SCHEDULE H (Form 990)

Hospitals

Complete if the organization answered "Yes" on Form 990, Part IV, question 20a.

Attach to Form 990.

2023

OMB No. 1545-0047

Open to Public Inspection

Department of the Treasury Internal Revenue Service

Name of the organization

Attach to Form 990.

Go to www.irs.gov/Form990 for instructions and the latest information.

Employer identification number

	ST. M	ARY'S SACI	RED HEART	HOSPITAL	, INC.	47-37521	76					
Par	t I Financial Assistance a	ınd Certain Otl	her Communit	ty Benefits at	Cost							
								Yes	No			
1a	Did the organization have a financial	assistance policy	during the tax year	r? If "No," skip to	question 6a		1a	X				
b	If "Yes," was it a written policy?						1b	X				
2	If "Yes," was it a written policy? If the organization had multiple hospital fato its various hospital facilities during the	ıcilities, indicate which tax vear:	n of the following bes	st describes applicati	on of the financial ass	istance policy						
	X Applied uniformly to all hospita				st hospital facilities							
	Generally tailored to individual	hospital facilities										
3	Answer the following based on the financial assistance eligibility criteria that applied to the largest number of the organization's patients during the tax year.											
а	Did the organization use Federal Poverty Guidelines (FPG) as a factor in determining eligibility for providing free care?											
	If "Yes," indicate which of the follow	•	· ·				За	Х				
			Other									
b	Did the organization use FPG as a fa				care? If "Yes," indic	cate which						
	of the following was the family incom						3b	Х				
	200% 250%	300%			ther %	ó						
С	If the organization used factors other	r than FPG in deter	minina eliaibility. o			r determinina						
	eligibility for free or discounted care.											
	threshold, regardless of income, as a											
4	Did the organization's financial assistance policy "medically indigent"?	that applied to the largest					4	Х				
5a	Did the organization budget amounts for						5a	Х				
	If "Yes," did the organization's finance						5b	Х				
	If "Yes" to line 5b, as a result of bud											
		-	-	•			5с		Х			
6a		are to a patient who was eligible for free or discounted care? If the organization prepare a community benefit report during the tax year?										
		Yes," did the organization make it available to the public?										
	Complete the following table using the worksheet											
7	Financial Assistance and Certain Oth											
-	Financial Assistance and	(a) Number of activities or	(b) Persons served	(c) Total community benefit expense	(d) Direct offsetting revenue	(e) Net community benefit expense	(1	Percer of total	nt			
Mea	ins-Tested Government Programs	programs (optional)	(optional)	benefit expense	revenue	beliefit experise		expense				
а	Financial Assistance at cost (from											
	Worksheet 1)			3267554.		3267554.	7	.29	ક			
b	Medicaid (from Worksheet 3,											
	column a)			6765932.	11948051.	0.		.00	ક			
С	Costs of other means-tested											
	government programs (from											
	Worksheet 3, column b)											
d	Total. Financial Assistance and											
	Means-Tested Government Programs			10033486.	11948051.	3267554.	7	.29	ક			
	Other Benefits											
е	Community health											
	improvement services and											
	community benefit operations											
	(from Worksheet 4)	6	3,142	294,188.		294,188.		.66	ક			
f	Health professions education											
(from Worksheet 5) 3 319 89,582. 8						89,582.		.20	&			
g	Subsidized health services											
	(from Worksheet 6)	1	278	2288470.	964,318.	1324152.	2	2.95%				
h	Research (from Worksheet 7)											
i	Cash and in-kind contributions											
	for community benefit (from											
	Worksheet 8)	2	156	3,688.		3,688.		.01	ક્ર			

LHA For Paperwork Reduction Act Notice, see the Instructions for Form 990.

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3,89512709414.12912369.

Schedule H (Form 990) 2023

4979164. 11.11%

3.82%

1711610.

3,895 2675928.

j Total. Other Benefits

k Total. Add lines 7d and 7j

964,318.

ST. MARY'S SACRED HEART HOSPITAL, INC. Schedule H (Form 990) 2023 Community Building Activities. Complete this table if the organization conducted any community building activities during the tax year, and describe in Part VI how its community building activities promoted the health of the communities it serves (a) Number of (b) Persons (d) Direct (f) Percent of (c) Total served (optional) community offsetting revenue activities or programs total expense (optional) building expense building expense Physical improvements and housing Economic development 850 3,328. 3,328. .01% Community support 3 **Environmental improvements** Leadership development and training for community members 2,321 2,321 .01% 6 Coalition building Community health improvement 1 400 659. 659. .00% Workforce development 8 9 Other 6,308 250 6,308. .02% 3 Total 10 Part III Bad Debt, Medicare, & Collection Practices Yes No Section A. Bad Debt Expense Did the organization report bad debt expense in accordance with Healthcare Financial Management Association Х Statement No. 15? Enter the amount of the organization's bad debt expense. Explain in Part VI the 2,235,720. methodology used by the organization to estimate this amount 3 Enter the estimated amount of the organization's bad debt expense attributable to patients eligible under the organization's financial assistance policy. Explain in Part VI the methodology used by the organization to estimate this amount and the rationale, if any, 0. for including this portion of bad debt as community benefit Provide in Part VI the text of the footnote to the organization's financial statements that describes bad debt expense or the page number on which this footnote is contained in the attached financial statements. Section B. Medicare 6,440,282 Enter total revenue received from Medicare (including DSH and IME) .735.293. 6 6 Enter Medicare allowable costs of care relating to payments on line 5 ,295,011 Subtract line 6 from line 5. This is the surplus (or shortfall) 7 Describe in Part VI the extent to which any shortfall reported on line 7 should be treated as community benefit. 8 Also describe in Part VI the costing methodology or source used to determine the amount reported on line 6. Check the box that describes the method used: Cost accounting system X Cost to charge ratio Section C. Collection Practices Х 9a Did the organization have a written debt collection policy during the tax year? 9a If "Yes," did the organization's collection policy that applied to the largest number of its patients during the tax year contain provisions on the collection practices to be followed for patients who are known to qualify for financial assistance? Describe in Part VI Management Companies and Joint Ventures (owned 10% or more by officers, directors, trustees, key employees, and physicians - see instructions)

(b) Description of primary activity of entity	(c) Organization's profit % or stock ownership %	(d) Officers, directors, trustees, or key employees' profit % or stock ownership %	(e) Physicians' profit % or stock ownership %
	(b) Description of primary activity of entity	activity of entity profit % or stock	activity of entity profit % or stock Ors. trustees, or

Part V F	acility Information										
Section A. Hos	spital Facilities					Га					
	size, from largest to smallest - see instructions)		& surgical	_		spi					
	spital facilities did the organization operate	ital	surç	pita	ital	h	≥				
during the tax y		dso	∞	SOL	osb	ess	SCi	S			
	s, primary website address, and state license number	icensed hospital	aen. medical	Children's hospital	eaching hospital	Oritical access hospital	Research facility	ER-24 hours	_		Facility
and if a group	return, the name and EIN of the subordinate hospital	se	шес	ren	Ë	ä	arc	4	ER-other		reporting
organization th	at operates the hospital facility):	cer	en.	hilc	gac	ritio	ese	R-2	P. O	Other (describe)	group
1 ст ми	ARY'S SACRED HEART HOSPITAL	 	ĕ	၁	٣	C	٣		-111	Other (describe)	
	LEAR CREEK PARKWAY	1									
	IA, GA 30553	1									
		-									
	TMARYSSACREDHEART.ORG	ا ۔۔ ا									
LICENS	SE #059-708	Х	Х				_	Х			
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Part V Facility Information (continued)

Section B. Facility Policies and Practices

(complete a separate Section B for each of the hospital facilities or facility reporting groups listed in Part V, Section A)

Name of hospital facility or letter of facility reporting group: <u>ST_MARY'S_SACRED_HEART_HOSPITAL</u>

Line number of hospital facility, or line numbers of hospital	
facilities in a facility reporting group (from Part V, Section A):	1

			Yes	No			
Con	nmunity Health Needs Assessment						
1	Was the hospital facility first licensed, registered, or similarly recognized by a state as a hospital facility in the						
	current tax year or the immediately preceding tax year?	1		X			
2	Was the hospital facility acquired or placed into service as a tax-exempt hospital in the current tax year or						
	the immediately preceding tax year? If "Yes," provide details of the acquisition in Section C						
3	3 During the tax year or either of the two immediately preceding tax years, did the hospital facility conduct a						
	community health needs assessment (CHNA)? If "No," skip to line 12	3	Х				
	If "Yes," indicate what the CHNA report describes (check all that apply):						
а							
b	Demographics of the community						
c	Existing health care facilities and resources within the community that are available to respond to the health needs						
	of the community						
C							
e							
f							
ç	groups X The process for identifying and prioritizing community health needs and services to meet the community health needs						
h	[편]						
i	The impact of any actions taken to address the significant health needs identified in the hospital facility's prior CHNA(s)						
j	Other (describe in Section C)						
4	Indicate the tax year the hospital facility last conducted a CHNA: 2021						
5	In conducting its most recent CHNA, did the hospital facility take into account input from persons who represent the broad						
	interests of the community served by the hospital facility, including those with special knowledge of or expertise in public						
	health? If "Yes," describe in Section C how the hospital facility took into account input from persons who represent the						
	community, and identify the persons the hospital facility consulted	5	X				
6a	Was the hospital facility's CHNA conducted with one or more other hospital facilities? If "Yes," list the other						
	hospital facilities in Section C	6a		X			
b	Was the hospital facility's CHNA conducted with one or more organizations other than hospital facilities? If "Yes,"						
	list the other organizations in Section C	6b		X			
7	Did the hospital facility make its CHNA report widely available to the public?	7	Х				
	If "Yes," indicate how the CHNA report was made widely available (check all that apply):						
а	Hospital facility's website (list url): SEE SCHEDULE H, PART V, SECTION C						
b							
C							
C							
8	Did the hospital facility adopt an implementation strategy to meet the significant community health needs						
	identified through its most recently conducted CHNA? If "No," skip to line 11	8	Х				
9	Indicate the tax year the hospital facility last adopted an implementation strategy: 20 21		37				
	Is the hospital facility's most recently adopted implementation strategy posted on a website?	10	X				
	a If "Yes," (list url): SEE SCHEDULE H, PART V, SECTION C						
	olf "No," is the hospital facility's most recently adopted implementation strategy attached to this return?	10b					
11	Describe in Section C how the hospital facility is addressing the significant needs identified in its most recently conducted CHNA and any such needs that are not being addressed together with the reasons why						
	such needs are not being addressed.						
40-	•						
128	Did the organization incur an excise tax under section 4959 for the hospital facility's failure to conduct a CHNA as required by section 501(r)(3)?	10-		x			
Į.	of If "Yes" to line 12a, did the organization file Form 4720 to report the section 4959 excise tax?	12a 12b		1			
	If "Yes" to line 12b, what is the total amount of section 4959 excise tax the organization reported on Form 4720	120					
	for all of its hospital facilities? \$						

raitv	i acility illiorillation	(continued)
Financial A	ssistance Policy (FAP)	

Nan	ne of ho	spital facility or letter of facility reporting group: ST MARY'S SACRED HEART HOSPITAL			
				Yes	No
	Did the	hospital facility have in place during the tax year a written financial assistance policy that:			
13	Explair	ned eligibility criteria for financial assistance, and whether such assistance included free or discounted care?	13	Х	
	If "Yes	" indicate the eligibility criteria explained in the FAP:			
а	X	Federal poverty guidelines (FPG), with FPG family income limit for eligibility for free care of %			
		and FPG family income limit for eligibility for discounted care of			
b		Income level other than FPG (describe in Section C)			
c	: .	Asset level			
c	X	Medical indigency			
e	X	Insurance status			
f	X	Underinsurance status			
ç	X	Residency			
h	[TT]	Other (describe in Section C)			
14	Explair	ned the basis for calculating amounts charged to patients?	14	Х	
		ned the method for applying for financial assistance?	15	Х	
		" indicate how the hospital facility's FAP or FAP application form (including accompanying instructions)			
	explain	ed the method for applying for financial assistance (check all that apply):			
а	X	Described the information the hospital facility may require an individual to provide as part of their application			
b	X	Described the supporting documentation the hospital facility may require an individual to submit as part			
		of their application			
c	X	Provided the contact information of hospital facility staff who can provide an individual with information			
		about the FAP and FAP application process			
c	ı 🔲	Provided the contact information of nonprofit organizations or government agencies that may be sources			
		of assistance with FAP applications			
e		Other (describe in Section C)			
16	Was w	idely publicized within the community served by the hospital facility?	16	Х	
	If "Yes	" indicate how the hospital facility publicized the policy (check all that apply):			
а	X	The FAP was widely available on a website (list url): SEE PART V, SECTION C			
b	X	The FAP application form was widely available on a website (list url): SEE PART V, SECTION C			
c	X	A plain language summary of the FAP was widely available on a website (list url): SEE PART V, SECTION C			
c	X	The FAP was available upon request and without charge (in public locations in the hospital facility and by mail)			
e	X	The FAP application form was available upon request and without charge (in public locations in the hospital			
	_	facility and by mail)			
f	X	A plain language summary of the FAP was available upon request and without charge (in public locations in			
		the hospital facility and by mail)			
ç	X	Individuals were notified about the FAP by being offered a paper copy of the plain language summary of the FAP,			
		by receiving a conspicuous written notice about the FAP on their billing statements, and via conspicuous public			
		displays or other measures reasonably calculated to attract patients' attention			
h	==	Notified members of the community who are most likely to require financial assistance about availability of the FAP			
i	X	The FAP, FAP application form, and plain language summary of the FAP were translated into the primary language(s)			
		spoken by Limited English Proficiency (LEP) populations			
j		Other (describe in Section C)			
		Schedule I	J /Ears	~ 0000	2022

Schedule H (Form 990) 2023

Other (describe in Section C)

Schedule H (Form 990) 2023 ST. MARY S SACRED HEART HOSPITAL, INC. 47-3752	<u> </u>	Pa	age 7
Part V Facility Information (continued)			
Charges to Individuals Eligible for Assistance Under the FAP (FAP-Eligible Individuals)			
Name of hospital facility or letter of facility reporting group: ST MARY'S SACRED HEART HOSPITAL			
	,	Yes	No
22 Indicate how the hospital facility determined, during the tax year, the maximum amounts that can be charged to FAP-eligible individuals for emergency or other medically necessary care:			
a X The hospital facility used a look-back method based on claims allowed by Medicare fee-for-service during a prior 12-month period			
b The hospital facility used a look-back method based on claims allowed by Medicare fee-for-service and all private health insurers that pay claims to the hospital facility during a prior 12-month period			
c The hospital facility used a look-back method based on claims allowed by Medicaid, either alone or in combination with Medicare fee-for-service and all private health insurers that pay claims to the hospital facility during a prior			
12-month period d The hospital facility used a prospective Medicare or Medicaid method			
23 During the tax year, did the hospital facility charge any FAP-eligible individual to whom the hospital facility provided emergency or other medically necessary services more than the amounts generally billed to individuals who had			
insurance covering such care?	23	\Box	Х
If "Yes," explain in Section C.			
24 During the tax year, did the hospital facility charge any FAP-eligible individual an amount equal to the gross charge for any service provided to that individual?	24		x

Part V Facility Information (continued)

Section C. Supplemental Information for Part V, Section B. Provide descriptions required for Part V, Section B, lines 2, 3j, 5, 6a, 6b, 7d, 11, 13b, 13h, 15e, 16j, 18e, 19e, 20a, 20b, 20c, 20d, 20e, 21c, 21d, 23, and 24. If applicable, provide separate descriptions for each hospital facility in a facility reporting group, designated by facility reporting group letter and hospital facility line number from Part V, Section A ("A, 1," "A, 4," "B, 2," "B, 3," etc.) and name of hospital facility.

ST MARY'S SACRED HEART HOSPITAL:

PART V, SECTION B, LINE 3J: N/A

PART V, SECTION B, LINE 3E: ST. MARY'S SACRED HEART HOSPITAL INCLUDED IN

ITS COMMUNITY HEALTH NEEDS ASSESSMENT (CHNA) WRITTEN REPORT A PRIORITIZED

LIST AND DESCRIPTION OF THE COMMUNITY'S SIGNIFICANT HEALTH NEEDS. THROUGH

FURTHER PRIORITIZATION AND IDENTIFICATION OF EXISTING COMMUNITY RESOURCES

AND ASSETS, THE FOLLOWING THREE PRIORITY COMMUNITY HEALTH NEEDS WERE

DEEMED MOST SIGNIFICANT:

- 1. ACCESS TO HEALTH CARE
- 2. ADDRESSING SOCIAL NEEDS
- BEHAVIORAL AND MENTAL HEALTH

ST MARY'S SACRED HEART HOSPITAL:

PART V, SECTION B, LINE 5: COMMUNITY INPUT FOR THE ST. MARY'S SACRED

HEART HOSPITAL CHNA WAS OBTAINED THROUGH FOCUS GROUPS AND STAKEHOLDER

DISCUSSIONS HELD BETWEEN DECEMBER 2021 AND FEBRUARY 2022. THE HOSPITAL

ENGAGED STATE, LOCAL, AND REGIONAL HEALTH DEPARTMENTS; REPRESENTATIVES OF

THOSE WHO ARE MEDICALLY UNDERSERVED, LOW-INCOME, OR MEMBERS OF MINORITY

POPULATIONS; AND INTERNAL STAKEHOLDERS TO PROVIDE FEEDBACK ON IDENTIFYING

AND PRIORITIZING SIGNIFICANT NEEDS.

THE CHNA USED A COMPREHENSIVE MIXED-METHODS APPROACH, WHICH INCLUDED A

COMBINATION OF QUALITATIVE AND QUANTITATIVE DATA AND ANALYSES, TO IDENTIFY

AND PRIORITIZE COMMUNITY HEALTH NEEDS. THIS APPROACH ALLOWS FOR MORE

CONFIDENCE IN THE FINDINGS OF THE CHNA AND ENSURES ROBUSTNESS IN IDENTIFICATION OF HEALTH NEEDS. THE QUALITATIVE METHODS USED TO SOLICIT INPUT FROM PRIMARY SOURCES INCLUDED FOCUS GROUPS AND STAKEHOLDER DISCUSSIONS; THE QUANTITATIVE METHODS UTILIZED SECONDARY DATA SOURCES SUCH AS THE TRINITY HEALTH DATA HUB FOR SERVICE AREA DATA AND THE EMERGENCY DEPARTMENT FOR HOSPITAL-SPECIFIC DATA.

THE PRIMARY DATA COLLECTED INCLUDED INPUT FROM PERSONS WHO REPRESENTED THE BROAD INTERESTS OF THE COMMUNITY AND THOSE WITH SPECIAL KNOWLEDGE OF OR EXPERTISE IN PUBLIC HEALTH; FEDERAL, REGIONAL, STATE, AND LOCAL HEALTH OR OTHER DEPARTMENTS OR AGENCIES WITH CURRENT DATA OR OTHER INFORMATION RELEVANT TO THE HEALTH NEEDS OF THE COMMUNITY SERVED; LEADERS REPRESENTATIVES, OR MEMBERS OF MEDICALLY UNDERSERVED, LOW-INCOME, MINORITY POPULATIONS WITH CHRONIC DISEASE NEEDS IN THE COMMUNITY; AND INPUT FROM OTHER PERSONS LOCATED IN AND/OR SERVING THE COMMUNITY. INFORMATION WAS GATHERED BY CONDUCTING FOCUS GROUPS AND STAKEHOLDER INTERVIEWS WITH INDIVIDUALS REPRESENTING COMMUNITY HEALTH AND PUBLIC SERVICE ORGANIZATIONS, MEDICAL PROFESSIONALS, HOSPITAL ADMINISTRATION, OTHER HOSPITAL STAFF MEMBERS.

THE SECONDARY DATA SOURCES WERE USED TO GATHER DEMOGRAPHIC AND HEALTH INDICATOR DATA. THE DATA ANALYSIS GENERATED BY THE TRINITY HEALTH DATA HUB IS BASED ON EACH HOSPITAL'S SERVICE AREA AND PROVIDED COMPREHENSIVE REPORTS ON THE FOLLOWING INDICATORS: HEALTH CARE ACCESS, ECONOMIC STABILITY, EDUCATION, SOCIAL SUPPORT AND COMMUNITY CONTEXT, NEIGHBORHOOD AND PHYSICAL ENVIRONMENT, AND HEALTH OUTCOMES AND BEHAVIORS. SEVERAL INDICATORS ARE CALCULATED USING AREAL WEIGHTED INTERPOLATION TO ESTIMATE 332098 12-26-23

THE VALUES FOR EACH CENSUS TRACT WHICH OVERLAPS WITH THE SERVICE AREAS,

AND THE TRACT-LEVEL ESTIMATES ARE AGGREGATED FOR THE HOSPITAL REGIONS. A

RULE HAS BEEN IMPLEMENTED TO ENSURE THE TOTAL PERCENTAGE OF ALL SELECTED

HOSPITAL SERVICE AREAS DOES NOT EXCEED 100% FOR ANY CENSUS TRACT. EACH

HOSPITAL REPORT INCLUDES DATA FROM THE MOST UPDATED AND NATIONALLY

RECOGNIZED SOURCES SUCH AS THE U.S. CENSUS BUREAU, AMERICAN COMMUNITY

SURVEY, AND BEHAVIORAL RISK FACTOR SURVEILLANCE SYSTEM.

ST MARY'S SACRED HEART HOSPITAL:

PART V, SECTION B, LINE 11: THE FOLLOWING COMMUNITY HEALTH NEEDS WERE

RECOGNIZED AS THE MOST SIGNIFICANT ISSUES THAT MUST BE ADDRESSED TO

IMPROVE THE HEALTH AND QUALITY OF LIFE IN OUR COMMUNITY. THESE NEEDS WERE

ADDRESSED IN FISCAL YEAR 2024:

ACCESS TO HEALTH CARE:

ST. MARY'S SACRED HEART HOSPITAL CONTINUED THE COLLABORATIVE EFFORTS WITH

COMMUNITY CLINICAL PARTNERS, INCLUDING THE LOCAL FEDERALLY QUALIFIED

HEALTH CENTER (FQHC) AND THE DISTRICT OF PUBLIC HEALTH, TO FURTHER ENHANCE

ACCESS TO HEALTH CARE IN RURAL COUNTIES. A COMPREHENSIVE PLAN WAS

DEVELOPED TO INCREASE ACCESS TO PRIMARY AND SPECIALTY CARE FOR UNDERSERVED

POPULATIONS BY ADDRESSING SERVICE GAPS IN RURAL AREAS. THIS PLAN

EMPHASIZED OUTREACH AND COMMUNITY EDUCATION TO INFORM RESIDENTS ABOUT THE

AVAILABLE HEALTH CARE RESOURCES, WITH THE GOAL OF IMPROVING THE

UTILIZATION OF THESE SERVICES.

IN ADDITION TO THESE EFFORTS, ST. MARY'S SACRED HEART HOSPITAL PARTNERED

Part V Facility Information (continued)

Section C. Supplemental Information for Part V, Section B. Provide descriptions required for Part V, Section B, lines 2, 3j, 5, 6a, 6b, 7d, 11, 13b, 13h, 15e, 16j, 18e, 19e, 20a, 20b, 20c, 20d, 20e, 21c, 21d, 23, and 24. If applicable, provide separate descriptions for each hospital facility in a facility reporting group, designated by facility reporting group letter and hospital facility line number from Part V, Section A ("A, 1," "A, 4," "B, 2," "B, 3," etc.) and name of hospital facility.

WITH FRANKLIN COUNTY FAMILY CONNECTIONS AND OTHER COMMUNITY ORGANIZATIONS

TO IDENTIFY AND ADDRESS BARRIERS THAT HINDER HEALTH CARE ACCESS. THESE

BARRIERS, INCLUDING TRANSPORTATION CHALLENGES AND LIMITED CARE

COORDINATION, WERE TARGETED WITH STRATEGIC SOLUTIONS, SUCH AS IMPROVING

TRANSPORTATION SERVICES AND ENHANCING CARE NAVIGATION. THESE INTERVENTIONS

WERE DESIGNED TO REDUCE DELAYS IN ACCESSING CARE AND MAKE HEALTH CARE

SERVICES MORE ACCESSIBLE TO THOSE IN REMOTE AREAS.

THE HOSPITAL ALSO CONTINUED ITS PARTNERSHIP WITH FIRSTSOURCE, A PATIENT
FINANCIAL SERVICES PROVIDER, TO OFFER VITAL SUPPORT TO INPATIENTS AND
OUTPATIENTS IN SECURING MEDICAID COVERAGE, EFFECTIVELY ADDRESSING
FINANCIAL BARRIERS TO HEALTH CARE ACCESS. BY ASSISTING PATIENTS WITH
MEDICAID ENROLLMENT, THE HOSPITAL HELPED ENSURE THAT MORE COMMUNITY
MEMBERS RECEIVED THE CARE THEY NEEDED WITHOUT THE BURDEN OF FINANCIAL
HARDSHIP. THESE ONGOING INITIATIVES REFLECT THE HOSPITAL'S COMMITMENT TO
REMOVING BOTH LOGISTICAL AND FINANCIAL BARRIERS TO HEALTH CARE ACCESS IN
THE REGION.

ADDRESSING SOCIAL NEEDS:

ST. MARY'S SACRED HEART HOSPITAL REMAINED DEDICATED TO ADDRESSING THE

SOCIAL NEEDS OF THE COMMUNITY THROUGH VARIOUS INITIATIVES. HEART HEALTHY,

ONE OF THE HOSPITAL'S FLAGSHIP PROGRAMS, CONTINUED TO PLAY A CRITICAL ROLE

IN BRIDGING GAPS IN FOOD AND NUTRITION SERVICES FOR COMMUNITY MEMBERS.

THIS PROGRAM ALSO PROVIDED COMPREHENSIVE EDUCATION ON CARDIOVASCULAR

HEALTH, INCLUDING HEART-HEALTHY DIETS, EXERCISE, MEDICATION MANAGEMENT,

AND LIFESTYLE CHANGES TO REDUCE RISK FACTORS SUCH AS HIGH BLOOD PRESSURE

AND CHOLESTEROL.

IN ADDITION TO THE HEART HEALTHY PROGRAM, THE HOSPITAL EXPANDED ITS

EFFORTS TO ADDRESS FOOD INSECURITY BY PARTNERING WITH LOCAL FOOD

DISTRIBUTION ORGANIZATIONS. THE HOSPITAL COLLABORATED WITH THE FOOD BANK

OF NORTH GEORGIA'S MOBILE PANTRY AT LAVONIA CHURCH OF GOD AND THE RAINBOW

PANTRY OF ROYSTON. HOSPITAL STAFF ACTIVELY PARTICIPATED IN THE MONTHLY

FOOD DRIVES, PLAYING A VITAL ROLE IN THE LOGISTICS AND OPERATIONS OF THESE

EVENTS.

THE HOSPITAL ALSO MADE SEVERAL SIGNIFICANT FINANCIAL CONTRIBUTIONS TO

INITIATIVES ADDRESSING SOCIAL NEEDS. THESE CONTRIBUTIONS INCLUDED SUPPORT

TO THE ARK, FOCUSING ON FAMILY PRESERVATION, AND HABITAT FOR HUMANITY,

WHICH ADDRESSES HOME INSECURITY IN THE REGION. THESE PARTNERSHIPS REFLECT

THE HOSPITAL'S HOLISTIC APPROACH TO IMPROVING THE WELL-BEING OF THE

COMMUNITIES IT SERVES, NOT JUST BY ADDRESSING HEALTH CARE ACCESS BUT BY

TACKLING THE UNDERLYING SOCIAL DETERMINANTS OF HEALTH.

BEHAVIORAL AND MENTAL HEALTH:

ST. MARY'S SACRED HEART HOSPITAL CONTINUED TO FACE CHALLENGES IN

ADDRESSING THE NEED FOR BEHAVIORAL AND MENTAL HEALTH SERVICES DUE TO

LIMITED COMMUNITY RESOURCES. WHILE THE HOSPITAL REMAINS COMMITTED TO

IMPROVING ACCESS TO THESE SERVICES, A SHORTAGE OF MENTAL HEALTH PROVIDERS

AND SPECIALIZED RESOURCES IN THE AREA HAS MADE IT DIFFICULT TO IMPLEMENT

COMPREHENSIVE PROGRAMS.

ST MARY'S SACRED HEART HOSPITAL:

PART V, SECTION B, LINE 13H: THE HOSPITAL RECOGNIZES THAT NOT ALL PATIENTS

ARE ABLE TO PROVIDE COMPLETE FINANCIAL INFORMATION. THEREFORE, APPROVAL

FOR FINANCIAL SUPPORT MAY BE DETERMINED BASED ON LIMITED AVAILABLE

INFORMATION. WHEN SUCH APPROVAL IS GRANTED, IT IS CLASSIFIED AS

"PRESUMPTIVE SUPPORT." EXAMPLES OF PRESUMPTIVE CASES INCLUDE: DECEASED

PATIENTS WITH NO KNOWN ESTATE, HOMELESS PATIENTS, UNEMPLOYED PATIENTS,

NON-COVERED MEDICALLY NECESSARY SERVICES PROVIDED TO PATIENTS QUALIFYING

FOR PUBLIC ASSISTANCE PROGRAMS, PATIENT BANKRUPTCIES, AND MEMBERS OF

RELIGIOUS ORGANIZATIONS WHO HAVE TAKEN A VOW OF POVERTY AND HAVE NO

RESOURCES INDIVIDUALLY OR THROUGH THE RELIGIOUS ORDER.

THIRD-PARTY MAY BE UTILIZED TO CONDUCT A REVIEW OF PATIENT INFORMATION TO

ASSESS FINANCIAL NEED. THIS REVIEW UTILIZES A HEALTH CARE

INDUSTRY-RECOGNIZED, PREDICTIVE MODEL THAT IS BASED ON PUBLIC RECORD

DATABASES. THESE PUBLIC RECORDS ENABLE THE HOSPITAL TO ASSESS WHETHER THE

PATIENT IS CHARACTERISTIC OF OTHER PATIENTS WHO HAVE HISTORICALLY

QUALIFIED FOR FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE UNDER THE TRADITIONAL APPLICATION

PROCESS. IN CASES WHERE THERE IS AN ABSENCE OF INFORMATION PROVIDED

DIRECTLY BY THE PATIENT, AND AFTER EFFORTS TO CONFIRM COVERAGE

AVAILABILITY ARE EXHAUSTED, THE PREDICTIVE MODEL PROVIDES A SYSTEMATIC

METHOD TO GRANT PRESUMPTIVE ELIGIBILITY TO FINANCIALLY DISADVANTAGED

PATIENTS.

ST. MARY'S SACRED HEART HOSPITAL:

PART V, SECTION B, LINE 7A:

WWW.STMARYSHEALTHCARESYSTEM.ORG/ABOUT-US/COMMUNITY-BENEFIT

ST. MARY'S SACRED HEART HOSPITAL:

PART V, SECTION B, LINE 9:

AS PERMITTED IN THE FINAL SECTION 501(R) REGULATIONS, THE HOSPITAL'S

IMPLEMENTATION STRATEGY WAS ADOPTED WITHIN 4 1/2 MONTHS AFTER THE

FISCAL YEAR END THAT THE CHNA WAS COMPLETED AND MADE WIDELY AVAILABLE

TO THE PUBLIC.

ST. MARY'S SACRED HEART HOSPITAL:

PART V, SECTION B, LINE 10A:

WWW.STMARYSHEALTHCARESYSTEM.ORG/ABOUT-US/COMMUNITY-BENEFIT

ST. MARY'S SACRED HEART HOSPITAL:

PART V, LINE 16A, FAP WEBSITE:

WWW.STMARYSHEALTHCARESYSTEM.ORG/FOR-PATIENTS/BILLING-INSURANCE/FINANCIAL

-ASSISTANCE

ST. MARY'S SACRED HEART HOSPITAL:

PART V, LINE 16B, FAP APPLICATION WEBSITE:

WWW.STMARYSHEALTHCARESYSTEM.ORG/FOR-PATIENTS/BILLING-INSURANCE/FINANCIAL

-ASSISTANCE

ST. MARY'S SACRED HEART HOSPITAL:

PART V, LINE 16C, FAP PLAIN LANGUAGE SUMMARY WEBSITE:

WWW.STMARYSHEALTHCARESYSTEM.ORG/FOR-PATIENTS/BILLING-INSURANCE/FINANCIAL

-ASSISTANCE

Part VI Supplemental Information

Provide the following information.

- 1 Required descriptions. Provide the descriptions required for Part I, lines 3c, 6a, and 7; Part II and Part III, lines 2, 3, 4, 8, and 9h
- 2 Needs assessment. Describe how the organization assesses the health care needs of the communities it serves, in addition to any CHNAs reported in Part V, Section B.
- 3 Patient education of eligibility for assistance. Describe how the organization informs and educates patients and persons who may be billed for patient care about their eligibility for assistance under federal, state, or local government programs or under the organization's financial assistance policy.
- 4 Community information. Describe the community the organization serves, taking into account the geographic area and demographic constituents it serves.
- **Promotion of community health.** Provide any other information important to describing how the organization's hospital facilities or other health care facilities further its exempt purpose by promoting the health of the community (for example, open medical staff, community board, use of surplus funds, etc.).
- **6 Affiliated health care system.** If the organization is part of an affiliated health care system, describe the respective roles of the organization and its affiliates in promoting the health of the communities served.
- 7 State filing of community benefit report. If applicable, identify all states with which the organization, or a related organization, files a community benefit report.

	_	T TATE	20
PART	Т.	LINE	- 5 C :

IN ADDITION TO LOOKING AT A MULTIPLE OF THE FEDERAL POVERTY GUIDELINES,

OTHER FACTORS ARE CONSIDERED SUCH AS THE PATIENT'S FINANCIAL STATUS AND/OR

ABILITY TO PAY AS DETERMINED THROUGH THE ASSESSMENT PROCESS.

PART I, LINE 6A:

ST. MARY'S SACRED HEART HOSPITAL REPORTS ITS COMMUNITY BENEFIT INFORMATION

AS PART OF THE CONSOLIDATED COMMUNITY BENEFIT INFORMATION REPORTED BY

TRINITY HEALTH (EIN 35-1443425) IN ITS AUDITED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS,

AVAILABLE AT WWW.TRINITY-HEALTH.ORG.

ST. MARY'S SACRED HEART HOSPITAL ALSO INCLUDES A COPY OF ITS MOST RECENTLY
FILED SCHEDULE H ON TRINITY HEALTH'S WEBSITE AT

WWW.TRINITY-HEALTH.ORG/OUR-IMPACT/COMMUNITY-HEALTH-AND-WELL-BEING.

PART I, LINE 7:

THE BEST AVAILABLE DATA WAS USED TO CALCULATE THE COST AMOUNTS REPORTED IN

ITEM 7. FOR CERTAIN CATEGORIES, PRIMARILY TOTAL CHARITY CARE AND

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Part VI Supplemental Information (Continuation)

MEANS-TESTED GOVERNMENT PROGRAMS, SPECIFIC COST-TO-CHARGE RATIOS WERE CALCULATED AND APPLIED TO THOSE CATEGORIES. THE COST-TO-CHARGE RATIO WAS DERIVED FROM WORKSHEET 2, RATIO OF PATIENT CARE COST-TO-CHARGES. IN OTHER CATEGORIES, THE BEST AVAILABLE DATA WAS DERIVED FROM THE HOSPITAL'S COST ACCOUNTING SYSTEM.

PART I, LN 7 COL(F):

THE FOLLOWING NUMBER, \$2,235,720, REPRESENTS THE AMOUNT OF BAD DEBT EXPENSE INCLUDED IN TOTAL FUNCTIONAL EXPENSES IN FORM 990, PART IX, LINE 25. PER IRS INSTRUCTIONS, THIS AMOUNT WAS EXCLUDED FROM THE DENOMINATOR WHEN CALCULATING THE PERCENT OF TOTAL EXPENSE FOR SCHEDULE H, PART I, LINE 7, COLUMN (F).

PART II, COMMUNITY BUILDING ACTIVITIES:

IN FISCAL YEAR 2024, ST. MARY'S SACRED HEART HOSPITAL ENGAGED IN VARIOUS COMMUNITY BUILDING ACTIVITIES THAT CONTRIBUTED TO THE HEALTH AND WELL-BEING OF THE COMMUNITIES IT SERVES. THESE ACTIVITIES WERE AIMED AT IMPROVING ACCESS TO HEALTH SERVICES, ENHANCING PUBLIC HEALTH, AND ADVANCING KNOWLEDGE.

COMMUNITY SUPPORT - THE HOSPITAL EXPANDED ITS COMMUNITY SUPPORT EFFORTS BY ACTIVELY PARTICIPATING IN LOCAL COALITIONS AND COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT INITIATIVES. HOSPITAL LEADERS AND STAFF CONTRIBUTED TO ADDRESSING SOCIAL NEEDS, MENTAL AND BEHAVIORAL HEALTH, AND HEALTH CARE ACCESS THROUGH PARTNERSHIPS WITH ORGANIZATIONS SUCH AS THE HARMONY HOUSE SEXUAL ASSAULT CENTER, CHAMBER OF COMMERCE, UNITED WAY, AND LOCAL HIGH SCHOOL HEALTH OCCUPATIONS STUDENTS OF AMERICA (HOSA) CHAPTERS. THESE COLLABORATIONS STRENGTHENED COMMUNITY NETWORKS AND SUPPORTED THE HOSPITAL'S MISSION TO

IMPROVE HEALTH OUTCOMES, ESPECIALLY IN UNDERSERVED AREAS.

WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT - TO CULTIVATE FUTURE HEALTH CARE PROFESSIONALS, THE
HOSPITAL ENHANCED ITS WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT EFFORTS. ST. MARY'S SACRED
HEART HOSPITAL MAINTAINED ITS COLLABORATION WITH FRANKLIN COUNTY HIGH
SCHOOL'S ALLIED SCIENCE PATHWAY, OFFERING STUDENTS OPPORTUNITIES FOR JOB
SHADOWING AND PRACTICAL LEARNING EXPERIENCES. THE HOSPITAL ALSO ENGAGED
CLINICAL STUDENTS IN HANDS-ON TRAINING THROUGH CLINICAL HOURS, WHICH HELPS
PREPARE THEM FOR CAREERS IN HEALTH CARE WHILE ADDRESSING LOCAL WORKFORCE
SHORTAGES.

COALITION BUILDING - ST. MARY'S SACRED HEART HOSPITAL EXPANDED ITS EFFORTS

TO ADDRESS FOOD INSECURITY BY PARTNERING WITH LOCAL FOOD DISTRIBUTION

ORGANIZATIONS. THE HOSPITAL COLLABORATED WITH THE FOOD BANK OF NORTH

GEORGIA'S MOBILE PANTRY AT LAVONIA CHURCH OF GOD AND THE RAINBOW PANTRY OF

ROYSTON. IN FISCAL YEAR 2024, ST. MARY'S SACRED HEART HOSPITAL

STRENGTHENED ITS COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT BY PARTICIPATING IN NUMEROUS

COMMITTEES, COALITIONS, AND ADVISORY GROUPS. HOSPITAL LEADERSHIP AND STAFF

WERE ACTIVE MEMBERS OF THE FRANKLIN COUNTY AND LAVONIA CHAMBERS OF

COMMERCE, REFLECTING THE HOSPITAL'S COMMITMENT TO ADDRESSING COMMUNITY

HEALTH AND SOCIOECONOMIC CHALLENGES.

PART III, LINE 2:

METHODOLOGY USED FOR LINE 2 - ANY DISCOUNTS PROVIDED OR PAYMENTS MADE TO A

PARTICULAR PATIENT ACCOUNT ARE APPLIED TO THAT PATIENT ACCOUNT PRIOR TO

ANY BAD DEBT WRITE-OFF AND ARE THUS NOT INCLUDED IN BAD DEBT EXPENSE. AS A

RESULT OF THE PAYMENT AND ADJUSTMENT ACTIVITY BEING POSTED TO BAD DEBT

ACCOUNTS, WE ARE ABLE TO REPORT BAD DEBT EXPENSE NET OF THESE

TRANSACTIONS.

PART III, LINE 3:

ST. MARY'S SACRED HEART HOSPITAL USES A PREDICTIVE MODEL THAT INCORPORATES

THREE DISTINCT VARIABLES IN COMBINATION TO PREDICT WHETHER A PATIENT

QUALIFIES FOR FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE: (1) SOCIO-ECONOMIC SCORE, (2)

ESTIMATED FEDERAL POVERTY LEVEL (FPL), AND (3) HOMEOWNERSHIP. BASED ON

THE MODEL, CHARITY CARE CAN STILL BE EXTENDED TO PATIENTS EVEN IF THEY

HAVE NOT RESPONDED TO FINANCIAL COUNSELING EFFORTS AND ALL OTHER FUNDING

SOURCES HAVE BEEN EXHAUSTED. FOR FINANCIAL STATEMENT PURPOSES, ST.

MARY'S SACRED HEART HOSPITAL IS RECORDING AMOUNTS AS CHARITY CARE (INSTEAD

OF BAD DEBT EXPENSE) BASED ON THE RESULTS OF THE PREDICTIVE MODEL.

THEREFORE, ST. MARY'S SACRED HEART HOSPITAL IS REPORTING ZERO ON LINE 3,

SINCE THEORETICALLY ANY POTENTIAL CHARITY CARE SHOULD HAVE BEEN IDENTIFIED

THROUGH THE PREDICTIVE MODEL.

PART III, LINE 4:

ST. MARY'S SACRED HEART HOSPITAL IS INCLUDED IN THE CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL
STATEMENTS OF TRINITY HEALTH. THE FOLLOWING IS THE TEXT OF THE PATIENT

ACCOUNTS RECEIVABLE, ESTIMATED RECEIVABLES FROM AND PAYABLES TO

THIRD-PARTY PAYERS FOOTNOTE FROM PAGE 14 OF THOSE STATEMENTS: "AN

UNCONDITIONAL RIGHT TO PAYMENT, SUBJECT ONLY TO THE PASSAGE OF TIME IS

TREATED AS A RECEIVABLE. PATIENT ACCOUNTS RECEIVABLE, INCLUDING BILLED

ACCOUNTS AND UNBILLED ACCOUNTS FOR WHICH THERE IS AN UNCONDITIONAL RIGHT

TO PAYMENT, AND ESTIMATED AMOUNTS DUE FROM THIRD-PARTY PAYERS FOR

RETROACTIVE ADJUSTMENTS, ARE RECEIVABLES IF THE RIGHT TO CONSIDERATION IS

UNCONDITIONAL AND ONLY THE PASSAGE OF TIME IS REQUIRED BEFORE PAYMENT OF

THAT CONSIDERATION IS DUE. FOR PATIENT ACCOUNTS RECEIVABLE, THE ESTIMATED

UNCOLLECTABLE AMOUNTS ARE GENERALLY CONSIDERED IMPLICIT PRICE CONCESSIONS

THAT ARE A DIRECT REDUCTION TO PATIENT SERVICE REVENUE AND ACCOUNTS

RECEIVABLE.

THE CORPORATION HAS AGREEMENTS WITH THIRD-PARTY PAYERS THAT PROVIDE FOR

PAYMENTS TO THE CORPORATION'S HEALTH MINISTRIES AT AMOUNTS DIFFERENT FROM

ESTABLISHED RATES. ESTIMATED RETROACTIVE ADJUSTMENTS UNDER REIMBURSEMENT

AGREEMENTS WITH THIRD-PARTY PAYERS AND OTHER CHANGES IN ESTIMATES ARE

INCLUDED IN NET PATIENT SERVICE REVENUE AND ESTIMATED RECEIVABLES FROM AND

PAYABLES TO THIRD-PARTY PAYERS. RETROACTIVE ADJUSTMENTS ARE ACCRUED ON AN

ESTIMATED BASIS IN THE PERIOD THE RELATED SERVICES ARE RENDERED AND

ADJUSTED IN FUTURE PERIODS, AS FINAL SETTLEMENTS ARE DETERMINED. ESTIMATED

RECEIVABLES FROM THIRD-PARTY PAYERS ALSO INCLUDES AMOUNTS RECEIVABLE UNDER

STATE MEDICAID PROVIDER TAX PROGRAMS."

PART III, LINE 5:

TOTAL MEDICARE REVENUE REPORTED IN PART III, LINE 5 HAS BEEN REDUCED BY
THE TWO PERCENT SEQUESTRATION REDUCTION.

PART III, LINE 8:

THE IRS COMMUNITY BENEFIT OBJECTIVES INCLUDE RELIEVING OR REDUCING THE

BURDEN OF GOVERNMENT TO IMPROVE HEALTH. TREATING MEDICARE PATIENTS CREATES

SHORTFALLS THAT MUST BE ABSORBED BY HOSPITALS, WHICH PROVIDE CARE

REGARDLESS OF THIS SHORTFALL AND THEREBY RELIEVE THE FEDERAL GOVERNMENT OF

THE BURDEN OF PAYING THE FULL COST FOR MEDICARE BENEFICIARIES. THEREFORE,

THE HOSPITAL BELIEVES ANY MEDICARE SHORTFALL SHOULD BE CONSIDERED

COMMUNITY BENEFIT. TRINITY HEALTH AND ITS HOSPITALS REPORT AS COMMUNITY

IMPACT THE LOSS ON MEDICARE AND A HOST OF MANY OTHER EXPENSES DESIGNED TO

SERVE PEOPLE EXPERIENCING POVERTY IN OUR COMMUNITIES. SEE SCHEDULE H,

PART VI, LINE 5 FOR MORE INFORMATION.

PART III, LINE 8: COSTING METHODOLOGY FOR LINE 6 - MEDICARE COSTS WERE

OBTAINED FROM THE FILED MEDICARE COST REPORT. THE COSTS ARE BASED ON

MEDICARE ALLOWABLE COSTS AS REPORTED ON WORKSHEET B, COLUMN 26, WHICH

EXCLUDE DIRECT MEDICAL EDUCATION COSTS. INPATIENT MEDICARE COSTS ARE

CALCULATED BASED ON A COMBINATION OF ALLOWABLE COST PER DAY TIMES MEDICARE

DAYS FOR ROUTINE SERVICES AND COST TO CHARGE RATIO TIMES MEDICARE CHARGES

FOR ANCILLARY SERVICES. OUTPATIENT MEDICARE COSTS ARE CALCULATED BASED ON

COST TO CHARGE RATIO TIMES MEDICARE CHARGES BY ANCILLARY DEPARTMENT.

PART III, LINE 9B:

THE HOSPITAL'S COLLECTION POLICY CONTAINS PROVISIONS ON THE COLLECTION

PRACTICES TO BE FOLLOWED FOR PATIENTS WHO ARE KNOWN TO QUALIFY FOR

FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE. CHARITY DISCOUNTS ARE APPLIED TO THE AMOUNTS THAT

QUALIFY FOR FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE. THE HOSPITAL HAS IMPLEMENTED BILLING AND

COLLECTION PRACTICES FOR PATIENT PAYMENT OBLIGATIONS THAT ARE FAIR,

CONSISTENT AND COMPLIANT WITH STATE AND FEDERAL REGULATIONS.

PART VI, LINE 2:

NEEDS ASSESSMENT - SACRED HEART HOSPITAL ASSESSES THE HEALTH STATUS OF ITS

COMMUNITY, IN PARTNERSHIP WITH COMMUNITY STAKEHOLDERS, AS PART OF THE

NORMAL COURSE OF OPERATIONS AND IN THE CONTINUOUS EFFORTS TO IMPROVE

PATIENT CARE AND THE HEALTH OF THE OVERALL COMMUNITY. TO ASSESS THE HEALTH

CARE NEEDS OF THE COMMUNITY, THE HOSPITAL MAY USE PATIENT DATA, PUBLIC

HEALTH DATA, SOLICIT INPUT FROM FOCUS GROUPS AND STAKEHOLDER DISCUSSIONS,

AND UTILIZE SECONDARY DATA SOURCES SUCH AS THE TRINITY HEALTH DATA HUB FOR

Schedule H (Form 990)

Part VI | Supplemental Information (Continuation)

SERVICE AREA DATA AND THE EMERGENCY DEPARTMENT FOR HOSPITAL-SPECIFIC DATA.

PART VI, LINE 3:

PATIENT EDUCATION OF ELIGIBILITY FOR ASSISTANCE - ST. MARY'S SACRED HEART HOSPITAL COMMUNICATES EFFECTIVELY WITH PATIENTS REGARDING PATIENT PAYMENT OBLIGATIONS. FINANCIAL COUNSELING IS OFFERED TO PATIENTS ABOUT THEIR PAYMENT OBLIGATIONS AND HEALTH CARE BILLS. INFORMATION ON HOSPITAL-BASED FINANCIAL SUPPORT POLICIES, FEDERAL, STATE, AND LOCAL GOVERNMENT PROGRAMS, AND OTHER COMMUNITY-BASED CHARITABLE PROGRAMS THAT PROVIDE COVERAGE FOR SERVICES ARE MADE AVAILABLE TO PATIENTS DURING THE PRE-REGISTRATION AND REGISTRATION PROCESSES AND/OR THROUGH COMMUNICATIONS WITH PATIENTS SEEKING FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE.

FINANCIAL COUNSELORS MAKE AFFIRMATIVE EFFORTS TO HELP PATIENTS APPLY FOR PUBLIC AND PRIVATE PROGRAMS FOR WHICH THEY MAY QUALIFY AND THAT MAY ASSIST THEM IN OBTAINING AND PAYING FOR HEALTH CARE SERVICES. EVERY EFFORT IS MADE TO DETERMINE A PATIENT'S ELIGIBILITY FOR FINANCIAL SUPPORT PRIOR TO OR AT THE TIME OF ADMISSION OR SERVICE.

ST. MARY'S SACRED HEART HOSPITAL OFFERS FINANCIAL SUPPORT TO PATIENTS WITH LIMITED MEANS. NOTIFICATION ABOUT FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE AND GOVERNMENT PROGRAMS, INCLUDING CONTACT INFORMATION, IS AVAILABLE THROUGH PATIENT BROCHURES, MESSAGES ON PATIENT BILLS, POSTED NOTICES IN PUBLIC REGISTRATION AREAS INCLUDING EMERGENCY ROOMS, ADMITTING AND REGISTRATION DEPARTMENTS, AND OTHER PATIENT FINANCIAL SERVICES OFFICES. SUMMARIES OF HOSPITAL PROGRAMS ARE MADE AVAILABLE TO APPROPRIATE COMMUNITY HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES AGENCIES AND OTHER ORGANIZATIONS THAT ASSIST PEOPLE IN NEED. INFORMATION REGARDING FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE AND GOVERNMENT PROGRAMS Schedule H (Form 990)

IS ALSO AVAILABLE ON HOSPITAL WEBSITES. IN ADDITION TO ENGLISH, THIS INFORMATION IS ALSO AVAILABLE IN OTHER LANGUAGES AS REQUIRED BY INTERNAL REVENUE CODE SECTION 501(R), REFLECTING OTHER PRIMARY LANGUAGES SPOKEN BY THE POPULATION SERVICED BY OUR HOSPITAL.

PART VI, LINE 4:

COMMUNITY INFORMATION - THE GEOGRAPHIC SERVICE AREA WAS DEFINED AT THE COUNTY-LEVEL FOR THE PURPOSES OF THE 2022 CHNA. THE SERVICE AREA WAS DETERMINED BY COUNTING THE NUMBER OF PATIENT VISITS BY COUNTY OF RESIDENCE. FIVE COUNTIES WERE DEFINED AS THE SERVICE AREA FOR ST. MARY'S SACRED HEART HOSPITAL: BANKS, ELBERT, FRANKLIN, HART, AND STEPHENS. THE TOTAL POPULATION IN THE SERVICE AREA IS 65,769. ST. MARY'S SACRED HEART HOSPITAL IS THE ONLY HOSPITAL IN FRANKLIN COUNTY AND THERE IS ONE FEDERALLY QUALIFIED HEALTH CENTER IN THE SERVICE AREA, MEDLINK.

PART VI, LINE 5:

PROMOTION OF COMMUNITY HEALTH - ST. MARY'S SACRED HEART HOSPITAL CONTINUES TO BE GUIDED BY THE ST. MARY'S HEALTH CARE SYSTEM MISSION OF IMPROVING THE HEALTH OF THE PEOPLE IN OUR COMMUNITIES. ST. MARY'S SACRED HEART HOSPITAL, A 56-BED FACILITY, PROVIDES A RANGE OF ESSENTIAL HEALTH SERVICES, INCLUDING SURGICAL CARE, A MOTHER/BABY UNIT, CRITICAL CARE, AND A 24-HOUR EMERGENCY DEPARTMENT THAT SERVES ALL INDIVIDUALS, REGARDLESS OF THEIR ABILITY TO PAY. THE HOSPITAL MAINTAINS AN OPEN MEDICAL STAFF, ENSURING THAT THE COMMUNITY HAS ACCESS TO A WIDE RANGE OF HEALTH CARE PROFESSIONALS AND SERVICES.

AS PART OF A CATHOLIC, NOT-FOR-PROFIT HEALTH SYSTEM, ST. MARY'S SACRED HEART HOSPITAL REMAINS DEEPLY COMMITTED TO USING ITS RESOURCES FOR THE Schedule H (Form 990)

BETTERMENT OF THE COMMUNITY. OUR COMMUNITY BENEFIT MINISTRY CONTINUES TO PLAY A KEY ROLE IN MEASURING AND REPORTING THE HOSPITAL'S IMPACT ON COMMUNITY HEALTH THROUGH SERVICES SUCH AS HEALTH IMPROVEMENT INITIATIVES, HEALTH PROFESSIONS EDUCATION, RESEARCH, AND FINANCIAL AND IN-KIND CONTRIBUTIONS. THESE CONTRIBUTIONS AND EFFORTS ENHANCE COMMUNITY WELL-BEING AND SUPPORT THE HOSPITAL'S MISSION OF IMPROVING THE HEALTH OF THE PEOPLE IN OUR COMMUNITIES.

ST. MARY'S SACRED HEART HOSPITAL ALSO CONTINUES ITS ACTIVE INVOLVEMENT IN COMMUNITY EVENTS AND HEALTH FAIRS ACROSS FRANKLIN AND HART COUNTIES, OFFERING FREE HEALTH SCREENINGS AND EDUCATIONAL RESOURCES TO RESIDENTS OF ALL AGES. THESE INITIATIVES INCREASE PUBLIC AWARENESS OF HEALTH ISSUES AND PROVIDE DIRECT SUPPORT TO COMMUNITY MEMBERS, ESPECIALLY THOSE IN UNDERSERVED POPULATIONS.

IN FISCAL YEAR 2024, ST. MARY'S HEALTH CARE SYSTEM ADVOCATED FOR AND ADVANCED THE ROLE OF COMMUNITY HEALTH WORKERS (CHW'S) ACROSS GEORGIA IN A COMMITMENT TO ADDRESS HEALTH DISPARITIES AND IMPROVE ACCESS TO CARE FOR THOSE WHO ARE UNDERSERVED. GEORGIA WATCH, A CONSUMER ADVOCACY ORGANIZATION, HOSPITAL LEADERSHIP AND THE COMMUNITY HEALTH AND WELL-BEING DEPARTMENT WORKED WITH STATE LEGISLATORS TO SUPPORT LEGISLATION TO ESTABLISH A FORMAL LICENSURE PROCESS FOR CHW'S. THIS LEGISLATION AIMED TO ENSURE STANDARDIZED TRAINING, CERTIFICATION, AND PROFESSIONAL RECOGNITION OF CHW'S THROUGHOUT THE STATE, WHILE ALSO ENABLING REIMBURSEMENT THROUGH MEDICAID AND OTHER PAYERS. THROUGH PARTNERSHIPS WITH COMMUNITY ORGANIZATIONS, THE HOSPITAL EDUCATED THE PUBLIC AND POLICYMAKERS ON THE IMPORTANCE OF EXPANDING THE CHW WORKFORCE TO ADDRESS HEALTH INEQUITIES, PARTICULARLY IN RURAL AND UNDERSERVED AREAS.

IN FISCAL YEAR 2024, ST. MARY'S SACRED HEART HOSPITAL MADE THE FOLLOWING

EFFORTS TO ADDRESS THE SOCIAL DETERMINANTS OF HEALTH WITHIN THE COMMUNITY

AS PART OF THE HOSPITAL'S BROADER COMMITMENT TO IMPROVING HEALTH OUTCOMES:

FOOD SECURITY - UNDERSTANDING THE CRITICAL LINK BETWEEN NUTRITION AND

HEALTH, ST. MARY'S SACRED HEART HOSPITAL PARTNERED WITH LOCAL

ORGANIZATIONS LIKE THE FOOD BANK OF NORTH GEORGIA'S MOBILE PANTRY AT

LAVONIA CHURCH OF GOD AND THE RAINBOW PANTRY OF ROYSTON TO EXPAND ACCESS

TO NUTRITIOUS FOOD FOR UNDERSERVED POPULATIONS.

CHW-LED SOCIAL CARE NAVIGATION - ST. MARY'S HEALTH CARE SYSTEM CONTINUED

THEIR CHW PROGRAM IN RURAL AREAS TO ASSESS PATIENTS' SOCIAL NEEDS SUCH AS

EMPLOYMENT, HOUSING, FOOD ACCESS, AND TRANSPORTATION. THE CHW PROGRAM

CONNECTS PATIENTS TO COMMUNITY RESOURCES AND SERVICES, WHILE ALSO

ASSISTING THEM IN NAVIGATING SOCIAL SYSTEMS THAT COULD IMPROVE THEIR

ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL CONDITIONS. THIS HOLISTIC APPROACH HELPS ADDRESS

UNDERLYING SOCIAL INFLUENCERS THAT OFTEN GO UNRECOGNIZED DURING STANDARD

HEALTH CARE INTERACTIONS.

HEALTH EDUCATION AND COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT - THE FREE HEART HEALTHY

EDUCATION PROGRAM WAS LED BY A MULTIDISCIPLINARY TEAM, INCLUDING A CARDIAC

REHABILITATION SPECIALIST, A CLINICAL REGISTERED DIETITIAN, AND A

PHARMACIST. THIS PROGRAM PROVIDED COMPREHENSIVE EDUCATION ON

CARDIOVASCULAR HEALTH, INCLUDING HEART-HEALTHY DIETS, EXERCISE, MEDICATION

MANAGEMENT, AND LIFESTYLE CHANGES TO REDUCE RISK FACTORS SUCH AS HIGH

BLOOD PRESSURE AND CHOLESTEROL.

Part VI | Supplemental Information (Continuation)

FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE - ST. MARY'S SACRED HEART HOSPITAL EXPANDED ITS OUTREACH EFFORTS FOR FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE PROGRAMS TO ENSURE THAT UNINSURED AND UNDERINSURED PATIENTS WERE AWARE OF THE SUPPORT AVAILABLE FOR MEDICAL BILLS, IMPROVING ACCESS TO TIMELY CARE AND SUPPORTING THE OVERALL WELL-BEING OF THE COMMUNITY. THE HOSPITAL PARTNERED WITH FIRSTSOURCE, A PATIENT FINANCIAL SERVICES PROVIDER, TO ASSIST PATIENTS IN NAVIGATING AND APPLYING FOR MEDICAID AND OTHER FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE OPTIONS. THIS COLLABORATION WITH FIRSTSOURCE ALLEVIATED ECONOMIC BARRIERS AND ENSURED THAT MORE PATIENTS RECEIVED THE HEALTH CARE SERVICES THEY NEEDED WITHOUT WORRYING ABOUT FINANCIAL HARDSHIP.

IN FISCAL YEAR 2024, TRINITY HEALTH ASSESSED THE TOTAL IMPACT ITS HOSPITALS HAVE ON COMMUNITY HEALTH. THIS ASSESSMENT INCLUDES TRADITIONAL COMMUNITY BENEFIT AS REPORTED IN PART I, COMMUNITY BUILDING AS REPORTED IN PART II, THE SHORTFALL ON MEDICARE SERVICES AS REPORTED IN PART III, AS WELL AS EXPENSES THAT ARE EXCLUDED FROM THE PART I COMMUNITY BENEFIT CALCULATION BECAUSE THEY ARE OFFSET BY EXTERNAL FUNDING. ALSO INCLUDED ARE ALL COMMUNITY HEALTH WORKERS, INCLUDING THOSE OPERATING IN OUR CLINICALLY INTEGRATED NETWORKS. OUR GOAL IN SHARING THE COMMUNITY IMPACT IS TO DEMONSTRATE HOW OUR CATHOLIC NOT-FOR-PROFIT HEALTH SYSTEM MAKES A DIFFERENCE IN THE COMMUNITIES WE SERVE - FOCUSING ON IMPACTING PEOPLE EXPERIENCING POVERTY - THROUGH FINANCIAL INVESTMENTS.

ST. MARY'S HEALTH CARE SYSTEM'S COMMUNITY IMPACT IN FISCAL YEAR 2024 TOTALED \$34.3 MILLION.

PART VI, LINE 6:

ONE OF THE ST. MARY'S SACRED HEART HOSPITAL IS A MEMBER OF TRINITY HEALTH, Schedule H (Form 990) LARGEST CATHOLIC HEALTH CARE DELIVERY SYSTEMS IN THE COUNTRY. TRINITY

HEALTH'S COMMUNITY HEALTH & WELL-BEING (CHWB) STRATEGY PROMOTES OPTIMAL

HEALTH FOR PEOPLE EXPERIENCING POVERTY AND OTHER VULNERABILITIES IN THE

COMMUNITIES WE SERVE - EMPHASIZING THE NECESSITY TO INTEGRATE SOCIAL AND

CLINICAL CARE. WE DO THIS BY:

- 1. ADDRESSING PATIENT SOCIAL NEEDS,
- 2. INVESTING IN OUR COMMUNITIES, AND
- 3. STRENGTHENING THE IMPACT OF OUR COMMUNITY BENEFIT.

TRINITY HEALTH CHWB TEAMS LEAD THE DEVELOPMENT AND IMPLEMENTATION OF

TRIENNIAL COMMUNITY HEALTH NEEDS ASSESSMENTS AND IMPLEMENTATION STRATEGIES

AND FOCUS INTENTIONALLY ON ENGAGING COMMUNITIES AND RESIDENTS EXPERIENCING

POVERTY AND OTHER VULNERABILITIES. WE BELIEVE THAT COMMUNITY MEMBERS AND

COMMUNITIES THAT ARE THE MOST IMPACTED BY RACISM AND OTHER FORMS OF

DISCRIMINATION EXPERIENCE THE GREATEST DISPARITIES AND INEQUITIES IN

HEALTH OUTCOMES AND SHOULD BE INCLUSIVELY ENGAGED IN ALL COMMUNITY HEALTH

ASSESSMENT AND IMPROVEMENT EFFORTS. THROUGHOUT OUR WORK, WE AIM TO

DISMANTLE OPPRESSIVE SYSTEMS AND BUILD COMMUNITY CAPACITY AND

PARTNERSHIPS.

TRINITY HEALTH AND ITS MEMBER HOSPITALS ARE COMMITTED TO THE DELIVERY OF

PEOPLE-CENTERED CARE AND SERVING AS A COMPASSIONATE AND TRANSFORMING

HEALING PRESENCE WITHIN THE COMMUNITIES WE SERVE. AS A NOT-FOR-PROFIT

HEALTH SYSTEM, TRINITY HEALTH REINVESTS ITS PROFITS BACK INTO THE

COMMUNITIES AND IS COMMITTED TO ADDRESSING THE UNIQUE NEEDS OF EACH

COMMUNITY. IN FISCAL YEAR 2024 (FY24), TRINITY HEALTH CONTRIBUTED NEARLY

\$1.3 BILLION IN COMMUNITY BENEFIT SPENDING TO AID THOSE WHO ARE

EXPERIENCING POVERTY AND OTHER VULNERABILITIES, AND TO IMPROVE THE HEALTH

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Part VI Supplemental Information (Continuation)

STATUS OF THE COMMUNITIES IN WHICH WE SERVE. TRINITY HEALTH FURTHERED ITS COMMITMENT THROUGH AN ADDITIONAL \$900 MILLION IN PROGRAMS AND INITIATIVES THAT IMPACT OUR COMMUNITIES - YIELDING A TOTAL COMMUNITY IMPACT OF \$2.2 BILLION IN FY24.

TRINITY HEALTH'S COMMUNITY INVESTING PROGRAM FINISHED FY24 WITH MORE THAN \$68 MILLION COMMITTED TO BUILDING VITAL COMMUNITY RESOURCES. THESE FUNDS, IN PARTNERSHIP WITH 31 PARTNERS, WERE PAIRED WITH OTHER RESOURCES TO GENERATE MORE THAN \$931.5 MILLION IN INVESTMENTS, WITH APPROXIMATELY 80% (\$749.3 MILLION) OF THESE FUNDS SUPPORTING HIGH PRIORITY ZIP CODES WITHIN TRINITY HEALTH'S SERVICE AREAS (DEFINED AS RACIALLY/ETHNICALLY-DIVERSE COMMUNITIES WITH HIGH LEVELS OF POVERTY). BETWEEN 2018 AND APRIL 2024, THESE INVESTMENTS HAVE BEEN INSTRUMENTAL IN CREATING MUCH-NEEDED COMMUNITY RESOURCES FOR THE PEOPLE THAT WE SERVE, NOTABLY:

- CREATING AT LEAST 1,100 CHILDCARE; 7,000 KINDERGARTEN THROUGH HIGH SCHOOL EDUCATION; AND 1,500 EARLY CHILDHOOD EDUCATION SLOTS.
- DEVELOPING AT LEAST 7.3 MILLION SQUARE FEET OF GENERAL REAL ESTATE.
- PROVIDING 872 STUDENTS NEARLY \$2.5 MILLION IN SCHOLARSHIPS TO PURSUE CAREERS IN THE HEALTH PROFESSIONS.
- SUPPORTING 10,800 FULL- AND PART-TIME POSITIONS INVOLVED IN THE CREATION OF THESE PROJECTS.
- CREATING 12,100 UNITS OF AFFORDABLE HOUSING OVER THE LAST FIVE YEARS (INCLUDING 360 SUPPORTIVE HOUSING BEDS).

ACROSS THE TRINITY HEALTH SYSTEM, OVER 875,000 (ABOUT 80%) OF THE PATIENTS SEEN IN PRIMARY CARE SETTINGS WERE SCREENED FOR SOCIAL NEEDS. ABOUT 28% OF THOSE SCREENED IDENTIFIED AT LEAST ONE SOCIAL NEED. THE TOP THREE NEEDS IDENTIFIED INCLUDED FOOD ACCESS, FINANCIAL INSECURITY AND SOCIAL

ISOLATION. TRINITY HEALTH'S ELECTRONIC HEALTH RECORD (EPIC) MADE IT POSSIBLE FOR TRINITY HEALTH TO STANDARDIZE SCREENING FOR SOCIAL NEEDS AND CONNECT PATIENTS TO COMMUNITY RESOURCES THROUGH THE COMMUNITY RESOURCE DIRECTORY (CRD), COMMUNITY HEALTH WORKERS (CHW'S) AND OTHER SOCIAL CARE PROFESSIONALS. THE CRD (FINDHELP) YIELDED OVER 88,600 SEARCHES, WITH NEARLY 7,000 REFERRALS MADE AND NEARLY 400 ORGANIZATIONS ENGAGED THROUGH

OUTREACH, TRAININGS, ONE-ON-ONE ENGAGEMENTS, AND COLLABORATIVES.

CHW'S ARE FRONTLINE HEALTH PROFESSIONALS WHO ARE TRUSTED MEMBERS OF AND/OR HAVE A DEEP UNDERSTANDING OF THE COMMUNITY SERVED. BY COMBINING THEIR LIVED EXPERIENCE AND CONNECTIONS TO THE COMMUNITY WITH EFFECTIVE TRAINING, CHW'S PROVIDE PATIENT-CENTERED AND CULTURALLY RESPONSIVE INTERVENTIONS. CHW'S FULFILL MANY SKILLS AND FUNCTIONS INCLUDING OUTREACH, CONDUCTING ASSESSMENTS LIKE A SOCIAL NEEDS SCREENING OR A HEALTH ASSESSMENT, RESOURCE CONNECTION, SYSTEM NAVIGATION, GOAL-SETTING AND PROBLEM-SOLVING THROUGH ONGOING EDUCATION, ADVOCACY, AND SUPPORT. IN PRACTICE, SOME EXAMPLES ARE A CHW HELPING A PATIENT CONNECT WITH THEIR PRIMARY CARE DOCTOR, ASSISTING WITH A MEDICAID INSURANCE APPLICATION OR UNDERSTANDING THEIR BASIC INSURANCE BENEFITS, OR EMPOWERING A PATIENT TO ASK CLARIFYING QUESTIONS ABOUT THEIR MEDICATIONS OR PLAN OF CARE AT THEIR NEXT DOCTOR'S APPOINTMENT. IN FY24, CHW'S SUCCESSFULLY ADDRESSED NEARLY 16,000 SOCIAL NEEDS. ONE SOCIAL NEED (SUCH AS ADDRESSING HOUSING OR FOOD NEEDS) CAN OFTEN TAKE MONTHS, OR EVEN A YEAR TO SUCCESSFULLY CLOSE, WHICH MEANS THE NEED HAS BEEN FULLY MET AND IS NO LONGER IDENTIFIED AS A NEED.

TRINITY HEALTH RECEIVED A NEW CENTER FOR DISEASE CONTROL AND PREVENTION GRANT (5-YEAR, \$12.5 MILLION AWARD) IN JUNE 2024. SINCE ITS LAUNCH, WE HAVE CREATED 21 NEW MULTI-SECTOR PARTNERSHIPS ACROSS 16 STATES TO