



2025 Community Benefit Plan and Report

Our Promise to the Community

In fiscal year 2024, Scripps Health provided

\$656 million

in community benefit services



Addressing Food Insecurity and Promoting Nutrition for Healthier Communities

Scripps Health is focused on addressing food insecurity and promoting nutrition through a variety of programs that make a difference. Celebrating 50 years of WIC, and Scripps Mercy Hospital's involvement for more than 40 years, Scripps serves an average of 6,200 women and children each month with prenatal care, breastfeeding support and nutrition education. Our partnership with Mama's Kitchen delivers medically tailored meals to congestive heart failure patients to help reduce hospital readmissions and enhance quality of life. The Live Fit Su Vida Su Corazon Healthy Living Program is an educational-based community intervention program that supports people in low-income, diverse racial and ethnic communities in San Diego diagnosed with heart disease and hypertension. Additionally, CalFresh screenings at Scripps Mercy Hospital, San Diego, connect patients to vital resources and food assistance for better health outcomes.

Serving Our Community

In 2024, 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. Caring for San Diego for more than 100 years, 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.

2025 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 2024 Scripps community benefit contributions totaled **\$656,291,701**.

Scripps has been part of the community for more than 100 years, longer than any other health care provider in San Diego. From 1924 to the present, our mission has been steadfast: to provide exceptional care and improve the health and lives of the people we serve. Scripps has grown and changed to meet the needs of the communities we serve. And while Miss Ellen may have never imagined how health care would evolve over the decades, she certainly would recognize our mission as the same as hers was so many years ago. It’s a mission that has always placed people at its heart – the people we care for and the people who provide care. San Diego has seen Scripps grow from the 57-bed hospital funded by Ellen Browning Scripps into a premier health care system that treats 600,000 patients annually. Scripps has consistently proven that it is here for good, establishing itself a San Diego institution - past, present, and future. By making lasting investments in the community, Scripps ensures its impact for today and generations to come. As a private, tax-exempt health care system, Scripps will continue its 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.

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 \$4.9 billion private, tax exempt, integrated health system based in San Diego, California. Scripps treats more than 600,000 patients annually at its four acute-care hospitals on five campuses, along with a robust network of 32 outpatient centers (including 12 Health Express locations), palliative care, clinical research, and ancillary services to serve our San Diego community and beyond. Scripps is also one of the largest employers in San Diego, with 3,000 affiliated physicians and more than 17,500 employees, and is recognized as one of the country's best companies to work for. Scripps 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, dedicated to improving community health and advancing medicine in San Diego County. Recognized as a leader in the prevention, diagnosis, and treatment of disease, Scripps is also at the forefront of clinical research and is the only health system in the region with two Level 1 trauma centers. Both Scripps Mercy Hospital in San Diego and Scripps Memorial Hospital La Jolla have been verified as Level 1 Trauma Centers—the highest designation awarded by the American College of Surgeons (ACS), signifying the most comprehensive level of injury care available. With these designations, Scripps Health now operates two of the three Level 1 adult trauma centers in San Diego County.

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 16-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 2025

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**Denotes Ex Officio*



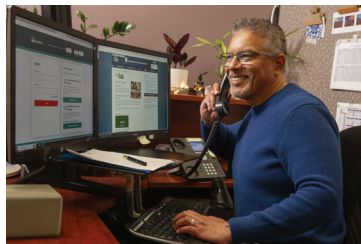
2025 Community Benefit Plan and Report

Our Promise to the Community

In fiscal year 2024, Scripps Health provided

\$656 million

in community benefit services



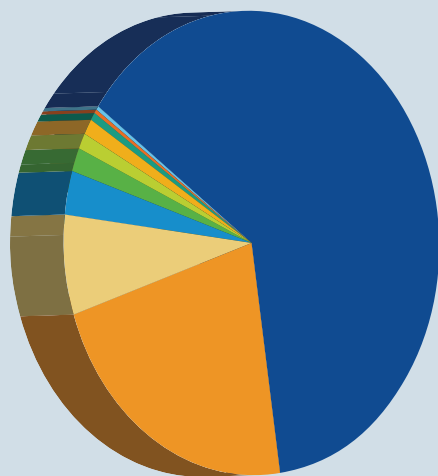
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Total Community Benefits in FY24: \$656,291,701



Medicare Shortfall	\$415,906,964	63.4%	Health Research	\$4,991,558	0.8%
Medi-Cal and other means tested government programs shortfall*	\$146,492,809	22.3%	Subsidized Health Services	\$3,100,477	0.5%
Health Professional Education	\$47,659,269	7.3%	Cash and In-Kind Contributions	\$1,485,542	0.2%
Charity Care	\$17,768,458	2.7%	Community Building Activities	\$387,252	0.1%
Community Health Improvement Services & Community Benefit Operations	\$10,901,463	1.7%			
Bad Debt	\$7,597,909	1.2%			

Colors coordinate clockwise from Medicare shortfalls.

13.9% of our total operating expenses in 2024 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 17,500 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, 32 outpatient locations, 12 Scripps *HealthExpress* locations.
- Three highly respected graduate medical education programs and two pharmacy resident programs train the next generation of caregivers. Scripps has 70 affiliation agreements for clinical placement with schools, colleges and universities to provide educational opportunities, internships and collaborative programs, fostering the next generation of health care professionals.
- Operating revenue: \$4.905 billion
- Operating expenses: \$4.699 billion
- Total inpatient discharges: 74,942
- Total outpatient visits: 3,168,633
- Emergency visits: 203,526

Investing in Our Community

In fiscal year 2024 Scripps Health devoted more than \$656 million to community benefit programs, including more than \$17 million in charity 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, government agencies, businesses and community clinics to serve 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

Scripps Health 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 2024 (October 1, 2023, through September 30, 2024), this report highlights Scripps dedication of \$656,291,701 (refer to Figures 1.1, 1.2 & 1.3) 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 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.

Schedule H (Form 990) and IRS Categories

Community benefit services are defined categories of activities designed to improve health in communities and enhance availability of care. The most recent IRS reporting requirements associated with community benefit went into effect in 2009 through Form 990, Schedule H which accompanies tax filings for nonprofit organizations.² Tax-exempt hospitals must use this form to report community benefit activities and organization-specific details annually. The IRS identifies [eight categories of community benefit](#) reportable on Form 990, Schedule H: Charity Care, Medi-Cal shortfall, costs of other means-tested government programs, community health improvement services and community benefit operations, health professions education, subsidized health services, health research, and cash, grants and in-kind contributions. Scripps aligns its 2025 Community Benefit Plan and Report with these categories³. For a more comprehensive glossary of terms used in this report refer to Appendix A.

“Cash, Grants and In- Kind Contributions” refers to contributions made by the organization to health care organizations and other community groups restricted, in writing, to one or more of the community benefit activities. “Cash contributions” does not mean any payments that the organization makes in exchange for a service, facility, or product, or that the organization makes primarily to obtain economic or physical benefit. In-kind contributions include the cost of staff hours donated by the organization to the community, indirect cost of space donated to tax-exempt community groups (such as for community health-related meetings), and the financial value (generally measured at cost) of donated food, equipment, and supplies. These costs are included in the IRS Form 990 Schedule H Part I Lines 7i.

“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. Charity care is included in the Internal Revenue Service (IRS) Form 990 Schedule H Part I Line 7a.

“Community Benefit Operations” refers to 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. “Community benefit operations” does not mean the activities or programs provided primarily for marketing purposes or if they are more beneficial to the organization than to the community. These costs are included in the IRS Form 990 Schedule H Part I Lines 7e.

“Community Health Improvement Services” refers to activities or programs subsidized by the health care organization and carried out or supported for the express purpose of improving community health through health education and prevention services. Such services do not generate inpatient or outpatient revenue, although there may be a nominal patient fee or sliding scale fee for these services. These costs are included in the IRS Form 990 Schedule H Part I Lines 7e.

“Health Professions Education” refers to educational programs that result in a degree, a certificate, or training necessary to be licensed to practice as a health professional, as required by state law, or continuing education necessary to retain state license or certification by a board in the individual's health profession specialty. It does not include education or training programs available exclusively to the organization's employees and medical staff or scholarships provided to those individuals. It does include education programs if the primary purpose of such programs is to educate health professionals in the broader community. Costs for medical residents and interns can be included, even if they are considered “employees” for purposes of Form W-2, Wage and Tax Statement. These costs are included in the IRS Form 990 Schedule H Part I Lines 7f.

“Medicaid Shortfall and Cost of Other Means-Tested Government Program” refers to a government health program for which eligibility depends on the recipient's income or asset level. Examples include: the State Children’s Health Insurance Program (SCHIP), or the California Children’s Services (CCS) Program. 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.

“Health Research” refers to any study or investigation the goal of which is to generate increased 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. These costs are included in the IRS Form 990 Schedule H Part I Lines 7h.

“Subsidized Health Services” refers to clinical services provided despite a financial loss to the organization. The financial loss is measured after removing payments associated with bad debt, financial assistance, Medi-Cal, and other means-tested government programs. Losses attributable to these items are not included when determining the value of subsidized health services. These costs are included in the IRS Form 990 Schedule H Part I Lines 7g.

“Community Building Activities, Bad Debt and Medicare Shortfall.” Community Building Activities, Bad Debt, and Medicare Shortfall are reportable under Schedule H guidelines but are excluded from the community benefit calculation totals in Form 990, Schedule H. However, Scripps includes these categories in our overall community benefit calculations in the report. See Figure 1.3.

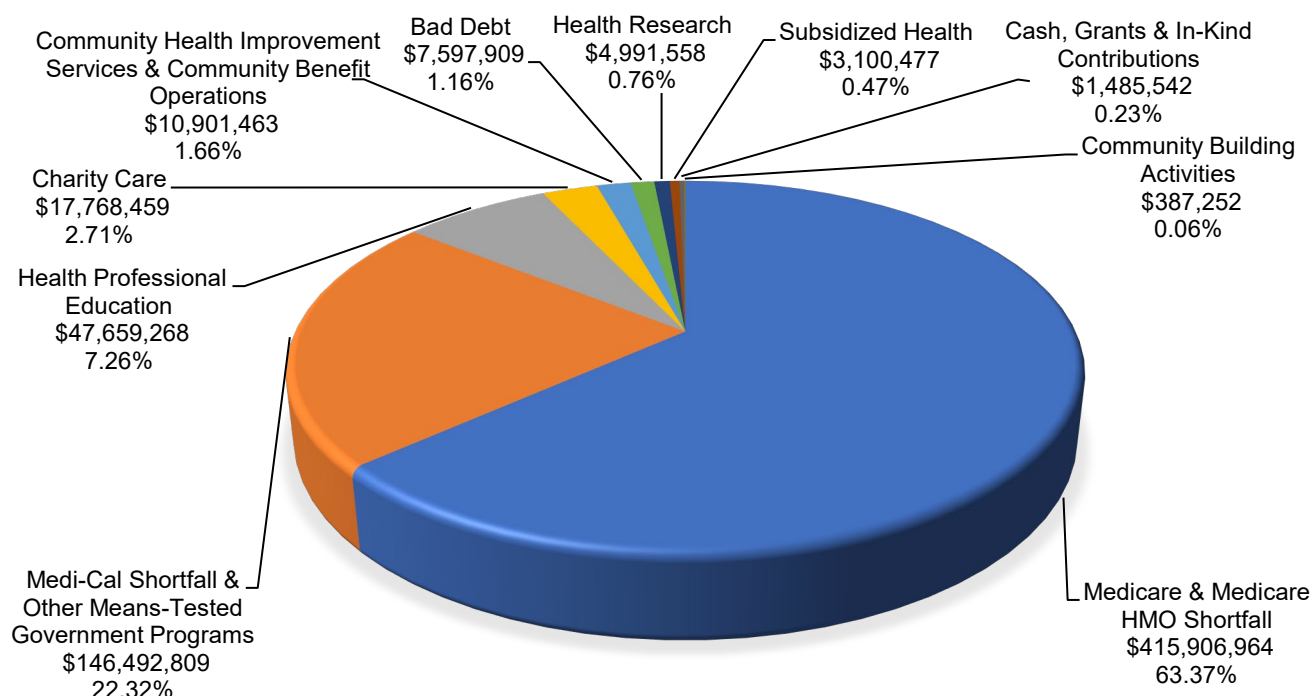
- **“Community Building Activities”** refers to activities that protect or improve the community's health or safety. Community-building activities are programs that address the underlying causes of health problems and thus improve health status and quality of life. They focus on the root causes of health problems. These costs are included in the IRS Form 990 Schedule H Part II.
- **“Bad Debt”** refers to 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. These costs are incorporated in the IRS Form 990 Schedule H Part III Section A.
- **“Medicare Shortfall”** refers to a shortfall (losses) in reimbursement from Medicare. Unpaid cost of Medicare is calculated using Scripps cost accounting system. In the IRS Form 990, Schedule H, the Medicare cost report is utilized, and these expenses are incorporated into Section B of Part III of IRS Form 990 Schedule H. These costs are incorporated in the IRS Form 990 Schedule H Part III Section B.

Organization of the Report

The report is structured to present systemwide data in Section Four, organized by IRS categories, providing detailed insights into the various programs. Sections Five through Ten adopt an entity-focused framework, covering each hospital site, Scripps Medical Foundation, and Scripps Health Administrative Services. These sections highlight accomplishments from Fiscal Year 2024 aligned with IRS categories and outline site-specific goals and objectives for Fiscal Year 2025.

Figure 1.1

Fiscal Year 2024 Scripps Total Community Benefit Services, by Category \$656,291,701



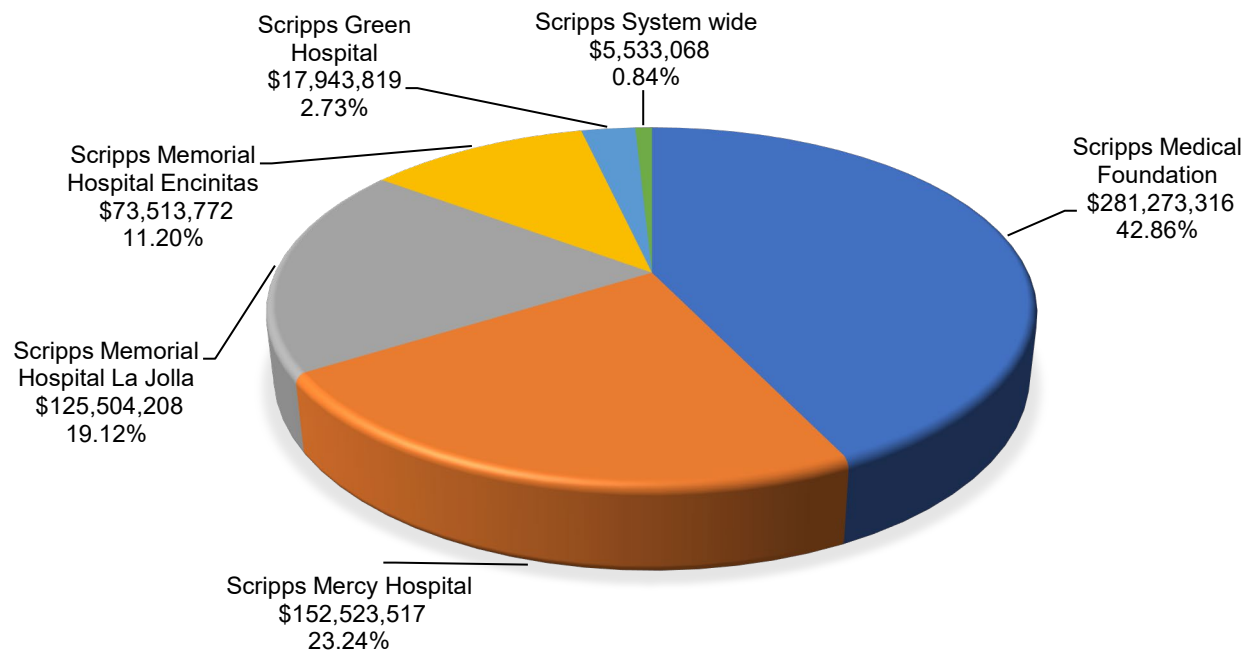
Community Benefits Services (Provider Fee Impact)	Bad Debt	Cash, Grants & In Kind Contributions	Charity Care	Community Building Activities	Community Health Improvement Services & Operations	Health Professional Education	Health Research	Medi Cal & Other Means Tested Government Programs (Shortfall)	Medicare & Medicare HMO (Shortfall)	Subsidized Health Services	Total
Before Provider Fee	\$7,597,909	\$1,485,542	\$17,768,459	\$387,252	\$10,901,463	\$47,659,268	\$4,991,558	\$221,158,012	\$415,906,964	\$3,100,477	\$730,956,903
Provider Fee	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	(\$74,665,202)	-	-	(\$74,665,202)
Net After Provider Fee	\$7,597,909	\$1,485,542	\$17,768,459	\$387,252	\$10,901,463	\$47,659,268	\$4,991,558	\$146,492,809	\$415,906,964	\$3,100,477	\$656,291,701

Community Benefit Services

Community Benefit Services are programs and services designed to improve health in communities. IRS Form 990, Schedule H instructions define community benefit as activities or programs that respond to community health needs and seek to achieve one or more of the following objectives: improving access to health services, enabling low-income individuals to afford health care, enhancing public health, advancing generalizable knowledge, educating healthcare professionals, and relieving the government's burden to improve health. While Medicare Shortfall, Bad Debt, and Community Building Activities are reportable under Schedule H guidelines, they are excluded from the community benefit totals. However, Scripps includes these in our overall community benefit calculations in the report.

Figure 1.2

Fiscal Year 2024 Scripps Total Community Benefit Services by Operating Unit, \$656,291,701



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	\$118,401,237	\$17,943,819	\$69,422,711	\$238,382,752	\$281,273,316	\$5,533,068	\$730,956,903
Provider Fee	\$7,102,971	-	\$4,091,061	(\$85,859,235)	-	-	(\$74,665,202)
Net After Provider Fee	\$125,504,208	\$17,943,819	\$73,513,772	\$152,523,517	\$281,273,316	\$5,533,068	\$656,291,701

Community Benefit Services

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Figure 1.3

Fiscal Year 2024

Scripps Total Community Benefit Services Expenses \$656,291,701

Line	Community Benefit Services Fiscal Year 2024	Broader Community*	Vulnerable Populations**	Total
	Uncompensated Care			
1	Financial Assistance (Charity Care)	\$0	\$17,768,459	\$17,768,459
2	Medi-Cal Shortfall and Cost of Other Means-Tested Government Programs***	\$0	\$146,492,809	\$146,492,809
3	Sum Financial Assistance and Means-Tested Government Programs (Sum Lines 1-2)	\$0	\$164,261,268	\$164,261,268
	Other Benefits			
4	Community Health Improvement Services and Community Benefit Operations	\$1,045,787	\$9,855,675	\$10,901,462
5	Health Professions Education	\$14,172,279	\$33,486,990	\$47,659,269
6	Health Research	\$4,236,934	\$754,624	\$4,991,558
7	Cash, Grant, and In-Kind Contributions	\$44,732	\$1,440,810	\$1,485,542
8	Subsidized Health Services	\$0	\$3,100,477	\$3,100,477
9	Total Other Benefits (Sum Lines 4-8)	\$19,499,732	\$48,638,576	\$68,138,308
10	Total Community Benefits (Line 3 + Line 9)	\$19,499,732	\$212,899,844	\$232,399,576
	Categories such as Medicare Shortfall, Community Building Activities and Bad Debt are Excluded from the Community Benefit Totals in Form 900, Schedule H. ****			
11	Medicare & Medicare HMO Shortfall*****	\$415,906,964	\$0	\$415,906,964
12	Community Building Activities	\$101,843	\$285,409	\$387,252
13	Bad Debt	\$7,597,909	\$0	\$7,597,909
14	Total IRS Excluded Items	\$423,606,716	\$285,409	\$423,892,125
15	Total Net Community Benefit Expenses ⁴ with All Categories Included	\$443,106,448	\$213,185,253	\$656,291,701

Methodology: The economic value of all community benefit is reported at cost, in compliance with IRS instructions. Community benefit expenses reflect the actual costs incurred by the hospital organization, not charges, market value, or opportunity costs.

- **Bad Debt & Charity Care:** The cost is 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.
- **Medi-Cal, Other Means-Tested Government Programs & Medicare Shortfall:** Costs are derived using the payer-based cost allocation method.
- **Other Net Community Benefit Expenses:** Calculated using a cost accounting methodology.
- **Restricted Offsetting Revenue:** Where applicable, restricted revenue for a specific activity is subtracted from total expenses to determine net benefit in dollars.

* Broader Community means groups or communities not specifically identified as vulnerable populations. This may include groups or communities where vulnerable populations cannot be identified or the activity is not specifically directed towards vulnerable populations.

** Assembly Bill 1204 (2021) expanded the definition of “vulnerable populations” for community benefits planning purposes and 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 are required 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*

*** 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 (HQA), 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.⁵ 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.

**** Medicare Shortfall, Bad Debt, and Community Building Activities are reportable under IRS instructions but are excluded from the community benefit totals in Form 990, Schedule H. However, Scripps includes these categories in our overall community benefit calculations within the report.

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



Section 2

Scripps Health Community Served

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 2024, Scripps provided a total of 3,168,633 outpatient visits and facilitated 74,942 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 14 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



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, (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.

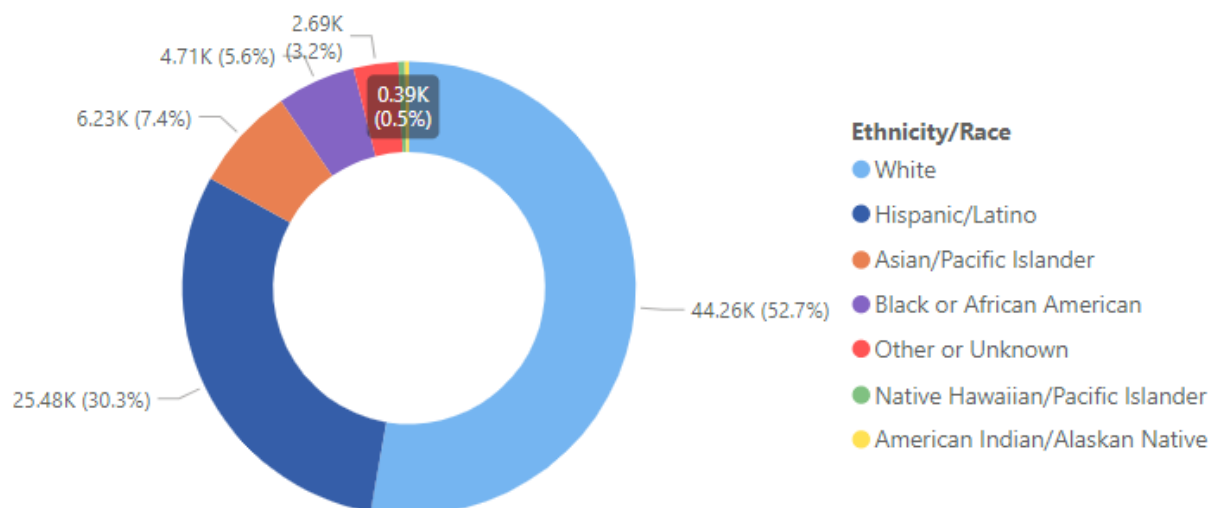
Scripps makes every effort to identify patients who may benefit from financial assistance as soon as possible and provide counseling and language interpretation. Additionally, Scripps does not apply wage garnishment or liens on primary residences as a way of collecting unpaid hospital bills.

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 2025, the Department of Health and Human Services defined a family of four at 200 percent federal poverty level as \$64,300.⁶

Scripps Health Fiscal Year 2024 Patient Community Demographics

Scripps Fiscal Year 2024 Inpatient Discharges by Race/Ethnicity

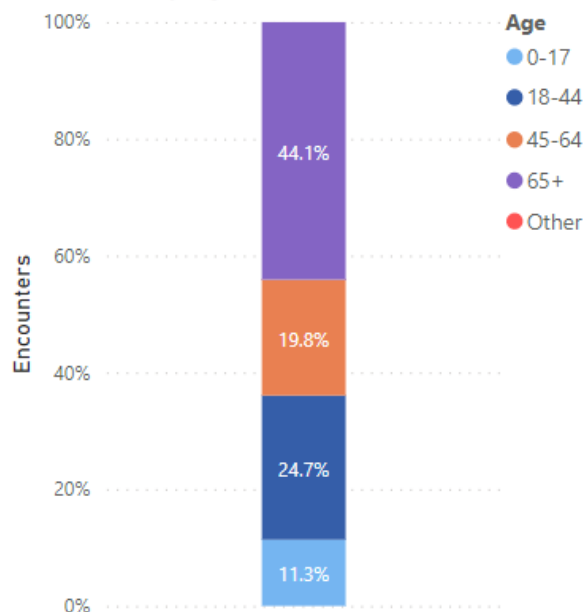
Encounters by Ethnicity/Race



In the Scripps Health service area 52.7% of the Inpatient Discharges are White, 30.3% are Hispanic/Latino, 7.4% are Asian/Pacific Islander, 5.6% are Black or African American.

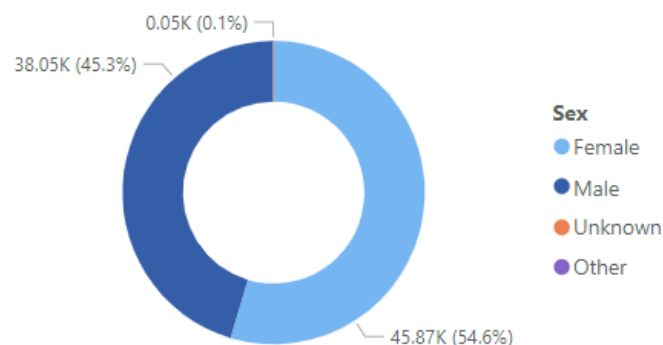
Scripps FY 2024 Inpatient Discharges by Age

Encounters by Age



Scripps FY 2024 Inpatient Discharges by Sex

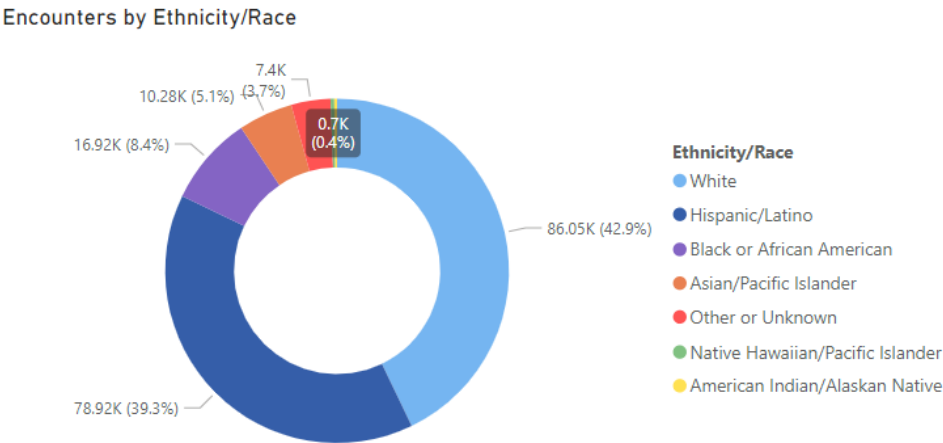
Encounters by Sex



In the Scripps Health service area 54.6% of the Inpatient Discharges are Female and 45.3% are Male.

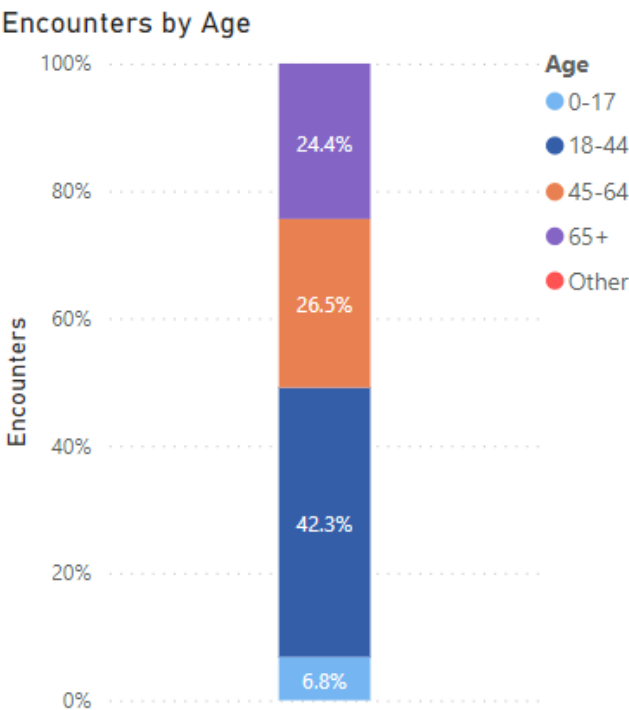
Scripps Fiscal Year 2024 Emergency Department (ED) Encounters

Encounters by Race/Ethnicity

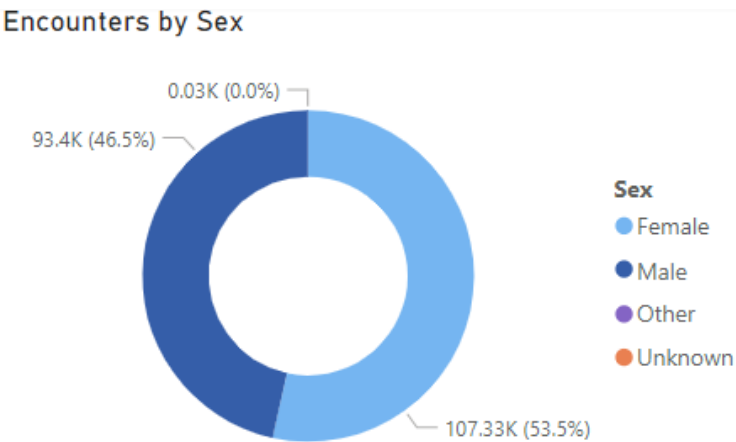


In the Scripps Health service area 42.9% of the Emergency Department encounters are White, 39.3% are Hispanic/Latino, 8.4% are Black/African American, 5.1% are Asian/Pacific Islander.

Scripps FY 2024 ED Encounters by Age

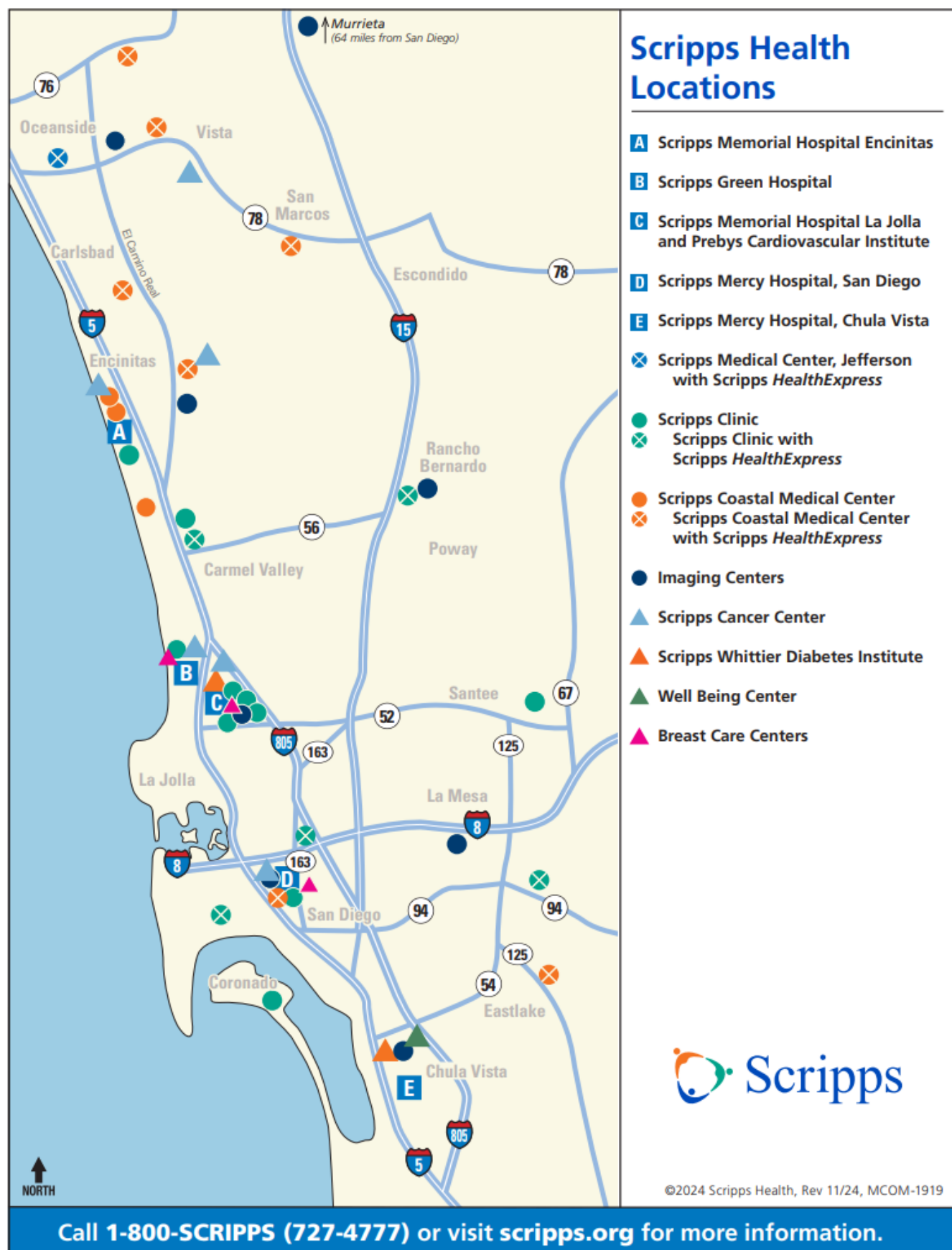


Scripps FY 2024 ED Encounters by Sex



In the Scripps Health service area 53.5% of the Emergency Department encounters are Female and 46.5% 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 (HEIC) is a knowledge repository funded by the Krueger-Wyeth⁷ (KW) award, offering data, research, and insights on health equity. HEIC 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's 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 (SCHE)

Scripps Collaborative for Health Equity (SCHE) is one initiative among our regional and local efforts that seeks to fulfill Scripps's 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:

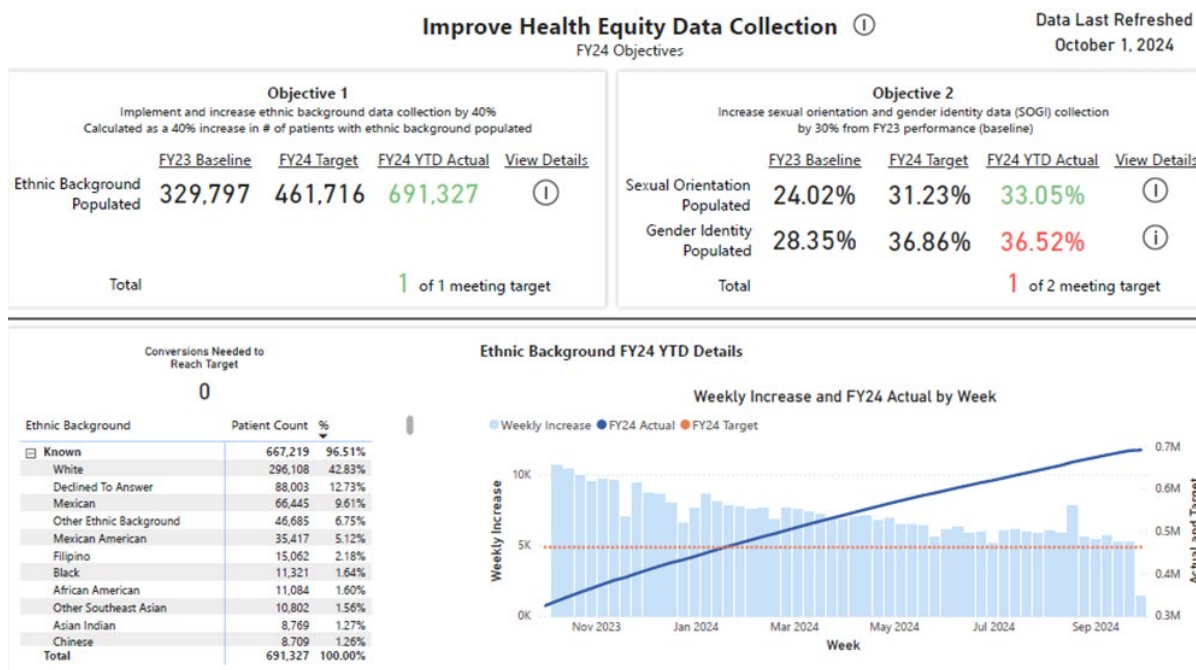
- Focus and expand research efforts on healthcare disparities.
- Improve access to culturally appropriate healthcare resources.
- Expand community interventions and programs for multicultural populations.

Fiscal Year 2024 Health Equity Accomplishment Highlights

Data Collection

Long term data collection is crucial for developing effective, evidence-based interventions, especially in healthcare and community programs. It is difficult to identify systemic inequities, assess the specific needs of diverse populations, and measure the impact of interventions over time without accurate and comprehensive data. Scripps can identify trends and disparities that might otherwise go unnoticed by tracking health outcomes, patient demographics, and social determinants of health. This data-driven approach enables healthcare providers to design targeted programs, allocate resources effectively, and implement policies that promote equitable access to care for all. Scripps commitment to these efforts can help in the assessment of the needs of the community and improve patient outcomes.

Acute Care Health Equity Initiatives



Ethnic Background Data Collection

- Successfully implemented a system-wide ethnic background data collection process, enhancing the accuracy of patients' cultural identity and ethnicity documentation. This initiative led to a more than 40% increase in ethnic background data collection across the Scripps system, surpassing the target goal and achieving a 110% improvement in race, ethnicity, and language (REaL) data collection rates.

Sexual Orientation and Gender Identity (SOGI) Data Improvement

- Improved SOGI data collection by increasing hospital documentation of gender identity and sexual orientation for inpatients by 10% from FY23 to FY24 and reducing blank data fields in outpatient encounters by 16%.
- SOGI Data Collection: Raised sexual orientation and gender identity (SOGI) data collection to 33% and 36.5% respectively, surpassing target for sexual orientation and coming close to the target for gender identity.
- Conducted weekly SOGI brainstorming sessions and launched an educational plan for RNs, PCAs, Providers, and Access staff, alongside initiating a MyChart Campaign in 2024.
- Enhanced SOGI data integration by implementing Epic build updates to improve the CDS Storyboard, MD Navigators, and Smartform edits.
- Launched SOGI data collection pilots across ambulatory primary care clinics, testing both electronic and office staff workflows.

Social Drivers of Health (SDOH) Implementation

- CMS Requirements: The Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS) mandates that healthcare organizations screen for Social Determinants of Health (SDOH) within these five domains. CMS encourages healthcare teams to discuss these factors with patients at any point during their hospital stay as part of an initiative to improve care for underserved communities, broaden healthcare coverage, and advance health equity.
- In 2024, Scripps rolled out the SDOH inpatient screening tool across all five of its hospitals to screen patients aged 18 and older in five key domains: food security, housing instability, transportation needs, utility difficulties, and interpersonal safety. Below are the screening rates as of 11.6.24.



- Scripps established a mechanism to capture "screen positive" rates and standardized processes for responding to positive screens and formed a partnership with Scripps Well Being Center - Scripps Mercy Hospital, Chula Vista to connect patients with community resources after discharge.
- Future Impact: Screening for SDOH will allow Scripps to develop and guide programs that address the clinically linked social determinants, contributing to a more equitable and supportive healthcare environment.

Patient Experience through the Health Equity Lens

- Assessed patient experience scores with a focus on health equity and developed countermeasures to support communication with nursing and physicians, hospital quietness, and discharge information.
- Implemented staff huddles, bedside rounds, bedside report completion, and sleep carts to address specific gaps and enhance patient experience.

Interpretive Services Utilization and Documentation

- Improved utilization and documentation compliance of qualified interpreter use for our patients with preferred language other than English.
- Streamlined processes and created detailed instructions for accessing remote and telehealth interpreter services, collaborated with Center For Learning colleagues to enhance education on Interpreter Services for new staff, and revised Epic documentation screens while publishing an updated Interpreter Services Tip Sheet.
- Added the CyraCom application to bedside patient iPads initially at Scripps Mercy campuses and later expanded to all hospital campuses and conducted an annual regulatory review and enhancement of Scripps policy. CyraCom provides language interpretation and translation services. These services help organizations communicate with non-English-speaking individuals, ensuring compliance with language access laws and improving accessibility for diverse populations.
- To enhance accountability and regulatory compliance, Scripps implemented a Inpatient Interpreter Services Dashboard and published two articles in internal communications to promote the use of qualified interpretation resources. This dashboard enables Scripps to ensure that interpretive services are provided and documented for those who need them, supporting adherence to regulatory standards. Additionally, it allows to identify areas performing well, enabling to learn best practices, and pinpoint areas needing improvement, allowing to tailor countermeasures effectively.

Heart Failure Management: Readmissions Targets and Discharge Planning

- Met CMS target for heart failure readmissions at all five Scripps hospitals.
- Launched the Enhanced Discharge Planning Pilot for unhoused heart failure patients, providing tailored dietary education, follow-up appointment scheduling, transportation vouchers, and post-discharge phone calls by a pharmacist.
- Partnered with the Scripps Well Being Center - Scripps Mercy Hospital, Chula Vista for post-discharge follow-ups, reducing heart failure readmission rates at Mercy SD and CV campuses. Collaborated with Mama's Kitchen to improve health outcomes and reduce readmissions for congestive heart failure patients, with 72 patients enrolled in FY24 and 123 total number of patients since the beginning of the study.

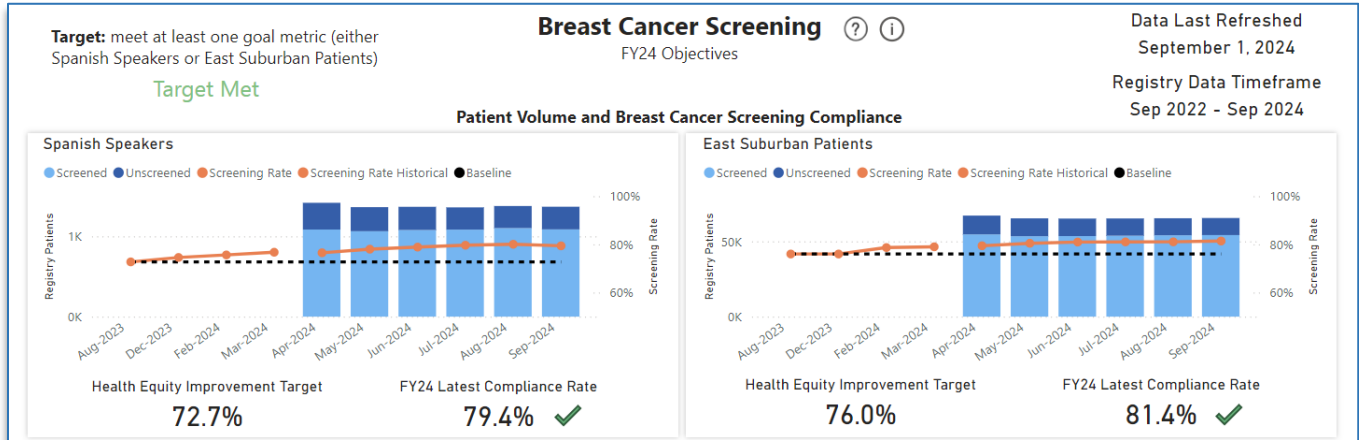
HCAI Metrics: Infrastructure for AB1204 Hospital Equity Reporting Compliance

In FY24, Scripps Health proactively set up the necessary infrastructure to comply with AB 1204, the Medical Equity Disclosure Act, which mandates the collection and reporting of healthcare disparities data. Efforts included:

1. **Data Collection and Reporting Framework:** Established a comprehensive system to collect detailed data on health status and access to care disparities, disaggregated by age, sex, race, ethnicity, language, disability status, sexual orientation, gender identity, and payor.
2. **Annual Equity Report Preparation:** Developed a robust process for preparing the annual equity report to be submitted to the Department of Health Care Access and Information (HCAI). This report includes:
 - Analysis of collected data.
 - A health equity plan designed to reduce disparities.
 - Detailed methodology for data collection.
3. **Disparities Data Collection and Analysis:** Implemented systematic data collection and analysis processes to identify disparities in the following 10 metrics. These analyses help us identify key areas of disparity and will inform our strategic interventions to address disparities.
 1. C-section rates.
 2. Vaginal Birth After Cesarean (VBAC) rates.
 3. Breastfeeding within the first two hours of life.
 4. Patient experience metric: "Would you recommend this hospital to your friends and family?"
 5. Patient experience metric: "During this hospital stay, did doctors, nurses, or other hospital staff talk with you about whether you would have the help you needed when you left the hospital?"
 6. Patient experience metric: "During the hospital stay, did you get information in writing about what symptoms or health problems to look out for after you left the hospital?"
 7. Deaths after serious treatable conditions.
 8. Hospital readmissions.
 9. Sepsis management.
 10. Pneumonia death rates across our hospitals.

Ambulatory Care Health Equity Initiatives

- Exceeded target Breast Cancer Screening rates across Spanish speaking patients, achieving a 6% year-over-year improvement and a reduction in gap between Spanish and English rates.
- Launched a targeted campaign in the patient portal, adapted to Spanish for patients who provided Spanish as their first language.



- Conducted 28 patient outreach interviews to deep dive into breast cancer barriers to screening. Findings were presented in a poster presentation by a medical student.
- Presented assessment approach, countermeasure development, and results at the American Medical Group Association's (AMGA) Health Equity Quality and Innovation Collective.
- Performed, presented, and published a national database study assessing rates of mammographic screening for breast cancer according to race and ethnicity. This study was selected to present in 2024 in the American Society of Clinical Oncology annual meeting.
- Scripps Whittier Research and Development programs added 4 early-stage investigators to the growing team dedicated to conducting Health Equity research within Scripps, across San Diego and across the nation.
- Expanded services at the Scripps Advanced Care Clinic for underserved individuals. Scripps launched Healing Touch last year and this year successfully introduced a Cardiology Clinic, staffed by volunteer cardiologists and Internal Medicine residents who are passionate about learning and serving this population. Furthermore, Scripps has launched weekly Psychotherapy/Behavioral Health services and Acupuncture, all offered free of charge.

Community Health Partnerships & Outreach

- **Scripps Mercy Hospital San Diego** was recognized by the U.S. News and World Report as one of 98 hospitals named '*Best Regional Hospitals for Equitable Access*' in its 2024-2025 'Best Hospitals' ranking and ratings. [Best regional hospitals for equitable access: US News](#).
- **Mobile Health Fair Collaboration.** The Scripps Whittier Institute collaborated with the Mobile Health and Resource Fair in Southeast San Diego, reaching over 790 individuals with education and services focused on breast cancer prevention, early detection, and cardiovascular health. The health fair serves the underserved communities and promote preventive care and engages the community to better understand their unique challenges and identify effective ways to meet their healthcare needs.

Health Screenings and Services

- 228 A1c tests
- 1,473 blood sugar screenings
- 521 cholesterol checks
- 483 breast cancer education sessions
- 1,352 blood pressure checks
- 41 vaccines
- 73 breast exams

Impact and Reach

- Reached over 793 underserved and high-risk individuals, who completed needs assessment surveys (data from October 2023 to March 2024).
- 21% increase in completed health surveys compared to FY23 (average of 28 surveys per month).
- Median participant age: 61 years
- Gender distribution: 20.3% male, 77.5% female
- Most commonly served ethnic groups: 29% Black/African American and 29% Hispanic/Latino

Follow-Up Programs

- Individuals screening positive for diabetes or cardiometabolic diseases are enrolled in Dulce Digital, a 6-month text-based education program available in English, Spanish, Tagalog, Arabic, and Vietnamese.
- Referrals made to Live Fit, a healthy living education program with live and virtual options that include physical activity sessions.
- **Cognitive Health Screenings** have been administered to over 150 community members attending the monthly mobile health fair using a validated tool to assess for cognitive decline in under-insured minorities. The aim is to collect 200 completed screenings by the end of FY2025.
- **Live Fit Su Vida, Su Corazon Program: Healthy Living Program.** This is a community-wide approach to deliver innovative and inspirational cardiometabolic educational programs for low-income, diverse racial and ethnic communities in San Diego. The overall goal of this program is to

improve care continuity for heart disease by providing outreach, education (Su Vida Su Corazon and Healthy Living education programs) and screening to underserved communities. A total of 67 community members actively participated in the Live Fit series. The goals and objectives of the program were met, as both Scripps staff and Promotoras led these sessions to ensure accessibility and inclusivity and reached a total of 690 community members with plans for ongoing expansion in the next fiscal year.

- **Breast Cancer Awareness.** Developed and delivered educational classes to 80 individuals in low-income, underserved communities across San Diego.
- **Scripps Well Being Center** provided service to over 10,241 multicultural participants this year with support groups, classes, outreach and education and other community health prevention programs.

Health Disparities Research & Interventions

- **Breast Cancer Screening Disparities Study:** Analyzed racial and ethnic disparities in breast cancer screening rates using the Electronic Platform for Health Disparities. New interventions are being developed to address disparities. Scripps continues to leverage new platforms for social determinants of health (SDOH) disparities and outcomes research. One proposal involves a cross-sectional survey using a novel Social Determinants of Health (SDOH) questionnaire to identify disparities among Scripps breast cancer patients. This project aims to create and validate an SDOH risk score to enable prospective triage of patients to social work or other supportive resources based on their initial risk assessment. With growing research into the impact of SDOH on health outcomes and the Institute of Medicine emphasizing the need for study in this area, this proposal addresses a critical gap in cancer care. Scripps is especially well-positioned to examine diverse patient subpopulations due to the unique communities served by each of our cancer center locations.
- **Health Disparities and Financial Toxicity Research:** Scripps has continued its research on "financial toxicity" and its adverse effects on breast cancer patients undergoing multidisciplinary treatments. The trial measures patients' self-efficacy, social networks and support, and financial literacy, examining how these factors correlate with financial toxicity. Additionally, Scripps is finalizing a protocol that investigates financial toxicity among Spanish-speaking, underserved communities. These studies are actively enrolling participants, with results anticipated next year. This research aims to provide valuable insights into the challenges faced by cancer patients, particularly those experiencing disparities in accessing optimal care. Currently the enrollment stands at 72 patients.
- **Asthma Treatment Disparities: Social Determinants and Disparities in Asthma Diagnosis and Treatment.** In partnership with Modena Asthma and Allergy and San Diego State University, Scripps

analyzed disparities in asthma diagnosis and treatment within diverse demographic groups, revealing care gaps.

- **Continuous Glucose Monitoring Study:** Continuous Glucose Monitoring (CGM) to Augment and Personalize Self-Management of Type 2 Diabetes in Hispanic/Latinx Young Adults. Partnered with San Diego State University to evaluate CGM's impact on Hispanic/Latinx young adults with type 2 diabetes, funded by USC Center for Latino Health and the NY Regional Center for Diabetes Translation Research.
- **Scripps Whittier Diabetes Institute Advancing Health Equity Through Culturally Tailored Diabetes Interventions:** With a longstanding commitment to addressing health disparities, the Diabetes Institute is currently evaluating Continuous Glucose Monitoring use in hospitalized Hispanic individuals with type 2 diabetes and delivering culturally and linguistically tailored digital diabetes education for Hispanic, Filipino, and Arab American populations.

Scripps Health Equity Information Center (HEIC)

- HEIC developed analytics to support FY24 system and site Health Equity-focused Performance Objectives:
 - Enhanced health equity data collection processes
 - Analyzed disparities in heart failure readmission rates
 - Targeted improvements in breast cancer screening rates among marginalized populations
 - Streamlined operational workflows related to providing interpretive services to non-English speaking patients
- Created a comprehensive dashboard to analyze disparities in health equity-related metrics defined by including:
 - C-section rates
 - Vaginal Birth After Cesarean (VBAC) rates
 - Breastfeeding within the first two hours of life
 - Patient experience metrics
 - Deaths after serious treatable conditions
 - Hospital readmissions
 - Sepsis management
 - Pneumonia death rates across our hospitals

Scripps Collaborative for Health Equity (SCHE) Third Year Milestones

- **Research Funding:** Scripps Collaborative for Health Equity (SCHE) has made notable progress in advancing health equity. Key achievements include establishing a solid infrastructure with regular steering committee meetings and hosting the second Health Equity Research Symposium, which highlighted groundbreaking research on health disparities. SCHE funded critical projects on cardiometabolic health, liver transplantation disparities, and the quality of life in breast cancer survivors. These grants have enabled researchers to take on expanded roles, including fellowships, increased clinical and research responsibilities, and opportunities for publications and presentations. SCHE has also created research opportunities for healthcare professionals and trainees interested in health disparities in breast cancer, cardiovascular disease, and neurocognition. In total, SCHE awarded \$72,200 across eight research projects, supporting work on cardiovascular care, health and wellness, liver disease, diabetes care among the Filipino population, and health disparities in women and multicultural populations.
- **Annual Research Symposium:** Launched a second Annual Research Symposium with more than 85 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:
 - Everything is Pulse-able: Getting to the Heart of Your Wellness – Reducing Health Care Disparities Across our Community
 - Racial Disparities in the Receipt of Liver Transplantation among Black Patients with Hepatocellular Carcinoma: A Systemic Review
 - Allostatic Load in Takotsubo Cardiomyopathy – Sociodemographic and Clinical Risk Factors and Outcomes
 - Improving Cardiometabolic Health-Related Outcomes in Filipino Americans
 - Health Equity Information Center- Performance & Analytics
 - Racial/Ethnic disparities in Quality of Life Among Breast Cancer Survivors
- **Effective Community Engagement and Support Programs:** Implemented a wide variety of supportive services to support culturally and linguistically appropriate resources and support for patients and community members. Over 10,000 participants from the community participated in these programs. Provided post-discharge support for more than 1,300 patients recovering from conditions such as Acute Myocardial Infarction (AMI), Coronary Artery Bypass Grafting (CABG), Congestive Heart Failure (CHF), and stroke as well as an additional population screened at risk for two or more Social Determinants of Health (SDOH) risk factors.
- **Youth Pipeline Programs:** Offered youth pipeline programs supporting 2,569 youth to build a diverse health care workforce.

- **Breast Cancer Support Initiatives:** Sponsored a breast cancer support group through SCHE to reach underserved communities, providing care pathways and educational tools for monitoring treatment-related concerns. Launched digital Spanish-language campaigns to increase breast cancer screening rates. Additionally, held seven breast cancer prevention and awareness presentations, with a total of 80 participants.
- **Rates and Disparities of Disordered Eating:** Conducted a cross-sectional, observational study to screen for disordered eating behaviors in patients at high risk for cardiovascular disease, including those with diabetes and metabolic conditions. This study aims to determine disparities in disordered eating behaviors across genders and ethnic groups among individuals with cardiometabolic disease. This research is funded by the Scripps Collaborative for Health Equity.

Fiscal Year 2025 Health Equity Goals & Objectives

- Continue to increase the achievement levels of data collection for REaL and SOGI information.
 1. Increase ethnic background data collection by 25% from baseline.
 2. Increase sexual orientation and gender identify data (SOGI) collection by expanding to
 - 1 ambulatory care process or department and
 - 1 acute care process
 3. Achieve improvement in performance in one health equity priority in each:
 - Inpatient quality outcomes – improve breastfeeding rates to 82.5% within the first 2 hours of birth for non-NICU infants.
 - Ambulatory quality outcomes – develop and deploy health equity training for ambulatory staff and pilot with 10% of ambulatory employees.
- Increase rates of follow up for patients that screen positive in 2 or more Social Drivers of Health domains.
- Publish an outpatient dashboard to support interpretive services use and documentation in procedural, surgical, and emergency departments.
- The Scripps Collaborative for Health Equity (SCHE) will build on last year's progress by expanding pilot projects and exploring new strategies to address healthcare disparities. Future initiatives include offering additional funding for small-scale feasibility studies focused on underserved or special needs populations, particularly women in California. A key priority is establishing a healthcare disparities mentorship program to support researchers and trainees committed to health equity.
- The Scripps Collaborative for Health Equity (SCHE) will also further develop a community college pipeline program to diversify the healthcare workforce. Based on insights from the past year, efforts will intensify to track patient-reported social determinants of health, identifying barriers and connecting post-hospital discharge patients with necessary resources. Additionally, Scripps will continue evaluating and expanding community programs for multicultural populations, ensuring alignment with the overarching goal of promoting equitable healthcare.

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 additional details provided 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

Scripps Health Community Benefit Services

Community Health Needs Assessment

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, health research, and health professional education supported by operational funds, grants, in-kind-contributions, 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 Health completed a Community Health Needs Assessment (CHNA) in Fiscal Year 2022 as required by state and federal law. Every three years nonprofit, nonpublic hospitals and health systems in California must conduct a CHNA to identify community health priorities and to adopt an implementation strategy to meet the community health needs identified through the CHNA⁸. IRS regulations specify that the hospital must define its community, 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, and provide written documentation of the CHNA in a report adopted by an authorized body of the hospital⁹. See Appendix F for details on the CHNA regulatory requirements.

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, as well as to inform and adapt hospital programs and strategies to better meet the health needs of San Diego County residents. It is intended to serve as a useful resource for both residents and health care providers to further community-wide health improvement efforts. This assessment is made available to the broader community by uploading it on [Scripps.org](https://scripps.org).

Scripps Board Approval

The Scripps Health Board and Select Hospital Management Committee approved an amended 2022 CHNA and a FY23-FY25 Implementation Strategy in December 2023 and January 2024, respectively. The revisions now include Select Hospital in the plan.

Community Engagement

The community engagement process solicits input from a wide range of stakeholders, ensuring the sample is as representative as possible of sub-populations experiencing high needs and those facing inequities in San Diego County. A total of 841 individuals participated in the 2022 CHNA, and community input was gathered through the following efforts:

- Working with community health workers to conduct interviews with community members.
- Conducting focus groups and key informant interviews with community members, community health workers, community-based organizations, service providers, civic leaders, and health care leaders (conducted in collaboration with Kaiser Foundation Hospital (KFH)-San Diego).
- Conducting focus groups and key informant interviews with hospital and health system clinicians, case managers, social workers, and executive leaders.
- Distributing an online survey to community members, hospital staff, community-based organizations, federally qualified health centers, and local government staff.

Prioritization Process

Through a prioritization process described in the [Scripps Community Health Needs Assessment \(CHNA\)](#)¹⁰ the following seven priorities 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 4.1.

2022 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. 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 Health Improvement Services & Community Benefit Operations (Includes In-Lieu of Funds)

During Fiscal Year 2024 (October 2023 to September 2024), Scripps invested **\$10,901,463** in Community Health Improvement Services and Community Benefit Operations. The total reflects the costs associated with providing these programs, salaries, materials, and supplies minus revenue.

This investment includes **In-Lieu of Funds** which provides critical support for vulnerable populations, covering essential post-discharge needs for unfunded or underfunded patients. These funds help ensure access to necessary health care support services beyond hospital care.

The following section highlights Scripps activities, programs and services during Fiscal Year 2024. Figure 4.2 provides a graphic representation of the Fiscal Year 2024 Scripps System Community Health Improvement Services and Community Benefit Operations program distribution. For more details, refer to the Scripps Community Health Improvement Services and Community Benefit Operations Summary on page 63.

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 community engagement discussions (primary data) and the secondary data analyses. 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.¹⁰ 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 2022, 92.7%¹¹ of adults between the ages of 19 and 64 in San Diego County had health insurance coverage, leaving 7.3% (or about 196,679 people) without coverage. Among children under the age of 19, only 4.0% were without health insurance, while the vast majority (96.0%) had coverage. Challenges related to persistent difficulties in accessing and navigating healthcare were recurring concerns voiced in community engagement interviews.

During Fiscal Year 2024, Scripps provided for the following community outreach programs demonstrating its commitment to serving the community.

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) Recuperative¹² 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 Joes' (FJV) Recuperative Care Program Overview

Recuperative care plays a crucial role in reducing hospital readmissions, improving recovery, and preventing individuals from returning to the streets. After the closure of the Rescue Mission's Recuperative Care Unit in January 2019, Father Joe's Villages (FJV) launched its own program, offering housing, case management, meals, and healthcare services for individuals too sick to return to the streets post-hospitalization. While not long-term housing (stays are typically under 90 days), it serves as a bridge to other housing and social services. Through a contract, Scripps Mercy Hospital (SMH) secures two monthly beds in FJV's program for eligible patients needing extended recovery, with beds filled by new SMH patients as others transition to permanent housing or shelters.

Father Joe's Villages (FJV) 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 for children in need in Mexico more than 36 years ago. Since the inception of the program, the team has provided surgeries for close to 15,000 children, conducted 62 week-long trips to interior Mexico, 23 weekend trips to Baja California and 15 “Mercy Days,” where patients were transported via bus from Mexico to Scripps Mercy hospital for an organized surgery weekend. 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.

Fiji Solomon Islands Medical Mission

The Fiji Solomon Islands Medical Mission involves Scripps Health's team of general medical specialists and Internal Medicine residents establishing medical clinics on remote islands to deliver essential medical care, supplies, and surgical screenings to underserved populations with no access to basic healthcare. These International Medical Missions offer an invaluable clinical training experience for senior Internal Medicine residents from Scripps Clinic and Scripps Green Hospital.

Scripps Sponsored American Red Cross Blood Drives

Scripps Health's partnership with the American Red Cross in Fiscal Year 2024 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

Scripps Mercy Hospital Chula Vista Well-Being Center is supporting the local South Bay community by providing prevention and wellness programs for patients and community members. The Center provides a wide array of health promotion, disease prevention and community educational programs in collaboration with Scripps Mercy Hospital Chula Vista Family Medicine Residency Program. Many of the programs are focused for older adults, youth, parents, and patients with chronic disease. In addition, complex patients with chronic disease and multiple Social Determinants of Health are supported, guided, and connected to resources post discharge. As part of the San Diego Border Area Health Education Program, the Center works with K-12 schools and undergraduate and masters-level programs to increase the diversity of future health professions workforce through career education, mentorship, summer camps, internships, and other exploratory programs.

Scripps Health Community Benefit (CB) Fund

In Fiscal Year 2024, Scripps Health continued its commitment to enhancing the health of our community with the Community Benefit Fund. 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 \$4.6 million.

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.

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.

CalAIM Managed Care High-Service User Enhanced Case Management Initiative (ECM)

Scripps Mercy Hospital identifies high-service utilizers who are CHG Managed Medi-Cal members at the point of registration in the Emergency Department through a modified Epic workflow. Notifications are sent to Enhanced Case Management (ECM) Care Coordinators in the Scripps Advanced Care Clinic to reach out to CalAIM members within the hospital. The goal is to reduce unnecessary hospital admissions.

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. Today, more than 710,000 people 60 years of age and older live in San Diego County and that number is expected to grow to 824,000 over the next five years.¹³ 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 2022¹⁴ revealed that Alzheimer's was the sixth leading cause of death, contributing to 1,320 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 2024, 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.

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.

Fall Prevention Programs and Services

Scripps Health offers comprehensive fall prevention programs and services to help older adults stay safe and independent. Their Fall Prevention Resource Guide provides information on exercise programs, minor home repairs, caregiving resources, mental health and emotional support, social connections, and more.

Workshops like the Fall Prevention and Home Safety Workshop educate seniors on reducing fall risks and improving safety awareness, while the *A Matter of Balance* program combines an eight-week series of exercises and safety strategies. Additionally, the *Standing Strong Fall Prevention Workshop*, a collaboration with local agencies, includes balance improvement classes, fall risk assessments, medication reviews, and access to helpful resources.

Senior Health Education, Prevention & Wellness Programs

Senior Health Education, Prevention & Wellness Program is facilitated in collaboration with Scripps Family Medicine Residency and in partnership with local senior centers and senior housing communities. These senior health presentations are designed to provide health education, prevention, and awareness to the older adult community. These community educational sessions cover a diverse range of subjects related to health and aging, such as a nutrition and wellness, heart health and how to prevent hearing loss. The Center works closely with local older adult community members and patients to identify the health topics that meet local needs. All community educational sessions are offered in English and Spanish. In addition to providing community education prevention and awareness, the sessions offer an interchange between the participants and health care professionals to foster healthy lifestyles and health injury prevention.

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, among adults aged 18 or older in 2021 nearly 58 million people had any mental illness and 14 million people had a serious mental illness in the past year.¹⁵ An analysis of mortality data in San Diego County for 2022¹⁴, uncovered that intentional self-harm, or suicide, stood as the twelfth leading cause of death, with 359 recorded suicide-related deaths, contributing to 1.4% 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.

During Fiscal Year 2024, 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.

Mental Health Outreach Services, A-Visions 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. A-Visions has been shown to be an effective vocational training program for candidates receiving treatment for psychiatric disorders. 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 McAlister 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 hospital facilities or Emergency rooms meet admission criteria and are safely transferred to McAlister. The SUDS nurses then maintain communication with McAlister 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 (FHCSD) expanded their Behavioral Health Initiative to include FHCSD embedded Social Workers within the staffing care continuum at Scripps Mercy Hospital. The FHCSD Social Workers are part of the care team working closely with Scripps Mercy Hospital Case Managers and Social Workers to follow up with FHCSD patients to make appointments at the Health Center for a variety of needs including primary health care and/or Behavioral Health Services.

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).

Cal Hospital Honor Roll – Scripps Achieves Top Opioid Care Recognition

California Health & Human Services Agency, along with Cal Hospital Compare (CHC), a nonprofit organization that provides Californians with hospital performance ratings, announced statewide honor rolls for opioid stewardship and patient safety, with Scripps Health earning multiple spots on both lists. Cal Hospital Compare (CHC) has named all four Scripps Health hospitals to the highest tier of its Opioid Care

Honor Roll in 2024 for sustained superior performance, recognizing hospitals that have maintained a superior ranking for at least two consecutive years.

CHC recognized Scripps for taking a variety of approaches to address overuse of opioids among its patients. Scripps has consistently decreased the number of opioid prescriptions per patient hospital discharge and reduced opioid prescriptions that exceed seven days. It also has increased its use of alternative pain management options, such as non-opioid medications, aromatherapy, music therapy and pet therapy. Additionally, Scripps has incorporated fentanyl testing into its standard multi-drug test panels, providing crucial information that can lead to lifestyle changes, addiction treatment, or naloxone prescriptions.

The California Bridge Behavior Health Navigation Program

The California Bridge programs at local emergency departments save lives by making it possible for people who use drugs to get treatment whenever and wherever they need it. 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

Opioid misuse remains a major problem in the United States, causing significant impacts for individuals. In 2022, 857 people died from opioid overdoses in San Diego County, showing an about 115% increase from 2016 numbers. Safely getting rid of unused or expired medications helps prevent misuse, accidental poisoning and the risk of medications ending up in illegal markets or in the wrong hands. 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 2024, 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 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.

- **University (UC) High School Exploration Program**

Scripps and the Center for Learning and Innovation have partnered with the University City High School Exploration Program to offer students opportunities to learn about careers in healthcare. The curriculum provides workforce readiness in a healthcare setting as an extension of their classroom experience.

Scripps School to Health Career Pathway Programs

Scripps offers diverse student health career activities at the Scripps Well Being Center - Scripps Mercy Hospital, Chula Vista. 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 Scripps Well Being Center - Scripps Mercy Hospital, Chula Vista:

- **Residency Led Youth Programs**

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

- **Camp Scripps: Summer Enrichment Program**

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 surgeries such as total knee and hip replacements.

- **Cristo Rey Work Study Program**

Scripps collaborates with Cristo Rey San Diego High School, a college-preparatory school serving students from both sides of the border. Cristo Rey follows a unique model where students attend classes four days a week and spend the fifth day working in professional settings—such as law firms, labs, and hospitals. This program introduces students to healthcare careers, provides insights into hospital operations, and develops job readiness skills, helping prepare them for future careers in health 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 2022, cancer was the leading cause of death with 5,179 deaths due to cancer (all sites), responsible for 20.8% percent of deaths.¹⁴

Scripps has redefined comprehensive care by integrating multidisciplinary teams, launching special programs like the Inflammatory Breast Cancer Clinic in 2019 and opening the Prebys Cancer Center in 2021. The commitment to community health has been further reinforced through initiatives aimed at underserved populations, addressing health care disparities and empowering patients through technology.

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 2024, 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 Registry

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 Nurse Navigation Program¹⁷

Scripps provides registered nurses, 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 Program¹⁸

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 Program¹⁹

Scripps Cancer Center genetic counselors provide expert, caring support and education to patients and their families. They take a personalized approach to every patient and discuss questions and concerns to help patients make informed, confident decisions about genetic testing.

Scripps Cancer Center Lung Cancer Screening Program²⁰

Scripps Lung Cancer Screening Program was launched in 2022 to screen people who are at an elevated risk for developing lung cancer. Since its inception, 1,000+ patients have received screening and surveillance services. Some have been diagnosed in early stages and referred for treatment by a multidisciplinary cancer team.

Scripps Cancer Center Survivorship Program

Scripps Cancer Center has a Wellness and Ongoing Care Program (cancer survivorship) with clinics opened to see breast and thoracic patients.

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. Patients and their caregivers are encouraged to join the Breast Cancer, Gynecologic Cancer and Head and Neck Cancer groups both virtually and in person.

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. Since opening to the public in 2022, the boutique has provided wigs and other head coverings to more than 300 patients.

Scripps Cancer Center Patient Resource Library

The Scripps Cancer Center Resource Library offers valuable resources to support patients, families, and caregivers throughout their cancer journey. It provides helpful books, brochures and other materials covering specific cancer types, treatment options, side effects, nutrition, exercise, support services, post-treatment guidance, legal matters and more. The library, which opened in 2022, is located in The Woltman Family College Building on the campus of Scripps Mercy Hospital in San Diego. Originally built nearly a

century ago to train nurses, this historic structure now houses nonclinical cancer support services in addition to the resource library.

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

Scripps provides restorative yoga and sound therapy classes providing the healing benefits of sound from a variety of instruments that focus 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

Lymphedema, characterized by arm swelling, is a common and serious side effect of localized breast cancer treatment. This condition occurs when lymphatic fluid flow is obstructed due to treatment involving the axillary lymph nodes located in the underarm area. Lymphedema can significantly affect quality of life, causing discomfort, pain, a higher risk of soft tissue infections, and challenges with body image.

The Scripps Cancer Center offers therapeutic exercises designed to relieve swelling and pain associated with lymphedema. Scripps therapists provide expert guidance on proper exercise techniques to reduce swelling, manage discomfort, and address side effects effectively. The program's physical therapy services remain robust, with over 1,000 patient visits in the past fiscal year, underscoring the positive impact of these expanded treatment options.

Scripps Cancer Center Healthy Bones Exercise Class

Scripps Cancer Center provides an exercise program designed to build stronger bones, improve balance, and promote functional strength and fitness.

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.

Scripps Cancer Center Lifeguard Cancer Screenings

Doctors and clinical staff from Scripps Cancer Center and Scripps Clinic visited San Elijo State Beach and Imperial Beach to offer free skin cancer screenings to ocean lifeguards from South County to North County. Scripps has offered free skin screenings to lifeguards and other first responders for more than 25 years, as part of its community benefit program to support the region's overall health and well-being. (The event also is part of Scripps' Mohs Surgery and Dermatologic Oncology Fellowship, now in its 41st year.) Lifeguards spend a great deal of their working lives outdoors and summer is a good time to check for skin abnormalities that may be cancerous or may lead to skin cancers. According to the American Cancer Society, skin cancer is by far the most common form of cancer – in fact, more skin cancers are diagnosed in the U.S. each year than all other cancers combined. Most skin cancers are caused by too much exposure to ultraviolet rays – and most of this comes from the sun.

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 problems²¹. Heart disease claims more than 950,000 American's²² 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 2022¹⁴, 'diseases of the heart' were the second leading cause of death, 4,928 deaths due to disease of the heart in San Diego County, responsible for 19.8% 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. In 2024, Scripps earned the sixth consecutive year that all five Scripps Health hospital campuses earned the Stroke Gold Plus Quality Achievement Award from the American Heart Association/American Stroke Association for delivering high-quality, lifesaving stroke care.

Scripps has 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 2024, Scripps engaged in the following heart health, cardiovascular disease and stroke prevention and treatment activities.

BrainMasters: Improvisational Speaking Group for Stroke & Brain Injury Survivors

BrainMasters is a fun and supportive group designed for stroke and brain injury survivors. Led by a fellow brain injury survivor, it offers a space for adults with acquired brain injuries to practice communication skills, boost self-confidence, and enjoy themselves in a welcoming environment.

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, Zumba, 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. In February, the County and its partners performed and collected results from a combined 58,079 blood pressure readings and potentially saved 806 people from medical emergencies like strokes or heart attacks. Locally, 193 sites offered free blood pressure checks. Sites were also offered throughout Mexico, and in Mexican consulates in the United States under the "Ama Tu Corazon" program.

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. Volunteers²³ from Scripps, including physicians, nurses, and echocardiograms techs screen students throughout San Diego County.

Eric Paredes Save A Life Foundation-Prescription for Prevention

Scripps continues to refer Scripps providers to the Eric Paredes Save A Life Foundation's "Prescription For Prevention" cardiac risk assessment in youth continuing medical education, which offers credits for Sudden Cardiac Arrest prevention learning in primary care. The course has now been endorsed by the California Chapter of the American College of Cardiology.

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. Art supplies are free for participants and the class is free and open to the community.

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.

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. Clients 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.

Scripps Health Movement Disorder Clinics

Parkinson's disease is one of the most common movement disorders. Parkinson's disease causes are not known, and its onset is progressive. While no cure is yet available for Parkinson's disease, its symptoms can be managed with proper diagnosis, treatment, and rehabilitation, including physical, occupational and speech therapies. Scripps is providing y classes for people with Parkinson's. These classes are supported by Scripps Health Movement Disorder Clinic. 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.

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 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.

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 Well Being Center - Scripps Mercy Hospital, Chula Vista. 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.

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.

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 concern due to high prevalence, impact on morbidity and mortality, and potential for prevention. Diabetes is a set of diseases that affect the way the body metabolizes sugar (glucose). The three primary types are type 2 (the most common type), type 1, and gestational (which occurs during pregnancy)²⁴. 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 2022¹⁴, Diabetes mellitus' was the eighth leading cause of death, 907 deaths due to diabetes in San Diego County responsible for 3.6% percent of deaths. Diabetes is an important health issue because of its prevalence, its impact on morbidity and mortality, and its preventability.

Founded in 1981 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. Additionally, Scripps researchers have helped lead the way as diabetes treatment evolved from a single unmeasured insulin injection to the myriad of pharmaceuticals and technological options today.

During Fiscal Year 2024, 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

Scripps Whittier Diabetes Institute has been at the forefront of developing programs for high-risk, underserved communities. A key focus of Scripps efforts is community education. In 1997, Scripps partnered with other health care and community organizations to launch Project Dulce, a multicultural counseling and support program. The initiative later expanded to offer diabetes management classes tailored for Hispanic, Black, Filipino, and Vietnamese populations, with instruction provided in patients' native languages. The program delivers culturally sensitive diabetes care, utilizing nurses, dietitians, and specially trained educators known as "Promotoras" to counsel patients while empowering them to support others with diabetes within their own cultural communities.

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 of 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 offers an integrated, interdisciplinary approach to addressing the emotional and behavioral challenges that can lead to burnout in individuals with Type 1, Type 2, and Gestational Diabetes. Through individual visits and group sessions with psychologists specializing in diabetes care, participants dealing with "diabetes distress" find support and benefit from connecting with others who share similar experiences. The program provides diabetes behavioral therapy to help patients struggling with what is known as diabetes burnout.

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 Diegans. 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 2022¹⁴, accidents (unintentional injuries) were the third leading cause of death, 1,796 deaths due to unintentional injuries in San Diego County responsible for 7.2 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 2024, Scripps engaged in the following unintentional injury, violence, and community safety activities.

Trauma and Injury Prevention Community Outreach Programs

The trauma and 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 departments collaborate 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 Safety Class for Parents and Caregivers 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.

Child Passenger Safety Workshop

Scripps Hospital Trauma and Injury Prevention Team at Scripps La Jolla and Scripps Mercy offered a child passenger safety workshop for both first-time parents and experienced caregivers. Participants learned about car seat basics, including the different types of car seats—infant seats, convertible seats, and booster seats—and how to choose the appropriate seat based on a child's age, weight, and height. The workshop also covered proper installation techniques for different vehicle types.

Older Driver Safety Workshop

Scripps Mercy San Diego Health Trauma Injury Prevention Team offered a driver safety workshop for older adults, focusing on maintaining independence while addressing the risks associated with aging and driving. Participants learned about specific risk factors for older drivers, the five riskiest driving scenarios and how to avoid them, and available safety resources. The interactive session also provided an opportunity for attendees to ask questions, share concerns, and receive valuable insights for safer driving.

Mature Riders Transportation Safety

Scripps Trauma Prevention Program at La Jolla received a \$30,000 County of San Diego Neighborhood Reinvestment Grant to provide safety education to older adults. The grant will assist in offering a suite of educational opportunities that will empower older adults to make safer choices as motorists, passengers, bike riders and pedestrians.

E-Bike Education for Mature Riders Webinar

Scripps held a new e-bike webinar for riders targeting riders aged 55+. This new age specific educational program was piloted in partnership with the San Diego County Bike Coalition and the City of Encinitas.

E-Bike Education for Mature Riders Community Cycling Class

Scripps held a new e-bike education course that included, e-bike safety education, on-bike skills training, and a community ride through Encinitas. This new age specific educational program was piloted in partnership with the San Diego County Bike Coalition and the City of Encinitas.

Bike Safety: San Diego Police Department Skate Jam

Scripps La Jolla hosted the 5th annual San Diego Police Department Skate Jam, an event aimed at promoting bike and skateboard safety in the community.

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. 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. As violence in health care continues to rise across the country, the San Diego Task Force is becoming a model for other communities. Protection of healthcare workers also helps ensure the safety of patients and visitors.

Shop with a Cop Pancake Breakfast 2024

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 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 Exposition

Scripps holds an annual disaster preparedness exposition. 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 education²⁵. 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 2024, 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.

Scripps 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 948 patients, resulting

in measurable improvements in health outcomes, including reduced hospital readmission rates, enhanced medication compliance, and better overall patient satisfaction. The program includes several programs:

- **Stroke Transitional Care Program.** Assisting stroke patients in their recovery journey by providing support to access resources, services, and navigate neurological follow-up care.
- **Medicare Readmission Prevention/Transitional Care Program.** Targets reducing preventable readmissions for patients with AMI, CHF, COPD, CABG, and pneumonia, focusing on managing chronic conditions and post-discharge care coordination.
- **Complex Hospital Patient Referrals.** Addresses the needs of patients with multiple comorbidities or complex medical and psychosocial conditions by linking them with specialized care providers, community resources, and supportive services.
- **Helping Patients with Food Insecurity To Heal.** Connects patients with community resources and supportive services, including linkages to housing navigation, food pantries, transportation resources, and health education, to promote healing and recovery.

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 (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 people with disabilities 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. Pregnancy-related mortality rates among American Indian and Alaska Native (AIAN) and Black women are over three times higher than the rate for White women (63.4 and 55.9 vs. 18.1 per 100,000)²⁶. Hispanic people also have a higher rate of pregnancy-related deaths compared to White people (22.6 vs. 18.1 per 100,000). Black, AIAN, and Native Hawaiian or Pacific Islander (NHPI) women also have higher shares of preterm births, low birthweight births, or births for which they received late or no prenatal care compared to White women. Infants born to Black, AIAN, and NHPI people have markedly higher mortality rates than those born to White people.

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 2024. The following are some examples.

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.

Maternal Child Health Community Benefit Services

Scripps provides a wide range of prenatal, breastfeeding, and childbirth resources to support families. The breastfeeding class, led by a Certified Lactation Educator, covers various topics related to breastfeeding. Additionally, Scripps offers parenting classes and support groups, such as Getting Ready for Baby and Grandparenting Today, at locations throughout San Diego County to help enhance parenting skills. These classes are available to low-income families on a sliding fee scale.

Healthy Women, Healthy Babies

The "Healthy Women, Healthy Babies" program, initiated by Scripps Family Medicine Residency, aims to improve perinatal care for underserved populations in Southern San Diego County. The program integrates the Promotora/es Model to deliver culturally appropriate services, with Promotoras/es partnering with residents and staff from the San Diego Border Area Health Education Center (SD Border AHEC) to provide home visits for new mothers. These visits focus on health education, including lactation support, infant safety, immunizations, and connecting families to community resources. The Promotoras/es also conduct screenings and offer guidance on navigating healthcare systems. Follow-up calls ensure ongoing support in parenting, nutrition, and mental health, promoting healthier outcomes for women and babies.

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](#). Through this affiliation, perinatologists serve as consultants for high-risk pregnancies, providing specialized expertise to enhance overall care and coordinating with other Scripps physicians and specialists. Scripps offers comprehensive obstetrical services in both outpatient and inpatient settings. Scripps has collaborations with local Federally Qualified Health Centers, including San Ysidro Health, Imperial Beach Clinic, and Operation Samahan, along with Scripps Perinatology, the Scripps Well Being Center at Scripps Mercy Hospital in Chula Vista, and Scripps Family Medicine residents and fellows.

Miracle Babies

Scripps partners with Miracle Babies to refer expectant and postpartum mothers, ensuring they receive crucial support and resources for their well-being during and after pregnancy.

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.

Helping Our Peers in Emergencies (HOPE) Fund

Scripps Work-Life Services manages the Helping Our Peers in Emergencies (HOPE) Fund. This is an employee funded program that provides PTO and financial assistance to employees in need. Staff can donate PTO hours and contribute financially.

Humanitarian Assistance

Scripps Health employees generously donated to various organizations in response to local disasters international conflicts. These organizations included San Diego County programs, [Doctors Without Borders](#), [International Committee of the Red Cross \(ICRC\)](#), and [The Carter Center](#). On January 22, 2024, San Diego experienced one of its wettest days since 1850, leading to historic flooding that impacted multiple communities. This prompted local emergency proclamations and the activation of the County Emergency Operations Center (EOC). In response, Scripps collaborated with the American Red Cross to provide assistance to affected communities and support employees impacted by the flood.

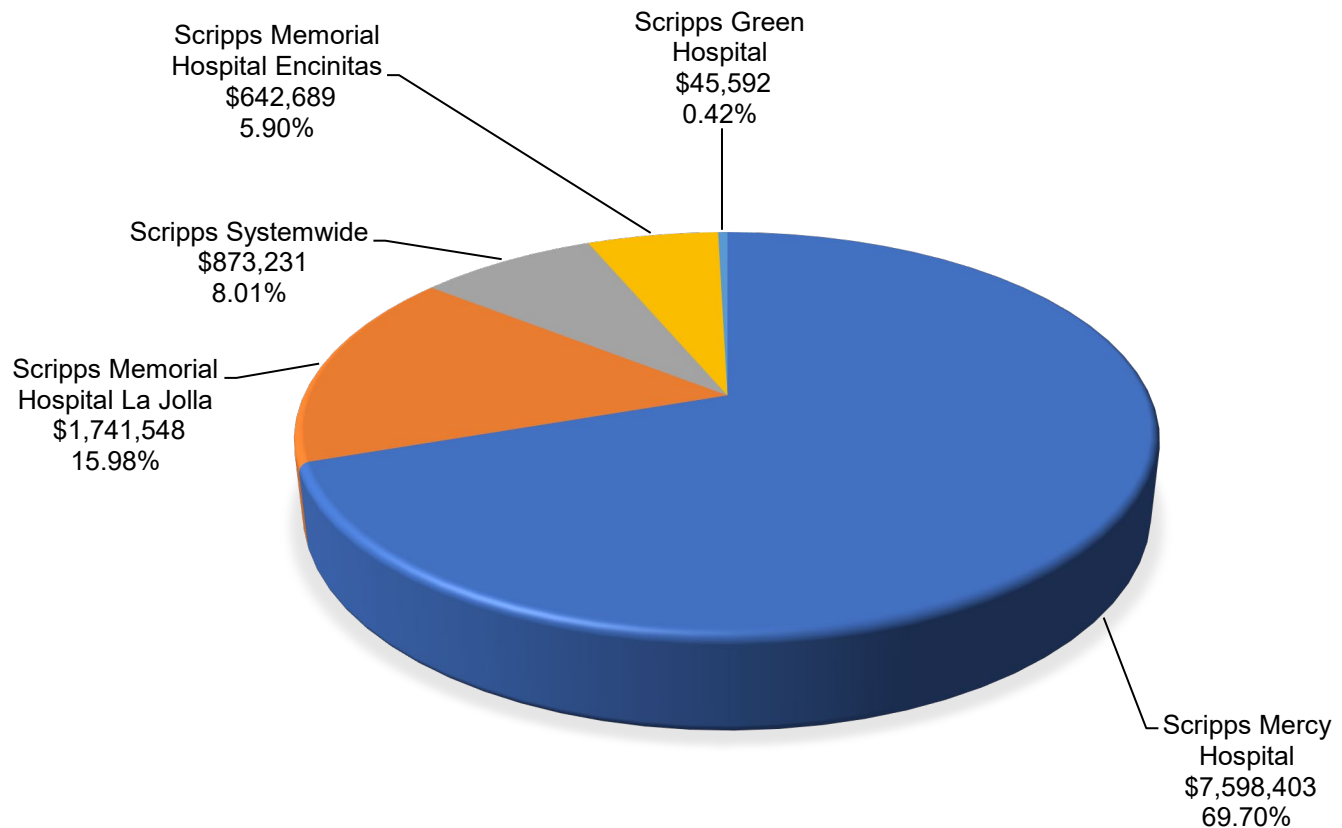
Fostering Volunteerism

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 2024, Scripps employees and affiliated physicians donated a sizable portion of their personal time volunteering to support Scripps sponsored community benefit programs. With close to 1,260 hours, the estimated dollar value of this volunteer labor is \$82,786.40²⁷ which is not included in the Scripps Fiscal Year 2024 community benefit programs and services totals.

Figure 4.2

Fiscal Year 2024
Scripps Community Health Improvement Services & Community Benefit
Operations by Operating Unit, \$10,901,463 (Includes In-Lieu of Funds)



Community Health Improvement Services & Community Benefit Operations

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 (Form 990) IRS guidelines, “direct offsetting revenue” includes restricted grants or contributions that the organization uses to provide a community benefit. However, it does not include unrestricted grants or contributions used for the same purpose.

FY24 Scripps Community Health Improvement Services & Community Benefit Operations Summary List (includes In-Lieu of Funds)

Community Benefit Categories	Person Served	Staff Hours	Volunteer Hours	Financial Support*
Community Health Education	121,006	45,082	143	\$780,447
Community-Based Clinical Services	5,311	3,068	1,005	\$60,821
Health Care Support Services	15,663	10,077	28	\$9,399,338
Social & Environmental Activities	909	356	51	\$13,776
Community Benefit Operations	-	-	-	\$647,081
Totals FY 2024 Community Health Improvement Services & Community Benefit Operations	142,889	58,583	1,227	\$10,901,463

* "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.

Health Professional Education

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

Each year, Scripps allocates resources to advance health care services through health professional education. During Fiscal Year 2024 (October 2023 to September 2024), Scripps invested **\$47,659,269²⁸** in professional training programs to enhance service delivery and treatment practices in San Diego County. This section highlights some of our health professional education activities.

Figure 4.3 in this section has a more detailed overview of Fiscal Year 2024 Scripps Health Professional Education distribution. Refer to Scripps Health Professional Education Summary for an individual breakdown of each activity, page 75).

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 Health is known for providing high quality and patient-centered care, with a long legacy of improving the health of the San Diego community. That legacy is strengthened by training new physicians to be future leaders in medicine through its [Graduate Medical Education](#) (GME).

Today, Scripps GME program spans all [five hospital campuses](#) and [Scripps Clinic](#). There are residency programs for internal medicine, family medicine, transitional year, pharmacy and podiatry and fellowships and subspecialty training in internal medicine, family medicine, cardiology, dermatology, podiatry, hematology/oncology, orthopedics, trauma, pharmacy, palliative care, emergency and surgical critical care gastroenterology, endocrinology as well as research-focused programs. These programs are renowned for their commitment to excellence and feature a hands-on curriculum that places a strong emphasis on patient-centered care.

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.

Scripps GME program cares for underserved populations throughout the region. While Scripps allows trainees the flexibility to pursue their own interests, a core tenant of the program is giving back to the San Diego community — in particular, underserved patient populations. Outside the walls of Scripps hospitals and clinics, GME residents teach, and mentor high school students and the program recently began volunteering with San Diego Refugee Tutoring. Program participants also provide vaccines to nonprofits that help people experiencing homelessness or domestic violence.

In Fiscal Year 2024, Scripps enrolled a total of 165 medical residents, 49 fellows across the Scripps health system, underscoring our commitment to medical education and community healthcare. [Graduate Medical Education \(GME\)](#).

Scripps Clinic and 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 Clinic and Scripps Green Internal Medicine Residency](#).

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.

Community Service Projects, Internal Medicine Residents

This curriculum incorporates resident participation in community service projects designed to address social barriers to health. Each year, residents engage in a variety of community service activities, forming groups to work on different initiatives. See Section 8 for a description of projects.

Fiji Solomon Islands Medical Mission

Fiji Solomon Islands Medical Mission The medical mission consists of Scripps Health general medical specialists and residents setting up clinics on rural islands for the purpose of providing much needed medical care, medical supplies and surgical screening for an underserved population that have no access to basic

medical care. The International Medical Missions provide an exceptional clinical education experience to our senior Internal Medicine residents at Scripps Clinic and Scripps Green Hospital.

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 Internal Medicine Residency

Scripps Mercy Hospital has established a valuable partnership with San Ysidro Health, serving as a training site for its Internal Medicine Residency Program since 2020. This collaboration enables residents to receive comprehensive medical education in a community setting, gaining experience with diverse patient populations in various outpatient clinics. Inpatient training is conducted at the Scripps Chula Vista hospital campus.

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 internal medicine, transitional year, pharmacy, and podiatric medicine residency programs. Scripps Mercy San Diego offers multiple competitive training programs for physicians entering their first post-graduate year after medical school. The three transitional year training tracks include: A broad-based Transitional Year Residency Program, a Transitional-Anesthesiology Residency Program co-managed by Scripps Mercy and University of California (UCSD) Anesthesia Residency, and a joint Transitional-Ophthalmology Residency program with University of California (UCSD) Ophthalmology Residency. Transitional year programs allow physicians to build superior clinical skills that serve as a cornerstone for subspecialty training and careers. Together with attending physicians, residents manage some of San Diego's most ethnically and socioeconomically diverse patient populations.

Scripps Mercy San Diego is also a participating training site for residents from the University of California, San Diego (UCSD); Kaiser Permanente San Diego; our Chula Vista Family Medicine site; 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 (FHCSD)

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 FHCSD 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 Mercy 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 (FHCSD) 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 an agreement with FHCSD over a 2-year period to assist in the development of infrastructure necessary to meet the requirements for Psychiatric Residency ACGME certification and the establishment of the framework for the Psychiatric Residency program curriculum, rotations and candidate qualifications and selection. In collaboration with FHCSD Health Center Psychiatric Residency Program, Scripps Mercy Hospital has committed to host 6- PGY-1 Residents within the Hospital's Medical Service Floors for training in co-occurring medical and behavioral health conditions among **patients** during Academic Year 2024-2025.

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 Health Professional Education and Training Programs

Scripps Conference Services and Continuing Medical Education (CME)

Scripps Conference Services & CME is committed to improving the quality of health care and advancing the practice of medicine by providing high quality, evidence-based and clinically relevant continuing medical education (CME) activities for physicians and allied health care professionals. Educational activities are developed with a focus on improving knowledge, competence, and performance in practice, with the ultimate goal of improving patient outcomes. Scripps Health is accredited by the Accreditation Council for Continuing Medical Education (ACCME) to provide *AMA PRA Category 1 Credit(s)*[™]. 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 Military Medical Training and Trauma Education

The Scripps Mercy Graduate Medical Education (GME) program dates back to 1927 when staff from the Naval Medical Center began training at Mercy Hospital. Formalized nearly two decades later, the program has grown to bridge gaps in military and civilian medical training, particularly in trauma care. Military hospitals, such as Naval Medical Center San Diego (NMCSD), often lack diverse cases and trauma centers, as their patients are typically younger and healthier. To address this, Scripps Mercy Hospital began integrating Navy residents into its training programs in the early 1980s.

Since 1986, Scripps Mercy Trauma Services has partnered with NMCSD to provide trauma and critical care education for its General Surgery Residency Program. Scripps trains approximately 150 residents annually, with 90% deploying after graduation. Residents and fellows gain hands-on experience with diverse, complex cases resembling military scenarios, including gunshot wounds, motor vehicle accidents, and traumatic brain injuries. These rotations expose residents to multidisciplinary care across specialties and mentorship from seasoned attending physicians. Scripps commitment to advancing medical education, coupled with its focus on both military and civilian trauma care, ensures high-quality training and improved patient outcomes. Many graduates return as fully trained attending physicians, continuing trauma work with Scripps. Rotations now span Scripps Mercy Hospital San Diego, Scripps Memorial Hospital La Jolla, Scripps Green Hospital, and Scripps Memorial Hospital Encinitas.

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 provides comprehensive health professional education programs led by experts, including endocrinologists, nurses, dietitians, psychologists, and more. These programs are designed 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. In FY24, the Whittier Institute conducted four webinars and four training programs featuring the Project Dulce curriculum, along with one professional CME training program. These efforts aimed to educate healthcare professionals both locally and nationally, equipping them to deliver exceptional diabetes care.

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 2024, Scripps demonstrated its commitment to education by hosting a total of 1,651 students across its healthcare system. These students collectively accumulated 250,885 development hours across multiple specialties for direct pipeline programs or hard to fill job specialties while gaining experience in nursing and various allied health settings. This is an 18% increase in total students over FY23. New student pipeline programs included Pharmacy Technician and Licensed Vocational Nurses. Table 4.1 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 4.1 Scripps Health Student Placements for Fiscal Year 2024.

	Nursing		Allied Health		Total	
Scripps Location	# of Students	Total Precepted Hours	# of Students	Total Precepted Hours	# of Students	Total Precepted Hours
Scripps Medical Foundation (Clinic & SCMC)	33	4,752	199	32,325	232	37,077
Scripps Memorial Hospital, Encinitas	123	15,767	70	21,256	193	37,023
Scripps Green Hospital	58	7,607	66	21,652	124	29,259
Scripps Memorial Hospital, La Jolla	204	23,985	120	29,592	324	53,577
Scripps Mercy Hospital, Chula Vista	91	10,901	89	18,470	180	29,371
Scripps Mercy Hospital, San Diego	494	47,110	97	16,628	591	63,738
Scripps Health Administrative Services	0	0	7	840	7	840
Total	1,003	110,122	648	140,763	1,651	250,885

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 2024, Scripps Clinic Medical Group hosted 153 preceptorship rotations for nurse practitioners and physician assistants, totaling 19,030 hours of completed training. Similarly, Scripps Coastal Medical Group provided 31 preceptorship rotations, accounting for 6,716 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 Well Being Center - Scripps Mercy Hospital, Chula Vista 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.

Clinical Training for Students in Adolescent Mental Health at Local High Schools

The partnership between Scripps Family Medicine Residency and Scripps Well Being Center - Scripps Mercy Hospital, Chula Vista 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 first-hand 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:** Residents and students rotate through a school-based clinic at Southwest High School to improve mental health care for local high school students facing various mental health challenges.
3. **Service to Vulnerable Adolescents:** In Fiscal Year 2024, the program offered educational sessions for 570 adolescents, providing them with vital presentations on mental health, mindfulness, suicide prevention, stress management, public health advocacy and more.

Health Professions Community Training

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

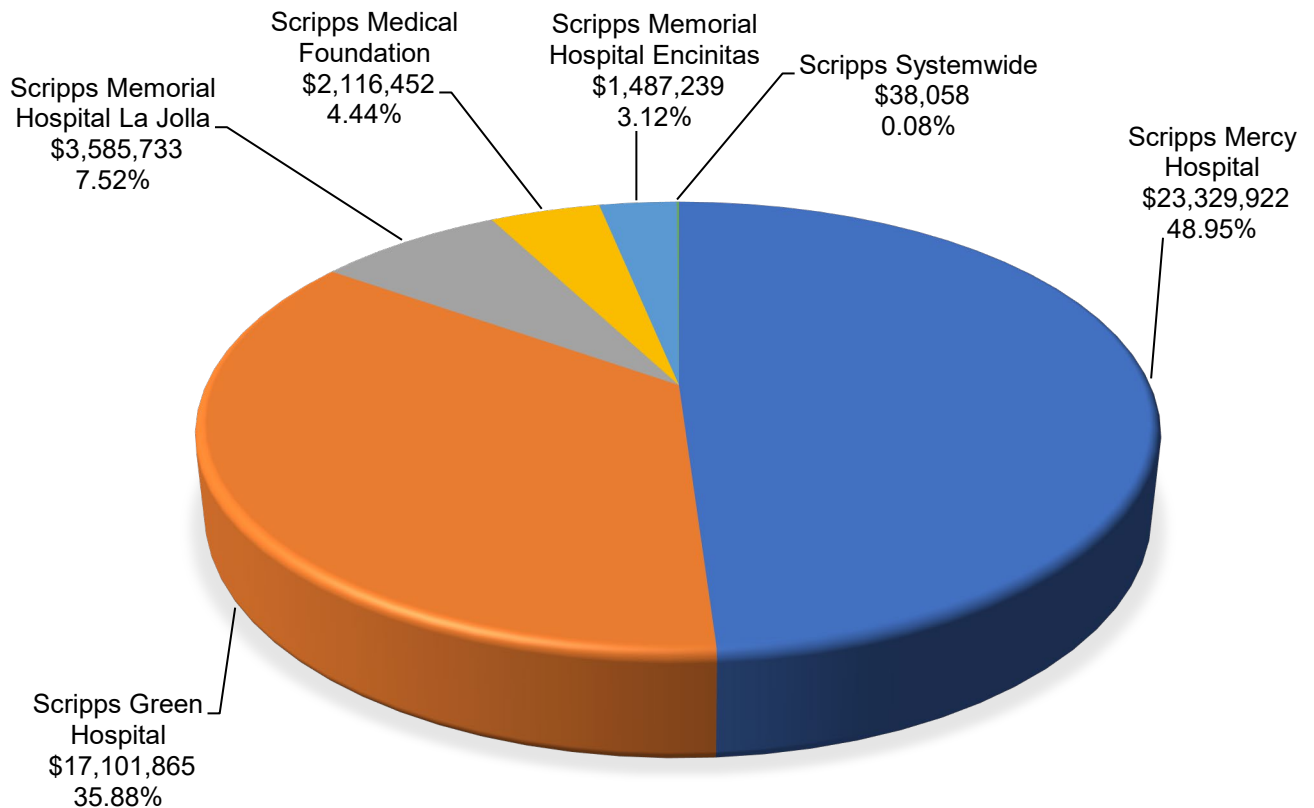
Key components and objectives include:

1. Adolescent Medicine Focus: Specialized care for teenage health, offering students additional expertise in addressing adolescent healthcare needs.
2. Youth Education: Equipping interns with the knowledge, attitudes, and skills required for healthcare careers, inspiring future professionals.
3. Geriatric Experiences: Providing community-based education and prevention to the senior community.
4. Maternal and Child Health: Providing community experiences in maternal and child health including parenting and other educational opportunities.

Figure 4.3

Fiscal Year 2024

Scripps Health Professional Education by Operating Unit, \$47,659,269



Health Professional Education

This graph reflects professional education of employees, including graduate medical education (GME), nursing resource development and other health care professional education. These also include clinical and educational experiences for students, many of whom go on to join our medical and hospital staff. 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 (Form 990) IRS guidelines, "direct offsetting revenue" includes restricted grants or contributions that the organization uses to provide a community benefit. However, it does not include unrestricted grants or contributions used for the same purpose.

FY24 Scripps Health Professional Education & Graduate Medical Education

Health Professional Education

Community Benefit Categories	Person Served	Staff Hours	Volunteer Hours	Financial Support*
Physicians/Medical Students	4,662	31,919	-	\$ 2,287,020
Nurses/Nursing Students/Allied Health	-	111,963	-	\$ 11,522,085
Other Health Professions Education	3,880	6,014	-	\$986,239
Totals FY 2024 Scripps Professional Health Education	8,542	149,896	-	\$14,795,344

Graduate Medical Education

Community Benefit Categories	Person Served	Staff Hours	Volunteer Hours	Financial Support*
Scripps Family Medicine Residency Program	-	84,868	-	\$5,168,838
Scripps Green Hospital GME Program	-	212,828	-	\$16,085,230
Scripps Mercy Hospital GME Program	-	183,092	-	\$11,609,857
Totals FY 2024 Scripps Graduate Medical Education	-	480,788	-	\$32,863,925
Totals FY 2024 Scripps Health Professional Education & Graduate Medical Education	8,542	630,684	-	\$47,659,269

* "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.

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. In FY24, Scripps invested **\$4,991,558²⁹** in research and Scripps Clinic and Clinical Research Services supported more than 43 principal investigators and about 106 active clinical research protocols crossing interdisciplinary disease categories.

Figure 4.4 in this section has a more detailed overview of Fiscal Year 2024 Scripps Health Research distribution. Refer to Scripps Health Research Summary for an individual breakdown of each activity, page 86).

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 Clinic 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. Currently, around 90 clinical trials are underway at Scripps in such fields as cancer care, cardiology, and orthopedics.

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. Research at Scripps is a critical part of the mission to provide the best care to patients. Many promising new treatments begin in clinical trials. The knowledge gained from these clinical studies helps advance the quality of care for people in San Diego and beyond. 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. Thirteen participants have been enrolled in this study to-date. The trial continues to actively accrue patients and preliminary results from this study should be available next year.

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. The study examines material hardships, psychological burdens, and depleted coping resources associated with cancer care. It also explores the feasibility of using Spanish-speaking patient navigators to assist patients with their electronic health portals. Despite their heightened risk of financial toxicity, Spanish-speaking Latino patients often have limited access to interventions addressing these challenges. The study focuses on underserved Spanish-speaking populations, many of whom face significant economic and healthcare literacy barriers. Its primary goal is to develop culturally appropriate patient navigation and psychosocial support resources to reduce disparities in financial toxicity. To date, 72 Spanish-speaking patients have participated, with funding provided by Genentech. The trial, which remains open for enrollment, is expected to conclude in 2024, with results anticipated next year.

Scripps Whittier Diabetes Institute Research and Development

The Scripps Whittier Diabetes Institute (SWDI) is nationally recognized as a leader in endocrinology and diabetes care. SWDI is Southern California's center of excellence providing comprehensive diabetes services and programs. SWDI develops and participates in innovative translational and pragmatic diabetes research studies, advancing medicine, clinical care, and care management for patients with obesity, prediabetes, type 1, type 2, and gestational diabetes. SWDI provides education for patients and health professionals emphasizing the intersection of research and clinical care. For over 25 years, the institute's dedication to health equity has been recognized as a leader across the health system and community and is reflected in evidence-based education models and investigator-initiated research that effectively reach marginalized populations across the nation and globe.

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 patients with type 2 diabetes. 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 management during hospitalization, particularly among high-risk, underserved patients. It began in early 2022 and more than 370 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) serves as the Community Engagement Research Core for the National Institutes of Health (NIH) / National Center for Advancing Translational Sciences (NCATS), which awarded the Clinical and Translational Science Award (CTSA). The CTSA is housed at Scripps Research Translational Institute (SRTI) and partners closely with SWDI and San Diego State University (SDSU) to lead innovative community-engaged research projects. SRTI advances personalized medicine through genomics and digital medicine and accelerates laboratory discoveries into clinical trials and treatments. The Community Engagement Core, centered within SWDI, partners with the Institute for Public Health and the South Bay Latino Research Center, both located at SDSU to develop and conduct research reducing health disparities and promoting health justice and equity.

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

The NIH Community Engagement Alliance (CEAL) is a research network designed to work with communities and community-based organizations to identify promising engagement and outreach practices that communicate trustworthy, science-based information to communities experiencing health disparities. 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, is one of the seven California sites that initially partnered with local COVID-19 Equity Task Forces in 2020 to reach high-risk, underserved communities as part of the California CEAL Team award. The CEAL research team and award has evolved over the last 4 years to address ongoing relevant community-determined health needs. SWDI most recently trained rural and urban community-based health centers across California in collaboration with the other CEAL sites in train the trainer programs to deliver its world class, evidence-based diabetes program, Project Dulce, and Dulce Digital to better manage diabetes in under-resourced diverse communities.

Scripps Hub Academic Research Core (SHARC)

The Scripps Hub Academic Research Core (SHARC) is supported in part by the Clinical Translational Science Award (CTSA) housed at Scripps Research Translational Institute, with a focus on improving the process of translating research from bench-side to practice. The SHARC team strives to support translational research at Scripps Health and the Scripps Research Translational Institute in the following ways.

- Research navigation – Provides assistance through the grant process, especially for junior or new investigators.
- Statistical support – Provides statistical support from study design considerations, data management, and processing through data analysis and presentation.
- Community engagement – Encourages 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.

Health Equity Projects Supported by SHARC

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. **Patient Portal Utilization Improves Outcomes in Patients with Multiple Myeloma:** This study investigated the clinical outcomes of patients with multiple myeloma based on their utilization of the web-based patient portal, MyChart. Results showed that older, male, Hispanic and Spanish-speaking patients had lower portal utilization. Those with inactive portal status had higher rates of unplanned hospitalization and death. These results were recently accepted for peer-reviewed publication in the *Journal Oncology Advances*.
2. **Drug Testing on Labor and Delivery: Evaluating Bias and Racism in a Risk-Factor Based Testing Policy.** The results of this study investigated the prevalent disparities in substance use screening in the context of labor and delivery were recently accepted for publication in the journal *O&G Open*.
3. **Referral, participation, and reimbursement patterns of an integrated behavioral health program for diabetes.** In this study it was found that while the majority of referrals for the diabetes behavioral health program, BeHIP, were women (70%), gender did not impact the participation status of those referred. These results were presented at the American Diabetes Association's Annual Scientific Sessions in June 2024.

4. **Racial, Ethnic, & Regional Influences on National Patterns of Mammographic Screening.** This study focused on the Epic COSMOS national database to examine patterns and disparities in mammographic screening for breast cancer. This study found no evidence of lower screening rates in Black and Asian populations, but lower rates were found among the Hispanic/Latino population, particularly in the South, suggesting that targeted educational and outreach efforts may be warranted. These results were presented at the ASCO Annual Meeting in May 2024.
5. **Everything is Pulse-able: Getting to the Heart of Your Wellness.** This equity-focused program is a grass-roots initiative for a team-based wellness challenges implemented through a mobile app and deployed in various communities. SHARC has supported this program's evaluation through five wellness challenges over the past two years.
6. **Atopic Disease Burden of American Indian/Native Alaskan Population of San Diego County.** This ongoing study aims to understand the understudied burden of atopic diseases in this population including the disease prevalence, severity, and access to care among affected patients.
7. **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. Community-based screenings linked to health-navigation programs are effective tools to increase access to skin-cancer care among farmworkers. To date, 68 health navigators have been trained and 26 screening events have been conducted in Northern San Diego County by Vista Community Clinic. A total of 428 adult participants have been screened, 16 participants were identified with suspicious lesions, 6 biopsies were performed, and 2 participants were diagnosed with skin cancer.

Scripps Cancer Center Research Initiatives Funded by Krueger-Wyeth

Scripps Health received five-year funding through the Krueger-Wyeth (KW) 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 third year has 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. These trials have the potential to define new standard of care for tens of thousands of patients treated annually in the United States. The patients enrolled in these studies continued to be monitored for cancer related outcomes and quality of life outcomes.
- Scripps completed an initial trial studying the colon and skin microbiome of breast cancer patients receiving systemic treatments before surgery. Scripps continued to follow the study of patients to correlate the microbiome analyses with cancer outcomes and received approval to begin a new study investigating how chemotherapy and other cancer treatments alter the microbiome.
- Scripps has formed a triple-negative biorepository of serum and tumor specimens and plan unique molecular and genomic investigations to gain insights in predictors to response to therapy.
- The Continuing Care Program launched the AM-WELL Study (A Multimodal Wellness Intervention for Breast Cancer Survivors), an investigator-initiated pilot trial comparing two behavioral interventions to encourage regular physical activity among breast cancer survivors. To date, seven participants have completed the intervention, providing overwhelmingly positive feedback. An additional seven participants are currently enrolled and will complete the program in the latter half of 2024.
- The Lymphedema Clinic and Therapy Program has continued to play a critical role in identifying patients who may benefit from lymphovascular bypass surgery, helping guide surgeons toward optimal bypass channels. Over the past year, this program has grown into a leading referral center in

San Diego, with our bypass surgery outcomes aligning with published standards and providing relief to many patients. In addition to the lymphovascular bypass program, KW funding supports lymphedema physical therapy services, now available at multiple locations across San Diego County. Free lymphedema stretching classes are offered at three locations, along with educational videos and classes for lymphedema patients. The program's physical therapy services remain robust, with over 1,000 patient visits in the past fiscal year, demonstrating the positive impact of these expanded treatment options.

- Scripps continuity of care program launched a trial entitled the AM-WELL Study ([A Multimodal Wellness Intervention for Breast Cancer Survivors](#)). This investigator-initiated pilot study assesses and compares two behavioral interventions to promote regular physical activity in breast cancer survivors.
- In partnership with the SHARC team, KW investigators are accessing nationwide data through EPIC Cosmos platform to better understand disparities and treatment outcomes across diverse populations nationwide.

Cardiovascular/Neurocognition

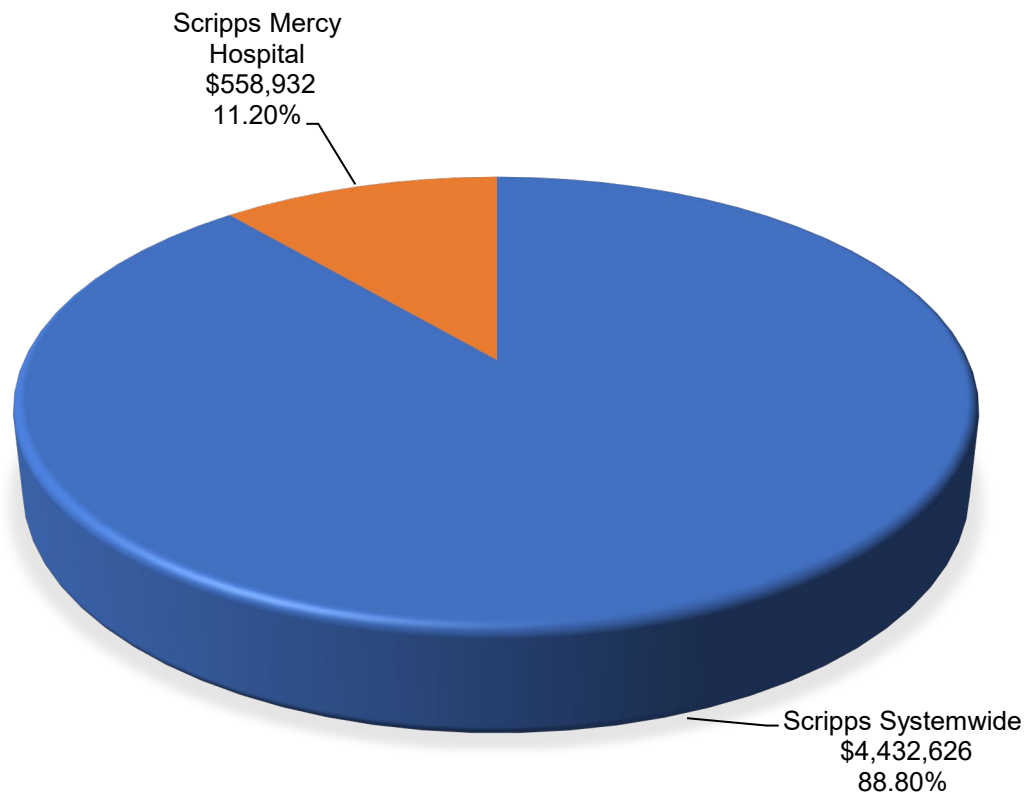
- The non-invasive imaging techniques for coronary artery disease Scripps helped to develop using computer tomography angiography has been refined to measure fractional flow reserve, an important clinical endpoint. Scripps has also correlated imaging of the left atrium with risk of atrial fibrillation, begun serial study measurements of plaques in patients, and optimized phantoms for the study of cardiovascular disease. These efforts have resulted in numerous peer-review presentations and publications.
- The integrated medicine program within the Advanced Care Clinic continues to provide care to the underserved with significant cardiac disease. This past year, the program began exercise directive programs and cardiovascular health education efforts. Efforts around mind-body therapy and acupuncture were also added.
- Scripps has evaluated over 100 patients for virtual cardiac rehabilitation and has enrolled approximately 50% in a novel program aimed at reducing emergency room visits and readmissions.
- A protocol has explored the link between sleep habits, sleep apnea, and neurocognition, focusing on intervention strategies for cognitive health. Scripps has enrolled over 140 patients in a novel digital platform protocol to investigate the associations between sleep habits, sleep apnea, and neurocognition. The findings from this study will help develop intervention strategies to address this important aspect of cognitive health.

Health Equity

- The Scripps Collaborative for Health Equity continues to provide health services research opportunities in breast cancer and cardiovascular disease for graduate medical education trainees (medical residents and fellows) who are interested in pursuing health disparities.
- Scripps has participated in health equity fairs in underserved community settings to promote preventive health for breast cancer and cardiovascular disease. This program navigates at-risk individuals into preventive services and provides important educational materials. Scripps has promoted close collaboration between this program and its integrated medicine program.
- Scripps is completing a protocol exploring the financial toxicity of breast cancer treatment within a Spanish speaking, underserved community. Full accrual for this protocol is expected to be completed by the end of 2024.
- Scripps performed, presented, and published a national database study assessing rates of mammographic screening for breast cancer according to race and ethnicity. This study was selected to present in 2024 in the American Society of Clinical Oncology annual meeting.

Figure 4.4

Fiscal Year 2024
Scripps Health Research by Operating Unit, \$4,991,558



Health Research

This graph reflects clinical and community research. This includes studies, investigations and publishing findings. Research takes place primarily at Scripps Clinical Research Services and Scripps Whittier Diabetes 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 (Form 990) IRS guidelines, "direct offsetting revenue" includes restricted grants or contributions that the organization uses to provide a community benefit. However, it does not include unrestricted grants or contributions used for the same purpose.

FY24 Scripps Health Research Summary List

Health Research

Community Benefit Categories	Person Served	Staff Hours	Volunteer Hours	Financial Support*
Clinical Research	199	154,533	-	\$4,756,456
Community Health Research	1,593	2,827	-	\$235,102
Totals FY 2024 Scripps Health Research	1,792	157,360	-	\$4,991,558

** "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.*

Uncompensated Healthcare

Scripps contributes significant resources to providing low and no-cost health care for our patients in need. The costs of providing these services are not fully reimbursed. During Fiscal Year 2024, Scripps contributed **\$587,766,141** (refer to figure 4.5) in uncompensated health care, including **\$17,768,458** in charity care, **\$562,399,773** in Medi-Cal and Medicare shortfall, and **\$7,597,909** in bad debt. Refer to Appendix C for Scripps Uncompensated Care Methodology.

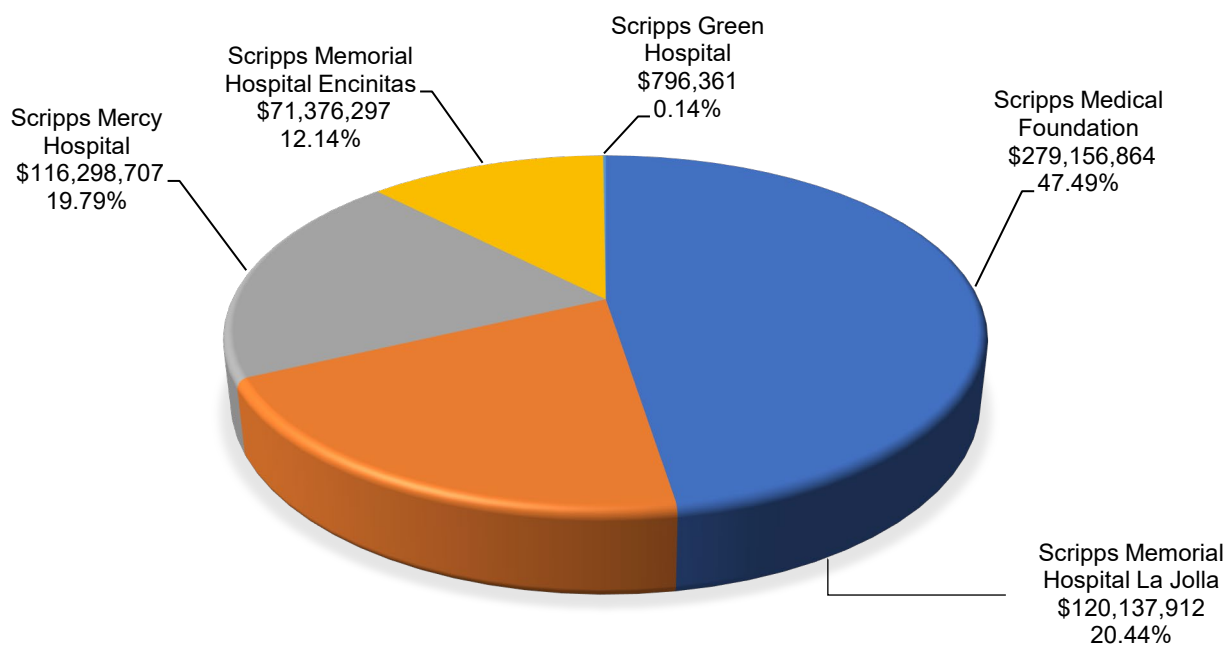
Scripps Mercy Hospital (including San Diego and Chula Vista campuses) provides 64% percent of the charity care within the Scripps system (refer to figure 4.7). Scripps Mercy's service area has a more economically disadvantaged population compared to the county, with the lowest numbers of insured adults in the county and a much higher percentage of ethnic minorities, primarily Hispanic and Asian. 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 Debt	\$7,597,909
Charity Care	\$17,768,459
Medi-Cal Shortfall	\$146,492,809
Medicare Shortfall	\$415,906,964
Uncompensated Health Care Total	\$587,766,141

Figure 4.5

Fiscal Year 2024 Scripps Total Uncompensated Care by Operating Unit, \$587,766,141³⁰



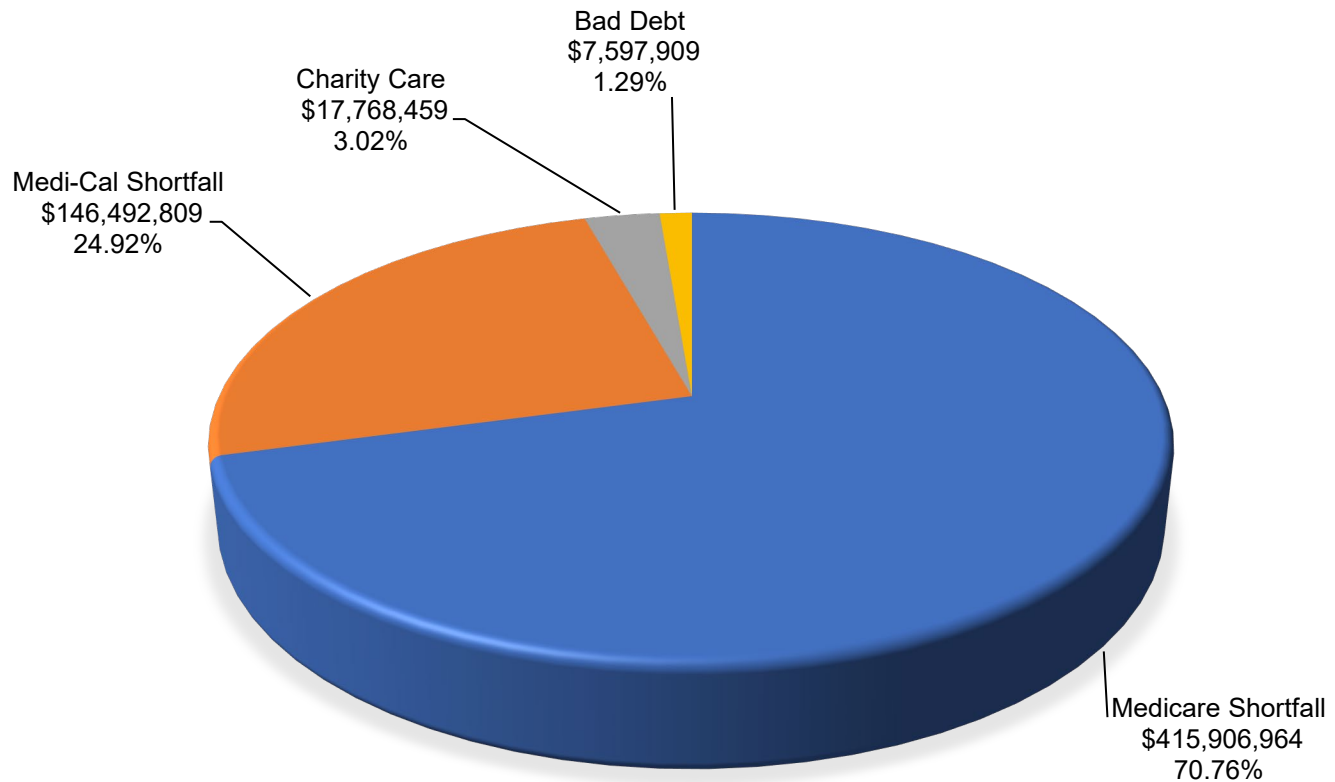
Community Benefits Services (Provider Fee Impact)	Scripps Memorial Hospital La Jolla	Scripps Green Hospital	Scripps Memorial Hospital Encinitas	Scripps Mercy Hospital (San Diego & Chula Vista)	Scripps Medical Foundation	Total
Before Provider Fee	\$113,034,941	\$796,361	\$67,285,235	\$202,157,941	\$279,156,864	\$662,431,343
Provider Fee	\$7,102,971	-	\$4,091,061	(\$85,859,235)		(\$74,665,202)
Net Community Benefit Services After Provider Fee	\$120,137,912	\$796,361	\$71,376,297	\$116,298,707	\$279,156,864	\$587,766,141

Uncompensated Health Care

Uncompensated health care includes the sum of expenses associated with Charity Care, Medi-Cal Shortfall and Other Means-Tested Government Programs, Medicare Shortfall and Bad Debt. While Medicare Shortfall, Bad Debt, and Community Building Activities are reportable under Schedule H guidelines, they are excluded from the community benefit totals. However, Scripps includes these in our overall community benefit calculations in the report. A detailed account of Scripps Fiscal Year 2024 uncompensated care expenditures is contained in the following graphs.

Figure 4.6

Fiscal Year 2024
Scripps Total Uncompensated Care by Category,
\$587,766,141³⁰

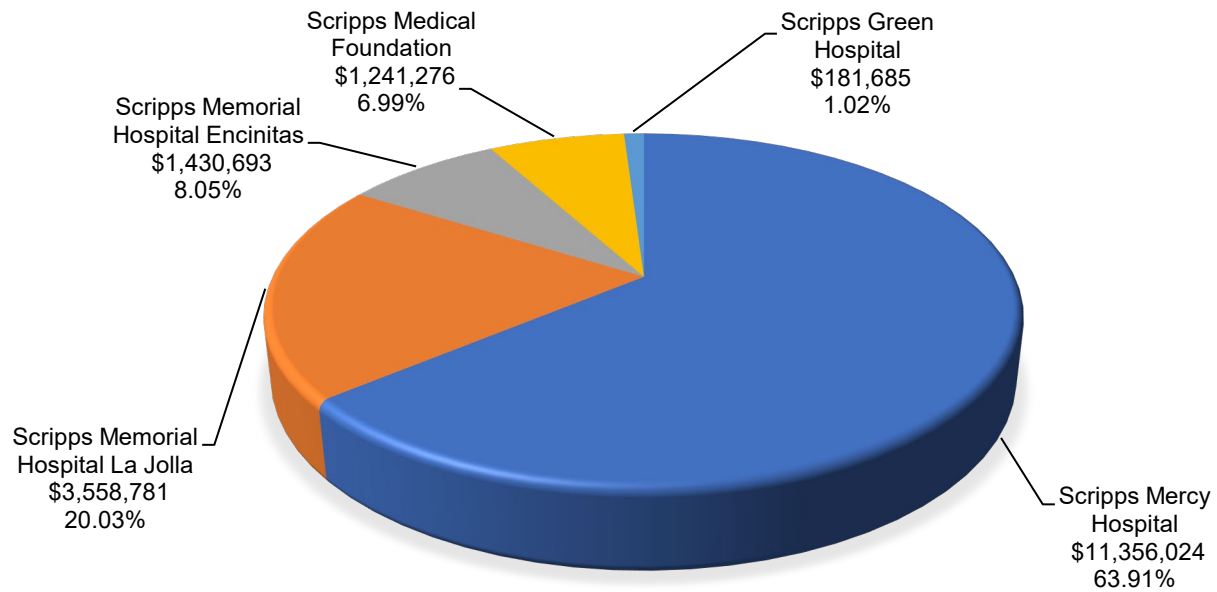


Uncompensated Health Care

Uncompensated health care includes the sum of expenses associated with charity care, Medi-Cal and Other Means-Tested Government Programs, Medicare Shortfall and Bad Debt. While Medicare Shortfall, Bad Debt, and Community Building Activities are reportable under Schedule H guidelines, they are excluded from the community benefit totals. However, Scripps includes these in our overall community benefit calculations in the report.

Figure 4.7

Fiscal Year 2024
Scripps Charity Care by Operating Unit,
\$17,768,459³¹

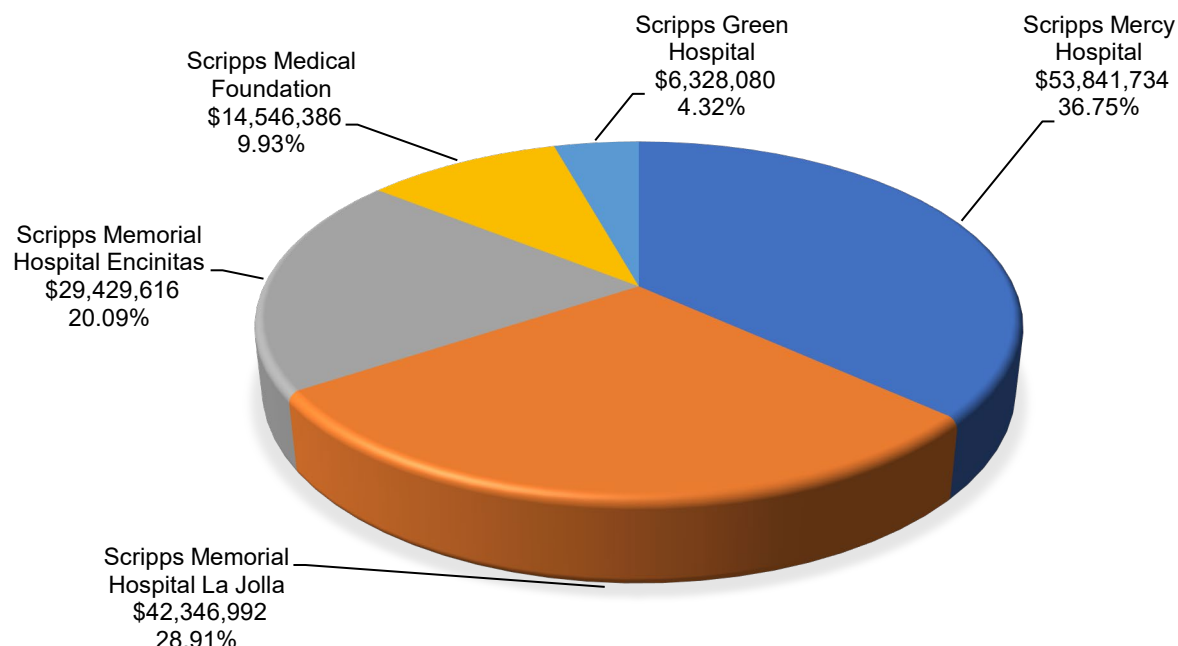


Charity Care

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 4.8

Fiscal Year 2024 Scripps Medi-Cal Shortfall & Other Means-Tested Government Programs by Operating Unit, \$146,492,809³²



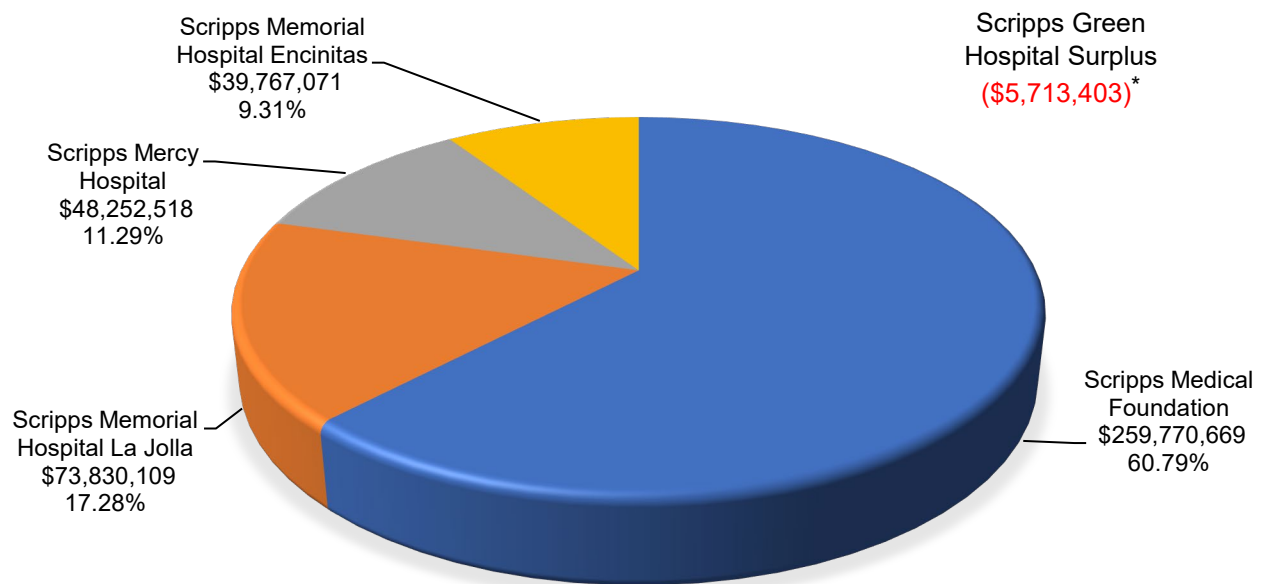
Community Benefits Services (Provider Fee Impact)	Scripps Memorial Hospital La Jolla	Scripps Green Hospital	Scripps Memorial Hospital Encinitas	Scripps Mercy Hospital	Scripps Medical Foundation	Total
Before Provider Fee	\$35,244,022	\$6,328,080	\$25,338,555	\$139,700,969	\$14,546,386	\$221,158,012
Provider Fee	\$7,102,971	-	\$4,091,061	(\$85,859,235)	-	(\$74,665,202)
Net After Provider Fee	\$42,346,992	\$6,328,080	\$29,429,616	\$53,841,734	\$14,546,386	\$146,492,809

Medi-Cal Shortfall and Other Means-Tested Government Programs

In addition to providing Charity Care, 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 4.9

Fiscal Year 2024 Scripps Medicare¹ & Medicare HMO Shortfall by Operating Unit, \$415,906,964³³



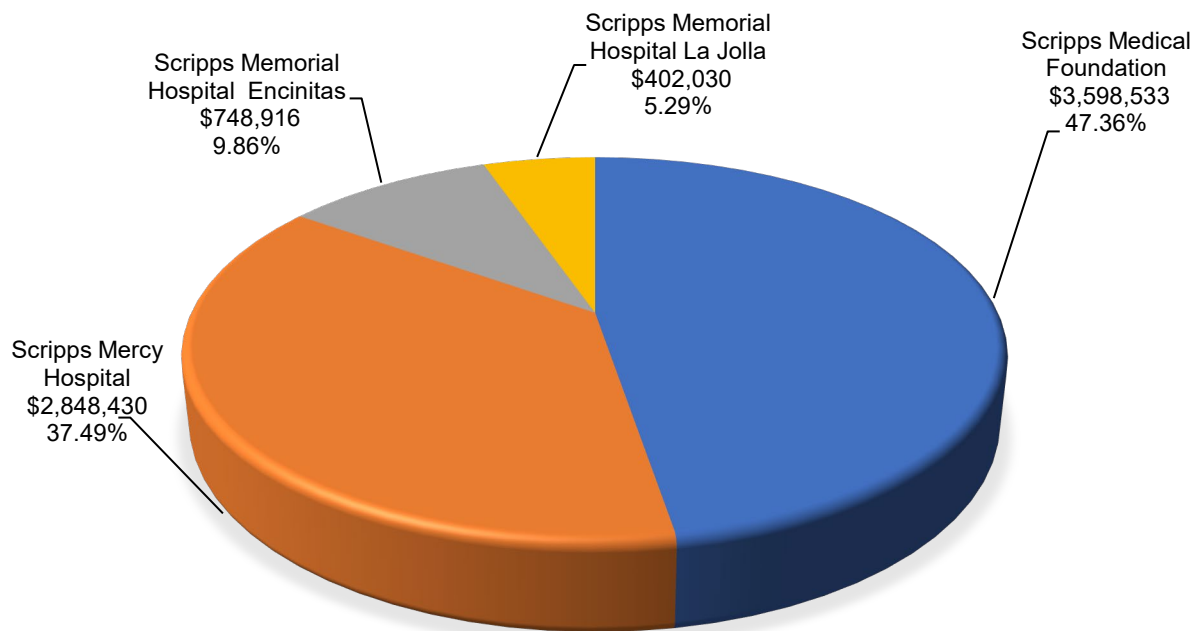
Medicare and Medicare HMO Shortfall

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. Unpaid cost of Medicare is calculated using Scripps cost accounting system. In the IRS Form 990, Schedule H, the Medicare cost report is utilized, and these expenses are incorporated into Section B of Part III of IRS Form 990 Schedule H.

* The pie chart above does not include Scripps Green Medicare as the new Federal Fiscal Year 2024 (FFY24) Medicare Inpatient Prospective Payment System (IPPS) payment rates changed how hospitals in certain areas are classified for reimbursement. Some large urban hospitals, including Scripps Mercy, were reclassified in a way that increased Medicare payments. This change, along with Scripps Green Hospital higher-acuity and more complex patient cases, resulted in a **surplus of \$5,713, 403** in FY24 and benefited Scripps Green more than other Scripps hospitals.

Figure 4.10

Fiscal Year 2024
Scripps Bad Debt by Operating Unit, \$7,597,909³⁴



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.

Cash, Grants, and In-Kind Contributions

Scripps provides Cash, Grants and In-Kind contributions made by the organization to community groups and nonprofit organizations. In FY24, Scripps invested **\$1,485,542³⁵** in cash, grants and in-kind. The following are the activities that Scripps participated in. Refer to figure 4.11 for a more detailed overview.

Cash

American Heart Association Go Red for Women Luncheon

Scripps sponsored the American Heart Association's Go Red for Women fundraising event. United by a passion to end heart disease and stroke in women, tens of thousands of women gather annually for Go Red for Women luncheons across the country. Each luncheon is a unique event, led by local leaders to address the specific needs of their community.

Mental Health Association of San Diego – Meeting of the Minds

Scripps sponsored the annual Mental Health Association of San Diego Meeting of the Minds conference, serving consumers, providers, and the community at large. The Scripps Mercy Trauma Department played an active role in the planning, organization, and implementation of the program.

The San Diego LGBT Community Center

Scripps sponsored the San Diego LGBT community center, which is one of the nation's largest and most active LGBT community centers. The center, led by a 14-member board of directors, employs over 70 staff members, and engages more than 800 community volunteers. Their mission encompasses enhancing and sustaining LGBT health and human rights, providing a range of programs and services to the diverse San Diego LGBT community, including individuals of various demographics and those living with HIV. Through its events, activities, advocacy, and direct service visits, the center significantly impacts the lives of thousands.

Family Health Centers of San Diego Spirit of the Barrio

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.

Family Health Center of San Diego Internal Medicine Outpatient Teaching Clinic Partnership

Scripps Health and Family Health Center of San Diego (FHCSD) have had a longstanding collaborative partnership. Scripps has entered into a long-term agreement to provide a program fee to FHCSD in order to increase the availability and enhance the quality of services – specifically those health care services to be

provided through the Internal Medicine Outpatient Clinic. These services will be specifically supporting the medically underserved population served by FHCSD.

La Maestra Casino Night

Annual fundraiser to support the La Maestra Community Health Center. Scripps Mercy Hospital donates cash to support the clinic.

San Ysidro Health Center

Scripps has partnered with San Ysidro Health Center on a Corporate Citizen level which includes sponsoring the fundraising “Emerald Ball” for San Ysidro Health, commemorating 55 years of providing high-quality healthcare for all. San Ysidro collaborated with the Youth Philanthropy Council (YPC) and the Philanthropy Leadership Council (PLC) which is a group of community and business leaders, who generously offer their time, resources, and expertise.

Turkey Giveaway and Health Resource Fair

Scripps sponsored this event hosted by Assemblymember Dr. Akilah Weber’s office. The event aimed to distribute 1,000 turkeys, along with produce and sides purchased from the San Diego Food Bank and Feeding San Diego, to provide complete Thanksgiving meals to the community.

Grants

Eric Paredes Save A Life Foundation

Scripps partners with the Eric Paredes Save A Life Foundation to prevent sudden cardiac arrest and death in middle and high school aged children, including those in the underserved areas of San Diego County, through awareness, education, and action. Scripps provides a grant and volunteers, including physicians, nurses, and echocardiogram technicians, screen students throughout San Diego County.

California Health Foundation and Trust

The California Hospital Association created a private program, the California Health Foundation and Trust (CHFT). Established for several purposes, including aggregating and distributing financial resources to support charitable activities at various hospitals and health systems in California.

Consumer Center for Health Education and Advocacy (CCEA)

Funding provides low-income uninsured Mercy patients assistance in obtaining healthcare benefits and services, while simultaneously reducing uncompensated care expenses for Mercy. This project provides advocacy services for the time-intensive government benefit cases.

In-Kind Contributions

The Ministry of Jerusalem - Emergency Meals and Water

Scripps maintains an emergency supply of meals and water, replenishing it regularly and donating the previously stored items. In FY24, Scripps donated 750 cases of water valued at \$18,000 to the Ministry of Jerusalem, a local charity associated with the San Diego Food Bank.

Father Joe's Villages - Scripps Pay it Forward Sock Drive

The Sock and Blanket Drive was held as part of Scripps Spirit Week. Donations across the Scripps system were collected and given to Father Joe's Villages to benefit the homeless in the community. Contributions were made by just about every site throughout the system. Scripps gathered 3,823 pairs of socks valued at \$5,862 from employees, physicians, and volunteers across Scripps locations. These contributions benefited the homeless community through various organizations, with employees dedicating 80 hours of working time to this effort.

Scripps Health Donated Medical Equipment to City of Hope

The MALDI Microflex instrument, which identifies bacteria and yeast, was donated to the City of Hope.

Greater La Jolla Meals on Wheels

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.

La Jolla Emergency Department Car Seats

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.

San Diego Public Library

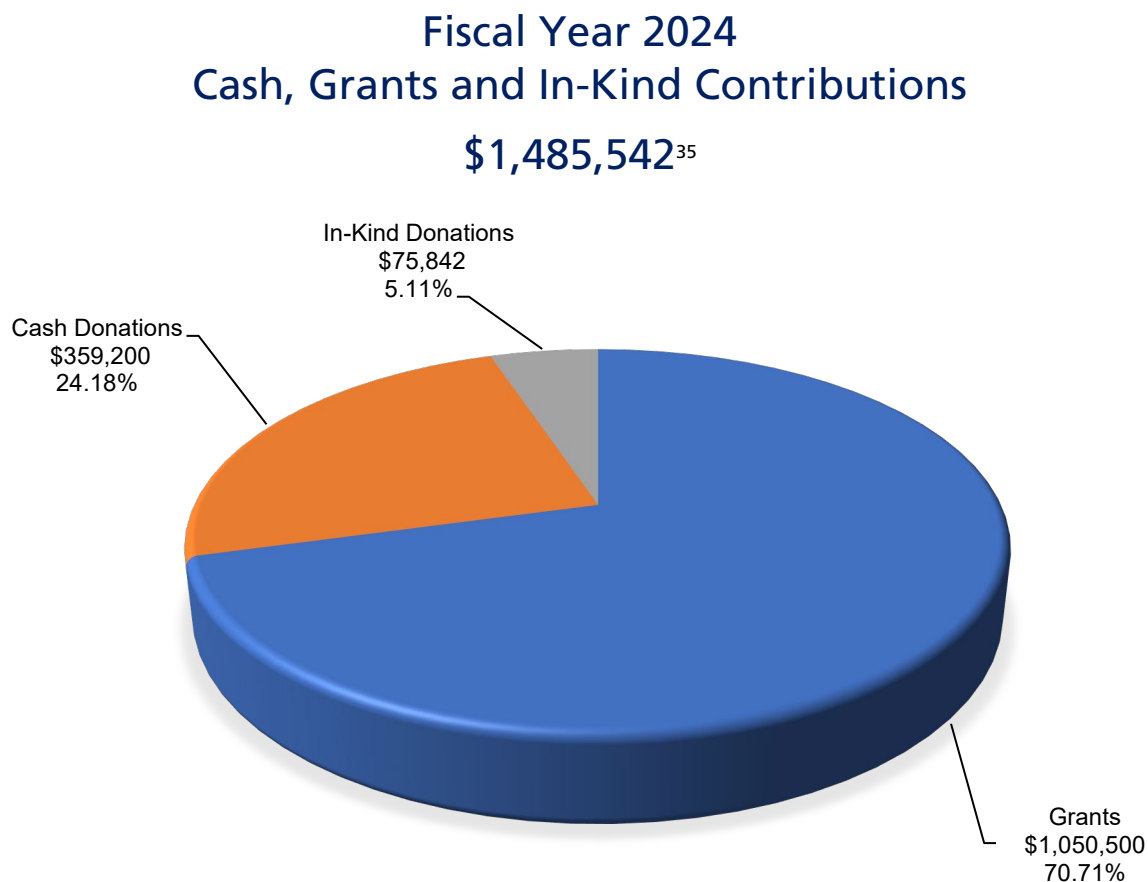
Scripps donated 31 boxes of books to the Friends of the San Diego Public Library.

Scripps Donated a Decorative Ceramic Turtle Statue

The statue was donated to Kumeyaay Elementary School for their garden.

Scripps Health Donated Ophthalmology Equipment to La Maestra Family Clinic. This equipment is used to measure the intraocular pressure of eyes.

Figure 4.11



Cash, Grants, and In-Kind Contributions

Scripps provides Cash, Grants and In-Kind contributions made by the organization to community groups and nonprofit organizations. "Cash contributions" does not mean any payments that the organization makes in exchange for a service, facility, or product, or that the organization makes primarily to obtain economic or physical benefit. In-kind contributions include the cost of staff hours donated by the organization to the community, indirect cost of space donated to tax-exempt community groups (such as for community health-related meetings), and the financial value (measured at cost) of donated food, equipment, and supplies. These costs are included in the IRS Form 990 Schedule H Part I Lines 7i.

FY24 Scripps Cash, Grants and In-Kind Contributions

Cash, Grants, and In-Kind Contributions

Community Benefit Categories	Person Served	Staff Hours	Volunteer Hours	Financial Support*
Cash Donations	-	-	-	\$359,200
Grants	-	-	-	\$1,050,500
In-Kind Donations	10,523	82	-	\$75,842
Totals FY 2024 Cash, Grants and In-Kind Contributions	10,523	82	-	\$1,485,542

* "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.

Subsidized Health Services

Subsidized health services are those clinical services provided despite a financial loss to the organization, after removing payments associated with bad debt, financial assistance, Medi-Cal, and Other Means-Tested Government Programs, to meet an identified community need. Scripps Inpatient Behavioral is categorized as subsidized health.

The total expense for subsidized health services for Scripps Fiscal Year 2024 was **\$3,100,477** for Scripps inpatient behavioral health. Scripps offers inpatient adult behavioral health services at the Scripps Mercy Hospital San Diego campus. The Scripps Mercy behavioral health program also actively supports community programs to reduce the stigma of mental illness and help affected individuals live and work in the community. Scripps Health offers inpatient behavioral health care for adults admitted through our emergency departments or urgent care centers. Our outpatient behavioral health services are available through partnerships with various community organizations.

Like many behavioral health programs nationwide, funding remains a challenge, as payment rates have not kept pace with the actual cost of care. In Fiscal Year 2024, the Scripps Mercy Behavioral Health Program reported a total operational loss of \$8.3 million, with \$5 million attributed to Medi-Cal, or other means tested government programs and charity care. Notably, 1.1% of patients in the inpatient unit were uninsured, underscoring the financial pressures faced by these programs.

Scripps Mercy Inpatient Behavioral Health

Scripps Mercy Hospital offers a 36-bed Psychiatric Adult Inpatient Unit for individuals suffering from acute psychiatric disorders who cannot live independently or pose a danger to themselves or others. This program helps patients and their loved ones work through short-term crises, manage mental illness, and resume daily lives.

Outpatient Behavioral Health Services

Partnership with Family Health Centers of San Diego (FHCS): Established in 2016, this collaboration aims to enhance mental health care for Medi-Cal patients at Scripps Mercy Hospital. It integrates primary and mental health care, placing social workers and Substance Use Disorder (SUD) counselors in emergency departments to connect patients with resources. FHCS offers outpatient therapy near the hospital, while patients from Scripps Mercy Chula Vista and Mercy San Diego are referred for help with behavioral health issues such as addiction, loss, and anxiety, and other mental health issues.

Community Building Activities

Community Building Activities 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. In FY24, Scripps invested **\$387,252** in community building activities. The following are the community building activities that Scripps participated in. Refer to figure 4.12 for a more detailed overview.

Physical Improvements/Housing

Leadership Retreat Volunteer Service Day

Scripps Mercy Hospital 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 Casa de Misericordia, Father Joe's Village, Mama's Kitchen, Mercy Housing & Gardens, and Rescue Mission.

Economic Development

Executive Leadership: Community Boards and Business Organizations

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 Boards and Business Organizations – Mercy San Diego

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

San Diego Organization of Healthcare Leaders (SOHL)

Scripps sponsored the annual conference of the San Diego Organization of Healthcare Leaders (SOHL). SOHL is a combined chapter of the American College of Healthcare Executives (ACHE), an international professional society with over 49,000 healthcare executives.

San Diego LGBT Inc

Scripps sponsored the annual San Diego LGBT Pride Parade. Scripps employees participated along with hundreds of individuals from the community in the parade and 5k walk presented by Front Runners & Walkers San Diego. San Diego pride incorporated as a 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization in 1994, and today it continues to bring together the skills, talents, and visions of our diverse community through numerous programs.

Chicano Federation

Scripps sponsored the “Unity luncheon” and “Cesar Chavez day of service.” The Chicano Federation of San Diego County is a nonprofit, community-based organization that offers a range of family, childcare, housing, community development and advocacy services.

LGBTQ+ Victory Institute

Scripps sponsored a fundraising event “Champagne Brunch Fundraiser.” LGBTQ+ Victory Institute works to achieve and sustain equality through leadership development, trainings, research and convenings.

San Diego Police Department “Coffee with a Cop”

As part of the ongoing workplace violent prevention efforts, various Scripps hospitals held “Coffee with a Cop,” an open dialogue session with the San Diego Police Department to build understanding and connections between law enforcement and Scripps.

Advisory Board Participation and Coalition Meetings – Scripps Mercy Hospital Chula Vista

Scripps took part in advisory board participation and coalition building meetings, where over 700 Scripps Mercy Chula Vista Staff actively engaged in local advisory and coalition gatherings. These collaborative efforts aim to address various community needs and concerns.

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.

Hospital Incident Command System National Advisory Committee (HICS)

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.

San Diego County and State of California Advisory Groups

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.

San Diego Healthcare Coalition Advisory Committee (SDHDC)

Scripps Health actively collaborates with the San Diego Healthcare Coalition Advisory Committee (SDHDC) to improve emergency preparedness and response planning.

San Diego County Regional Full-Scale Exercise

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.

San Diego County Coalition Surge Test No Notice Exercise

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.

San Diego Regional Full-Scale Exercise

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.

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 2024, the team remains prepared for future calls for assistance.

Coalition Building

Chula Vista Community Collaborative (CVCC)

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.

South County Action Network (SOCAN)

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.

Workforce Development

Mana De San Diego (MANASD)

Scripps sponsored Mana de San Diego (MANASD), the largest chapter of a national Latina organization founded in 1986. MANASD empowers Latinas through education, leadership, community service, and advocacy. Its programs, from the Hermanitas program for middle and high school students to the Latina Success Leadership program for mid-level professionals, support Latinas at all stages of life, helping them achieve their goals and contribute to thriving communities.

North County African American Women's Association

Scripps sponsored a fundraiser for the North County African American Women's Association (NCAAWA). Support provides scholarship funds for girls and women of African American descent. The program has helped hundreds of women receive career, vocational and technical education, in addition to life skills and health awareness. NCAAWA has been assisting women reentering the workforce and graduating seniors to achieve their educational goals through fundraising efforts. Program efforts have enabled hundreds of women to lead healthy, fulfilling, and self-sufficient lives.

University City High School Exploration Program

Scripps partners with UC High School exploration program to provide opportunities for students to learn about careers in healthcare. Scripps Center for Learning & Innovation partnered with UC High School health essentials to provide workforce preparedness in a healthcare setting as an extension of their classroom learning experience. Two events were held. The first event was an ED/Trauma tour and second was a biomed panel presentation to the students. These events hosted 134 total students and Scripps staff contributed a total of 20 hours to the events.

Young Leaders in Health Care Program

Scripps Encinitas hosted the young leaders in health care program for local high school students during the 2023-2024 school year. The program included 9 meetings with over 550 participants in total, covering various health-related topics and presentations. After completing this initiative, students can apply for the high school explorer summer internship program.

Scripps High School Exploration Internship Program

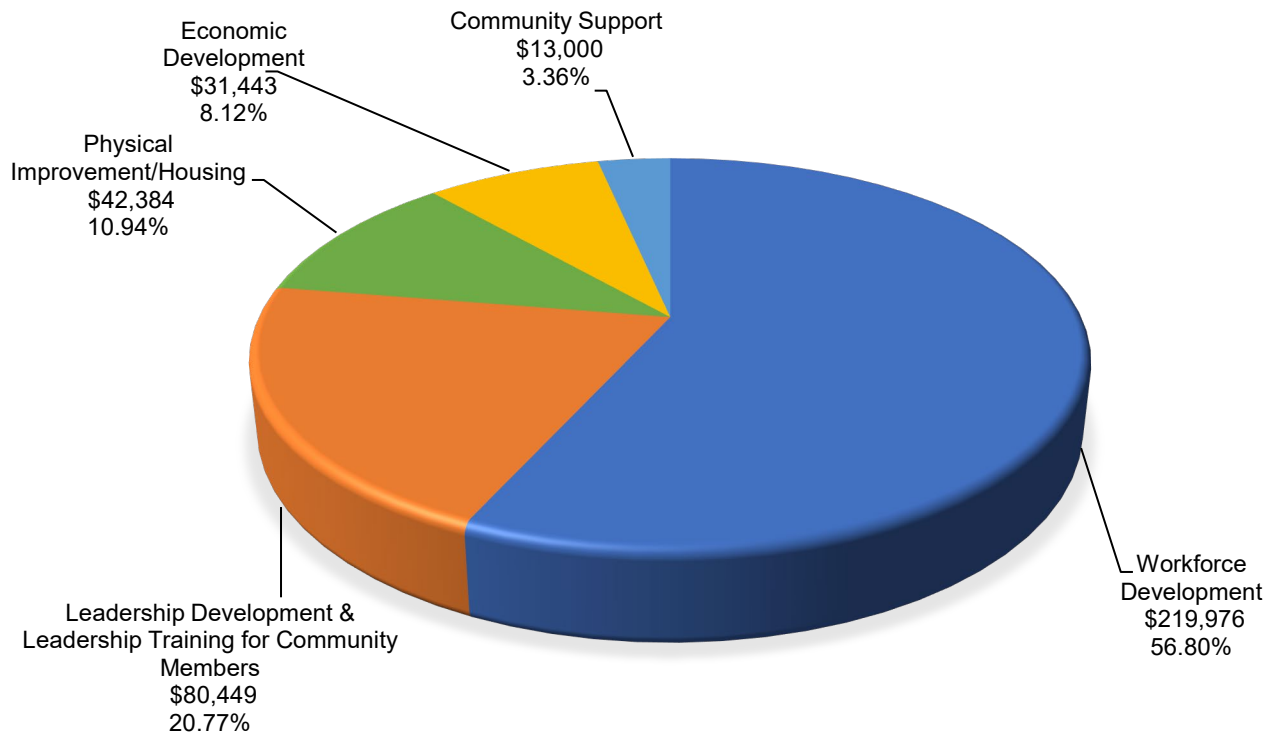
Scripps Health initiated the Scripps High School Exploration Internship Program to engage young individuals and cultivate their interest in healthcare professions facing a shortage of skilled professionals. Twenty-five students gained exposure to various hospital departments, including the emergency room and surgery, allowing them to explore different career possibilities in healthcare while also acquiring valuable insights into health and healing. In total, Scripps dedicated 2,875 hours to the program, with each student spending 115 hours with a Scripps host.

Scripps School to Health Career Pathway Program

Scripps Mercy Hospital Chula Vista introduced a diverse array of youth into health professions activities, benefiting a total of 1,600+ 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.

Figure 4.12

Fiscal Year 2024
Scripps Community Building Activities
\$387,252



Community Building Activities

Community-building activities are programs that address the underlying causes of health problems and thus improve health status and quality of life. They focus on the root causes of health problems. The amount reported is total expenses for each activity incurred less any offsetting revenue. These costs are included in the IRS Form 990 Schedule H Part II.

FY24 Scripps Community Building Activities

Community Building Activities

Community Building Activities**	Person Served	Staff Hours	Volunteer Hours	Financial Support*
Physical Improvements/Housing	1,500	371	4	\$42,384
Economic Development	-	450	-	\$31,443
Community Support	2,671	1,007	-	\$13,000
Leadership Development and Leadership Training for Community Members	600	1,205	-	\$80,449
Workforce Development	3,325	8,126	20	\$219,976
Totals FY 2024 Community Building Activities	8,096	11,159	24	\$387,252

* "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 Schedule H 990 but are still reportable outside the community benefit table



Section 5

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 20 percent of the inpatient population living in the hospital's 50 percent service area. Today, the hospital has 426 licensed beds and 3,224 employees and provides a comprehensive range of adult inpatient and outpatient services. Within the hospital's service area, Scripps La Jolla cares for 24 percent of Medicare patients, 9 percent of Medi-Cal patients, 21 percent of commercially insured patients and 10 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, women's health services, comprehensive stroke center, neurology, bariatric services, ophthalmology, and mental health and psychological services.

In 2005, Scripps La Jolla was the first Magnet hospital in San Diego to be recognized by the American Nursing Association and was re-designated in 2021 for continued excellence in patient care. The Barbey Family Emergency and Trauma Center at Scripps La Jolla is a Level I Trauma Center and a critical part of the county's emergency service network. It offers the most advanced technology and medical expertise available to treat life-threatening injuries. The center includes a 33,000-square-foot emergency department, 51 private beds, precision imaging in two diagnostic X-ray suites, MRI, ultrasound, a low-dose CT scanner and more.



Scripps Memorial Hospital La Jolla

Scripps Memorial Hospital La Jolla

2025 Community Benefit Report, Fiscal Year 2024

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 2024 (October 2023 to September 2024).

Community Benefit Contribution

During Fiscal Year 2024, Scripps La Jolla devoted **\$125,504,208** to community benefit services. The programs offered by Scripps La Jolla emphasize community-based prevention efforts and use effective approaches to reach residents at greater risk for health problems.

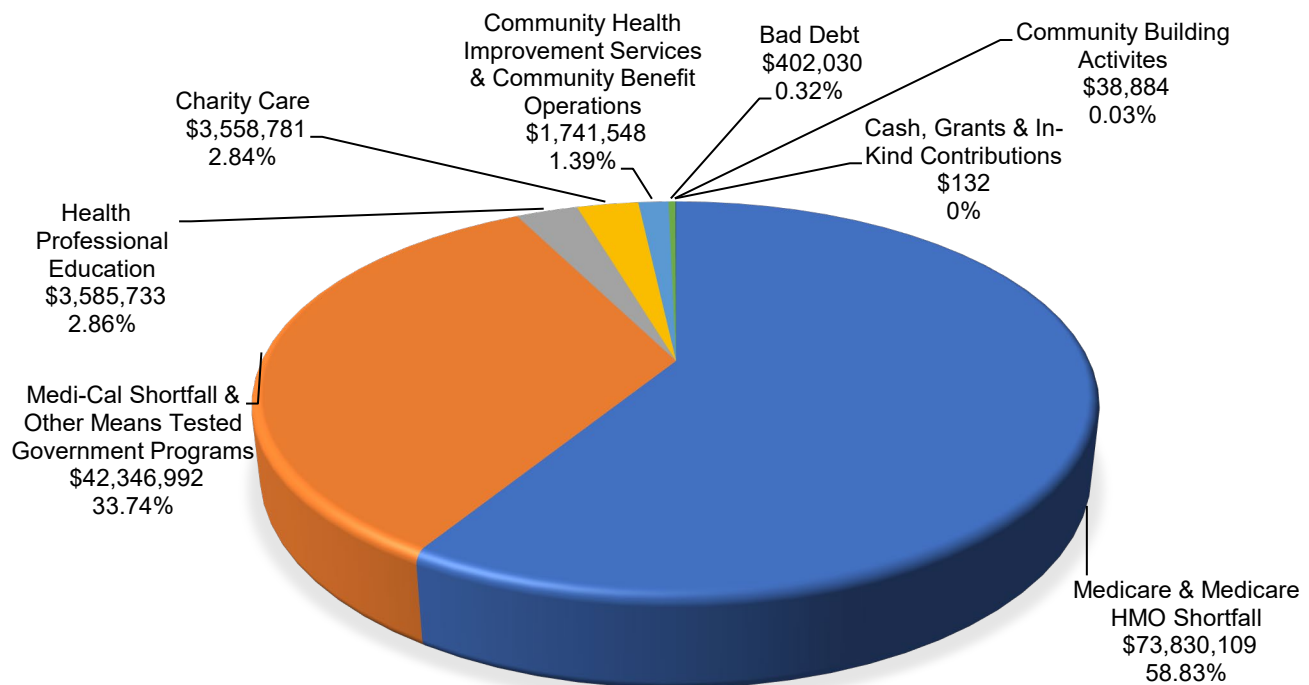
Community Benefit Services Highlights

Community Benefit Services	
Bad Debt	\$402,030
Cash, Grants and In-Kind Contributions	\$132
Charity Care	\$3,558,781
Community Health Improvement Services & Community Benefit Operations (Includes In Lieu of Funds)	\$1,741,548
Community Building Activities	\$38,884
Health Professional Education	\$3,585,733
Medi-Cal Shortfall & Other Means Tested Government Programs	\$42,346,991
Medicare & Medicare HMO Shortfall	\$73,830,109
Total Community Benefit Financial Contribution	\$125,504,208

Refer to Figure 5.1 presented on the following page for a graphic representation of Fiscal Year 2024.

Figure 5.1

Fiscal Year 2024 Scripps Memorial Hospital La Jolla Community Benefit Services Distribution \$125,504,208



Community Benefit Services

Community Benefit Services (provider fee impact)	Bad Debt	Cash, Grants & In Kind	Charity Care	Community Building Activities	Community Health Improvement Services & Community Benefit Operations	Health Professional Education	Medi Cal Shortfall & Other Means Tested Government Programs	Medicare & Medicare HMO Shortfall	Total
Before Provider Fee	\$402,030	\$132	\$3,558,781	\$38,884	\$1,741,548	\$3,585,733	\$35,244,021	\$73,830,109	\$118,401,238
Provider Fee							\$7,102,971		\$7,102,971
Net After Provider Fee	\$402,030	\$132	\$3,558,781	\$38,884	\$1,741,548	\$3,585,733	\$42,346,992	\$73,830,109	\$125,504,208

Community Benefit Services are programs and services designed to improve health in communities. IRS Form 990, Schedule H instructions define community benefit as activities or programs that respond to community health needs and seek to achieve one or more of the following objectives: improving access to health services, enabling low-income individuals to afford health care, enhancing public health, advancing generalizable knowledge, educating healthcare professionals, and relieving the government's burden to improve health. While Medicare Shortfall, Bad Debt, and Community Building Activities are reportable under Schedule H guidelines, they are excluded from the community benefit totals. However, Scripps includes these in our overall community benefit calculations in the report.

FY24 Scripps Memorial Hospital La Jolla Community Benefit Services Summary List

Community Health Improvement Services & Community Benefit Operations

Community Benefit Categories	Person Served	Staff Hours	Volunteer Hours	Financial Support*
Community Health Education	17,609	3,953	91	\$218,491
Community-Based Clinical Services	167	-	-	-
Health Care Support Services (Includes In-Lieu of Funds)	-	-	-	\$1,414,051
Community Benefit Operations	-	-	-	\$109,006

Totals FY 2024 Community Health Improvement Services & Community Benefit Operations

17,776 3,953 91 \$1,741,548

Health Professional Education

Community Benefit Categories	Person Served	Staff Hours	Volunteer Hours	Financial Support*
Physicians/Medical Students	-	19,584	-	\$1,364,841
Nurses/Nursing Students/Allied Health	-	22,175	-	\$2,220,225
Other Health Professions Education	30	8	-	\$667

Totals FY 2024 Health Professional Education

30 41,767 \$3,585,733

Cash, Grants, and In-Kind Contributions

Community Benefit Categories	Person Served	Staff Hours	Volunteer Hours	Financial Support*
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Total FY 2024 Cash, Grants, and In-Kind

6,700 2 \$132

Uncompensated Care

Community Benefit Categories	Person Served	Staff Hours	Volunteer Hours	Financial Support*
Charity Care	-	-	-	\$3,558,781
Bad Debt**	-	-	-	\$402,030
Medicare and Medicare HMO Shortfall**	-	-	-	\$73,830,109
Medi-Cal Shortfall & Other Means Tested Government Programs***	-	-	-	\$42,346,992

Total FY 2024 Uncompensated Care

- - - \$120,137,912

Community Building Activities**

Community Benefit Categories	Person Served	Staff Hours	Volunteer Hours	Financial Support*
Total FY 2024 Community Building Activities	-	-		\$38,884
<hr/>				
Totals FY 2024 Scripps Memorial Hospital La Jolla	24,506	45,722	91	\$125,504,209

* "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.

**Medicare Shortfall, Bad Debt, and Community Building Activities are reportable under IRS instructions but are excluded from the community benefit totals in Form 990, Schedule H. However, Scripps includes these categories in our overall community benefit calculations within the report.

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

Community Health Improvement Services & Community Benefit Operations Highlights, FY24

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. This investment includes In-Lieu of Funds which provides critical support for vulnerable populations, covering essential post-discharge needs for unfunded or underfunded patients. These funds help ensure access to necessary health care support services beyond hospital care.

Scripps Community Benefit Operations include 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.

During Fiscal Year 2024, Scripps La Jolla programs invested in Community Health Improvement Services and Community Benefit Operations, with notable achievements outlined by IRS categories and detailed further in Section 4.

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.

Cardiac Treatment Center: Group Exercise Programs. The programs offered contributed to participants improved cardiovascular health. A total of 2,745 individuals were served, and more than 408 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 158 individuals over 52 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 607 individuals over 102 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 1,541 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, 85 classes were conducted, with 325 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 162 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 48 individuals through a series of 8 meetings, providing them with valuable information and support to manage their condition.

Cardiac Treatment Center: Better Breathers Program. The Better Breathers Club is a welcoming support group designed for individuals living with chronic lung diseases, such as COPD, pulmonary fibrosis, and asthma, as well as their caregivers. In this program, participants learn effective strategies to cope with their conditions while receiving support from others who face similar challenges. Led by a trained facilitator, these support groups—offered both virtually and in-person—empower patients with chronic lung disease, providing them with the tools to improve their quality of life.

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 21 attendees.

Stroke Program Community Outreach. The Scripps Health Stroke Team actively participated in community outreach by conducting stroke risk assessments at two key events: the Imperial Beach Firehouse Open House and the Coronado Firehouse Open House. During these events, 85 community members were screened for stroke risk factors and educated on the BE FAST method for stroke recognition, emphasizing the importance of calling 911 when symptoms occur. Additionally, a Scripps Health Stroke Team member provided blood pressure screenings and BE FAST education to 45 participants during the Standing Strong events held in February and September 2024. In total, the Scripps Health Stroke Team educated 352 community members on stroke recognition and prevention in FY24. Key events included educational

sessions at the Mission Hills Library, the Encinitas Town Hall Meeting, and outreach at the Stroke Awareness Night with the San Diego Padres and La Costa Glen Retirement Community in September.

Stroke Gold Quality Achievement Award. For the sixth consecutive year, Scripps La Jolla earned the Stroke Gold Quality Achievement Award for 2024, 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 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 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 "Grandparenting Today,"** serving 2,021 individuals through 32 meetings, supporting parents and caregivers in raising healthy children.
- Scripps Health facilitated four weekly **breastfeeding support groups**, benefiting 779 individuals in 215 meetings, supporting breastfeeding mothers with guidance and encouragement.
- Additionally, the **Prenatal Pelvic Floor Wellness program**, consisting of 27 classes, empowered 652 women to strengthen their pelvic floor muscles during the postpartum period, promoting their overall well-being.
- **Dogs and Storks.** This prenatal educational class, led by a Pet Behaviorist, teaches parents, grandparents, and caregivers how dogs and babies can live together safely and happily. The class focuses on prevention and safety education for the community.

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, 37 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 10 patients with MAT and prescribed 1,157 buprenorphine prescriptions. There were 1,211 opioid use disorder diagnoses and 85 opioid overdose diagnoses in the ED and among admitted patients.

Injury Prevention and Community Outreach Education. Scripps La Jolla 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.

Fall Prevention: Standing Strong 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 63 individuals and conducted 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 192 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.

Geriatric Fall Prevention: Presentations For Older Adults. The Trauma and Injury Prevention Department offered fall prevention presentations for older adults and their caregivers at multiple community locations, including senior apartments, the Salvation Army Senior Resource Fair, and various police departments. These presentations reached and served a total of 174 participants, providing valuable insights into fall prevention strategies for older adults.

National Fall Prevention Awareness Week. Scripps partnered with the County of San Diego Health and Human Services and the San Diego Fall Prevention Task Force to offer free, virtual events focused on fall prevention. Falls remain the leading cause of injury-related emergency department visits among older adults. Through these virtual sessions, a panel of experts shared essential safety tips, educational information, and exercises to help reduce fall risks. More than 20 presentations were offered, covering various topics. The events successfully reached and served 250 participants. **For more information, visit [San Diego Fall Prevention](#).**

Mature Riders Transportation Safety. Scripps La Jolla Injury and Prevention Department received a \$30,000 County of San Diego Neighborhood Reinvestment Grant to provide safety education to older adults. The grant assists in offering a suite of educational opportunities that empower older adults to make safer choices as motorists, passengers, bike riders and pedestrians.

E-Bike Safety Video for Older Adults. With the rising interest in eco-friendly transportation and the surging popularity of electric bicycles, cycling has become a favored mode of travel and exercise. While enjoyable and beneficial for health, cycling also presents certain safety risks. Each year, over 45,000 cyclists in the United States are injured in incidents like falls, collisions with vehicles, and accidents involving pedestrians or other cyclists. The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention reports that adults over the age of 55 have the highest rate of bicycle-related fatalities. In response to these concerns, the Scripps Injury Prevention and Trauma Department created an educational video focused on e-bike safety specifically for older adults. The video features a Scripps trauma surgeon and the medical director of trauma and acute care surgery, who provides valuable safety tips and insights tailored for the older population. The video has

received significant interest, with 2,500 views so far. For more information, visit [Bike Safety For Older Adults](#).

E-Bike Safety Education Webinar. Provided E-Bike safety education for mature Riders 55+ with a new curriculum developed and sponsored by Scripps. A total of 63 people attended across two sessions.

Bike Safety: San Diego Police Department Skate Jam. Scripps La Jolla hosted the 5th annual San Diego Police Department Skate Jam, an event aimed at promoting bike and skateboard safety in the community. This year, 350 community members participated.

Bike and Helmet Safety

The Scripps Injury and Prevention Department conducted presentations on head injury prevention and provided helmet fittings at various community events, partnering with local organizations to promote bike and e-bike safety. These events allowed Scripps to actively promote bike and helmet safety to thousands across San Diego County. Below is a summary of these outreach efforts:

- Mira Mesa & Ocean Beach: Collaborated with County Supervisor District 3 and the San Diego County Bike Coalition for Bike/E-Bike safety events. Free helmet fittings and giveaways were provided, serving 192 people.
- City of Solana Beach: Presented with the San Diego County Bike Coalition, providing helmet giveaways to 28 attendees.
- San Dieguito Academy HS: Hosted a Bike/E-Bike Education Night in collaboration with the San Diego County Bike Coalition and Encinitas Chamber of Commerce, with 28 attendees.
- Hope through Housing: Mission Cove Apartments, Oceanside: Provided Bike/E-Bike safety and helmet information for 65 attendees.
- National Night Out: Partnered with communities and law enforcement to offer a safe family event, providing helmet fittings for 28 attendees.
- Vista Unified San Diego Family Bike Night, Madison Middle School: Head injury prevention and helmet fittings for 75 attendees, with 35 helmets fitted.
- Earl Warren Middle School: Head injury prevention and helmet fittings for 150 attendees.
- Oceanside High School: E-bike safety education provided to 65 attendees.
- Skyline Elementary School: E-bike safety education for 42 attendees, with 15 helmets fitted.
- Rady's Children's Hospital San Diego Chadwick Center: Helmet fittings for 20 attendees.
- Roosevelt Middle School: Presented on head injury prevention to 47 attendees.
- Roger Rowe Elementary: Provided head injury prevention information to 30 attendees.
- California Bike Summit: Led a panel discussion with 100 participants.
- Vista Innovation Center: Helmet safety education for 80 attendees.

- Safe Kids Day at Kroc Center: Provided helmet fittings for 50 attendees.
- La Costa Paloma Apartments: Delivered helmet safety information to 200 attendees.
- Bike Anywhere Day Pitstop: Provided helmet fittings to 196 attendees.
- Encinitas Cyclovia: Offered safety education to 500 attendees.
- Chula Vista Safety Fair: Fitted 100 kids with helmets, reaching 250 attendees.
- Point Loma High School: Educated 150 attendees on helmet safety.
- Bro-Am Event, Encinitas: Helmet safety for 350 attendees.

Saving Lives Through Stop the Bleed Program. The program conducted 7 Stop the Bleed training sessions, educating 240 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 92 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.

The Left Ventricular Assist Device (LVAD) Support Group. The LVAD Support Group provided education and support to 121 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 19 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 34 survivors. These gatherings created a supportive community for recovery and healing.

The Heart Transplant Support Group. The group offers emotional support to heart transplant patients, transplant candidates, and those awaiting transplants. In FY24 five meetings were held connecting 34 individuals and fostering camaraderie and insights sharing.

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 152 units of blood collected from 167 participants registered. These drives underscore Scripps 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 FY24, Scripps La Jolla provided \$1,414,051 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.

Scripps La Jolla Injury Prevention and Community Outreach Education. Scripps La Jolla Injury Prevention Community Outreach actively participated in various health and safety coalition groups and task forces, collaborating with the county's health and human services agency. These included groups focused on a range of critical issues, such as behavioral health, economic development, food insecurity, homelessness, aging and independence services, fall prevention, gun violence reduction, gang violence, domestic violence, highway safety, teen safe driving, suicide prevention, meth strike force, and alcohol policy. The department contributed a total of 285 hours to these efforts.

Health Professional Education Highlights, FY24

Quality health care is highly dependent upon health education systems. 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. Each year, Scripps La Jolla advances health care services through health professional education programs 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 in health professional education programs²⁸ during Fiscal Year 2024. This section highlights some of Scripps La Jolla health professional education activities.

Health Professional 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 (NMCSD) has been integrated with Scripps Trauma for over 30 years. General surgery residents from NMCSD completed rotations in trauma at Scripps Memorial Hospital La Jolla.

Pharmacy

- The 2024 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 fatalities.
- Scripps La Jolla pharmacists served as preceptors, mentoring pharmacy students through approximately 18 clinical rotations over a span of 108 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 four PGY-1 pharmacy and two PGY-2 residents, providing them with a year-long training experience. This program offers 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 204 nursing students in clinical and leadership experiences in most clinic areas for a total of 23,985 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 83 RNs completing the training in FY24. 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.

- Scripps La Jolla Hospital supported clinical instruction and practice affiliations for 120 allied health (non-nursing students) with a total of 29,592 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 commitment to advancing healthcare education and fostering the development of future allied health professionals.

Health Research Highlights, FY24

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 research is critical to our mission of providing the best care to patients, with many promising new treatments, beginning in clinical trials. Clinical and community research plays a vital role in improving the community's overall health by developing new and innovative treatments.

The La Jolla Trauma Research Team is dedicated to advancing trauma education, community outreach, physician training, and research. The team conducts a wide range of studies on traumatic injuries, treatments, and outcomes, sharing their findings through publications and scientific conferences. Addressing community-specific needs, the team participated in various research projects during Fiscal Year 2024. These included clinical trials, minimally invasive surgery for stroke patients, organ injury management, geriatric trauma care, splenic injury treatment, deep vein thrombosis risk monitoring, skateboard and scooter safety initiatives, and fall prevention strategies for older adults.

Cash, Grant & In-Kind Contributions Highlights, FY24

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 by providing office space to enhance their efforts in delivering nutritious meals to seniors, homebound individuals, and people with disabilities in La Jolla communities. A total of 6,660 individuals were served.

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

Community Building Activities Highlights, FY24

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.

Community Support

As part of the ongoing workplace violence prevention efforts, Scripps La Jolla held "Coffee with A Cop," an open dialogue session with the San Diego Police Department.

Fostering Volunteerism Highlights, FY24

In addition to the financial community benefit contributions made during Fiscal Year 2024, Scripps La Jolla employees and affiliated physicians donated their personal time volunteering to support Scripps sponsored community benefit programs. With close to 91 volunteer hours, it is estimated that the dollar value associated with this volunteer labor is \$5,979.02²⁷.

Scripps Memorial Hospital La Jolla

2025 Community Benefit Plan, Fiscal Year 2025

The previous section highlighted Scripps Memorial Hospital La Jolla accomplishments for Fiscal Year 2024. This section highlights the overall community benefit goals and objectives and the hospital's strategies to support community health during Fiscal Year 2025 (October 2024 to September 2025).

Fiscal Year 2025 Community Benefit Goals & Objectives

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

Access to Care (Community Outreach)

- Provide financial assistance through free and discounted care for health care services, for persons who are uninsured or underinsured and ensure access to emergency and trauma services for all.
- Continue to coordinate quarterly blood drives in collaboration with the American Red Cross at Scripps La Jolla.
- Offer community-based support groups and educational classes on diverse topics, including cancer, diabetes, fall prevention, and more.

Aging Care and Support

- Continue fall prevention workshops for seniors, including risk assessments and education on maintaining safety.

Cancer Outreach, Education and Support

- Collaborate with the Rehabilitation Department to support individuals with lymphedema and participate in breast health education and awareness events.

Cardiovascular Disease and Stroke

- Partner with organizations like the American Heart Association and Rady Children's Hospital to promote cardiovascular and stroke health through education on heart health, stroke recognition, and emergency response.
- Offer comprehensive programs across San Diego County to reduce heart attack and stroke risks by educating on heart health, BE-FAST stroke recognition, and emergency response.

Diabetes Support Services

- Provide equitable diabetes education and self-management resources, particularly for underserved communities.

Maternal Child Health Education

- Deliver comprehensive prenatal and breastfeeding education programs, grandparenting and pelvic floor classes, and car seat safety instruction.

Unintentional Injury and Violence

- Offer safety programs targeting fall prevention for older adults, “Stop the Bleed” training, and car seat, bike and skateboard safety to promote safe practices and reduce accidents.
- Collaborate with local agencies like the San Diego Police Department, Parks and Recreation, the District Attorney's Office, and Discover Pacific Beach to offer educational classes for the Beach Area Community.

Health Professional Education

- Support nursing internships, clinical rotations, and externships, providing preceptor experiences across diverse nursing roles and allied health fields such as OT, PT, respiratory care, and more.



Section 6

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 38 percent of the inpatient population living in the hospital's North County West service area. Today the hospital has 187 licensed beds and 1,739 employees. Within its service area, Scripps Encinitas cares for 46 percent of Medicare patients, 28 percent of Medi-Cal patients, 32 percent of commercially insured patients, and 30 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, 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

2025 Community Benefit Report, Fiscal Year 2024

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 2024 (Oct 2023 to Sep 2024).

Community Benefit Contribution

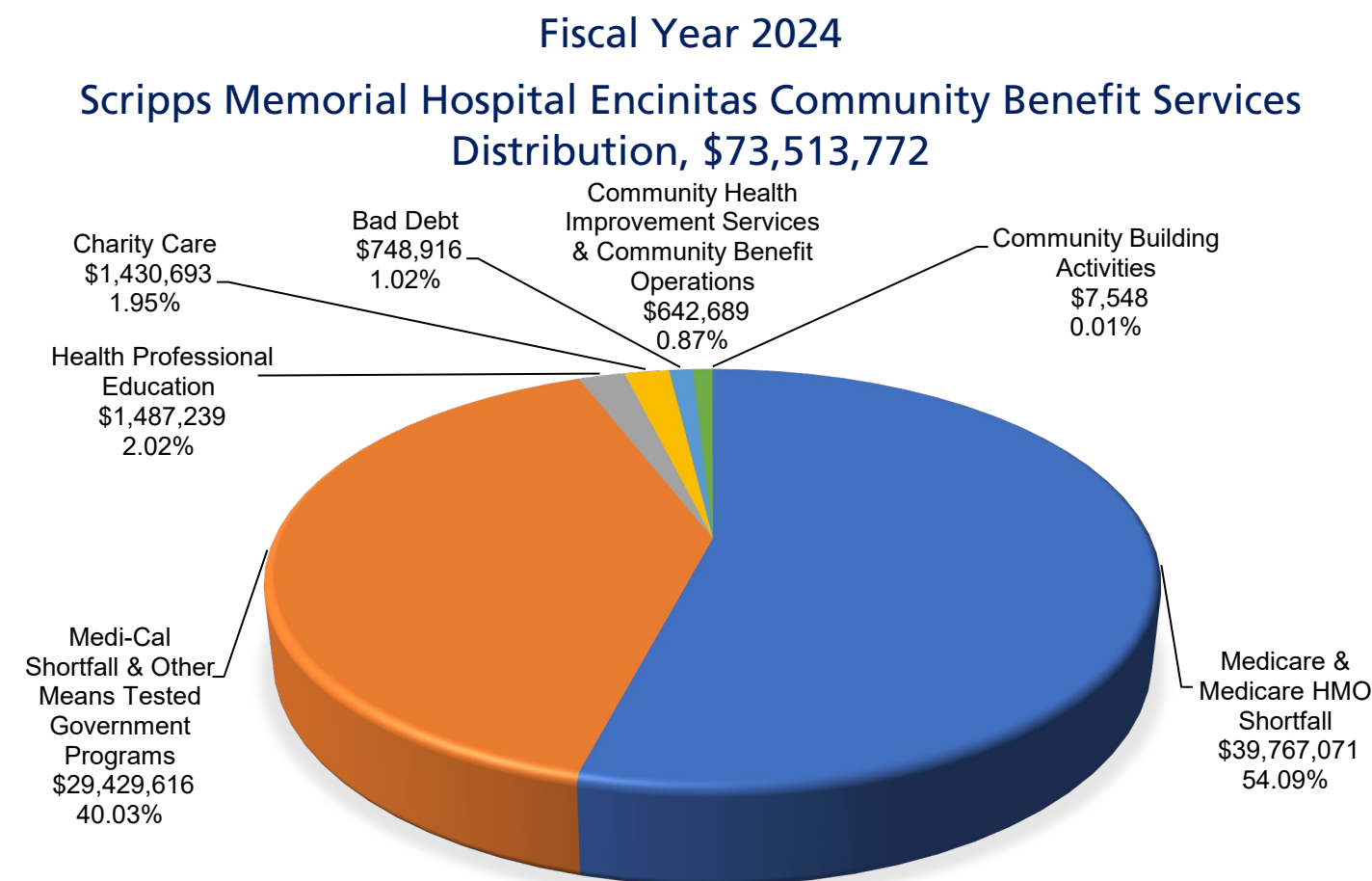
During Fiscal Year 2024, Scripps Encinitas devoted **\$73,513,772** to community benefit services. The programs offered by Scripps Encinitas emphasize community-based prevention efforts and use effective approaches to reach residents at greater risk for health problems.

Community Benefit Services Highlights

Community Benefit Services	
Bad Debt	\$748,916
Charity Care	\$1,430,693
Community Building Activities	\$7,548
Community Health Improvement Services & Community Benefit Operations (Includes In Lieu of Funds)	\$642,689
Health Professional Education	\$1,487,239
Medi-Cal Shortfall & Other Means Tested Government Programs	\$29,429,616
Medicare & Medicare HMO Shortfall	\$39,767,071
Total Community Benefit Financial Contribution	\$73,513,772

Refer to Figure 6.1 presented on the following page for a graphic representation of Fiscal Year 2024.

Figure 6.1



Community Benefit Services (provider fee impact)	Bad Debt	Charity Care	Community Building Activities	Community Health Improvement Services & Community Benefit Operations	Health Professional Education	Medi Cal Shortfall & Other Means Tested Government Programs	Medicare & Medicare HMO Shortfall	Total
Before Provider Fee	\$748,916	\$1,430,693	\$7,548	\$642,689	\$1,487,239	\$25,338,555	\$39,767,071	\$69,422,711
Provider Fee						\$4,091,061		\$4,091,061
Net After Provider Fee	\$748,916	\$1,430,693	\$7,548	\$642,689	\$1,487,239	\$29,429,616	\$39,767,071	\$73,513,772

Community Benefit Services

Community Benefit Services are programs and services designed to improve health in communities. IRS Form 990, Schedule H instructions define community benefit as activities or programs that respond to community health needs and seek to achieve one or more of the following objectives: improving access to health services, enabling low-income individuals to afford health care, enhancing public health, advancing generalizable knowledge, educating healthcare professionals, and relieving the government’s burden to improve health. While Medicare Shortfall, Bad Debt, and Community Building Activities are reportable under Schedule H guidelines, they are excluded from the community benefit totals. However, Scripps includes these in our overall community benefit calculations in the report.

FY24 Scripps Memorial Hospital Encinitas Community Benefit Services Summary List

Community Health Improvement Services & Community Benefit Operations

Community Benefit Categories	Person Served	Staff Hours	Volunteer Hours	Financial Support*
Community Health Education	998	353	-	\$15,591
Community-Based Clinical Services	76	-	-	-
Health Care Support Services (Includes In-Lieu of Funds)	-	-	-	\$627,098
Totals FY 2024 Community Health Improvement Services & Community Benefit Operations	1074	353	-	\$642,689

Health Professional Education

Community Benefit Categories	Person Served	Staff Hours	Volunteer Hours	Financial Support*
Nurses/Nursing Students/Allied Health	-	14,825	-	\$1,487,239
Total FY 2024 Health Professional Education	-	14,825	-	\$1,487,239

Uncompensated Care

Community Benefit Categories	Person Served	Staff Hours	Volunteer Hours	Financial Support*
Charity Care	-	-	-	\$1,430,693
Bad Debt**	-	-	-	\$748,916
Medicare and Medicare HMO Shortfall**	-	-	-	\$39,767,071
Medi-Cal Shortfall & Other Means Tested Government Programs***	-	-	-	\$29,429,616
Total FY 2024 Uncompensated Care	-	-	-	\$71,376,296

Community Building Activities**

Community Benefit Categories	Person Served	Staff Hours	Volunteer Hours	Financial Support*
Total FY 2024 Community Building	597	72	14	\$7,548

Totals FY 2024 Scripps Memorial Hospital Encinitas	1,671	15,250	14	\$73,513,772
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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.

**Medicare Shortfall, Bad Debt, and Community Building Activities are reportable under IRS instructions but are excluded from the community benefit totals in Form 990, Schedule H. However, Scripps includes these categories in our overall community benefit calculations within the report.

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

Community Health Improvement Services & Community Benefit Operations Highlights, FY24

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. This investment includes In-Lieu of Funds which provides critical support for vulnerable populations, covering essential post-discharge needs for unfunded or underfunded patients. These funds help ensure access to necessary health care support services beyond hospital care.

Scripps Community Benefit Operations include 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.

During Fiscal Year 2024, Scripps Encinitas invested in Community Health Improvement Services and Community Benefit Operations, with notable achievements outlined by IRS categories and detailed further in Section 4.

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.

Stroke and Brain Injury Support and Education Group. The program assisted 262 individuals who participated in the support groups, designed for brain injury survivors, caregivers, and their loved ones.

Stroke Gold Quality Achievement Award. For the sixth consecutive year, Scripps Encinitas earned the Stroke Gold Quality Achievement Award for 2024, 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 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.

Balance and Gait. A gentle exercise class focused on balance, stability, and gait.

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 29 classes serving more than 367 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.

BrainMasters Improvisational Speaking Group for Stroke and Brain Injury Survivors. A community program that served 107 attendees in FY 2024, benefiting survivors with self-care and coping strategies.

Scripps Encinitas Bereavement Support Group. The Scripps Encinitas Bereavement Support Group offered a bi-monthly support group led by a licensed professional, providing assistance to community members coping with grief and loss. Each session was facilitated by a chaplain, a spiritual care volunteer, or a social worker. In FY24, the group held 24 meetings and served 178 individuals.

Scripps Encinitas Healing Art Classes and Support Groups. The program provided six classes for brain injury survivors, helping them develop new leisure interests and art skills for self-expression after traumatic injury. The program was opened to the community and served 26 participants.

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 9 patients with MAT and prescribed 287 buprenorphine prescriptions. There were 1,054 opioid use disorder diagnoses and 117 opioid overdose diagnoses in the ED and among admitted patients.

Scripps Encinitas Standing Strong Fall Prevention. The program hosted two workshops at Encinitas Rehabilitation Center with over 129 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.

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 potent pain reducing medications. In FY24 the DEA National Prescription Take Back Day drop off site was hosted at Scripps Memorial Hospital Encinitas.

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 61 units of blood collected from 76 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 FY24, Scripps Encinitas provided \$627,098 in 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.

Health Professional Education Highlights, FY24

Quality health care is highly dependent upon health education systems. 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. Each year, Scripps Encinitas allocates resources to advance health care services through health professional education programs 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 in health professional education²⁸ programs during Fiscal Year 2024. This section highlights some of Scripps Encinitas health professional education activities.

Health Professional 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 16 hours in FY24 to develop content and educate over 100 Paramedics and EMTs. Various hospital and pre-hospital topics were covered in an effort to improve pre-hospital quality of care and handoff.

Nursing Education

- Scripps Encinitas was a rotation site for nursing students in most clinical areas of the hospital. Scripps Encinitas provided preceptorships for 123 nursing students in clinical and leadership experiences in most clinic areas for a total of 15,767 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 Professional Education

- Scripps Encinitas supported clinical instruction and practice affiliations for 70 allied health (non-nursing students) with a total of 21,256 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 commitment to advancing healthcare education and fostering the development of future allied health professionals.

Health Research Highlights, FY24

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 research is critical to our mission of providing the best care to patients, with many promising new treatments, beginning in clinical trials. Clinical and community research plays a vital role in improving the community's overall health by developing new and innovative treatments. See Section 4, Health Research Section for a detail of Scripps research programs.

Community Building Activities Highlights, FY24

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. During the 2023-2024 school year, 9 meetings were held with a total of more than 590 participants. These meetings featured a number of health-related topics and presentations. Students can apply for the High School Explorer summer internship program after participating in this initiative.

Fostering Volunteerism Highlights, FY24

In addition to the financial community benefit contributions made during Fiscal Year 2024, Scripps Encinitas employees and affiliated physicians donated their personal time volunteering to support Scripps sponsored community benefit programs. With close to 14 volunteer hours, it is estimated that the dollar value associated with this volunteer labor is \$919.85²⁷.

Scripps Memorial Hospital Encinitas

2025 Community Benefit Plan, Fiscal Year 2025

The previous section highlighted Scripps Hospital Encinitas accomplishments for Fiscal Year 2024. This section highlights the overall community benefit goals and objectives and the hospital's strategies to support community health during Fiscal Year 2025 (October 2024 to September 2025).

Fiscal Year 2025 Community Benefit Goals & Objectives

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

Access to Care (Community Outreach)

- Provide financial assistance through free and discounted care for health care services, for persons who are uninsured or underinsured and ensure access to emergency and trauma services for all.
- Continue to coordinate quarterly blood drives in collaboration with the American Red Cross at Scripps Encinitas.

Community Health Education

- Offer a variety of in-person and online classes for health improvement, supporting survivors, caregivers, and their families.

Cardiovascular Disease and Stroke

- Promote heart health and support stroke and brain injury survivors through the Brain Masters group, offering resources and education.

Health Professional Education

- Support local nursing and allied health programs by providing clinical experiences and partnering with high schools to encourage healthcare careers, including the Young Leaders in Health Care program for student mentorship and leadership projects.

Section 7

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 24 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 4,671 employees.

Within the Scripps Mercy combined service area, the two campuses care for 29 percent of Medicare patients, 27 percent of Medi-Cal patients, 12 percent of commercially insured patients, and 16 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 3,386 staff members. As a major teaching hospital, Scripps Mercy San Diego serves as a primary site for the clinical education of residents each year. These hospital offer 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. The Conrad Prebys Emergency and Trauma Center at Scripps Mercy San Diego is a Level I center. As one of six trauma centers Scripps Mercy San Diego makes up a critical part of the county's emergency service network. Scripps Mercy has a dedicated trauma floor with an intensive care unit (ICU), telemetry and medical/surgical bed capability. Experts from all disciplines come together as a team to provide immediate, comprehensive, and compassionate care. The care team collaborates with specialists every step of the way, from the scene of the injury through hospital care, discharge, follow-up care and rehabilitation.



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 1,285 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 services, stroke care, rehabilitation (physical, occupational and speech therapies), inpatient and outpatient radiology, neurology, and a full range of surgical services (orthopedic, thoracic/vascular, urology and general surgery).



Scripps Mercy Hospital Chula Vista

Scripps Mercy Hospital

2025 Community Benefit Report, Fiscal Year 2024

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 2024 (October 2023 to September 2024).

Community Benefit Contribution

During Fiscal Year 2024, Scripps Mercy Hospital (San Diego Campus, Chula Vista Campus) devoted **\$152,523,517** to community benefit services. The programs offered by Scripps Mercy emphasize community-based prevention efforts and use effective approaches to reach residents at greatest risk for health problems.

Community Benefit Services Highlights (combined San Diego and Chula Vista)

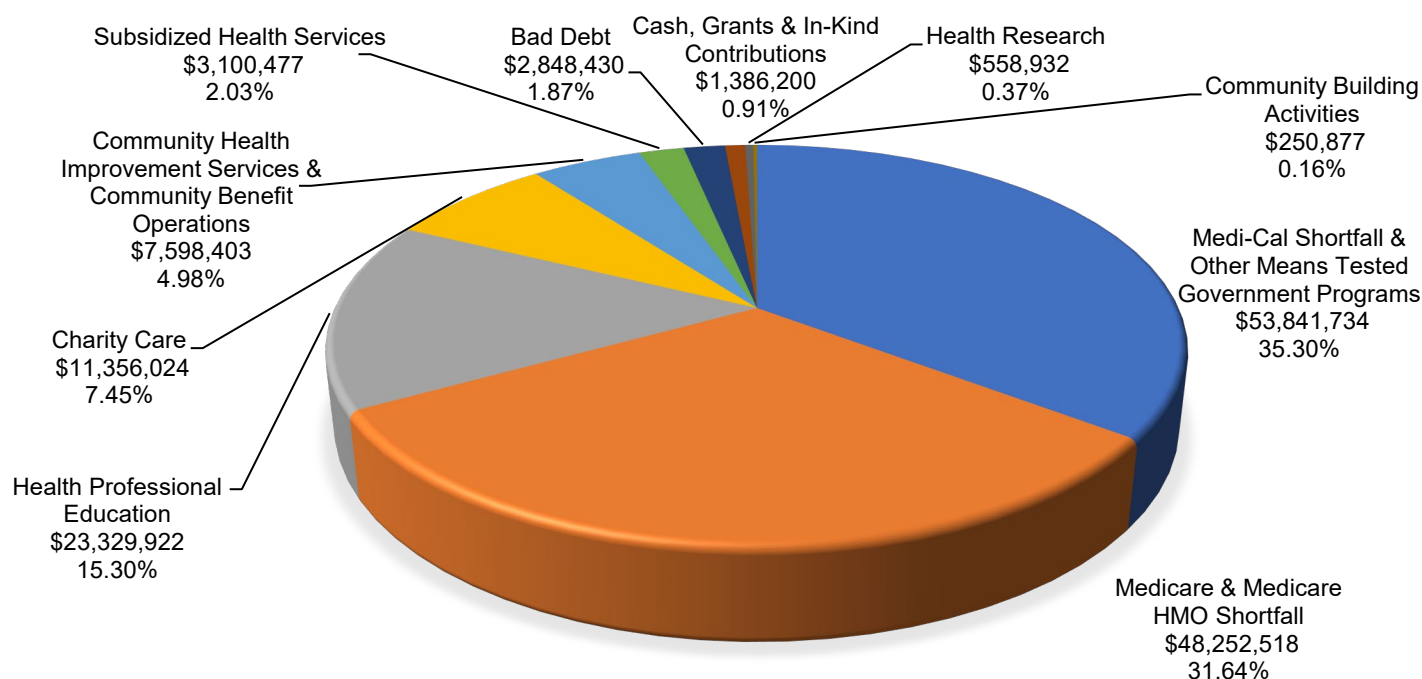
Community Benefit Services	
Bad Debt	\$2,848,430
Cash, Grants and In Kind Contributions	\$1,386,200
Charity Care	\$11,356,024
Community Building Activities	\$250,877
Community Health Improvement Services & Community Benefit Operations	\$7,598,403
Health Professional Education	\$23,329,922
Health Research	\$558,932
Medi-Cal Shortfall & Other Means Tested Government Programs	\$53,841,734
Medicare & Medicare HMO Shortfall	\$48,252,518
Subsidized Health Services	\$3,100,477
Total Community Benefit Financial Contribution	\$152,523,517

Refer to Figure 7.1 presented on the following page for a graphic representation of Fiscal Year 2024.

Figure 7.1

Fiscal Year 2024

Scripps Mercy Hospital³⁶ Community Benefit Distribution, \$152,523,517



Community Benefit Services (provider fee impact)	Bad Debt	Cash, Grants & In Kind	Charity Care	Community Building Activities	Community Health Improvement Services & operations	Health Professional Education	Health Research	Medi Cal ³² & Other Means Tested Government Programs (Shortfall)	Medicare & Medicare HMO (Shortfall)	Subsidized Health Services	Total
Before Provider Fee	\$2,848,430	\$1,386,200	\$11,356,024	\$250,877	\$7,598,403	\$23,329,922	\$558,932	139,700,969	\$48,252,518	\$3,100,477	\$238,382,752
Provider Fee								(\$85,859,235)			(\$85,859,235)
Net After Provider Fee	\$2,848,430	\$1,386,200	\$11,356,024	\$250,877	\$7,598,403	\$23,329,922	\$558,932	\$53,841,734	\$48,252,518	\$3,100,477	\$152,523,517

Community Benefit Services

Community Benefit Services are programs and services designed to improve health in communities. IRS Form 990, Schedule H instructions define community benefit as activities or programs that respond to community health needs and seek to achieve one or more of the following objectives: improving access to health services, enabling low-income individuals to afford health care, enhancing public health, advancing generalizable knowledge, educating healthcare professionals, and relieving the government's burden to improve health. While Medicare Shortfall, Bad Debt, and Community Building Activities are reportable under Schedule H guidelines, they are excluded from the community benefit totals. However, Scripps includes these in our overall community benefit calculations in the report.

FY24 Scripps Mercy Hospital Community Benefit Services Summary List

Community Health Improvement Services & Community Benefit Operations

Community Benefit Categories	Person Served	Staff Hours	Volunteer Hours	Financial Support*
Community Health Education	87,128	37,268	52	\$491,485
Community-Based Clinical Services	401	1,896	134	\$50,067
Health Care Support Services (Includes In-Lieu of Funds)	2,651	1,180	28	\$6,859,600
Social & Environmental Activities	909	281	51	\$7,488
Community Benefit Operations	-	-	-	\$189,763
Total FY 2024 Community Health Improvement Services	91,089	40,625	265	\$7,598,403

Health Professional Education

Community Benefit Categories	Person Served	Staff Hours	Volunteer Hours	Financial Support*
Physicians/Medical Students (GME)	162	280,294	-	\$16,778,695
Physicians/Medical Students	-			\$922,179
Nurses/Nursing Students/Allied Health	-	45,473	-	\$4,658,230
Other Health Professions Education	3,198	5,688	-	\$970,818
Total FY 2024 Health Professional Education	3360	331,455	-	\$23,329,922

Cash, Grants, and In-Kind Contributions

Community Benefit Categories	Person Served	Staff Hours	Volunteer Hours	Financial Support*
Cash Donations	-	-	-	\$335,700
Grants	-	-	-	\$1,050,500
Total FY 2024 Cash and In-Kind Contributions	-	-	-	\$1,386,200

Uncompensated Care

Community Benefit Categories	Person Served	Staff Hours	Volunteer Hours	Financial Support*
Charity Care	-	-	-	\$11,356,024
Bad Debt**	-	-	-	\$2,848,430
Medicare and Medicare HMO Shortfall**	-	-	-	\$48,252,518
Medi-Cal Shortfall & Other Means Tested Government Programs***	-	-	-	\$53,841,734
Total FY 2024 Uncompensated Care	-	-	-	\$116,298,706

Subsidized Health Services

Community Benefit Categories	Person Served	Staff Hours	Volunteer Hours	Financial Support*
Total FY 2024 Subsidized Health Services	-	-	-	\$3,100,477

Health Research

Community Benefit Categories	Person Served	Staff Hours	Volunteer Hours	Financial Support*
Clinical Research	-	4,227	-	\$323,830
Community Health Research	313	2,807	-	\$235,102
Total FY 2024 Health Research	313	7,034	-	\$558,932

Community Building Activities**

Community Benefit Categories	Person Served	Staff Hours	Volunteer Hours	Financial Support*
Physical Improvements and Housing	1500	-	4	\$3,500
Economic Development	-	150	-	-
Community Support	1	1	-	-
Leadership Development and Training	600	1,205	-	\$45,449
Workforce Development	2,569	5,159	6	\$201,928
Total FY 2024 Community Building Activities	4,670	6,515	10	\$250,877

Total FY 2024 Scripps Mercy Hospital (San Diego and Chula Vista Campuses)	99,432	386,000	275	\$152,523,517
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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.

**Medicare Shortfall, Bad Debt, and Community Building Activities are reportable under IRS instructions but are excluded from the community benefit totals in Form 990, Schedule H. However, Scripps includes these categories in our overall community benefit calculations within the report.

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

Scripps Mercy Hospital San Diego Community Health Improvement Services & Community Benefit Operations Highlights, FY24

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. This investment includes In-Lieu of Funds which provides critical support for vulnerable populations, covering essential post-discharge needs for unfunded or underfunded patients. These funds help ensure access to necessary health care support services beyond hospital care.

Scripps Community Benefit Operations include 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.

During Fiscal Year 2024, Scripps Mercy Hospital programs (San Diego Campus and Chula Vista Campus) invested in Community Health Improvement Services and Community Benefit Operations, with notable achievements outlined by IRS categories and detailed further in Section 4.

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.

Mental Health Outreach Services, A-Visions Vocational Training Program. The A-Visions Vocational Training Program, established in 2002, has witnessed significant growth and improvements in patient functioning. Presently, the program employs 9 paid casual employees. Recruitment is currently closed but Scripps continues to support the current A-Vision's participants.

Historical Total potential candidates contacted	638
Historical Total Enrolled in program	167
Historical Total Employed at Scripps as casual	54
Currently employed as casuals at Scripps	9
Currently volunteering	0

The Supplement Nutrition Program for Women, Infants and Children (WIC). During Fiscal Year 2024, this program offered nutrition services, counseling, and food vouchers to support the health and well-being of 77,581 women and children residing in South and Central San Diego.

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 362 MAT Navigators and prescribed 1,426 buprenorphine prescriptions in FY24. There were 1,368 opioid use disorder diagnoses and 270 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 potent pain reducing medications.

Injury Prevention and Education Programs – Trauma Department. 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.

Child Passenger Safety Workshop. The Scripps Health Trauma Injury Prevention Team offered a child passenger safety workshop for both first-time parents and experienced caregivers. Participants learned about car seat basics, including the different types of car seats, infant seats, convertible seats, and booster seats, and how to choose the appropriate seat based on a child's age, weight, and height. The workshop also covered proper installation techniques for different vehicle types. The class was held virtually twice, with a total of 23 attendees.

Older Driver Safety Workshop. The Scripps Health Trauma Injury Prevention Team offered a driver safety workshop for older adults, focusing on maintaining independence while addressing the risks associated with aging and driving. Participants learned about specific risk factors for older drivers, the five riskiest driving

scenarios and how to avoid them, and available safety resources. The interactive session also provided an opportunity for attendees to ask questions, share concerns, and receive valuable insights for safer driving. This class was delivered in-person at Scripps Mercy Hospital San Diego with 7 people in attendance.

Saving Lives Through Stop the Bleed Program. The program conducted 2 Stop the Bleed training sessions, educating 26 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.

Standing Stronger Fall Prevention Workshop. Scripps Mercy Hospital San Diego held a fall prevention workshop for community members during National Fall Prevention Awareness Week to address preventable falls among older adults. Scripps rehabilitation services provided occupational therapists and physical therapists for free fall risk assessments, the stroke team provided free stroke assessments, clinical pharmacists provided free pharmacological checkups, and our fitness center provided free balance and gait demo workshops. A total of 15 people were served.

Scripps Virtual Cardiac Rehabilitation provided services to over 50 patients, completing a total of 280 visits. The program focused on reducing emergency room visits and hospital readmissions.

Spiritual Care and Grief and Loss Support Groups. Grief and loss support group was provided twice a month.

Stroke Gold Quality Achievement Award. For the sixth consecutive year, Scripps Mercy SD earned the Stroke Gold Quality Achievement Award for 2024, 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 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.

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 2024:

- In October, 62 plastic, general and urological surgeries were performed in Pachuca, Hidalgo.
- In April, 20 plastic, surgeries and 73 eye surgeries were performed in San Cristobal de las Casas, Chiapas and 55 pairs of eyeglasses were provided.

- In May, 67 eye surgeries were performed and 31 pairs of eyeglasses were provided in Tulancingo, Hidalgo.

Overall, physicians dedicated 134 volunteer hours, while staff contributed 360 volunteer hours. A total of 308 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 53 units of blood collected from 58 registered participants.

Influenza Vaccines for Shelter Residents. Scripps Mercy San Diego Internal Medicine Faculty and Residents administered influenza vaccines onsite to 35 shelter residents from the Salvation Army, San Diego Rescue Mission, Ladle Fellowship and Rachel's Women's Center programs. The Residency Program participated in the State General Fund Flu Vaccine Program for the first time in FY 2024 to receive vaccines at no charge to administer to vulnerable populations.

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.

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

Behavioral Health Partnership. In FY24, Scripps Behavioral Health collaborated with Family Health Centers (FHC) to improve patient discharge processes and reduce psychiatric patient readmissions. This partnership aimed to enhance patient care and decrease psychiatric recidivism.

Of the patients who kept their appointments, 90 were seen, with 9 readmitted within 30 days, while 87 were not. Among 166 patients who missed appointments, 18 were readmitted within 30 days, while 148 were not. The readmission rate was approximately 9% for patients who attended their appointments, compared to about 11% for those who missed them.

The City of Refuge (CoR) San Diego Recuperative Care Unit Program (RCU). Scripps 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 and avoid hospitalization. The RCU patients had a cumulative of 147 hospital days of stay, an average of 11 hospital days of stay, before transitioning to the RCU.

Father Joes' (FJV) Recuperative Care Program

Through a contract, Scripps Mercy Hospital (SMH) secured two monthly beds in FJV's program for eligible patients needing extended recovery, with beds filled by new SMH patients as others transition to permanent

housing or shelters. Patients had a cumulative of 101 hospital days of stay, an average of 11 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 90 patients who attended appointments, 9 were readmitted within 30 days, while 87 were not. Among 166 patients who missed appointments, 18 were readmitted within 30 days, while 148 were not. The readmission rate for patients who kept their appointments was approximately 9%, compared to about 11% for those who missed their appointments.

Scripps Advanced Care Clinic generated a 60% reduction in emergency department visits, 67% reduction in hospitalizations, and 56% reduction in readmissions for its enrolled patients. The ACC added acupuncture and behavioral health offerings in addition to healing touch and cardiology services.

CalAIM Managed Care High-Service User Enhanced Case Management Initiative (ECM)

At Scripps Mercy Hospital, high-service utilizers who are Community Health Group (CHG) Managed Medical members are identified during Emergency Department registration through a modified Epic workflow. Notifications are sent to Enhanced Case Management (ECM) Care Coordinators in the Scripps Advanced Care Clinic, enabling outreach to CalAIM members either during their hospital stay or within 72 hours post-discharge to help stabilize their health conditions and reduce unnecessary hospital admissions. Currently, only five patients have been enrolled in the program due to staffing limitations. An alternative plan is under discussion to address this challenge. Through funding from the San Diego CalAIM Incentive Payment Program (IPP), Scripps established an Epic workflow to identify high-service users—defined as those with five or more ED visits over a six-month period—for Enhanced Case Management services.

The Psychiatric Liaison Team (PLT). The Psychiatric Liaison Team covers four emergency departments, two urgent care locations, and all inpatient medical floors. In FY24, there were 58,551 PLT encounters.

Scripps Substance Use Disorder Service (SUDS) Nurses. Scripps utilizes specialized SUDS nurses who had 5,563 encounters in FY24, assisting 145 patients with placements to McAlister. The Hazelden Betty Ford Foundation had 57 Scripps referrals and 38 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. Scripps Mercy supports some of our most vulnerable patients through the In-Lieu of Funds program. In FY24, Scripps provided \$5,747,019 in assistance to help cover essential post-discharge needs for unfunded or underfunded patients. These funds support costs for board and care, skilled nursing facilities, long-term acute care, and home health services. Additionally, they help provide medications, medical equipment, and transportation services, ensuring patients receive the necessary care beyond their hospital stay.

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 Mercy Hospital Clothing Drive for Catholic Charities. Scripps Mercy hospital held a clothing drive, donating \$500 worth of work attire to support homeless women in Catholic Charities' job placement **program**, helping them secure hospitality jobs.

Father Joe's Villages Street Health Intervention Project. Scripps Mercy Hospital collaborated with Father Joe's Villages Street Health Intervention Project to provide follow-up visits for discharged unsheltered patients. Under the Street Health Initiative with FJV, referrals are no longer tracked individually, as unsheltered patients are now directed to a designated community location staffed by multiple Street Health programs, offering a broader range of services.

Scripps Mercy San Diego Injury Prevention and Community Outreach Education Scripps Mercy SD Injury Prevention Community Outreach actively participated in various health and safety coalition groups and task forces, collaborating with the county's health and human services agency. These included groups focused on a range of critical issues, such as behavioral health, economic development, food insecurity, homelessness, aging and independence services, fall prevention, gun violence reduction, gang violence, domestic violence, highway safety, teen safe driving, suicide prevention, meth strike force, and alcohol policy. The department contributed a total of 189 hours to these efforts.

Health Professional Education Highlights, FY24

Quality health care is highly dependent upon health education systems. 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. Each year, Scripps Mercy Hospital (San Diego Campus and Chula Vista Campus) advances health care services through health professional education programs 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 in health professional education²⁸ programs during Fiscal Year 2024. The section below highlights the activities for Scripps Mercy Hospital San Diego Campus.

Health Professional 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

- The Underserved Medicine rotation is available to Internal Medicine and Transitional Year residents through partnerships with rural physicians, asylum care providers, Rachel's House, Father Joe's Clinic, and the San Diego Rescue Mission. During this rotation, residents provide care to patients in these settings. It offers a valuable opportunity for residents to become more familiar with the care of patients utilizing these services and to better understand the unique challenges they face.
- In collaboration with Family Health Centers of San Diego Psychiatric Residency Program, Scripps Mercy Hospital began its' commitment to host 6- PGY-1 Residents within the Hospital's Medical Service Floors for training in co-occurring medical and behavioral health conditions in July 2024.
- Scripps Mercy GME highlighted the importance of diversity in healthcare and medical education. Bias, whether conscious or unconscious, affects the way we treat each other, care for our patients, and interact with our community. Below are grand rounds sessions held at Scripps focused on eliminating bias. Scripps Mercy Ground Rounds conducted the following bias lectures in FY24:
 - Maternal Health Disparities in Black and Indigenous People
 - Doubling and Self-Deception: Adaptive Skill or Physicians' Folly
 - Healthcare for the Homeless: Hospital and Community Partnerships
- Scripps Mercy Trauma is a leader in Graduate Medical Education (GME), offering exceptional training opportunities to various residency and fellowship programs across San Diego and annually training over 105 interns and residents doing Trauma Service rotations. 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 2024, Scripps Mercy Hospital provided trauma education to 100 residents in its Graduate Medical Education program, including five 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 (NMCSO) has been integrated with Scripps Mercy Trauma for over 30 years. General surgery residents from NMCSO 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 2024 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 pharmacists served as preceptors, mentoring 11 pharmacy students during 76 weeks of hands-on experience, contributing to the development of the next generation of pharmacists.
- Scripps pharmacists served as preceptors for 13 pharmacy residents over a total of 172 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 494 nursing students in clinical and leadership experiences in all clinic areas for a total of 47,110 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.

Other Health Professional Education

- Scripps Mercy Hospital San Diego supported clinical instruction and practice affiliations for 97 allied health (non-nursing students) with a total of 16,628 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 commitment to advancing healthcare education and fostering the development of future allied health professionals.
- Through the Scripps Mercy Emergency Medical Services (EMS) Base Hospital Program, a range of healthcare professionals engage in hospital-based clinical internships and continuing education opportunities. The program collaborates with local and regional educational institutions to provide

hands-on training for various levels of healthcare professionals, including First Responders, EMTs, Paramedics, Law Enforcement, Military personnel, Mobile Intensive Care Nurses, and Resident Physicians. During their clinical rotations and continuing education sessions, students are introduced to a range of emergency medical care topics relevant to both prehospital and hospital care. These opportunities are designed to enrich students' learning experiences, equipping them to better serve their patients and communities. In FY24, a total of 1,593 health professionals participated in these clinical internships.

- Scripps participates in the San Diego Day of Trauma, a nationally accredited continuing medical education annual meeting tailored for all healthcare providers. In attendance are trauma surgeons, nurses, medical students, researchers, EMT service providers, and law enforcement. Esteemed speakers from across the country share the latest advancements in managing life-threatening emergencies frequently faced in the field. The conference features experts in prehospital care, trauma surgery, and critical care. Through lectures, real-life case presentations, and interactive sessions, attendees actively engage in novel ways to improve patient outcomes.

Health Research Highlights, FY24

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 research is a critical to our mission of providing the best care to patients, with many promising new treatments beginning in clinical trials. Clinical and community research plays a vital role in improving the community's overall health by developing new and innovative treatments. Scripps Mercy Hospital invested in health research during Fiscal Year 2024. See Section 4 for a detail of Scripps research programs.

The Mercy Trauma Research Team is dedicated to advancing trauma education, community outreach, physician training, and research. They conducted various projects, including an NIH-funded national multicenter randomized clinical trial evaluating the safety of timing for inguinal hernia repair in preterm infants, a multicenter study investigating thoracic cavity irrigation for prevention of hemothorax, identifying mortality risk profiles for trauma patients requiring ECMO, assessing healthcare disparities between males and females following traumatic brain injury, the utility of open versus laparoscopic repair for penetrating abdominal trauma, and outlining potential resource savings for patients with traumatic brain injury. Current

research production from July 2023 until now is: 13 Publications; 2 Publications pending decision; 21 conference presentations. 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](#).

Cash, Grant & In-Kind Contributions Highlights, FY24

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

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

Family Health Center of San Diego (FHCSO). Scripps Health and FHCSO have a longstanding collaborative partnership. Scripps has entered into a long-term agreement to provide a program fee to FHCSO aimed at increasing the availability and enhancing the quality of healthcare services delivered through the Internal Medicine Outpatient Clinic. These services will specifically support the medically underserved population served by FHCSO.

The Consumer Center for Health Education and Advocacy (CCEA). 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 project team received 235 referrals, and 21% progressed into cases. During this period, they assisted 45 patients, including 40 new referrals. Of these, 18 received health benefits, 15 received brief services, 2 received financial assistance from Scripps, and 2 have pending cases.

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

Mental Health Association of San Diego- Meeting of the Minds. Scripps sponsored the annual Meeting of the Minds conference, serving consumers, providers, and the community at large. The Scripps Mercy Trauma Department played an active role in the planning, organization, and implementation of the program.

Subsidized Health Highlights, FY24

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 2024, subsidized health services at Scripps Mercy amounted to a total expense of **\$3,100,477** encompassing Scripps Inpatient Behavioral Health. Scripps provides inpatient adult behavioral health services at its Scripps Mercy Hospital, San Diego campus.

Community Building Activities Highlights, FY24

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 volunteer service day** that offered Scripps Mercy 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 Casa de Misericordia, Father Joe's Village, Mama's Kitchen, Mercy Housing & Gardens, and Rescue Mission.

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

San Diego Police Department “Coffee With A Cop.” As part of the ongoing workplace violence prevention efforts, Scripps Mercy held “Coffee With A Cop,” an open dialogue session with the San Diego police department to build understanding of collaboration between the hospital and law enforcement, benefiting patients, hospital staff and the community. 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.”

Fostering Volunteerism Highlights, FY24

In addition to the financial community benefit contributions made during Fiscal Year 2024, Scripps Mercy Hospital San Diego employees and affiliated physicians donated their personal time volunteering to support Scripps sponsored community benefit programs and services. With close to 134 hours volunteer time, it is estimated that the dollar value associated with this volunteer labor is \$8,804.27²⁷.

Scripps Mercy Hospital Chula Vista Community Health Improvement Services & Community Benefit Operations Highlights, FY24

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 2024 achievements. For more comprehensive descriptions of these programs, please refer to Section 4.

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 Well Being Center - Scripps Mercy Hospital, Chula Vista. Scripps Well Being Center - Scripps Mercy Hospital, Chula Vista 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 2024, a total of 10,241 individuals have been provided community education and support.

Helping Address Breast Health and Awareness. The Breast Cancer Support Group was established in 2014 for Spanish-speaking women undergoing or having completed breast cancer treatment. The group provides emotional support, new coping skills, navigation, and educational presentations. A total of 102 outreach and cancer education services were provided. Additionally, 319 women participated in the bi-monthly support group. The group's strong sense of cohesiveness has not only has created a space for women during sessions but has evolved into life-long friendships and support beyond the group.

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 108 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 400 seniors from various locations participated annually, with an 18% 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 Well Being Center - Scripps Mercy Hospital, Chula Vista. Scripps offers stroke and brain injury support groups for survivors, caregivers and loved ones at the Scripps Well Being Center - Scripps Mercy Hospital, Chula Vista. 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.

Stroke Gold Quality Achievement Award. For the sixth consecutive year Scripps Mercy Chula Vista earned the Stroke Gold Quality Achievement Award for 2024, 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 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.

Mama's Kitchen - Management of Congestive Heart Failure Patients Scripps Pilot Study

In collaboration with Mama's Kitchen, Scripps Mercy is working to improve healthcare outcomes and reduce 12-week hospital readmissions for individuals diagnosed with Congestive Heart Failure (CHF) in San Diego County. The program's goal is to empower participants to manage their CHF effectively, focusing on improving longevity, symptom control, and quality of life.

Program Overview:

- Eligibility: CHF patients admitted to Scripps Mercy Chula Vista and Scripps Mercy San Diego.
- Study Design: Participants are randomized into two groups:
 1. 12-week meals-only group.
 2. A meal + registered dietitian support group.

Key Metrics:

- Patient Outreach: 154 individuals contacted to date.
- Enrollment: 72 patients actively enrolled.
- Tailored Interventions: 61 meal interventions provided in FY24.
- Readmission Rate: Current rate is 15.8%, measuring readmissions within 12 weeks of study enrollment.

Challenges Identified:

Many participants face barriers such as advanced age, comorbidities, and other social or health factors influencing readmission rates.

Data Collection:

Currently, only demographic data and group placement metrics are being analyzed to assess the effectiveness of meals and dietitian support in reducing hospital readmissions.

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 for underserved patients. These programs offer 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 were started by the Scripps Whittier Institute and address the unique needs of the community through accessible and tailored education.

"Live Fit" suite of initiatives, include:

- Project Dulce
- Dulce Digital
- Healthy Living
- Su Corazón, Su Vida

Impact and Reach:

- Participants: A total of 455 individuals attended educational sessions at various community locations, including low-income housing complexes, senior residential centers, faith organizations, and community-based organizations.
- Active Engagement: 67 community members actively participated in the full Live Fit series.
- Health Outcomes: Participants reported improved weight, blood pressure, and knowledge levels before and after completing the program.
- Community Outreach: Scripps staff and Chula Vista Promotoras reached 690 community members in total.
- Future Goals: The program successfully met its objectives for the fiscal year, with plans for continued expansion to reach even more community members in the next fiscal year.

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.

Healthy Women, Healthy Babies. 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" continues to enhance patient outcomes by addressing post-discharge needs and connecting patients to virtual resources. The program empowers patients to manage their health post-discharge. The program ensures continuity of care after discharge by improving access to primary and specialty care, facilitating navigation through the complexities of the healthcare system, and connecting patients with essential services. It reduces the risk of readmissions and improves continuity of care, creating a more integrated and personalized support system.

Key Metrics:

- 1,337 patients referred for services, 948 (71%) accepted services³⁷.
- 36 patients (4%) readmitted (source: caregiver, Epic).
- 1,001 patients (72%) were successfully contacted (including 30-day follow up and Social Work referral).
- 395 patients (28%) not reached due to various barriers (e.g., declined, deceased, no contact information, language barriers).
- 886 patients accepted follow up services.
- 84% of patients had follow up appointment within two weeks of discharge.
- Over 800 patients screened for Social Determinants of Health (SDOH) and connected to resources for housing, food and transportation.
- Over 300 supportive services/resources were 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, 244 parents participated in 23 educational sessions offered in English and Spanish.

In-Lieu of Funds. Scripps Mercy Chula Vista supports some of our most vulnerable patients through the In-Lieu of Funds program. In FY24, Scripps provided \$1,043,694 in assistance to cover essential post-discharge needs for unfunded or underfunded patients. These funds help cover costs for board and care, skilled nursing facilities, long-term acute care, and home health services. Additionally, they support medications,

medical equipment, and transportation services, ensuring patients receive the necessary care beyond their hospital stay.

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.

Residency Led Youth Programs. Family Medicine Medical Residents have developed an interactive classroom presentations series called "our health". The presentations focused on a variety of public health concerns and medically focused topics as well as hands-on clinical skills workshops at the local high schools. To introduce them to health careers, students receive health career tools/brochures that include information on education requirements, scholarships, and ways to pay for college. Scripps Family Medicine Residents also facilitate the Health Presentation series, "DOC-4-A-Day" as well as serve as mentors.

Health Professional Education Highlights, FY24

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 health professional education activities in Fiscal Year 2024.

Health Professional 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 Well Being Center - Scripps Mercy Hospital, Chula Vista partnered 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 91 nursing students in clinical and leadership experiences in all clinic areas for a total of 10,901 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 Residency Program offers 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. Medical students from all over the country can apply for this internship experience and the program also maintains a strong connection with the University of California, San Diego Family Medicine program.

Other Health Professional Education

- Scripps Mercy Chula Vista Hospital supported clinical instruction and practice affiliations for 89 allied health (non-nursing students) with a total of 18,470 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 commitment to advancing healthcare education and fostering the development of future allied health professionals.
- Internship and AHEC Scholars Program – Scripps Well Being Center - Scripps Mercy Hospital, Chula Vista trained a total of 23 students who completed their internship placement at Scripps Well Being Center-Scripps Mercy Hospital, Chula Vista. Field of study included undergrad public health, and Masters in Social Work and Masters in Public Health. Interns completed a combined total of 2,508 training hours; 8 also completed the AHEC Scholar Program which is combination of clinic and didactic online training.

Health Research Highlights, FY24

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 research is a critical to our mission of providing the best care to patients, with many promising new treatments beginning in clinical trials. Clinical and community research plays a vital role in improving the community's overall health by developing new and innovative treatments. See Section 4, Health Research Section for a detail of Scripps research programs.

A Quality Improvement Project in Family Medicine Residency Training: Improving Preeclampsia Prevention Through Risk Factor Screening and Low-Dose Aspirin. This quality improvement project trained family medicine residents to improve preeclampsia prevention in an underserved population through enhanced risk factor screening and low-dose aspirin prescription. A preeclampsia awareness campaign was launched using a public toolkit, and a multidisciplinary team implemented clinical changes to boost screening rates and aspirin use. Published in the [*American Journal of Public Health \(May 2024\)*](#), all authors are affiliated with the Scripps Mercy Family Medicine Residency Program at Scripps Health.

Cash, Grant & In-Kind Contributions Highlights, FY24

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

San Ysidro Health Center. Scripps has partnered with San Ysidro Health Center on a Corporate Citizen level which includes sponsoring the fundraising "Emerald Ball" for San Ysidro Health, commemorating 55 years of providing high-quality healthcare for all. San Ysidro collaborated with the Youth Philanthropy Council (YPC) and the Philanthropy Leadership Council (PLC) which is a group of community and business leaders, who generously offer their time, resources, and expertise.

Community Building Activities Highlights, FY24

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.

Community Support

Advisory Board Participation and Coalition Building Meetings. Scripps attends these 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.

Chula Vista Police Department. 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.

Coalition Building

Chula Vista Community Collaborative (CVCC). Scripps took part in 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. Staff dedicated 18 hours to this collaborative.

South County Action Network (SOCAN). Scripps participated in the 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.

Workforce Development

Scripps Mercy Chula Vista School to Health Career Pathway Program introduced a diverse array of youth into health professions activities, benefiting over 2,500 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. Scripps Family Medicine Residents also facilitate the Health Presentation series, “DOC-4-A-Day” as well as serve as mentors.

Fostering Volunteerism Highlights, FY24

In addition to the financial community benefit contributions made during Fiscal Year 2024, Scripps Mercy Hospital Chula Vista employees and affiliated physicians donated their personal time volunteering to support Scripps sponsored community benefit programs and services. With close 141 hours volunteer time, it is estimated that the dollar value associated with this volunteer labor is \$9,264.19²⁷.

Scripps Mercy Hospital San Diego Campus

2025 Community Benefit Plan, Fiscal Year 2025

The previous section highlighted Scripps Mercy Hospital accomplishments for Fiscal Year 2024. This section highlights the overall community benefit goals and objectives and the hospital's strategies to support community health during Fiscal Year 2025 (October 2024 to September 2025).

Fiscal Year 2025 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, health professional education, and health research.

Access to Care (Community Outreach)

- Provide financial assistance through free and discounted care for health care services, for persons who are uninsured or underinsured and ensure access to emergency and trauma services for all.
- Support MOST mission trips providing surgical care for children in Mexico. The team aims to conduct at least two week-long mission trips and one weekend mission trip in the upcoming year.
- Facilitate safe discharge and recuperative care for eligible homeless patients and enhance case management for high-need Medi-Cal patients.
- 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 support the individuals currently enrolled in the A-Visions vocational training program in mental health treatment, provide detox services through McAlister Institute, reduce mental illness stigma, and strengthen partnerships for integrated mental health services. Psychiatric Liaison Team to continue evaluations in ER and urgent care.

Economic Stability

- Reduce food insecurity through the Supplemental Nutrition Program for Women, Infants and Children, also known as WIC. Offering nutrition education, breastfeeding support, and food vouchers for underserved mothers and young children.

Injury Prevention

- Partner with local organizations to sustain injury prevention and health education programs, focusing on leading causes of traumatic injuries like falls and transportation safety. For a complete list of available topics, please visit [Scripps.org/InjuryPrevention](https://scripps.org/InjuryPrevention).

Health Professional Education

- Provide clinical education experiences for health students studying physical therapy, occupational therapy, speech therapy, radiography, surgical technology, respiratory care, and clinical social work.
- Scripps Mercy Internal Medicine Residents will continue to have an optional rotation 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.
- In collaboration with FHCSD Health Center Psychiatric Residency Program, Scripps Mercy Hospital has committed to host 6- PGY-1 Residents within the Hospital's Medical Service Floors for training in co-occurring medical and behavioral health conditions among patients during Academic Year 2024-2025.
- 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.

Scripps Mercy Hospital Chula Vista

2025 Community Benefit Plan, Fiscal Year 2025

The previous section highlighted Scripps Mercy Hospital Chula Vista accomplishments for Fiscal Year 2024. This section highlights the overall community benefit goals and objectives and the hospital's strategies to support community health during Fiscal Year 2025 (October 2024 to September 2025).

Fiscal Year 2025 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, health professional education, and health research.

Access to Care (Community Outreach)

- Provide financial assistance through free and discounted care for health care services, for persons who are uninsured or underinsured and ensure access to emergency and trauma services for all.
- The Scripps Well Being Center - Scripps Mercy Hospital Chula Vista will support patient care post-discharge, offer preventive health education, and health career training with a goal of reaching 6,500 participants.
- Programs like Promotoras in Action Prevention, Education and Wellness will provide community-based health education and prevention sessions to serve participants.
- Improve healthcare outcomes for high-risk underfunded patients and community members by facilitating referrals and connection to other essential services within the community.
- Helping Patients Navigate Services and Support Post-Discharge Program will strive to support patients through post discharge phone calls, visits at hospital bedside and referrals to local social service agencies.
- Health and Education Awareness for Parents will offer community-based education for local parents.

Aging Care and Support

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

Behavioral Health

- Support mental health education and resources for middle, high school, and college students to promote emotional well-being and prevent crises.

Cancer Support Services

- Enhance breast health screenings and outreach, connecting individuals with early detection services and coordinating care for women.
- Offer services to include telephone reminders, outreach and education, social/emotional support, and the distribution of essential supplies and resources.

Cardiology and Stroke Programs

- The Live FIT program aims to educate participants on cardiovascular health to promote overall health improvements and will also provide support groups and follow-up services for stroke patients.
- The Mama's Kitchen-Scripps Tailored Meals Post-Discharge from Heart Failure Hospitalization Pilot will continue to enroll participants in the study.

Health Career Pathway Programs

- Engage youth in hands-on learning and career pathways in health fields, with numerous mentoring and camp participants pursuing health careers within a year.

Maternal Child Health Education

- Support access to obstetrical services in both the outpatient and inpatient settings, with a focus on the South Bay region. This will be achieved through collaborations including local FQHCs (San Ysidro Health, Imperial Beach clinic, Operations Samahan), Scripps perinatology, Scripps Well Being Center – Scripps Mercy Hospital, Chula Vista, Scripps Family medicine residents and fellows.
- Continue to provide Centering Pregnancy, group visit model of care for pregnancy and well child visits. Support obstetrical services and address the social determinants of health that impact pregnancy outcomes through partnerships with local doula organizations.
- Collaborate to provide expanded mental health services to address the needs related to reproductive health.

Health Professional Education

- Provide clinical education experiences across various health fields and offer career development through the San Diego Border Area Health Education Center (AHEC).
- Engage student interns in meaningful experiences at the Scripps Well Being Center - Scripps Mercy Hospital, Chula Vista.

Section 8

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, 1,393 employees and cares for 5 percent of the inpatient population living in the hospital's 50 percent service area. Within the service area, Scripps Green cares for 8 percent of Medicare patients, less than 0.3 percent of Medi-Cal patients, 5 percent of commercially insured patients, and 0.9 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

2025 Community Benefit Report, Fiscal Year 2024

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 2024 (October 2023 to September 2024).

Community Benefit Contribution

During Fiscal Year 2024, Scripps Green devoted **\$17,943,819** to community benefit services. The programs offered by Scripps Green emphasize training new physicians, community-based prevention efforts and use effective approaches to reach residents at greater risk for health problems.

Community Benefit Services Highlights

Community Benefit Services	
Charity Care	\$181,685
Community Health Improvement Services & Community Benefit Operations (Includes In Lieu of Funds)	\$45,592
Health Professional Education	\$17,101,865
Medi-Cal Shortfall & Other Means Tested Government Programs	\$6,328,080
Medicare & Medicare HMO Surplus	(\$5,713,403)*
Total Community Benefit Financial Contribution	\$17,943,819

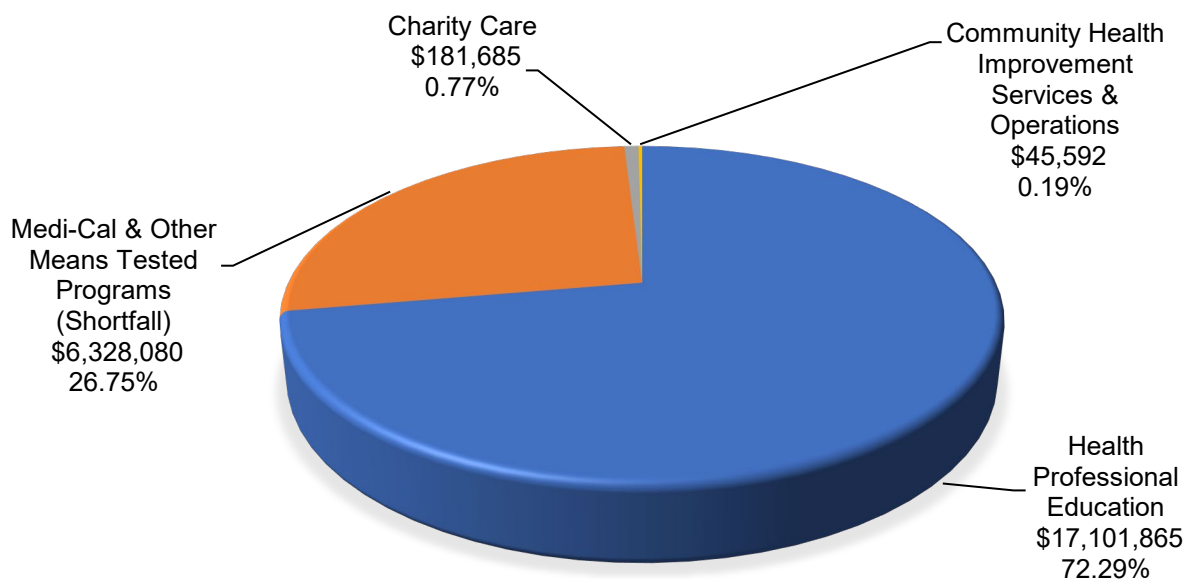
Refer to Figure 8.1 presented on the following page for a graphic representation of Fiscal Year 2024.

* The table above does not include Scripps Green Medicare as the new Federal Fiscal Year 2024 (FFY24) Medicare Inpatient Prospective Payment System (IPPS) payment rates changed how hospitals in certain areas are classified for reimbursement. Some large urban hospitals, including Scripps Mercy, were reclassified in a way that increased Medicare payments. This change, along with Scripps Green Hospital higher-acuity and more complex patient cases, resulted in a **surplus of \$5,713,403** in FY24 and benefited Scripps Green more than other Scripps hospitals.

Figure 8.1

Fiscal Year 2024

Scripps Green Hospital Community Benefit Distribution, \$17,943,819



Community Benefit Services (provider fee impact)	Charity Care	Community Health Improvement Services & Operations	Health Professional Education	Medi Cal Shortfall & Other Means Tested Government Programs	Medicare & Medicare HMO (Surplus)	Total
Before Provider Fee	\$181,685	\$45,592	\$17,101,865	\$6,328,080	(\$5,713,403)	\$17,943,819
Provider Fee	-	-	-	-	-	-
Net After Provider Fee	\$181,685	\$45,592	\$17,101,865	\$6,328,080	(\$5,713,403)	\$17,943,819

Community Benefit Services

Community Benefit Services are programs and services designed to improve health in communities. IRS Form 990, Schedule H instructions define community benefit as activities or programs that respond to community health needs and seek to achieve one or more of the following objectives: improving access to health services, enabling low-income individuals to afford health care, enhancing public health, advancing generalizable knowledge, educating healthcare professionals, and relieving the government's burden to improve health. While Medicare Shortfall, Bad Debt, and Community Building Activities are reportable under Schedule H guidelines, they are excluded from the community benefit totals. However, Scripps includes these in our overall community benefit calculations in the report.

FY24 Scripps Green Hospital Community Benefit Services Summary List

Community Health Improvement Services & Community Benefit Operations

Community Benefit Categories	Person Served	Staff Hours	Volunteer Hours	Financial Support*
Community-Based Clinical Services	1,080	162	297	\$10,754
Health Care Support Services (Includes In-Lieu of Funds)	-	-	-	\$34,838
Total FY 2024 Community Health Improvement Services	1,080	162	297	\$45,592

Health Professional Education

Community Benefit Categories	Person Served	Staff Hours	Volunteer Hours	Financial Support*
Physicians/Medical Students (GME)	-	212,828	-	\$16,085,230
Nurses/Nursing Students/Allied Health	-	10,411	-	\$1,016,635
Total FY 2024 Health Professional Education	-	223,239		\$17,101,865

Uncompensated Care

Community Benefit Categories	Person Served	Staff Hours	Volunteer Hours	Financial Support*
Charity Care	-	-	-	\$181,685
Medicare and Medicare HMO Surplus	-	-	-	(\$5,713,403)**
Medi-Cal Shortfall & Other Means Tested Government Programs***	-	-	-	\$6,328,080
Total FY 2024 Uncompensated Care	-	-	-	\$796,362

Total FY 2024 Scripps Green Hospital	1,080	223,400	297	\$17,943,819
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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.

** The new Federal Fiscal Year 2024 (FFY24) Medicare Inpatient Prospective Payment System (IPPS) payment rates changed how hospitals in certain areas are classified for reimbursement. Some large urban hospitals, including Scripps Mercy, were reclassified in a way that increased Medicare payments. This change, along with Scripps Green Hospital higher-acuity and more complex patient cases, resulted in a **surplus of \$5,713,403** in FY24 and benefited Scripps Green more than other Scripps hospitals.

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

Community Health Improvement Services & Community Benefit Operations Highlights, FY24

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. This investment includes In-Lieu of Funds which provides critical support for vulnerable populations, covering essential post-discharge needs for unfunded or underfunded patients. These funds help ensure access to necessary health care support services beyond hospital care.

Scripps Community Benefit Operations include 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.

During Fiscal Year 2024, Scripps Green invested in Community Health Improvement Services and Community Benefit Operations, with notable achievements outlined by IRS categories and detailed further in Section 4.

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 potent pain reducing medications.

Stroke Gold Quality Achievement Award. For the sixth consecutive year, Scripps Green earned the Stroke Gold Quality Achievement Award for 2024, from the American Heart Association/American Stroke

Association (AHA). The award recognizes hospitals that deliver high-quality, life-saving stroke care. Scripps remains dedicated to continuous education and training, ensuring our staff stays updated on the latest advancements in stroke treatment and prevention strategies.

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 70 units of blood collected from 81 participants. These drives underscore Scripps dedication to supporting the community's healthcare requirements and meeting the ongoing demand for blood donations, especially in times of crisis.

Eric Paredes Save A Life Foundation. Residents from Scripps Green volunteered for the Eric Paredes Save A Life Foundation by providing youth heart screenings.

Fiji Solomon Islands Medical Mission. The Fiji Solomon Islands Medical Mission brings Scripps Health's team of general medical specialists and Internal Medicine residents to remote islands, where they set up clinics to provide vital medical care, supplies, and surgical screenings to underserved populations without access to basic healthcare. Over two mission trips, the team served 875 individuals. These International Medical Missions also offer a unique and invaluable clinical training experience for senior Internal Medicine residents from Scripps Clinic and Scripps Green Hospital.

St. Leo's Mission Community Clinic. All residents and many attending physicians in the Scripps Green internal medicine residency program demonstrate a strong commitment to community service by supporting an evening clinic at St. Leo's Mission Community Clinic. In FY24, the internal medicine residents volunteered 135 hours, serving 124 individuals. With the closure of St. Leo's clinic, the residents will begin volunteering at a new clinic in FY25.

Scripps Green Community Service Projects, Internal Medicine. This curriculum includes resident participation in community service projects aimed at addressing social barriers to health. Each year, residents engage in various community service activities, forming groups to work on different projects. This year, five groups, each consisting of eight to nine residents, participated in unique community service initiatives. Some of the projects included:

- **Streets of Hope:** Residents packed and delivered hygiene products and meals to the homeless in downtown San Diego.

- **Serving Seniors:** In collaboration with this nonprofit organization, which provides meals to seniors struggling with food insecurity, Scripps residents helped serve meals and assisted with cleanup.
- **Sharia's Closet:** Residents organized a clothing donation drive for this nonprofit organization, which addresses health disparities in San Diego.
- **Mesa College:** Mentoring students to read ultrasounds.
- **Jacobs & Cushman San Diego Food Bank:** Residents packed 11,000 pounds of apples in support of the food bank.

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 FY24, Scripps Green provided \$34,838 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.

Health Professional Education Highlights, FY24

Quality health care is highly dependent upon health education systems. 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. Each year, Scripps Green advances health care services through health 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 in health professional education²⁸ during Fiscal Year 2024. This section highlights some of Scripps Green health professional education activities.

Health Professional 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 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. Bias, whether conscious or unconscious, affects the way we treat each other, care for our patients, and interact with our community. Below are grand rounds sessions held at Scripps focused on eliminating bias Below are grand rounds sessions held at Scripps Green focused on eliminating bias in FY24:
 - Disabusing Disability: Demonstrating That DISability Doesn't Mean INability
 - Exploring the Gender Revolution: What Does It Mean for Medicine?
 - Disparities in Maternal Health Care
 - Refining and Reframing: Lessons Learned from 20 Years of Providing Gender Affirming Care
 - Race and Ethnicity in Osteoporosis: Time to Reconsider?

Nursing Education

- Scripps Green was a rotation site for nursing students in most clinical areas of the hospital. Scripps Green provided preceptorships for 58 nursing students in clinical and leadership experiences in most clinic areas for a total of 7,607 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 Professional Education

- Scripps Green Hospital supported clinical instruction and practice affiliations for 66 allied health (non-nursing students) with a total of 21,652 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 commitment to advancing healthcare education and fostering the development of future allied health professionals.

Health Research Highlights, FY24

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 research is a critical to our mission of providing the best care to patients, with many promising new treatments beginning in clinical trials. Clinical and community research plays a vital role in improving the community's overall health by developing new and innovative treatments. See Section 4, Health Research Section for a detail of Scripps research programs.

Scripps Green 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.

Fostering Volunteerism Highlights, FY24

In addition to the financial community benefit contributions made during Fiscal Year 2024, Scripps Green Hospital employees and affiliated physicians donated their personal time volunteering to support Scripps sponsored community benefit programs and services. In Fiscal Year 2024, Scripps Green had 297 volunteer hours, it is estimated that the dollar value associated with this volunteer labor is \$19,513.94²⁷.

Scripps Green Hospital

2025 Community Benefit Plan, Fiscal Year 2025

The previous section highlighted Scripps Green Hospital accomplishments for Fiscal Year 2024. This section highlights the overall community benefit goals and objectives and the hospital's strategies to support community health during Fiscal Year 2025 (October 2024 to September 2025).

Fiscal Year 2025 Community Benefit Goals & Objectives

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

Access to Care (Community Outreach)

- Provide financial assistance through free and discounted care for health care services for persons who are uninsured or underinsured.
- 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 liver, kidney and stem cell transplants, individuals with end-stage liver disease, renal disease and blood cancers and offer additional services for caregivers and those interested in becoming organ donors and stem cell donors. These services play a vital role in promoting health and well-being among these populations.

Health Professional Education

- Enhance resident education by integrating community service projects into the Internal Medicine curriculum at Scripps Green. Each year, residents will participate in group-led initiatives aimed at addressing social determinants of health and completing unique service projects annually.



Section 9

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 based on each person's individual risk factors, including family history and health goals. When hospitalization is necessary, hospitalists from Scripps Clinic, Scripps Coastal and Scripps Inpatient Providers Medical Group partner closely with primary care physicians and specialists to round out the health care team. Scripps Health also offers health education resources, including integrative therapies, weight management programs, nutrition and fitness classes, and programs for managing chronic conditions like diabetes and congestive heart failure. Below is a sampling of some our clinics across the county.



Scripps Clinic

Caring for San Diegans since 1924, Scripps Clinic provides highly rated 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 innovative options such as cardiothoracic robotic surgery.

Scripps Medical Foundation

2025 Community Benefit Report, Fiscal Year 2024

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 2024 (October 2023 to September 2024).

Community Benefit Contribution

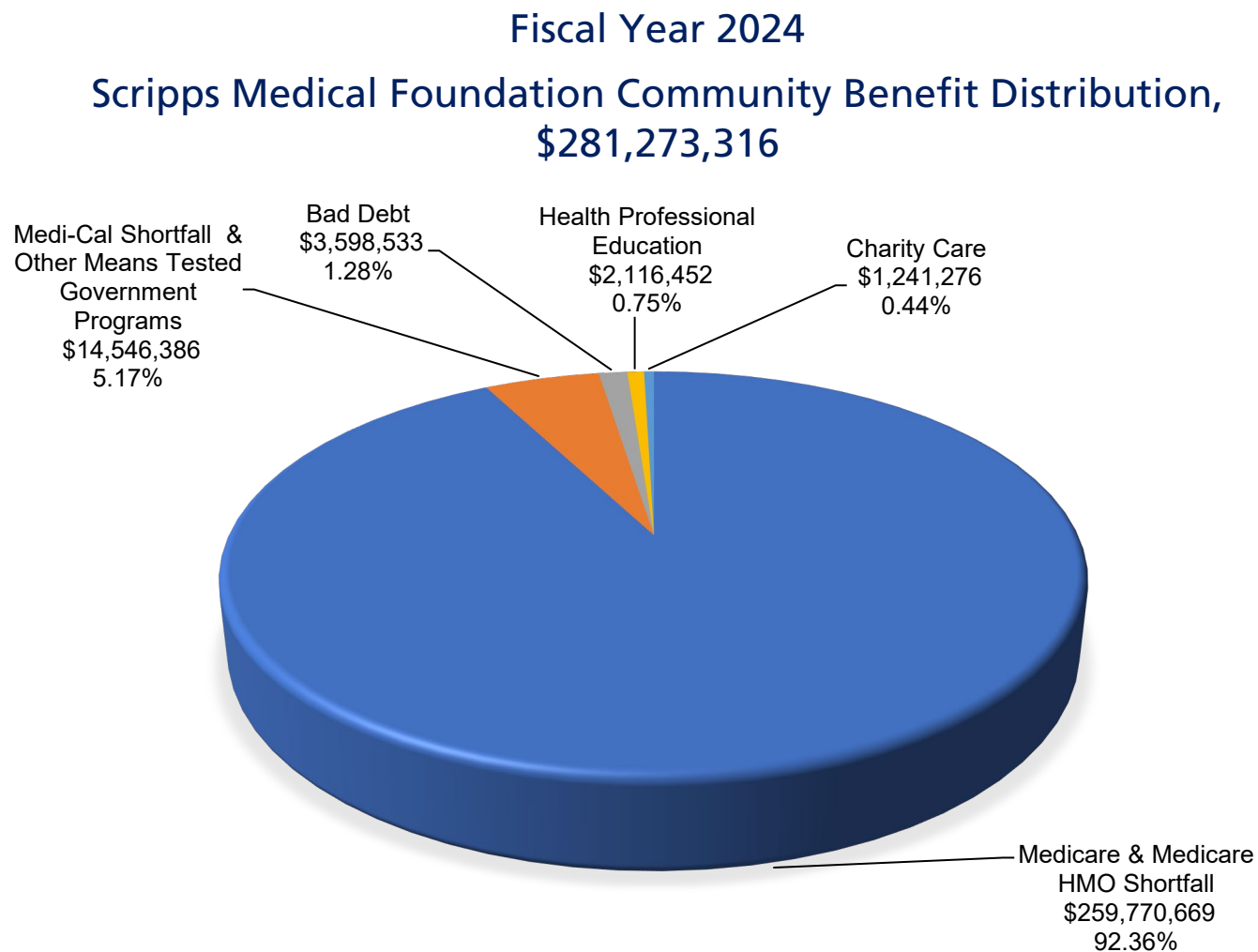
During Fiscal Year 2024, Scripps Medical Foundation devoted **\$281,273,316** to community benefit services, focusing on prevention programs that reach individuals at higher risk for health issues.

Community Benefit Services Highlights

Community Benefit Services	
Bad Debt	\$3,598,533
Charity Care	\$1,241,276
Health Professional Education	\$2,116,452
Medi-Cal Shortfall & Other Means Tested Government Programs	\$14,546,386
Medicare & Medicare HMO Shortfall	\$259,770,669
Total Community Benefit Financial Contribution	\$281,273,316

Refer to Figure 9.1 presented on the following page for a graphic representation of Fiscal Year 2024.

Figure 9.1



Community Benefit Services

Community Benefit Services are programs and services designed to improve health in communities. IRS Form 990, Schedule H instructions define community benefit as activities or programs that respond to community health needs and seek to achieve one or more of the following objectives: improving access to health services, enabling low-income individuals to afford health care, enhancing public health, advancing generalizable knowledge, educating healthcare professionals, and relieving the government's burden to improve health. While Medicare Shortfall, Bad Debt, and Community Building Activities are reportable under Schedule H guidelines, they are excluded from the community benefit totals. However, Scripps includes these in our overall community benefit calculations in the report.

FY24 Scripps Medical Foundation Community Benefit Services Summary List

Health Professional Education

Community Benefit Categories	Person Served	Staff Hours	Volunteer Hours	Financial Support*
Nurses/Nursing Students/Allied Health	-	18,847	-	\$2,116,452
Total FY 2024 Health Professional Education	-	18,847	-	\$2,116,452

Uncompensated Care

Community Benefit Categories	Person Served	Staff Hours	Volunteer Hours	Financial Support*
Charity Care	-	-	-	\$1,241,276
Bad Debt**	-	-	-	\$3,598,533
Medicare and Medicare HMO Shortfall**	-	-	-	\$259,770,669
Medi-Cal Shortfall & Other Means Tested Government Programs***	-	-	-	\$14,546,386
Total FY 2024 Uncompensated Care	-	-	-	\$279,156,864

Total FY 2024 Scripps Medical Foundation	-	18,847	-	\$281,273,316
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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.

**Medicare Shortfall, Bad Debt, and Community Building Activities are reportable under IRS instructions but are excluded from the community benefit totals in Form 990, Schedule H. However, Scripps includes these categories in our overall community benefit calculations within the report.

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

Community Health Improvement Services & Community Benefit Operations Highlights, FY24

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.

Scripps Community Benefit Operations include 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.

During Fiscal Year 2024, Scripps Medical Foundation invested in Community Health Improvement Services and Community Benefit Operations. *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 patients³⁸.*

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. The program recorded 2,240 visits for women enrolled in the diabetes in pregnancy program.

Scripps Whittier Behavioral Health Integration Program (BeHIP). 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. The program served 208 visits.

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 Clinics (AHA). These clinics in San Diego started with Coastal Cedar Vista. They 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 patients. The program plans to expand to more areas in the upcoming fiscal year.

Weight Loss Surgery Educational Seminars. Scripps Clinic offers a monthly education seminar led by bariatric surgeons, who cover the comprehensive surgical options available, as well as the benefits and risks associated with each.

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 Medical Foundation coordinated blood drives with the American Red Cross, resulting in 85 units of blood collected from 89 participants registered. These drives underscore Scripps dedication to supporting the community's healthcare requirements and meeting the ongoing demand for blood donations, especially in times of crisis.

COVID Pediatric Vaccines. Scripps Coastal continued 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. In 2022, Scripps launched The Jana Oliphant Hackett Lung Cancer Screening Program to help improve early diagnosis for people across San Diego County who are at increased risk for developing lung cancer. The screening program is a collaborative effort of experts, focused on early lung cancer detection and treatment to help reduce overall medical costs and increase patient survivability. Retention rates and getting patients to follow through with subsequent scans is a challenge among lung cancer screening programs across the country. So far, Scripps Cancer Center's program has been more successful than many others at seeing patients for their follow-up scans. In the reported period, 1,165 patients were referred, and 1,039 received care.

Scripps Cancer Center Lifeguard Cancer Screenings

Doctors and clinical staff from Scripps Cancer Center and Scripps Clinic visited San Elijo State Beach and Imperial Beach and offered 88 free skin cancer screenings to ocean lifeguards from South County to North County. Scripps has offered free skin screenings to lifeguards and other first responders for more than 25 years, as part of its community benefit program to support the region's overall health and well-being. This event is also a key component of Scripps' Mohs Surgery and Dermatologic Oncology Fellowship, now in its 41st year. The fellowship, based at Scripps Clinic, trains physicians in specialized surgical techniques for treating skin cancer. Since its inception, 68 physicians have successfully completed the one-year program. According to the American Cancer Society, skin cancers are the most common type of cancer in the United States, with the number of new cases continuing to rise each year.

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 2,688 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.

Health Professional Education Highlights, FY24

Quality health care is highly dependent upon health education systems. 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. Each year, Scripps Medical Foundation advances health care services through health professional education programs 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 in health professional education²⁸ during Fiscal Year 2024. This section highlights some of Scripps Medical Foundation health professional education activities.

Health Professional 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

- The Scripps Clinic Division of Cardiovascular Fellowship Training Program trains top candidates to become leaders in cardiovascular medicine, including many who remain at Scripps and provide lifesaving care.
- Scripps Clinic Residents rotate through subspecialty and outpatient clinics, working closely with vulnerable and underserved populations. This commitment to serving diverse communities enhances the residents clinical training and prepares them for a broad range of patient care challenges. For more information on their community service projects, see Section 4.

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 33 nursing students in clinical and leadership experiences in most clinic areas for a total of 4,752 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 31 preceptorship rotations for medical students (nurse practitioners and physician assistants) with 6,716 completed hours.
- Scripps Clinic Medical Group processed 153 rotations with 19,030 completed hours.

Other Health Professional Education

- Scripps Medical Foundation supported clinical instruction and practice affiliations for 199 allied health (non-nursing students) with a total of 32,325 preceptorship hours. This accomplishment underscores Scripps Medical Foundation commitment to advancing healthcare education and fostering the development of future allied health professionals.

Health Research Highlights, FY24

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 research is a critical to our mission of providing the best care to patients, with many promising new treatments beginning in clinical trials. Clinical and community research plays a vital role in improving the community's overall health by developing new and innovative treatments. See Section 4, Health Research Section for a detail of Scripps research programs.

Scripps Medical Foundation

2025 Community Benefit Plan, Fiscal Year 2025

The previous section highlighted Scripps Medical Foundation accomplishments for Fiscal Year 2024. This section highlights the overall community benefit goals and objectives and strategies to support community health during Fiscal Year 2025 (October 2024 to September 2025).

Fiscal Year 2025 Community Benefit Goals & Objectives

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

Access to Care (Community Outreach)

- Provide financial assistance for uninsured or underinsured patients needing health care.
- Increase understanding of hip and knee orthopedic surgery.
- Enhance access to breast health screenings for timely care.
- Support patients in need through the Medication Patient Financial Assistance Program.
- Apply a health equity lens to breast cancer, diabetes, and hypertension initiatives.
- Provide education and support for chronic disease management.
- Offer integrated primary and HIV care, including education, testing, and PrEP.
- Continue Medicare Wellness Visits to close care gaps and address chronic conditions.
- Facilitate remote blood draws for patients with access challenges.
- Partner with primary care to promote lung cancer awareness and screening for high-risk patients.
- Provide Virtual Advance Care Planning (ACP) services, including outreach, expert-led conversations, and document preparation.

Diabetes Support Services

- Offer specialized support and education for diabetes self-management, including tailored care for women with gestational, Type 1, and Type 2 diabetes.

Health Professional Education

- Continue Scripps Medical Foundation's preceptorship opportunities for clinical and non-clinical students.

Section 10

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. The commitment to community health has been further reinforced through initiatives aimed at underserved populations, addressing health care disparities and empowering patients through technology.

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, health professional education, 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

2025 Community Benefit Report, Fiscal Year 2024

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 2024 (October 2023 to September 2024).

Community Benefit Contribution

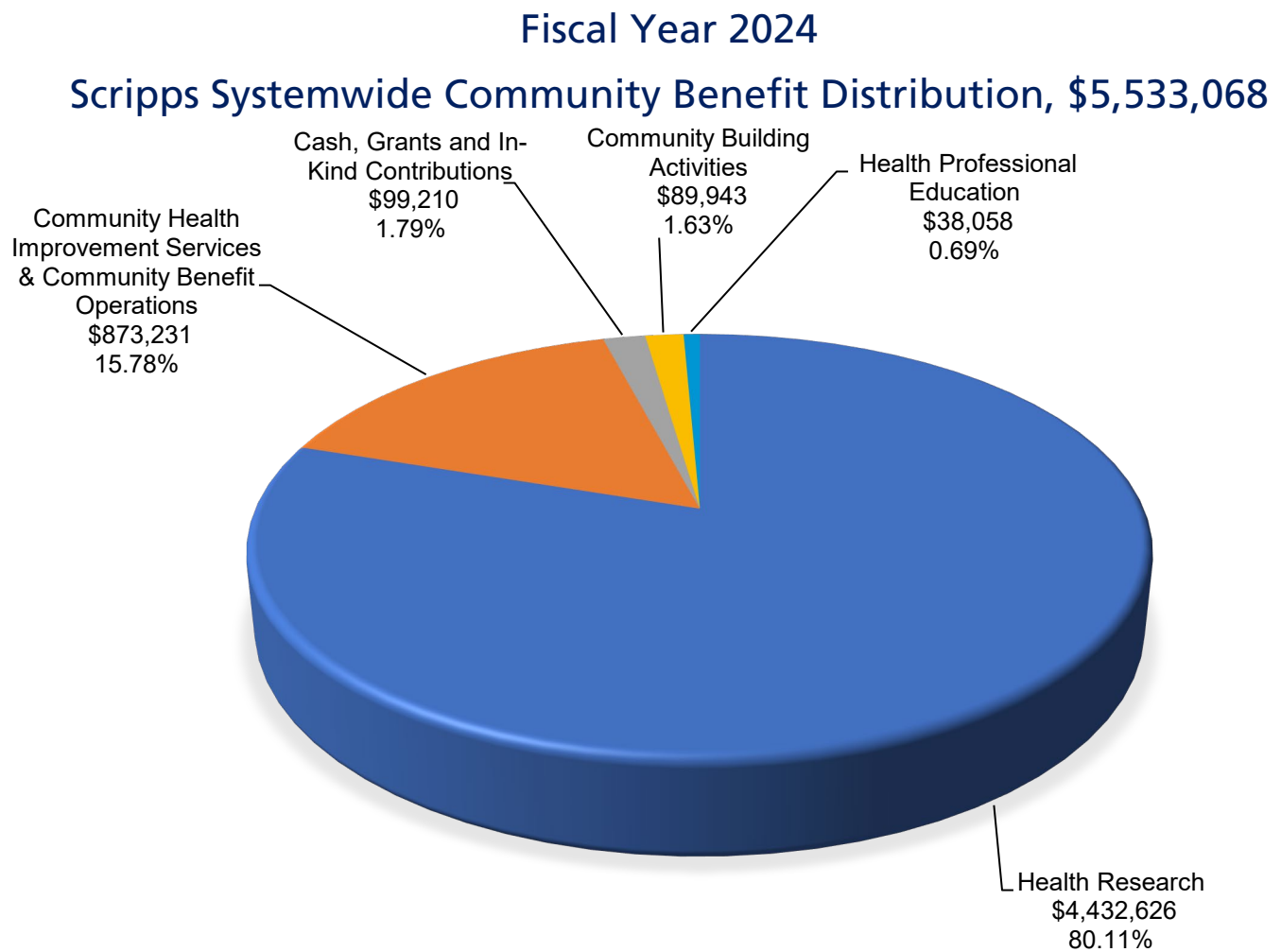
During Fiscal Year 2024, Scripps Systemwide programs devoted **\$5,533,068** to community benefit services. The programs offered by Scripps Systemwide emphasize community-based prevention efforts and use effective approaches to reach residents at greater risk for health problems.

Community Benefit Services Highlights

Community Benefit Services	
Cash, Grants and In-Kind Contributions	\$99,210
Community Building Activities	\$89,943
Community Health Improvement Services & Community Benefit Operations	\$873,231
Health Professional Education	\$38,058
Health Research	\$4,432,626
Total Community Benefit Financial Contribution	\$5,533,068

Refer to Figure 10.1 presented on the following page for a graphic representation of Fiscal Year 2024.

Figure 10.1



Community Benefit Services

Community Benefit Services are programs and services designed to improve health in communities. IRS Form 990, Schedule H instructions define community benefit as activities or programs that respond to community health needs and seek to achieve one or more of the following objectives: improving access to health services, enabling low-income individuals to afford health care, enhancing public health, advancing generalizable knowledge, educating healthcare professionals, and relieving the government's burden to improve health. While Medicare Shortfall, Bad Debt, and Community Building Activities are reportable under Schedule H guidelines, they are excluded from the community benefit totals. However, Scripps includes these in our overall community benefit calculations in the report.

FY24 Scripps Sytemwide Community Benefit Services Summary List

Community Health Improvement Services & Community Benefit Operations

Community Benefit Categories	Person Served	Staff Hours	Volunteer Hours	Financial Support*
Community Health Education	15,271	3,509	-	\$54,881
Community-Based Clinical Services	3,587	1,011	574	-
Health Care Support Services	13,012	8,897	-	\$463,751
Social and Environmental Activities	-	75	-	\$6,288
Community Benefit Operations	-	-	-	\$348,311
Total FY 2024 Community Benefit Health Improvement Services	31,870	13,492	574	\$873,231

Health Professional Education

Community Benefit Categories	Person Served	Staff Hours	Volunteer Hours	Financial Support*
Physicians/Medical Students	4,500	-	-	-
Nurses/Nursing Students/Allied Health	-	252	-	\$23,305
Other Health Professions Education	652	318	-	\$14,754
Total FY 2024 Health Professional Education	5,152	570	-	\$38,059

Cash, Grants, and In-Kind Contributions

Community Benefit Categories	Person Served	Staff Hours	Volunteer Hours	Financial Support*
Cash Donations	-	-	-	\$23,500
Grants	3,823	80	-	\$75,710
Totals FY 2024 Cash, Grants, and In-Kind Contributions	3,823	80	-	\$99,210

Health Research

Community Benefit Categories	Person Served	Staff Hours	Volunteer Hours	Financial Support*
Clinical Research	199	150,306	-	\$4,432,625
Community Health Research	1,280	-	-	-
Total FY 2024 Health Research	1,479	150,306	-	\$4,432,625

Community Building Activities**

Community Benefit Categories	Person Served	Staff Hours	Volunteer Hours	Financial Support*
Economic Development	-	300	-	\$31,443
Community Support	2,669	1,006	-	\$13,000
Leadership Development & Leadership Training for Community Members	-	-	-	\$35,000
Workforce Development	159	2,895	-	\$10,500
Totals FY 2024 Community Building Activities	2,828	4,201	-	\$89,943
Totals FY 2024 Scripps Systemwide	45,152	168,649	574	\$5,533,068

* "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.

**Medicare Shortfall, Bad Debt, and Community Building Activities are reportable under IRS instructions but are excluded from the community benefit totals in Form 990, Schedule H. However, Scripps includes these categories in our overall community benefit calculations within the report.

Community Health Improvement Services & Community Benefit Operations Highlights, FY24

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.

Scripps Community Benefit Operations cover both direct and indirect costs, including staff, community health needs assessments, planning, tracking, reporting, and evaluation. This also includes staff costs for managing community benefit activities and overseeing programs not covered elsewhere. Scripps Health Administrative Services (SHAS) handles costs related to developing the community benefit plan and report, conducting needs assessments, creating implementation strategies, and producing annual progress reports. Additionally, expenses for the Community Benefit Inventory for Social Accountability (CBISA) by Lyon Software are included to support program operations.

During Fiscal Year 2024, Scripps Systemwide invested in Community Health Improvement Services and Community Benefit Operations, with notable achievements outlined by IRS categories and detailed further in Section 4.

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 \$4.6 million dollars since the inception of the Community Benefit Fund.

Miracle Babies. Scripps partners with Miracle Babies to refer expectant and postpartum mothers, ensuring they receive crucial support and resources for their well-being during and after pregnancy.

Scripps Partnership with San Ysidro Perinatology Services. Scripps collaborated with San Ysidro Perinatology Services, actively educating and supporting 419 patients in FY24. 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 Institute - Education and Community Programs

- 2,150: Project Dulce Community Clinic Visits
- 101: Visits made by Dule Digital
- 160: People enrolled in the diabetes prevention program
- 429: 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 357 encounters.

The Mobile Health and Resource Fair. The Scripps Whittier Institute collaborated with the Mobile Health and Resource Fair in Southeast San Diego, reaching over 790 individuals with education and services focused on breast cancer prevention, early detection, and cardiovascular health. The health fair serves the underserved communities and promote preventive care and engages the community to better understand their unique challenges and identify effective ways to meet their healthcare needs.

Health Screenings and Services:

- 228 A1c tests
- 1,473 blood sugar screenings
- 521 cholesterol checks
- 483 breast cancer education sessions
- 1,352 blood pressure checks
- 41 vaccines
- 73 breast exams

Impact and Reach:

- Reached over 793 underserved and high-risk individuals, who completed needs assessment surveys (data from October 2023 to March 2024).
- 21% increase in completed health surveys compared to FY23 (average of 28 surveys per month).
- Median participant age: 61 years
- Gender distribution: 20.3% male, 77.5% female
- Most commonly served ethnic groups: 29% Black/African American and 29% Hispanic/Latino

Follow-Up Programs:

- Individuals screening positive for diabetes or cardiometabolic diseases are enrolled in Dulce Digital, a 6-month text-based education program available in English, Spanish, Tagalog, Arabic, and Vietnamese.
- Referrals made to Live Fit, a healthy living education program with live and virtual options that include physical activity sessions.

Cognitive Health Screenings have been administered to over 150 community members attending the monthly mobile health fair using a validated tool to assess cognitive decline in under-insured minorities.

Stroke Gold Quality Achievement Award. For the sixth consecutive year, all five Scripps hospitals earned the Stroke Gold Quality Achievement Award for 2024, 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 five stroke presentations, educating 372 individuals, and actively participated in four stroke risk assessment events, screening 133 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.

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 \$555,000 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 Center Registry. 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 Heredity and Cancer Gene Counseling Program¹⁹ served over 4,043 individuals.

Scripps Cancer Center Lung Screening and Survivorship Program²⁰. 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 Nurse Navigation Program¹⁷. 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. Thirteen Intake Nurse Navigators navigated 5,427 patients.

Scripps Cancer Center Outpatient Social Worker and Liaison Program¹⁸. 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. Four oncology social workers assisted 1,963 patients. This program started a new men's cancer support group.

Scripps Cancer Center delivered free chemo comfort bags³⁹. Scripps Cancer Center distributed chemo comfort bags to 409 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 161 individuals through various support offerings.

Scripps Cancer Center Patient Resource Library. The Scripps Cancer Center Oncology Patient Resource Library assisted 113 patients and their families in comprehending their diagnoses and accessing a range of educational programs and patient information.

Scripps Cancer Center 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.

Scripps Cancer Center Restorative Yoga and Sound Therapy Classes for Cancer Survivors and Caregivers enrolled 917 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 32 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 4 individuals, offering therapeutic exercises aimed at alleviating swelling and pain associated with lymphedema.

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 FY24, Eric Paredes screened 3,499 out of 5,474 registered students from six middle/high schools, identifying 43 with cardiac abnormalities requiring follow-up (1.2%), and of those 18 serious enough to cause sudden cardiac arrest (5%). All identified cases were referred to their physicians and advised to include ECG (electrocardiogram) in their medical records. Approximately 5,400 youth and parents received CPR and AED training. Scripps employees collectively donated nearly 583²³ hours across the series of screening events, including physicians, nurses, techs, analysts, and other staff.

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 127 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 6,941 patients in Fiscal Year 2024. Following these screenings, PRS submitted 3,656 Medi-Cal applications and 556 CalFresh applications to the County.

Facilitating Access to Coordinated Transportation (FACT) Inc . Scripps collaborated with Facilitating Access to Coordinated Transportation (FACT) Inc. for on-demand patient transportation, resulting in 6,134 rides since January 2020 through June 2024. These services cover multiple locations, including San Diego, Imperial, Riverside, and Los Angeles Counties. For the time period July 2023 through Jun 2024 FACT provided 3,122 rides across the following Scripps locations:

- Advanced Care Clinic: 2,788
- Scripps Encinitas: 32
- Scripps Green: 31
- Scripps Mercy: 69
- Scripps Prebys Cancer Center: 50
- Vista Radiation Oncology: 152

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.

Disaster Preparedness Exposition. Scripps hosts an annual Disaster Preparedness Exposition 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.

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.

Violence Against Health Care Workers Taskforce. Workplace violence incidents have been steadily rising across healthcare facilities for several years. Under the leadership of Scripps Health CEO and the San Diego County District Attorney, a regional Hospital Violence Task Force has been established to address these issues through local action and legislative advocacy. The Task Force includes 20 health systems and

law enforcement agencies in the county. These comprehensive efforts aim to create a safer and more secure environment for healthcare workers while advocating for broader systemic changes to address workplace violence. Efforts to support healthcare workers and reduce violent incidents have included:

- **De-escalation Training:** Scripps provided de-escalation courses, with 3,822 employees completing the course by mid-2024.
- **Reduction in Workplace Violence Injuries:** Due to Scripps relentless efforts and proactive measures, there was a reduction of 28 workplace violence injuries compared to FY23.
- **Strengthened Hospital-Law Enforcement Collaboration:** Continued liaisons between hospitals and law enforcement agencies and regular rounding (tours) through hospitals by law enforcement to increase their understanding of the environment where hospital staff members work.
- **Enhanced Training Programs:** Improved training for both hospital staff and law enforcement officers to better equip them to manage and prevent workplace violence.
- **Incident Tracking System:** Development of a new tracking system for hospital workforce violence cases to better understand the volume and nature of these incidents.
- **Policy Updates:** Coordination and updates to policies and procedures related to hospital violence to ensure consistent and effective response measures.
- **Legislative Advocacy:** Ongoing discussions on potential legislation and regulations that could help deter assaults in hospitals and support healthcare workers safety.
- **Internal Resources:** Scripps created an internal webpage, "Workplace Violence: Your Rights and Protection," offering a step-by-step guide for employees or physicians who are victims of workplace violence. This includes guidance from reporting an incident to the criminal conviction of the perpetrator. Employees can also enroll in various online modules and instructor-led classes on security and employee safety.

Health Professional Education Highlights, FY24

Quality health care is highly dependent upon health education systems. 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. Each year, Scripps Systemwide advances health care services through health professional education programs 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 documented in health professional education²⁸ programs during Fiscal Year 2024. This section highlights some of Scripps Systemwide health professional education activities.

Health Professional 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.
- **Scripps Cancer Center hosted several GME Oncology events**, including the Clinical Hematology & Oncology Conference, Oncology Care Symposium, Melanoma Conference, Oncology Update Conferences, and an Oncology Lectureship Series.
- **Eric Paredes Save A Life Foundation: Prescription For Prevention.** Scripps continues to refer Scripps providers to the Eric Paredes Save A Life Foundation's "Prescription For Prevention" cardiac risk assessment in youth continuing medical education, which offers credits for Sudden Cardiac Arrest prevention learning in primary care. The course has now been endorsed by the California Chapter of the American College of Cardiology. More than 1,000 providers have participated, with 99% rating the module good, very good or excellent. Practitioners significantly improved their knowledge, with post-quiz scores averaging 94%, and up to 87% of practitioners noting they will implement something new they learned into their practice.

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.
- **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 Professional Education

- **Ancillary Students** (non-nursing students). Scripps supported clinical instruction and practice affiliations for 7 allied health students **with a total of 840** preceptorship hours.
- Scripps offers a convenient way to access discounted rates and scholarships for various learning opportunities by **partnering with 12 academic program partnerships to** help foster the next generation of healthcare professionals. Each partner institution provides its own unique tuition rates and scholarship options.
- **Scripps has 70 affiliation agreements for clinical placement** with schools, colleges, and universities to provide educational opportunities, internships, and collaborative programs, fostering the next generation of healthcare professionals.
- **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 through webinars and specialized programs. These initiatives enhance knowledge and skills in delivering high-quality diabetes care locally and nationally. In FY24, the team conducted four webinars, four training programs (including the Project Dulce curriculum), and one professional CME training, serving 431 participants.

Health Research Highlights, FY24

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 research is a critical to our mission of providing the best care to patients, with many promising new treatments beginning in clinical trials. Clinical and community research plays a vital role in improving the community's overall health by developing new and innovative treatments. Scripps Systemwide programs invested in health research programs during Fiscal Year 2024. (See Section 4, for a detail of Scripps research programs.

Scripps Collaborative for Healthcare Equity (SCHE) achieved important milestones in its third 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 \$72,200 across 8 research projects ranging from cardiovascular care, health and wellness, liver disease, diabetes care among the Filipino population, and research support focused on women and multicultural populations.
- Implemented a wide variety of services to support culturally and linguistically appropriate resources and support for patients and community members. Over 10,000 participants from the community participated in these programs.
- Provided post-discharge support for more than 1,300 patients recovering from conditions such as Acute Myocardial Infarction (AMI), Coronary Artery Bypass Grafting (CABG), Congestive Heart Failure (CHF), and stroke as well as an additional population screened at risk for two or more Social Determinants of Health (SDOH) risk factors.
- Offered youth pipeline programs for 2,569 youth to supporting building a diverse health care workforce.
- Launched a second Annual Research Symposium with over 85 participants attending. The symposium showcased innovative health disparities research being conducted by clinicians, research scientists, and trainees throughout Scripps. The symposium is a partnership between Scripps Health Research and SCHE made possible through funding by the Krueger-Wyeth award. Among the presentations:
 - Everything is Pulse-able: Getting to the heart of Your Wellness
 - Racial Disparities in the Receipt of Liver Transplantation among Black Patients with Hepatocellular Carcinoma: A Systemic Review
 - Allostatic Load in Takotsubo Cardiomyopathy

- Improving Cardiometabolic Health-Related Outcomes in Filipino Americans
- Health Equity Information Center – Performance & Analytics
- Racial/Ethnic disparities in Quality of Life Among Breast Cancer Survivors

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.

Scripps Whittier Research and Development Programs engaged 1,473 active participants and engaged in 16 studies and projects. The team successfully developed 7 manuscripts, delivered 8 presentations, and had 7 principal investigators leading various endeavors.

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.

Hospital Digital Programs: Continuous Glucose Monitoring Study. With a longstanding commitment to addressing health disparities, the Whittier Diabetes Institute is currently evaluating Continuous Glucose Monitoring use in hospitalized Hispanic individuals with type 2 diabetes and delivering culturally and linguistically tailored digital diabetes education for Hispanic, Filipino, and Arab American populations.

Advancing Health Equity Through Culturally Tailored Diabetes Interventions. Scripps Whittier Diabetes Institute is conducting studies to improve the health of at-risk underrepresented communities. This program tests the effectiveness of real time digital feedback to people with diabetes by using health technology via text messages tailored to support patients with managing Type 2 diabetes. Prompts range from healthy eating habits; physical activity reminders and behavior change management. The following are recruitment numbers to date.

- 34 Dulce Digital Filipino Americans
- 2 Dulce Digital Arab Americans - Recruitment has been on hold as the Whittier coordinates logistics with an external community partner.
- 60 Dulce Digital 2.0 Hispanic Communities
- 297 CyberGems – Continuous Glucose Monitoring
- 207 participants in the ACT1VATE study

Recruitment goals for these studies are:

1. 50 Dulce Digital Filipino Americans (from FQHC community partners and Scripps registry - EPIC)
2. 50 Dulce Digital Arab Americans (from FQHC community partners)
3. 150 Dulce Digital 2.0 Hispanic Communities
4. 550 CyberGems (from Scripps registry - EPIC)
5. 250 participants in the ACT1VATE study (from Scripps registry - EPIC)

Cash, Grant & In-Kind Contributions Highlights, FY24

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

American Heart Association Go Red for Women Luncheon. Scripps sponsored the Go Red for Women Luncheon. Go Red for Women is the American Heart Association's national movement to end heart disease and stroke in women.

The Ministry of Jerusalem - Emergency Meals and Water. Scripps maintains an emergency supply of meals and water, replenishing it regularly and donating the previously stocked items. In FY24, Scripps donated 750 cases of water valued at \$18,000 to the Ministry of Jerusalem, a local charity associated with the San Diego Food Bank.

Father Joe's Villages - The Pay it Forward Sock Drive. Spirit Week 2024 marked the second consecutive year for The Pay it Forward Sock Drive which helps the homeless in our community such as Father Joe's Villages. Scripps gathered 3,823 pairs of socks (a 35% increase from last year) valued at \$5,862 from employees, physicians, and volunteers across Scripps locations. These contributions benefitted the homeless community through various organizations, with employees dedicating 80 hours of working time to this effort.

The San Diego LGBT Community Center. Scripps sponsored the San Diego LGBT community center, which is one of the nation's largest and most active LGBT community centers. The Center employs over 70 staff members and engages more than 800 community volunteers. Their mission encompasses enhancing and sustaining LGBT health and human rights, providing a range of programs and services to the diverse San Diego LGBT community, including individuals of various demographics and those living with HIV. Through its events, activities, advocacy, and direct service visits, the center significantly impacts the lives of thousands.

San Diego Public Library. Scripps donated 31 boxes of books, valued at \$310, to the Friends of the San Diego Public Library.

Turkey Giveaway and Health Resource Fair. Scripps sponsored this event hosted by Assemblymember Dr. Akilah Weber's office. The event aimed to distribute 1,000 turkeys, along with produce and sides purchased from the San Diego Food Bank and Feeding San Diego, to provide complete Thanksgiving meals to the community.

Scripps Health Donated Equipment to the City of Hope. The MALDI Microflex instrument, which identifies bacteria and yeast, was donated to City of Hope with a fair market value of \$50,000.

Scripps Health Donated Ophthalmology Equipment to La Maestra Family Clinic. This equipment is used to measure the intraocular pressure of eyes.

Scripps Health Donated a Decorative Ceramic Turtle Statue to Kumeyaay Elementary School for their garden.

Community Building Activities Highlights, FY24

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

Community Boards and Business Organizations. 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

San Diego LGBT Pride Parade. Scripps sponsored the annual Pride Parade. Scripps was well represented at San Diego Pride Parade led by the LGBTQ+ employee Affinity Group. Employees participated in the parade and 5k walk presented by Front Runners & Walkers San Diego.

LGBTQ+ Victory Institute. Scripps sponsored the LGBTQ+ Victory Institute fundraising event “champagne brunch fundraiser.” The LGBTQ+ Victory Institute works to achieve and sustain equality through leadership development, trainings, research and convenings.

The Chicano Federation “Unity Luncheon” and “Cesar Chavez Day of Service.” Scripps sponsored the Unity Luncheon. The Chicano Federation of San Diego County is a nonprofit, community-based organization that offers a range of family, childcare, housing, community development and advocacy.

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 2024, 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. This program served 200 individuals in FY24.

San Diego County and State of California Advisory Groups. Scripps participated in this advisory group 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.

Hospital Incident Command System National Advisory Committee (HICS). 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 hosted a course which was opened to the community and 39 people attended.

San Diego Healthcare Coalition Advisory Committee (SDHDC). Scripps Health actively collaborates with SDHDC to improve emergency preparedness and response planning. In FY24, a total of 230 people attended.

San Diego Operational Area Full-Scale Exercise Scripps participated in the Operational Area 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. In FY24, a total of 850 people participated.

San Diego County Coalition Surge Test No Notice Exercise. Scripps participated in the County Coalition Surge Test No Notice Exercise, a drill simulating an active shooter scenario involving approximately 100 patients, predominantly pediatric cases. In FY24, a total of 200 people participated.

San Diego Regional Full-Scale Exercise. Scripps participated in the San Diego Regional Full-Scale Exercise. All hospitals participated, tested, and evaluated the capabilities of the command center and the response plan for patient surge and evacuation.

Workforce Development

Mana de San Diego (MANASD). Scripps sponsored MANASD, the largest chapter of a national Latina organization founded in 1986. MANASD's mission is to empower Latinas for upward mobility and a better quality of life. This sisterhood supports Latinas through education, leadership development, community service, and advocacy. Programs like the Hermanitas initiative for middle and high school students and the Latina Success Leadership Program for mid-level professionals help Latinas at all stages of life.

University City High School Exploration Program. Scripps partners with the University City High School Exploration Program to provide opportunities for students to learn about careers in healthcare. Two events were held. The first event was an ED/Trauma tour and second was a biomed panel presentation to the students. These events hosted a total of 134 students and Scripps staff contributed a total of 20 hours to the events.

North County African American Women's Association (NCAAWA). Scripps sponsored a fundraiser for NCAAWA. Support provided scholarship funds for girls and women of African American descent. The program has helped hundreds of women receive career, vocational and technical education, in addition to life skills and health awareness. NCAAWA has been assisting women reentering the workforce and graduating seniors to achieve their educational goals through fundraising efforts.

High School Exploration Internship Program. Scripps Health initiated the High School Exploration Internship Program to inspire young individuals to pursue careers in healthcare fields facing a shortage of skilled professionals. Twenty-five students participated, gaining exposure to various hospital departments, including the emergency room and surgery, while exploring different healthcare career paths and learning about health and healing. In total, Scripps dedicated 2,875 hours to the program, with each student spending 115 hours with a Scripps host.

San Diego Organization of Healthcare Leaders (SOHL). Scripps sponsored the 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 49,000 healthcare executives.

Other Community Benefits Highlights, FY24

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.

Helping Our Peers in Emergencies (HOPE) Fund. The Helping Our Peers in Emergencies (HOPE) Fund at Scripps provided meaningful support to employees in need during FY24. Out of 91 requests, 47 were approved, distributing a total of \$83,510 in financial aid. Additionally, 13 employees benefited from 727.3 hours of PTO.

Scripps Rapid Crisis Response. This fiscal year also highlighted Scripps rapid crisis response, especially following a January flooding emergency that displaced over 1,200 people countywide. Within the first day, the Scripps Employee Assistance Program (EAP) team and Work-Life Services mobilized, connecting nine affected employees with local resources like the Red Cross. Five of these employees received \$500 grants immediately to cover urgent needs, followed by an additional \$1,500 each within a week to support their recovery. In total, \$10,000 was allocated to aid employees affected by this natural disaster, underscoring the fund's role in aligning with Scripps' core values and commitment to employee support during crises.

Scripps Food Drives. Led by Work-Life Services, hundreds of staff have donated food, gift cards, and funds through payroll deductions—and volunteered to sort and distribute. Each drive, our culinary services team secures large donations from vendors. To date, we have done seven drives, delivering 43,000+ pounds of food to 903 colleagues and nearly 3,700 family members.

Fostering Volunteerism Highlights, FY24

In addition to the financial community benefit contributions made during Fiscal Year 2024, Scripps Health Administrative Services (SHAS) employees and affiliated physicians donated a portion of their personal time volunteering to support Scripps sponsored community benefit programs. With close to 583 hours, the estimated dollar value of this volunteer labor is \$38,305.14²⁷, which is not included in the Scripps Fiscal Year 2024 community benefit programs and services totals.

Scripps Systemwide Programs

2025 Community Benefit Plan, Fiscal Year 2025

The previous section highlighted Scripps Systemwide program accomplishments for Fiscal Year 2024. This section highlights the overall community benefit goals and objectives to support community health during Fiscal Year 2025 (October 2024 to September 2025).

Fiscal Year 2025 Community Benefit Goals & Objectives

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

Access to Care (Community Outreach)

- Enhance healthcare access for underserved communities through direct programs and partnerships with community organizations, including financial assistance, education, counseling, and interpretation services as needed.

Cancer Support Services

- Educate on cancer prevention and early detection; offer support groups and community resources for various cancer types; actively support cancer awareness events.

Cardiovascular Disease and Stroke

- Partner with local organizations to deliver cardiac and stroke education and prevention programs to address risk factors.

Diabetes Support Services

- Offer culturally sensitive diabetes education and support to underserved populations, using both in-person and virtual programs to promote prevention and awareness.
- Address socioeconomic and linguistic barriers and facilitate referrals to local community resources when needed.
- Use multidisciplinary healthcare teams to provide comprehensive diabetes care and ensure access to self-management education through professional and community resources.

Emergency And Disaster Preparedness

- Collaborate with health systems and first responders to ensure regional readiness and provide emergency care during disasters.

School Partnerships

- Continue to align Scripps Talent Development Services programs with the organization's workforce development strategy.
- Promote healthcare as a rewarding career choice to students through continued partnerships with high schools, colleges, and universities which brings students to hospital and clinical settings.
- Strategically continue to work with the San Diego Nursing & Allied Health Service Education Consortium in partnership with local school programs that support Scripps's talent pipeline.
- Continue to oversee new requests for affiliation agreements with a focus on establishing agreements that support Scripps talent pipeline.
- Continue to expand visibility of our academic program partners who offer discounted rates and/or program scholarships on a variety of learning opportunities, by providing information to employees during workforce development month.

Diabetes Professional Education

- Expand diabetes education for healthcare providers nationwide through Scripps Whittier, promoting equitable research and training community health workers to implement Project Dulce.

Diabetes Training and Research

- Partner with San Ysidro Health to adapt diabetes programs for Filipino and Arab American communities.

Health Equity Education and Research

- Enhance data collection on REaL and SOGI, implement social drivers of health (SDOH) screenings, and develop interventions to address health disparities in heart failure, breast cancer, and patient experience.
- Advance 2025 health equity initiatives and related efforts in accordance with resource availability.

Section 11

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.

Broader Community – Groups or communities not specifically identified as vulnerable populations. This may include groups or communities where vulnerable populations cannot be identified or the activity is not specifically directed towards vulnerable populations.

California Department of Health Care Access and Information (HCAI) – The agency that manages community benefit reporting at the state level. In 1996, HCAI (then named the Office of Statewide Health Planning and Development) began collecting and reviewing CHNAs and community benefit plans.

Cash and In-Kind Contributions – In-kind contributions are donations of items or services. In-kind contributions for community benefit include the cost of staff hours donated by the organization to the community while on the organization's payroll, indirect cost of space donated to tax-exempt community groups, and the financial value of donated food, equipment, and supplies. Cash contributions should not include donations made by employees; loans, advances or contributions to the capital of another organization; or unrestricted gifts to another organization that are not to be used to provide community benefit. Examples: donations of clothing, shoes, hygiene products to people experiencing homelessness in the community; cash donations and grant funds awarded to community organizations that support hospital health priorities; hospital midwives' time to support a prenatal clinic for vulnerable pregnant people; staff time for participation in conferences, collaboratives, or other partnership meetings related to the hospital's health priorities.

Charity Care (Financial Assistance at Cost) – 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 – Community benefit operations are activities associated with community health needs assessments (CHNAs), community benefit program administration, and the organization's activities associated with fundraising or grant-writing for the organization's 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.

Examples: Community benefit consultants: consultants and operations to support the CHNA process; staff salaries, benefits, and expenses; other administrative staff and support; software subscriptions.

Community Building Activities – Community-building activities protect or improve the community's health or safety and cannot be reported on Schedule H as a community benefit under Part I. Beginning with the 2011 Schedule H, the IRS clearly indicated that some community-building activities may also meet the definition of community benefit. Activities that demonstrate evidence-based results in improving health better meet the definition of community benefit.

Community-building activities help build the capacity of the community to address health needs and often address the "upstream" factors and social determinants that impact health such as education, air quality, and access to nutritious food. It should be noted that the financial reporting of community-building activities may be embedded under community health improvement. The following are examples:

- 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 Improvement Services – Activities or programs, subsidized by the hospital, carried out or supported for the express purpose of improving community health. Such services don't generate inpatient or outpatient revenue, although there may be a nominal patient fee or sliding scale fee for these services. Community health improvement examples. Hospital community wellness program providing free diabetes screenings and health and wellness education; hospital breastfeeding program that provides access to lactation consultants, nurse training, and patient education; providing mental health education to hospital partners and community organizations; screening older adults for cognitive, behavioral, and psychosocial issues.

Community Health Needs – Refers to non-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 Needs Assessment Report (CHNA) – The written report adopted for the hospital facility by an authorized body of the hospital facility.

Cost Accounting – Accounting for Community Benefit Expenses are reported in terms of cost and in compliance with Schedule H instructions. Community benefit expenses are the expenses actually borne by the hospital organization, NOT charges, market value, or opportunity costs. 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 Professional Education – Refers to educational programs that result in a degree, a certificate, or training necessary to be licensed to practice as a health professional, as required by state law, or continuing education necessary to retain state license or certification by a board in the individual's health profession specialty. 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 education costs. It doesn't include education or training programs available exclusively to the organization's employees and medical staff or scholarships provided to those individuals. It does include education programs if the primary purpose of such programs is to educate health professionals in the broader community. Calculations based on total program expense. Costs for medical residents and interns can be included, even if they are considered "employees" for purposes of Form W-2, Wage and Tax Statement.

Examples: Medical residency programs; continuing medical education lectures and training for physicians, physical therapists, ultrasound technicians, social workers, paramedics, dietary technicians, and other health care professionals; nursing clinical experience; registered nurse preceptorship programs.

Health Research – Refers to any study or investigation the goal of which is to generate increased generalizable knowledge made available to the public. "Research" does not mean direct or indirect costs of research funded by an individual or an organization that isn't a tax-exempt or government entity. For example, research can include behavioral or sociological studies related to health, delivery of care, or prevention, or studies related to changes in the health care delivery system.

Examples: Clinical, epidemiological, and health care services and delivery research conducted by hospital research department.

Hospital – As defined in Health and Safety Code section 127345 (g).

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.”

Hospital System – Refers to two or more hospitals licensed under subdivision (a), (b), or (f) of Health and Safety Code section 1250 that are owned, sponsored, or managed by the same organization.

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 – In-kind contributions include the cost of staff hours donated by the organization to the community, indirect cost of space donated to tax-exempt community groups (such as for community health-related meetings), and the financial value (generally measured at cost) of donated food, equipment, and supplies. 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.

Medi-Cal Shortfall – Hospitals report an estimate of the difference between what they receive from Medi-Cal for patient services and the cost of providing these services to patients covered by Medi-Cal. The difference is referred to as Medi-Cal shortfall.

Medicare Shortfall – Hospitals report an estimate of the difference between what they receive from Medicare for patient services and the cost of providing these services to patients covered by Medicare. Unpaid cost of Medicare is calculated using Scripps cost accounting system. In IRS Form 990, Schedule H, the Medicare cost report is used.

Net Community Benefit Expense – Refers to a hospital’s total expenses less direct offsetting revenue for the purpose of administering community benefit programs and activities. This definition aligns with the IRS Instructions for Schedule H (Form 990) and is the value to be reported by hospitals on activities listed on the Community Benefits Report table.

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.

Other Community Benefits – Programs that are exclusive to employees and specific services within the community, and their expenses are not counted as community benefit expenses.

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.

Private Not-For-Profit – Refers to health facility licensee type of control as determined by California Department of Public Health to be a nonprofit corporation.

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. Accounting for Community Benefit Expenses are reported in terms of cost and in compliance with Schedule H instructions Community benefit expenses are the expenses actually borne by the hospital organization, NOT charges, market value, or opportunity costs.

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.

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 – [AB 1204](#) 2021 Leg., Reg. Sess. (Cal. 2021). AB 1204 defines “vulnerable populations” as 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. The definition also includes 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, as defined by an environmental California Healthy Place Index score of 50 percent or lower; people with disabilities; people identifying as lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender, or queer, and those individuals with limited English proficiency.

Appendix B – Community Benefit Criteria

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, restricted to individuals affiliated with the organization (employees and physicians of the organization). For further information, visit [CHAUSA Community Benefit What Counts](#).

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.

Appendix C – Scripps Uncompensated Care Methodology FY24

Scripps continues to contribute resources to provide low and no-cost health care services to populations in need. The costs of these services are not fully reimbursed. In fiscal year 2024, Scripps contributed **\$587,766,140** in total uncompensated health care:

- **\$17,768,458** in charity care
- **\$562,399,773** in Medi-Cal and Medicare shortfall
- **\$7,597,909** in bad debt

Schedule H Methodology

Bad debt and Medicare shortfalls are reportable under the Schedule H guidelines but are not reportable in the community benefit totals. Categories are reported in a specific hierarchy, with charity care and under-reimbursed Medi-Cal and Other Means-Tested Government Programs counted first.

Charity Care Methodology

Uncompensated costs are estimated by applying the hospital's ratio-of-cost-to-charge (RCC) percentage to gross charity adjustments. Charity Care is included in the Internal Revenue Service (IRS) Form 990 Schedule H Part I Line 7a. The following costs are excluded:

- Community health improvement services
- Professional education
- Health research
- Expenses excluded in the Medicare cost report

Medi-Cal Shortfall

The shortfall is derived by computing operating margin at the patient level and summarizing patients with, Medi-Cal, Medi-Cal HMO, and CMS primary insurance carriers. 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.

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 cost accounting system. The following costs are excluded: Charity adjustments at cost for Medi-Cal patients, community health services, professional education, health research, and expenses excluded in the Medicare cost report.

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. These costs are included in the IRS Form 990 Schedule H Part III Section B.

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 Syntellis Performance Solutions cost accounting system.

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 improvement services
- Professional education
- Health research
- 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 Syntellis Performance Solutions cost accounting system. These costs are included in the IRS Form 990 Schedule H Part III Section B.

Select Specialty Hospital - San Diego

Scripps has a 24.5% ownership percentage with [Select Specialty Hospital](#). Accordingly, Scripps reports amounts from Select Hospital in Form 990, Schedule H based on Scripps ownership percentage.

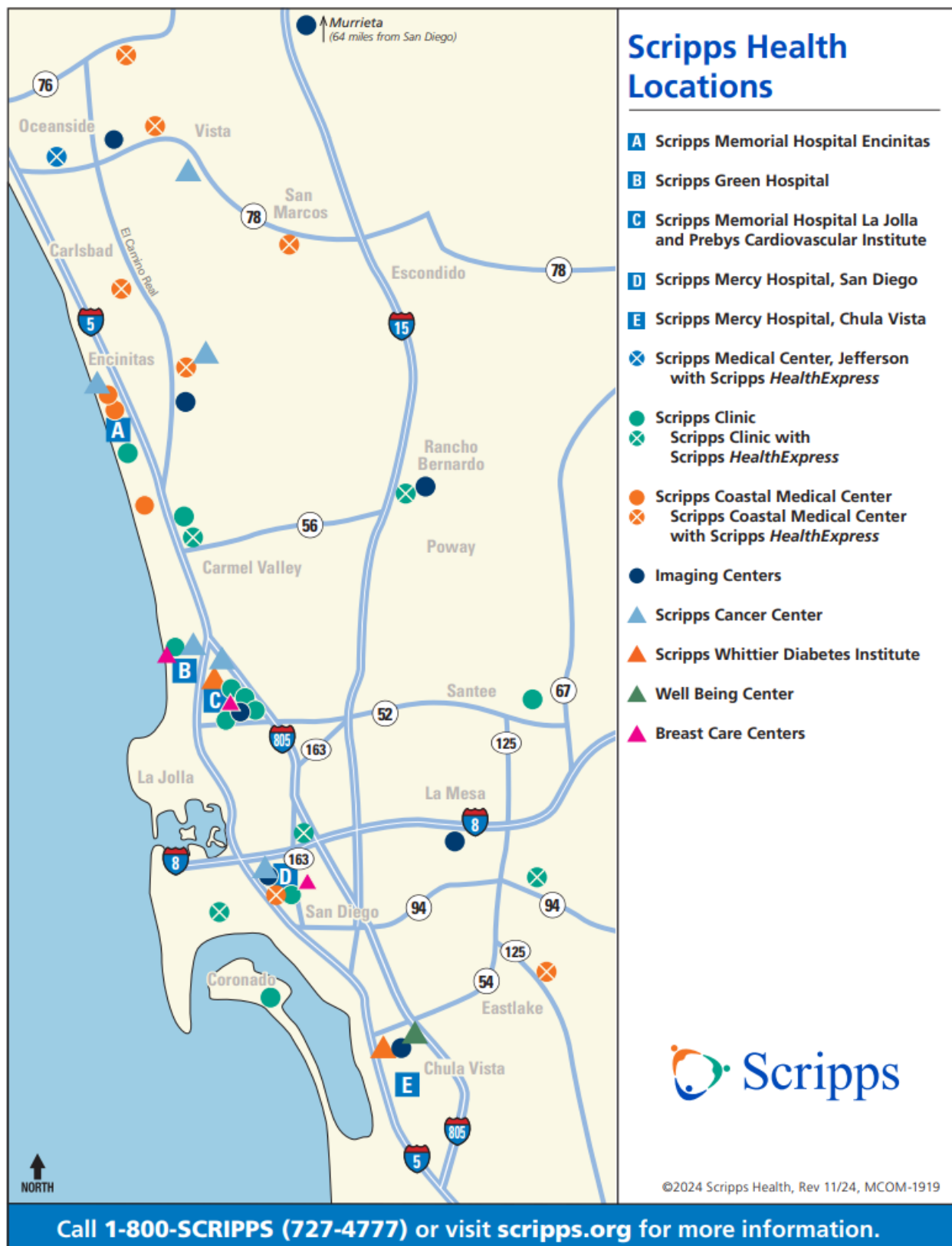
Hospital Provider Fee Program

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 December 2023, CMS approved the January 1, 2023, through December 31, 2024, Provider Fee Program VIII. 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 are included in provider fee expense in operating expenses.

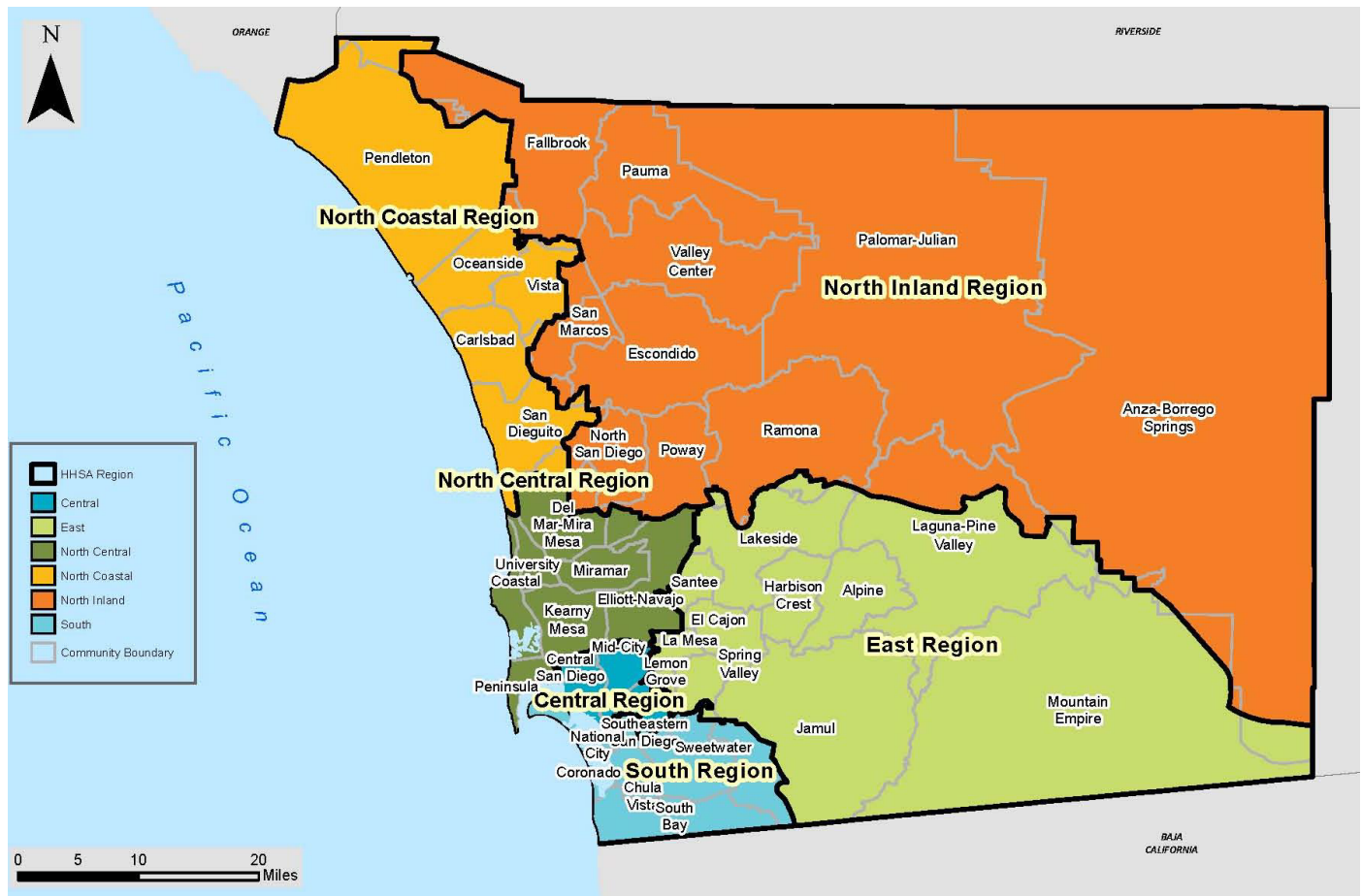
340 B Drug Pricing Program

Scripps Mercy Hospital in [San Diego](#) and [Chula Vista](#) participates in the 340B Drug Pricing Program as a designated disproportionate share hospital (DSH) through July 2024. The 340B Drug Pricing program allows a hospital to purchase outpatient drugs at reduced prices, enabling it to extend limited federal resources further, serve more eligible patients and offer more comprehensive services. The 340B Drug Pricing Program is a vital lifeline for safety-net providers such as those at Scripps Mercy Hospital who provide 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.

Appendix D – Scripps Health Locations



Appendix E – San Diego County HHSA 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 (HHSA) 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)⁴⁰ 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 including those with special knowledge of or expertise in public health.

- 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.

Community Served

A hospital facility may take into account all the relevant facts and circumstances in defining the community it serves. This includes:

- The geographic area served by the hospital facility,
- Target populations served, such as children, women, or the aged, and
- Principal functions, such as a focus on a particular specialty area or targeted disease.

However, a hospital facility may not define its community in a way that excludes medically underserved, low-income, or minority populations who live in the geographic areas from which it draws its patients (unless such populations are not part of the hospital facility's target population or affected by its principal functions) or otherwise should be included based on the method the hospital facility uses to define its community.

Medically underserved populations include populations experiencing health disparities or that are at risk of not receiving adequate medical care because of being uninsured or underinsured, or due to geographic, language, financial, or other barriers. Populations with language barriers include those with limited English proficiency. Medically underserved populations also include those living within a hospital facility's service area but not receiving adequate medical care from the facility because of cost, transportation difficulties, stigma, or other barriers.

Additionally, in determining its patient populations for purposes of defining its community, a hospital facility must take into account all patients without regard to whether (or how much) they or their insurers pay for the care received or whether they are eligible for assistance under the hospital facility's financial assistance policy.

If a hospital facility consists of multiple buildings that operate under a single state license and serve different geographic areas or populations, the community served by the hospital facility is the aggregate of these areas or populations.

If a hospital facility consists of multiple buildings that operate under a single state license and serve different geographic areas or populations, the community served by the hospital facility is the aggregate of these areas or populations.

Assessing Community Health Needs

To assess the health needs of its community, a hospital facility must identify the significant health needs of the community. It must also prioritize those health needs, as well as identify resources potentially available to address them. Resources can include organizations, facilities, and programs in the community, including those of the hospital facility, potentially available to address those health needs.

The health needs of a community include requisites for the improvement or maintenance of health status both in the community at large and in particular parts of the community, such as particular neighborhoods or populations experiencing health disparities. Needs may include, for example, the need to:

- Address financial and other barriers to accessing care,
- Prevent illness,
- Ensure adequate nutrition, or
- Address social, behavioral, and environmental factors that influence health in the community.

A hospital facility may determine whether a health need is significant based on all the facts and circumstances present in the community it serves. Additionally, a hospital facility may use any criteria to prioritize the significant health needs it identifies, including, but not limited to the:

- Burden, scope, severity, or urgency of the health need,
- Estimated feasibility and effectiveness of possible interventions,
- Health disparities associated with the need, or
- Importance the community places on addressing the need.

Input Representing the Broad Interests of the Community

A hospital must both solicit and take into account input received from all of the following sources in identifying and prioritizing significant health needs and in identifying resources potentially available to address those health needs.

1. At least one state, local, tribal, or regional governmental public health department (or equivalent department or agency), or a State Office of Rural Health described in Section 338J of the Public Health Services Act, with knowledge, information, or expertise relevant to the health needs of the community.
2. Members of medically underserved, low-income, and minority populations in the community served by the hospital facility, or individuals or organizations serving or representing the interests of these populations.
3. Written comments received on the hospital facility's most recently conducted CHNA and most recently adopted implementation strategy.

Additional Sources of Input

In addition to soliciting input from the three required sources, a hospital facility may solicit and take into account input received from a broad range of persons located in or serving its community. This includes, but is not limited to:

- Health care consumers and consumer advocates
- Nonprofit and community-based organizations
- Academic experts
- Local government officials
- Local school districts
- Health care providers and community health centers
- Health insurance and managed care organizations
- Private businesses, and
- Labor and workforce representatives

Although a hospital facility is not required to solicit input from additional persons, it must take into account input received from any person in the form of written comments on the most recently conducted CHNA or most recently adopted implementation strategy.

Documentation of a CHNA

A hospital facility must document its CHNA in a report that is adopted by an authorized body of the hospital facility. The CHNA report must include the following items.

- A definition of the community served by the hospital facility and a description of how the community was determined.
- A description of the process and methods used to conduct the CHNA.
- A description of how the hospital facility solicited and took into account input received from persons who represent the broad interests of the community it serves.
- A prioritized description of the significant health needs of the community identified through the CHNA. This includes a description of the process and criteria used in identifying certain health needs as significant and prioritizing those significant health needs.
- A description of resources potentially available to address the significant health needs identified through the CHNA.
- An evaluation of the impact of any actions that were taken to address the significant health needs identified in the immediately preceding CHNA.

A CHNA report will be considered to describe the process and methods used to conduct the CHNA report if it:

- Describes the data and other information used in the assessment,
- Describes the methods of collecting and analyzing this data and information,
- Identifies any parties with whom the hospital facility collaborated or contracted for assistance in conducting the CHNA.

A hospital facility may rely on (and the CHNA report may describe) external source material in conducting its CHNA. In such cases, the hospital facility may simply cite the source material rather than describe the methods of collecting the data.

A hospital facility's CHNA report must describe how the hospital facility took into account input received from persons who represent the broad interests of the community it serves. The CHNA report should:

- Summarize, in general terms, the input provided by such persons,
- Describe how and over what time period such input was provided (for example, whether through meetings, focus groups, interviews, surveys, or written comments and between what approximate dates),
- Provide the names of any organizations providing input and summarizes the nature and extent of the organization's input, and
- Describe the medically underserved, low-income, or minority populations being represented by organizations or individuals that provided input.

CHNA Report: Widely Available

A hospital facility must make its current CHNA report and two subsequent CHNA reports widely available to the public. This must be done by making the reports available on a Web site and by making a paper copy of each of the reports available for public inspection upon request and without charge at the hospital facility.

Background/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).

- Adopt an implementation strategy to meet community health needs identified in the CHNA.
- Describe how it is addressing needs identified in the CHNA.

- Describe any needs in the CHNA that are not being addressed and the reasons for not addressing them.

The written implementation strategy describes both:

- How the hospital plans to meet significant health needs.
- Describe actions the hospital facility intends to take to address each significant health need identified in the CHNA, and the anticipated impact of those actions, or identify the health need as one it does not intend to address and explain why.
- The anticipated impact of these actions.
- The programs and resources the hospital plan to commit to address the health need.
- Describe any planned collaboration between hospital facilities and other facilities or organizations in addressing health needs.

And

- The significant health needs that the hospital does not intend to meet, explaining why the hospital does not intend to meet these needs.

Appendix G – Scripps Health Fiscal Year 2024 Community Benefit Programs

The list below highlights Scripps community health improvement programs, professional education, and health research programs by alphabetical order for Fiscal Year 2024.

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
Blood Drive - American Red Cross
BrainMasters: Stroke & Brain Injury Survivors Support Group
Breastfeeding Support Group - at various locations
CalAIM Managed Care High-Service User Enhanced Case Management Initiative
California Collective Impact Cooperative
Cardiac Treatment Center - Balance: Fall Proof Education
Cardiac Treatment Center Dietary Counseling- Community Program
Cardiac Treatment Center Group Exercise Programs
Cardiac Treatment Center - Meditation Class - Wellness Program
Cardiac Treatment Center: Tai Chi - Fitness Program
Child Passenger Safety Workshop
Chula Vista Community Collaborative
Commission on Gang Prevention & Intervention
Community Health Improvement Partners (CHIP) Suicide Prevention Council
Community Service Projects, Internal Medicine Residents
CPR Classes for Patients and Families of the Cardiac Treatment Center

Cross-border Collaboration to Address Injuries at the Border
Dogs and Storks - Child Safety and Prevention Education Program
Eric Paredes Save A Life Foundation-Cardiac Arrest Screenings
Eric Paredes Save A Life Foundation-Smart Hearts Don't Miss A Beat
Fall Prevention Awareness Week - Virtual
Fall Prevention Presentations for Older Adults
Fall Prevention Task Force
Fiji Solomon Islands Medical Mission
Flu Vaccines for Homeless Shelter Residents
Full Access and Coordinated Transportation (FACT) Inc.
Getting Ready for Baby - Child Safety and Prevention Class
Grandparenting Today - Child Safety and Prevention Class
Healing Arts Class and Support Group
Healing Touch Educational Programs - SMH La Jolla
Healthy Women, Healthy Babies
Helping Address Breast Health and Awareness
Helping Patients Navigate Post Discharge Services and Support
Improving Health Education and Awareness for Parents
Injury Prevention and Community Outreach Education
Left Ventricular Assist Device (LVAD) Support Group
Live Fit Su Vida Su Corazon Healthy Living Program
Live Well San Diego Community Leadership Team
Marijuana Prevention Initiative
Mature Riders Transportation Safety
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
North City Prevention Coalition (NCPC)
Older Driver Safety Workshop
Opioid Stewardship Program (OSP) and Medication Assisted Treatment

Partnerships for Success (P4S) Coalition
Pelvic Floor Wellness: Prenatal
Promotores in Action Prevention, Education and Wellness
Psychiatric Liaison Team (PLT)
Public Resource Specialist
Pulmonary Cardiac Class
Residency Led Health and Well Being Programs
Residency Led Youth Programs
San Diego Border Health Collaborative General Meeting
San Diego County Substance Use and Overdose Prevention Task Force
San Diego Domestic Violence Council (SDDVC)
San Diego Police Department Skate Jam
San Dieguito Alliance
Saving Lives through Stop the Bleed Campaign & Program
Scripps Advanced Care Clinic
Scripps Cancer Center - Exercise Programs
Scripps Cancer Center - Healthy Bones Exercise Class
Scripps Cancer Center - Lifeguard Cancer Screenings
Scripps Cancer Center - Living Life Well Sessions
Scripps Cancer Center - Lymphedema Stretch
Scripps Cancer Center - Oncology Resource Library
Scripps Cancer Center - Restorative Yoga
Scripps Cancer Center - Support Groups
Scripps Cancer Center - Wig Boutique and Prosthesis Bank
Scripps Health Public Policy and Advocacy
Scripps Health Stroke Risk Program Community Outreach Events
Scripps Mercy & Family Health Centers Behavioral Health Partnership
Scripps Mercy-Family Health Centers of San Diego Transitions of Care Program
Scripps Mercy Hospital Clothing Drive for Catholic Charities
Scripps Mercy Supplemental Nutrition Program for WIC
Scripps Shiley Center - Men's Pelvic Health & Wellness

Scripps Substance Use Disorder Service (SUDS) Nurses
Senior Health Education, Prevention & Wellness Programs
Medication Patient Financial Assistance Program
St. Leo's Mission Medical Clinic
Standing Strong Fall Prevention
Standing Strong Fall Workshop
Strategic Highway Safety Plan
Stroke and Brain Injury Support and Education Group
Trauma Education Programs
Violence Against Healthcare Workers Taskforce
Vision Zero Coalition
Whittier - Diabetes Prevention Program (DPP)
Whittier - Dulce Digital Community
Whittier - KW Mobile Health 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

American Association for the Surgery of Trauma Conference
American College of Surgeons Annual Symposium
Center For Learning - Advanced Cardiac Life Support (ACLS) Renewal Course
Center For Learning - Basic Life Support for Healthcare Provider Online Skills Check
Center For Learning - Neonatal Resuscitation Program (NRP)
Center For Learning - 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
Physical Therapist and Physical Therapy Assistant Student Program
San Diego Day of Trauma Awareness Conference
Scripps Mercy Emergency Medical Services (EMS)
Supportive Mental Health Services at Local School-Based Clinics
UCSD Graduate Student Internship
Western Trauma Association Conference
Whittier - SWDI Professional Education and Training

Category D – Health Research

A Descriptive Study of San Diego County Electric Bike Related
AAST MITC Prophylactic Antibiotics in Non-operative Facial
AAST Multi-Institutional Study - Palliative
Alcohol, Polypharmacy, and Elderly
COVID Appy Study
Elderly Pelvic Fracture Bleeding Study
Evaluation of Simulated Driving Ability in MTBI Patients
Helping Patients with Food Insecurities to Heal
Hemorrhage Control Interventions in Pelvic Fractures (HIPS)
Immediate CT Post
Impact of Methamphetamine Use on Surgical Management
IRB 12-6045 AAST Vascular Trauma Registry: Prospective Observational Vascular Injury Trial (PROOVIT)
IRB 15-6721 Epidemiology, Injury Control, Treatments, Outcomes, Value of Care, and Performance Improvement (Universal IRB)
IRB 16-6744 Outcomes & Trends in Traumatic Injury & Surgical Critical Care (OSHDP)
IRB 18-7126 The Pathogenesis of Post Traumatic PE: A Prospective Multicenter Investigation by the CLOTT Study Group: Part 1
IRB 18-7249 Penetrating Thoracic Trauma Management: Epidemiology & Outcomes from a Nationwide Perspective (ALL NTDB/TQP-PUF)
IRB 20-7626 Evaluating the Financial Vulnerability of California Trauma Centers

IRB 20-7646 Mechanically Ventilated COVID-9 Patients requiring Tracheostomy: Characteristics and Outcomes

IRB 23-8268: The End of Title 42 and the Effects on Cross-Border Trauma

IRB 24-8374: Phleginous Appendicitis Outcomes

IRB 24-8413: Defining Outcomes of Early vs. Delayed Cholecystectomy for Perforated Cholecystitis

Mamma's Kitchen/Management of Congestive Heart Failure Patients

Morel-Lavallée lesions diagnostic and treatment a multicenter prospective observational

Multi-Center Prospective Study (Rady) - A Survey of Attitudes Toward Violence and Violence Prevention Interventions for Adolescents: Do They Differ based on Trauma Center Characteristics

Multi-Center Retrospective Analysis of intraoperative and postoperative outcomes of robotic assisted laparoscopic cholecystectomy compared to laparoscopic cholecystectomy

NTDB Post Discharge Data

Outcomes of adolescents in San Diego County following TBI/SCI

Pediatrics HVI Study, multicenter retrospective chart review, UC I

Postural Sway Analysis and Risk

Project 201585: Pediatric Trauma along the California-Mexico Border Region: Defining Injury Health Care Disparities

Project Dulce Filipino Americans

Relationship of Trauma Activation Criteria to Utilization of HITS

TQIP Adolescent Study Discharge Disposition

Utilization of Cardiopulmonary Bypass in Traumatic

Whittier – Community Engagement Alliance (CEAL) Year 3

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 Contributions

American Heart Association - Go Red for Women Luncheon Sponsorship
Bicycle/e-Bike Safety Grant Funding
Car Seat Safety
City of Hope
Consumer Center for Health Education and Advocacy (CCHEA)
Eric Paredes Save a Life Foundation
Family Health Centers of San Diego - Spirit of the Barrio
Family Health Centers of San Diego Internal Medicine Outpatient Teaching Clinic Partnership
Father Joe's Villages - Scripps Pay it Forward Sock Drive
Friends of San Diego Public Library Book Donation
Greater La Jolla Meals on Wheels
Kumeyaay Elementary School Ceramic Turtle Statue Donation
La Maestra Casino Night
Mental Health Association of San Diego - Meeting of the Minds
Ministry of Jerusalem - Emergency Meals and Water
Ophthalmology Equipment Donation to La Maestra Family Clinic
San Ysidro Health Center
The San Diego LGBT Community Center
Turkey Giveaway and Health Resource Fair

Category F – Community Building Activities

Chicano Federation
Chula Vista Community Collaborative
Coffee with a Cop
Disaster Preparedness - Community Outreach and Education
Enlisted Leadership Foundation - The Foundry
Executive Leadership - Community Boards and Business Organizations
Hospital Incident Command System National Advisory Committee
LGBTQ+ Victory Institute
MANA de San Diego

Mercy San Diego: Community Boards and Business Organizations

North County African American Women's Association

San Diego County and State of California Advisory Groups

San Diego County Healthcare Disaster Coalition

San Diego County Operational Area Full Scale Exercise

San Diego Healthcare Coalition Advisory Committee

San Diego LGBT Pride Inc.

San Diego Organization of Healthcare Leaders (SOHL)

San Diego Regional Full-Scale Exercise

Scripps High School Exploration Internship Program

Scripps Medical Response Team (SMRT)

Scripps Mercy - Leadership Retreat Volunteer Service Day

Scripps School to Health Career Pathway Programs

San Diego County Coalition Surge Test No Notice Exercise

South County Action Network (SoCAN) Meeting

University City High School Collaboration

Young Leaders in Healthcare

Appendix H – Scripps Health Participation with Community Organizations

The list below highlights Scripps community partners and coalitions in Fiscal Year 2024. 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

Hazelden 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/Behavioral Health Advisory Board

California Medicine Scholars Program (CMSP)

California State Parks

California State University San Marcos (CSUSM)

California Surf Lifesaving Association

California Teen Safe Driving Coalition (CATSDC)

Cantabria 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 (FHCSD)
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
Global Communities Healthy Start Collaborative
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 Clinic
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
March of Dimes
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 Health Center
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 Office of Education
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 Family Care: Linda Vista Health Center
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 Regional Task Force on Homelessness; Continuum of Care Advisory Board
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

This appendix highlights key data and resources to understand chronic diseases, health disparities, and health equity in San Diego County.

3-4-50: Chronic Disease Deaths in San Diego County (2000-2021): Overview of chronic disease mortality trends. [Detailed Brief 2023](#)

County of San Diego Health Equity Dashboard Series, Interactive dashboards highlighting racial equity and well-being. [Racial Equity Dashboards, San Diego County | Tableau Public](#)

County of San Diego Public Health Data and Resources (2022): Community profiles, metadata, and codebooks. [Public Health Services Data Guide and Codebook.](#)

County of San Diego Regional Equity Indicators Report (FY 2022–2023): Insights into equity challenges and opportunities. [Equity Indicators Report](#)

Demographic Profiles San Diego County, (2018- 2022): [2022 Region SRA Demographic Profiles Updated.pdf](#)

Exploring Health Disparities in San Diego County: Executive Summary (2022): [Health Equity Report Series.](#)

Harm Reduction/Overdose Data to Action (OD2A): Analysis of opioid-related overdoses and encounters in San Diego County. Opioid-Related Overdoses and Encounters in San Diego County Retrospective Analysis, [PowerPoint Presentation \(sandiegocounty.gov\)](#)

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](#)

LGBTQ Health and Well-Being Dashboard (2018-2022), [Adult LGBTQ Dashboard 2018-2022 | Tableau Public](#)

Racial Equity Framework & Outcomes Brief: Framework for advancing racial equity [Racial Equity Framework and Outcomes Brief, Data Guide.pdf \(sandiegocounty.gov\)](#)

Suicide in San Diego County (2024): [Suicide Prevention Action Plan \(SPAP\)](#)

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/product/details?prodcode=RL34605>, Updated May 12, 2010.

³ For full category definitions and accounting methods, see: [Instructions for Schedule H \(Form 990\) \(2023\) | Internal Revenue Service](#).

⁴ Net Community Benefit Expense is a hospital's total expense less direct offsetting revenue for the purpose of administering community benefit programs and activities. This definition aligns with the IRS Instructions for Schedule H (Form 990) and is the value to be reported by hospitals on activities listed on the Community Benefits Report table.

⁵ California Hospital Association, <https://calhospital.org/hqaf-status-2/>.

⁶ American Council on Aging, 2025 Federal Poverty Levels/Guidelines and How They Determine Medicaid Eligibility, <https://www.medicaidplanningassistance.org/federal-poverty-guidelines/>.

⁷ 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.).

⁸ Section 501(r)(3)(A) requires a hospital organization to conduct a community health needs assessment (CHNA) every three years and to adopt an implementation strategy to meet the community health needs identified through the CHNA. <https://www.irs.gov/charities-non-profits/community-health-needs-assessment-for-charitable-hospital-organizations-section-501r3>.

⁹ Section 501(r)(3)(B) provides that the CHNA must: 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, and be made widely available to the public. A hospital organization meets the requirements of Section 501(r)(3) with respect to a hospital facility it operates: If the hospital facility has conducted a CHNA in the taxable year or in either of the two immediately preceding taxable years, and an authorized body of the hospital facility has adopted an implementation strategy to meet the community health needs identified through the CHNA on or before the 15th day of the fifth month after the end of such taxable year. <https://www.irs.gov/charities-non-profits/community-health-needs-assessment-for-charitable-hospital-organizations-section-501r3>.

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, <https://hasdic.org/chna/> which includes data from the San Diego County Health and Human Services Agency (HHSA), 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. Census Bureau. American Community Survey, 2018-2022, 5-Year Estimates, [2022 SRA Demographic Profiles FINAL.pdf](#)

¹² Recuperative care programs, also known as medical respite care, provide room, board, and medical care coordination for people experiencing homelessness who are too ill or frail to recover on the streets or in a shelter but not sick enough to be in a hospital. Under the state's California Advancing and Innovating Medi-Cal (CalAIM) Initiative, managed care plans have the option to cover medical respite care.

¹³ [Aging Roadmap | Live Well San Diego](#). 2024 Aging Roadmap Annual Update – [County of San Diego – Live well San Diego](#).

¹⁴ 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. [2011-2022 Leading Causes of Death among San Diego County Residents Dashboard | Tableau Public](#). For a comprehensive analysis of mortality trends, CHSU mortality data is compared to trends observed across the United States and California, [CHSU Mortality](#).

¹⁵ Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration. Strategic Plan 2023-2026 <https://www.samhsa.gov/sites/default/files/samhsa-strategic-plan.pdf>

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 Registered Nurse Navigator Program is not quantified as a community benefit since the program is exclusively for its patients.

¹⁸ Scripps Cancer Center Outpatient Social Worker and Liaison Program is not quantified as a community benefit since the program is exclusively for its patients.

¹⁹ Scripps Cancer Center Outpatient Heredity and Cancer Genetic Counseling Program is not quantified as a community benefit since the program is exclusively for its patients.

²⁰ Scripps Cancer Center Lung Screening and Survivorship Program is not quantified as a community benefit since the program is exclusively for its patients.

²¹ 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.

²² 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/>.

²³ 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.

²⁴ Centers for Disease Control and Prevention. Diabetes. CDC Web site. <https://www.cdc.gov/maternal-infant-health/pregnancy-diabetes/index.html>. Accessed May 15, 2024.

²⁵ What is Economic Security?" The International Committee of the Red Cross. <https://www.icrc.org/en/document/introduction-economic-security>, June 18, 2015.

²⁶ Racial Disparities in Maternal and Infant Health: Current Status and Efforts to Address Them.

<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/>.

²⁷ Volunteer time calculations are determined using an average hourly wage for the Scripps Health system, inclusive of benefits.

²⁸ Health Professional Education encompasses graduate medical education, nursing resource development, and other healthcare professional education.

²⁹ Health Research comprises clinical research activities primarily conducted at Scripps Clinical Research Services and Scripps Whittier Diabetes Institute. Calculations are based on total program expenses.

³⁰ Uncompensated health care includes the sum of expenses associated with Charity Care, Medi-Cal Shortfall and Other Means-Tested Government Programs, Medicare Shortfall and Bad Debt

³¹ 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.

³² Calculation for Medi-Cal and other means-tested government programs are derived using the payer-based cost allocation method. The Hospital Fee Program was reported as offsetting revenue from Medi-Cal. The pledge/grant (separate from the quality assurance fee) is reported in the Cash and In-Kind Contributions for other vulnerable populations category.

³³ Calculations for Medicare are derived using the payer-based cost allocation methodology. In Schedule H, the Medicare cost report is used.

³⁴ Calculation for Bad Debt is estimated by extracting the gross write-offs of Bad Debt charges and applying the hospital ratio of cost to charges (RCC) to estimate the cost of providing Bad Debt.

³⁵ Calculation for Cash, Grants, and In-Kind contributions are generally measured at cost. "Cash contributions" does not mean any payments that the organization makes in exchange for a service, facility, or product, or that the organization makes primarily to obtain economic or physical benefit. In-kind contributions include the cost of staff hours donated by the organization to the community, indirect cost of space donated to tax-exempt community groups (such as for community health-related meetings), and the financial value (measured at cost) of donated food, equipment, and supplies.

³⁶ Scripps Mercy Hospital operates Scripps Mercy Hospital San Diego and Scripps Mercy Hospital Chula Vista under one license. The community benefit total includes Scripps Mercy Hospital (San Diego Campus and Chula Vista Campus).

³⁷ Patients in the program are only Medicare, Sprint, and Stroke and do not include all case management and social work referrals.

³⁸ Various programs listed in Section 9 (Scripps Medical Foundation) are excluded from the quantification of community benefit totals as programs are exclusively provided to Scripps patients.

³⁹ Chemo bags are only provided to Scripps patients.

⁴⁰ Community health needs assessment for charitable hospital organizations - Section 501(r)(3)
<https://www.irs.gov/charities-non-profits/community-health-needs-assessment-for-charitable-hospital-organizations-section-501r3>

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

