

Emerson Hospital - FY2007

Summary Narratives

Community Benefits Mission Statement

The hospital's mission is to deliver high quality, safe and cost-effective care to our patients and to maintain a professional and respectful environment for all members of the Emerson Hospital community.

Program Organization and Management

The Emerson Hospital Community Benefits Program, formalized in 1995, builds on the hospital's history of commitment to the community and the core values of providing care to all regardless of ability to pay. The implementation of the program is the responsibility of the Marketing and Public Relations department, under the supervision of the Vice President for Planning and Market Development. Individual departments and clinical areas within the hospital provide detailed information on programs and activities that comply with the guidelines for the Community Benefit Program.

Key Collaborations and Partnerships

Emerson fulfills its mission through a coordinated effort with members of local civic organizations, community agencies and government authorities. With input from these constituencies, Emerson develops programs to address the health needs of our community. These partnerships aim to strengthen the network for community-based care by addressing the health issues of greatest concern to the community, such as substance abuse among youth and services for seniors. Key partnerships include:

Area School Systems

Area Boards of Health

Area Councils on Aging

Area Senior Centers

Area EMS providers

Local associations i.e. cancer, heart, diabetes, alzheimers, stroke

Area service clubs i.e. rotary, lions

Local businesses

Community Health Needs Assessment

To better understand the health needs of Emerson's surrounding communities, a Health Needs Assessment was conducted in 2003-2004 among leaders and representatives of community organizations. This assessment also included an extensive search of health status information available in the public domain. The objectives were to:

- Evaluate the community's perceptions of its unmet health needs.
- Establish a baseline of data on the health of the community using data from the U.S. Census, Massachusetts Department of Public Health, the Emerson Youth Risk Behavior Survey, and the Center for Disease Control (CDC).
- Explore opportunities for the provision of new health services and programs to meet unmet health needs.
- Determine how best to allocate Community benefit resources in response to community health needs.
- Explore opportunities for the community to initiate new health programs.

Community Benefits Plan

Emerson Hospital is committed to a Community Benefit Program designed to improve the overall health status of the populations it serves. This program encompasses a broad range of preventive medicine and wellness initiatives, health education, advocacy and assistance and advanced on-scene life-saving care. The Program also includes a free care component to ensure that everyone has access to medical care regardless of ability to pay.

The results of the Community Health Needs Assessment indicated that the hospital service area is, for the most part, highly educated with good access to health care.

Emerson's past focus on promoting healthy behaviors for youth and educating the community about cancer continue to be important health needs. Based on the health needs assessment, the following Community Benefit Programs were identified:

- Teen Health
- Cancer Education and Screenings
- Preventative Health Screenings
- Health lectures and Information for the public
- Support Groups and Counseling Services
- Emergency Management Planning

Key Accomplishments of Reporting Year

Our major accomplishments include ongoing support and administration of the Emerson Hospital Youth Risk Behavior Survey of nearly 8,000 children and adolescents (grades 6, 8 and 9-12) in Emerson's primary and secondary service area; Emerson's annual Cancer Awareness Day providing a myriad of free health screenings for more than 250 residents; an extensive series of free health education and screenings across our service area; 21 support groups and counseling services; numerous free community lectures and presentations; emergency paramedic service for 13 towns; as well as specialized programs for children and adolescents, seniors and other community residents.

Plans for Next Reporting Year

During fiscal year 2007, Emerson Hospital will maintain its Community Benefits Program as a continuation of the commitment described in this report. In addition, the hospital plans to conduct a new community health needs assessment for FY08.

Select Community Benefits Programs

Community Benefits Programs

No community benefits programs identified.

Program Type	Estimated Total Expenditures for FY2007	Approved Program Budget for 2008
Community Benefits Programs	Direct Expenses \$148,500 Associated Expenses \$232,000 Determination of Need Expenditures \$0 Employee Volunteerism \$65,000 Other Leveraged Resources Not Specified	\$450,000 <small>* Excluding expenditures that cannot be projected at the time of the report.</small>
Community Service Programs	Direct Expenses Not Specified Associated Expenses Not Specified Determination of Need Expenditures Not Specified Employee Volunteerism Not Specified Other Leveraged Resources Not Specified	
Net Charity Care	\$2,715,653	
Corporate Sponsorships	Not Specified	

Total Expenditures	\$3,161,153
Total Patient Care-Related Expenses for FY2007	Not Specified
Comments: None	