

2020

Community Benefit Report

*Committed to strengthening relationships
and embracing diversity*



Sharing our work
is an integral
part of Beacon
community
benefit.



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Greetings,

Welcome to this 2020 Year-End Report of Beacon Health System's programming efforts in Elkhart, Marshall, and St. Joseph counties. As a community not-for-profit organization, Beacon Health System takes seriously our responsibility to invest our resources and energies into understanding and meeting the healthcare needs of all members of our community, especially during times of uncertainty. Sharing our work is an integral part of community benefit. In 2020, we were fortunate to collaborate with many hardworking and resilient community partners. Together, we worked to address some of our communities' most pressing health needs, including obesity, maternal health, mental health, and substance use disorders.

This past year was an unusual one, both locally and around the world. In addition to our priority focus areas, Beacon Health System continues to address COVID-19 and its impact felt regionally across our communities. As a healthcare system rooted in preserving the health of our community, we implemented changes in the way we operate, including providing an opportunity for community partners to reallocate awarded funds to meet basic and pressing needs caused by the pandemic. We also helped with the mobile COVID-19 unit which made tests available in various neighborhoods across our three-county region.

The work outlined in this Community Benefit Report demonstrates our capacity to adapt during times of uncertainty. Both in our hospitals and in the community, we adjusted the way we serve others in order to remain accessible. Many of our partners were agile by changing the way they delivered programming altogether or adapting their services to fill an emerging health need due to COVID-19. Other partners continued to provide in-person assistance due to essential need of their services.

We are incredibly thankful for the work of our community partners and associates and value their contributions to prevention, health education, community outreach, and innovative partnerships. While reading this report you will gain a greater understanding of the work that has been done in 2020. Our hope is that this report will highlight the hard work being done in the community while also demonstrating our ability to persevere in times of uncertainty.



Kimberly Green Reeves, MPA
Director

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Kimberly G. Reeves".



Patty Willaert, MPA
Executive Director

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Patty Willaert".



Mission Statement

We deliver outstanding care, inspire health, and connect with heart.



Our Values

We Place People at the Center

- We **RESPECT** One Another
- We Demonstrate **COMPASSION**
- We Operate with **INTEGRITY**
- We Are **TRUSTWORTHY**





Beacon Community Impact

Beacon Community Impact works with multiple organizations in a collaborative health network. We use data-driven, evidence-based and transparent practices to chart progress and measure health impact as a result of the Community Health Needs Assessment (CHNA).

We are committed to strengthening the relationships within our community and embracing the diversity found there to help make Elkhart County, Marshall County and St. Joseph County healthy places to live!

We have a steadfast commitment to make our community one of the healthiest in the nation. Creating a healthier community means helping people stay well by:

- Educating on important health topics
- Providing the means to adopt healthier lifestyle choices
- Removing barriers to adequate healthcare

We do this in three main ways:

- Provide funding for nonprofit organizations that help create change in a CHNA priority area
- Work with organizations, businesses, and other groups to build the capacity of our community to respond to its health needs
- Deliver programming in service gaps with over 60 community health workers, educators, and healthcare professionals

Our Community Benefit Approach

Bringing about change and health equality in our community takes a holistic approach. By partnering with a variety of organizations, we are addressing the greatest health needs and providing diverse programs that make an impact throughout our three-county region.

We are fortunate to work with wonderful community partners who help us address the health needs of our most vulnerable community members. We do this through:

- Devotion to providing the resources and tools that improve program participants' health and well-being
- Collaboration and a focus on solving complex social and health areas of concern
- Focus on priorities and needs identified by the CHNA
- Implementation of programs in those priority areas, working to achieve similar results, reporting on the same types of data and aligning strategies that continuously improve outcomes over time

Together, using this approach, we can address social and health needs that intersect at individual, community and government levels. Together, we will continue to make progress—and a positive impact—on the health of our population.

Find us on social media

- [Facebook](#)
- [Instagram](#)
- [YouTube](#)

Our Reach

Counties and associate hospitals

3 locations

Community Hospital of Bremen
Elkhart General Hospital
Memorial Hospital of South Bend



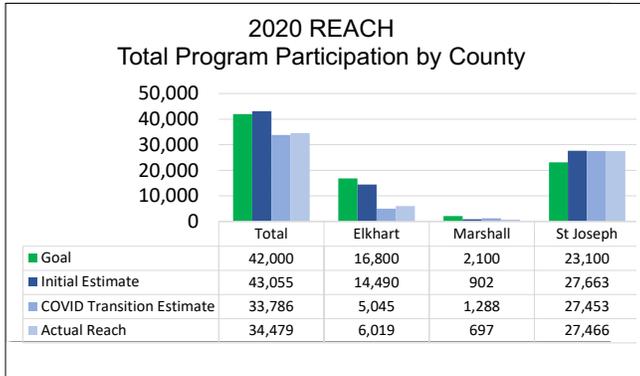
Community Hospital of Bremen



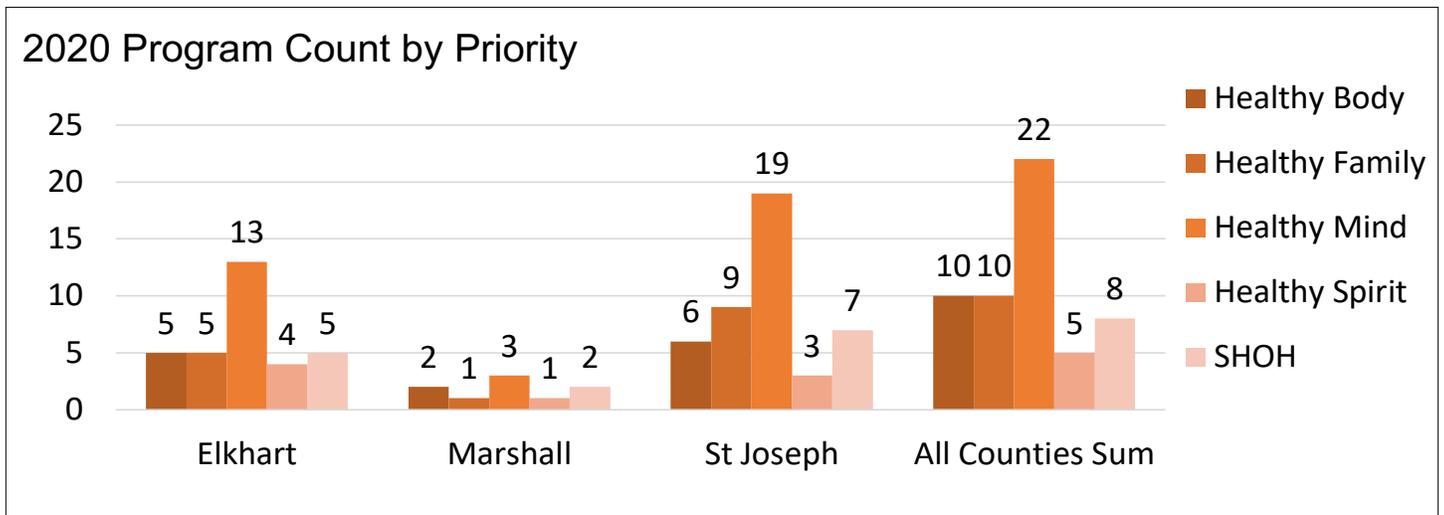
Elkhart General Hospital



Memorial Hospital of South Bend



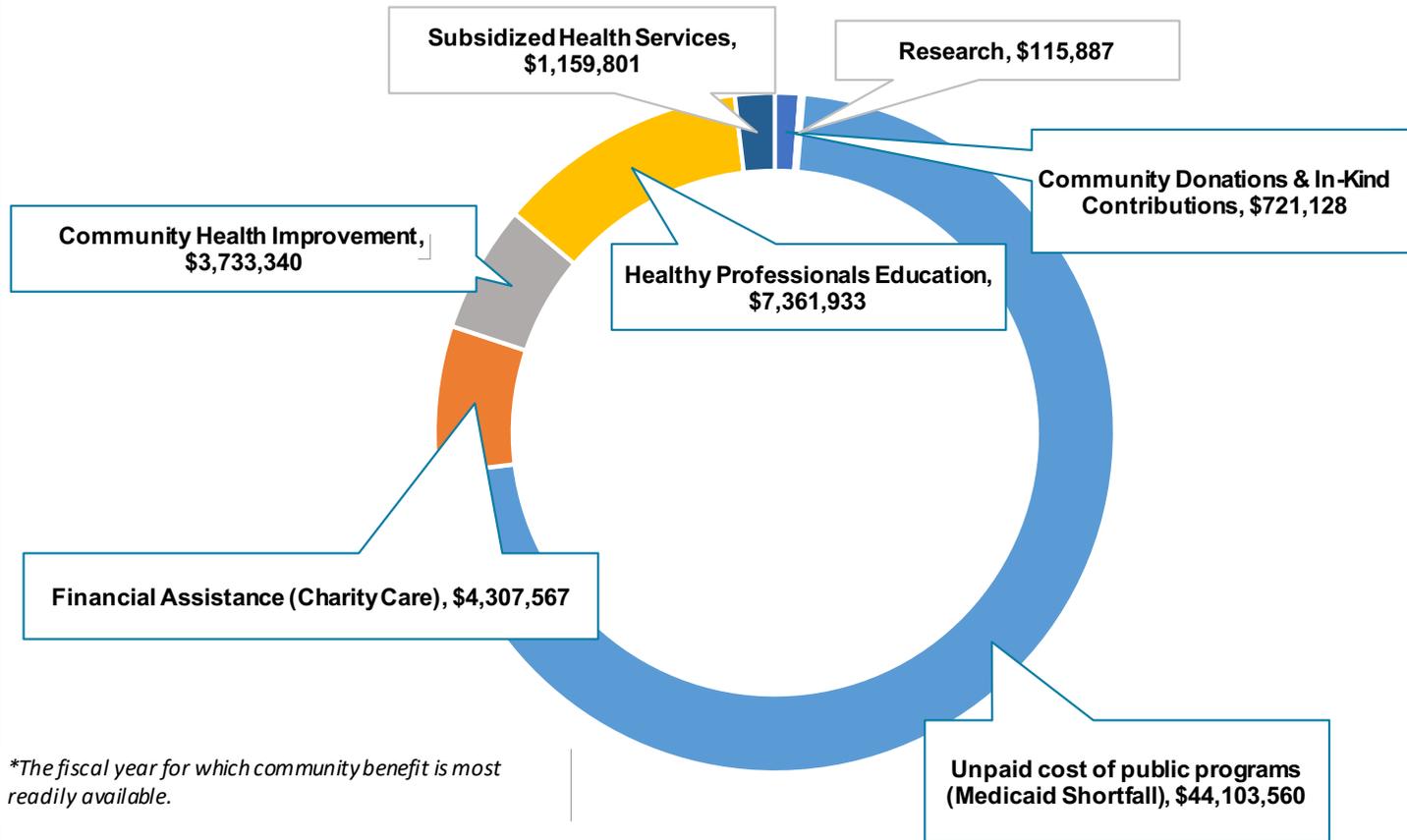
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Community Benefit Numbers

Changing Lives in Our Communities

Our community benefit flows from our mission. In fiscal year 2019*, Beacon Health System provided \$61,503,216 in community benefit.



Beacon Helping Hands

Beacon Health System recognizes that there are many ways in which associates connect with heart. That is why we offer Beacon Helping Hands in collaboration with Acts of Service. Beacon Helping Hands gives associates the ability to find volunteer opportunities within their community.

Beacon Health System

4142

volunteer hours

Beacon Medical Group

606

volunteer hours

Community Hospital of Bremen

539

volunteer hours

Elkhart General Hospital

716

volunteer hours

Memorial Hospital South Bend

1281

volunteer hours

CHNA Priority Snapshot



Healthy Body

12

Number of programs

8

Number of organizations

12,012

Number of people served



Healthy Family

13

Number of programs

4

Number of organizations

6,010

Number of people served



Healthy Mind

26

Number of programs

14

Number of organizations

9,928

Number of people served



Healthy Spirit

7

Number of programs

3

Number of organizations

934

Number of people served





Healthy Body

Maintaining a healthy weight can help reduce the risk of heart disease, stroke, and diabetes. Research shows that a healthy weight can also improve overall mood and well-being. For most people, maintaining or establishing a healthy weight means eating a balanced diet of nutritious food and doing regular physical activity that they enjoy. In our region of Elkhart, Marshall, and St. Joseph counties, obesity rates are high while opportunities to maintain a healthy lifestyle are limited in certain populations.

In an effort to curb obesity rates and improve community well-being, Beacon Community Impact supports programming that makes the healthier option the easier option through our Healthy Body priority.

Our Healthy Body priority supports programming within three focus areas:

Focus 1:

Improve nutrition, physical activity and weight-related outcomes.

Focus 2:

Increase parent/guardian engagement in promoting health, wellness and academic learning.

Focus 3:

Decrease the number of diabetic/pre-diabetic children and adults.

This year, the following outcomes were reported as a result of our collaborations and programming.

People served by county

Marshall:

27

St. Joseph:

11,223

Other Counties:

0

People served by impact tier

Awareness:

0

Knowledge:

2,919

Action:

9,093

List of funded organizations

The following organizations have worked with Beacon Community Impact in alignment with the Healthy Body priority.

Upper Room Recovery

Center for Healing and Hope

La Casa de Amistad

Michiana Vegfest

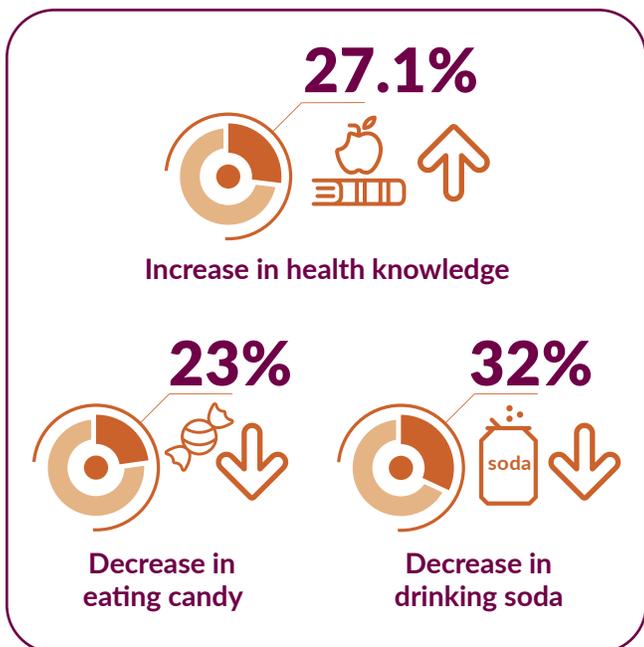
NIHHC [Northern Indiana Hispanic Health Coalition]

Unity Garden

Building healthy habits with our local families and youth

In 2020, Beacon Community Impact continued our partnership with the Northern Indiana Hispanic Health Coalition (NIHHC), located in Goshen, on two programs: Por tu Familia and Healthy Hearts. Por tu Familia works with families to teach them about various health topics, nutrition and exercise. Healthy Hearts focuses on teaching elementary students about the heart, nutrition, and exercise. The six-session program was initially designed to include hands-on activities with the overall goal of preventing childhood obesity by providing the tools and knowledge needed to make healthier decisions. This year the overall goal remained the same, but the curriculum was successfully revamped to be administered virtually to accommodate the challenges presented by COVID-19.

Even with the virtual curriculum adaption, the Healthy Hearts program was able to thrive and improve health outcomes. The NIHHC reported that the 6th graders who had been in the Healthy Hearts program for the past three consecutive years exhibited a 27.1% increase in health knowledge, a 23% decrease in eating candy, and a 32% decrease in drinking soda, respectively. This is important because we know that health literacy is the first step toward building a healthier community. The Healthy Hearts program has demonstrated an effectiveness at equipping students with the knowledge needed to improve not only their health literacy, but also to change behaviors leading to improved health outcomes. The partnership with NIHHC has been extremely rewarding and reflects what we hope to see with all of our partners moving forward.





Healthy Family

Our Healthy Family priority is firmly grounded in programming that reduces infant mortality, improves maternal and child health outcomes, and fosters positive family relationships. Beacon Community Impact supports strong programs seeking to reduce infant mortality in our region. These programs include Beacon Health System's internal Early Childhood Services programming alongside external non-profits and local government agencies. To ensure that our work and the work that we support meets our goals, we have established three focus areas of support.

Focus 1:

Expand access to primary care services for underserved, high-risk pregnant women and their families.

Focus 2:

Increase preconception and family planning engagement programs.

Focus 3:

Provide programming that promotes positive perinatal care and healthy behaviors from family caregivers.

By working in these areas, Beacon Health System hopes to improve overall health and well-being. This year, the following outcomes were reported as a result of our collaborations and programming.

People served by county

Elkhart:
555

St. Joseph:
5,408

Other Counties:
23

People served by impact tier

Awareness:
2,033

Knowledge:
51

Action:
3,943

List of funded organizations

The following organizations have worked with Beacon Community Impact in alignment with the Healthy Family priority.

Elkhart County Health Department
- **Healthy Beginnings**

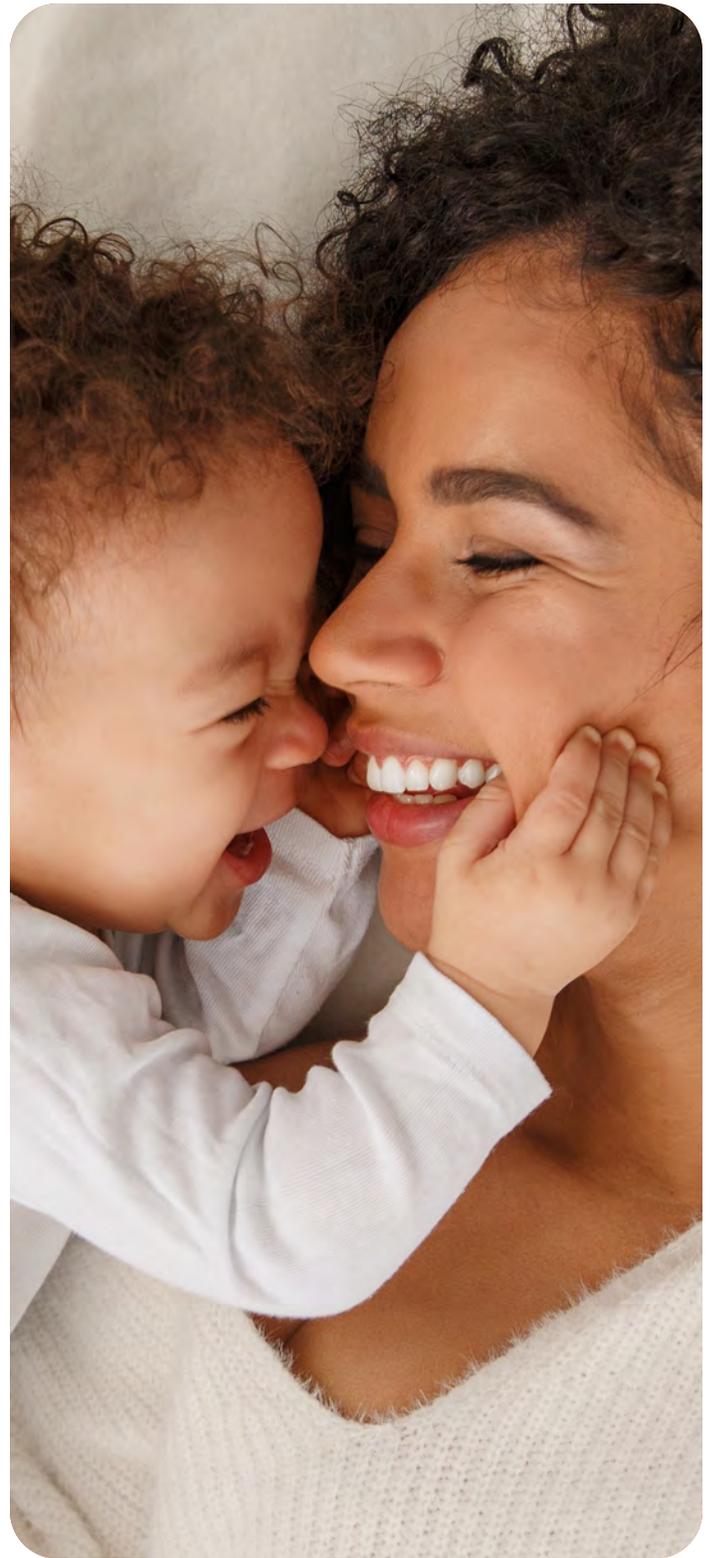
St. Joseph County Health Department

Being there for parents in our community

Beds and Britches, Etc. (B.A.B.E.), run by Beacon Health System, is a unique store that offers incentives to expectant mothers and parents to encourage responsibility and improve self-esteem. Parents and parents-to-be earn B.A.B.E. coupons for keeping prenatal appointments, attending parenting classes, and other activities that improve child development and family health. Doctors, clinics and other social service agencies distribute B.A.B.E. coupons, which may be redeemed at B.A.B.E. stores for items ranging from diapers to childproofing essentials.

During the spring, B.A.B.E distributed 6,809 diapers and more than 3,500 packs of wipes free of charge to assist families during the COVID-19 crisis. A total of 11,546 coupons were redeemed across St. Joseph and Elkhart counties. The BABE Program also distributed 89 Pack 'N Plays® in collaboration with the Beacon Community Impact Prenatal Care Program and 16 more to Newborn Intensive Care families. The B.A.B.E. Program also acquired the Beacon Community Impact Car Seat Program. There were 259 car seats distributed to families in St. Joseph County and 23 car seat installation requests from January to October. Prior to receiving the Car Seat Fitting Station, the B.A.B.E. Program provided emergency car seats and car seats to participants in the Beacon Community Impact Prenatal Care Program. The Car Seat Fitting Station also provided 16 four-pound car seats to Beacon's NICU. Trained techs in the hospital assist in proper installation of the car seats.

A total of 11,546 B.A.B.E. coupons were distributed to parents and parents-to-be for keeping prenatal appointments, attending parenting classes, and other activities that improve child development and family health.





Healthy Mind

At Beacon Community Impact, we place substantial emphasis on our Healthy Mind priority. In adults aged 18 or older, the percentage with past year serious mental illness increased from 3.7 percent (or 8.3 million) in 2008 to 5.2 percent (or 13.1 million) in 2019.

To prevent suicide and support the mental health of our community, Beacon Community Impact has numerous initiatives and programs that help people get connected to the care they need. This includes our Adverse Childhood Experiences Initiative and our annual Leighton Lecture Impact Series event. Beacon Community Impact also partners with organizations that are working within one of our three focus areas:

Focus 1:

Decrease stigma around mental health.

Focus 2:

Youth and adult development; building protective factors.

Focus 3:

Increase access to mental health services.

By working in these areas, Beacon Health System hopes to improve overall health and well-being. This year, the following outcomes were reported as a result of our collaborations and programming.

People served by county

Elkhart:
2,335

St. Joseph:
6,790

Other Counties:
274

People served by impact tier

Awareness:
3,264

Knowledge:
5,551

Action:
1,113

List of funded organizations

Community partners within this priority represent a wide range of programming aimed at reducing mental stress, instilling confidence and developing protective factors. Below is a list of our current partners.

St. Joseph County Health Department

Big Brothers, Big Sisters

Child and Parent Services (CAPS)

Gentlemen and Scholars

Goodwill Industries of Michiana

Imani Unidad

Michiana Athletic and Recreation Association

Mosaic Health & Healing Arts

Riverbend Cancer Services

United Health Services

Supporting cancer patients beyond their illness

RiverBend Cancer Services improves the quality of life of cancer survivors and their families in our community through helpful advocacy, hopeful support and innovative educational programs. Their programs help those living with cancer, in remission, and their family members feel more hopeful and empowered to manage their cancer treatment and survivorship.

During the past year, RiverBend saw a significant increase in the demand for their counseling services, a 31% increase since March 2020. However, the organization found innovative ways to not only meet this demand but also did so while achieving its goal of meeting with all new clients within two weeks of their initial request. RiverBend's ability to find ways to meet and address the mental health needs of our community is a tremendous resource, especially during an incredibly stressful year.

9,928 people were assisted by Healthy Mind priority in 2020.





Healthy Spirit

Beacon Community Impact's Healthy Spirit priority encompasses a wide range of programming aimed at reducing substance misuse in alcohol, illicit drugs, prescription drugs and tobacco.

In 2018, there were 62 deaths due to drug use in St. Joseph County, 32 deaths due to drug use in Elkhart County, and 10 deaths due to drug use in Marshall County. Emergency Department visits due to a drug overdose in 2018 were 628 people in St. Joseph County, 394 people in Elkhart County, and 138 people in Marshall County.

Without proper intervention, it is unlikely we will see a decrease in these numbers.

As part of Beacon Community Impact's response there are three focus areas in which we work.

Focus 1:

Improve sense of community/connectedness in populations at risk of substance abuse disorders.

Focus 2:

Focus on prevention programs and initiatives as a key in minimizing substance abuse.

Focus 3:

Increase access to substance abuse services.

By working in these areas, Beacon Health System hopes to improve overall health and well-being. This year, the following outcomes were reported as a result of our collaborations and programming.

People served by county

Elkhart:
230

Marshall:
0

St. Joseph:
704

Other Counties:
0

People served by impact tier

Awareness:
0

Knowledge:
892

Action:
42

List of funded organizations

Community partners within this priority represent a wide range of programming aimed at getting people the help they need and providing education to the wider community. Below is a list of our current partners.

Beacon Health and Wellness Services

Beacon Special Projects

SPA Women's Ministry Homes

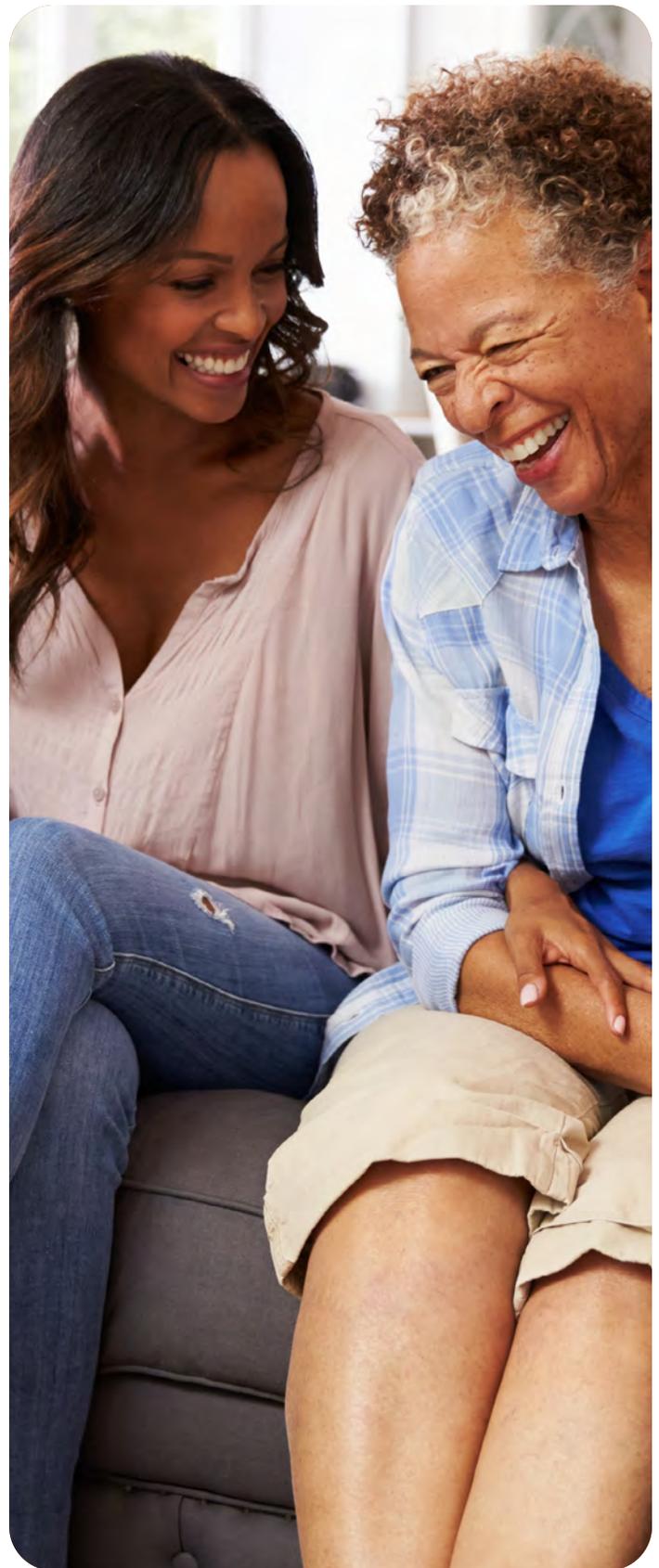
Supporting opioid addiction recovery in our region

In fall 2018, Beacon Community Impact presented a federal grant opportunity for addressing opioid use in Marshall County to several local organizations. We offered to serve as the lead organization for a potential consortium that was mandatory for the grant application. After nine organizations (e.g., IUSB, clinical and mental health service providers) responded and formed Project HOPE, the group applied for a one-year, \$200,000 rural planning grant from the Health Resources and Services Administration (HRSA) under the U. S. Dept. of Health and Human Services. The grant was awarded in June 2019. Dr. Jason Marker served as its director and hired enFocus to help produce the grant's four required deliverables: a needs assessment and strategic, workforce and sustainability plans.

As those efforts were going on, the consortium continued to draw new members. Early in 2020, 18 partners and Community Impact collaboratively applied for a follow-up three-year, \$1 million implementation grant from HRSA that was just awarded in September. Project HOPE now has a new director from Marshall County and is engaged in offering innovative, comprehensive and multi-discipline services to individuals and families needing prevention, treatment and recovery support. The consortium will also offer free training sessions to community residents, law enforcement, first responders and other professionals, and deliver evidence-based substance use prevention curriculum to youth and parents. Ultimately, Project HOPE services are available to promote health and wellness in employees and residents in Marshall County.



Awarded a \$1M grant to support Project Hope, a collaborative program to address opioid use in Marshall County.



Social Determinants of Health

Our goal of helping our community members achieve a healthy body, family, mind, and spirit isn't possible without addressing external factors that influence health.

In recent years, public health professionals and the broader community have begun to recognize that economic and social conditions have an impact on overall health outcomes. These conditions, known as social determinants of health (SDOH), contribute to an individual's overall health and well-being. For Beacon Community Impact, SDOH is a sub-priority that supports the health outcomes of Beacon's four main health priorities; Healthy Body, Healthy Family, Healthy Mind, and Healthy Spirit.

Beacon Community Impact partners with organizations in Elkhart, Marshall and St. Joseph counties that are tackling issues of food insecurity, housing, safety or economic stability. By partnering with organizations to work on these issues, Beacon hopes to make a wider impact on its four primary health priorities.

People served by county

Elkhart:
2,137

Marshall:
100

St. Joseph:
3,341

Other Counties:
0

List of funded organizations

Beacon Health and Wellness Services
Cultivate Culinary School & Catering
Beacon Early Childhood Services
Health Improvement Alliance of St. Joseph County
Center for the Homeless
Near Northwest Neighborhood
Ribbon of Hope
Elkhart Education Foundation

Program Highlight

Cultivate Culinary is a non-profit food rescue organization that works with local food suppliers to feed members of the local community who are food insecure. Beacon Community Impact supports Cultivate's school backpack program, which provides food insecure students with delicious meals in a backpack they take home during the weekend. In April of last year, Cultivate expanded their operations to include more freezer space and added new valuable staff to their team. This allowed them to increase their backpack recipients to 850 elementary school children. Cultivate plans to continue this expansion so that they can serve 1,000 children beginning in 2021.



Adverse Childhood Experiences (ACEs)

In 2020, Beacon Community Impact continued to educate the community on Adverse Childhood Experiences (ACEs) and the lasting effects of trauma through our work with the BCI Self-Healing Community Advisory Council, the BCI ACE Interface Master Trainer Cohort, and the BCI ACE CORE Presenter Cohort. We have also continued to offer training, which has been adapted for virtual use due to COVID-19, for various professionals in our communities consisting of: school systems/educators, healthcare professionals, social services and mental health providers, and community partners. Our ultimate goal remains to create a community that becomes trauma informed and trauma responsive.

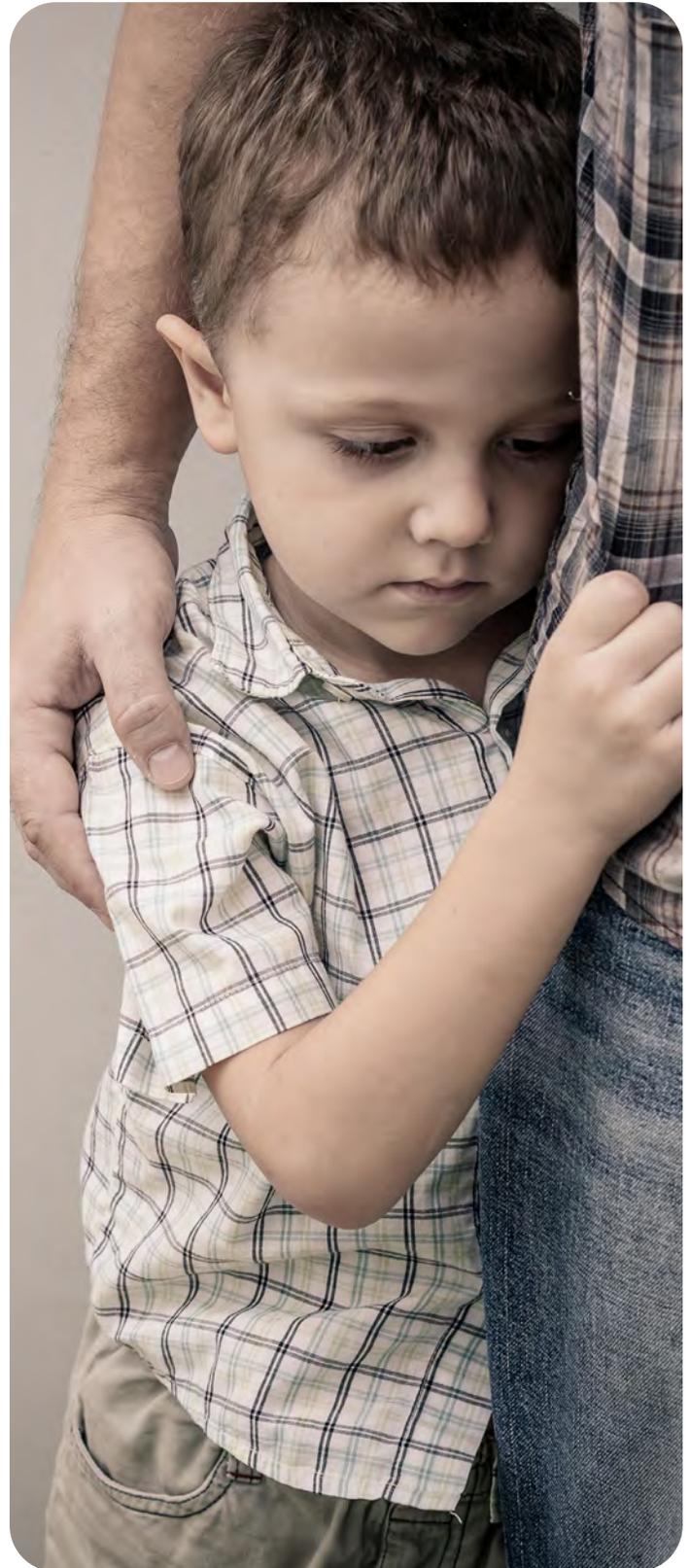
585 people served

Classes led

- 18 1-hour core presentations
- 2 ACE Interface 8-hour trainings
- 5 meetings with the ACE Interface Advisory Council
- 30 one-on-one meetings

Overall impact

- 585 individuals trained or received an ACES training
- Of the 158 people surveyed, 100% of them were able to demonstrate knowledge post-training



COVID-19 Response

Twenty-twenty was an unusual year for our health system and our community. It can be argued that COVID-19 had the greatest impact in our world in the past year. As the first cases of the virus began to spread into St. Joseph, Elkhart, and Marshall counties, many people were faced with loss – loss of work, loss of health, and even loss of friends and family members. These challenges, though felt by many in our community, were most severe in communities of color and low-income communities.

Beacon Health System responded to this by opening up COVID-19 test sites in high-risk neighborhoods. The initiative was led on behalf of Beacon Health System by Beacon Medical Group and its president Dr. Henderson. Dr. Henderson and his team quickly pulled together a task force to gather the tools, resources, and personnel necessary to meet community members in their neighborhoods and provide COVID testing. The result of this task force was both clinic and mobile COVID-19 test sites set up in areas across Elkhart, Marshall, and St. Joseph counties. Thanks to the work of Dr. Henderson and his team of associates, Beacon Health System was able to provide testing to those who might otherwise not receive it and to help those infected get care and resources they needed to stay healthy. Additionally anyone who presented to the mobile testing unit received a mask, educational material about COVID-19, and a list of resources specific to their county.

Accomplishments achieved by these test sites include:

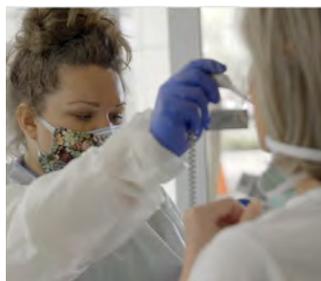
- Total COVID tests: **50,992**
- Total COVID positive results: **7,508**
- Total COVID test orders for Beacon associates: **6,788**
- Total Beacon associates who worked at COVID testing sites: **662**
- Total man hours for COVID testing: **60,783**
- Beacon COVID testing sites: **21**



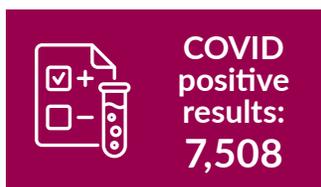
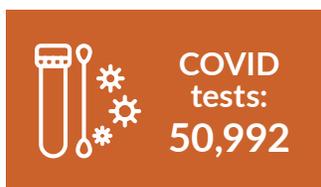
Throughout the COVID-19 pandemic, Beacon associates provided direct care for over 4,300 patients. We did this while protecting our own associates from the virus and providing them support as needed.



In addition to the work completed at the COVID test sites, Beacon Community Impact supported our community's front line workers by procuring PPE during the initial stages of COVID.



At its peak, Beacon Medical Group was administering 600 COVID tests daily across all its testing sites.



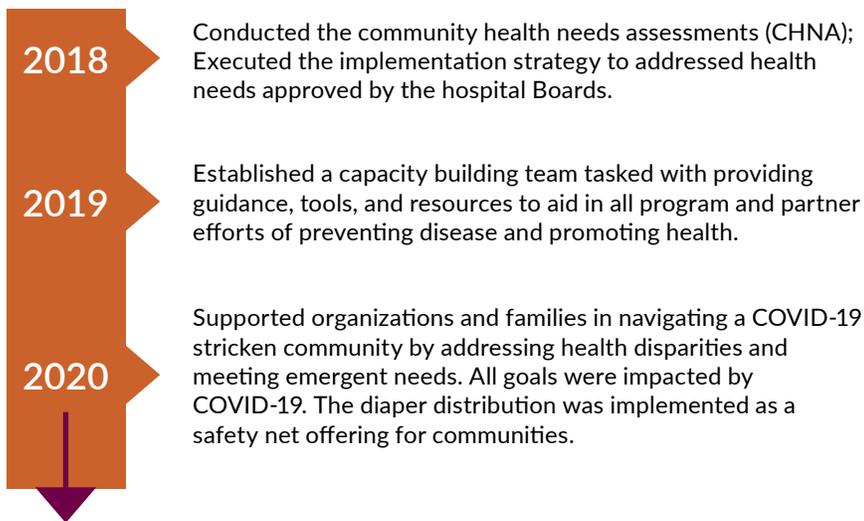
Grants Awarded to Beacon

In 2020, Beacon Community Impact and the Beacon Health Foundation received nearly \$5 million in external grant funds. External grant funds primarily support our Healthy

Family and Healthy Spirit programs. However, Beacon continues to seek out grant opportunities to fund other projects that align with our priorities or vision for the future.

PRIORITIES	GRANT NAME	AMOUNT	COUNTY	EDUC INTER	AW, KNOW, ACT IMP	TIME PERIOD	TOTAL AMOUNT
Healthy Family							\$1,868,459
	ISDH-WIC (CC: 8800)	\$1,523,739	SJC				
	MCH Baby & Me Tobacco Free/DAD's/Pack & Plays (CC: 8800 – DAD's is 8494)	\$87,524	SJC, EC, MC	Int	Act	2019-2020	
	MCH Broadscope Sickle Cell (CC: 8491)	\$112,359		Ed	Know	2019-2020	
	ISDH-IHTC Sickle Cell Newborn Screening (CC:7120)	\$76,000	31 counties	Int	Act	2019-2020	
	PCA Roofsit Little Noggins Nook (CC: 7126)	\$6,322	SJC	Ed	Aware	2020	
	PCA Roofsit Child Passenger Safety (CC: 7126)	\$5,472	SJC	Ed	Know	2020	
	PCA Roofsit Motivated Moms (CC: 7126)	\$2,918	SJC	Ed	Act	2020	
	ISDH OB Navigator Grant (CC: 8315)	\$54,125	SJC	Int	Act	2020-2021	
Healthy Spirit							\$2,753,779
	HRSA, Rural Communities Opioid Response Planning Grant (CC: 6005) [Marshall Partners]	\$200,000	MC	Int	Act	2019-2020	
	HRSA, Rural Communities Opioid Response Implementation Grant (CC: 6005) [Bowen Center]	\$1,000,000	EC	Int	Act	2020-2023	
	IN Family & Social Services/Division of Mental Health & Addiction (CC: 8552) [Oaklawn Partner]	\$873,779	SJC, EC, MC	Int	Imp	2019-2020	
	IN Family & Social Services/Division of Mental Health & Addiction (CC: 8552) [Oaklawn Partner]	\$680,000	SJC, EC, MC	Int	Imp	2020-2021	
Beacon Foundation							\$371,728
	EPPC PATHS Program (CC: 3814)	\$4,000	EC			2020	
	EPPC Child Passenger Safety (CC: 7126)	\$9,300	EC			2020	
	EPPC Latinx Mental Health (CC: 7126)	\$10,000	EC			2020	
	EPPC BABE Store (CC: 7126)	\$5,000	EC			2020	
	BABE Discretionary Funds (CC: 7126)	\$8,020	SJC, EC, MC			2020	
	BABE Supply Raising Funds (CC: 7126)		SJC, EC, MC			2020	
	Kohl's Be a Hero (CC: 3814/8486)	\$100,000	SJC, EC			2020	
	Kohl's Be a Hero (CC: 3814/8486)	\$100,000	SJC, EC			2021	
	Norma Frank Charitable Lead Trust U-Turn (CC: 8486)	\$60,408	SJC			2020	
	Leighton-Oare Foundation (CC: 8480)	\$75,000	SJC, EC, MC			2020	
Total							\$4,993,966

Our path to an improved community



February

All program-led orientation for addressing health priorities.

March

Community Impact grant funds reallocation option to meet basic needs.

April/May

Personal Protective Equipment outreach project.

July/August

Mobile and employer COVID-19 testing clinics.

October

Adjusted internal programming and services to a hybrid model, both in-person and virtual.

November

Released an updated Community Impact website to include a resource hub.

To the Future, and Beyond!

Now: Addressing CHNA priorities to offer sustainable programs and services to meet health needs in a changing environment.

- Hybrid methods
- Across four-county region (Elkhart, LaPorte, Marshall, St. Joseph counties)
- Provide guidance, tools, and resources to aid in partner efforts of preventing disease and promoting health.

Near: on-track to achieve all 2018 CHNA Implementation Strategies and goals. Use the concept of agile methodology to create health equity solutions that evolve through collaboration between cross-functional teams.

Far: Healthcare transformation: Reduce health disparities by advocating for public health policy approaches that have demonstrated measurable improvements in population health and have the greatest impact when targeting social determinants of health.

Acknowledgment

All of our work in the community would not be possible without the support and effort of our community partners. We truly value the opportunity to continue to build relationships with them, and we would like to thank them for all that they do – for the community and for their collaborative experience.



beaconhealthsystem.org/community-impact