The Value of the 340B Drug Pricing Program to the Community We Serve
Saint Alphonsus Medical Center, Ontario

Saint Alphonsus Medical Center Ontario (SAMC-Ontario) is a 49-bed acute care, not-for-profit hospital, serving Ontario and the surrounding communities in eastern Oregon and southwestern Idaho. Our Mission to serve as a compassionate and transforming healing presence within our communities is supported by our core values of Reverence, Commitment to Those Who are Poor, Justice, Stewardship, and Integrity. Saint Alphonsus Medical Center Ontario provides access to life-saving care in addition to providing for the basic healthcare needs of the community.

THE BENEFITS OF THE 340B DRUG PRICING PROGRAM: Saint Alphonsus Medical Center Ontario responds to the needs of communities across our region in many ways. The savings we receive from the 340B Drug Pricing program help us respond to community needs by allowing us to:

- Support local, affordable housing options via participation in a local housing task force, and hosting "housing as healthcare" meetings. SAMC-Ontario facilitated community and financial support for the Presbyterian Community Care Center conversion to affordable housing units with onsite space for healthcare and social services in Ontario.

- Develop Community Health Worker Hub to assess and engage in addressing the social influencers of health such as access to food, housing, childcare, financial assistance, medication assistance and access to medical care. Community Health Workers (CHW) focus on connecting patients and community members to local social care resources.

- Support health care workforce development efforts, including annual financial support to the Treasure Valley Community College Nursing program. In addition, SAMC-Ontario serves as a key clinical training site for nurses and other allied health professionals.

- Continue a program that provides professional athletic trainers to local high schools to reduce student injuries and create more physical activity opportunities for local students. This program has been in place since 2015. In addition, local students are provided nutrition education through this partnership.

- Partner with Malheur County and Treasure Valley Community College (TVCC) on the allied health program through the Poverty to Prosperity Initiative. This initiative focuses on removing barriers to education and overcoming poverty by empowering citizens to maximize
their potential through expanding the county's current career technical education services for high school juniors and seniors.

- Financially supported the creation of a splash pad within the Ontario community park system to provide affordable physical activity for the community during the summer months.

- Provide needed medical services that operate on low reimbursement and sometimes negative margins but fill a vital community need.

**LIKELY IMPACT IF THE 340B DRUG PRICING PROGRAM WERE TO BE SCALED BACK:** If the 340B program were to be scaled back, Saint Alphonsus Medical Center Ontario would be forced to make difficult decisions such as drastically reducing clinical care and drug access to indigent, uninsured, and underinsured patients. The 340B drug pricing program helps us provide critical health care services to those most vulnerable in our community.