2019 Community Benefit Annual Report

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12/2019



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Introduction

Rehabilitation Hospital of Indiana (RHI) is an acute care rehabilitation hospital for inpatient and outpatient rehabilitation. RHI specializes in brain injury, spinal cord injury, stroke, and comprehensive medical rehabilitation for injuries or illnesses resulting in loss of function. RHI is a community collaboration between Indiana University Health and St. Vincent Health.

RHI follows federal guidelines for reporting community benefit – programs designed to improve health and increase access to healthcare services – and other community investments. As defined by these guidelines, community benefit includes charity care, unreimbursed costs of government-sponsored programs and support for medical research and other healthcare services that provide care to promote health and wellness in response to identified community needs.

"Positively Impacting Our Community"

The following highlights programs and activities implemented by RHI to impact the priority needs identified by the most recent Community Health Needs Assessment (CHNA):

Obesity and Diabetes

IPS Sports Physicals On Wednesday, June 5th at Shortridge High School and Thursday, June 6th at George Washington High School, RHI team members volunteered in partnership with IU Health to provide free sports physicals for IPS students from local schools. Volunteer activities included screening for vision and measuring the height, weight and blood pressure of student athletes. According to a recent study, Indiana has the 12th highest adult obesity rate in the nation, and the ninth highest childhood obesity and overweight rate. About 12 percent of Indiana adults have diabetes, the 11th highest rate in the U.S. Physical inactivity and lack of access to exercise opportunities are contributing factors to these rates. Because of these collaborative efforts, we have helped 107 Marion County high school students stay active by passing their physicals that will allow them to participate in sports activities.

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RHI Sports Community Fitness Program occurs twice weekly at our main hospital location. In recognizing that an individual with a disability needs to continue leading a healthy lifestyle, RHI makes the therapy gym and specialized equipment available at no cost to all members of the community that have a physical disability. Additionally, the program is supported by RHI therapy volunteers that provide participant instruction and equipment set-up as needed at each session. With a total attendance of 743 over 91 Fitness Program sessions in 2019, RHI believes this program is important in helping those with disabilities stay active and fit.

Social Determinants of Health

On Tuesday, June 11th, RHI partnered with a number of local hospitals and health care organizations to co-sponsor the fifth annual "Strike Out Stroke" event at Victory Field. The focus of this event was to educate the public about the prevalence and symptoms of stroke and send the message that quick action in the event of a suspected stroke can save lives. RHI volunteer efforts included distributing promotional giveaways and providing stroke education information to attendees prior to the game. Stroke education information centered on the **BE FAST** acronym (Balance loss, Eyesight changes, Face drooping, Arm weakness, Speech difficulty, Time to call 911) for identifying acute stroke symptoms. As an added bonus, previous RHI patients Maria Ward-Primm and David Mikoryak were nominated to participate in this year's event. Maria was selected to throw out the first pitch and David was chosen for in-game radio interview discussing his stroke and recovery.

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Junior Achievement JobSparks On September 24th and 25th, the RHI therapy team partnered with Junior Achievement of Central Indiana and over 150 industry leaders to support the fourth annual JA JobSparks event at the Indiana State Fairgrounds. The focus of this two-day hands-on career event was to offer Marion County 8th graders insights into what industries interest them, what specific jobs are like, and what education is required to perform them successfully. Research has shown that when a student has a real idea of what they want to do after high school, they are much more likely to stay in school and graduate. RHI again joined forces with other local hospitals and organizations to volunteer in the Health and Life Sciences Cluster. RHI therapists assisted with this event by providing interactive, job specific activities and sharing their clinical expertise on occupational and speech therapy. Because of the efforts and commitment in this community-wide initiative, team RHI has provided a "spark" by educating a large number of the more than 10,700 Indianapolis students attending on future careers in rehabilitation.





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Fall Volunteer Reading Program A big THANK YOU to our RHI employees for the commitment and passion they each demonstrated while participating in the Fall Volunteer Reading Program at Jonathan Jennings Elementary School 109. This was an 8 week community benefit initiative that focused on supporting the local school to improve educational opportunities for students. Our volunteers committed to spending an hour each Thursday afternoon assisting teachers and the 86 students that comprise the 2nd and 3rd grade classrooms with reading, journaling, and other lesson planning activities. Reading volunteers truly make a difference. Educational research supports the idea that children who are involved in programs with adult reading volunteers improve their school success including increased school attendance, a major predictor of graduation rates.





Blessings in a Backpack Over one million people in Indiana face food insecurity, and in Indianapolis the number is approaching nearly 175,000—or more than 18 percent of the population. The federal definition of food insecurity is having limited or uncertain access to adequate food. RHI's Community Benefit Committee is working with Jonathan Jennings Elementary School to fight food insecurity in our local community by providing backpacks of ready to eat and easy to prepare food to students over extended school breaks. In the months of October, November, and December, RHI staff delivered a total of 164 backpacks to support students over Fall, Thanksgiving and Christmas breaks. Thank you to Principal Kevin McMahan for his help in coordinating this venture and to the RHI staff for their amazing generosity.

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"RHI is committed to serving our patients, fellow staff, and community unconditionally. We are so very excited and privileged to carry out this mission through days of community service, knowing that coming together and growing together within our community is the essence of true success."

-Dan Woloszyn CEO, Rehabilitation Hospital of Indiana

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