hospital, La Jolla	141	16,583	97	23,504	238	40,087
Scripps Mercy Hospital, Chula Vista	79	7,579	100	25,185	179	32,764
Scripps Mercy Hospital, San Diego	292	34,524	81	23,461	373	57,985
Scripps Health Administrative Services	0	0	10	1,235	10	1,235
Scripps Integrative Medicine	0	0	3	240	3	240
Total	693	83,880	699	159,211	1,392	243,091

Scripps Clinic Medical Group and Scripps Coastal Medical Group are dedicated to offering meaningful clinical experiences for Nurse Practitioner and Physician Assistant students. In Fiscal Year 2023, Scripps Clinic Medical Group hosted 151 preceptorship rotations for nurse practitioners and physician assistants, totaling 20,889 hours of completed training. Similarly, Scripps Coastal Medical Group provided 45 preceptorship rotations, accounting for 7,029 hours of practical learning. These experiences empower students to apply their theoretical knowledge and critical thinking in a genuine healthcare environment.

The San Diego Nursing & Allied Health Service-Education Consortium

Scripps plays a role in supporting the San Diego Nursing & Allied Health Service-Education Consortium, which was established to facilitate clinical placements for nursing and allied health education programs. This collaboration aims to benefit both healthcare service providers (such as hospitals and care facilities) and educational programs by streamlining the clinical placement process.

Health Professions Education, Resident and Student Training

The Scripps Mercy Chula Vista Well Being Center (WBC) collaborates closely with the Scripps Family Medicine Residency Program to offer various community medicine opportunities for residents. This collaboration serves multiple purposes, including:

1. **Service Delivery:** Residents have the chance to provide healthcare services to the community, gaining valuable clinical experience in a real-world setting.
2. **Medical Student Engagement:** The WBC facilitates placements for medical students in community health activities, exposing them to the importance of community medicine and encouraging future involvement.
3. **Rotating Residents and Medical Students:** The center also coordinates community experiences for visiting or rotating residents and medical students, ensuring that they have meaningful interactions with the community.
4. **Community Education:** The WBC organizes and provides opportunities for community members to participate in various educational programs. These programs cover a range of topics, including senior health education, youth activities, parenting classes, and more, contributing to the overall well-being of the community.

Supportive Mental Health Services at Local School-Based Clinics

The partnership between Scripps Family Medicine Residency and Scripps Mercy Hospital Chula Vista Well-Being Center has created a valuable clinical training opportunity for Master of Social Work (MSW) students from San Diego State University. These MSW students are placed at Southwest and Palomar High Schools to address the mental health needs of vulnerable adolescents in the community. Key program elements:

1. **Training for MSW Students:** Offers firsthand experience and training for MSW students, enabling them to work with specialized healthcare providers in adolescent mental health.
2. **Mental Health Services for High School Students:** Establishes a school-based clinic to improve mental health care for local high school students facing various mental health challenges.
3. **Service to Vulnerable Adolescents:** In Fiscal Year 2023, the program assisted 309 adolescents, providing them with vital mental health service.

Internship and Area Health Education Scholars Program (AHEC)

Scripps Mercy Hospital Chula Vista Well Being Center serves as an internship placement site for both undergraduate and graduate students. This education training program is designed to raise the numbers, types, diversity and retention of primary health and social service care professionals working in underserved areas.

School-Based Clinics

Three health clinics at Palomar, Southwest and Hoover High Schools were established for medical residents to gain additional skills in adolescent medicine and for youth to gain the knowledge, attitudes, and skills necessary to pursue health careers. Key components and objectives of these school-based health clinics include:

1. Adolescent Medicine Focus: Specialized care for teenage health, offering residents additional expertise in addressing adolescent healthcare needs.
2. Youth Education: Equipping young individuals with the knowledge, attitudes, and skills required for healthcare careers, inspiring future professionals.
3. Student-Resident Interaction: Twice-weekly interactions at the clinic improve adolescent healthcare access and provide valuable educational experiences.
4. Role Modeling: Family Medicine residents serve as role models, highlighting the significance of healthcare careers and supporting interested students.

Health Research

Scripps Health is committed to providing the best possible patient care, and research is a critical part of that mission. In addition to bringing the latest treatments to our patients, the knowledge gained from these research studies advances the quality of care for people around the world. Scripps Health physicians' study new medications and devices, track patient outcomes for years or even decades and gather evidence for sophisticated education and treatment programs. This information is then disseminated into the Scripps system through graduate and continuing medical education and to the scientific community through peer-reviewed publications. [Scripps Health Research](#).

Research means any study or investigation where the goal is to generate increased generalizable knowledge made available to the public (for example, knowledge about underlying biological mechanisms of health and disease, natural processes, or principles affecting health or illness; evaluation of safety and efficacy of interventions for disease such as in clinical trials and studies of therapeutic protocols; laboratory-based studies; epidemiology, health outcomes, and effectiveness; behavioral or sociological studies related to health, delivery of care, or prevention; studies related to changes in the health care delivery system; and communication of findings and observations, including publication in a medical journal.) The following showcase a few Scripps research highlights.

Scripps Research Supported by Clinical Research Services (CRS)

Research and clinical discovery have been part of Scripps Health's mission since its founding in 1924. In partnership with the Scripps Clinical Medical Group (SCMG) via the Research Innovation Committee (RIC), Clinical Research Services consolidates and expands access to clinical research trials for SCMG physicians and patients across the Scripps system.

The mission of the RIC is to provide comprehensive oversight and allocation of resources for research, so that patients have access to new and emerging treatment opportunities when appropriate. In addition, there are several specialties with nationally accredited continuing and graduate medical education programs supported through the RIC and CRS. Scripps continues building in its strong foundation for clinical and translational research through small pilot studies to large multicenter trials placed at various locations across the system, engaging both inpatient and outpatient settings.

The Research Innovation Committee was created in 2018. Currently there are more than 25+ Scripps Clinic medical specialties under one operations team. As a result, RIC can accelerate the access to new technologies for patients by consolidating the various components of clinical investigation into a seamless, streamlined regulatory, operational, and administrative process. Scripps continues building in its strong foundation for clinical and translational research through small pilot studies to large multicenter trials placed at various locations across the system, engaging both inpatient and outpatient settings. As ambulatory-based research increases across the system, RIC, Scripps Clinic and CRS, support more than 92 principal investigators and about 450 active clinical research protocols crossing interdisciplinary disease categories. The following are studies supported by CRS.

Financial Toxicity in Diverse Cancer Populations and Care Settings

This study aims to explore the link between patients' coping resources and psychological responses, as well as their financial toxicity, which results from cancer treatment's economic burdens. Predictors of financial toxicity include patient age, insurance coverage, income, and non-intervenable factors. The study seeks to identify factors associated with financial toxicity outcomes, informing potential interventions.

Financial Toxicity in the Spanish Speaking Population

In collaboration with MD Anderson, Scripps Health is conducting a study to assess financial toxicity among Spanish-speaking cancer patients. Collecting data while also exploring the feasibility of using Spanish-speaking patient navigators to assist patients with their electronic patient portal. Financial toxicity comprises material hardships, psychological burden, and coping resource depletion. Interventions for addressing the psychological and coping resource aspects, particularly for Spanish-speaking Latino patients, are limited, despite their heightened risk of financial toxicity.

The study's primary goal is to develop culturally appropriate patient navigation and psychosocial support resources tailored to high-risk populations, reducing disparities in the financial toxicity burden. In FY23, Scripps Health hired a Spanish-speaking research coordinator who has successfully recruited 30 Spanish-speaking patients into the study. Many of these participants face barriers related to low income and limited healthcare literacy. Genentech is funding the study, which is currently open for enrollment, with an estimated completion date in 2024.

Scripps Whittier Diabetes Institute Research

Scripps Whittier Diabetes Institute Studies to Improve The Health of At-Risk Underrepresented Communities

Project Dulce Filipino Americans: "Project Dulce Filipino Americans" customizes diabetes self-management programs, such as Project Dulce and Dulce Digital, for the Filipino American community, which faces a growing prevalence of Type 2 diabetes. This intervention involves cultural adaptations and translations into Tagalog to enhance relevance and engagement. The courses are freely available online and in-person at various locations in the County.

Project Dulce Arab Americans: The "Project Dulce Arab Americans" aims to identify Type 2 diabetes (T2D) health communication barriers within San Diego's Arab American community. It seeks to develop culturally and linguistically tailored diabetes self-management education programs (Project Dulce and Dulce Digital). The study also explores genetic predisposition for T2D in Arab Americans through a biorepository and incorporates genomics education into the tailored program, delivered in Arabic for cultural relevance and better participant engagement.

Dulce Digital 2.0 Hispanic Communities: "Dulce Digital 2.0 Hispanic Communities" focuses on expanding healthcare access for low socioeconomic status (SES) individuals, reducing health disparities, and enhancing digital health literacy. The program assesses two mobile health (mHealth) adaptations of Project Dulce, aimed at improving digital health literacy among underserved adults with diabetes. It compares three models: 1) a low-cost, educational text messaging program (Dulce Digital); 2) a telehealth version of Project Dulce; 3) the traditional in-person Project Dulce self-management education program, all available in English or Spanish based on participants' preferences.

CyberGEMS – Continuous Glucose Monitoring: Scripps Whittier Diabetes Institute received a \$3.1 million NIH grant to study wireless continuous glucose monitoring (CGM) devices in hospitalized Type 2 diabetes patients. The research builds on previous studies and the use of CGM devices during the COVID-19 pandemic to reduce nurse interventions. The study aims to improve blood sugar control during

hospitalization, particularly among high-risk, underserved patients. It began in early 2022 and more than 175 individuals to date have enrolled.

ACT1VATE: Scripps Whittier Diabetes Institute received a \$3.3 million NIH grant in 2020 for a five-year study called ACT1VATE. It aims to integrate mental health services into type 1 diabetes care, addressing emotional distress in patients. The study evaluates whether this integration improves diabetes management and quality of life in a real healthcare environment through group-based Acceptance and Commitment Therapy.

Scripps Whittier Diabetes Institute - Academic, Health System and Community Partnerships to Support Community Engaged Research

The Scripps Whittier Diabetes Institute (SWDI), in partnership with the San Diego State University (SDSU) South Bay Latino Research Center have several recent examples of innovative community-engaged research projects. The Scripps Whittier Diabetes Institute (SWDI) serves as the Community Engagement (CE) Research Core for the National Institutes of Health/ National Center for Advancing Translational Sciences (NIH/NCATS) awarded Scripps Research-based Clinical Translational Science award (CTSA). The CE Core is centered within the SWDI and supported in partnership with the Institute for Public Health and the South Bay Latino Research Center, both located at SDSU. The goals of the CE core include reducing health disparities and promoting health justice and equity.

Scripps Whittier Diabetes Institute and Scripps Research Translational Institute (SRTI) Partnership

Scripps Whittier Diabetes Institute partners with Scripps Research Translational Institute (SRTI) to advance personalized medicine through genomics and digital medicine. SRTI accelerates laboratory discoveries into clinical trials and treatments, supported in part by NIH's Clinical and Translational Science award (CTSA). The Community Engagement Program, led by Scripps Whittier Diabetes Institute, has evolved into the Scripps Hub Academic Research Core (SHARC), expanding research support to various disease areas across the Scripps health system. SHARC promotes community-engaged research, fostering collaboration between researchers and community partners to improve community health.

COVID-19 Research & Education

The following are COVID-19 research efforts that generated generalizable knowledge and were made available to the public. From education and prevention to research news, Scripps is committed to keeping the community up to date on the battle against COVID-19. Projects are being led by Scripps Health or co- led by (CTSA) supported investigators.

Scripps Whittier Diabetes Institute - National Institute of Health (NIH) Community Engagement Alliance (CEAL)

CEAL awards were given to eleven different statewide teams, including California. The eleven sites are academic centers and reflect the geographic and racial/ethnic diversity of the communities. Scripps Health, represented by the SWDI team, has partnered with the San Diego County COVID-19 Equity Task Force to reach San Diego communities as part of the California CEAL Team award. The SWDI team has previously partnered with the task force to deliver virtual community town halls on COVID-19 and will continue to provide outreach through virtual events and safely redesigned health and resource fairs to assess COVID-19 knowledge and perceptions about clinical trials. Supporting this NIH-wide effort are the National Institute of Minority Health and Health Disparities (NIMHD) and the National Heart, Lung, and Blood Institute (NHLBI).

Scripps Hub Academic Research Core (SHARC)

The SHARC team is a partnership between the Scripps Research Translational Institute and Scripps Health (housed in Scripps Health's Department of Research and Development). The Scripps Hub is one of 60 sites around the country that are supported by the NIH's CTSA, with a focus on improving the process of translating research from bench-side to practice. Through a synergy of extensive research capabilities and strategic partnerships, the emphasis on personalized healthcare distinguishes the SHARC team, providing translational science training that is unique within the Scripps institution. Operating within the Scripps Hub, the SHARC team strives to support translational research at Scripps Health and the Scripps Research Translational Institute in the following ways.

- Research navigation – Provide assistance through the grant process (from pre- to post-award) and with research implementation, especially for junior or new investigators.
- Statistical support – Provide statistical support for designing the study, from sample size and power calculations through data analysis and presentation.
- Community engagement – Encourage bidirectional communication between communities and researchers to foster participation in research, provide mentorship in diversity inclusion and team-based pragmatic trials, share and discuss research questions and findings, and improve community health.

ReUnidos: Farmworker Skin Cancer Health Navigation Program

Scripps Health, in collaboration with Farmworker Justice, has initiated the ReUnidos program to address the elevated risk of skin cancer among farmworkers due to sun and pesticide exposure. This research project, supported by Scripps Hub Academic Research Core (SHARC), aims to assess the incidence of skin cancer in

the farmworker community and determine the effectiveness of a health navigator program in ensuring follow-up care. The program assigns trained navigators to participants, collects data on biopsies, diagnoses, staging, and treatment times, and measures satisfaction and perceived effectiveness of the navigator program. To date, 58 health navigators have been trained and 25 screening events have been conducted in Northern San Diego County by Vista Community Clinic. A total of 200 adult participants have been screened, with 47% identifying as farmworkers. Screenings will continue through the end of 2023 with the goal to screen 1,000 participants.

Other Health Equity Data Analysis Projects Supported by SHARC

As previously stated, SHARC aims to support translational research at Scripps Health and the Scripps Research Translational Institute. The following are examples of projects supported by SHARC statisticians that include a health equity component. The projects described below provide valuable insights into healthcare disparities and outcomes, enabling Scripps Health to better understand and address the needs of their diverse patient population.

1. **Clinical Outcomes of Multiple Myeloma:** This study investigates the clinical outcomes of patients with multiple myeloma based on their utilization of the web-based patient portal, MyChart. It assesses disparities between active and non-active MyChart users, considering factors such as ethnicity, race, age, sex, insurance type, and region.
2. **MyChart Usage in Cancer Patients:** This project examines the usage of MyChart among cancer patients in different San Diego Health and Human Services Regions, categorized by zip codes. It explores potential variations in MyChart utilization based on race, sex, ethnicity, and language, with a focus on differences between Hispanic and non-Hispanic patients and their respective regions.
3. **Asian Body Mass Index (BMI):** This study aims to evaluate whether Asian patients are accurately diagnosed as overweight or obese based on BMI measurements. It addresses the issue that individuals of Asian descent may have lower BMI thresholds for these diagnoses.
4. **Pulmonary Embolism in COVID-19 Patients:** This research analyzes the incidence, risk factors, clinical characteristics, and outcomes of pulmonary embolism in COVID-19 patients during the alpha/beta surge. The study explores the differences in care received by patients who had a pulmonary embolism compared to those who did not, considering factors such as sex, race, ethnicity, zip code, and insurance type.
5. **Financial Toxicities Tumor Boards:** This data analysis project identifies predictors of financial toxicity related to various cancer treatments. Predictors include sociodemographic factors like age, sex, race, ethnicity, insurance status, and cancer type diagnosis.

6. Rates of Prediabetes Diagnosis by Race: The project assesses whether individuals of different races who meet the diagnostic criteria for prediabetes receive diagnoses at different rates. Particular attention is given to Asian patients, considering the lower BMI threshold for overweight/obesity.
7. Differences in A1c for Diabetes Management Pre- vs. Post-Pandemic: This data analysis project examines sociodemographic differences, including sex, race, ethnicity, and zip code, in HbA1c management before and after the COVID-19 pandemic.

Scripps Cancer Center Research Initiatives Funded by Krueger-Wyeth

Scripps Health received five-year funding through the Krueger-Wyeth (KW) award's excess settlement funds distribution to advance patient care, research, and address healthcare disparities in the areas of breast cancer, cardiovascular disease, and neurocognitive conditions within underserved populations. The funding has enabled a positive impact on various initiatives.

Scripps established a collaborative approach, with 12 closely integrated programs specified and approved in the original application. To oversee the award, three working groups were formed, covering breast cancer, cardiology/neurocognition, and health equity. These groups meet regularly to review work plans, milestones, achievements, and budgets. The funding from the KW award's second year has significantly advanced the mission of Scripps Health, ensuring better care delivery, research outcomes, and the promotion of health equity in the medical disciplines of breast cancer, cardiology, and neurocognition. These achievements signify a strong commitment to improving healthcare for all communities. The following are highlights of the achievements made possible because of the award and Scripps commitment to improving care and reducing health disparities in various medical disciplines.

Breast Cancer

- Scripps Health is actively engaged in two prospective clinical trials focusing on shortened fraction schedules for breast cancer management. These trials aim to establish new standards of care and have achieved their accrual goals.
- A lymphedema management program has been established, with ten physical therapists certified and an additional six staff members scheduled for training. The program served 6,899 patients through the third fiscal quarter.
- Scripps created a wellness and continuity of care clinic for breast cancer patients post-initial treatment, featuring care pathways and educational tools for monitoring treatment-related concerns.

Cardiovascular/Neurocognition

- A novel, non-invasive imaging technique for coronary artery disease has been developed using computer tomography angiography, potentially reducing the need for cardiac catheterization.
- An integrated medicine program for cardiovascular health, including underserved patients, offers wellness and exercise programs, educational sessions, nutrition guidance, and more.
- A protocol explores the link between sleep habits, sleep apnea, and neurocognition, with a focus on intervention strategies for cognitive health.

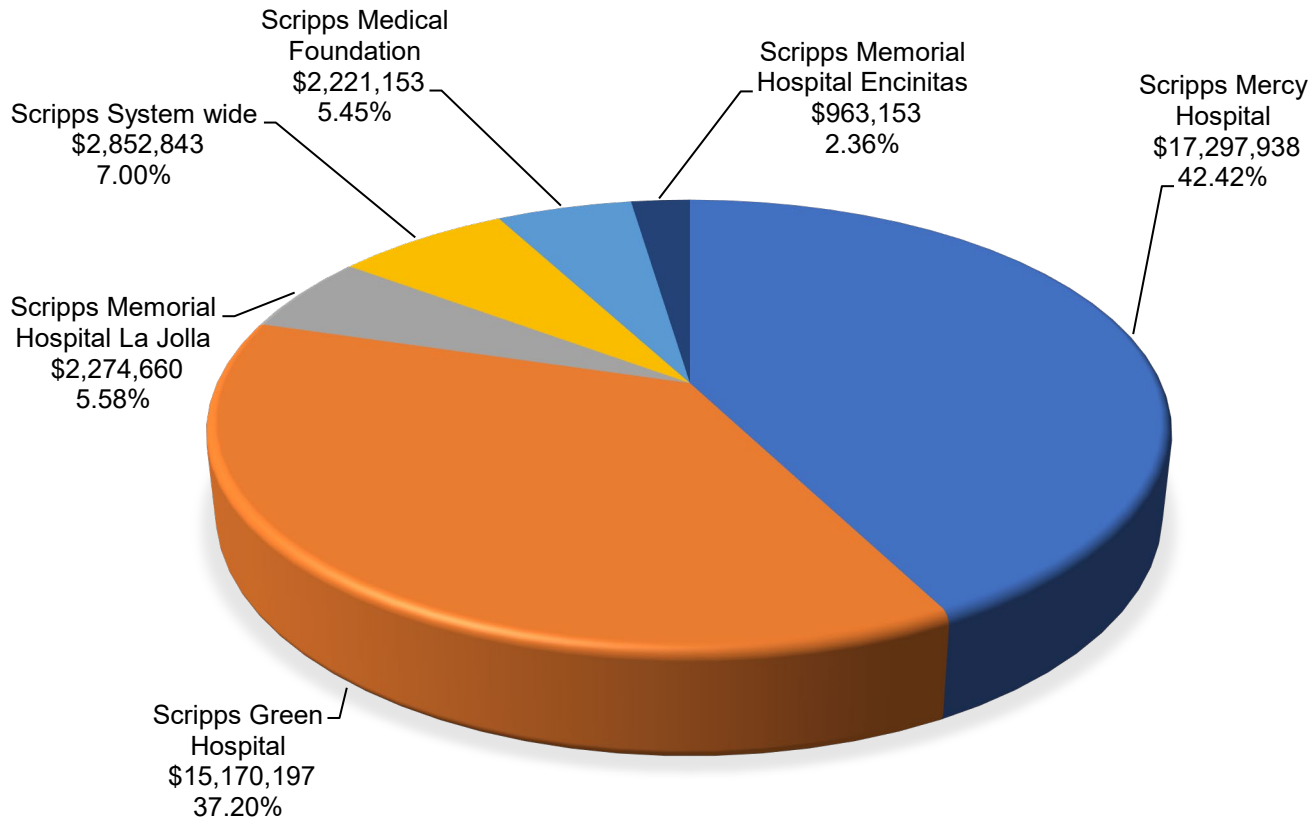
Health Equity

- Scripps Collaborative for Health Equity (SCHE) provides research opportunities for health care professionals and medical trainees interested in health disparities research in the areas of breast cancer, cardiovascular disease, and neurocognition conditions.
- Participation in community education programs to promote preventive health for breast cancer and cardiovascular disease in underserved communities.
- A protocol investigating the financial toxicity of breast cancer treatment within a Spanish-speaking underserved community successfully enrolled patients.
- The Health Equity Information Center (HEIC) is a knowledge repository funded by the Kreuger-Wyeth³¹ (KW) award, offering data, research, and insights on health equity. It collaborates with the Health Data Science team and other analytics groups, providing resources for equity-focused care and guiding future health equity strategies.

Figure 6.1

Fiscal Year 2023

Scripps Professional Education & Health Research by Operating Unit, \$40,779,945



Professional Education and Health Research

This graph reflects clinical research, as well as professional education for non-Scripps employees, including graduate medical education, nursing resource development and other health care professional education. Research takes place primarily at Scripps Clinical Research Services, Scripps Whittier Diabetes Institute, Scripps Genomic Medicine, and Scripps Translational Science Institute. Calculations are based on cost, less "direct offsetting revenue," which includes any revenue generated by the activity or program, such as payment or reimbursement for services provided to program patients. According to the Schedule H 990 IRS guidelines, "direct offsetting revenue" also includes restricted grants or contributions that the organization uses to provide a community benefit.

FY23 Scripps Professional Education, Graduate Medical Education & Health Research Summary List

Health Professional Education

Community Benefit Categories	Person Served	Staff Hours	Volunteer Hours	Financial Support*
Physicians/Medical Students	4,081	37,631	-	\$2,542,185
Nurses/Nursing Students/Allied Health	-	81,303	-	\$7,702,269
Other Health Professions Education	2,264	3,461	6,807	\$733,844
Totals FY 2023 Scripps Professional Health Education	6,345	122,395	6,807	\$10,978,298

Graduate Medical Education

Community Benefit Categories	Person Served	Staff Hours	Volunteer Hours	Financial Support*
Scripps Family Medicine Residency Program	-	82,716	-	\$3,099,429
Scripps Green Hospital GME Program	-	213,974	-	\$14,304,265
Scripps Mercy Hospital GME Program	-	182,007	-	\$9,124,680
Totals FY 2023 Scripps Graduate Medical Education	-	478,697	-	\$26,528,374

Health Research

Community Benefit Categories	Person Served	Staff Hours	Volunteer Hours	Financial Support*
Clinical Research	75	135,399	-	\$3,025,913
Community Health Research	2,818	1,031	-	\$247,359
Totals FY 2023 Scripps Health Research	2,893	136,430	-	\$3,273,273

Totals FY 2023 Scripps Health Professional Education, Graduate Medical Education & Health Research	9,238	737,522	6,807	\$40,779,945
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* "Financial Support" reflects the cost (labor, supplies, overhead, etc.) associated with the program/service less direct revenue. This figure does not include a calculation for physician and staff volunteer hours. In some instances, an entire community benefit program cost center has been divided between several initiatives.



Section 7

Scripps Memorial Hospital La Jolla

Scripps Memorial Hospital La Jolla

About Scripps Memorial Hospital La Jolla

Scripps Memorial Hospital La Jolla has served the greater San Diego community since 1924. Located in North Central San Diego County, Scripps Memorial Hospital La Jolla provides health care services for 17 percent of the inpatient population living in the hospital's 50 percent service area. Today, the hospital has 426 licensed beds and 3,165 employees and provides a comprehensive range of adult inpatient and outpatient services. Within the hospital's service area, Scripps La Jolla cares for 21 percent of Medicare patients, 6 percent of Medi-Cal patients, 21 percent of commercially insured patients and 11 percent of patients with other payment sources, including self-pay and charity care.

Scripps La Jolla provides a wide range of clinical and surgical services, including but not limited to, 24-hour emergency services, intensive care, interventional cardiology and radiology, cancer care, cardiothoracic and orthopedic services, labor and delivery services (including a level III neonatal intensive care unit, comprehensive stroke center, neurology, ophthalmology, and mental health and psychological services. As one of six designated trauma centers, in San Diego County, Scripps La Jolla is a critical part of the county's emergency service network.



Scripps Memorial Hospital La Jolla

2024 Community Benefit Report, Fiscal Year 2023

The Scripps La Jolla Community Benefit Report is an account of the hospital’s dedication and commitment to improving the community’s health, detailing programs that have provided benefit over and above standard health care practices in Fiscal Year 2023 (October 2022 to September 2023).

Community Benefit Contribution

During Fiscal Year 2023, Scripps La Jolla devoted **\$137,885,732** to community benefit activities, including uncompensated health care, community health improvement services, professional education, and health research. The programs offered by Scripps La Jolla emphasize community-based prevention efforts and use innovative approaches to reach residents at greater risk for health problems.

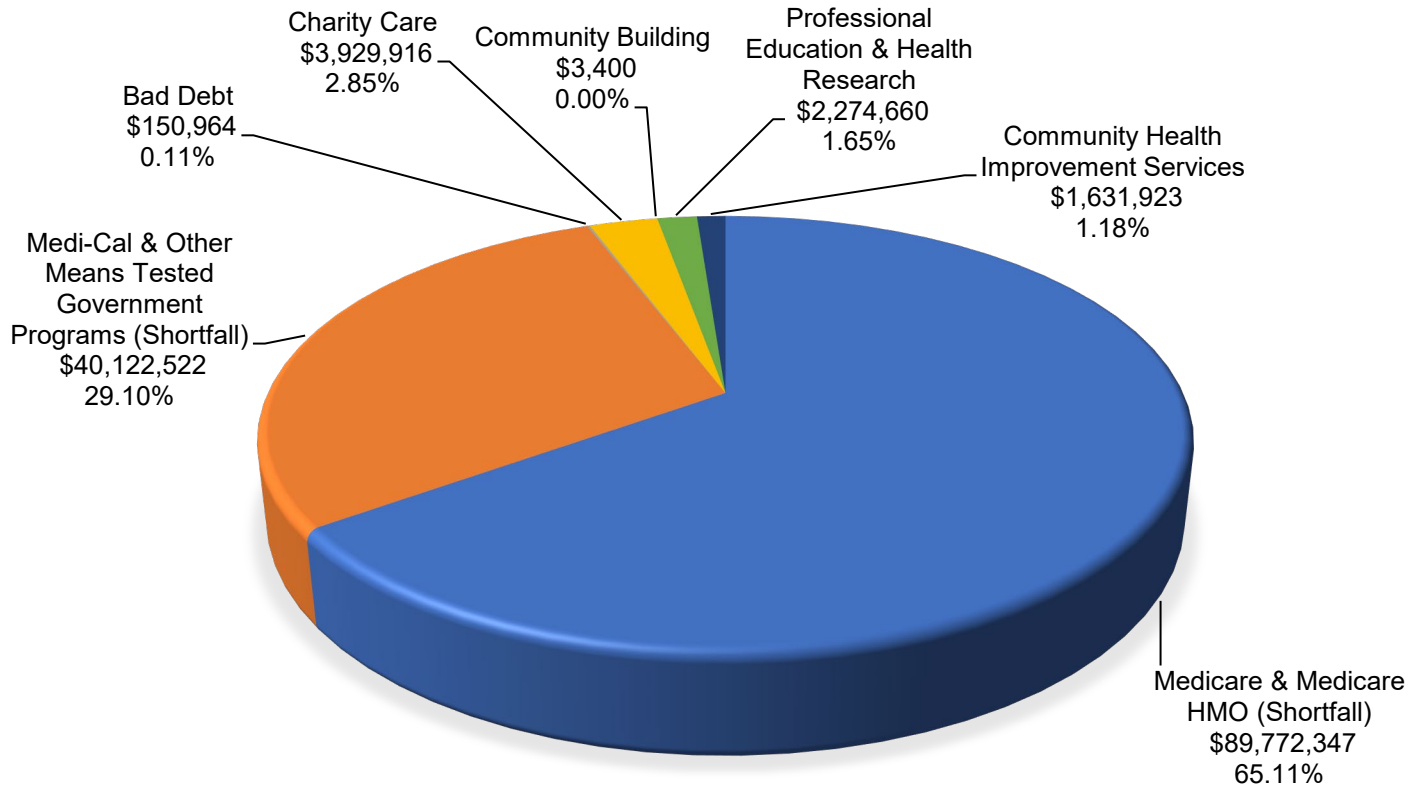
Community Benefit Services Highlights

Community Benefit Services	
Bad Debt	\$150,964
Charity Care	\$3,929,916
Community Health Improvement Services	\$1,631,923
Community Building Activities	\$3,400
Professional Education & Research	\$2,274,660
Medi-Cal & Other Means Tested Shortfall	\$40,122,522
Medicare & Medicare HMO Shortfall	\$89,772,347
Total Community Benefit Financial Contribution	\$137,885,732

Refer to Figure 7.1 presented on the following page for a graphic representation of Fiscal Year 2023.

Figure 7.1

Fiscal Year 2023 Scripps Memorial Hospital La Jolla Community Benefit Services Distribution \$137,885,732



Community Benefit Services (provider fee impact)	Bad Debt	Charity Care	Medi Cal (Shortfall)	Medicare & Medicare HMO (Shortfall)	Community Health Improvement Services	Prof Ed & Health Research	Community Building	Total
Before Provider Fee	\$150,964	\$3,929,916	\$37,870,680	\$89,772,347	\$1,631,923	\$2,274,660	\$3,400	\$135,633,890
Provider Fee			\$2,251,842					\$2,251,842
Net After Provider Fee	\$150,964	\$3,929,916	\$40,122,522	\$89,772,347	\$1,631,923	\$2,274,660	\$3,400	\$137,885,732

Community Benefit Services

Community benefit services include those programs offered to the community that go beyond what is provided as a normal part of patient care. Scripps divides community benefit services into three categories, including uncompensated health care, community health improvement services and professional education and health research. Uncompensated care includes charity care, bad debt, and Medi-Cal and Medicare shortfalls.

Scripps Memorial Hospital La Jolla

Community Benefit Services, Fiscal Year 2023

Community Health Improvement Services Highlights

Community health improvement services are activities conducted to improve community health, available to the public, which address a community need. These include prevention and wellness programs such as screenings, health education, support groups and health fairs which are supported by operational funds, grants, in-kind donations, and philanthropy. These programs are designed to raise public awareness and understanding of, and access to, identified community health needs.

During Fiscal Year 2023 (October 2022 to September 2023), Scripps La Jolla programs invested \$1,631,923 in Community Health Improvement Services. This figure encompasses the costs related to conducting community health improvement activities, covering expenses such as salaries, materials, and supplies, excluding billable revenue. The following section outlines some of the notable achievements in Scripps La Jolla's Community Health Improvement Services for Fiscal Year 2023. For more comprehensive descriptions of these programs, please refer to Section 5.

Community Health Education

Definition: Community health education includes lectures, presentations, other group programs and activities, and development and dissemination of materials that focus on prevention and health behaviors. Education activities can be provided in multiple formats, including resources made available to communities through support groups and through initiatives with a self-help emphasis.

Fall Prevention Workshops. Scripps La Jolla provided education to older adults through a series of workshops emphasizing exercise and proactive safety measures at home. The Injury Prevention Team successfully served 225 individuals and conducted 5 comprehensive workshops and sessions as part of this initiative.

Fall Prevention: A Matter of Balance. Scripps La Jolla educated older adults on fall prevention through an eight-week program and lecture series, with 8 participants. The program emphasized exercise, safety measures at home, and improving safety awareness to promote independence and overall safety. Pre/posttests were conducted to assess effectiveness.

Fall Prevention: Tai Chi for Arthritis. This program helped over 475 individuals with arthritis to enhance balance and reduce stress. The sessions focused on improving muscular strength, flexibility, balance, and stamina. The program is offered free of charge to the community.

Bingocize-Fall Prevention Class Series. This program demonstrated its ability to enhance functional fitness, health knowledge, and social engagement among older adults across various settings. In total, the program engaged with 220 individuals.

CPR Classes for Patients and Families of the Cardiac Treatment Center. CPR certification classes were offered at the Cardiac Treatment Center for patients and their families to promote knowledge of cardiopulmonary resuscitation techniques. Five classes were conducted with a total of 26 attendees.

Cardiac Treatment Center: Group Exercise Programs. The programs offered contributed to participants improved cardiovascular health. A total of 2,107 individuals were served, and more than 270 meetings were conducted to support their cardiovascular well-being.

Cardiac Treatment Center: Tai Chi - Fitness Program. This program enabled participants to reduce stress and enhance their balance. It served 348 individuals over 124 meetings.

Cardiac Treatment Center: Meditation Class. This program was open to the community and assisted participants in reducing stress while emphasizing mindfulness and controlled breathing. It served 236 individuals over 46 meetings.

Cardiac Treatment Center: Balance Fall Proof Education. Balance classes aim to enhance balance, posture, and coordination by incorporating strength and balance exercises. A total of 102 classes were conducted, with 1,863 attendees benefiting from these sessions.

Cardiac Treatment Center: Dietary Counseling. This community educational program offers attendees the opportunity to engage in one-on-one discussions with a registered dietitian. The program covers topics related to a heart-healthy diet and exercise. In total, 98 classes were conducted, with 444 attendees benefiting from these informative sessions.

Cardiac Treatment Center: Pulmonary Cardiac Class. Education on lifestyle management, nutrition, and exercise was offered to pulmonary patients as part of this program. A total of 217 individuals were served through 49 meetings, providing them with valuable insights into managing their health and well-being.

Cardiac Treatment Center: Long COVID Support Group "A Friend for the Long Haul." This program was dedicated to supporting individuals dealing with Long COVID by offering educational resources and community connections. It successfully served 112 individuals through a series of 12 meetings, providing them with valuable information and support to manage their condition.

The Left Ventricular Assist Device (LVAD) Support Group. The LVAD Support Group provided education and support to 54 patients and their family members, helping them navigate the challenges associated with ventricular assist devices (VADs) and improve their quality of life. The group featured guest speakers and fostered open dialogue among VAD patients and their care partners.

The Caregiver/Care Partner Support Group. This support group provided a nurturing space for 20 individuals, including care partners and caregivers. It encouraged connections, open discussions, and sharing of experiences, fostering friendships and offering support in their caregiving journey.

The ECMO (Extracorporeal Membrane Oxygenation) Survivors Support Group. This support group assisted individuals who survived critical heart or lung conditions with ECMO support, held monthly virtual meetings with participation from 51 survivors. These gatherings created a supportive community for recovery and healing.

The ECMO Grief Support Group. The ECMO support group aids family members coping with the loss of ECMO or LVAD patients. The group has held bimonthly meetings, where 3 individuals found support and understanding during their grieving journey.

The Heart Transplant Support Group. The group offers emotional support to heart transplant patients, transplant candidates, and those awaiting transplants. In FY23 four meetings were held connecting 37 individuals and fostering camaraderie and insights sharing.

Scripps Health Stroke Program Community Outreach. The Scripps Health Stroke Team conducted outreach at La Costa Glen Retirement Community, educating 37 residents on stroke recognition using the BE-FAST acronym and strategies to reduce stroke risk factors, thereby increasing stroke awareness and prevention in the community.

Scripps La Jolla Maternal Child Health Services. Program offered prenatal education programs across the county, consistently achieving high participant satisfaction ratings above 90%. These programs included the following:

- Scripps provided "**Getting Ready for Baby - Child Safety and Prevention Class**" and "**Grand Parenting Today,**" serving 783 individuals through 21 meetings, supporting parents and caregivers in raising healthy children.
- Scripps Health facilitated four weekly **breastfeeding support groups**, benefiting 330 individuals in 128 meetings, supporting breastfeeding mothers with guidance and encouragement.
- Additionally, the **Prenatal Pelvic Floor Wellness program**, consisting of 24 classes, empowered 538 women to strengthen their pelvic floor muscles during the postpartum period, promoting their overall well-being.

Healing Touch Certificate Programs. Scripps La Jolla continued its holistic well-being commitment by offering Healing Touch Certificate Programs to healthcare professionals and community members. In four meetings, 29 attendees deepened their knowledge of Healing Touch.

Scripps Opioid Stewardship Program and Medication Assisted Treatment (MAT). The program focused on educating patients and providers about opioid use risks and pain management alternatives. In La

Jolla, they assisted 173 patients with MAT and prescribed 397 buprenorphine prescriptions. There were 724 opioid use disorder diagnoses and 813 opioid overdose diagnoses in the ED and among admitted patients.

Trauma Education Programs. Continued our dedication to community well-being by offering programs that educated 2,252 participants on topics such as elderly falls, concussions, sports injuries, distracted driving, and more.

Trauma Lifeguard Education Conference. The conference provided education on several topics critical for ocean and beach lifeguards, including drowning resuscitation, Stop the Bleed: Bleeding control training. Skin Cancer Prevention for Lifeguards, Complications of Stingray injuries, and Careers in Lifeguarding.

Saving Lives Through Stop the Bleed Program. The program conducted 10 Stop the Bleed training sessions, educating 375 individuals on life-saving techniques like direct pressure, wound packing, and tourniquet use. This initiative equips participants to respond effectively to life-threatening bleeding in emergencies.

Beach Area Community Court program. Scripps participated in the Beach Area Community Court program, involving 200 individuals who attended the "Impact Panel" educational class for first-time quality-of-life offenders. They also completed 4 hours of community service, benefiting personal growth and community improvement.

Community-Based Clinical Services

Definition: These are clinical services provided on a periodic basis or as special events in the community. They include screenings, one-time or occasionally held clinics, clinics for underinsured and uninsured persons and mobile units.

American Red Cross Blood Drives. Scripps La Jolla coordinated blood drives with the American Red Cross, resulting in 146 units of blood collected from 174 participants registered. These drives underscore Scripps La Jolla dedication to supporting the community's healthcare requirements and meeting the ongoing demand for blood donations, especially in times of crisis.

Health Care Support Services

Definition: Health care and social support services are provided by the hospital to enhance access to and quality of health care services for vulnerable populations, especially persons living in poverty.

In Lieu of Funds. One way Scripps La Jolla provides care to some of our most needy patients is through In-Lieu of Funds. In FY23, Scripps La Jolla provided \$1,104,971 In-Lieu of Funds. These funds are used for unfunded or under-funded patients and their post-discharge needs. Funds are used for board and care, skilled nursing facilities, long term care acute care and home health. In addition, funds are also used for medications, equipment, and transportation services.

Cash and In-Kind Contributions

Definition: Funds and in-kind services donated to community groups and nonprofit organizations.

Greater La Jolla Meals on Wheels Program. Scripps La Jolla supported the Greater La Jolla Meals on Wheels program, offering office space to enhance their service of providing nutritious meals to seniors, homebound individuals, and those with disabilities in La Jolla communities.

Community Benefit Operations

Definition: direct and indirect costs associated with assigned staff, community health needs assessments, community benefit planning, tracking, reporting, evaluating and operations.

Scripps counts staff costs for managing or overseeing community benefit program activities that are not included in other categories of community benefit.

Fostering Volunteerism

In addition to the financial community benefit contributions made during Fiscal Year 2023, Scripps La Jolla employees and affiliated physicians donated a significant portion of their personal time volunteering to support Scripps sponsored community benefit programs. With close to 79 volunteer hours, it is estimated that the dollar value associated with this volunteer labor is \$4,934²⁹.

Professional Education Highlights

Quality health care is highly dependent upon health education systems and medical research programs. Without the ability to train and inspire a new generation of health care providers, or offer continuing education to existing health care professionals, the quality of health care would be greatly diminished. Medical research also plays a vital role in improving the community's overall health by developing new and innovative treatments.

Each year, Scripps La Jolla advances health care services through professional education programs and research and provides a wide array of educational and training support to its affiliated physicians, nurses, and other care givers, as well as the community at large. To enhance service delivery and treatment practices for San Diego County, Scripps La Jolla invested \$2,274,660³⁰ in professional training and health research programs during Fiscal Year 2023 (October 2022 to September 2023). This section highlights some of Scripps La Jolla professional education activities.

Health Professions Education

Definition: This category includes educational programs for physicians, interns and residents, medical students, nurses and nursing students, pastoral care trainees and other health professionals when that education is necessary to retain state license or certification by a board in the individual's health profession specialty.

Physician and Medical Students

- Scripps La Jolla and Scripps Mercy are part of a countywide, six-hospital trauma system that was created in 1984 to reduce preventable deaths by coordinating the care of patients with the most severe and life-threatening injuries. As a level 1 trauma center Scripps Memorial Hospital La Jolla offers physician medical education and trauma physician training in addition to trauma research. The program offered exceptional training opportunities to various residency and fellowship programs across San Diego. Residents and fellows have the chance to expand their skills through firsthand experience and receive valuable mentorship from attending physicians, contributing to their professional growth and development.
- Scripps La Jolla community education efforts helped people prevent traumatic injuries by avoiding things like falls, cycling accidents and car crashes.
- The residency program at Naval Medical Center San Diego (NMCS D) has been integrated with Scripps Trauma for over 30 years. General surgery residents from NMCS D completed rotations in trauma at Scripps Memorial Hospital La Jolla.

Pharmacy

- The 2023 Cal Hospital Compare Opioid Honor Roll awarded Scripps hospitals superior performance. The goal of the program is increased access to addiction treatment for hospitalized patients and reduction of opioid-related deaths.
- Scripps La Jolla pharmacists served as preceptors, mentoring 16 pharmacy students for a total of 96 weeks. This program provided students with practical experience, mentorship, and real-world application of their knowledge, reflecting Scripps dedication to fostering future pharmacists' professional growth.
- Scripps La Jolla pharmacists served as preceptors for 6 pharmacy residents over 273 weeks, offering comprehensive education in clinical pharmacy, research, and patient care. This commitment reflects Scripps' dedication to developing skilled pharmacy professionals and advancing the pharmacy field.

Nursing Education

- Scripps La Jolla Hospital provided nursing students with diverse clinical experiences in various specialized departments, including radiation oncology, cardiac treatment, ICU, labor and delivery, emergency, and more, preparing them for successful nursing careers.
- Scripps La Jolla provided preceptorships for 141 nursing students in clinical and leadership experiences in most clinic areas for a total of 16,583 preceptorship hours. Under this model, students work on a one-to-one basis with a staff nurse, nurse manager, advance practice nurse, and/or nurse educator. Preceptorships do involve a one-to-one assignment with a nurse and include approximately 100-180 hours of supervision per preceptorship.
- Advance Practice Nurses (APN) Skills Day. Scripps La Jolla conducts "APN/Skills Day," a training day for new RN graduates, with 52 RNs completing the training in FY23. The program includes presentations from various healthcare professionals covering topics like wound care, chest tubes, infection control, stroke, diabetes, and more. Hands-on simulation learning stations and unit-based initiatives are also part of the training.

Medical Student Training

- Scripps La Jolla offers clinical rotations for medical students. All rotations are four weeks in duration and provide medical students with an opportunity to work as an active member of the medical team, attending teaching rounds and conferences, taking patient histories, and assisting with various procedures.

Other Health Professions Education

- Scripps La Jolla Hospital supported clinical instruction and practice affiliations for 97 allied health (non-nursing students) with a total of 23,504 preceptorship hours. These students collectively

completed a remarkable total of preceptorship hours, gaining invaluable hands-on experience and mentorship in various allied health fields. This accomplishment underscores Scripps La Jolla Hospital commitment to advancing healthcare education and fostering the development of future allied health professionals.

Health Research Highlights

Definition: research is the study or investigation to generate generalizable knowledge made available to the public. Research includes the communication of findings and observations, including publication in a journal. Internally funded research and research funded by tax-exempt, or government entities are eligible for reporting.

See Section 6, Professional Education and Research Section for a detail of Scripps research programs.

The **La Jolla Trauma Research team** conducts diverse research on traumatic injuries, treatments, and outcomes, which is shared through publications and scientific meetings. They focus on community-specific needs, participating in various research projects in Fiscal Year 2023, including clinical trials, minimally invasive surgery for stroke patients, organ injuries, geriatric trauma, splenic injury management, deep vein thrombosis risk surveillance, skateboard and scooter safety, and geriatric fall prevention.

FY23 Scripps Memorial Hospital La Jolla Community Benefit Services Summary List

Uncompensated Care

Community Benefit Categories	Person Served	Staff Hours	Volunteer Hours	Financial Support*
Bad Debt**	-	-	-	\$150,964
Charity Care	-	-	-	\$3,929,916
Medi-Cal and Other Means Tested Government Programs (Shortfall)***	-	-	-	\$40,122,522
Medicare and Medicare HMO (Shortfall)**	-	-	-	\$89,772,347
Total FY 2023 Uncompensated Care	-	-	-	\$133,975,749

Community Health Improvement Services

Community Benefit Categories	Person Served	Staff Hours	Volunteer Hours	Financial Support*
Community Health Education	13,308	2,972	79	\$179,065
Community-Based Clinical Services	174	-	-	-
Health Care Support Services	-	-	-	\$1,104,971
Totals FY 2023 Community Health Improvement Services	13,482	2,972	79	\$1,284,036

Professional Education and Research

Community Benefit Categories	Person Served	Staff Hours	Volunteer Hours	Financial Support*
Physicians/Medical Students	-	17,271	-	\$1,170,923
Nurses/Nursing Students/Allied Health	238	12,026	-	\$1,102,751
Other Health Professions Education	62	16	-	\$986
Totals FY 2023 Professional Education and Research	300	29,313		\$2,274,660

Community Benefit Operations

Community Benefit Categories	Person Served	Staff Hours	Volunteer Hours	Financial Support*
Community Benefit Operations	-	-	-	\$347,887
Total FY 2023 Community Benefit Operations	-	-	-	\$347,887

Community Building Activities**

Community Benefit Categories	Person Served	Staff Hours	Volunteer Hours	Financial Support*
Total FY 2023 Community Building	-	-		\$3,400
Totals FY 2023 Scripps Memorial Hospital La Jolla	13,782	32,285	79	\$137,885,732

* "Financial Support" reflects the cost (labor, supplies, overhead, etc.) associated with the program/service less direct revenue. This figure does not include a calculation for physician and staff volunteer hours. In some instances, an entire community benefit program cost center has been divided between several initiatives.

**Community building activities, bad debt and Medicare shortfall do not count as community benefits under the Schedule H 990 but are still reportable outside the community benefit table.

*** Hospital provider fee was reported as offsetting revenue from Medi-Cal.

Scripps Memorial Hospital La Jolla

2024 Community Benefit Plan, Fiscal Year 2024

The previous section highlighted Scripps Memorial Hospital La Jolla accomplishments for Fiscal Year 2023. This section highlights the overall community benefit goals and objectives and the hospital's strategies to support community health during Fiscal Year 2024 (October 2023 to September 2024).

Fiscal Year 2024 Community Benefit Goals & Objectives

Scripps La Jolla programs will make an impact on the health status of the community through community health improvement programs, professional education and health research.

Community Health Improvement Services

Access to Care (Community Outreach)

- Continue to coordinate quarterly blood drives in collaboration with the American Red Cross at Scripps La Jolla.
- Maintain a variety of community-based support groups and educational classes, including but not limited to breastfeeding, cancer, lymphedema, gynecological health, aphasia, grandparenting classes, pelvic floor wellness, fall prevention, home safety, healing touch workshops, and diabetes education programs.

Aging Care and Support

- Continue offering fall prevention workshops designed to assist seniors in reducing their risk of falls. These workshops will include fall risk assessments and educational sessions to empower seniors with knowledge and strategies for preventing falls and maintaining their safety and well-being.

Cancer Outreach, Education and Support

- Continue to collaborate with the Rehabilitation Department to provide education and support services for individuals who are experiencing lymphedema or are at risk of developing lymphedema. These services will focus on prevention, management, and improving the quality of life for affected individuals.
- Maintain an active presence in the community by participating in relevant events and health fairs to provide education and support related to breast health. This outreach effort aims to raise awareness, encourage regular screenings, and empower individuals to take proactive steps in maintaining their breast health.

Cardiovascular Disease and Stroke

- Continue collaborating with nonprofit community organizations such as the American Heart Association/American Stroke Association and Rady Children’s Hospital to promote healthy behaviors and advance community health initiatives.
- Improve cardiovascular health and reduce the incidence of stroke in San Diego County by partnering with community organizations to educate and engage individuals and communities in recognizing and addressing the risk factors that contribute to heart attacks and strokes.
- Offer stroke education programs for the community, focusing on BE-FAST stroke recognition and educating individuals on how to respond appropriately by calling 911 for emergency medical services (EMS).
- Enhance cardiac and stroke health education and prevention efforts across San Diego County to provide valuable information on maintaining heart and stroke health.
- Provide targeted education for women to increase public awareness about advancements in women's healthcare, empowering them to make informed decisions regarding their health.
- Offer cardiac education programs for the community, emphasizing current heart treatment options to enhance understanding and decision-making regarding heart health.
- Introduce a pulmonary education program to educate individuals on pulmonary health and related conditions.
- Offer programs that complement the lives of individuals living with chronic illnesses, including heart and lung diseases, to promote overall well-being and provide resources for managing these conditions effectively.

Diabetes Support Services

- Advocate for diabetes prevention, research, and education through a combination of in-person and virtual programs and events, engaging various communities and patients to raise awareness, share knowledge, and promote healthy behaviors.
- Enhance access to diabetes educational resources, self-management education, and support services specifically for underserved populations living with diabetes, ensuring equitable opportunities for diabetes management and improved health outcomes.
- Offer culturally sensitive diabetes education and training programs tailored to individuals who seek to increase their knowledge and skills in managing diabetes while respecting cultural diversity and preferences.

Maternal Child Health Education

- Continue providing comprehensive prenatal, postpartum, and parenting education programs specifically designed for low-income women throughout San Diego County, aiming to empower and support these women through their pregnancy and parenting journey.
- Provide prenatal education services in the county, with a commitment to achieving a satisfaction rating higher than 90 percent among program participants, demonstrating the effectiveness and value of these services.
- Continue offering four weekly breastfeeding support groups to provide guidance and encouragement to new mothers, fostering a supportive community for breastfeeding mothers.
- Provide twelve maternal child health education classes focused on grandparenting in San Diego County, offering these classes at no cost to community members to enhance the knowledge and skills of grandparents in supporting their families.
- Offer pelvic floor wellness education to expectant women in the community at no cost, emphasizing the importance of pelvic health during pregnancy and postpartum recovery.

Unintentional Injury and Violence

- Offer safety education programs targeted at older adults through Trauma Services, with a particular focus on improving balance and preventing falls to enhance the well-being and safety of this demographic.
- Offer educational programs emphasizing bleeding control, aligning with the national "Stop the Bleed" campaign. This initiative aims to empower bystanders to receive training, equip themselves with the necessary tools, and act confidently in emergencies involving bleeding before professional help arrives.
- Conduct at least two safety education programs for students and teachers, covering topics such as bike and skateboard safety and car seat safety to promote safe practices and reduce accidents.
- Continue the collaboration with the SDPD, Parks and Recreation, District Attorney's Office, and Discover Pacific Beach to provide Beach Area Community Educational classes. These classes will educate first-time offenders on quality-of-life crimes, their impact on the community, the effects of smoking and alcohol consumption, and the rules and regulations of the beach community.

Professional Education and Health Research

- Provide support to Scripps nursing services and community-based medical outreach activities, enhancing the opportunities for nursing and physical therapy internships to foster hands-on learning experiences.
- Offer nursing students the opportunity to participate in rotation experiences within the Perinatal Education Program, enabling them to gain valuable knowledge and skills in perinatal care.
- Continue serving as a premier site for nursing clinical rotations, accommodating nursing programs throughout San Diego County, and expanding student exposure to outpatient and nontraditional patient care settings to diversify their clinical experiences.
- Provide preceptor experiences to nursing students across various nursing practice roles, including educators, clinical specialists, managers, and staff nurses, facilitating mentorship and professional development.
- Maintain and strengthen the student nurse externship program to offer aspiring nurses valuable opportunities to apply their classroom knowledge in real-world healthcare settings, gaining practical experience.
- Extend clinical education experiences to allied health students in fields such as occupational therapy (OT), physical therapy (PT), respiratory care practitioners (RCP), radiographers, surgical technicians, and clinical social workers, fostering interprofessional collaboration and skill development.
- Support nursing school programs by providing opportunities for student nurses to observe and learn from maternal child health programs, enriching their understanding of specialized healthcare areas.

Uncompensated Care

- Provide financial assistance through free and discounted care for health care services, consistent with the hospital's financial assistance policy, for persons who are uninsured or underinsured.
- Maintain, effectively communicate, and administer the Scripps financial assistance policy in a clear and accessible manner, ensuring that patients in need are aware of and can benefit from the policy.
- Continue efforts to ensure that emergency care and trauma center services are readily available to all individuals, regardless of their ability to pay, reaffirming the hospital's commitment to providing critical care during emergencies.



Section 8

Scripps Memorial Hospital Encinitas

Scripps Memorial Hospital Encinitas

About Scripps Memorial Hospital Encinitas

Scripps Memorial Hospital Encinitas has served North County's coastal communities since 1978. Located along the coast of San Diego's North County, Scripps Memorial Hospital Encinitas provides health care services for 34 percent of the inpatient population living in the hospital's North County West service area. Today the hospital has 187 licensed beds and 1,727 employees. Within its service area, Scripps Encinitas cares for 41 percent of Medicare patients, 24 percent of Medi-Cal patients, 31 percent of commercially insured patients, and 24 percent of patients with other payment sources, including self-pay and charity care.

Scripps Encinitas provides a full range of clinical and surgical services, including but not limited to, 24-hour emergency services, primary care, intensive care, intensive care, cancer/oncology, orthopedics, neurology, urology, ophthalmology, a level II neonatal intensive care unit, obstetrics, gynecology and maternal and infant health services, accredited stroke care, acute physical rehabilitation services (including a brain injury treatment program), and an ambulatory surgery center.



Scripps Memorial Hospital Encinitas

2024 Community Benefit Report, Fiscal Year 2023

The Scripps Memorial Hospital Encinitas Community Benefit Report is an account of the hospital’s dedication and commitment to improving the community’s health, detailing programs that have provided benefit over and above standard health care practices in Fiscal Year 2023 (Oct 2022 to Sep 2023).

Community Benefit Contribution

During Fiscal Year 2023, Scripps Encinitas devoted **\$77,144,254** to community benefit activities, including uncompensated health care, community health improvement services, professional education and health research. The programs offered by Scripps Encinitas emphasize community-based prevention efforts and use innovative approaches to reach residents at greater risk for health problems.

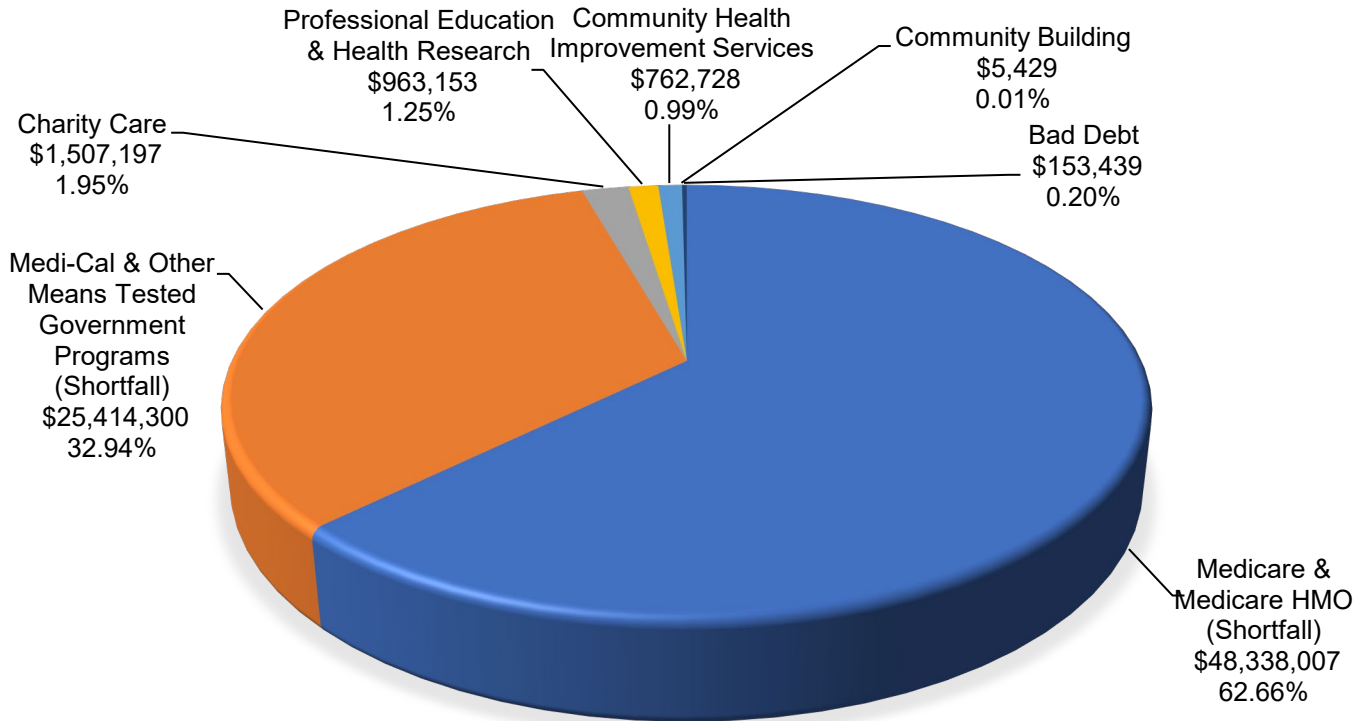
Community Benefit Services Highlights

Community Benefit Services	
Bad Debt	\$153,439
Charity Care	\$1,507,197
Community Building Activities	\$5,429
Community Health Improvement Services	\$762,728
Medi-Cal & Other Means Tested Shortfall	\$25,414,300
Medicare & Medicare HMO Shortfall	\$48,338,007
Professional Education & Research	\$963,153
Total Community Benefit Financial Contribution	\$77,144,254

Refer to Figure 8.1 presented on the following page for a graphic representation of Fiscal Year 2023.

Figure 8.1

Fiscal Year 2023 Scripps Memorial Hospital Encinitas Community Benefit Services Distribution, \$77,144,254



Community Benefit Services (provider fee impact)	Bad Debt	Charity Care	Medi Cal (Shortfall)	Medicare & Medicare HMO (Shortfall)	Community Health Improvement Services	Prof Ed & Health Research	Community Building Activities	Total
Before Provider Fee	\$153,439	\$1,507,197	\$24,068,923	\$48,338,007	\$762,728	\$963,153	\$5,429	\$75,798,877
Provider Fee			\$1,345,377					\$1,345,377
Net After Provider Fee	\$153,439	\$1,507,197	\$25,414,300	\$48,338,007	\$762,728	\$963,153	\$5,429	\$77,144,254

Community Benefit Services:

Community benefit services include those programs offered to the community that go beyond what is provided as a normal part of patient care. Scripps divides community benefit services into three categories, including uncompensated health care, community health improvement services and professional education and health research. Uncompensated care includes charity care, bad debt, and Medi-Cal and Medicare shortfalls.

Scripps Memorial Hospital Encinitas

Community Benefit Services, Fiscal Year 2023

Community Health Improvement Services Highlights

Community health improvement services are activities conducted to improve community health, available to the public, which address a community need. These include prevention and wellness programs such as screenings, health education, support groups and health fairs which are supported by operational funds, grants, in-kind donations, and philanthropy. These programs are designed to raise public awareness and understanding of, and access to, identified community health.

During Fiscal Year 2023 (October 2022 to September 2023) Scripps Encinitas programs invested \$762,728 in Community Health Improvement Services. This figure encompasses the costs related to conducting community health improvement activities, covering expenses such as salaries, materials, and supplies, excluding billable revenue. The following section outlines some of the notable achievements in Scripps Encinitas Community Health Improvement Services for Fiscal Year 2023. For more comprehensive descriptions of these programs, please refer to Section 5.

Community Health Education

Definition: Community health education includes lectures, presentations, other group programs and activities, and development and dissemination of materials that focus on prevention and health behaviors. Education activities can be provided in multiple formats, including resources made available to communities through support groups and through initiatives with a self-help emphasis.

Alzheimer's Association. Scripps Encinitas partnered with the Alzheimer's Association to host various community education sessions in North County, benefitting a total of 20 individuals. These sessions aimed to provide valuable information and support related to Alzheimer's disease and related topics to the community.

Stroke and Brain Injury Support and Education Group. The program assisted 194 individuals who participated in the support group, designed for brain injury survivors, caregivers, and their loved ones.

Balance and Gait. A gentle exercise class focused on balance, stability and gait. Open to the community.

Neuro Fit for Parkinson's. The class improves physical and mental health through balance and strength. Open to the community.

The Neuro Fit. The class is designed to improve neuromuscular strength, endurance, proprioception, and balance. Open to the community.

Restorative Yoga and Sound Therapy Community Class. Scripps offered a 60-minute restorative yoga and sound therapy class for the community, promoting relaxation and rejuvenation through instruments like singing bowls, chimes, drums, and gongs.

Restorative Yoga & Sound Healing. The program offered 24 classes of serving more than 400 community members. This program helped cancer survivors and caregivers with relaxation and rejuvenation through yoga and sound healing. A combination of sound, vibration, meditation, and yoga are used to calm the mind and soothe the body.

Scripps Encinitas BrainMasters Improvisational Speaking Group. A free community program that served 267 attendees in FY 2023, benefiting survivors with self-care and coping strategies.

Scripps Encinitas Virtual Bereavement Support Group. The program provided a bi-monthly support group, facilitated by a licensed professional, offering assistance to the community dealing with grief and loss.

Scripps Encinitas Healing Art Classes and Support Groups. The program provided nine classes for brain injury survivors, helping them develop new leisure interests and art skills for self-expression after traumatic injury. The program served 33 participants benefited from this program, which offered free art supplies and was open to the community at no cost.

Opioid Stewardship Program and Medication Assisted Treatment (MAT). The program aimed to reduce opioid use by educating patients and providers about opioid use risks and pain management alternatives. In Encinitas, they assisted 78 patients with MAT and prescribed 347 buprenorphine prescriptions. There were 709 opioid use disorder diagnoses and 221 opioid overdose diagnoses in the ED and among admitted patients.

Scripps Encinitas Standing Strong Fall Prevention. The program hosted two workshops with over 70 attendees. The program offered fall risk assessments, medication checks, blood pressure checks, stroke risk assessments, balance and gait classes, and comprehensive fall prevention presentations. Experts from various fields provided valuable knowledge and practical tips to help participants reduce their risk of falls.

Men's Pelvic Floor Health & Wellness. The program offered monthly classes for men to learn more about how to care for their pelvic floor to improve bowel function, sexual health, and wellness. The program served 22 individuals who attended the class offering this year.

Scripps Health Stroke Team. The stroke team conducted a Stroke Risk and Blood Pressure Screening event at Scripps Encinitas Rehabilitation Center, screening 15 individuals for stroke risk and providing blood pressure assessments. Education on stroke risk reduction and recognition using the BE-FAST method was offered during the event.

Scripps Encinitas continued its "Baby Friendly" designation by the World Health Organization and UNCEF, the first award in San Diego and sole awardee in the Scripps system.

Drug Take-Back Kiosks. Scripps offers year-round access to safe, free disposal of unused and outdated prescription medications. Drug Take-Back Kiosks are available adjacent to the on-site ambulatory pharmacy at Scripps Encinitas. This program helped reduce the use of opioids and helped prevent patients from becoming dependent on these useful but potent pain reducing medications.

Community-Based Clinical Services

Definition: These are clinical services provided on a periodic basis or as special events in the community. They include screenings, one-time or occasionally held clinics, clinics for underinsured and uninsured persons and mobile units.

American Red Cross Blood Drives. Scripps Encinitas organized blood drives in partnership with the American Red Cross, offering community members and hospital staff the opportunity to donate blood and address the ongoing demand for this critical resource, especially during emergencies. There were 68 units of blood collected from 80 registered donors.

Health Care Support Services

Definition: Health care and social support services are provided by the hospital to enhance access to and quality of health care services for vulnerable populations, especially persons living in poverty.

In Lieu of Funds. One way Scripps Encinitas Hospital provides care to some of our most needy patients is through In-Lieu of Funds. In FY23, Scripps Encinitas provided \$750,700 In-Lieu of Funds. These funds are used for unfunded or under-funded patients and their post-discharge needs. Funds are used for board and care, skilled nursing facilities, long term care acute care and home health. In addition, funds are also used for medications, equipment, and transportation services.

Community Building Activities

Definition: Activities that support community assets by offering the expertise and resources of the hospital organization. These activities may address the root causes of health problems or the determinants of health, such as education, homelessness, poverty, and the environment.

Workforce Development

Scripps Encinitas hosted the **Young Leaders in Health Care program** for local high school students, featuring topics like mental health and organ donation. In FY 23, over 100 attendees, including students and healthcare professionals, witnessed student presentations on various health-related topics. The program expanded its reach, with over 200 students participating in monthly virtual meetings for the 2022-2023

school year. Students can apply for the High School Explorer summer internship program after participating in this initiative.

Community Benefit Operations

Definition: direct and indirect costs associated with assigned staff, community health needs assessments, community benefit planning, tracking, reporting, evaluating and operations.

Scripps counts staff costs for managing or overseeing community benefit program activities that are not included in other categories of community benefit.

Fostering Volunteerism

In addition to the financial community benefit contributions made during Fiscal Year 2023, Scripps Encinitas employees and affiliated physicians donated a significant portion of their personal time volunteering to support Scripps sponsored community benefit programs. With close to 16 volunteer hours, it is estimated that the dollar value associated with this volunteer labor is \$999.37²⁹.

Professional Education Highlights

Quality health care is highly dependent upon health education systems and medical research programs. Without the ability to train and inspire a new generation of health care providers, or offer continuing education to existing health care professionals, the quality of health care would be greatly diminished. Medical research also plays a vital role in improving the community's overall health by developing new and innovative treatments.

Each year, Scripps Encinitas allocates resources to advance health care services through professional education programs and research and provides a wide array of educational and training support to its affiliated physicians, nurses, and other care givers, as well as the community at large. To enhance service delivery and treatment practices for San Diego County, Scripps Encinitas invested \$963,153³⁰ in professional education programs during Fiscal Year 2023 (October 2022 to September 2023). This section highlights some of Scripps Encinitas professional education activities.

Health Professions Education

Definition: This category includes educational programs for physicians, interns and residents, medical students, nurses and nursing students, pastoral care trainees and other health professionals when that education is necessary to retain state license or certification by a board in the individual's health profession specialty .

Physician and Medical Students

- Scripps Encinitas Hospital's Emergency Medicine Physicians dedicated 24 hours in FY23 to educate over 30 Paramedics and EMTs during biannual events. They covered various hospital and pre-hospital topics, contributing significantly to healthcare education.

Nursing Education

- Scripps Encinitas was a rotation site for nursing students in most clinical areas of the hospital. Scripps Encinitas provided preceptorships for 117 nursing students in clinical and leadership experiences in most clinic areas for a total of 14,963 preceptorship hours. Under this model, students work on a one-to-one basis with a staff nurse, nurse manager, advance practice nurse, and/or nurse educator. Preceptorships do involve a one-to-one assignment with a nurse and include approximately 100-180 hours of supervision per preceptorship.

Medical Student Training

- Scripps Encinitas is a rotation site for medical students in most specialties offered at the hospital with the largest number in Medicine and Surgery rotations. This accomplishment reflects Scripps Encinitas Hospital's commitment to medical education and the development of future healthcare professionals by providing a rich and varied clinical environment for medical students to enhance their knowledge and clinical skills across a wide spectrum of medical disciplines.

Other Health Professions Education

- Scripps Encinitas supported clinical instruction and practice affiliations for 75 allied health (non-nursing students) with a total of 19,962 preceptorship hours. These students collectively completed a remarkable total of preceptorship hours, gaining invaluable hands-on experience and mentorship in various allied health fields. This accomplishment underscores Scripps Encinitas commitment to advancing healthcare education and fostering the development of future allied health professionals.

Health Research Highlights

Definition: research is the study or investigation to generate generalizable knowledge made available to the public. Research includes the communication of findings and observations, including publication in a journal. Internally funded research and research funded by tax-exempt, or government entities are eligible for reporting.

See Section 6, Professional Education and Research Section for a detail of Scripps research programs.

FY23 Scripps Memorial Hospital Encinitas Community Benefit Services Summary List

Uncompensated Care

Community Benefit Categories	Person Served	Staff Hours	Volunteer Hours	Financial Support*
Bad Debt**	-	-	-	\$153,439
Charity Care	-	-	-	\$1,507,197
Medi-Cal and Other Means Tested Government Programs (Shortfall)***	-	-	-	\$25,414,300
Medicare and Medicare HMO (Shortfall)**	-	-	-	\$48,338,007
Total FY 2023 Uncompensated Care	-	-	-	\$75,412,943

Community Health Improvement Services

Community Benefit Categories	Person Served	Staff Hours	Volunteer Hours	Financial Support*
Community Health Education	1,294	328	-	\$12,028
Community-Based Clinical Services	80	-	-	-
Health Care Support Services	-	-	-	\$750,700
Totals FY 2023 Community Health Improvement Services	1,374	328	-	\$762,728

Professional Education

Community Benefit Categories	Person Served	Staff Hours	Volunteer Hours	Financial Support*
Nurses/Nursing Students/Allied Health	192	10,478	-	\$963,154

Community Building Activities**

Community Benefit Categories	Person Served	Staff Hours	Volunteer Hours	Financial Support*
Total FY 2023 Workforce Development**	311	64	16	\$5,429

Totals FY 2023 Scripps Memorial Hospital Encinitas	1,877	10,870	16	\$77,144,254
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* "Financial Support" reflects the cost (labor, supplies, overhead, etc.) associated with the program/service less direct revenue. This figure does not include a calculation for physician and staff volunteer hours. In some instances, an entire community benefit program cost center has been divided between several initiatives.

**Community building activities, bad debt and Medicare shortfall do not count as community benefits under the Schedule H 990 but are still reportable outside the community benefit table.

*** Hospital provider fee was reported as offsetting revenue from Medi-Cal.

Scripps Memorial Hospital Encinitas

2024 Community Benefit Plan, Fiscal Year 2024

The previous section highlighted Scripps Hospital Encinitas accomplishments for Fiscal Year 2023. This section highlights the overall community benefit goals and objectives and the hospital's strategies to support community health during Fiscal Year 2024 (October 2023 to September 2024).

Fiscal Year 2024 Community Benefit Goals & Objectives

Scripps Encinitas programs will make an impact on the health status of the community through community health improvement programs, professional education, and health research.

Community Health Improvement Services

Access to Care (Community Outreach)

- Continue to coordinate quarterly blood drives in collaboration with the American Red Cross at Scripps Encinitas.
- Continue to offer a bereavement support group that meets twice a month, facilitated by a licensed professional, and is accessible to the community at no cost.
- Continue to offer a diverse range of community classes, including Restorative Yoga & Sound Healing and Men's Pelvic Floor Health & Wellness.

Aging Care and Support

- Continue to offer the Standing Strong Fall Prevention Workshops to help seniors reduce the risk of falls through assessments and education. Enhance the effectiveness of fall risk assessments and education provided during the workshops, ensuring seniors gain practical skills and knowledge to reduce fall risks in their daily lives. Collaborate with local senior centers, community organizations, and healthcare providers to promote and host these workshops, expanding their availability and accessibility.
- Provide educational sessions in partnership with the Alzheimer's Association, enabling participants to learn about Alzheimer's, dementia, disease stages, risk factors, research, and treatments.

Cardiovascular Disease and Stroke

- Continue offering the Brain Masters Stroke and Brain Injury Survivors Group for survivors, caregivers, and loved ones, providing valuable information, resources, and support. Expand the reach and accessibility of this support group, ensuring that stroke and brain injury survivors, as well as their caregivers, can easily access its services. Continuously improve the content and format of the group's

sessions, focusing on providing practical self-care strategies, fostering peer relationships, and promoting a sense of purpose among participants.

- Continue to offer rehabilitation services with the Synergy Art Foundation Healing Arts Program, providing healing arts classes to individuals recovering from neurological issues. Foster a supportive and creative environment within the community through collaboration with local artists and healthcare professionals, making these classes a valuable resource for individuals on the path to recovery.

Diabetes Support Services

- Provide education and support to discharged patients with diabetes to reduce preventable hospital readmissions in collaboration with Scripps Hospitals.

Unintentional Injury and Violence

- Deliver safety education programs specifically designed for older adults, addressing their unique safety concerns and offering valuable insights and strategies for maintaining safety and well-being.

Professional Education and Health Research

- Continue supporting California State San Marcos and Palomar College nursing school programs by providing a supportive educational environment for their clinical nursing rotations.
- Provide clinical education experiences for health students studying physical therapy, occupational therapy, speech therapy, radiography, surgical technology, respiratory care, and clinical social work.
- Continue supporting the Young Leaders in Health Care program, which involves local high school students, by providing leadership mentoring, community impact projects, and a student-run competition.
 - Equip participating high school students with leadership skills that they can apply in their daily lives and future careers.
 - Encourage and guide students in the planning and execution of community impact projects, fostering a sense of civic responsibility and community engagement.
 - Organize a successful student-run competition that promotes teamwork, innovation, and effective communication skills among participating schools.
 - Promote the Scripps Health High School Exploration Internship as a valuable opportunity for program participants to further their healthcare careers.

Uncompensated Health Care

- Provide financial assistance through free and discounted care for health care services, consistent with the hospital's financial assistance policy, for persons who are uninsured or underinsured.
- Maintain, effectively communicate, and administer the Scripps financial assistance policy in a clear and accessible manner, ensuring that patients in need are aware of and can benefit from the policy.
- Continue efforts to ensure that emergency care and trauma center services are readily available to all individuals, regardless of their ability to pay, reaffirming the hospital's commitment to providing critical care during emergencies.



Section 9

Scripps Mercy Hospital

Scripps Mercy Hospital

About Scripps Mercy Hospital

Scripps Mercy Hospital consists of two campuses in San Diego and Chula Vista. The two hospital campuses (San Diego Campus and Chula Vista Campus) operate under a shared license and report all utilization and financial data as a single entity to the Department of Health Care Access and Information (HCAI). Together, these combined campuses provide health care services for 23 percent of the inpatient population residing within the hospital's service areas. Today, the two hospital campuses collectively have 655 licensed beds and employ over 4,612 employees.

Scripps Mercy is designated as a disproportionate share hospital, providing care to many patients who either lack health insurance or are covered through a government subsidy program. Within the Scripps Mercy combined service area, the two campuses care for 29 percent of Medicare patients, 24 percent of Medi-Cal patients, 12 percent of commercially insured patients, and 21 percent of patients with alternative payment sources, including self-pay, CMS, or charity care.

San Diego Campus

Scripps Mercy Hospital San Diego, serving central and downtown San Diego since 1890 with a long tradition of caring for the underserved, is also San Diego's only Catholic hospital. Located in Central San Diego County, Scripps Mercy San Diego has 482 licensed beds and employs 3,232 staff members. As a major teaching hospital, Scripps Mercy San Diego serves as a primary site for the clinical education of residents each year. Offering a comprehensive range of acute medical care services, including 24-hour emergency room services, intensive care, cancer care, cardiac treatment, behavioral health (mental health), endoscopy, neurology, nuclear medicine, orthopedics, radiology, urology, rehabilitation, respiratory care, outpatient physical rehabilitation, minimally invasive robotic surgery, and childbirth services (including a level II neonatal intensive care unit), plus a variety of support services for low-income patients. As one of six trauma centers Scripps Mercy San Diego makes up a critical part of the county's emergency service network.



Chula Vista Campus

Located less than 10 miles from the US-Mexico border, the Chula Vista campus of Scripps Mercy serves the cities of Chula Vista, Otay Mesa, National City, Imperial Beach, Bonita and beyond. Scripps Mercy Hospital Chula Vista has 173 licensed-care beds and employs 1,380 staff members. It became a Scripps Mercy Hospital campus in October 2004 and together with the Scripps Mercy Hospital in Hillcrest, provides care for San Diego's Metro and South Bay communities. Scripps Mercy Chula Vista provides a wide range of acute clinical care services including, but not limited to, 24-hour emergency room, cancer care, stroke care, obstetrics and gynecology, maternity ward (including a level II neonatal intensive care unit), rehabilitation (physical, occupational and speech therapies), cancer care services, inpatient and outpatient radiology, neurology, and a full range of surgical services (orthopedic, thoracic/vascular, urology and general surgery).



Scripps Mercy Hospital

2024 Community Benefit Report, Fiscal Year 2023

The Scripps Mercy Hospital Community Benefit Report is an account of the hospital’s dedication and commitment to improving the health of the community, detailing the programs that have provided benefit over and above standard health care practices in Fiscal Year 2023 (October 2022 to September 2023).

Community Benefit Contribution

During Fiscal Year 2023, Scripps Mercy Hospital (San Diego Campus, Chula Vista Campus) devoted **\$234,100,564** to community benefit activities, including uncompensated health care, community health improvement services, professional education and health research. The programs offered by Scripps Mercy emphasize community-based prevention efforts and use innovative approaches to reach residents at greatest risk for health problems.

Community Benefit Services Highlights

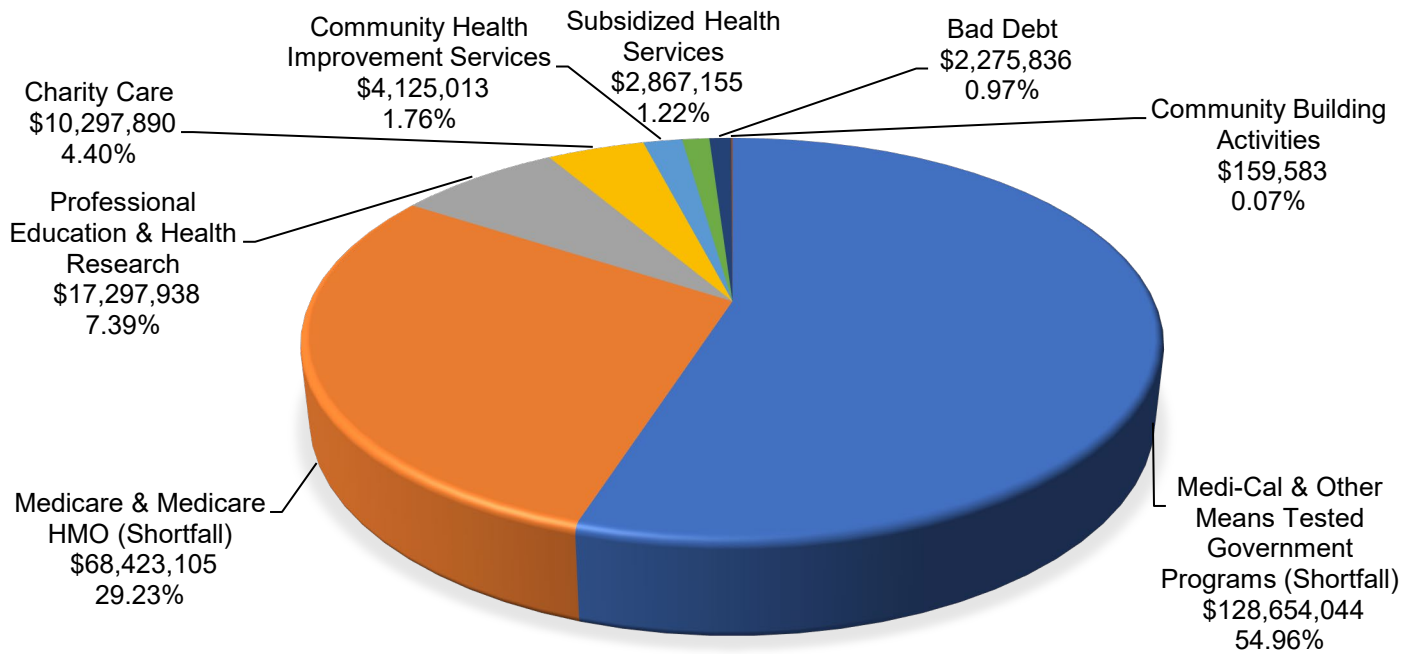
Community Benefit Services	
Bad Debt	\$2,275,836
Charity Care	\$10,297,890
Community Building Activities	\$159,583
Community Health Improvement Services	\$4,125,013
Medi-Cal & Other Means Tested Shortfall	\$128,654,044
Medicare & Medicare HMO Shortfall	\$68,423,105
Professional Education	\$16,839,906
Research	\$458,032
Subsidized Health Services	\$2,867,155
Total Community Benefit Financial Contribution	\$234,100,564

Refer to Figure 9.1 presented on the following page for a graphic representation of Fiscal Year 2023.

Figure 9.1

Fiscal Year 2023

Scripps Mercy Hospital³² Community Benefit Distribution, \$234,100,564



Community Benefit Services (provider fee impact)	Bad Debt	Charity Care	Medi-Cal ⁷ (Shortfall)	Medicare & Medicare HMO (Shortfall)	Community Health Improvement Services	Prof Ed & Health Research	Subsidized Health Services	Community Building Activities	Total
Before Provider Fee	\$2,275,836	\$10,297,890	\$137,336,870	\$68,423,105	\$4,125,013	\$17,297,938	\$2,867,155	\$159,583	\$242,783,390
Provider Fee			(\$8,682,827)						(\$8,682,827)
Net After Provider Fee	\$2,275,836	\$10,297,890	\$128,654,044	\$68,423,105	\$4,125,013	\$17,297,938	\$2,867,155	\$159,583	\$234,100,564

Community Benefit Services:

Community benefit services include those programs offered to the community that go above and beyond what is provided as a normal part of patient care. Scripps divides community benefit services into three categories, including uncompensated health care, community health improvement services and professional education and health research. Uncompensated care includes charity care, bad debt, and Medi-Cal and Medicare shortfalls. Subsidized health services are clinical programs that are provided despite a financial loss so significant that negative margins remain after removing the effect of charity care, bad debt, and Medi-Cal shortfalls. This includes Scripps inpatient behavioral health services.

Scripps Mercy Hospital San Diego

Community Benefit Services, Fiscal Year 2023

Community Health Improvement Services Highlights

Community health improvement services are activities conducted to improve community health, available to the public, which address a community need. These include prevention and wellness programs such as screenings, health education, support groups and health fairs which are supported by operational funds, grants, in-kind donations, and philanthropy. These programs are designed to raise public awareness and understanding of, and access to, identified community health needs.

During Fiscal Year 2023 (October 2022 to September 2023), Scripps Mercy Hospital programs (San Diego Campus and Chula Vista Campus) invested \$4,125,013 in Community Health Improvement Services. This figure encompasses the costs related to conducting community health improvement activities, covering expenses such as salaries, materials, and supplies, excluding billable revenue.

The following section outlines some of the notable achievements at Scripps Mercy Hospital San Diego Community Health Improvement Services for Fiscal Year 2023. For more comprehensive descriptions of these programs, please refer to Section 5.

Community Health Education

Definition: Community health education includes lectures, presentations, other group programs and activities, and development and dissemination of materials that focus on prevention and health behaviors. Education activities can be provided in multiple formats, including resources made available to communities through support groups and through initiatives with a self-help emphasis.

Standing Stronger Fall Prevention Workshop. Scripps Mercy Hospital San Diego held a fall prevention workshop during National Fall Prevention Awareness Week to address preventable falls among older adults. Community members received education, resources, and free risk assessments from Scripps experts.

Mental Health Outreach Services, A-Visions Vocational Training Program. The A-Visions Vocational Training Program, established on December 31, 2022, has witnessed significant growth and improvements in patient functioning. Among 638 patient inquiries, 167 actively participated, with 104 as volunteers and 54 as paid employees. Presently, the program employs 14 paid casual employees and has 1 volunteer. Recruitment is currently closed but Scripps continues to support the current A-Vision's participants.

The Special Supplement Nutrition Program for Women, Infants and Children (WIC). During Fiscal Year 2023, this program offered nutrition services, counseling, and food vouchers to support the health and well-being of 75,004 women and children residing in South and Central San Diego.

Grief and Bereavement Support Groups. Scripps Mercy offered free bereavement support groups free of charge designed for adults who are going through the process of dealing with loss. An average of eight to ten participants in a session.

Opioid Stewardship Program (OSP) and Medication Assisted Treatment (MAT). Spear-headed by Scripps Mercy San Diego, Scripps hospitals continued their dedication to treating patients with opioid use disorder using funding from the California Bridge Navigator Program. Scripps hospitals have collectively received over \$500K in grant funding from the California Bridge program, which supports emergency departments increasing access to medication-assisted treatment for opioid use disorders and co-occurring mental health conditions. This year's grant award is the fifth consecutive year Scripps Mercy San Diego has been funded. Mercy San Diego served 295 MAT Navigators and prescribed 568 buprenorphine prescriptions in FY23. There were 982 opioid use disorder diagnoses and 457 opioid overdose diagnoses in the ED and among admitted patients.

Drug Take-Back Kiosks are available adjacent to the on-site ambulatory pharmacy at Scripps Mercy. Scripps offers year-round access to safe, free disposal of unused and outdated prescription medications. This program helped reduce the use of opioids and helped prevent patients from becoming dependent on these useful but potent pain reducing medications.

Trauma Education Programs. Scripps Mercy San Diego offers trauma education programs to enhance injury prevention and treatment. These outreach initiatives educate the community on various topics like elderly falls, concussions, sports injuries, distracted driving, and more.

Community-Based Clinical Services

Definition: These are clinical services provided on a periodic basis or as special events in the community. They include screenings, one-time or occasionally held clinics, clinics for underinsured and uninsured persons and mobile units.

The Mercy Outreach Surgical Team (MOST). Scripps Mercy Outreach Surgical Team (MOST) conducted three missions in 2023:

- In November, they performed 77 eye surgeries and distributed 33 pairs of eyeglasses in Mexicali.
- In April, they conducted 133 eye surgeries and 65 plastic surgeries in Tulancingo, also providing glasses.
- In August, they performed 53 surgeries, mainly on children, and distributed over 50 pairs of glasses in Ensenada.

Overall, physicians dedicated 303 volunteer hours, while staff contributed 144 hours paid by MOST. A total of 482 individuals received care during these missions.

American Red Cross Blood Drives. Scripps Mercy coordinated blood drives with the American Red Cross, allowing community members and hospital staff to donate blood for critical and lifesaving purposes, demonstrating a commitment to community healthcare needs and addressing the demand for blood donations. There were 46 units of blood collected from 54 registered participants.

Flu Vaccines for Shelter Residents. Scripps Mercy San Diego medical residents administered flu vaccines to 50 shelter residents from the Salvation Army, San Diego Rescue Mission and Rachel's Promise Homeless Shelter programs. These flu vaccines were generously donated to Scripps Mercy Hospital by the San Diego American Indian Health Center.

Health Care Support Services

Definition: Health care and social support services are provided by the hospital to enhance access to and quality of health care services for vulnerable populations, especially persons living in poverty.

340 B Program. Scripps Mercy San Diego and Chula Vista achieved a combined savings of \$36.2 million dollars through the 340 B drug pricing program.

Outpatient Behavioral Health Services: Scripps Mercy & Family Health Centers of San Diego

Behavioral Health Partnership. In FY23, Scripps Behavioral Health partnered with Family Health Centers (FHC) to improve patient discharge and reduce psychiatric patient readmissions. A total of 90 appointments were kept, with 9 patients readmitted within 30 days, while 81 were not. There were 167 missed appointments, with 27 patients responsible for these no-shows. This collaboration aimed to enhance patient care and reduce psychiatric patient recidivism.

The City of Refuge (CoR) San Diego Recuperative Care Unit Program (RCU). The RCU patients had a cumulative of 432 hospital days of stay, an average of 10 hospital days of stay, before going to RCU.

Transitions of Care Program (ToC). In partnership with Family Health Centers, Scripps Transitions of Care Program follows up with high-risk post-discharge patients. Among 47 patients who attended appointments, 6 were readmitted within 30 days, while 41 were not. Among 91 patients who missed appointments, 15 were readmitted within 30 days, while 76 were not. The readmission rate for kept appointments was 13%, slightly higher at around 16% for non-kept appointments.

Scripps Advanced Care Clinic generated a 32% reduction in emergency department visits, 46% reduction in hospitalizations, and 47% reduction in readmissions for its enrolled patients.

The Psychiatric Liaison Team (PLT). The Psychiatric Liaison Team covers four emergency departments, two urgent care locations, and all inpatient medical floors. In FY23, there were 51,493 PLT encounters.

Scripps Substance Use Disorder Service (SUDS) Nurses. Scripps utilizes specialized SUDS nurses who had 4,438 encounters in FY23, assisting 138 patients with placements to McAlister, considering bed availability during COVID lockdowns. The Hazelden Betty Ford Foundation had 69 Scripps referrals and 19 admissions from the referrals.

Family Health Centers of San Diego. Scripps Mercy continued collaboration with the Family Health Centers of San Diego to expedite patient discharges and reduce recidivism of psychiatric inpatients or patients waiting in the emergency department.

In- Lieu of Funds. One way Scripps Mercy provides care to some of our most needy patients is through In-Lieu of Funds. In FY23, Scripps Mercy San Diego provided \$3,072,573 In-Lieu of Funds. These funds are used for unfunded or under-funded patients and their post-discharge needs. Funds are used for board and care, skilled nursing facilities, long term care acute care and home health. In addition, funds are also used for medications, equipment, and transportation services.

Social and Environmental Improvement Activities

Definition: These are programs and activities that improve the health of persons in the community by addressing social and environmental determinants that impact health. They include programs that address social and community factors, poverty and economic stability, education, and neighborhood and the built environment.

Father Joe's Villages Street Health Intervention Project. Scripps Mercy Hospital collaborated with Father Joe's Villages Street Health Intervention Project to offer follow-up visits to discharged unsheltered patients. As of March 2022, there were 25 referrals, with 13 successfully reached, supporting vulnerable individuals in their communities.

Scripps Health Injury Prevention Community Outreach. Scripps Mercy San Diego Health Injury Prevention Community Outreach actively participated in numerous health and safety coalition groups and task forces coordinated by the county's health and human services agency, contributing a total of 355 hours to these efforts.

Cash and In-Kind Contributions

Definition: Funds and in-kind services donated to community groups and nonprofit organizations.

Scripps sponsored the **Spirit of the Barrio** event hosted by Family Health Centers of San Diego, an annual tradition since 1986. The event aims to raise awareness about providing healthcare services to underserved communities, featuring guest speakers and diverse themes, alongside tamales for guests to enjoy.

The Consumer Center for Health Education and Advocacy (CCEA) project team received 274 referrals, and 13% progressed into cases. During this period, they assisted 52 patients, including 35 new referrals. Of these, 16 received health benefits, 15 received brief services, 2 received financial assistance from Scripps, and 3 have pending cases.

Scripps Mercy sponsored **La Maestra Casino Night**, an annual fundraiser aimed at supporting La Maestra Community Health Center and its valuable services.

Subsidized Health Services

Definition: Subsidized health services are clinical programs that are provided despite a financial loss so significant that negative margins remain after removing the effects of charity care, bad debt and Medi-Cal shortfalls. Nevertheless, the service is provided because it meets an identified community need, which if no longer offered would either be unavailable in the area or fall to government or another not-for-profit organization. Subsidized services do not include ancillary services that support care lines, such as lab and radiology (if these services are provided to low-income persons, they are reported as charity care/financial assistance).

The Scripps Mercy Behavioral Health Program. The program is dedicated to supporting community initiatives aimed at reducing the stigma surrounding mental illness and aiding affected individuals in leading productive lives within the community. In Fiscal Year 2023, subsidized health services at Scripps Mercy amounted to a total expense of \$2,867,155 encompassing Scripps Inpatient Behavioral Health. Scripps provides inpatient adult behavioral health services at its Scripps Mercy Hospital, San Diego campus.

Community Building Activities

Definition: Activities that support community assets by offering the expertise and resources of the hospital organization. These activities may address the root causes of health problems or the determinants of health, such as education, homelessness, poverty, and the environment.

Physical Improvements/Housing

Scripps organized a **leadership retreat** that offered leaders the opportunity to contribute to community service initiatives by painting, cleaning, and improving facilities operated by not-for-profit homeless service providers. These projects were conducted in collaboration with organizations such as Catholic Charities, St. Vincent de Paul, and the Joan Kroc Center.

Economic Development

Scripps Mercy San Diego participated on various community boards and business organizations, including the San Diego Downtown Partnership, San Diego Regional Task Force on Homelessness, Hillcrest Business Association (HBA) in support of advocating for Scripps Mercy's mission in the community.

Community Support

Scripps Mercy Hospital employees generously donated toys valued at an estimated \$400 for the **La Maestra Community Health Center's patient toy drive**³³.

Scripps Mercy Hospital conducted a **clothing drive to support homeless women through Catholic Charities**. The drive collected work attire, valued at around \$500³⁴ for women in a job placement program, helping them secure positions in the hospitality industry.

Community Benefit Operations

Definition: direct and indirect costs associated with assigned staff, community health needs assessments, community benefit planning, tracking, reporting, evaluating and operations.

Scripps counts staff costs for managing or overseeing community benefit program activities that are not included in other categories of community benefit.

Fostering Volunteerism

In addition to the financial community benefit contributions made during Fiscal Year 2023, Scripps Mercy Hospital employees and affiliated physicians donated a sizable portion of their personal time volunteering to support Scripps-sponsored community benefit programs and services. With close to 7,258 hours volunteer time, it is estimated that the dollar value associated with this volunteer labor is \$453,340²⁹.

Professional Education Highlights

Quality health care is highly dependent upon health education systems and medical research programs. Without the ability to train and inspire a new generation of health care providers, or to offer continuing education to existing health care professionals, the quality of health care would be greatly diminished. Medical research also plays a vital role in improving the community's overall health by developing new and innovative treatments.

Each year, Scripps Mercy Hospital (San Diego Campus and Chula Vista Campus) advances health care services through professional education programs and research and provides a wide array of educational and training support to its affiliated physicians, nurses, and other care givers, as well as the community at large. To enhance service delivery and treatment practices for San Diego County, Scripps Mercy Hospital invested \$16,839,906³⁰ in professional education programs during Fiscal Year 2023 (October 2022 to September 2023). The section below highlights the activities for Scripps Mercy Hospital San Diego Campus.

Health Professions Education

Definition: This category includes educational programs for physicians, interns and residents, medical students, nurses and nursing students, pastoral care trainees and other health professionals when that education is necessary to retain state license or certification by a board in the individual's health profession specialty.

Physician and Medical Students

- Scripps Mercy Trauma is a leader in Graduate Medical Education (GME), offering exceptional training opportunities to various residency and fellowship programs across San Diego. Residents and fellows have the chance to expand their skills through hands-on experience and receive valuable mentorship from attending physicians, contributing to their professional growth and development.
- In FY 2023, Scripps Mercy Hospital provided trauma education to 94 residents in its Graduate Medical Education program, including four full-time general surgery residents involved in trauma research. This reflects the hospital's dedication to education and research in trauma care.
- The residency program at Naval Medical Center San Diego (NMCS D) has been integrated with Scripps Mercy Trauma for over 30 years. General surgery residents from NMCS D completed rotations in trauma at Scripps Mercy Hospital.
- Scripps Mercy Hospital further extends its commitment to medical education by providing valuable clinical rotations for residents from Kaiser Permanente San Diego's emergency medicine program and pediatric emergency medicine fellows from Rady Children's Hospital. These rotations in trauma offer these medical professionals a unique opportunity to enhance their skills and knowledge in the field of trauma care.

Pharmacy

- The 2023 Cal Hospital Compare Opioid Honor Roll awarded Scripps hospitals superior performance. The goal of the program is increased access to addiction treatment for hospitalized patients and reduction of opioid-related deaths.
- Scripps Mercy Pharmacy residents focused on research that assisted across the breadth of stewardship initiatives – opioid, anticoagulation, antibiotic and fiscal.
- Scripps pharmacists served as preceptors, mentoring 14 pharmacy students during 54 weeks of hands-on experience, contributing to the development of the next generation of pharmacists.
- Scripps pharmacists served as preceptors for 9 pharmacy residents over a total of 344 weeks, offering comprehensive education in clinical pharmacy, research, and patient care. This commitment underscores Scripps dedication to developing highly skilled pharmacy professionals and advancing the field of pharmacy.

Nursing Education

- Scripps Mercy San Diego provided preceptorships for 292 nursing students in clinical and leadership experiences in all clinic areas for a total of 34,524 preceptorship hours. Under this model, students work on a one-to-one basis with a staff nurse, nurse manager, advance practice nurse, and/or nurse educator. Preceptorships do involve a one-to-one assignment with a nurse and include approximately 100-180 hours of supervision per preceptorship.

Medical Student Training

- Scripps offers clinical rotations for medical students. All rotations are four weeks in duration and provide medical students with an opportunity to work as an active member of the medical team, attending teaching rounds and conferences, taking patient histories, and assisting with various procedures.
- Created a new rotation for house staff in Underserved Medicine through partnerships with rural physician, asylum care provider, Rachel's house, Father Joe's Clinic, and San Diego Rescue Mission.
- Continued volunteer work with local schools and foraged new partnerships to volunteer with San Diego Refugee Tutoring.

Other Health Professions Education

- Scripps Mercy Hospital San Diego supported clinical instruction and practice affiliations for 81 allied health (non-nursing students) with a total of 23,461 preceptorship hours. These students collectively completed a remarkable total of preceptorship hours, gaining invaluable hands-on experience and mentorship in various allied health fields. This accomplishment underscores Scripps Mercy Hospital commitment to advancing healthcare education and fostering the development of future allied health professionals.

- Scripps participated in the 2022 San Diego Day of Trauma event, focusing on "Humanitarian Crisis, Natural Disasters, and a Global Pandemic: The Trauma Team Response." The conference featured notable speakers from pre-hospital care, trauma surgery, and critical care, sharing valuable insights from these crises.

Health Research Highlights

Definition: research is the study or investigation to generate generalizable knowledge made available to the public. Research includes the communication of findings and observations, including publication in a journal. Internally funded research and research funded by tax-exempt, or government entities are eligible for reporting.

Scripps Mercy Hospital invested \$458,032 in health research during Fiscal Year 2023 (October 2022 to September 2023). See Section 6 for a detail of Scripps research programs.

The Mercy Trauma Research team conducted various projects, including research on firearm assaults during COVID-19 lockdowns, the impact of raising the US-Mexico border wall, civilian ballistic facial trauma reconstruction, the financial vulnerability of trauma centers, validation of a miniaturized arterial pressure monitor for resuscitation, pediatric penetrating thoracic trauma, analysis of 5-year mortality following lower extremity amputation due to vascular disease, blunt thoracic aortic injury, and pediatric car safety compliance in motor vehicle collisions. The team collaborates with civilian and military hospital networks nationwide, supports Navy residency research, and offers trauma research internships for Master of Public Health students. [Scripps Mercy Trauma](#).

Scripps Mercy Hospital Chula Vista

Community Benefit Services, Fiscal Year 2023

Community Health Improvement Services Highlights

Community health improvement services are activities conducted to improve community health, available to the public, which address a community need. These include prevention and wellness programs such as screenings, health education, support groups and health fairs which are supported by operational funds, grants, in-kind donations, and philanthropy. These programs are designed to raise public awareness and understanding of, and access to, identified community health needs. The section below highlights some of Scripps Mercy Hospital, Chula Vista Fiscal Year 2023 achievements. For more comprehensive descriptions of these programs, please refer to Section 5.

Community Health Education

Definition: Community health education includes lectures, presentations, other group programs and activities, and development and dissemination of materials that focus on prevention and health behaviors. Education activities can be provided in multiple formats, including resources made available to communities through support groups and through initiatives with a self-help emphasis.

Scripps Mercy Chula Vista's Well-Being Center. Scripps Mercy Hospital Chula Vista Well-Being Center supports the community by providing critical prevention and wellness programs for patients and community members through an array of health promotion, disease prevention, educational programs, and support groups. The Center aims to increase accessibility and education for disadvantaged and medically underserved residents, free of charge in both English and Spanish. In FY 2023, a total of 7,613 individuals have been provided community education and support.

Helping Address Breast Health and Awareness. A total of 250 outreach and cancer education services were provided. There were over 150 women who participated in the bi-monthly support group. The group's cohesiveness not only has created a space for the women but has evolved into life-long friendships and support beyond the group sessions.

Promotoras in Action Prevention, Education and Wellness. Scripps Mercy Chula Vista conducted monthly educational sessions for local Promotoras (Community Health Workers) on various health and wellness topics, including mental health, chronic disease management, and prevention and wellness with over 300 attendees.

Senior Health Education, Prevention & Wellness Programs. Scripps Mercy Chula Vista implemented senior health education programs at community senior locations, covering topics like heart health, nutrition,

fall prevention, and mental health. Over 450 seniors from various locations participated annually, with a 22% increase in knowledge observed through pre- and post-program data.

Maternal and Child Health. Scripps Mercy Chula Vista Perinatology collaborated with Scripps Family Medicine Residency to improve education and training. They also continued their partnership with San Ysidro Medical Center to provide perinatology services in Chula Vista.

Stroke Transitional Care Program and Brain Injury Support Group at Scripps Mercy Hospital Chula Vista Well Being Center. Scripps offers stroke and brain injury support groups for survivors, caregivers and loved ones at the Scripps Mercy Hospital Chula Vista Well Being Center. Scripps conducted bi-monthly support groups and educational sessions in both Spanish and English, benefiting numerous individuals and families recovering from stroke and brain-related illnesses. The program had active participation, with more than 100 individuals benefitting from these group sessions. Additionally, Scripps initiated outreach and follow-up calls for stroke and TIA patients, providing guidance and support in navigating the healthcare system, which has assisted a significant number of patients in addressing their social service needs and emotional well-being. To date, 194 stroke patients have received assistance through this program.

Scripps Health Stroke Program Community Outreach. A Scripps Health Stroke Team member delivered a Spanish presentation on "Stroke and Depression" at the Scripps Chula Vista Wellness Center, with an audience of 10 participants on August 14, 2023. The Scripps Health Stroke Team conducted Stroke Risk Assessments at two open house events (Imperial Beach Firehouse Open House/Coronado Firehouse Open House) in October 2022, screening 60 community members for stroke risk factors and providing education on BE FAST stroke recognition and the importance of calling 911 for stroke symptoms.

Mamma's Kitchen/Management of Congestive Heart Failure Patients. Scripps collaborates with Mama's Kitchen to offer medically tailored meals and provide medical nutrition therapy and education to patients with various health conditions, especially congestive heart failure patients in San Diego County. The partnership has enrolled over 34 individuals in the Mama's Kitchen-Scripps Pilot Study to assess the impact of tailored meals on readmission rates and overall quality of life.

Live Fit Su Vida, Su Corazon: Healthy Living Program. Scripps Mercy Chula Vista has an education-based community intervention program to raise awareness and prevent heart disease. The program has reached 245 individuals through three-week series, resulting in improved weight, blood pressure, and knowledge levels before and after participation.

Opioid Stewardship Program (OSP) and Medication Assisted (MAT). The Opioid Stewardship Program (OSP) and Medication Assisted Treatment (MAT) at Scripps Mercy Chula Vista served 180 MAT Navigators and prescribed 682 buprenorphine prescriptions in FY23. There were 1,014 opioid use disorder diagnoses and 208 opioid overdose diagnoses in the ED and among admitted patients.

Health Care Support Services

Definition: Health care and social support services are provided by the hospital to enhance access to and quality of health care services for vulnerable populations, especially persons living in poverty.

Centering Pregnancy- Scripps Family Medicine Residency. Scripps Family Medicine Residency initiated the "Healthy Women, Healthy Babies" program, aimed at improving perinatal care for underserved Latina women, benefitting 400 pregnant women in Southern San Diego County.

Helping Patients Navigate Post Discharge Services and Support. The "Helping Patients Navigate Post Discharge Services and Support" program ensures continuity of care after discharge. Of the 1,092 patients referred for services, 671 accepted services³⁵. The program achieved a 73% follow-up appointment scheduling rate, 96% medication compliance, and a 3% hospital readmission rate (source: caregiver, Epic). Additionally, over 320 patients were screened for Social Determinants of Health (SDOH) and connected to housing, food, and transportation resources, with over 200 supportive services/community resources provided.

Improving Health Education and Awareness for Parents. Scripps Mercy Chula Vista collaborated with Grossmont College to offer parenting education classes, enhancing health and education awareness for parents. In total, 161 parents participated in twenty-two educational sessions offered in English and Spanish.

Social and Environmental Improvement Activities

Definition: These are programs and activities that improve the health of persons in the community by addressing social and environmental determinants that impact health. They include programs that address social and community factors, poverty and economic stability, education, and neighborhood and the built environment.

Scripps took part in the **Chula Vista Community Collaborative (CVCC)**, a monthly gathering of over 150 local organizations focused on improving resident health, safety, economic resources, leadership empowerment, environmental quality, and cultural diversity in the community.

Scripps participated in the **South County Action Network (SOCAN)**, a collaborative network of individuals and service providers dedicated to advocating for and enhancing services for older adults and adults with disabilities in the South County region. There are over 75 network partners.

Cash and In-Kind Contributions

Definition: Funds and in-kind services donated to community groups and nonprofit organizations.

San Ysidro Health Center. Scripps sponsored a celebratory lunch in recognition of the invaluable health and social services provided by the San Ysidro Health Center. These services extend across a network of clinics and programs, reaching underserved populations in the rural Mountain Empire and East County regions.

Community Building Activities

Definition: Activities that support community assets by offering the expertise and resources of the hospital organization. These activities may address the root causes of health problems or the determinants of health, such as education, homelessness, poverty and the environment.

Economic Development

Scripps took part in the **Chula Vista Community Collaborative (CVCC)**, a monthly gathering of over 150 local organizations focused on improving resident health, safety, economic resources, leadership empowerment, environmental quality, and cultural diversity in the community.

Scripps participated in the **South County Action Network (SOCAN)**, a collaborative network of individuals and service providers dedicated to advocating for and enhancing services for older adults and adults with disabilities in the South County region. There are over 75 network partners.

Community Support

Scripps took part in **Advisory Board Participation and Coalition Building Meetings**, where over 700 individuals actively engage in these local advisory and coalition gatherings. These collaborative efforts aim to address various community needs and concerns.

To build relationships with the **local Police Departments** Scripps Mercy Chula Vista hosted **two “coffee with a cop” sessions with the Chula Vista Police Department.** Mercy SD initially met with the Police Chief liaison and the Assistant Police Chief with the next steps to host a San Diego Police Department “coffee with a cop.”

Workforce Development

Scripps School to Health Career Pathway Program introduced a diverse array of youth into health professions activities, benefiting a total of 1,900+ young individuals. These activities encompass mentoring programs, classroom presentations by health professionals, surgical observations, participation in the Cristo Rey Work Study Program, and involvement in the Scripps Health Careers Opportunity Camp.

Community Benefit Operations

Definition: direct and indirect costs associated with assigned staff, community health needs assessments, community benefit planning, tracking, reporting, evaluating and operations.

Scripps counts staff costs for managing or overseeing community benefit program activities that are not included in other categories of community benefit.

Professional Education Highlights

Quality health care is highly dependent upon health education systems and medical research programs. Without the ability to train and inspire a new generation of health care providers, or to offer continuing education to existing health care professionals, the quality of health care would be diminished.

Each year, Scripps Mercy Hospital, Chula Vista allocates resources to advance health care services through professional health education programs. This section highlights some Scripps Mercy Hospital, Chula Vista professional education activities in Fiscal Year 2023.

Health Professions Education

Definition: This category includes educational programs for physicians, interns and residents, medical students, nurses and nursing students, pastoral care trainees and other health professionals when that education is necessary to retain state license or certification by a board in the individual's health profession specialty.

Physician and Medical Students

- Through Health Resource Service Administration (HRSA) funding, the Scripps Family Medicine Residency Program expanded its training in Obstetrics and Maternal Child Health to include rural medicine and other diverse areas. This initiative enhances healthcare education and services in underserved regions.
- Scripps Family Medicine Residency and Scripps Mercy Hospital Chula Vista Well-Being Center partner with San Diego State University to provide clinical training for Master of Social Work (MSW) students. These students work in local high schools to support vulnerable adolescents' mental health needs.

Nursing Education

- Scripps Mercy Chula Vista provided preceptorships for 79 nursing students in clinical and leadership experiences in all clinic areas for a total of 7,579 preceptorship hours. Under this model, students work on a one-to-one basis with a staff nurse, nurse manager, advance practice nurse, and/or nurse

educator. Preceptorships do involve a one-to-one assignment with a nurse and include approximately 100-180 hours of supervision per preceptorship.

Medical Student Training

- The Scripps Family Medicine Program offered both outpatient and inpatient training opportunities for medical students seeking to acquire firsthand experience in a family medicine setting tailored to the underserved Latino population residing in the San Diego border region. This program maintains a strong connection with the University of California, San Diego Family Medicine program.

Other Health Professions Education

- Scripps Mercy Chula Vista Hospital supported clinical instruction and practice affiliations for 100 allied health (non-nursing students) with a total of 25,185 preceptorship hours. These students collectively completed a remarkable total of preceptorship hours, gaining invaluable hands-on experience and mentorship in various allied health fields. This accomplishment underscores Scripps Mercy Chula Vista Hospital commitment to advancing healthcare education and fostering the development of future allied health professionals.
- A total of 15 Public Health and Social Work students completed hours for the Community Health Internship at Scripps Mercy Hospital Chula Vista Well-Being Center. Notably 10 students completed the Scripps/San Diego Border Area Health Education Center Scholars program.

Health Research Highlights

Definition: research is the study or investigation to generate generalizable knowledge made available to the public. Research includes the communication of findings and observations, including publication in a journal. Internally funded research and research funded by tax-exempt, or government entities are eligible for reporting.

See Section 6, Professional Education and Research Section for a detail of Scripps research programs.

FY23 Scripps Mercy Hospital Community Benefit Services Summary List

Uncompensated Care

Community Benefit Categories	Person Served	Staff Hours	Volunteer Hours	Financial Support*
Bad Debt**	-	-	-	\$2,275,836
Charity Care	-	-	-	\$10,297,890
Medi-Cal and Other Means Tested Government Programs (Shortfall)***	-	-	-	\$128,654,044
Medicare and Medicare HMO (Shortfall)**	-	-	-	\$68,423,105
Total FY 2023 Uncompensated Care	-	-	-	\$209,650,875

Community Health Improvement Services

Community Benefit Categories	Person Served	Staff Hours	Volunteer Hours	Financial Support*
Community Health Education	83,320	33,616	78	\$409,436
Community-Based Clinical Services	640	1,662	295	\$29,351
Health Care Support Services	3,535	475	-	\$3,096,855
Social & Environmental Activities	555	1,693	-	\$62,372
Totals FY 2023 Community Health Improvement Services	88,050	37,446	373	\$3,598,014

Professional Education

Community Benefit Categories	Person Served	Staff Hours	Volunteer Hours	Financial Support*
Physicians/Medical Students	-	285,083	-	\$13,595,370
Nurses/Nursing Students/Allied Health	552	27,225	-	\$2,517,689
Other Health Professions Education	1,824	3,091	6,807	\$726,847
Totals FY 2023 Professional Education	2,376	315,399	6,807	\$16,839,906

Subsidized Health Services

Community Benefit Categories	Person Served	Staff Hours	Volunteer Hours	Financial Support*
Totals FY 2023 Subsidized Health Services	-	-	-	\$2,867,155

Health Research

Community Benefit Categories	Person Served	Staff Hours	Volunteer Hours	Financial Support*
Clinical Research	-	3,228	-	\$210,673
Community Health Research	2,520	1,031	-	\$247,359
Totals FY 2023 Health Research	2,520	4,259	-	\$458,032

Cash, Grants, and In-Kind Contributions

Community Benefit Categories	Person Served	Staff Hours	Volunteer Hours	Financial Support*
Cash Donations	-	-	-	\$311,000
Grants	-	-	-	\$216,000
Totals FY 2023 Cash and In-Kind Contributions	-	-	-	\$527,000

Community Building Activities**

Community Benefit Categories	Person Served	Staff Hours	Volunteer Hours	Financial Support*
Workforce Development**	1,503	3,466	-	\$159,583
Total FY 2023 Community Building Activities	1,503	3,466	-	\$159,583

Totals FY 2023 Scripps Mercy Hospital (San Diego and Chula Vista Campuses)	94,449	360,570	7,180	\$234,100,564
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* "Financial Support" reflects the cost (labor, supplies, overhead, etc.) associated with the program/service less direct revenue. This figure does not include a calculation for physician and staff volunteer hours. In some instances, an entire community benefit program cost center has been divided between several initiatives.

**Community building activities, bad debt and Medicare shortfall do not count as community benefits under the Schedule H 990 but are still reportable outside the community benefit table.

*** Hospital provider fee was reported as offsetting revenue from Medi-Cal.

Scripps Mercy Hospital San Diego Campus

2024 Community Benefit Plan, Fiscal Year 2024

The previous section highlighted Scripps Mercy Hospital accomplishments for Fiscal Year 2023. This section highlights the overall community benefit goals and objectives and the hospital's strategies to support community health during Fiscal Year 2024 (October 2023 to September 2024).

Fiscal Year 2024 Community Benefit Goals & Objectives

Scripps Mercy San Diego programs will make an impact on the health status of the community through community health improvement programs, professional education and health research.

Community Health Improvement Services

Access to Care (Community Outreach)

- Through volunteer efforts, the Mercy Outreach Surgical Team (MOST) will continue to offer surgical care to children in need in Mexico. The team aims to conduct at least two week-long mission trips and one weekend mission trip in the upcoming year. MOST plans to revisit Tulancingo in the spring of 2024, recognizing the significant demand for surgical interventions in the area.
- Serve a substantial number of eligible individuals, improving their nutritional intake and promoting healthy growth among infants and children. Increase postpartum and parenting women's engagement in breastfeeding through lactation education and support services.
- Offer safe discharge for chronically homeless patients with ongoing medical needs, facilitating access to community resources and monitoring their recovery progress.
- Through the City of Refuge (CoR) San Diego Recuperative Care Unit Program will ensure successful transitions for homeless patients from the hospital to the recuperative care unit, enabling them to receive necessary medical care and support in a stable environment.
- Scripps aims to become an Enhanced Case Management (ECM) Provider for Managed Medi-Cal (MMC) members with frequent ER visits or hospitalizations.
- Scripps Mercy, Family Health Center of San Diego and San Diego Rescue Mission (SDRM) will develop a partnership to provide shelter and case management services to eligible women who are patients of Scripps Mercy Hospital and seeking housing upon hospital discharge.
- Assist eligible Scripps Mercy patients with mental health and substance use concerns by connecting them to emergency shelter services and ongoing support, improving their overall well-being.

Behavioral Health

- Continue to provide supportive employment and vocational training for people receiving mental health treatment.
- Through a contract with the McAlister Institute, Scripps will provide safe detox for up to five patients per week with Case Management from the Scripps Drug and Alcohol Resource Nurses to help them into community-based programs.
- Continue to educate the community on mental illness to reduce stigma and expand resources for the mentally ill.
- Continue collaboration with the Family Health Centers of San Diego (FHCS) and Scripps Behavioral Health to expedite patient discharges and reduce recidivism of psychiatric inpatients.
- Continue to partner with FHCS to create a more robust behavioral health care system for Medi-Cal patients that receive care at Scripps Mercy Hospital.
- Strengthen the continuum of integrated primary and mental health services for patients discharged from various hospital settings (medical and behavioral health inpatient and emergency care) through a variety of timely patient engagement strategies including the expansion of community-based behavioral health services adjacent to the hospital.
- Involve patients in appropriate outpatient care before their behavioral health issues become acute, preventing returns to the Emergency Department.
- The Psychiatric Liaison Team will continue to provide psychosocial evaluations at all Scripps Hospitals Emergency Departments and Urgent Care settings.

Economic Stability

- Reduce the rate of food insecurity & provide nutrition education and counseling, breastfeeding education support and food vouchers to underserved pregnant and parenting women and children 0-5 years through the WIC program.

Injury Prevention

- Scripps will maintain evidence-based health education programs and injury prevention campaigns in San Diego County. These include "Bingocize," combining exercise, nutrition, and falls prevention in bingo, and "STOP THE BLEED," teaching life-saving bleeding control skills.

Professional Education and Health Research

- Provide clinical education experiences for health students studying physical therapy, occupational therapy, speech therapy, radiography, surgical technology, respiratory care, and clinical social work.
- Medical students will continue to have an optional rotation in Internal Medicine focused on serving vulnerable populations. The goals include understanding healthcare disparities, participating in underserved patient care, and learning about community resources for underserved care in San Diego.
- Scripps has committed to host the acute inpatient psychiatry resident rotation program in collaboration with Family Health Center of San Diego and Acadia Healthcare to address shortage of psychiatrists and improve behavioral health program quality and enhance community collaboration. The Residency Program has been set to recruit 6 Psychiatry residents for the PGY-1 Class starting July 1, 2024.
- Scripps Mercy Hospital in San Diego will continue to serve as a medical education training site for various programs, including internal medicine, podiatry, palliative care, medical students, trauma and surgical critical care, trauma research, military physicians assistants-in-training, family medicine, Kaiser Emergency Medicine residents, UCSD Psychiatry interns, Navy Transitional Year interns, and San Ysidro Health Centers Internal Medicine Residency Program. The hospital provides comprehensive graduate medical education and training for multiple residents and fellows across these programs.

Uncompensated Health Care

- Provide financial assistance through free and discounted care for health care services, consistent with the hospital's financial assistance policy, for persons who are uninsured or underinsured.
- Maintain, effectively communicate, and administer the Scripps financial assistance policy in a clear and accessible manner, ensuring that patients in need are aware of and can benefit from the policy.
- Ensure that emergency care and trauma center services are readily available to all individuals, regardless of their ability to pay, reaffirming the hospital's commitment to providing critical care during emergencies.

Scripps Mercy Hospital Chula Vista

2024 Community Benefit Plan, Fiscal Year 2024

The previous section highlighted Scripps Mercy Hospital Chula Vista accomplishments for Fiscal Year 2023. This section highlights the overall community benefit goals and objectives and the hospital's strategies to support community health during Fiscal Year 2024 (October 2023 to September 2024).

Fiscal Year 2024 Community Benefit Goals & Objectives

Scripps Mercy Chula Vista programs will make an impact on the health status of the community through community health improvement programs, professional education and health research.

Community Health Improvement Services

Access to Care (Community Outreach)

- Enhance healthcare outcomes for high-risk underfunded patients and community members by facilitating referrals and connection to other essential services within the community.
- Enhance access to culturally and linguistically appropriate healthcare resources and supportive programs.
- Scripps Mercy Hospital Chula Vista Well Being Center (SMHCV WB Center)
 - Continue healthcare access and support for patient's post-discharge.
 - Provide preventive health education.
 - Offer health careers training in community medicine.
 - Engage a total of 6,500 participants through support groups, classes, and other programs.
- The Promotoras in Action: Prevention, Education and Wellness Program will serve 300 participants.
- The Helping Patients Navigate Services and Support Post-Discharge Program aims to facilitate 800 services and referrals, benefiting a total of 1,000 patients through navigation assistance.
- Improving Health and Education Awareness for Parents will serve 200 parents with education.

Aging Care and Support

- Conduct educational sessions at local senior centers, churches, and senior housing facilities.
- Actively engage and benefit more than 500 seniors by providing opportunities for social interaction, knowledge sharing, and health enhancement.

Behavioral Health

- Enhance mental health education, prevention and wellness to local high school and college students.
- Provide support services to middle, high school, and college students, offering informative mental health education, confidential resources, and valuable tools.
- Reach more than 200 students with a focus on mental health services to mitigate the risk of mental health crises and promote emotional well-being.

Cancer Support Services

- Enhance outreach initiatives to improve accessibility to early detection and screenings for breast health services. Reach more than 200 individuals and families.
- Provide care coordination for more than 100 women, connecting them with clinical breast health services in the community and Scripps Mercy Hospital Chula Vista's radiology services.
- Offer a total of 500 services, including telephone reminders, outreach and education, social/emotional support, and the distribution of essential supplies and resources.

Cardiology and Stroke Programs

- Live FIT-Your Heart/Your Life/Healthy Living Program. Provide cardiovascular and metabolic health education to underserved and low- Live FIT-Your Heart/Your Life/Healthy Living program goal is to offer education to underserved and low-income community members about cardiovascular and metabolic health. A total of 500 individuals will participate and more than 70% will have changes in weight, blood pressure and increase in knowledge and education.
- The Mama's Kitchen-Scripps Tailored Meals Post-Discharge From Heart Failure Hospitalization Pilot will enroll a total of 120 participants in the study.
- A total of 200 participants will participate in stroke related follow-up post discharge as well as support group education.

Health Career Pathway Programs

- Engage youth into health and social careers by offering hands-on learning experiences beyond the classroom. Engage youth in a wide array of programs, including HCOP, CalMed, mentoring, classroom education, internships, and more. In the mentoring and camp programs, more than 85% post one year will have entered into a pathway into health careers.
- Offer comprehensive educational programs introducing youth to potential health career paths, alongside hands-on job training and placement opportunities within the South Bay region. Extend these educational programs to engage over 2,000 youth.

Maternal Child Health Education

- Offer initiatives focused on improving the local maternal and child health service system to enhance birth outcomes through collaboration with local community clinics, including San Ysidro Health Center, to extend perinatology services to high-risk pregnancy patients and ensure proper care.

Professional Education and Health Research

- Provide clinical education experiences for health students studying physical therapy, occupational therapy, speech therapy, radiography, surgical technology, respiratory care, and clinical social work.
- San Diego Border Area Health Education Center AHEC.
 - Build and support a diverse, culturally competent primary health care workforce in medically underserved communities of southern San Diego County.
 - Continue implementing various school-to-health career activities, including mentoring, camps, job shadowing, health education classes, health chats, support groups, and health fairs.
 - Provide hospital tours and clinical department experiences for local school students to learn about different healthcare professions.
 - Facilitate classroom presentations by Family Medicine residents and distribute health career resources to students.
 - Offer community medicine opportunities for family practice residents to provide services and reach a minimum of 300 individuals.
- Scripps Mercy Hospital Chula Vista Well Being Center (SMHCV WB Center)
 - Continue to serve as an internship placement site for both undergraduate and graduate students, including those pursuing degrees in fields such as social work, public health, and healthcare.
 - Collaborate with local colleges and universities to offer internships that align with the Area Health Education Center (AHEC) Scholar Program, combining clinic experience with online didactic training.
 - Engage more than 10 student interns in meaningful experiences at the Scripps Mercy Hospital Chula Vista Well Being Center.

Uncompensated Care

- Provide financial assistance through free and discounted care for health care services, consistent with the hospital's financial assistance policy, for persons who are uninsured or underinsured.
- Maintain, effectively communicate, and administer the Scripps financial assistance policy in a clear and accessible manner, ensuring that patients in need are aware of and can benefit from the policy.
- Continue efforts to ensure that emergency care and trauma center services are readily available to all individuals, regardless of their ability to pay, reaffirming the hospital's commitment to providing critical care during emergencies.



Section 10

Scripps Green Hospital

Scripps Green Hospital

About Scripps Green Hospital

Scripps Green Hospital has served the greater San Diego community since 1977. Located on Torrey Pines Mesa in La Jolla, Scripps Green Hospital has 173 licensed beds, 1,383 employees and cares for 5 percent of the inpatient population living in the hospital's service area. Within the service area, Scripps Green cares for 7 percent of Medicare patients, less than 1 percent of Medi-Cal patients, 5 percent of commercially insured patients, and 2 percent of patients with other payment sources including charity care.

Scripps Green has been recognized for a variety of medical "firsts" – such as offering San Diego's first liver transplant program and being one of the nation's first hospitals to use stem cell transplants as a treatment for blood and marrow disorders. Scripps Green offers a broad array of inpatient and outpatient services, including comprehensive cancer treatment; cardiology and cardiothoracic surgery; orthopedic surgery; and organ, tissue, marrow and cell transplantation. Additionally, Scripps Center for Integrative Medicine was established in 1999. Scripps Green is a teaching facility, offering graduate medical education.



Scripps Green Hospital

2024 Community Benefit Report, Fiscal Year 2023

The Scripps Green Hospital Community Benefit Report is an account of the hospital’s dedication and commitment to improving the community’s health, detailing programs that have provided benefit over and above standard health care practices in Fiscal Year 2023 (October 2022 to September 2023).

Community Benefit Contribution

During Fiscal Year 2023, Scripps Green devoted **\$24,780,033** to community benefit activities, including uncompensated health care, community health improvement services, professional education, and health research. The programs offered by Scripps Green emphasize community-based prevention efforts and use innovative approaches to reach residents at greater risk for health problems.

Community Benefit Services Highlights

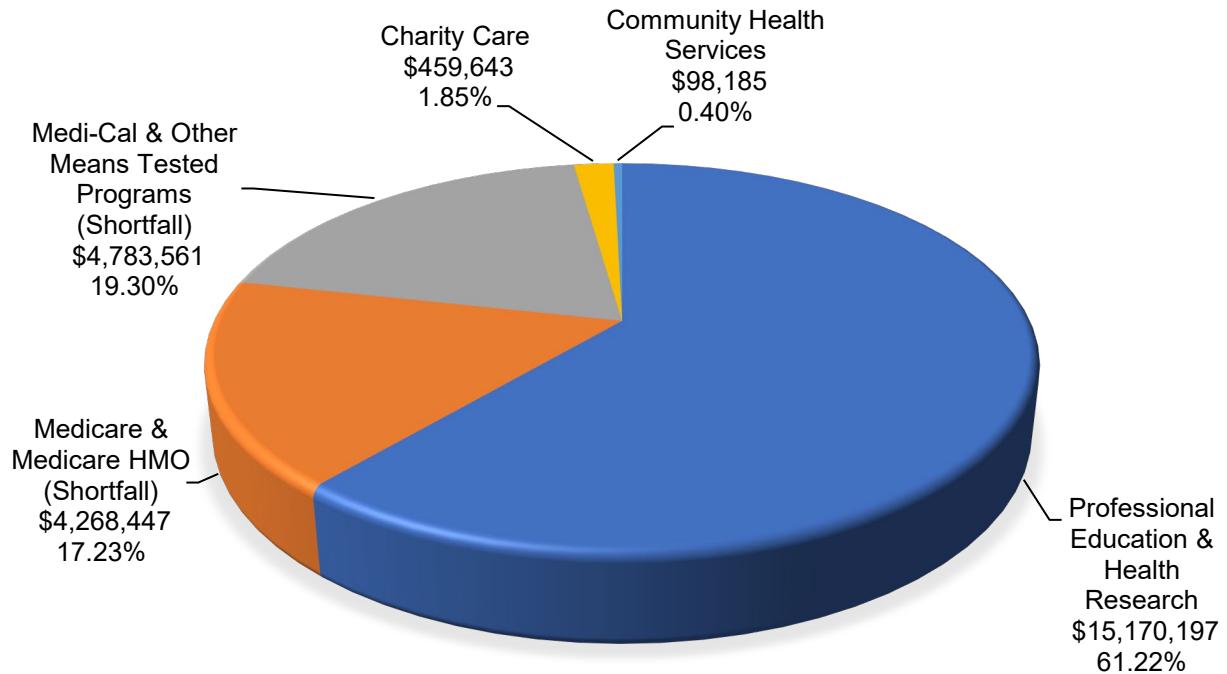
Community Benefit Services	
Charity Care	\$459,643
Community Health Improvement Services	\$98,185
Medi-Cal & Other Means Tested Shortfall	\$4,783,561
Medicare & Medicare HMO Shortfall	\$4,268,447
Professional Education & Research	\$15,170,197
Total Community Benefit Financial Contribution	\$24,780,033

Refer to Figure 10.1 presented on the following page for a graphic representation of Fiscal Year 2023.

Figure 10.1

Fiscal Year 2023

Scripps Green Hospital Community Benefit Distribution, \$24,780,033



Community Benefit Services (provider fee impact)	Charity Care	Medi Cal (Shortfall)	Medicare & Medicare HMO (Shortfall)	Community Health Improvement Services	Prof Ed & Health Research	Total
Before Provider Fee	\$459,643	\$4,783,561	\$4,268,447	\$98,185	\$15,170,197	\$24,780,033
Provider Fee		-				-
Net After Provider Fee	\$459,643	\$4,783,561	\$4,268,447	\$98,185	\$15,170,197	\$24,780,033

Community Benefit Services:

Community benefit services include those programs offered to the community that go above and beyond what is provided as a normal part of patient care. Scripps divides community benefit services into three categories, including uncompensated health care, community health improvement services and professional education and health research. Uncompensated care includes charity care, bad debt, and Medi-Cal and Medicare shortfalls.

Scripps Green Hospital

Community Benefit Services, Fiscal Year 2023

Community Health Improvement Services Highlights

Community health improvement services are activities conducted to improve community health, available to the public, which address a community need. These include prevention and wellness programs such as screenings, health education, support groups and health fairs which are supported by operational funds, grants, in-kind donations, and philanthropy. These programs are designed to raise public awareness and understanding of, and access to, identified community health needs.

During Fiscal Year 2023 (October 2022 to September 2023) Scripps Green programs invested \$98,185 in Community Health Improvement Services. This figure encompasses the costs related to conducting community health improvement activities, covering expenses such as salaries, materials, and supplies, excluding billable revenue. The following section outlines some of the notable achievements in Scripps Green Community Health Improvement Services for Fiscal Year 2023. For more comprehensive descriptions of these programs, please refer to Section 5.

Community Health Education

Definition: Community health education includes lectures, presentations, other group programs and activities, and development and dissemination of materials that focus on prevention and health behaviors. Education activities can be provided in multiple formats, including resources made available to communities through support groups and through initiatives with a self-help emphasis.

Drug Take-Back Kiosks. Scripps offers year-round access to safe, free disposal of unused and outdated prescription medications. Drug Take-Back Kiosks are available adjacent to the on-site ambulatory pharmacy at Scripps Green. This program helped reduce the use of opioids and helped prevent patients from becoming dependent on these useful but potent pain reducing medications.

Community-Based Clinical Services

Definition: These are clinical services provided on a periodic basis or as special events in the community. They include screenings, one-time or occasionally held clinics, clinics for underinsured and uninsured persons and mobile units.

American Red Cross Blood Drives. Scripps Green Hospital hosted blood drives with the American Red Cross, resulting in 99 units of blood collected from 106 participants. These drives underscore Scripps

Green's dedication to supporting the community's healthcare requirements and meeting the ongoing demand for blood donations, especially in times of crisis.

Health Care Support Services

Definition: Health care and social support services are provided by the hospital to enhance access to and quality of health care services for vulnerable populations, especially persons living in poverty.

In-Lieu of Funds. One way Scripps Green provides care to some of our most needy patients is through In-Lieu of Funds. In FY23, Scripps Green provided \$98,185 In-Lieu of Funds. These funds are used for unfunded or under-funded patients and their post-discharge needs. Funds are used for board and care, skilled nursing facilities, long term care acute care and home health. In addition, funds are also used for medications, equipment, and transportation services.

Community Benefit Operations

Definition: direct and indirect costs associated with assigned staff, community health needs assessments, community benefit planning, tracking, reporting, evaluating and operations.

Scripps counts staff costs for managing or overseeing community benefit program activities that are not included in other categories of community benefit.

Fostering Volunteerism

In addition to the financial community benefit contributions made during Fiscal Year 2023, Scripps Green employees and affiliated physicians donated a significant portion of their personal time volunteering to support Scripps sponsored community benefit programs and services. In Fiscal Year 2023, Scripps Green had 219 volunteer hours, it is estimated that the dollar value associated with this volunteer labor is \$13,678²⁹.

Professional Education Highlights

Quality health care is highly dependent upon health education systems and medical research programs. Without the ability to train and inspire a new generation of health care providers, or offer continuing education to existing health care professionals, the quality of health care would be greatly diminished. Medical research also plays a vital role in improving the community's overall health by developing new and innovative treatments.

Each year, Scripps Green advances health care services through professional education programs and research and provides a wide array of educational and training support to its affiliated physicians, nurses, and other care givers, as well as the community at large. To enhance service delivery and treatment practices for San Diego County; Scripps Green invested \$15,170,197³⁰ in professional education programs during Fiscal Year 2023 (October 2022 to September 2023). This section highlights some of Scripps Green professional education activities.

Health Professions Education

Definition: This category includes educational programs for physicians, interns and residents, medical students, nurses and nursing students, pastoral care trainees and other health professionals when that education is necessary to retain state license or certification by a board in the individual's health profession specialty.

Physician and Medical Students

- All residents and many attending physicians in the Scripps Green internal medicine residency program demonstrate a strong commitment to community service by maintaining an evening clinic at **St. Leo's Mission Community Clinic**.
- Residents and fellows have been actively engaged in over **100 research activities**, encompassing publications, poster presentations, local and national conference appearances, as well as receiving research awards.
- Scripps Green **GME Diversity Committee and Equity Curriculum**. Scripps Green Hospital has established a graduate medical education diversity committee and equity curriculum to highlight the importance of diversity in healthcare and medical education. Scripps Mercy Ground Rounds conducted the following bias lectures in FY23:
 - Bias Lecture: Maternal Health Disparities in Black and Indigenous People
 - Bias Lecture: Why Belonging Matters: Beyond DEI in Medicine.
 - Disabusing Disability: Demonstrating that Disability Doesn't Mean Inability
 - Something In Return: Exploring the Involuntary Nature of Research Today Through the History of Medical Racism
 - Bias Lecture: Something in Return: Exploring the Involuntary Nature of Research Today Through the History of Medical Atrocities and Current Headlines & Healthcare Practices.
 - Bias Lecture: Socially Accountable Admissions.

Nursing Education

- Scripps Green was a rotation site for nursing students in most clinical areas of the hospital. Scripps Green provided preceptorships for 62 nursing students in clinical and leadership experiences in most clinic areas for a total of 9,793 preceptorship hours. Under this model, students work on a one-to-one basis with a staff nurse, nurse manager, advance practice nurse, and/or nurse educator. Preceptorships do involve a one-to-one assignment with a nurse and include approximately 100-180 hours of supervision per preceptorship.

Medical Student Training

- Scripps Green offers clinical rotations for medical students. All rotations are four weeks in duration and provide medical students with an opportunity to work as an active member of the medical team, attending teaching rounds and conferences, taking patient histories, and assisting with various procedures.

Other Health Professions Education

- Scripps Green Hospital supported clinical instruction and practice affiliations for 73 allied health (non-nursing students) with a total of 22,274 preceptorship hours. These students collectively completed a remarkable total of preceptorship hours, gaining invaluable hands-on experience and mentorship in various allied health fields. This accomplishment underscores Scripps Green Hospital commitment to advancing healthcare education and fostering the development of future allied health professionals.

Health Research Highlights

Definition: research is the study or investigation to generate generalizable knowledge made available to the public. Research includes the communication of findings and observations, including publication in a journal. Internally funded research and research funded by tax-exempt, or government entities are eligible for reporting.

See Section 6, Professional Education and Research Section for a detail of Scripps research programs.

FY23 Scripps Green Hospital Community Benefit Services Summary List

Uncompensated Care

Community Benefit Categories	Person Served	Staff Hours	Volunteer Hours	Financial Support*
Charity Care	-	-	-	\$459,643
Medi-Cal and Other Means Tested Government Programs (Shortfall)***	-	-	-	\$4,783,561
Medicare and Medicare HMO (Shortfall)**	-	-	-	\$4,268,447
Total FY 2023 Uncompensated Care	-	-	-	\$9,511,651

Community Health Improvement Services

Community Benefit Categories	Person Served	Staff Hours	Volunteer Hours	Financial Support*
Community-Based Clinical Services	426	-	219	-
Health Care Support Services	-	-	-	\$98,185
Totals FY 2023 Community Health Improvement Services	426	-	219	\$98,185

Professional Education

Community Benefit Categories	Person Served	Staff Hours	Volunteer Hours	Financial Support*
Physicians/Medical Students	-	213,974	-	\$14,304,265
Nurses/Nursing Students/Allied Health	135	9,620	-	\$865,932
Totals FY 2023 Professional Education	135	223,594	-	\$15,170,197

Totals FY 2023 Scripps Green Hospital **561** **223,594** **219** **\$24,780,033**

* "Financial Support" reflects the cost (labor, supplies, overhead, etc.) associated with the program/service less direct revenue. This figure does not include a calculation for physician and staff volunteer hours. In some instances, an entire community benefit program cost center has been divided between several initiatives.

**Community building activities, bad debt and Medicare shortfall do not count as community benefits under the Schedule H 990 but are still reportable outside the community benefit table.

*** Hospital provider fee was reported as offsetting revenue from Medi-Cal.

Scripps Green Hospital

2024 Community Benefit Plan, Fiscal Year 2024

The previous section highlighted Scripps Green Hospital accomplishments for Fiscal Year 2023. This section highlights the overall community benefit goals and objectives and the hospital's strategies to support community health during Fiscal Year 2024 (October 2023 to September 2024).

Fiscal Year 2024 Community Benefit Goals & Objectives

Scripps Green programs will make an impact on the health status of the community through community health improvement programs, professional education and health research.

Community Health Improvement Services

Access to Care (Community Outreach)

- Maintain regular blood drives in collaboration with the American Red Cross to contribute to lifesaving blood donations for the community.
- Sustain and enhance the provision of education and support services for patients undergoing transplants, individuals with end-stage liver disease and renal disease and offer additional services for caregivers and those interested in becoming organ donors. These services play a vital role in promoting health and well-being among these populations.

Professional Education and Health Research

- Continue the valuable partnership with St. Leo's Mission Community Clinic, which is staffed by internal medicine residents and Scripps Clinic staff physicians. This clinic plays a crucial role in serving lower-income and indigent individuals in North County San Diego, operating one evening and Saturday morning each week and typically treating up to 25 patients at each session.

Uncompensated Health Care

- Provide financial assistance through free and discounted care for health care services, consistent with the hospital's financial assistance policy, for persons who are uninsured or underinsured.
- Maintain, effectively communicate, and administer the Scripps financial assistance policy in a clear and accessible manner, ensuring patients in need are aware of and can benefit from the policy.



Section 11

Scripps Medical Foundation

Scripps Medical Foundation

About Scripps Medical Foundation

Scripps Medical Foundation physicians and staff share a common goal: to provide the best possible health care for every patient. At Scripps Clinic, Scripps Coastal Medical Center and Scripps Cardiovascular and Thoracic Surgery Group, experts offer preventive screenings, advanced diagnostics and innovative treatments customized to each person's individual risk factors, including family history and health goals. When patients are hospitalized, hospitalists from Scripps Inpatient Providers Medical Group partners closely with primary care physicians and specialists to round out the health care team. Scripps Health also provides health education resources, including integrative therapies, weight management programs, nutrition and fitness classes, and programs for chronic conditions, such as diabetes and congestive heart failure.

Scripps Clinic

Caring for San Diegans since 1924, Scripps Clinic is San Diego's first choice for primary care and highly specialized, coordinated specialty care. With board-certified physicians and other providers, Scripps Clinic offers a comprehensive range of medical and surgical services that are nationally recognized for quality, excellence and innovation. From primary to specialty care, Scripps Clinic's team-based model is designed to provide the best possible care and outcomes for patients at every stage of life.

Scripps Coastal Medical Center

Scripps Coastal Medical Center makes it convenient for people throughout San Diego to receive exceptional primary care. Scripps Coastal's physicians and care teams provide annual exams, preventive health screenings, wellness information, diagnosis and treatment options for patients and families. With offices throughout San Diego County, Scripps Coastal Medical Center physicians provide expertise in family medicine, internal medicine, pediatrics, obstetrics and gynecology. Some locations also provide rheumatology, gastroenterology, urgent and express care. When specialty care is needed, Scripps Coastal patients have access to an extensive network of medical specialists throughout the region.

Scripps Cardiovascular and Thoracic Surgery Group

Scripps Cardiovascular and Thoracic Surgery Group brings together some of the region's top surgeons whose combined excellence and experience in cardiovascular and thoracic surgery is recognized throughout Southern California. Their extensive experience and high surgical volume contribute to superior outcomes and elevated quality indicator scores. The group is at the forefront of innovation, providing cutting-edge options such as cardiothoracic robotic surgery.

Scripps Medical Foundation

2024 Community Benefit Report, Fiscal Year 2023

The Scripps Medical Foundation Community Benefit Report is an account of the hospital’s dedication and commitment to improving the community’s health, detailing programs that have provided benefit over and above standard health care practices in Fiscal Year 2023 (October 2022 to September 2023).

Community Benefit Contribution

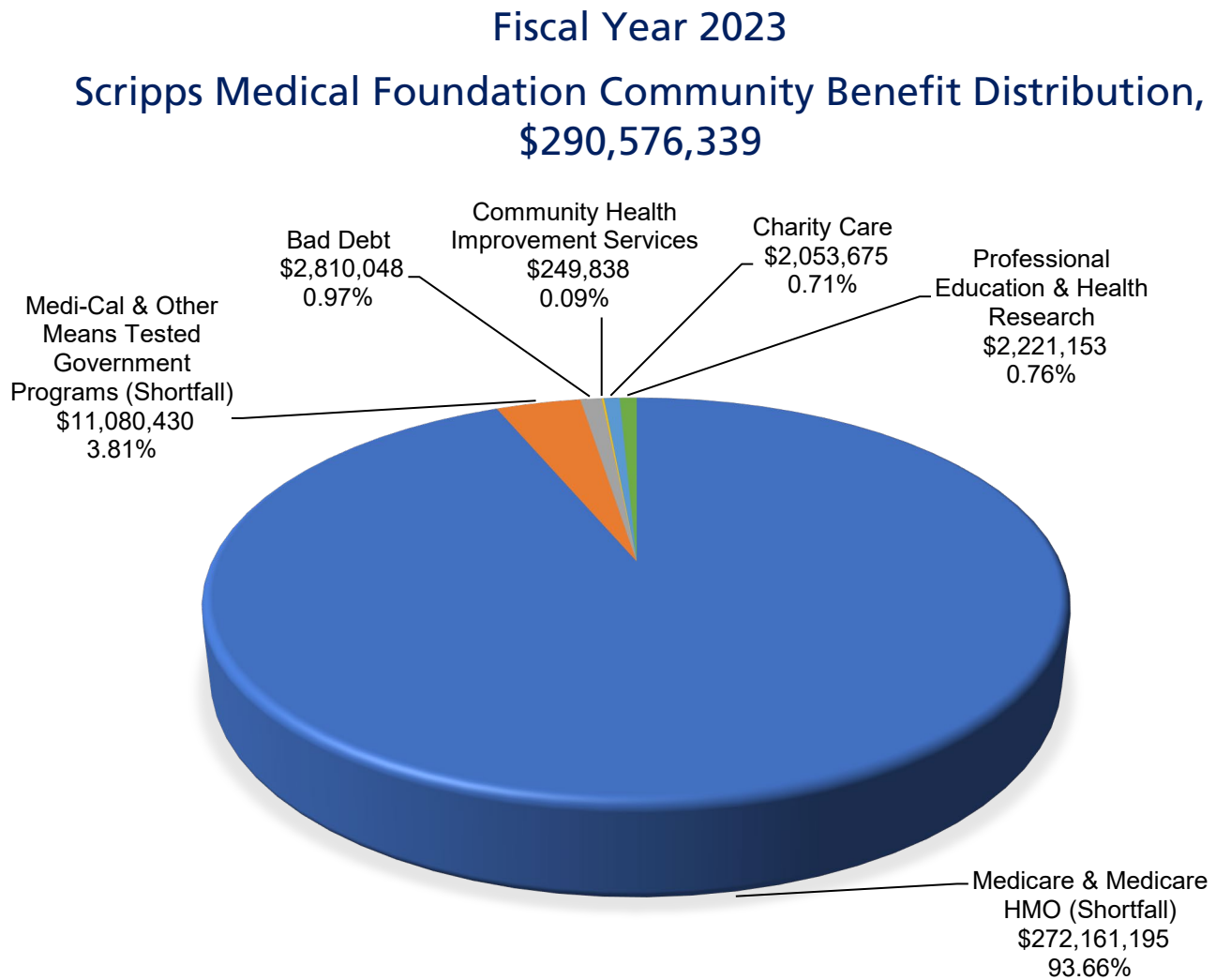
During Fiscal Year 2023, Scripps Medical Foundation devoted **\$290,576,339** to community benefit activities, including uncompensated health care, community health services, professional education and health research. The programs offered by Scripps Medical Foundation emphasize community-based prevention efforts and use innovative approaches to reach residents at greater risk for health problems.

Community Benefit Services Highlights

Community Benefit Services	
Bad Debt	\$2,810,048
Charity Care	\$2,053,675
Medi-Cal & Other Means Tested Shortfall	\$11,080,430
Medicare & Medicare HMO Shortfall	\$272,161,195
Community Health Improvement Services	\$249,838
Professional Education & Research	\$2,221,153
Total Community Benefit Financial Contribution	\$290,576,339

Refer to Figure 11.1 presented on the following page for a graphic representation of Fiscal Year 2023.

Figure 11.1



Community Benefit Services:

Community benefit services include those programs offered to the community that go above and beyond what is provided as a normal part of patient care. Scripps divides community benefit services into three categories, including uncompensated health care, community health services and professional education and health research. Uncompensated care includes charity care, bad debt, and Medi-Cal and Medicare shortfalls.

Scripps Medical Foundation

Community Benefit Services, Fiscal Year 2023

Community Health Improvement Services Highlights

Community health improvement services are activities conducted to improve community health, available to the public, which address a community need. These include prevention and wellness programs such as screenings, health education, support groups and health fairs which are supported by operational funds, grants, in-kind donations, and philanthropy. These programs are designed to raise public awareness and understanding of, and access to, identified community health.

During Fiscal Year 2023 (October 2022 to September 2023), Scripps Medical Foundation programs invested \$249,838 in Community Health Improvement Services. This figure encompasses the costs related to conducting community health improvement activities, covering expenses such as salaries, materials, and supplies, excluding billable revenue. *The majority of programs listed under Community Health Improvement Services in this section are excluded from the quantification of community benefit totals as they are exclusively provided to Scripps patients*³⁶. The following section outlines some of the achievements in Scripps Medical Foundation Community Health Improvement Services for Fiscal Year 2023.

Community Health Education

Definition: Community health education includes lectures, presentations, other group programs and activities, and development and dissemination of materials that focus on prevention and health behaviors. Education activities can be provided in multiple formats, including resources made available to communities through support groups and through initiatives with a self-help emphasis.

Scripps Whittier Diabetes Self-Management Education and Support Program. The Scripps Whittier Diabetes Prevention Program is integrated into the two large primary and multi-specialty groups, Scripps Clinic and Scripps Coastal Medical Group. This integration provides enhanced efficiency and ease of access for people with pre-diabetes and diabetes.

Scripps Whittier Diabetes in Pregnancy Program. The program collaborated with Scripps Clinic OB-GYNs, perinatologists, and endocrinologists to provide comprehensive care and education to women with gestational, Type 1 and Type 2 diabetes.

Scripps Whittier Behavioral Health Integration Program. This program integrated their services with Scripps Clinic and Scripps Coastal Medical Groups to provide support for those with diabetes who struggle with distress and motivation related to managing their diabetes.

Scripps Health continued its **Post-COVID Continuing Care Program** to support patients with lingering COVID-19 complications. The program includes a COVID Care Companion who assists immunosuppressed patients in accessing Pre-Exposure Prophylaxis treatment. This program is available at Scripps Mercy Hospital and the Geisel Pavilion at Scripps Torrey Pines.

Screening/Diagnostic Mammography Access. Scripps Coastal has expanded breast health access by prioritizing screening and diagnostic mammograms and breast ultrasounds. Scripps Coastal Medical Center Cedar in North County has doubled its capacity to meet community demand, ensuring quicker and more efficient access to these critical services and timely interpretation of diagnostic results.

The Alana Program. This program offers comprehensive disease management for individuals with chronic conditions like COPD and CHF. It enhances quality of life, reduces hospital visits, and controls costs by providing in-home clinician visits, education, resources, and 24/7 access to specialized care.

HIV Care Team. Scripps Coastal Hillcrest has, for 3 decades, provided the community with much needed care for persons living with HIV (PLWH). The team of three certified physicians offers integrated primary and HIV care, along with education, testing, and PrEP medication to reduce HIV transmission.

Scripps Coastal established five Annual Health Assessment (AHA). These clinics in San Diego, started with Coastal Cedar Vista. These clinics provide Medicare Wellness Visits to seniors, emphasizing prevention, care plan review, and chronic condition assessment and management. The goal was to address 100% of care gaps and over 90% of chronic conditions.

Scripps Medical Laboratory offers a Mobile Phlebotomy Service. This service recognizes the challenges faced by patients with chronic medical conditions or compromised immune systems. This service provides remote blood draws for patients who may have difficulty accessing one of the lab's patient service centers.

Remote Patient Monitoring (RPM). Scripps Medical Foundation provides **Remote Patient Monitoring (RPM)** for chronic disease management, achieving success in hypertension management, collaborative care, and diabetes support for over 1,300 patients. The program will expand to more areas in the upcoming fiscal year.

Community-Based Clinical Services

Definition: These are clinical services provided on a periodic basis or as special events in the community. They include screenings, one-time or occasionally held clinics, clinics for underinsured and uninsured persons and mobile units.

COVID Pediatric Vaccines. Scripps Coastal implemented pediatric COVID vaccines in its pediatric offices and HealthExpress locations and continued to administer monoclonal antibody therapy infusion clinics at

Coastal Cedar, Hillcrest, Mission Valley, Rancho Bernardo, Carmel Valley, Rancho San Diego, and Santee locations.

The Scripps Lung Cancer Screening Program. The screening program is a collaborative effort of experts, focused on early lung cancer detection and treatment. In the reported period, 548 patients were referred, and 504 received care.

Health Care Support Services

Definition: Health care and social support services are provided by the hospital to enhance access to and quality of health care services for vulnerable populations, especially persons living in poverty.

The Medication Patient Financial Assistance Program. The Medication Patient Financial Assistance Program served 1,700 patients, providing support to identify and enroll needy individuals in free or reduced-cost medication programs throughout San Diego County. Additionally, Scripps funded three full-time employees dedicated to this initiative.

Scripps Iris Virtual Advance Care Planning (ACP). The program offers comprehensive virtual ACP services, including outreach, expert-facilitated conversations, and document generation. These patient-centered sessions are conducted by Iris facilitators through video or phone, with flexible availability. The program prioritizes the patient's experience and reduces the provider's effort.

Community Benefit Operations

Definition: direct and indirect costs associated with assigned staff, community health needs assessments, community benefit planning, tracking, reporting, evaluating and operations.

Scripps counts staff costs for managing or overseeing community benefit program activities that are not included in other categories of community benefit.

Professional Education Highlights

Quality health care is highly dependent upon health education systems and medical research programs. Without the ability to train and inspire a new generation of health care providers, or offer continuing education to existing health care professionals, the quality of health care would be greatly diminished. Medical research also plays a vital role in improving the community's overall health by developing new and innovative treatments.

Each year, Scripps Medical Foundation advances health care services through professional education programs and research and provides a wide array of educational and training support to its affiliated physicians, nurses and other care givers, as well as the community at large. To enhance service delivery and treatment practices for San Diego County, Scripps Medical Foundation invested \$2,221,153³⁰ in professional education programs during Fiscal Year 2023 (October 2022 to September 2023). This section highlights some of Scripps Medical Foundation professional education activities.

Health Professions Education

Definition: This category includes educational programs for physicians, interns and residents, medical students, nurses and nursing students, pastoral care trainees and other health professionals when that education is necessary to retain state license or certification by a board in the individual's health profession specialty.

Nursing Education

- Scripps Medical Foundation was a rotation site for nursing students in most clinical areas of the hospital. Scripps Medical Foundation provided preceptorships for 2 nursing students in clinical and leadership experiences in most clinic areas for a total of 438 preceptorship hours. Under this model, students work on a one-to-one basis with a staff nurse, nurse manager, advance practice nurse, and/or nurse educator. Preceptorships do involve a one-to-one assignment with a nurse and include hours of supervision per preceptorship.

Medical Student Training

- Scripps Coastal Medical Group processed 45 preceptorship rotations for medical students (nurse practitioners and physician assistants) with 7,029 completed hours.
- Scripps Clinic Medical Group processed 151 rotations with 20,889 completed hours.

Other Health Professions Education

- Scripps Medical Foundation supported clinical instruction and practice affiliations for 260 allied health (non-nursing students) with a total of 43,350 preceptorship hours. This accomplishment

underscores Scripps Medical Foundation commitment to advancing healthcare education and fostering the development of future allied health professionals.

- Scripps Integrative Medicine supported clinical instruction and practice affiliations for 3 allied health (non-nursing students) with a total of 240 preceptorship hours.

Health Research Highlights

Definition: research is the study or investigation to generate generalizable knowledge made available to the public. Research includes the communication of findings and observations, including publication in a journal. Internally funded research and research funded by tax-exempt, or government entities are eligible for reporting.

See Section 6, Professional Education and Research Section for a detail of Scripps research programs.

FY23 Scripps Medical Foundation Community Benefit Services Summary List

Uncompensated Care

Community Benefit Categories	Person Served	Staff Hours	Volunteer Hours	Financial Support*
Bad Debt**	-	-	-	\$2,810,048
Charity Care	-	-	-	\$2,053,675
Medi-Cal and Other Means Tested Government Programs (Shortfall)***	-	-	-	\$11,080,430
Medicare and Medicare HMO (Shortfall)**	-	-	-	\$272,161,195
Total FY 2023 Uncompensated Care	-	-	-	\$288,105,348

Community Health Improvement Services

Community Benefit Categories	Person Served	Staff Hours	Volunteer Hours	Financial Support*
Health Care Support Services	4,886	-	-	\$249,838
Totals FY 2023 Community Health Improvement Services	4,886			\$249,838

Professional Education and Health Research

Community Benefit Categories	Person Served	Staff Hours	Volunteer Hours	Financial Support*
Nurses/Nursing Students/Allied Health	265	21,584	-	\$2,221,153
Total FY 2023 Professional Education and Health Research	265	21,584	-	\$2,221,153

Totals FY 2023 Scripps Medical Foundation **5,151** **21,584** - **\$290,576,339**

* "Financial Support" reflects the cost (labor, supplies, overhead, etc.) associated with the program/service less direct revenue. This figure does not include a calculation for physician and staff volunteer hours. In some instances, an entire community benefit program cost center has been divided between several initiatives.

**Community building activities, bad debt and Medicare shortfall do not count as community benefits under the Schedule H 990 but are still reportable outside the community benefit table.

*** Hospital provider fee was reported as offsetting revenue from Medi-Cal.

Scripps Medical Foundation

2024 Community Benefit Plan, Fiscal Year 2024

The previous section highlighted Scripps Medical Foundation accomplishments for Fiscal Year 2023. This section highlights the overall community benefit goals and objectives and the hospital's strategies to support community health during Fiscal Year 2024 (October 2023 to September 2024).

Fiscal Year 2024 Community Benefit Goals & Objectives

Scripps Medical Foundation programs will make an impact on the health status of the community through community health improvement programs, professional education and health research.

Community Health Improvement Services

Access to Care (Community Outreach)

- Increase public awareness and knowledge about hip and knee orthopedic surgery.
- Offer Post-COVID Continuing Care services to address the lingering complications in patients previously infected with the COVID-19 virus.
- Improve breast health access by facilitating quicker and more efficient access to breast health screening.
- Serve patients through the Medication Patient Financial Assistance Program, assisting needy individuals in accessing free or reduced-cost medication programs.
- Review current breast cancer screening, diabetes, and hypertension improvement activities and apply a health equity lens.
- Provide comprehensive support and education for individuals living with chronic diseases.
- Offer integrated primary and HIV care, including education, testing, and PrEP medication, with the aim of reducing the HIV burden and preventing new cases.
- Conduct Medicare Wellness Visits for senior members with the goal of addressing 100% of care gaps and assessing/addressing over 90% of chronic conditions during the wellness visit.
- Offer easier access by providing remote blood draw for patients that may have difficulty reaching one of the lab's patient service centers.
- Collaborate with primary care physicians to raise awareness about lung cancer and provide comprehensive Lung Cancer Screening for high-risk patients, ensuring accurate assessments and care.
- Offer Virtual Advance Care Planning (ACP) services, including patient outreach, facilitated conversations with trained ACP experts, document generation, and document signing.

Diabetes Support Services

- Streamline access and improve efficiency for individuals with pre-diabetes and diabetes.
- Provide targeted support for individuals with diabetes who experience distress and motivation-related challenges in managing their condition.
- Deliver comprehensive care and education tailored specifically for women with gestational, Type 1, and Type 2 diabetes.

Professional Education and Health Research

- Scripps Medical Foundation will continue to provide preceptorship opportunities for clinical and non-clinical students.

Uncompensated Health Care

- Provide financial assistance through free and discounted care for health care services, consistent with the hospital's financial assistance policy, for persons who are uninsured or underinsured.
- Maintain, effectively communicate, and administer the Scripps financial assistance policy in a clear and accessible manner, ensuring that patients in need are aware of and can benefit from the policy.



Section 12

Scripps Systemwide Programs

Scripps Systemwide Programs

About Scripps Systemwide Programs

Scripps offers a number of enterprise-wide programs that meet the health care needs of patients and community members throughout San Diego County. These specialized centers include Scripps Cancer Center, Scripps Whittier Diabetes Institute, Prebys Cardiovascular Institute, and Scripps Systemwide Community Benefit Services. The services of these programs are described in the hospital and site sections of the report.

Scripps Cancer Center

Scripps is committed to fighting cancer through a collaborative, team approach that puts the patient at the center of care. Scripps Cancer Center brings together a multi-disciplinary team of surgeons and radiation oncologists, medical oncologists and support staff who develop personalized care plans based on patients' unique needs and provide some of the most advanced treatments available from initial cancer diagnosis through recovery and follow up care. Scripps is a leader in cancer therapy, delivering advanced cancer care to San Diego. Scripps physicians and staff work collaboratively toward cancer prevention, early detection, coordinated treatment and community support services, and are actively involved in leading-edge clinical, translational, and basic research.

Scripps Whittier Diabetes Institute

Founded in 1982 Scripps Whittier stands alone as the region's leading comprehensive diabetes institute. The mission at Scripps Whittier has always been to achieve excellence in diabetes care, research, and education. Scripps Whittier Diabetes Institute provides screenings, education and support services including customized nutrition counseling, professional training and education programs, leveraging technological advancements in diabetes care by educating patients on how to use their continuous glucose monitors and insulin pumps, access to clinical trials and community programs including peer support groups.

Prebys Cardiovascular Institute

Prebys Cardiovascular Institute at Scripps Memorial Hospital La Jolla is one of the largest, most advanced centers on the West Coast for cardiovascular medicine, research and training. Through a longtime partnership with Kaiser Permanente, Scripps also is the exclusive provider of cardiac surgery and interventional cardiology surgery for Kaiser Permanente members in the San Diego region.

Scripps Systemwide Community Benefit Operations

Scripps Systemwide Community Benefit Services Office provides oversight, support, guidance and coordination of Scripps community health and outreach programs, helping ensure that they are in accordance with the Scripps mission, values, and strategic objectives. This program also supports the Strategic Planning Committee of the Scripps Board of Trustees, in assessing and planning to meet community need. Additionally, this program is responsible for developing the triennial health needs assessment and, through the Community Benefit Fund, supports community programs that address San Diego County's high-priority health needs.

Scripps Systemwide Programs

2024 Community Benefit Report, Fiscal Year 2023

The Scripps Systemwide programs reflect the dedication and commitment to improving the community's health, detailing programs that have provided benefit over and above standard health care practices in Fiscal Year 2023 (October 2022 to September 2023).

Community Benefit Contribution

During Fiscal Year 2023, Scripps Systemwide programs devoted **\$3,364,974** to community benefit activities, including community health improvement services, professional education and health research. The programs offered by Scripps Systemwide emphasize community-based prevention efforts and use innovative approaches to reach residents at greater risk for health problems.

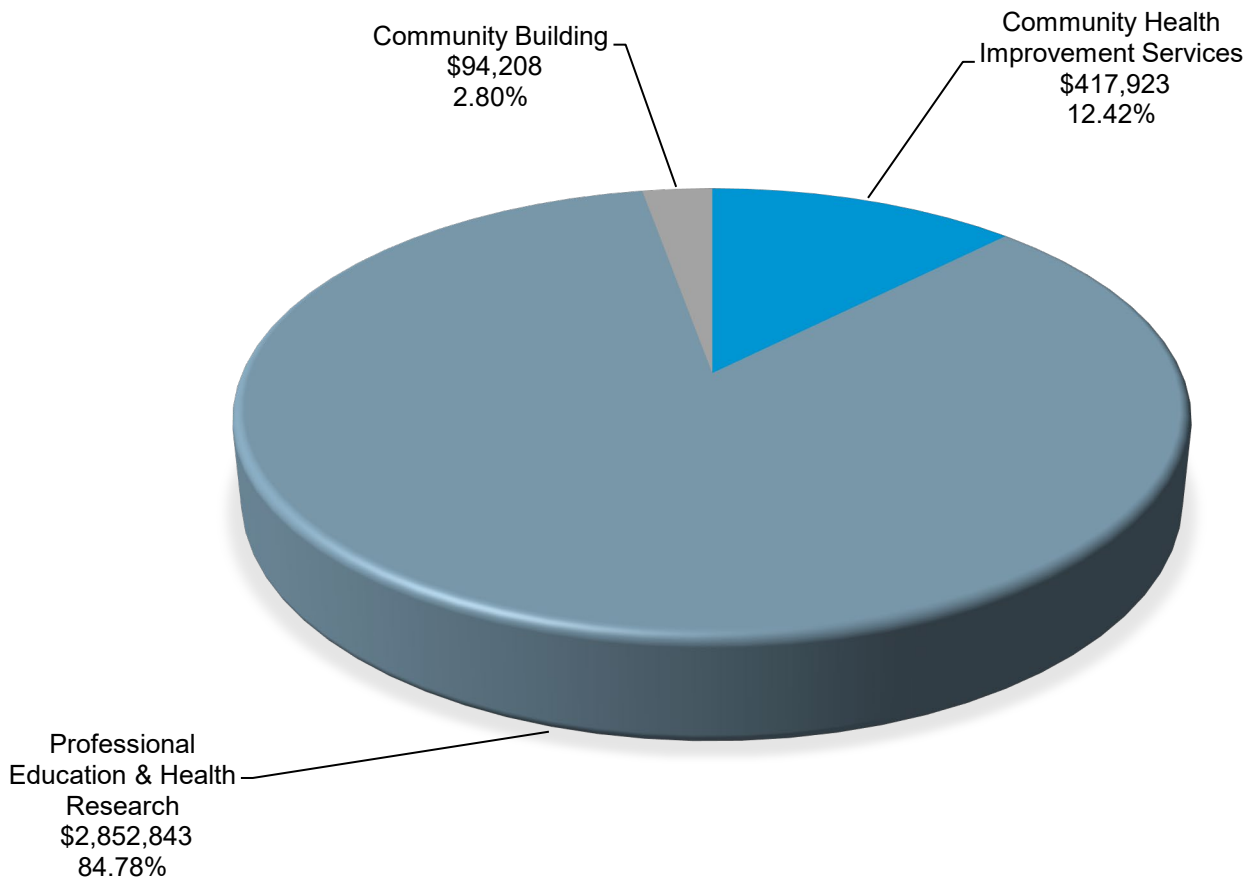
Community Benefit Services Highlights

Community Benefit Services	
Community Building	\$94,208
Community Health Improvement Services	\$417,923
Professional Education	\$37,601
Research	\$2,815,241
Total Community Benefit Financial Contribution	\$3,364,974

Refer to Figure 12.1 presented on the following page for a graphic representation of Fiscal Year 2023.

Figure 12.1

Fiscal Year 2023 Scripps Systemwide Community Benefit Distribution, \$3,364,974



Community Benefit Services:

Community benefit services include those programs offered to the community that go above and beyond what is provided as a normal part of patient care. Scripps divides community benefit services into three categories, including uncompensated health care, community health services and professional education and health research. Uncompensated care includes charity care, bad debt, and Medi-Cal and Medicare shortfalls.

Scripps Systemwide Programs

Community Benefit Services, Fiscal Year 2023

Community Health Improvement Services Highlights

Community health improvement services are activities conducted to improve community health, available to the public, which address a community need. These include prevention and wellness programs such as screenings, health education, support groups and health fairs which are supported by operational funds, grants, in-kind donations, and philanthropy. These programs are designed to raise public awareness and understanding of, and access to, identified community health needs.

During Fiscal Year 2023 (October 2022 to September 2023) Scripps Systemwide programs invested \$417,923 in Community Health Improvement Services. This figure encompasses the costs related to conducting community health improvement activities, covering expenses such as salaries, materials, and supplies, excluding billable revenue. The following section outlines some of the notable achievements in Scripps Systemwide Community Health Improvement Services for Fiscal Year 2023. For more comprehensive descriptions of these programs, please refer to Section 5.

Community Health Education

Definition: Community health education includes lectures, presentations, other group programs and activities, and development and dissemination of materials that focus on prevention and health behaviors. Education activities can be provided in multiple formats, including resources made available to communities through support groups and through initiatives with a self-help emphasis.

Community Benefit Fund. Scripps awarded various grants through the Community Benefit Fund to address some of San Diego County's high priority health needs. Scripps has awarded \$4.4 million dollars to date since the inception of the Community Benefit Fund.

My Brain and My Baby. Scripps supports the "My Brain and My Baby" program to address maternal mental health. Scripps partners with Miracle Babies to refer expectant and postpartum mothers, especially women of color, ensuring they receive crucial support and resources for their mental well-being during and after pregnancy.

Scripps Partnership with San Ysidro Perinatology Services. Scripps collaborated with San Ysidro Perinatology Services, actively educating and supporting 233 patients in FY23. This partnership provided comprehensive parenting education, specialized care, and diagnostic imaging services for expectant mothers navigating high-risk pregnancies or complex medical conditions.

Scripps Whittier Diabetes Education Program

- 661: Behavioral Health Integration Program (BEHIP) Visits
- 2,189: Project Dulce Community Clinic Visits
- 1,296: Visits made by Dule Digital
- 2,240: Visits for women enrolled in the diabetes in pregnancy program
- 225: People enrolled in the diabetes prevention program
- 250: Professional Education Conferences
- 20: Active studies with 525 participants

Project Dulce provided over 2,000 diabetes clinical care visits for low income and underserved individuals throughout San Diego.

Diabetes Prevention Program (DPP). The Diabetes Prevention Program (DPP) provided education and counseling, resulting in 826 encounters.

The Behavioral Health Integration Program (BeHIP). The Scripps Whittier Diabetes Distress Study provided an interdisciplinary approach to managing emotional and behavioral needs that often leads to burnout of individuals with Type 1 and Type 2 diabetes and gestational diabetes.

The Mobile Health and Resource Fair. In partnership with other health organizations the fair offered 298 cardiovascular and neurocognitive screenings, 28 on-site breast exams and mammograms, breast cancer resources, and referrals to hundreds of diverse community members. It targeted over 800 underserved and high-risk populations, providing valuable healthcare support.

Stroke Gold Quality Achievement Award. For the sixth consecutive year, all five Scripps hospitals earned the Stroke Gold Quality Achievement Award for 2023, from the American Heart Association/American Stroke Association (AHA). The award recognizes hospitals that deliver high-quality, life-saving stroke care. The Joint Commission also certified our four Scripps emergency rooms as Primary Stroke Centers. Scripps remains dedicated to continuous education and training, ensuring our staff stays updated on the latest advancements in stroke treatment and prevention strategies.

Scripps Health Stroke Programs and Education Events. Scripps Health Stroke Programs and Education Events are dedicated to reducing strokes in San Diego County through community outreach efforts. In this reporting period, Scripps conducted four stroke presentations, educating 62 individuals, and actively participated in three stroke risk assessment events, screening 75 people to increase awareness and promote stroke prevention. In addition, Scripps was part of the San Diego County Stroke Consortium/Stroke Advisory Committee, a county-wide stroke group comprised of SD County Stroke Receiving Center Stroke Program Coordinators, Stroke Champions, and Stroke Leadership.

Stroke Awareness San Diego Padres Event. Scripps partnered with the San Diego Stroke Consortium for a stroke awareness event at a San Diego Padres game. This initiative was a significant effort in promoting stroke awareness and prevention.

Smart Hearts Do Not Miss A Beat. Scripps supports the "Smart Hearts Do Not Miss A Beat" program offered by the Eric Paredes Save A Life Foundation, educating over 1,400 students and 198 educators on preventing sudden cardiac arrest. The program has equipped high school students to deliver its content to middle schools. On the whole, the average pre-quiz score was 47%, significantly advancing to an average of 78% in the post-quiz, emphasizing its crucial role in educating schools on cardiac arrest prevention.

Adult, Infant and Child CPR and Basic First Aid. The Scripps Center for Learning offered a variety of classes for the community.

California Hospital Compare's Opioid Care Honor Roll. Scripps Health's hospitals earned recognition on California Hospital Compare's Opioid Care Honor Roll for their commitment to improving addiction treatment and reducing opioid-related deaths. Scripps contributes to reducing opioid use by educating both patients and providers about opioid risks associated with opioids and promoting alternative methods for managing pain. Additionally, four Scripps Health hospitals have collectively received \$480,000 in grant funding through the California Bridge Behavioral Health Navigator Program, which supports emergency departments statewide in their efforts to increase access to medication-assisted treatment (MAT) for opioid use disorders and co-occurring mental health conditions. This year's grant award marks the fourth consecutive year that Scripps has received funding through the program.

Scripps Cancer Center. The center offered a wide range of cancer support services for patients and families, including support groups, oncology nutrition, emotional support, alternative therapies, financial guidance, and more, all aimed at improving well-being and quality of life.

Scripps Cancer Registry¹⁷. Since 1975, the Scripps Cancer Registry has been collecting cancer data on Scripps patients for research, epidemiological studies, education, and patient treatment.

Scripps Cancer Center Outpatient Heredity and Cancer Genetic Counseling Program²⁰ served over 4,383 individuals.

Scripps Cancer Center Lung Screening and Survivorship Program²¹. Scripps Cancer Center launched a wellness and ongoing care program (Cancer Survivorship) with clinics opened to see breast and thoracic patients. A Lung Cancer Screening Program was also launched for people at elevated risk for developing lung cancer. The program offers a comprehensive array of services, including smoking cessation education and coaching. There is also a patient registry database that ensures patients are referred to annual screenings as indicated, and a nodule management database for ongoing monitoring and analysis.

Scripps Cancer Center Registered Nurse Navigator Program¹⁸. Scripps Cancer Center's Registered Nurse Navigator Program offers invaluable support to cancer patients and their families by providing a dedicated registered nurse to guide them through every stage of their journey, from diagnosis to treatment and survivorship. Scripps emphasizes ongoing education and training for the nurse navigators to ensure they are equipped with the latest knowledge and resources to provide comprehensive care and support to patients and their families.

Scripps Cancer Center Outpatient Social Worker and Liaison Program¹⁹. Scripps provides specially trained oncology social workers who understand the complexities of living with cancer and are dedicated to assisting cancer patients, along with providing education to health professionals and caregivers.

Scripps Cancer Center delivered free chemo comfort bags³⁷. Scripps Cancer Center distributed free chemo comfort bags to 316 individuals, providing essential items to alleviate discomfort during chemotherapy treatment. Scripps is committed to patient education, providing resources and information on managing treatment side effects and promoting overall well-being throughout the cancer journey.

Scripps Cancer Center Support Groups. Scripps Cancer Center Support Groups provided assistance to 368 individuals through various support offerings.

Scripps Cancer Center Oncology Patient Resource Library. The Scripps Cancer Center Oncology Patient Resource Library assisted 21 patients and their families in comprehending their diagnoses and accessing a range of educational programs and patient information.

Scripps Cancer Center Restorative Yoga and Sound Therapy Classes for Cancer Survivors and Caregivers enrolled 959 patients and community members in a 60-minute restorative yoga and sound therapy experience that focuses on relaxation and rejuvenation.

Scripps Cancer Center Living Life Well Sessions and Nutrition and Fitness Focus. Registered Dietitians served over 52 individuals educating patients on maintaining and improving their level of health and wellness via fitness and nutrition interventions.

Scripps Cancer Center Lymphedema Stretch. Scripps Cancer Center's Lymphedema Stretch program assisted 182 individuals, offering therapeutic exercises aimed at alleviating swelling and pain associated with lymphedema.

Scripps Cancer Center held Survivor Day. Scripps Cancer Center hosted Survivor Day, a celebration for cancer survivors featuring a combination of virtual and in-person activities such as webinars, classes, and support groups. The event aimed to inspire survivors, share insights on cancer treatment, and foster connections among survivors and caregivers.

Community-Based Clinical Services

Definition: These are clinical services provided on a periodic basis or as special events in the community. They include screenings, one-time or occasionally held clinics, clinics for underinsured and uninsured persons and mobile units.

Eric Paredes Save A Life Screenings. Scripps contributed \$3,500 to the Eric Paredes Save A Life Foundation for youth heart screenings. In FY23, Eric Paredes screened 2,470 out of 4,795 registered students from six high schools, identifying 42 with cardiac issues, 12 of which were serious. About 45% of participants were from low to moderate-income families. All identified cases were referred to their physicians and advised to include ECG (electrocardiogram) in their medical records. Approximately 5,000 youth and parents received CPR and AED training. Scripps employees volunteered 569²⁴ hours, including physicians, nurses, techs, and analysts, for the screenings.

American Red Cross Blood Drives. Scripps hosted blood drives, with 414 employee donors contributing 359 pints of blood. These events showcased Scripps' dedication to meeting the local healthcare community's needs and addressing the ongoing demand for blood donations, particularly during emergencies.

Health Care Support Services

Definition: Health care and social support services are provided by the hospital to enhance access to and quality of health care services for vulnerable populations, especially persons living in poverty.

Scripps Cancer Center Wig Boutique and Prosthesis Bank. Scripps Cancer Center's Wig Boutique and Prosthesis Bank fitted 94 women with new wigs and provided other head coverings, including hats, turbans, and scarves. Currently, Scripps is in the process of certifying fitters to provide permanent prostheses.

The Public Resource Specialist (PRS). The Public Resource Specialist (PRS) team conducted successful screenings and held important conversations about food insecurity with 5,456 patients in Fiscal Year 2023. Following these screenings, PRS submitted 3,915 Medi-Cal applications and 561 CalFresh applications to the County.

Scripps collaborated with **Facilitating Access to Coordinated Transportation (FACT) Inc.** for on-demand patient transportation, resulting in 4,180 rides. These services cover multiple locations, including San Diego, Imperial, Riverside, and Los Angeles County. Notably, FACT expanded its services to include Scripps Prebys Cancer Center and Scripps Encinitas during the reporting period.

Social and Environmental Improvement Activities

Disaster Preparedness Expo. Scripps hosts an annual Disaster Preparedness Expo to educate the community on emergency readiness. The expo covered topics like fire safety, infection control, workplace violence prevention, and personal preparedness, demonstrating Scripps commitment to community safety.

Violence Against Health Care Workers Taskforce. Workplace violence at Scripps five hospital campuses jumped by 31% during fiscal year 2023 as compared with the year before, reaching 2,335 total incidents. Workplace violence incidents have been steadily rising across all health care facilities for several years. In 2023, under the leadership of Scripps Health CEO and the San Diego County District Attorney, a regional Hospital Violence Task Force has been established to work together to address these issues with local action and legislative advocacy. The Task Force membership includes 20 health systems and law enforcement agencies in the county. So far, the task force's efforts to support health care workers and reduce the number of violent incidents have included:

- Establishing liaisons between hospitals and law enforcement agencies
- Arranging rounding (tours) through hospitals by law enforcement to increase their understanding of the environment where hospital staff members work
- Improving training for both hospital staff and law enforcement officers
- Developing a new tracking system for hospital workforce violence cases in order to better understand the volume and nature of these incidents
- Updating and coordinating policies and procedures related to hospital violence
- Discussing potential legislation and regulations that could help deter assaults in hospitals

Cash and In-Kind Contributions

Earthquake support for support for a medical mission in Turkey and Syria. A Scripps ophthalmologist and plastic surgeon participated in a medical mission to help earthquake victims in Turkey and Syria. Scripps contributed \$3,800 for surgical instruments. The physicians treated patients, including children, who lacked access to specialists within Syria. The Scripps ophthalmologist also trained local general ophthalmologists and residents to perform surgeries with the provided instruments.

Emergency Meals and Water. Scripps maintains an emergency supply of meals and water, replenishing it regularly and donating the older items. In FY23, Scripps donated 1,140 cases of water valued at \$30,529 to the Ministry of Jerusalem, a local charity associated with the San Diego Food Bank.

The Pay it Forward Sock Drive. The Pay it Forward Sock Drive, part of FY23's Scripps Spirit Week, gathered 2,672 pairs of socks valued at \$6,680 from employees, physicians, and volunteers across Scripps

locations. These contributions benefitted the homeless community through various organizations, with employees dedicating 60 hours of working time to this effort.

COVID "Survival Bags." Scripps Whittier Diabetes Institute (SWDI) distributed 300 COVID "survival bags," which contained essential recovery items, to support underserved community members most affected by COVID-19. In total, over 700 individuals received assistance through this initiative.

Scripps Health donated non-working automobiles with no liens to Father Joe's Villages. The total valuation of the donations was \$12,000 for these cars and the amount donated is the book value of the donation.

Community Benefit Operations

Definition: direct and indirect costs associated with assigned staff, community health needs assessments, community benefit planning, tracking, reporting, evaluating and operations. Reported costs included staff salaries, benefits and expenses, administrative support and consultants in support of Community Benefit.

Scripps includes costs related to:

- Developing a community benefit plan and report
- Staff costs for managing or overseeing community benefit program activities not covered in other categories
- Community health needs assessment
- Conducting a collaborative assessment with other organizations.
- Developing the implementation strategy
- Producing reports describing the progress of the implementation strategy
- Software supporting the community benefit program, like CBISA by Lyon Software

Community Building Activities

Definition: Activities that support community assets by offering the expertise and resources of the hospital organization. These activities may address the root causes of health problems or the determinants of health, such as education, homelessness, poverty, and the environment.

Economic Development

Scripps participated on various **community boards and business organizations**, representing the organization's positions on health issues and addressing matters concerning health and safety within the community.

Community Support

Scripps sponsored the **Lights On!** Program, a community-driven initiative collaborating with law enforcement and auto service providers. This program replaces tickets for lighting equipment violations with repair vouchers. During traffic stops, officers offer motorists Lights On! vouchers instead of citations, along with instructions on how to redeem them.

The San Diego LGBT Community Center. Scripps sponsored the San Diego LGBT Community Center, also known as "the center," which is one of the largest and most vibrant LGBT community centers in the nation.

Scripps Medical Response Team (SMRT). Scripps has a system-wide disaster preparedness program that includes the volunteer Scripps Medical Response Team (SMRT). SMRT is ready to deploy when requested by the California Medical Assistance Team (Cal-Mat) during state emergencies like wildfires or earthquakes. Although there were no deployments in 2023, the team remains prepared for future calls for assistance.

Disaster Preparedness – Community Support and Outreach Education. Scripps leads in disaster preparedness, collaborating with various levels of government and community leaders. These efforts focus on planning for emergencies and actively promote community awareness and participation in preparedness activities to help care for disaster victims.

Scripps participated in **San Diego County and State of California advisory groups** to plan, implement, and evaluate key disaster preparedness response plans and exercises. In addition, Scripps is an advisor to San Diego County for federal and state grant development and planning.

Scripps Health is an active member in the **Hospital Incident Command System National Advisory Committee (HICS)**. The training is focused specifically on HICS, an incident management system that can be used by hospitals to manage threats, planned events or emergencies.

Scripps Health actively collaborates with **the San Diego Healthcare Coalition Advisory Committee (SDHDC)** to improve emergency preparedness and response planning.

Scripps participated in the **San Diego Regional Full-Scale Exercise**, enhancing the region's response to complex mass casualty incidents. The exercise simulated a pediatric surge from multiple incidents across San Diego County, involving various agencies, including hospitals.

Scripps participated in the **San Diego County Coalition Surge Test No Notice Exercise**, a drill simulating an active shooter scenario involving approximately 100 patients, predominantly pediatric cases.

Scripps participated in the **County Wide Exercise Medical and Health Full Scale Exercise**. All hospitals participated, tested and evaluated the capabilities of the command center and the response plan for patient surge and evacuation.

Leadership Development/Training for Community Members

Scripps sponsored the **Enlisted Leadership Foundation - The Foundry**, a San Diego-based non-profit focused on leadership development for Navy personnel. Scripps contributed \$35,000 to support The Foundry's program goals and provide scholarships to students, aiming to reduce their costs.

Advocacy for Community Health Improvement

Scripps Health Public Policy and Advocacy. Scripps Health actively engages in public policy and advocacy, meeting with policymakers at various levels. Advocacy priorities align with Scripps mission of delivering superior healthcare to communities, focusing on long-term financial sustainability and areas that support community health and access expansion.

Workforce Development

Scripps Health initiated the **Scripps High School Exploration Internship Program** to engage young individuals and cultivate their interest in healthcare professions facing a shortage of skilled professionals. Twenty-five students gained exposure to various hospital departments, including the emergency room and surgery, allowing them to explore different career possibilities in healthcare while also acquiring valuable insights into health and healing.

Scripps sponsored the **San Diego Organization of Healthcare Leaders (SOHL)** annual conference. Founded in 2001, the SOHL is an official combined chapter of the American College of Healthcare Executives (ACHE), an international professional society of more than 30,000 healthcare executives.

Other Community Benefits

Scripps hosted several **employee food sharing events** positively impacting 114 employees and 514 family members²⁹.

Helping Our Peers in Emergencies (HOPE) Fund. Scripps provided PTO and financial assistance to employees in need. From June 2022–June 2023, 33 employees received more than \$56,000, and 10 received 254.75 hours of PTO.

In response to catastrophic **wildfires in Hawaii**, Scripps partnered with the American Red Cross to facilitate employee donations for their Maui relief efforts and general disaster relief fund through payroll or direct online contributions. The final number of donors was 29 with a total donation of \$3,070.

In addition to the financial community benefit contributions made during Fiscal Year 2023, Scripps Health Administrative Services (SHAS) employees and affiliated physicians donated a sizable portion of their personal time **volunteering to support Scripps sponsored community benefit programs**. With close to 569 hours, the estimated dollar value of this volunteer labor is \$35,540²⁹, which is not included in the Scripps Fiscal Year 2023 community benefit programs and services totals.

Professional Education Highlights

Quality health care is highly dependent upon health education systems and medical research programs. Without the ability to train and inspire a new generation of health care providers, or offer continuing education to existing health care professionals, the quality of health care would be greatly diminished. Medical research also plays a vital role in improving the community's overall health by developing new and innovative treatments.

Each year, Scripps Systemwide advances health care services through professional education programs and research and provides a wide array of educational and training support to its affiliated physicians, nurses and other care givers, as well as the community at large. To enhance service delivery and treatment practices for San Diego County, Scripps Systemwide programs invested \$37,601³⁰ in professional education programs during Fiscal Year 2023 (October 2022 to September 2023). This section highlights some of Scripps Systemwide professional education activities.

Health Professions Education

Definition: This category includes educational programs for physicians, interns and residents, medical students, nurses and nursing students, pastoral care trainees and other health professionals when that

education is necessary to retain state license or certification by a board in the individual's health profession specialty.

Physician and Medical Students

- **Continuing Medical Education** events reached over 3,500 health professionals with up-to-date medical education activities.
- **Eric Paredes Save A Life Foundation: Prescription For Prevention.** Scripps supports the Eric Paredes Save A Life Foundation's "Prescription For Prevention" program. The program offers CME credits for Sudden Cardiac Arrest prevention in primary care. More than 900 providers have participated, improving their knowledge significantly. Quiz scores rose from 38% to 94%, with notable improvements in key areas like etiology, warning signs, and risk assessment.

Nursing Education

- **Transition Programs.** Scripps clinical educators and leaders developed special training programs to facilitate the growth and development of employees at Scripps. Programs include an ICU RN program, an RN New Grad Residency program, and a Radiology Tech program.
- **Nursing and Ancillary Students.** Scripps hosted 1,392 nursing and ancillary students within our system and provided 243,091 development hours spanning nursing and allied health settings.
- **San Diego Nursing Service/Education Consortium.** Scripps Health participated in the San Diego Nursing Service/Education Consortium, a nonprofit organization that plays a crucial role in coordinating clinical placements for students in nursing and related healthcare education programs.

Other Health Professions Education

- **Non-Nursing Students.** Scripps supported clinical instruction and practice affiliations for 10 allied health (non-nursing students) with a total of 1,235 preceptorship hours.
- **Life Support Courses.** Scripps offered a variety of courses through the Center for Learning such as Advanced Cardiac Life Support, Pediatric Advanced Life Support, and Neonatal Resuscitation Program.
- **Scripps Whittier Diabetes Institute Professional Education and Training.** Scripps Whittier Diabetes Institute offers advanced diabetes education and training for healthcare professionals, including webinars and training programs. Their goal is to enhance diabetes care knowledge and skills among healthcare providers locally and nationally. In FY23, the team conducted four webinars and three training programs, including the Project Dulce curriculum, along with one professional CME training program. These efforts aimed to educate healthcare professionals locally and nationally in delivering top-notch diabetes care.

Health Research Highlights

Definition: research is the study or investigation to generate generalizable knowledge made available to the public. Research includes the communication of findings and observations, including publication in a journal. Internally funded research and research funded by tax-exempt, or government entities are eligible for reporting.

Scripps Systemwide programs invested \$2,815,241 in health research programs during Fiscal Year 2023 (October 2022 to September 2023). See Section 6 for a detail of Scripps research programs.

Scripps Clinic and Clinical Research Services supported more than 92 principal investigators and about 450 active clinical research protocols crossing interdisciplinary disease categories.

- **The Scripps Collaborative for Healthcare Equity (SCHE)** achieved important milestones in its second year.
 - Developed and executed a peer-review process to promote trainee research focused on health disparities in breast cancer, cardiovascular disease, and neurocognition. SCHE awarded \$75,000 across 6 research projects ranging from cardiovascular care, genetic counseling and testing, diabetes care, and substance abuse screening, and research support, focused on women and multicultural populations.
 - Implemented a patient survey to assess cultural and linguistically appropriate health care resources and supportive program for patients.
 - Provided post-discharge support for more than 300 patients recovering from conditions such as acute myocardial infarction (AMI), coronary artery bypass grafting (CABG), congestive heart failure (CHF), and stroke.
 - Launched an Annual Research Symposium with over 75 participants attending. The symposium is a partnership between Scripps Health Research and SCHE made possible through funding by the Krueger-Wyeth award. Among the presentations:
 - Financial Toxicity in Spanish Speaking Cancer Patients
 - Understanding Disparities in Substance Use Screening
 - Be Well at Work: Low-Wage Hospital Workers and Well-Being Intervention
 - Dulce Digital-COVID Aware Texting Platform
 - Quality and Health Equity Update and Next Steps

Scripps Whittier Diabetes Institute conducted community-based research with the following partners: San Diego County Health and Human Services Agency, federally qualified health centers and community clinics, Scripps Research Translational Institute (SRTI) and San Diego State University, to prevent and treat diabetes in San Diego's multi-ethnic communities.

Hospital Digital Programs: Continuous Glucose Monitoring Study. Scripps Whittier Diabetes Institute conducted a study using wireless continuous glucose monitoring (CGM) devices for type 2 diabetes patients in the hospital. The goal was to improve blood sugar control during hospital stays. Over 100 patients have been recruited out of a planned 554 for this three-and-a-half-year study at Scripps Mercy Hospital Chula Vista.

Clinical Translational Science Award (CTSA). Scripps Whittier Diabetes Institute served as the community engagement arm for the Clinical Translational Science award (CTSA) funded by the National Institute of Health.

Improving the Health of At-Risk Underrepresented Communities. Scripps Whittier Diabetes Institute conducted several studies aimed at improving the health of at-risk underrepresented communities. This included the recruitment of 2 Dulce Digital Filipino Americans, 2 Dulce Digital Arab Americans, 37 Dulce Digital 2.0 Hispanic Communities, 75 CyberGems, and 52 participants in the ACT1VATE study.

Scripps Whittier Research and Development Programs engaged 525 active participants and engaged in 20 studies and projects. The team successfully developed 10 manuscripts, delivered 11 presentations and had 6 principal investigators leading various endeavors.

FY23 Scripps Sytemwide Community Benefit Services Summary List

Community Benefit Health Improvement Services

Community Benefit Categories	Person Served	Staff Hours	Volunteer Hours	Financial Support*
Community Health Education	10,143	2,877	-	\$33,163
Community-Based Clinical Services	2,470	-	569	-
Health Care Support Services	11,531	-	-	-
Social and Environmental Activities	-	15	-	\$1,000
Totals FY 2023 Community Benefit Health Improvement Services	24,144	2,892	569	\$34,163

Professional Education

Community Benefit Categories	Person Served	Staff Hours	Volunteer Hours	Financial Support*
Physicians/Medical Students	4,081	-	-	-
Nurses/Nursing Students/Allied Health	10	371	-	\$31,591
Other Health Professions Education	378	354	-	\$6,011
Totals FY 2023 Professional Education	4,469	725	-	\$37,601

Health Research

Community Benefit Categories	Person Served	Staff Hours	Volunteer Hours	Financial Support*
Clinical Research	75	46,048	-	\$230,850
Community Health Research	298			
Clinical Research	-	-	-	\$2,584,392
Total FY 2023 Research	376	46,048	-	\$2,815,241

Cash, Grants, and In-Kind Contributions

Community Benefit Categories	Person Served	Staff Hours	Volunteer Hours	Financial Support*
Cash Donations	-	-	-	\$16,800
Grants				\$42,300
Totals FY 2023 Cash, Grants, and In-Kind Contributions	-	-	-	\$59,100

Community Benefit Operations

Community Benefit Categories	Person Served	Staff Hours	Volunteer Hours	Financial Support*
Community Benefit Operations	-	-	-	\$324,661
Total FY 2023 Community Benefit Operations	-	-	-	\$324,661

Community Building Activities**

***Community building activities, bad debt and Medicare shortfall do not count as community benefits under the Schedule H 990 but are still reportable outside the community benefit table.*

Community Benefit Categories	Person Served	Staff Hours	Volunteer Hours	Financial Support*
Economic Development**	-	320	-	\$27,149
Community Support**	-	206	-	\$23,800
Leadership Development & Leadership Training for Community Members**	25	-	-	\$35,000
Advocacy for Community Health Improvement/Safety	-	62	-	\$5,260
Workforce Development**	-	-	-	\$3,000
Totals FY 2023 Community Building Activities	25	588	-	\$94,208

Totals FY 2023 Scripps Systemwide	29,014	50,253	569	\$3,364,974
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** "Financial Support" reflects the cost (labor, supplies, overhead, etc.) associated with the program/service less direct revenue. This figure does not include a calculation for physician and staff volunteer hours. In some instances, an entire community benefit program cost center has been divided between several initiatives.*

***Community building activities, bad debt and Medicare shortfall do not count as community benefits under the Schedule H 990 but are still reportable outside the community benefit table.*

**** Hospital provider fee was reported as offsetting revenue from Medi-Cal.*

Scripps Systemwide Programs

2024 Community Benefit Plan, Fiscal Year 2024

The previous section highlighted Scripps Systemwide program accomplishments for Fiscal Year 2023. This section highlights the overall community benefit goals and objectives to support community health during Fiscal Year 2024 (October 2023 to September 2024).

Fiscal Year 2024 Community Benefit Goals & Objectives

Scripps Systemwide programs will make an impact on the health status of the community through community health improvement programs, professional education and health research.

Community Health Improvement Services

Access to Care (Community Outreach)

- Support access (community outreach) to health care services for the underserved through direct programs and partnerships with community-based organizations.
- Scripps aims to promptly identify eligible patients for financial assistance and offer essential services such as education, counseling, and language interpretation as needed, in support of individuals in need.

Cancer Support Services

- Sustain prevention and wellness initiatives to educate individuals on the early detection and treatment of common cancers. Additionally, facilitate connections to community resources for Scripps patients and community members affected by cancer, actively supporting cancer awareness events and collaborating with community-based organizations.
- Provide community support and education by offering support groups addressing breast cancer, head and neck cancer, and gynecological cancer.

Cardiovascular Disease and Stroke

- Collaborate with community partners to sustain cardiac and stroke health education and prevention efforts in San Diego County, educating and engaging individuals and communities in understanding and addressing the risk factors that cause heart attacks and strokes.

Diabetes Support Services

- Provide a culturally sensitive diabetes self-management program for underserved and uninsured populations, offering diabetes self-management education in community clinics, and conducting free diabetes education and support groups throughout San Diego County.

Emergency And Disaster Preparedness

- Continue to deliver emergency services to individuals injured in local disasters while maintaining ongoing care for hospitalized patients. Scripps will engage alongside other health systems and first responder agencies (both public and private) in training, outreach, and planning initiatives to maintain readiness and to respond to regional disasters and emergency needs.

Professional Education and Health Research

Professional Education

- Support physician training of residents and fellows through Scripps several residency programs and curricula including focus on health equity, reducing bias, and caring for the underserved.

School Partnerships

- Promote healthcare as a rewarding career choice to students through continued partnerships with high schools in San Diego County which brings students to hospital and clinical settings.

Health Equity Education and Research

- Continue to increase the achievement levels of data collection for REaL and SOGI information.
- Implement the social drivers of health (SDOH) inpatient screening tool in the areas of food security, housing instability, transportation needs, utility difficulties, and interpersonal safety. Screen all patients 18 years and older at hospital admission, capture “screen positive” rates for each domain, and implement process to respond to positive screens by connecting patients with community resources.
- Continue health equity understanding and improvements in heart failure readmission, breast cancer screening, and patient experience. New intervention strategies are under development to address disparities.
- Advance 2023 health equity initiatives and related efforts in accordance with resource availability.

Diabetes Professional Education, Training and Research

- Develop and provide classes and programs tailored to healthcare professionals in communities across the United States and globally through Scripps Whittier’s professional training department.
- Identify and cultivate partnerships with community health providers, researchers, and community stakeholders to facilitate bi-directional dialogues that promote equitable research agendas, scientific discovery, application, and dissemination aimed at improving health and reducing disparities.
- Continue train community health workers and healthcare providers in underserved California communities to effectively implement the Project Dulce model.
- Participate in a research partnership in collaboration with San Ysidro Health. This collaboration will allow Scripps Whittier to assess cultural adaptations of Project Dulce’s Diabetes Among Friends curriculum and Dulce Digital texting program for Filipino and Arab American populations.



Section 13

Appendices

Appendix A – Definition of Terms

Bad Debt – Unpaid costs for care that are provided to people who do not meet the criteria for charity care, are not covered by a third-party payer or have a co-payment obligation that is not met.

Cash and In-Kind Contributions – contributions made by the organization to health care organizations and other community groups for one or more of the community benefit activities.

Charity Care – free or discounted health services provided to people who meet the organization’s criteria for financial assistance and are unable to pay for all or a portion of the services. Charity care shall be recorded at cost. Charity care does not include bad debt or uncollectible charges that the organization recorded as revenue but wrote off due to a patient’s failure to pay.

Community Benefit –Refers to the programs or activities that provide treatment and/or promote health and healing as a response to identified community needs. Qualifying activities or programs must improve access to health care, enhance community health, advance medical or health knowledge or reduce the burden of public or government health efforts.

Community Benefit Operations – activities associated with conducting community health needs assessments, community benefit program administration, and the organization’s activities associated with fundraising or grant-writing for community benefit programs. Activities or programs cannot be reported if they are provided primarily for marketing purposes or if they are more beneficial to the organization than to the community.

Community Building Activities – can include, but are not limited to, the following:

- a. Physical improvements and housing, which can include the provision or rehabilitation of housing for vulnerable populations.
- b. Economic development, which can include assisting small business development in neighborhoods with vulnerable populations and creating new employment opportunities in areas with high rates of joblessness.
- c. Community support, which can include childcare and mentoring programs for vulnerable populations or neighborhoods, neighborhood support groups, violence prevention programs, and disaster readiness and public health emergency activities.
- d. Environmental improvements, which can include activities to address environmental hazards that affect community health, such as alleviation of water or air pollution, safe removal or treatment of garbage or other waste products, and other activities to protect the community from environmental hazards.

- e. Leadership development and training for community members, which can include training in conflict resolution; civic, cultural, or language skills; and medical interpreter skills for community residents.
- f. Coalition building which can include participation in community coalitions and other collaborative efforts with the community to address health and safety issues.
- g. Community health improvement advocacy, which can include efforts to support policies and programs to safeguard or improve public health, access to health care services, housing, the environment, and transportation.
- h. Workforce development, which can include recruitment of physicians and other health professionals to medical shortage areas or other areas designated as underserved, and collaboration with educational institutions to train and recruit health professionals needed in the community.
- i. Other community building activities that protect or improve the community's health or safety that are not described in the categories listed in lines a through h above.

Community Health Needs – Refers to no-clinical approaches for improving health, preventing disease and reducing health disparities through addressing social, behavioral, environmental, economic and medical determinants of health in a geographically defined population.

Community Health Improvement Services – activities or programs, subsidized by the hospital, carried out or supported for the express purpose of improving community health.

Community Health Needs Assessment Report (CHNA) – the written report adopted for the hospital facility by an authorized body of the hospital facility.

Cost Accounting – Cost accounting systems provide the most accurate portrayal of the true cost of community benefit activities. Measurement of the costs associated with specific activities and programs to provide information meaningful to management. For example, cost accounting is used to determine the amount of an organization's total expense that can be attributed to community benefit, to assign indirect (overhead) expense to the direct cost of a program, and to estimate the cost associated with serving a subset of patients, such as Medicaid recipients.

Direct Costs – "Direct costs" means salaries and benefits, supplies, and other expenses directly related to the actual conduct of each activity or program.

Direct Offsetting Revenue – Revenue from the activity during the year that offsets the total community benefit expense of that activity. Includes any revenue generated by the activity or program, such as reimbursement for services provided to program patients. Direct offsetting revenue also includes restricted grants or contributions that the organization uses to provide a community benefit, such as a restricted grant to provide financial assistance or fund research. Direct offsetting revenue does not include unrestricted grants or contributions that the organization uses to provide a community need.

Health Equity – Health equity is attainment of the highest level of health for all people. Achieving health equity requires valuing everyone equally, with focused and ongoing societal efforts to address avoidable inequalities and historical and contemporary injustices and to eliminate health and health care disparities.

Health Disparities – Health disparities are differences in health outcomes and their determinants between segments of the population, as defined by social, demographic, environmental and geographic attributes.

Health Inequities – Health inequities are a subset of health inequalities that are modifiable, associated with social disadvantage and considered ethically unfair.

Health Research – can include, but is not limited to, clinical research, community health research, and generalizable studies on health care delivery.

Hospital Fee Program – The Hospital Fee Program was established in 2009 with the intent of improving hospital Medi-Cal reimbursement and maximizing federal financial participation in the Medi-Cal program. Hospital Fee Program, also known as the Hospital Quality Assurance Fee (HQAF), provides private hospitals with federally matched supplemental payments for inpatient and outpatient Medi-Cal services, both in fee-for-services (FFS) and managed care, while also generating state General Fund savings to support children’s health care and provides direct grants for public and district hospitals. Through the Hospital Fee Program arrangements, providers pay funds to states that then are appropriated to Medicaid agencies and serve as a source of matching funds that yields federal Medicaid revenue. These fees are included in community benefit accounting as Medicaid cost, and any revenues they yield are also included in Medicaid “direct offsetting revenue.”

Implementation Strategy – the written document that describes the hospital facility’s strategy to meet the community health needs identified through the hospital facility’s Community Health Needs Assessment (CHNA).

In-Kind Contributions – Donations made (or received) using resources that are not legal tender (e.g., cash, checks, credit cards). Donations of supplies (e.g., pharmaceuticals), equipment, or staff time that benefits another organization are examples of in-kind contributions. In community benefit accounting, in-kind contributions are valued fairly. For example, the hospital donates a two-year old computer to a community clinic. The community benefit expense would be \$1,000 if the computer were purchased for \$3,000 and after two years of use it has depreciated to a value on the books of the hospital of \$1,000.

In-Lieu of Funds – Funds used for unfunded or under-funded patients and their post-discharge needs. Funds are used for board and care, skilled nursing facilities, long-term acute care, and home health. In addition, funds are also used for medications, equipment, and transportation services.

Net Community Benefit Expense – Total community benefit expense minus direct offsetting revenue.

Other Means-Tested Government Programs – Government-sponsored health programs where eligibility for benefits or coverage is determined by income or assets. Examples include: the State Children’s Health Insurance Program (SCHIP), or the California Children’s Services (CCS) Program.

Payer – Insurance companies, health care service plans, Medicare, Medi-Cal and other private or public entities that pay hospitals for health care provided to their sponsored patients.

Professional Education and Health Research – includes clinical research as well as professional education of non-Scripps employees including graduate medical education (GME), nursing resource development, and other health care professional training. Costs for medical residents and interns may be included as health professions educations costs. Calculations based on total program expense.

Race, Ethnicity, and Language (REaL) – In the U.S., disparities in health care outcomes have been widely noted. Race, ethnicity and language (REaL) data preferences can contribute to an individual’s ability to receive reliable health care. REaL data allows hospitals and health systems to identify health care disparities by patient demographics, gain a deeper understanding of their community and ultimately develop patient-centered performance improvement plans to reduce health disparities.

Restricted Contributions (Grants) – Donations, gifts, bequests and other transfers of money or property made by a donor or grantor that has stipulated a temporary or permanent use for the resources provided. Donors or grantors provide restricted contributions with the intent of supporting a particular activity or program. Restrictions are stated in writing by the donor or grantor when they make a gift or grant.

Sexual Orientation and Gender Identity (SOGI) - Everyone has a sexual orientation and gender identity (SOGI). It's an inclusive term that applies to everyone, whether they identify as lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender, queer, two-spirit, heterosexual or cisgender (identifying with the same gender that one was assigned at birth).

Social Determinants of Health – Social determinants of health are conditions in the environments in which people are born, live, learn, work, play, worship and age that affect a wide range of health, functioning, and quality-of-life outcomes and risks.

Subsidized Health Services – Patient care services the organization provides despite a financial loss, (even) after removing the effects of charity care and Medi-Cal shortfalls (and bad debt). Clinical programs are provided at a loss because the community needs them. The service meets an identified community need if it is reasonable to conclude that if the organization no longer offered the service, the service would be unavailable in the community, the community’s capacity to provide the service would be below the community’s need, or the service would become the responsibility of government or another tax-exempt organization. Examples of such services are inpatient psychiatric units; satellite clinics serving low-income communities and burn units.

Total Community Benefit Expense – Total gross expense of the activity incurred during the year.

Uncompensated Health Care – Includes charity, under-reimbursed care, and bad debt. Shortfalls are derived using the payer-based cost allocation methodology. Bad debt and charity care are estimated by extracting the gross write offs of bad debt and charity care charges and applying the hospital RCC (Ratio of Cost to Charge) to estimate net uncompensated cost.

Under-Reimbursed Care – Care that is reimbursed below cost by County Medical Services, Medi-Cal and Medi-Cal HMO, Medicare, Medicare PPO, Medicare HMO and SHPS Medicare.

Unrestricted Contributions (Grants) – Donations, gifts, bequests and other transfers of money or property that are free from any external restrictions and are available for general use.

Volunteer Hours – includes the labor hours contributed by Scripps employees and affiliated physicians in support of Scripps-sponsored activities for which no compensation is received. The dollar value is not included in Scripps “community benefit contribution.”

Vulnerable Population – Any population that is exposed to medical or financial risk, by virtue of being uninsured, underinsured, or eligible for Medi-Cal, Medicare, California Children’s Service Program, or county indigent programs. “Vulnerable populations” also includes both of the following:

- Racial and ethnic groups experiencing disparate health outcomes. Includes Black/African American, American Indian, Alaska Native, Asian Indian, Cambodian, Chinese, Filipino, Hmong, Japanese, Korean, Laotian, Vietnamese, Native Hawaiian, Guamanian or Chamorro, Samoan, or other nonwhite racial groups, as well as individuals of Hispanic/Latino origin, including Mexicans, Mexican Americans, Chicanos, Salvadorans, Guatemalans, Cubans, and Puerto Ricans. It also includes Socially disadvantaged groups: The unhoused; communities with inadequate access to clean air and safe drinking water; people with disabilities; LGBTQ; individuals with limited English proficiency.
- Socially disadvantaged groups, including all the following:
 - The unhoused.
 - Communities with inadequate access to clean air and safe drinking water, as defined by an environmental California Healthy Places Index score of 50 percent or lower.
 - People with disabilities.
 - People identifying as lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender, or queer.
 - Individuals with limited English proficiency.

Appendix B – Community Benefit Criteria

Community benefit services are defined as programs or activities that respond to a demonstrated health related community need and seek to achieve at least one community benefit objective.

- Improve access to health services,
- Enhance public health,
- Advance knowledge through education or research,
- Relieve or reduce the health burden of government or other tax-exempt organization.

This includes activities or programs that:

- Are available broadly to the public and serve low-income consumers.
- Reduce geographic, financial, or cultural barriers to accessing health services, and if they ceased would result in access problems.
- Address federal, state, or local public health priorities such as eliminating disparities in access to health care services or disparities in health status among different populations.
 - Leverage or enhance public health department activities such as childhood immunization efforts.
 - Strengthen community health resilience by improving the ability of a community to withstand and recover from public health emergencies.
 - Would otherwise become the responsibility of government or another tax-exempt organization.
- Advance increased general knowledge through education or research that benefits the public.

Activities or programs cannot be reported if they are provided for marketing purposes or if they are more beneficial to the organization than to the community. For example, the activity or program may not be reported if it is designed primarily to increase referrals of patients with third-party coverage, required for licensure or accreditation, or restricted to individuals affiliated with the organization (employees and physicians of the organization). For further information, please visit

<https://www.chausa.org/communitybenefit/what-counts>.

Appendix C – Scripps Uncompensated Care Methodology FY23

Scripps continues to contribute resources to provide low and no-cost health care services to populations in need. During fiscal year 2023, Scripps contributed \$716,656,565 in uncompensated health care, \$18,248,321 in charity care, \$693,017,958 in Medi-Cal and Medicare shortfall, and \$5,390,286 in bad debt.

Schedule H Methodology — Schedule H requires the uncompensated care to be divided into four categories: Charity care, under-reimbursed Medi-Cal and Other Means-Tested Government Programs, Bad Debt, and under-reimbursed Medicare. Bad debt and Medicare shortfalls are reportable under the Schedule H guidelines but do not count towards the community benefit totals. Thus, the categories are reported in a specific order/hierarchy. Charity Care and under-reimbursed Medi-Cal and Other Means-Tested Government Programs are counted first.

Charity Care Methodology — Uncompensated cost is estimated by applying ratio-cost-to-charge (RCC) percentages for the hospital to the gross charity adjustments. The following costs are excluded: Community health services, professional education and research, and expenses excluded in the Medicare cost report. Traditional Charity Care is included in the Internal Revenue Service (IRS) Form 990 Schedule H Part I Line 7a.

Medi-Cal Shortfall — The shortfall is derived by computing operating margin at the patient level and summarizing the patients with Medicare, Medicare PPO, Medicare HMO, Medicare Capitated program at the hospitals, Medi-Cal, Medi-Cal HMO, and CMS primary insurance carriers. Operating margin is defined as net revenue less all variable, fixed, and overhead costs. Profitability is estimated as follows: Net revenue is equivalent to payments plus an estimation of the account balance for all open accounts, plus revenue from uncompensated care pools including Medi-Cal DSH. Cost is derived using the relative value allocation methodology per the Syntellis Performance Solutions. The following costs are excluded: Charity adjustments at cost for Medi-Cal patients, community health services, professional education and research, and expenses excluded in the Medicare cost report. These costs are included in the IRS Form 990 schedule H Part I Line 7b. In the State of California, the Medicaid program is called Medi-Cal.

Medicare and Medicare HMO Hospitals — Shortfall is derived by computing operating margin at the patient level and summarizing the patients with Medicare and Medicare Senior primary insurance carriers. Operating margin is defined as net revenue less all variable, fixed, and overhead costs. Profitability is estimated as follows: net revenue is equivalent to payments plus an estimation of the capitation account balance for all open accounts, plus other revenue including. Cost is derived using the relative value allocation methodology per the McKesson HPM cost accounting system. These costs are included in the IRS Form 990 Schedule H Part III Section B.

Bad Debt Methodology — Uncompensated cost is estimated by applying ratio- cost-to-charge (RCC) percentages for the hospital to the gross bad debt adjustments less recoveries. The following costs are excluded: Bad debt adjustments at cost for Medi-Cal and CMS patients, community health services, professional education and research, and expenses excluded in the Medicare cost report. These costs are included in the IRS Form 990 Schedule H Part III Section A.

Shortfall Methodology Clinics — Shortfall is derived by computing operating margin at the patient level and summarizing the patients with Medicare and Medicare Senior primary insurance carriers. Operating margin is defined as net revenue less all variable, fixed, and overhead costs. Profitability is estimated as follows: net revenue is equivalent to payments plus an estimation of the capitation account balance for all open accounts, plus other revenue including. Cost is derived using the relative value allocation methodology per the McKesson HPM cost accounting system. These costs are included in the IRS Form 990 Schedule H Part III Section B.

Provider Relief Fund — The World Health Organization designated COVID-19 as a global pandemic. Scripps received funding from the CARES Act Provider Relief Fund. These distributions from the Provider Relief Fund are not subject to repayment, provided Scripps is able to attest to and comply with the terms and conditions of the funding, including demonstrating that the distributions received have been used for health care-related expenses or lost revenue attributable to COVID-19. The provider relief payments are accounted as a restricted grant and used to direct offset revenue related to costs.

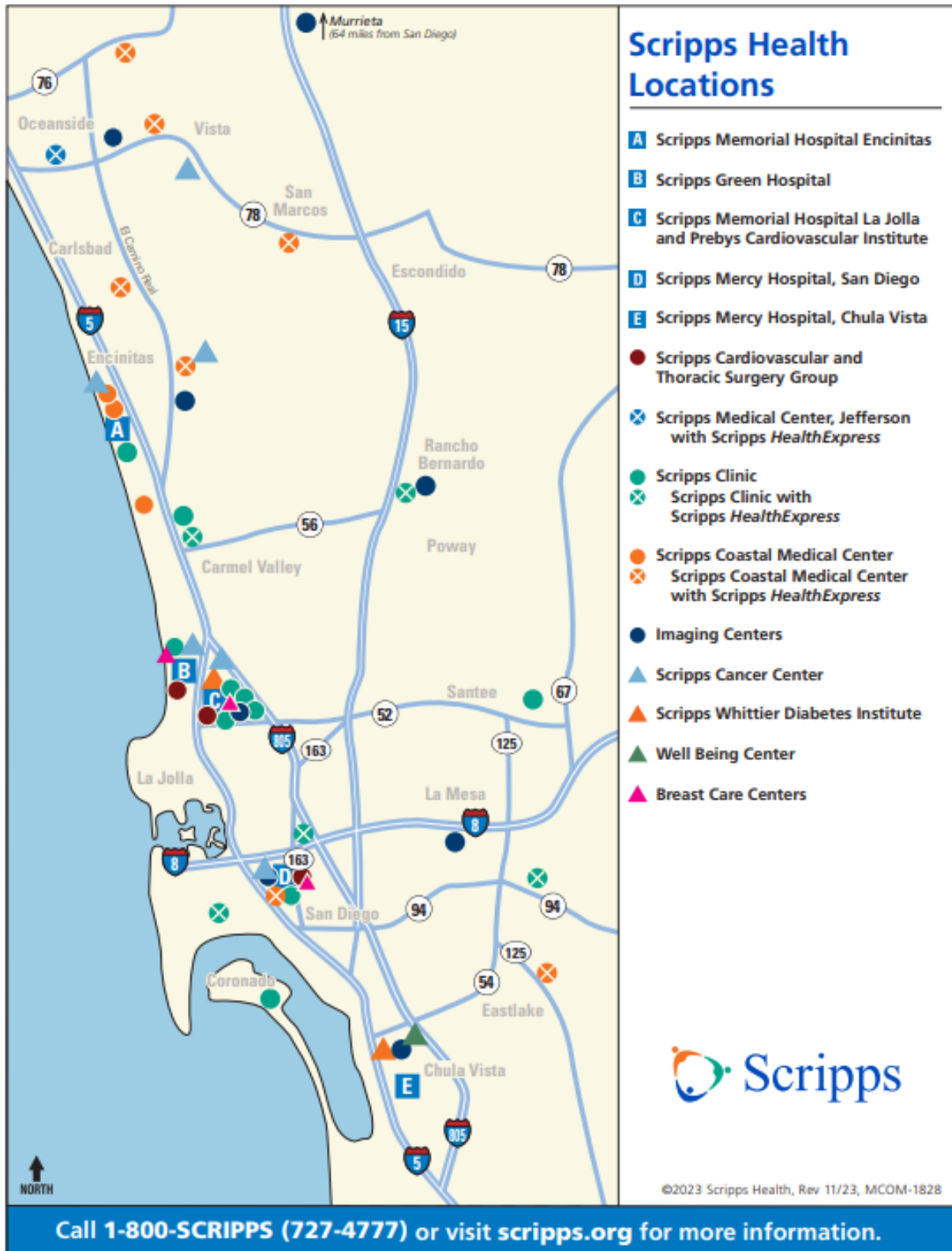
Hospital Provider Fee Program

The State of California enacted legislation for a provider fee program to fund certain Medi-Cal coverage expansions (“Provider Fee Program”). The Provider Fee Program charges hospitals a quality assurance fee that is used to obtain federal matching funds for Medi-Cal with the proceeds redistributed as supplemental payments to California hospitals that treat Medi-Cal patients. In September 2022, CMS approved the January 1, 2022 through December 31, 2022 Provider Fee Program (“Phase VII”). The Organization’s policy is to recognize program revenues and expenses on the accrual basis once the Federal waiver has been approved. Federal and state payments received from these programs are included as provider fee revenue in total patient service revenue, and fees paid or payable to the state and California Health Foundation and Trust (“CHFT”) are included in provider fee expense in operating expenses. The Provider Fee Program for the calendar year 2023 (“Phase VIII”) has not yet been approved by CMS and has not been recognized in results of the Organization for the year ended September 30, 2023.

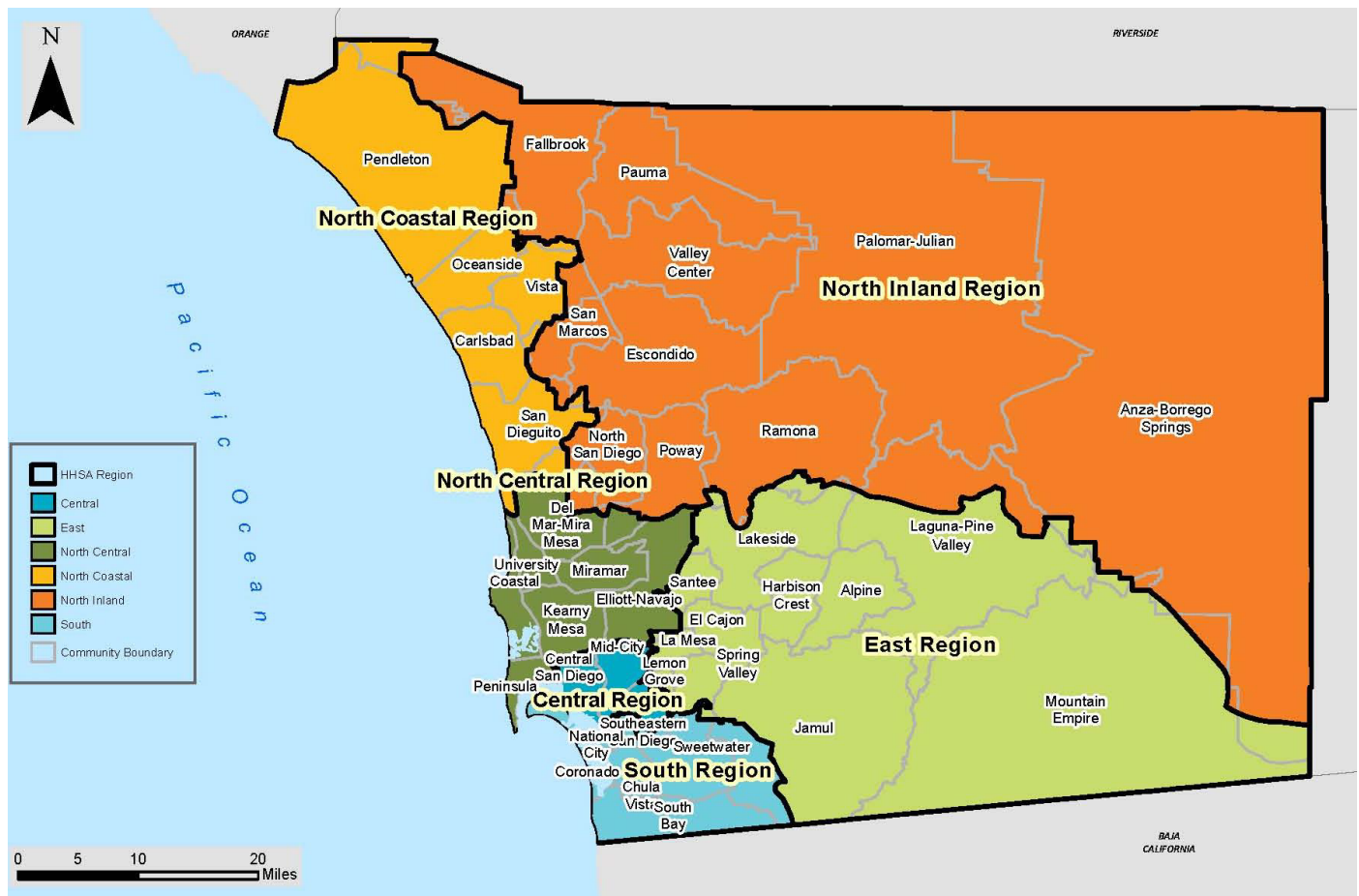
Provider fee program revenue recorded for the years ended September 30 is summarized below (in thousands):

	<u>2023</u>	<u>2022</u>
Provider fee revenue	\$ 30,295	\$ 129,378
Provider fee expense	(25,113)	(102,408)
CHFT (fee) accrual adjustment	(96)	(221)
Net operating income from provider fee	<u>\$ 5,086</u>	<u>\$ 26,749</u>

Appendix D – Scripps Health Locations



Appendix E – San Diego County HHS Geographic Services Regions



Source: County of San Diego: https://www.sandiegocounty.gov/content/dam/sdc/live_well_san_diego/indicators/Map_and_Regional_Data.pdf

Central	North Coastal	East	North Inland	North Central	South
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Central San Diego • Mid-City • Southeast San Diego 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Carlsbad • Del Mar • Oceanside • Pendleton • San Dieguito • Vista 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Alpine • El Cajon • Harbison Crest • Jamul • La Mesa • Laguna/Pine Valley • Lakeside • Lemon Grove • Mountain Empire • Santee • Spring Valley 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Borrego Springs • Escondido • Fallbrook • North San Diego • Palomar/Julian • Pauma • Poway • Ramona • San Marcos • Valley Center 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Coastal • Elliott Navajo • Kearny Mesa • Mira Mesa • Miramar • Peninsula • University 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Chula Vista • Coronado • National City • South Bay • Sweetwater

Note: These regions have been designated by the County of San Diego Health and Human Services Agency (HHS) for the purpose of service delivery. The regions include different sub-regional area (SRA) groupings that the regions designated by the San Diego Association of Governments (SANDAG).

Appendix F – Regulatory Requirements

SB 697 and Scripps History with Past Assessments

Scripps Health has a long history of responding to the health needs of the communities it serves, extending beyond traditional hospital care to address the health care needs of the region’s most vulnerable populations. In 1994, California legislators passed Senate Bill 697 (SB 697), which requires all private not-for-profit hospitals in the state to conduct a CHNA every three years. Since 1994, these programs have been created based on an assessment of needs identified through hospital data, community input, and major trends. Previous collaborations among not-for-profit hospitals, health care systems, and other community partners have resulted in numerous well regarded Community Health Needs Assessments (CHNA) reports. Information is gathered through the CHNA for the purposes of reporting community benefit, developing strategic plans, creating annual reports, providing input on legislative decisions, and informing the general community of health issues and trends.

Federal Requirements

In 2010, Congress added several new requirements for hospital organizations to maintain federal income tax exempt status under Section 501 (r) of the Internal Revenue Code (the “Code”) as part of the Affordable Care Act (ACA). One of the requirements set forth in Section 501 (r) of the Code is for each hospital organization to conduct a Community Health Needs Assessment (CHNA) at least once every three tax years. The requirement to conduct a CHNA applies to Scripps Health, which is a health system that operates four hospital facilities. In addition, Scripps Health must adopt a triennial Implementation Plan which is a separate written document to address certain community health needs identified in the CHNA. Additional information on the ACA requirements for nonprofit hospitals can be found at www.irs.gov, keyword: “Charitable Organizations.”

Required Components of the Community Health Needs Assessment

Per IRS requirements, (Treas. Reg. § 1.501 (r)-3(b) (6) (i)) the following are components the CHNA must include:

- A description of the community served by the health system and how it was determined
- A description of the processes and methods used to conduct the assessment
- A description of how the hospital organization considered input from people who represent the broad interests of the community served by the hospital facility
- Prioritized description of all the community health needs identified through the CHNA, as well as a description of the process and criteria used in prioritizing such health needs.
- A description of the existing health care facilities and other resources with the community available to meet the community health needs identified in the CHNA.

- An evaluation of the impact of any actions that were taken since the hospital finished conducting its immediately preceding CHNA to address the significant health needs identified in the prior CHNA.
- Make the CHNA widely available to the public via the hospital’s website.

Required Components of the Implementation Strategy

Provisions in the Affordable Care Act permit a hospital facility that adopts a joint CHNA report to also adopt a joint implementation strategy which, with respect to each significant health need identified through the joint CHNA, either describes how one or more collaborating facilities plan to address the health need or identifies the health need as one collaborating facilities do not intend to address. The joint implementation strategy adopted for the hospital facility must: (Treas. Reg. § 1.501 (r)-3(c) (4).

- Meet community health needs identified in the CHNA. Describe any needs identified in the CHNA that are not being addressed and the reasons for not addressing them
- Be clearly identified as applying to the hospital facility
- Clearly identify the hospital facility’s particular roles and responsibilities in taking the actions described in the implementation strategy, and the programs and resources the hospital facility plans to commit to such actions
- Include a summary or other tool that helps the reader easily locate those portions of the joint implementation strategy that relates to the hospital facility.

Appendix G – Scripps Health Fiscal Year 2023 Community Benefit Programs

The list below highlights Scripps community health improvement programs and professional education and research programs by alphabetical order for Fiscal Year 2023.

Category A – Community Health Services

A Matter of Balance: Managing Concerns About Falls
Aging and Independent Services (AIS) Advisory Council
Alcohol Policy Panel (APP)
Beach Area Community Court Program
Behavioral Health Advisory Board
Bereavement Support Group
Bicycle/E-Bike Safety and Education
Bingocize-Fall Prevention Class Series
Blood Drive - American Red Cross
BrainMasters: Stroke & Brain Injury Survivors Support Group
Breastfeeding Support Groups
California Collective Impact Cooperative
California Teen Safe Driving Coalition (CATSDC)
Car Seat Program
Centering Pregnancy, Healthy Moms, Healthy Babies
CFLI - Heartsaver CPR, AED and Basic First Aid - American Heart
Chula Vista Community Collaborative
City of Refuge (CoR) Recuperative Care Unit Program
Commission on Gang Prevention & Intervention
Community Collaborative to Address Substance Use: McAllister Institute
Community Health Education Lecture Series
Community Wraparound
CPR Classes for Patients and Families of the Cardiac Treatment Center
Cross-Border Collaboration to Address Injuries at the Border
County of San Diego Love Your Heart Blood Pressure Screenings

Eric Paredes Save A Life Foundation-Cardiac Arrest Screenings
Eric Paredes Save A Life Foundation-Smart Hearts Don't Miss A Beat
Fall Prevention and Home Safety Workshop
Fall Prevention Resource Guide
Fall Prevention Task Force
Father Joe's Villages Street Health Project
Flu Vaccines for Homeless Shelter Residents
Facilitating Access to Coordinated Transportation (FACT) Inc.
Getting Ready for Baby - Child Safety and Prevention Class
Grandparenting Today - Child Safety and Prevention Class
Greater La Jolla Meals on Wheels
Gun Violence Reduction Advisory Group
Healing Arts Class and Support Group
Healing Touch Educational Programs
Helping Address Breast Health and Awareness
Helping Patients Navigate Post Discharge Services and Support
Improving Health Education and Awareness for Parents
Left Ventricular Assist Device (LVAD) Support Group
Live Fit Su Vida Su Corazon Healthy Living Program
Live Well San Diego Community Leadership Team
Mamma's Kitchen/Management of Congestive Heart Failure Patients
Marijuana Prevention Initiative
Mental Health Association of San Diego - Meeting of the Minds
Mental Health Awareness Month
Mental Health Outreach Services, A-Visions Vocational Training Program
Mercy Outreach Surgical Team (MOST)
Molina's San Diego Community Advisory Committee
My Brain and My Baby
North City Prevention Coalition (NCPC)
Opioid Stewardship Program (OSP) and Medication Assisted Treatment

Parkinson's Boot Camp

Partnerships for Success (P4S) Coalition

Pelvic Floor Wellness: Prenatal

Promotores in Action Prevention, Education and Wellness

Psychiatric Liaison Team (PLT)

Public Resource Specialist

Residency Led Health and Well Being Programs

SafeKids Coalition

San Diego Border Health Collaborative General Meeting

San Diego Brain Injury Foundation

San Diego County Lifeguard Education Conference

San Diego County Substance Use and Overdose Prevention Task Force

San Diego Domestic Violence Council (SDDVC)

San Diego Human Trafficking Task Force and Project Life

San Diego Stroke Consortium/Stroke Advisory Committee

San Dieguito Alliance

San Ysidro Mental Health Workgroup

Saving Lives Through Stop the Bleed Campaign & Program

Scripps Advanced Care Clinic

Scripps Cancer Center – Registry

Scripps Cancer Center – Exercise Programs

Scripps Cancer Center – Healthy Bones and Balance

Scripps Cancer Center – Heredity and Cancer Genetic Counseling Program

Scripps Cancer Center – Living Life Well Sessions

Scripps Cancer Center – Lung Screening and Survivorship Program

Scripps Cancer Center – Oncology Resource Library

Scripps Cancer Center – Outpatient Social Worker and Liaison Program

Scripps Cancer Center – Registered Nurse Navigator Program

Scripps Cancer Center – Restorative Yoga and Sound Therapy Classes

Scripps Cancer Center – Support Groups

Scripps Cancer Center – Survivor’s Day Events

Scripps Cancer Center – Wig Program and Prosthesis Bank

Scripps Cancer Center – Lymphedema Stretch

Scripps Cardiac Treatment Center – Balance Fall Proof Education

Scripps Cardiac Treatment Center – Dietary Counseling – Community Program

Scripps Cardiac Treatment Center – Group Exercise Programs

Scripps Cardiac Treatment Center – (Long COVID Support Group)

Scripps Cardiac Treatment Center – Meditation Class – Wellness Program

Scripps Cardiac Treatment Center – Pulmonary Cardiac Class

Scripps Cardiac Treatment Center – Tai Chi – Fitness Program

Scripps Drug Take Back Kiosks

Scripps Health Cal Fresh Screenings

Scripps Health Stroke Risk Program Community Outreach Events

Scripps Mercy & Family Health Centers of San Diego Behavioral Health Partnership

Scripps Mercy Family Health Center of San Diego Transitions of Care Program

Scripps Mercy Supplemental Nutrition Program for Women, Infants and Children (WIC)

Scripps Shiley Center – Men's Pelvic Health & Wellness

Scripps Substance Use Disorder Service (SUDS) Nurses

Scripps Medial Foundation – Medication Patient Financial Assistance Program

Senior Health Education, Prevention & Wellness Programs

South County Action Network (SoCAN) Meeting

Southwestern College Foundation

Standing Strong Fall Prevention Workshop

St. Leo's Mission Medical Clinic

Strategic Highway Safety Plan

Stroke and Brain Injury Support and Education Group

Stroke Care Programs

Tai Chi for Arthritis and Fall Prevention

The Alzheimer’s Project – San Diego Unites for a Cure and Care

The California Bridge Behavior Health Navigation Program

Trauma Education Programs
Understanding Alzheimer's and Dementia
Violence Against Healthcare Workers Taskforce
Vision Zero Coalition
Whittier – COVID Recovery Bag Distribution
Whittier - Diabetes Prevention Program (DPP)
Whittier - Dulce Digital Community
Whittier – Krueger Wyeth - Mobile Health and Resource Fair
Whittier - National Institute of Health (NIH) Community Engagement
Whittier - Outreach Events (Diabetes Education)
Whittier - Project Dulce Care Management
Whittier - Behavioral Health Integration Program in Diabetes (BeHIP)

Category B – Professional Education

CFLI - Advanced Cardiac Life Support (ACLS) Renewal Course
CFLI - Basic Life Support for Healthcare Provider Online Skills Check
CFLI - Neonatal Resuscitation Program (NRP)
CFLI - Pediatric Advanced Life Support (PALS) Provider Class
CFLI - Pediatric Advanced Life Support (PALS) Renewal Course
Continuing Medical Education Programs
Eric Paredes Save A Life Foundation-Prescription for Prevention
Health Professions Education, Resident and Student Training
Internship and Area Health Education Scholars Program (AHEC)
Maternal and Child Health – Obstetrics Residency Education
Maternal Child Health Nursing Students
Navy Research Fellow Program
Nursing, Allied Health and Clinical Student Preceptorships
Physical Therapist and Physical Therapy Assistant Student Program
RPrIDE (Residency Promoting Inclusion, Diversity and Equity)
San Diego Day of Trauma Awareness Conference
San Ysidro Health Centers Clinical Training Experiences

Scripps Conference Services and Continuing Medical education (CME)
Scripps Mercy Emergency Medical Services (EMS)
Scripps Mercy Maternal Health Fellowship
Supportive Mental Health Services at Local School-Based Clinics
The San Diego Nursing & Allied Health Service-Education Consortium
Trauma Research Graduate Student Internship
UCSD Graduate Student Internship
UCSD/Scripps Health Hospice and Palliative Medicine Fellowship
Whittier – Scripps Whittier Diabetes Institute Professional Education and Training

Category D – Health Research

Financial Toxicity in Diverse Cancer Populations and Care Settings
Financial Toxicity in the Spanish Speaking Population
Helping Patients with Food Insecurities to Heal
IRB 12-6045 AAST Vascular Trauma Registry - PROOVIT
IRB 15-6721 Epidemiology, Injury Control, Treatments, Outcomes
IRB 16-6744 Outcomes & Trends in Traumatic Injury & Surgical
IRB 18-7126 The Pathogenesis of Post Traumatic Pulmonary Embolism
IRB 18-7249 Penetrating Thoracic Trauma Management
IRB 20-7626 Evaluating Financial Vulnerability of Trauma Centers
IRB 20-7646 Mechanically Ventilated COVID-9 Patients Requiring Trauma
IRB-22-7946 Bedside Lung Ultrasound COVID Evaluation
Project 201585: Pediatric Trauma along the California-Mexico Border
ReUnidos: Farmworker Skin Cancer Health Navigation Program
Scripps Hub Academic Research Core (SHARC)
Whittier – Project Dulce Arab Americans
Whittier – Project Dulce Filipino Americans
Whittier – Community Engagement Alliance
Whittier - Continuous Glucose Monitoring Study (CyberGEMS)
Whittier - Dulce Digital 2.0
Whittier - Scripps Whittier Diabetes Distress Study (ACT1VATE)

Category E – Cash, Grants and In Kind

Consumer Center for Health Education and Advocacy (CCHEA)
Earthquake Medical Mission in Turkey and Syria
Emergency Meals and Water to the Ministry of Jerusalem
Family Health Center of San Diego Internal Medicine Outpatient Teaching Clinic Partnership
Father Joe’s Villages Car Donation
Greater La Jolla Meals on Wheels
La Maestra Casino Night
Promises 2 Kids
San Ysidro Health Center
Scripps Blanket and Sock Drive

Category F – Community Building Activities

Career Mentoring Program
Cristo Rey Work Study Program
Disaster Preparedness - Community Outreach and Education
Enlisted Leadership Foundation - The Foundry
Executive Leadership - Community Building
Health Careers Opportunity Program (HCOP) – Camp Scripps
Health Professionals in the Classroom
Hospital Incident Command System National Advisory Committee
Lights On! - MicroGrants
North San Diego Business Chamber Health Committee Meeting
Residency Led Youth Programs
San Diego County Coalition Surge Test No Notice Exercise
San Diego County Healthcare Disaster Coalition
San Diego County Medical & Health Full Scale Exercise
San Diego Healthcare Coalition Advisory Committee
San Diego Organization of Healthcare Leaders (SOHL)
San Diego Regional Full-Scale Exercise

Scripps Health Public Policy and Advocacy
Scripps High School Exploration Internship Program
Scripps Mercy Hospital Clothing Drive for Catholic Charities
Scripps Mercy Leadership Retreat Volunteer Service Day
Scripps School to Health Career Pathway Programs
The San Diego LGBT Community Center
Young Leaders in Healthcare
Youth Surgery Viewing Program

Appendix H – Scripps Health Participation With Community Organizations

The list below highlights Scripps community partners and coalitions in Fiscal Year 2023. Community organizations are listed alphabetically.

2-1-1 San Diego

Adventist Health - Sonora

Aging & Independence Services - Fall Prevention Task Force

Aging and Independent Services (AIS) Advisory Council

Alameda County Public Health Department

Alcohol Policy Panel (APP)

Alzheimer's San Diego

American Academy of Dermatologists

American Cancer Society

American Heart Association

American Lung Association

American Red Cross of San Diego

Asian Business Association

Be There San Diego

Beach Area Community Court Program

Behavioral Health Advisory Board

Betty Ford Center

Biocom - Life Science Association of California

CA Emergency Medical Services Authority - CAL MAT

CA Medicine (CalMed) Region

California Health Collaborative - Every Women Counts

California Highway Patrol

California Hospital Association

California Medicine Scholars Program (CMSP)

California State Parks

California State University San Marcos (CSUSM)

California Surf Lifesaving Association

California Teen Safe Driving Coalition (CATSDC)

Cantebria Senior Homes Encinitas

Cardiff 101 Main Street

Carlsbad Senior Center

Castle Park Elementary School
Castle Park High School
Castle Park Middle School
Catholic Charities, Diocese of San Diego
Celebrando Latinas
Central Region HHS Public Health
Chula Vista Chamber of Commerce
Chula Vista Community Collaborative
Chula Vista Elementary School District
Chula Vista Wellbeing Center
Consulado de Mexico: Ventanilla de Salud
Commission on Gang Prevention & Intervention
Community Health Improvement Exchange (CIE)
Community Health Improvement Partners (CHIP)
Community Housing Works
Consumer Center for Health Education & Advocacy (CCHEA)
County Aging & Independent Services
County Mental Health Department
Cristo Rey High School
Cristo Rey Middle School
Diabetes Prevention Program (DPP)
Downtown Encinitas Main Street Association
Eastlake High School
Encinitas 101 Main Street (DEMA)
Encinitas Chamber of Commerce
Eric Paredes Save a Life Foundation
Escondido Chamber of Commerce
Fall Prevention Task Force
Fallbrook Chamber of Commerce
Fallbrook Regional Health District - Community & Wellness Center
Family Health Centers of San Diego (FHCSA)
Father Joe's Villages
Feeding San Diego
Fiji School of Medicine
Foster, Adoptive and Kinship Care Education Program at Grossmont College

Full Access & Coordination Travel (FACT) Inc.
Greater La Jolla Meals on Wheels
Grossmont College
Grossmont-Cuyamaca College District Auxiliary
Gun Violence Reduction Advisory Group
Health and Human Services County of San Diego
Health and Science Pipeline Initiative
Health Resources and Services Administration - HRSA
Health Services Advisory Group (HSAG)
Hillcrest Business Association Business Improvement Dist.
Hospital Association of San Diego & Imperial Counties
Hospital Incident Command System (HICS) National Advisory Committee
Imperial Valley AHEC
Interfaith Community Services
Jackie Robinson Family YMCA
Jewish Family Services
Kiwanis Club of Chula Vista
KOCT (Oceanside Local TV Network)
La Costa Glen
La Jolla Historical Society
La Maestra Community Health Centers
La Maestra Family Clinic, Inc
Latinos y Latina en Accion
Legal Aid Society of San Diego - LEAD
Leucadia 101 Main Street Association
Leukemia & Lymphoma Society
Live Well San Diego
Live Well San Diego Community Leadership Team
MAAC Laurel Tree Apartments
MainStreet Oceanside
Mama's Kitchen
Mana De San Diego
Many Shades of Pink
Mar Vista High School

Marijuana Prevention Initiative
Mercy Gardens Hillcrest
Mercy Housing
Metro Caring
Mid-City CAN-SAY
Molina's San Diego Community Advisory Committee
NAMI San Diego
Naval Medical Center (NMCSD)
Neighborhood Healthcare
New Direction Family Resource Center
Norman Park Senior Center
North City Prevention Coalition (NCPC)
North County LGBT Center
North County Lifeline, Inc
North San Diego Business Chamber
Northeast Valley Health Corporation
Ocean View Hills Middle School
Oceanside Chamber of Commerce
Otay Mesa Chamber of Commerce
Pacifica Senior Living Bonita
Palomar College
Parkinson's Association of San Diego
Partnerships for Success (P4S) Coalition
Pioneers Memorial Hospital
Point Loma Nazarene University (PLNU)
Projects for Assistance in Transition from Homelessness PATH
Rescue Mission - Shelter Bed Placement
Roots Community Health Center
SafeKids Coalition
Salt Pima River Indian Maricopa Community
San Diego Border Area Health Education Center
San Diego Border Health Collaborative General Meeting
San Diego City College
San Diego County Alcohol Policy Panel for Public Strategies
San Diego County Healthcare Disaster Coalition

San Diego County Medical Society
San Diego County Sheriff's Department
San Diego County Substance Use and Overdose Prevention Task Force
San Diego County Taxpayers Association
San Diego Domestic Violence Council (SDDVC)
San Diego Fall Prevention Task Force
San Diego Health Connect
San Diego Healthcare Coalition Advisory Committee
San Diego Healthy Start
San Diego Human Trafficking Task Force
San Diego Hunger Coalition
San Diego LGBT Community Center
San Diego Mesa College
San Diego North Economic Development Council
San Diego Nursing & Allied Health Education Consortium
San Diego Padres
San Diego Police Department
San Diego Regional Chamber of Commerce
San Diego Regional Continuum of Care Collaborative Governance
San Diego Regional Economic Development Corporation
San Diego Rescue Mission (SDRM)
San Diego State University
San Dieguito Alliance
San Elijo State Beach Lifeguard Headquarters
San Marcos Chamber of Commerce
San Ysidro Chamber of Commerce
San Ysidro Health Center (SYHC)
San Ysidro High School
San Ysidro Mental Health Workgroup
San Ysidro Middle School
Scripps Research Translational Institute
San Diego Community Colleges
San Diego Unified High School District
Serving Seniors
Solana Beach Chamber of Commerce

South Bay Community Services
South County Action Network (SoCAN)
South County Economic Development Council
Southwest Senior High School
Southwestern College Foundation
St. Charles Nutrition Center
St. John's Catholic Church
St. Leo's Clinic
Stop The Bleed Program
Strategic Highway Safety Plan
Suicide Prevention Council (SPC)
Sweetwater High School
Sweetwater Union High School District
The Alzheimer's Project - SD Unites for a Cure & Care
The California Endowment
The Downtown San Diego Partnership
The National Council on Aging
The San Diego Foundation
Tiburcio Vasquez Health Center
Trenton Health Team
Tulare County Health & Human Services Agency
U.S Department of Health and Human Services
U.S. Agency International Development (USAID)
UC San Diego School of Medicine
UCSD Family and Preventive Medicine
University City High School
University of California San Diego (UCSD)
University of San Diego (USD)
Vision Zero Coalition
Vista Chamber of Commerce
Vista Community Clinic
Volunteers of America
Women, Infant and Children Program
Young Leaders in Healthcare

Appendix I – County of San Diego Data And Resources

Leading Causes of Death Among San Diego County Residents by Year, 2011-2022, [2011-2022 Leading Causes of Death among San Diego County Residents Dashboard | Tableau Public](#)

2018- 2022 Demographic Profiles San Diego County, [2022 Region SRA Demographic Profiles.pdf \(sandiegocounty.gov\)](#)

County of San Diego Regional Equity Indicators Report, Fiscal Year 2022-2023, [OERJ Equity Indicators Report.pdf \(sandiegocounty.gov\)](#)

County of SD HHS Public Health Services Public Use Codebook and Metadata File, Data Year: 2021. Health Data – Community Profiles: Public Health Services Data Guide and Codebook [automatic download], [Regional & Community Data \(sandiegocounty.gov\)](#)

Exploring Health Disparities in San Diego County: Executive Summary - Report Series to Identify Opportunities to Achieve Health Equity, [Health Equity Report Series Executive Summary 2022.pdf \(sandiegocounty.gov\)](#)

Racial Equity: Framework & Outcomes Brief, [Racial Equity Framework and Outcomes Brief, Data Guide.pdf \(sandiegocounty.gov\)](#)

Health Equity Dashboard Series: Racial Equity Dashboards, San Diego County, [Health Equity Dashboard Series: Racial Equity Dashboards, San Diego County | Tableau Public](#)

LGBTQ Health and Well-Being Dashboard, [LGBTQ Health and Well-Being | Tableau Public](#)

Harm Reduction/Overdose Data to Action (OD2A: Opioid-Related Overdoses and Encounters in San Diego County Retrospective Analysis, [PowerPoint Presentation \(sandiegocounty.gov\)](#)

San Diego County Prescription Drug Abuse Task Force Report Card: Key Measures of Prescription Drug and Opioid Problems, [Home | SDPDATF](#)

Suicide in San Diego County, 2023 <https://www.sdchip.org/initiatives/suicide-prevention-council/>

3-4-50: Chronic Disease Deaths in San Diego County – County Overview, 2000-2019, https://www.sandiegocounty.gov/content/dam/sdc/hhsa/programs/phs/CHS/3-4-50_County_Detailed_Brief_2023.pdf

Appendix J – Endnotes

¹ As per Senate Bill 697, hospitals under the common control of a single corporation or another entity may submit a consolidated report to California’s Department of Health Care Access and Information (formerly known as the Office of Statewide Health Planning and Development). Please refer to California Health and Safety Code Section 127340, et seq.

² Congressional Research Services, 501 (c)(3) Hospitals and the Community Benefit Standard, <https://crsreports.congress.gov/RL34605>, Updated May 12, 2010.

³ American Council on Aging, 2024 Federal Poverty Levels/Guidelines and How They Determine Medicaid Eligibility, <https://www.medicaidplanningassistance.org/federal-poverty-guidelines/>

⁴ California Hospital Association.

⁵ Calculation for Medi-Cal and other means-tested government programs and Medicare shortfall are derived using the payer-based cost allocation method. Calculations for bad debt and charity care are estimated by extracting the gross write-offs of bad debt and charity care charges and applying the hospital ratios of cost to charges (RCC) to estimate net cost of care.

⁶ Calculation for charity care is estimated by extracting the gross write-offs of charity care charges and applying the hospital ratio of cost to charges (RCC) to estimate the cost of providing charity care.

⁷ The Hospital Fee Program was reported as offsetting revenue from Medi-Cal. The pledge/grant (separate from the quality assurance fee) is reported in Cash and In-Kind Contributions for other vulnerable populations.

⁸ Calculations for Medicare are derived using the payer-based cost allocation methodology. In Schedule H, the Medicare cost report is used.

⁹ Cost of bad debt is estimated by applying the hospital ratio of cost-to-charges (RCC) to the gross write-offs of bad debt to arrive at the estimated cost of providing care.

¹⁰ Demographic and community need information data presented throughout the body of this document are based upon the findings of the Hospital Association of San Diego and Imperial Counties 2022 Community Health Needs Assessment, <http://www.hasdic.org/chna.htm> which includes data from the San Diego County Health and Human Services Agency (HHS), Public Health Services including Community Health Statistics, Health Equity Dashboards and Morbidity and Mortality data. Hospital discharge trend data retrieved from California’s Department of Health Care Access and Information (HCAI) Limited data sets, 2017-2019, SpeedTrack©.

¹¹ U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, Office of Disease Prevention and Health Promotion. Access to health care. HealthyPeople Web site. <https://health.gov/healthypeople/objectives-and-data/browse-objectives/health-care> . Accessed July 5, 2022.

¹² U.S. Census Bureau. American Community Survey, 2017-2021, 5-Year Estimates, <https://www.sandiegocounty.gov/content/dam/sdc/hhsa/programs/phs/CHS/2021%20Region%20SRA%20Demographic%20Profiles.pdf>.

¹³ Rank is based on total number of deaths in each of the National Center for Health Statistics (NCHS "rankable" categories. The top 15 leading causes of death presented here are based on the San Diego County residents for their respective years. Cause of death is based on the underlying cause of death reported on death certificates as classified by ICD-10 codes. Deaths for specific demographics or geographic area may not equal the total deaths for San Diego County due to missing data. The COVID-19 pandemic was associated with increases in all-cause mortality. COVID-19 deaths have affected the patterns of mortality including Leading Causes of Death. Source: California Department of Public Health, Center for Health Statistics, Office of Health Information and Research, Vital Records Business Intelligence System. Prepared by: County of San Diego, Health and Human Services Agency, Public Health Services, Community Health Statistics Unit, January 2023. Leading Causes of Death among San Diego County Residents Dashboard | Tableau Public. [2011-2022 Leading Causes of Death among San Diego County Residents Dashboard | Tableau Public](#)

¹⁴ National Institute of Health. National Institute of Mental Health. Mental Health Information Statistics. Mental Illness. <https://www.nimh.nih.gov/health/statistics/mental-illness>. Updated January 2022. Accessed July 7, 2022.

¹⁵ Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration. Leading Change: A Plan for SAMHSA's Roles and Actions 2011-2014. https://www.ncceh.org/media/files/article/SAMHSA_Plan_2011-14.pdf. Published 2011. Accessed March 28, 2022.

¹⁶ American Society of Clinical Oncology 2023 Report <https://ascopost.com/news/january-2023/american-cancer-society-cancer-statistics-2023-report-released/#:~:text=While%20the%20continuing%20decline%20in,aged%2060%20to%2079%20years>.

¹⁷ Scripps Cancer Center Registry is not included as a community benefit as it is a requirement hospital's accreditation as a cancer center.

¹⁸ Scripps Cancer Center Registered Nurse Navigator Program is not considered a community benefit since the program is exclusively for its patients.

¹⁹ Scripps Cancer Center Outpatient Social Worker and Liaison Program is not included as a community benefit since the program is exclusively for its patients.

²⁰ Scripps Cancer Center Outpatient Heredity and Cancer Genetic Counseling Program is not included as a community benefit since the program is exclusively for its patients.

²¹ Scripps Cancer Center Lung Screening and Survivorship Program is not included as a community benefit since the program is exclusively for its patients.

²² American Heart Association. What is cardiovascular disease? American Heart Association Web site. <https://www.heart.org/en/health-topics/consumer-healthcare/what-is-cardiovascular-disease>. Updated May 31, 2017. Accessed on January 30, 2022.

²³ San Diego Hospital Association and Imperial Counties 2022 Community Health Needs Assessment and the most recent San Diego County Community Health Statistics (unless otherwise indicated). <https://hasdic.org/chna/>

²⁴ Scripps employees who volunteer for the Eric Paredes screening events do so during their personal time, and as such, staff time is not included in the community benefit report totals.

²⁵ Centers for Disease Control and Prevention. Diabetes. CDC Web site.

<https://www.cdc.gov/diabetes/basics/diabetes.html>. Accessed August 26, 2021.

²⁶ What is Economic Security?" The International Committee of the Red Cross. June 18, 2015.

²⁷ Kaiser Family Foundation, Racial Disparities in Maternal and Infant Health, <https://www.kff.org/racial-equity-and-health-policy/issue-brief/racial-disparities-in-maternal-and-infant-health-current-status-and-efforts-to-address-them/>.

²⁸ The expenses associated with the Scripps employee food sharing distribution program were not included as a community benefit expense as the food distribution events were not open to the community and were solely for Scripps employees.

²⁹ Volunteer time calculations are determined using an average hourly wage for the Scripps Health system, inclusive of benefits.

³⁰ Professional education encompasses graduate medical education, nursing resource development, and other healthcare professional education. Research comprises clinical research activities primarily conducted at Scripps Clinical Research Services, Scripps Whittier Diabetes Institute, Scripps Genomic Medicine, and Scripps Translational Science Institute. Calculations are based on total program expenses.

³¹ The Health Equity Information Center was made possible in part by residual class settlement funds in the matter of April Krueger v. Wyeth, Inc., Case No. 03-cv-2496 (US District Court, SD of Calif.).

³² Scripps Mercy Hospital operates Scripps Mercy Hospital San Diego and Scripps Mercy Hospital Chula Vista under one license. This number includes Scripps Mercy Hospital (San Diego Campus, Chula Vista Campus)

³³ Scripps Mercy Hospital employees donated toys to La Maestra Community Health Center's patient toy drive as individuals, rather than as representatives of the hospital. Consequently, these contributions are not included in the quantification of community benefits.

³⁴ Scripps Mercy Hospital organized a clothing drive, during which employees generously donated work attire. These donations, originating from individual staff contributions, are thus not included in the quantification of community benefits.

³⁵ Patients in the program are only Medicare, Sprint, and Stroke and do not include all case management and social work referrals.

³⁶ Various programs listed in section 11 (Scripps Medical Foundation) are excluded from the quantification of community benefit totals as programs are exclusively provided to Scripps patients.

³⁷ Chemo bags are only provided to Scripps patients.