

## Athol Memorial Hospital

2033 Main Street

Athol, MA 01331

[www.atholhospital.com](http://www.atholhospital.com)

Region Served: The nine town North Quabbin Region which includes Athol, Erving, New Salem, Orange, Phillipston, Petersham, Warwick and Wendell

### Report for Fiscal Year 2004

#### **COMMUNITY BENEFITS MISSION**

To identify the unmet needs of the community we serve, and to develop and implement strategies to meet those needs.

#### **PROGRAM ORGANIZATION AND MANAGEMENT**

Athol Memorial Hospital's Community Benefits is under the direction of the Community Relations Department, which is staffed by one 25 hour per week manager. The hospital has a strong tradition of community services initiatives, and Community Benefits are indistinguishable from Community Services during FY 2004.

#### **KEY COLLABORATORS AND PARTNERSHIPS**

The hospital is associated with the North Quabbin Community Coalition (NQCC), a group comprised of health and human service providers, representatives of local community agencies, concerned citizens, community activists and government officials. The hospital collaborates with the Athol-Orange Rotary Club to underwrite the Lifeline Emergency Response System at low cost to area residents. We have a working relationship with Franklin County Home Care Corporation to provide health screenings for uninsured and underinsured men and women.

#### **COMMUNITY HEALTH NEEDS ASSESSMENT**

The hospital has accessed the "Report on the Results of the Athol Community Health Needs Assessment" March 2001, prepared by Heather Burelle of the School of Public Health & Health Services, University of Massachusetts in Amherst, MA. This document provides valuable, quantified information about the health care needs of the community.

#### **COMMUNITY BENEFITS PLAN**

Our goal is to bring a formalized Community Benefits plan before the Board of Trustees for approval In January 2006. An internal hospital committee has recently been established to address the formalization of a Community Benefits Plan.

#### **KEY ACCOMPLISHMENTS OF REPORTING YEAR**

Our key accomplishments may be found in the Community Services section of this report.

## **PLANS FOR NEXT REPORTING YEAR**

Next reporting year will, hopefully, reflect a formalized plan and Community Benefits Plan related expenses. A process for tracking Community Benefits and Community Services expenses, as well as employee volunteerism, is under consideration.

## **CONTACT**

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## **COMMUNITY SERVICE PROGRAMS**

- Support services for patients diagnosed with HIV/AIDS Health
- Distribution of free health education materials throughout the community
- Senior Outreach Clinics including hypertension, cholesterol and glucose screening, flu vaccines and communicable disease follow up
- Provided opportunities for community service hours for the probation department of the Orange District Court
- Sponsored free weekly and monthly support groups, led by trained professionals, for ALS, Bereavement, Better Breathers, Cancer, Diabetes, Fibromyalgia, HIV/AIDS, Recovery from Addictions, and Smoking Cessation
- Provided free or low cost cardiopulmonary resuscitation (CPR) instruction and continuing education programs for physicians, nurses, other health care professional and emergency response workers
- Worked with Healthy Connections to identify individuals and families who qualify for Mass Health, the Children's Medical Security Plan, and the Pharmacy Program for seniors, the uninsured and underinsured
- Provided free blood pressure screenings at various community events
- Secured grant funding to help underwrite a Free ADA Accessible Senior Transportation Service for our patients and outpatients
- Sponsored and participated in job and career exploration events for area students
- Provided free toothbrushes for the "Healthy Smiles" Dental Fair
- Supported the Athol Area United Way effort
- Participated in the North Quabbin Patch Parents' Council School Supplies Drive

## **NET CHARITY CARE or**

**UNCOMPENSATED CARE POOL CONTRIBUTION**

**\$280,378**

**TOTAL PATIENT CARE-RELATED EXPENSES  
FOR FISCAL YEAR 2004**

**\$16,786,391**

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