



Fiscal Year 2020  
(July 1, 2019 - June 30, 2020)  
Community Benefit Report



ST PETER'S HEALTH  
PARTNERS

A Member of Trinity Health





James K. Reed, MD  
*President and CEO*



Katherine A. DeRosa  
*Vice President, Mission Services*

Dear Friends,

We are pleased to present the fiscal year 2020 (July 1, 2019 - June 30, 2020) St. Peter's Health Partners Community Benefit Report. This year has brought many new challenges for our communities and our colleagues. Now more than ever, we have worked hard to serve our mission and continue to provide the communities we serve with the care they needed, especially during the COVID-19 pandemic. While many events had to be cancelled for the safety of our colleagues and patients, we quickly adapted to virtual formats, and physically distanced programs.

The mission of St. Peter's Health Partners and Trinity Health is to "serve together in the spirit of the gospel as a compassionate and transforming healing presence within our communities." As such, we include a focus on community health and well-being as a key pillar of our integrated, people-centered health system to improve the health of the entire population, especially the needy and vulnerable.

St. Peter's Health Partners strives to be a leader in optimizing wellness and equity and eliminating disparities in our communities by: leveraging resources and partnerships; focusing on those who are poor and vulnerable; and addressing the social influencers of health.

In that spirit, St. Peter's Health Partners stepped up to serve the community in new ways during the COVID-19 crisis. The need for food assistance increased, so we organized food distributions and donated to the Regional Food Bank. Staff were re-deployed to community testing sites; we conducted ground-breaking research in collaboration with the Mayo Clinic; wellness and social needs assessments were provided for patients and colleagues under self-quarantine orders; and we established a Social Care Hub to address the mental, physical, and emotional needs of patients during this difficult time.

As we continue to face new challenges, the community continues to provide us with hope and to support our front-line workers. We are truly grateful for the opportunity we've been given to provide compassionate care and dedicated stewardship to the community in the Capital Region and beyond.

*James K. Reed, MD*      *Katherine DeRosa*

# About St. Peter's Health Partners

People-centered, integrated care is at the heart of St. Peter's Health Partners (SPHP). Our breadth of services across the continuum of care uniquely positions us to be the region's leader for quality, efficiency, and innovation in delivering compassionate health care and senior services.

## OUR SERVICES

- Advanced Medical Care
- Inpatient Acute Care and Rehabilitation
- Outpatient Rehabilitation
- Urgent Care
- Primary and Specialty Physician Practices
- Adult Day Programs
- Alzheimer's Services
- Enriched Housing/Adult Homes
- Home Care
- Hospice
- Independent Senior Living
- Nursing Homes
- PACE (Program of All-Inclusive Care for the Elderly)

## OUR MISSION

We, St. Peter's Health Partners and Trinity Health, serve together in the spirit of the gospel as a compassionate and transforming healing presence within our communities.

## CORE VALUES

**Reverence** – We honor the sacredness and dignity of every person.

**Commitment to Those Who are Poor** – We stand with and serve those who are poor, especially the most vulnerable.

**Safety** – We embrace a culture that prevents harm and nurtures a healing, safe environment for all.

**Justice** – We foster right relationships to promote the common good, including sustainability of Earth.

**Stewardship** – We honor our heritage and hold ourselves accountable for the human, financial, and natural resources entrusted to our care.

**Integrity** – We are faithful to who we say we are.



## ABOUT US

Nearly  
**12,000**  
Employees

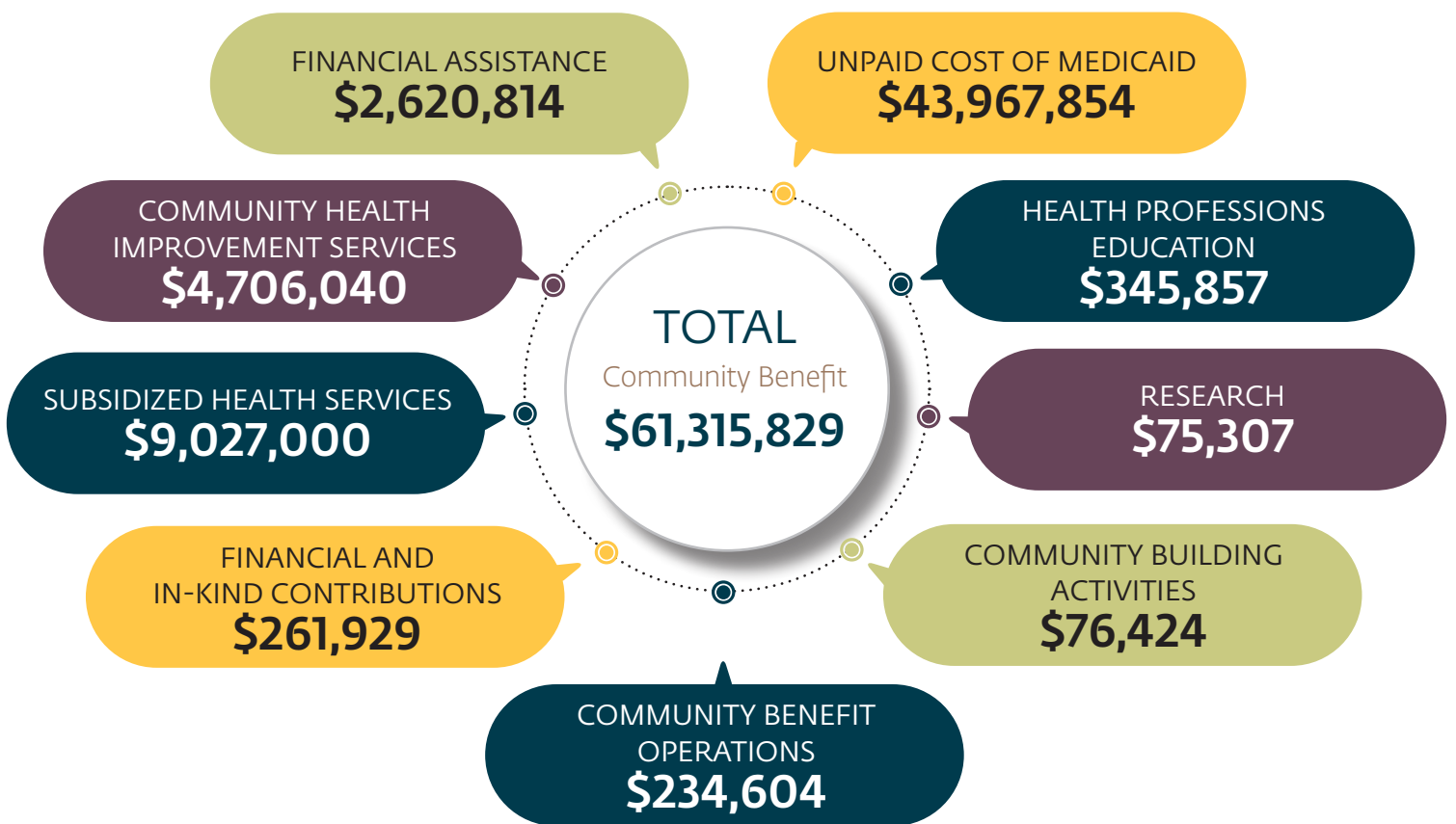
**170+**  
Locations

**6**  
Counties

# We're Leading the Way to Healthier Communities

In fiscal year 2020 (FY20), SPHP provided more than \$60 million in total community benefits. These efforts included preventive services; community partnerships; the preparation of future health care professionals; uncompensated care, research and clinical trials; programs that impact well-being and health status; and efforts to meet the health needs of the uninsured, low-income and other vulnerable populations. Costs associated with our COVID-19 response are included as part of the categories below.

## FY20 COMMUNITY BENEFIT SUMMARY (July 1, 2019 - June 30, 2020)



**397,178**

Total Persons Served

# Impacting Health Through Youth Initiatives

## **CREATING HEALTHY SCHOOLS AND COMMUNITIES**

The Creating Healthy Schools and Communities grant helps designated school districts in the greater Capital Region by tailoring wellness policies to meet the unfunded federal and state regulations helping ensure the districts have the resources they need to successfully implement such policies, and in doing so, combat childhood obesity. For example, SPHP worked with Cohoes City School District to introduce the lifelong sport of golf through the Golf in Schools program. Golf teaches students sportsmanship, honesty, teamwork, competition, and patience.

## **BACKPACK PROGRAM**

Since 2018, St. Peter's Health Partners Community Health and Well-Being has sponsored a back-to-school backpack program. St. Peter's Health Partners provides backpacks and basic supplies to the Pediatric Safety Net practices who pass out the backpacks to families in need. In FY20, 85 backpacks were distributed.



## **SOCCER FOR SUCCESS**

Led by the Troy Boys & Girls Club, the program was made possible by a gift from SPHP and a grant from the U.S. Soccer Foundation. The grants were used to offer the U.S. Soccer Foundation's *Soccer for Success* after-school mentoring program at select Boys & Girls Clubs throughout the Capital Region. The free program targets children from kindergarten through eighth grade, and aims to teach kids the fundamentals of soccer, as well as help them establish healthy habits and develop critical life skills. During FY20, 1,061 children participated in the program. The program was paused during Spring 2020 due to the COVID-19 pandemic.



## DENTAL VAN

The truck, dubbed the “Care Mobile,” provides free dental health care to unserved and underserved children in local elementary and middle schools. Operated through a partnership between the Ronald McDonald House Charities of the Capital Region and St. Peter’s Health Partners, the Care Mobile is now in its 14th year of community service. In FY20, the Dental Van served 437 children before operations stopped in spring 2020 due to school closures.

## Supporting Our Patients

### BOTTLE AND CAN DRIVE

Since 2016, St. Peter’s Hospital Cancer Care Center has collected bottles and cans and turned them in for cash. The funds are used to provide gift cards for necessary items to patients undergoing cancer treatment. To date, they have turned in about 65,000 bottles and cans, raising approximately \$3,250, and have handed out 130 gift cards to patients.

## Fostering Infant Nutrition

### BABY CAFÉ

Baby Cafés across the Capital Region are funded through a grant held by SPHP Community Health Programs and provide pregnant and breastfeeding mothers a comfortable environment to learn more about breastfeeding. When in-person meetings halted in March 2020 due to COVID-19, our team quickly pivoted to a virtual model, so we could continue to provide this valuable resource to our community. During FY20, 75 families were served through our Baby Cafés.



## Screenings

### MAMMOGRAPHY SCREENING DAYS

St. Peter's Health Partners encouraged female colleagues and their spouses over the age of 40 to get screened for breast cancer during its free fall mammography days. Uninsured or underinsured colleagues were encouraged to participate.

#### SINCE THE PROGRAM STARTED IN 2017

<b>230</b> Colleagues screened	<b>2</b> Early-stage cancers detected	<b>39%</b> 2017 Mammo. rate	<b>40%</b> 2020 Mammo. rate
--------------------------------------	---	-----------------------------------	-----------------------------------

### PROSTATE CANCER SCREENING

In September 2019, St. Peter's Health Partners screened 16 men for prostate cancer during a free screening, including a prostate-specific antigen (PSA) blood test and physical exam, for men 50-75 years old, 40 years or older with a family history of prostate cancer, or 40 years or older and of African American descent.

### CARDIAC AND VASCULAR SCREENINGS

St. Peter's Cardiac & Vascular Center conducted a variety of cardiovascular screenings, including full lipid profile and glucose, blood pressure screenings, BMI, pulmonary function testing, and provided educational sessions and ongoing support to help individuals lead a healthier lifestyle. During FY20, 4,514 individuals were screened.

### DIABETES PREVENTION PROGRAM

St. Peter's Health Partners offers a FREE, 16-week PreventT2 lifestyle change program helping individuals make lasting changes to prevent type 2 diabetes. The program is funded through a five-year CDC grant awarded to Trinity Health.

Highlights of the program include:

- A CDC-approved curriculum
- A trained lifestyle coach to guide and encouragement
- Peer support for participants with the similar goals
- Guidance on maintaining a healthy lifestyle

In May 2020, virtual programs started, allowing participants to join from across New York state.

<b>136</b> Participants	<b>FY20</b> <b>7</b> Sessions
<b>4.4%</b> Average group weight loss	<b>1,066</b> Total pounds lost
<b>215</b> Minutes weekly physical activity	



## Tobacco Cessation

### **CAPITAL DISTRICT TOBACCO-FREE COMMUNITIES**

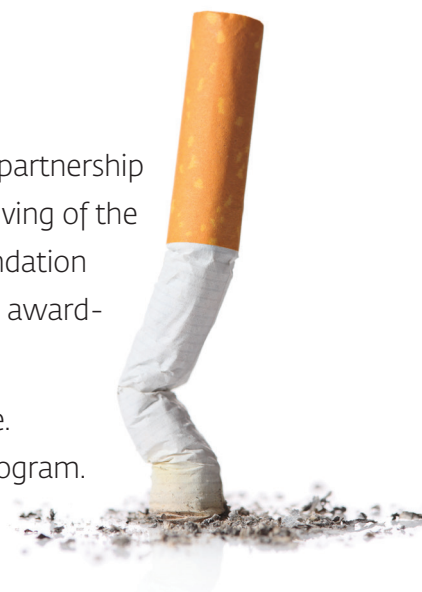
Capital District Tobacco-Free Communities (CDTFC), a grant-funded program of SPHP, is a non-profit partnership of people and organizations from Albany, Rensselaer and Schenectady counties and a community partner of the New York State Tobacco Control Program. Through community action and advocacy, CDTFC works to eliminate exposure to secondhand smoke, decrease the social acceptability of tobacco use, promote tobacco cessation, and prevent the initiation of tobacco use among youth and young adults.

During late 2019 and early 2020, Capital District Tobacco-Free Communities provided education to Town of Bethlehem residents and town board members on the impact of tobacco and vape product sales near schools. Through community mobilization, a bill to limit tobacco and vape sales was introduced. On June 24, the Bethlehem Town Board passed a new law that requires a license for all tobacco and vape retailers, prohibits the sale of vaping products within 1,000 feet of schools, and caps the number of tobacco retailers in the town.

### **THE BUTT STOPS HERE**

In spring 2020, with in-person programs on pause, SPHP, in partnership with MVP Healthcare, CDPHP, Ellis Medicine, Independent Living of the Hudson Valley, St. Joseph's Health, and the Community Foundation for the Greater Capital Region, began a virtual version of the award-winning The Butt Stops Here program.

The virtual program is free and open to individuals statewide. More than 250 participants have registered for the virtual program.



## Combating Food Insecurity

### **FOOD FARMACY**

In January 2020, St. Peter's Health Partners opened a Food Farmacy. The Farmacy provides food-insecure patients, who also have a chronic disease, with weekly supplies of healthy food and education sessions. This teaches patients to make healthy choices for their current disease. The pilot cohort focused on patients with diabetes. After just six weeks, on average, the A1C dropped 1.1% per participant. In March 2020, due to COVID-19, education sessions were suspended. We continued to provide the patients their weekly foods, delivered via courier service. After 18 weeks of receiving their home delivery (without education), the group A1C dropped an average of 2.1%.

## FARMERS MARKETS

St Peter's Health Partners, in conjunction with the Regional Food Bank of Northeastern New York, held farmers markets at Samaritan Hospital and St. Peter's Hospital throughout August-October 2019. The markets were open to staff, patients, visitors, and members of the community and offered fresh produce, health information, and health screenings. As part of SPHP's mission and commitment to those in need, food vouchers were given to people with food insecurities to be used at the markets.

## FOOD DISTRIBUTION

St. Peter's Health Partners, along with several community partners, organized food drives and food drops throughout the year. In February, St. Peter's Health Partners, in collaboration with the Regional Food Bank of Northeastern New York, Catholic Charities Tri-County Services, and Giffen Memorial Elementary School, gave away 12,000 pounds of fresh food to more than 230 individuals and families in Albany's South End. In July SPHP along with the Regional Food Bank, Catholic Charities, Troy Teachers Union, with assistance from City of Troy and Troy Police Department held a drive-thru and walk-up food pantry, serving 470 families.



## FREIGHT FARM

St. Peter's Health Partners is proud to provide funding for the Boys & Girls Club of the Capital Area Freight Farm. The Freight Farm sits inside a 40-foot long metal box and can produce the equivalent of a 2-acre traditional farm. The farm gives young people who participate in the Troy club's after-school program hands-on experience planting, growing, harvesting, and selling fresh produce. The farm is locally grown year-round and all proceeds support the Boys & Girls Club of the Capital Area. Due to COVID-19, the program was briefly paused during Spring 2020.



## **SUPPORTING OUR COMMUNITY PARTNERS**

In April 2020, SPHP donated \$20,000 to the Regional Food Bank of Northeastern New York, to assist with the increased need for food assistance for individuals and families impacted by the COVID-19 pandemic. The Regional Food Bank distributes nearly 40 million pounds of food annually throughout 23 counties.

## **A Healing Presence**

### **SPIRITUAL AND PASTORAL CARE THROUGH TELECHAPLAINCY**

The COVID-19 pandemic restricted hospital visitation from family, friends, and Spiritual Care. St. Peter's Health Partners Spiritual Care team quickly adapted to virtual visits, allowing chaplains to visit with isolated patients using iPads. Our chaplains even used a virtual visit to connect a patient with their family and religious leader to pray as a community in a time of need. The success of the program led to an invitation from Trinity Health to be a beta test location for future telechaplancy programs.

### **PRESCRIPTION ASSISTANCE PROGRAM**

The SPHP Prescription Assistance Program assists uninsured or underinsured patients with obtaining long-term prescription medications that they may otherwise not be able to afford. Prescription Assistance Specialists help patients access free or low-cost programs that are currently available through pharmaceutical companies. During FY20, the Prescription Assistance Program assisted 1,846 individuals in obtaining their medication.

### **CARE FOR VULNERABLE COLLEAGUES AND PATIENTS**

Community Health and Well-Being staff established a system to check on the well-being of patients and colleagues under quarantine orders due to COVID-19. We screen for wellness and social needs. If they are experiencing any increase in COVID symptoms, we put them in touch with their health care provider. If they screen positive for any social needs, we link them to our Social Care Hub for assistance.

The SPHP Social Care Hub was created in response to the ongoing COVID-19 pandemic and increasing needs of our community. The Hub is a collaboration with St. Peter's Health Partners Community Health and Well-Being and Social Work Service Line. This Hub provides referrals for our patients, colleagues, and community members in need of resources such as food, housing, transportation, or child care.

**For more information, please contact the Community Health  
& Well-Being Program at [SPHPSMCHWB@sphp.com](mailto:SPHPSMCHWB@sphp.com)**



A Member of Trinity Health

315 South Manning Boulevard, Albany, NY 12208 | [sphp.com](http://sphp.com)