

Reaching out to our community

2014 Community Benefit Report



Tampa
General
Hospital®

Can you identify the respiratory disease that is a leading cause of emergency room visits in Hillsborough County?

Can you name any of the most significant healthcare issues facing residents of Hillsborough County?

The answers to these questions are contained in a community health needs assessment (CHNA) conducted in 2013 by Tampa General Hospital (TGH). TGH performed this review as part of the requirements of the Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act.

The goal of the CHNA is to identify the major healthcare issues in a hospital's service area and how the hospital is addressing those issues. The assessment identified eight significant healthcare issues:

- **Asthma**
- **Cancer**
- **Cardiovascular disease**
- **Communicable diseases**
- **Diabetes**
- **Access to health care**
- **Mental health**
- **Obesity**

For the purpose of this report, we will focus on TGH's response to two of these issues: **asthma and diabetes.**

Asthma is a leading cause of emergency room visits for both adults and children. It's a chronic condition that affects the lungs, causing inflammation and narrowing of the respiratory passages. Asthma can be managed with medication, but emergency room rates and hospitalization statistics reflect poor disease management and care. Children are especially affected by asthma - it is the most common chronic disorder of childhood, and one of the top reasons children are absent from school.



Children with asthma should be able to play without restrictions, participate in sports, and enjoy a good night's sleep uninterrupted by symptoms. Better asthma management means:

- Fewer missed days of school
- Fewer trips to the emergency room
- Better quality of life
- Lower medical costs for families and the community

To help prevent severe and life-threatening asthma attacks, Tampa General Hospital's community health education department added the *Asthma Workshop & Support Group for Parents* to its schedule of free classes.

The workshop includes discussion of asthma-related topics such as symptoms and triggers as well as time for families to practice asthma management with medical professionals. Those with children suffering from asthma learn its characteristics and information about medication risks and benefits, what to expect, and how to correctly use each medication.

Families receive a written asthma management and emergency action plan describing medications that keep asthma under control and how to administer them. The action plan explains exactly what to do when a child develops asthma symptoms.

The workshop is augmented with a support group to assist, educate and encourage patients, family members and friends who are dedicated to managing asthma. Group members share their stories in an effort to alleviate concerns and provide support for each other.

The goal is that participants leave the workshop feeling empowered and informed on the best asthma management strategies for their child. If a child has asthma, parents should:

- Be able to name their child's medications and describe what each medication does
- Know how and when to give the medications their child needs
- Know what to do when their child has symptoms
- Know how to inform the school nurse about any medications their child needs while at school, in child care, or before participating in gym class or sports
- Be able to identify actions to take at home that decrease their child's exposure to asthma triggers like secondhand smoke, animals and dust

Another health issue facing our community is diabetes. In Hillsborough County, diabetes is the seventh leading cause of death, with a mortality rate that is substantially higher than Florida's. Complications due to diabetes can result in emergency room visits and hospitalizations. These events often indicate an issue with quality of primary care, including lack of preventive behaviors or poor disease management.

Given the critical need for increased diabetes prevention in Hillsborough County, Tampa General Hospital's community health education department offers the National Diabetes Prevention & Lifestyle Change Program for individuals with prediabetes.

The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) estimates that more than 79 million Americans age 20 and older have prediabetes. Even worse, many of them do not know they have it. People with prediabetes have blood sugar levels higher than normal, but not yet high enough for a diagnosis of diabetes. Prediabetes is a serious health condition that increases the risk of developing type 2 diabetes, heart disease and stroke.

The sooner steps are taken to prevent type 2 diabetes, the better the chances people have to avoid this disease. The CDC-led National Diabetes Prevention & Lifestyle Change Program helps participants adopt the healthy habits needed to prevent type 2 diabetes. Trained lifestyle coaches from TGH lead the 16-week program and follow-up support groups. This program is designed to help participants achieve optimal weight and maintain healthier lifestyles by improving their food choices, increasing physical activity, and learning coping skills.



These are just two examples of ways Tampa General Hospital is addressing the significant health needs identified in the community health needs assessment. We are increasing the number of evidence-based health education classes in targeted areas. We will partner with different healthcare providers so they can encourage at-risk patients to attend support groups and education classes, as well as take advantage of our health screenings.

Community Benefit

Tampa General Hospital
From IRS Form 990, Schedule H
Fiscal Year End 9/30/2014

The Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act contains a provision for Tampa General Hospital to issue a financial report on the level of community benefit the hospital provides each year. Below is our community benefit report for 2014.

Community benefit is defined as:

- Charity care and other financial assistance on behalf of uninsured and low-income people
- Subsidized health services
- Financial and in-kind contributions to local charities
- Health professions education
- Research
- Community health improvement

As part of its overall community benefit, Tampa General Hospital annually provides almost \$1 million to other community not-for-profit organizations, and more than \$2 million to community health improvement and community benefit operations.

Community Benefit at Cost

Charity Care & Other Means-Tested Programs

Charity Care at Cost.....	\$37,458,123
Unreimbursed Medicaid.....	\$17,248,210
Unreimbursed Costs	
Other Means-Tested Government Programs	\$18,894,274
Total Charity Care	\$73,600,607

Community Health Improvements & Community Benefit Operations	\$2,749,013
Health Professions Education.....	\$23,024,441
Research	\$606,616
Subsidized Health Services	\$3,744,902
Cash & In-Kind Contributions to Community Groups	\$1,027,981
Total Other Benefits.....	\$31,152,953

Total Community Benefit at Cost **\$104,753,560**

NOTE: All community benefit costs are net of any reimbursement received from federal, state or local government sources, patients and private funding sources.