

Emerson Hospital - FY2008

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. We define high quality as meeting or exceeding the requirements of our customers: patients, physicians, the community, and payers.

Program Organization and Management

2.1 Program Organization

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.

2.2 Approval of Governing Body

Community Benefits Programs are the responsibility of the senior management team and activities are reported each month to the hospital's Board of Directors.

Key Collaborations and Partnerships

Acton-Boxborough Community Alliance for Youth (CAFY)
Acton-Boxborough Public Schools
Acton Board of Health
Acton Council on Aging
Acton Fire department
Alzheimer's Association
American Association of Retired Persons (AARP)
American Cancer Society
American Heart Association
American Stroke Association
Bedford Board of Health
Bedford Council on Aging
Bedford Fire Department
Bedford VA Hospital
Bedford Women's Club
Boxborough Local Emergency Planning Committee
Boxborough Fire Department
Carlisle Board of Health
Carlisle Fire Department
Carlisle Senior Center
Chelmsford Board of Health
Chelmsford Senior Center
Community Health Network Area (CHNA15)
Concord Adolescent and Family Services

Concord Board of Health
Concord-Carlisle Alliance for Teen Safety
Concord Council on Aging
Concord-Carlisle Public Schools
Concord Fire Department
Concord Local Emergency Planning Committee
Concord Police Department
Concord Rotary Club
Cooperative Elder Service Councils on Aging
Deaconess Rivercrest Nursing Home
Domestic Violence Roundtable
Groton Dunstable Public Schools
Groton Dunstable Alliance for Youth
Hadassah
Hanscom Air Force Base (Bedford)
Harvard Public Schools
Inn at Robbins Brook (Acton)
Kenneth B. Schwartz Center for Compassionate Care
Liberty Alzheimer's Partnership
Lincoln Council on Aging
Littleton Public Schools
Massachusetts Department of Public Health Hospital Group Region 4
Massachusetts Department of Public Health Emergency Systems for Advance
Maynard Fire Department
Registration of Volunteer Health Professionals (ESAR-VHP)
Massachusetts Department of Public Health State Surge Capacity Task Force
Metropolitan Boston Emergency Medical Services Council Region IV
Massachusetts Hospital Association
Massachusetts Melanoma Foundation
Maynard Public Schools
Minuteman Senior Services
Minuteman Suburban Schools-to-Careers Partnership
Nashoba Regional School District
National Alliance for the Mentally Ill of Massachusetts
National Youth Leadership Forum
Network for Women's Lives
Northeast Health Resources
Regional Center for Poison Control and Prevention
Society for Cardiovascular and Interventional Radiology
SafeHomes (Westford)
Sudbury Board of Health
Sudbury Council on Aging
Sudbury Fire Department
Sudbury Senior Center
The Virginia Thurston Healing Garden
Westford Board of Health
Westford Fire Department
Westford Public Schools
Weston Council on Aging
Weston Fire Department

[Community Health Needs Assessment](#)

To better understand the health needs of Emerson's surrounding communities, a Health Needs Assessment was

conducted in 2007-2008 among leaders and representatives of community organizations. This assessment also included an extensive search of health status information available in the public domain using the guidelines of the Health People 2010 Focus Areas, including the Center for Disease Control's "Ten Leading Health Indicators." 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's past focus on promoting healthy behaviors for youth and educating the community about cancer continue to be important health needs. According to the qualitative research, the community feels that Emerson has made a positive impact with its past efforts.

The following Community Benefit Programs were identified:

1. Teen Health continues to need specific attention. Since 1997, Emerson Hospital has worked with local school districts to sponsor the Youth Risk Behavior Survey.
2. Cancer Education and Screenings to address the growing need for information about cancer and requests for health screenings.
3. Preventative Health Screenings for cholesterol, thyroid, pulmonary, and blood pressure and others.
4. Support Groups and Counseling Services for substance abuse, health insurance for seniors, adjustment for new mothers, and others.
6. Emergency Management Planning – The emergency management program included all significant processes and areas.

Key Accomplishments of Reporting Year

The most recent YRBS was implemented in March 2008 with students in grades 6, 8 - 12 from seven school districts in the hospital's service area. The questions were under general categories of risk behaviors including: internet use, violence, suicide, drug use, sexual behavior, dietary behavior and others.

In January 2009, the data was provided to health coordinators and school administrators in the towns covered by the survey. The hospital also makes the aggregate results available to the news media and on our website.

Cancer Awareness Day - a community event includes free screenings, health lectures and information about cancer detection, prevention - was held on Saturday, May 3, 2008 from 9 am to 1:30 pm at the hospital. More than 200 people participated in the free health screenings including: a full body skin cancer screening, a respiratory screening, blood test, blood pressure screening, and others.

Plans for Next Reporting Year

During fiscal year 2009, Emerson Hospital will maintain its Community Benefits Program as a continuation of the commitment described in this report.

Select Community Benefits Programs

Community Benefits Programs

No community benefits programs identified.

Program Type	Estimated Total Expenditures for FY2008		Approved Program Budget for 2009
Community Benefits Programs	Direct Expenses	\$465,800	\$200,000
	Associated Expenses	Not Specified	* Excluding expenditures that cannot be projected at the time of the report.
	Determination of Need Expenditures	Not Specified	
	Employee Volunteerism	Not Specified	
	Other Leveraged Resources	Not Specified	
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			
Corporate Sponsorships			
	Total Expenditures	\$5,721,828	
Total Patient Care-Related Expenses for FY2008			\$154,242,409
Comments: None			