

# 2018 Community Benefit Report



# University Hospitals 2018 Community Benefit<sup>1</sup>

## \$2.99 Billion Over Last Decade



### ■ COMMUNITY HEALTH IMPROVEMENT

Our outreach programs provide no-cost health screenings and help thousands of people understand their health, ways to improve and maintain it, and resources available. We also invest in the community's health by supporting health-related community causes.<sup>3</sup>

### ■ EDUCATION AND TRAINING

UH elevates standards of health care here and elsewhere by preparing future generations of caregivers. Approximately 1,200 physician residents and fellows train here each year, along with thousands of nurses and other health professionals. We reach into our local community to teach lifesaving techniques and to inspire people to pursue health care careers.<sup>3</sup>

### ■ RESEARCH

UH serves our community in its broadest sense by engaging in and funding clinical research. In conjunction with Case Western Reserve University School of Medicine and private-sector health care companies, our professionals elevate care standards and develop new ways to diagnose, prevent, treat and cure diseases and injuries.<sup>3</sup>

### ■ CHARITY CARE

Some of our neighbors lack the means to pay for essential health care. Throughout our history, UH has always provided care without regard to ability to pay.

### ■ MEDICAID SHORTFALL

Thousands more of our under-resourced neighbors now qualify for Ohio's expanded Medicaid coverage, yet the state-federal health-insurance program reimburses providers for only a portion of the care they provide. UH underwrites the remainder of these patients' bills, reflecting our commitment to our community's health.<sup>2</sup>

<sup>1</sup> UH's gross community benefit investment for 2018 was \$435 million.

<sup>2</sup> Under Internal Revenue Service Guidelines, we subtracted \$19 million from Medicaid Shortfall to reflect net funding recorded from the federal Hospital Care Assurance Program.

<sup>3</sup> We subtracted \$33 million in restricted grant funding from outside organizations from Education and Training, Research and Community Health Improvement, as required by IRS reporting guidelines for nonprofit hospitals.

# UH: Caring for Our Community

UH demonstrates commitment to the community through organized and sustainable community benefit programs that provide free and discounted health care to those unable to afford it, care to under-resourced beneficiaries of Medicaid and other government programs, and services designed to improve community health, increase access to health care and train the next generation of medical professionals. UH follows very strict IRS guidelines in determining what counts as community benefit.

University Hospitals is the health care partner that Northeast Ohioans have trusted for over 150 years. UH works with our community to identify and address our region's most pressing health care needs through research, charitable care, education, training, community outreach and subsidizing health care. UH provides national leadership and neighborhood care through an integrated system of 18 hospitals, more than 50 outpatient centers and hundreds of other care-delivery points. More than 27,500 UH physicians and caregivers serve nearly 1.3 million individual patients with the finest quality care, best care experiences and highest care value at every stage in life.

## EDUCATION

- UH has 115 physician residency training programs with 1,189 residents and fellows in training.
- UH is affiliated with Case Western Reserve University School of Medicine and partners with Technion-Israel Institute of Technology American Medical School for medical education and Oxford University for research through the Harrington Discovery Institute at University Hospitals in Cleveland, Ohio – part of The Harrington Project for Discovery & Development.
- UH has established programs that support the training of nurses and advanced practice providers through area nursing schools and community colleges, as well as partnerships for the clinical training of dietitians, pharmacists, physical and occupational therapists, and laboratory technicians.

## About UH

<b>Founded in 1866</b>	not-for-profit entity	<b>6</b>	facilities providing behavioral, elder, home care, rehabilitation and integrative health services
<b>18</b>	hospitals, including 3 joint venture hospitals	<b>27,500+</b>	caregivers: Northeast Ohio's second-largest employer
<b>Largest</b>	primary care network in Northeast Ohio	<b>4,000</b>	volunteers
<b>50+</b>	outpatient health centers, freestanding urgent care and convenient care centers, and surgery centers	<b>2,100+</b>	active clinical research studies including <b>600+</b> interventional clinical trials

Dear Friend,

As the demand for health care services in Northeast Ohio continues to evolve due to changing demographics, so too does the need to help address related priorities in our community. University Hospitals confidently steps forward to tackle our region's most pressing needs.

These challenges include infant and child wellness, substance use disorders and mental health, health care access, health education and awareness, food insecurity and more. Every hospital across our system collects data to assess and identify the specific health requirements of people and neighborhoods around it. Findings from these community health needs assessments shape where and how we allocate resources to make a lasting impact on decreasing health disparities and furthering healthy living.

Through targeted programs and initiatives, UH has invested nearly \$3 billion to community benefit expenditures in the past decade, including \$383 million in 2018 alone.

We make this commitment because we know that a healthier population is key to regional prosperity and because it's our mission as a community benefit organization. We continue to make it easier for all people across the socioeconomic spectrum to access health care services, health information and community programs, whether they live in Cleveland or in the surrounding counties.

Additionally, we lead innovative social impact investing and participate in community-building partnerships to revitalize and invest in the economic vitality of some of our most underserved neighborhoods. Through collaboration, we can help to address pressing health and socioeconomic needs. Together, we all benefit.

For more than 153 years, University Hospitals has proudly advanced our community while furthering our mission: To Heal. To Teach. To Discover.

Sincerely,



**Thomas F. Zenty III**  
Chief Executive Officer  
University Hospitals



**Heidi L. Gartland**  
Vice President, Government  
& Community Relations  
University Hospitals



# 2018 Cuyahoga County Community Health Assessment

Last year, UH, along with the Cleveland Department of Public Health, Cuyahoga County Board of Health, Health Improvement Partnership-Cuyahoga, The Center for Health Affairs and Case Western Reserve University School of Medicine, embarked on a first-of-its kind joint community health needs assessment (CHNA) in the region. Previously, hospitals and public health departments conducted independent assessments on different timetables. Yet, it was apparent that these duplicative, independent efforts would be more impactful and less costly if done collaboratively in a strategic, place-based manner. Danielle Price, UH Director of Community Health Engagement, commented, "We understand that health equity will only be accomplished through a collective impact effort, strategically aligned and focused on addressing root causes of presenting health conditions."

This approach fulfills and goes well beyond IRS governmental requirements for UH and aligns with our vision to provide community health improvement through the lens of health equity. The new collaboration is focused on effectively addressing health inequities in Cuyahoga County and aligning local planning efforts with state population health efforts.

UH medical centers in Cuyahoga County identified and addressed these key priority areas:

- Infant & Child Health
- Behavioral Health & Substance Use Disorder
- Access
- Education & Awareness
- Food Insecurity

The Cuyahoga County coalition expanded in 2019 to include three more hospital systems and other community partners.

This regional approach embraces the State of Ohio mandate requiring all nonprofit hospitals and public health departments in Ohio to align their community health assessments by 2020. UH is one of the first medical centers aligned and working together with public health partners in the six counties where all of our hospitals are located.

## The 2018 Cuyahoga County CHNA priorities included:

- Poverty
- Mental Health & Drug Abuse
- Infant Mortality
- Safety
- Chronic Disease Management & Prevention

## UH Hospitals Participating in the 2018 CHNA

- 1 UH Cleveland Medical Center
- 1 UH Rainbow Babies and Children's Hospital
- 2 UH Ahuja Medical Center
- 3 UH Bedford Medical Center
- 4 UH Parma Medical Center
- 5 UH Richmond Medical Center
- 6 UH St. John Medical Center
- 7 UH Rehabilitation Hospital, a Joint Venture with Kindred Healthcare



# Creating Strong Mothers Through Mom Power

Striving to be the best parent she can be is a top priority for Camille. She temporarily lost custody of her three-month-old baby after both tested positive for cocaine.

Now sober for over a year, part of Camille's recovery was the chance to participate in Mom Power at UH Rainbow Center for Women & Children while her son Maxx participated in the infant group in the next room. "I'm still using Mom Power skills and I love it – the self-care and being happy with myself," said Camille. "My wife said it was nice for UH to have a support system for educational purposes that isn't scripted."

The 10-week group program offers mental health and parenting support to mothers who struggle with parenting stress and may also suffer from depression, anxiety or post-traumatic stress disorder. "These are moms who feel isolated – like they're holding down the ship and not getting the support they need," explained Sarah Nagle-Yang, MD, Co-Program Director, UH Women's Mental Health Services.

UH Social Worker Tamika Williams said the program's structured format helps build strong families that support children. "Moms are a secure base and safe haven for their children," said Tamika. "They are meeting their child's needs and restoring their own emotional balance."

After gathering as a group, mothers participate in sessions while a child team observes and interacts with the children. Critical goals are to provide children emotional and physical safety. Developmental delays or functional issues are relayed to the mothers and Mom Power leaders. At the end of Mom Power, mothers gather to celebrate each other's newly acquired, confident parenting skills.

To successfully complete Mom Power, mother and child need to participate in at least seven sessions. Children must be under five years old. Tamika explained the community benefit, "When people feel supported that allows them to branch out and grow and try new things, and not be in a constant state of stress."



# Serving Our Youngest Patients: Infant & Child Wellness

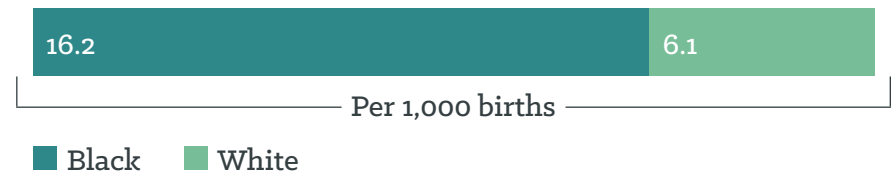
## ISSUE

Social, environmental and economic factors are the most significant determinants of health. For example, unsafe housing affects child health in our community by contributing to lead poisoning and worsening asthma and allergies. Lack of access to care – either as a result of transportation issues or lack of available providers – impacts pediatric chronic disease, and further isolates families without strong support systems. Infant mortality and its primary risk factor – premature birth – are barometers for a community’s wellbeing and reflect multifactorial determinants, including systemic racism and poverty. In Cleveland, infant mortality (from birth to age 1 year) was double the national benchmark (12.0 deaths vs. 6.0, per 1,000 births) with significant disparities in outcomes for African-American infants (16.2 per 1,000 births) compared with non-Hispanic White infants (6.1 deaths per 1,000 births) in 2016 (*source: 2018 CHNA*).

### Infant Mortality (Age 0-1 Year) in Cleveland: Double the National Benchmark in 2016



### Infant Mortality in Cleveland in 2016 Based on Race/Ethnicity



## UH SOLUTIONS

**UH Rainbow Center for Women & Children, in Cleveland’s MidTown neighborhood, is an accessible medical home that is dedicated to addressing patients’ medical and non-medical health needs with wraparound services.** Designed in partnership with our Community Advisory Board of local residents and organizations, the UH Rainbow Center provides services tailored for the community’s highest priority health care needs in one convenient location, including OB/GYN, pediatric primary care and adolescent health care services, integrated mental and behavioral health services, dental care, nutrition education and healthy food programs, OneSight (a full-service vision clinic), medical-legal partnership and a full-service Women, Infants, and Children (WIC) office for food assistance. In addition, the Rainbow Connects program helps to connect families with community resources to address unmet social, environmental and economic

health needs. The UH Rainbow Center for Women & Children offers group programs, such as CenteringPregnancy, Mom Power and MOMs program (for those recovering from substance use disorders).

**UH Rainbow Babies & Children’s Hospital advances health care initiatives impacting the morbidity and mortality of infants and children, including First Year Cleveland and Lead Safe Cleveland Coalition.** First Year Cleveland offers a unified strategy dedicated to reducing Cuyahoga County’s infant mortality rate to less than 6.0 deaths per 1,000 live births by 2020. UH supported policy recommendations by the Lead Safe Cleveland Coalition to Cleveland City Council prioritizing primary prevention of lead exposure in children. Further awareness was provided through the Lead Safe Summit, with UH Rainbow participation.

# UH Teen Tobacco Cessation Program Cuts Through Smoke and Mirrors

Independence and curiosity are hallmarks of adolescence. Yet, for teenagers who begin using tobacco, it can mean a lifelong addiction that causes their futures to go up in smoke.

Tobacco use continues to decline in Ohio and across the U.S., but the addition of new smokers continues, in part due to the popularity of vaping electronic cigarettes (e-cigarettes) by today's youth. Of those who continued smoking into adulthood, nearly 9 of 10 cigarette smokers began before the age of 18. "Preventing tobacco product use among youth is critical to ending the tobacco epidemic in the United States," according to the Centers for Disease Control.

At three Parma, Ohio high schools, a tobacco cessation alternative program called Smoking Eduvention educates and deters youth from smoking and vaping with assistance from the school district, UH Parma Medical Center and juvenile court. Students who are caught with tobacco products are mandated to attend the program.

Anmarie Antenucci, a medical oncology social worker at UH Parma Medical Center, led almost 80 students through the program in its first year. Students learned about numerous cancer-causing chemicals in tobacco products and participated in activities to mimic smoking's effect on breathing in those with lung disease. Students also learned about risk through an activity in which playing cards were labeled quit, continue or die from a tobacco-related death. The luck of the draw showed them their fate.

"Many students could not believe that using nicotine could affect not only their health, but also shrink and limit job opportunities and some of their goals," said Anmarie. "Students also did not seem to realize how using nicotine now had an effect on having a future family for both males and females."



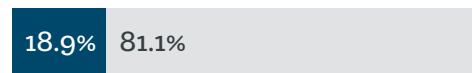


# A Hopeful Prognosis: Behavioral Health and Substance Use Disorders

## ISSUE

According to the National Institute of Mental Health, nearly one in five U.S. adults has a mental illness.<sup>1</sup> Mental health problems are often associated with risky behavior, which in turn is linked with disease, injury and death.<sup>2</sup> And, by itself, mental illness is associated with a higher incidence of chronic physical conditions. Furthermore, a history of mental illness is reported in nearly half of the homeless population.<sup>3</sup> And many who have a mental illness are known to have a comorbid substance use disorder. Ohio has one of the highest rates of opioid-related deaths across the U.S. Behavioral risk factors that were assessed in the Cuyahoga County Health Assessment included drug and tobacco use among others.

### U.S. Adults with Mental Illness<sup>1</sup>



■ Adults with Mental Illness  
■ Adults without Mental Illness

### U.S. Homeless Adults with Mental Illness<sup>3</sup>



■ Homeless Adults with Mental Illness  
■ Homeless Adults without Mental Illness

### Opioid Overdose Deaths<sup>4</sup>



Per 100,000 people  
■ State of Ohio ■ National Average

## UH SOLUTIONS

**Psychiatry and behavioral health services, which are considerably subsidized, are offered** at many UH locations. Additionally, telepsychiatry expands access to pediatric and adult patients presenting to UH Emergency Departments, decreasing unnecessary admissions by 40 percent. Substance use disorder with psychiatric conditions are seen in 80 percent of the telepsychiatry patients.

As part of UH's Education and Training, the Public and Community Psychiatry Fellowship provides UH/Case Western Reserve University physicians required training and also helps alleviate the current and anticipated shortage of psychiatrists and addiction specialists nationally.

**In response to the opiate crisis**, UH collaborates with hospitals in the Northeast Ohio Hospital Opioid Consortium to collectively provide

solutions. UH continues its efforts to reduce opioid use through the UH Pain Management Institute and the Medication-Assisted Treatment Program.

UH has partnered with the Alcohol, Drug Addiction and Mental Health Services Board of Cuyahoga County to train physicians and nurses as acupuncture detoxification specialists. Technology helps track patients' controlled substance use via UH's electronic medical record and the UH Care Continues platform.

UH also provides community education on substance abuse disorder, including information on drug, alcohol and tobacco addiction. In 2018, UH Geauga, Geneva and Samaritan medical centers and UH St. John Medical Center, a Catholic hospital, provided community education on behavioral health and substance use disorders to over 8,000 people.

# Providing Specialized, Compassionate HIV Care

When Dale\* felt sick and broke out in a rash, he went to his doctor. His world fell apart when the life-threatening test results revealed he was HIV-positive. The year was 1989: knowledge about HIV and AIDS was scant, and stigma about its transmission rampant.

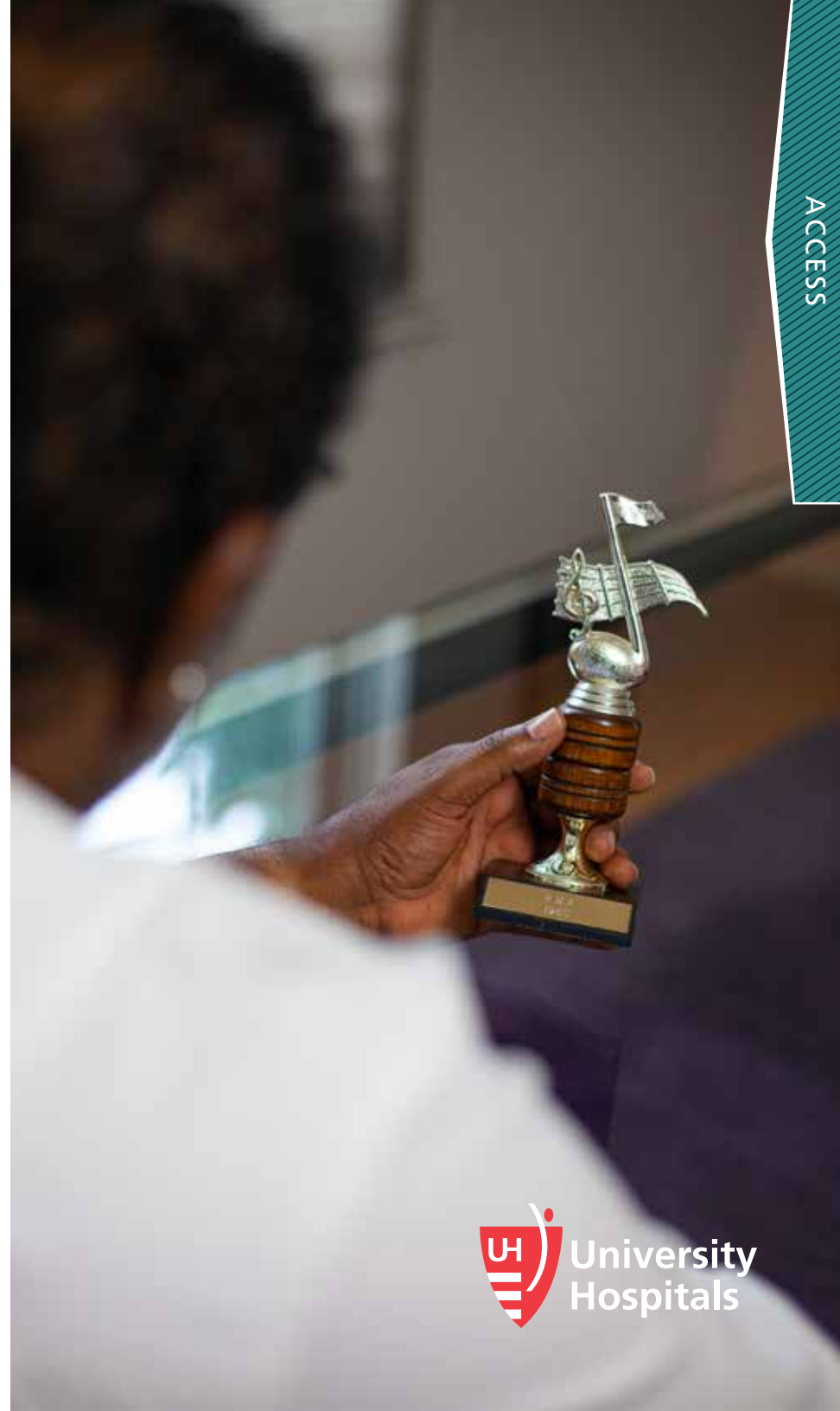
“At the time of the initial outbreak, I didn’t know what it was – and I was in an enormous amount of physical pain,” he said.

Dale had many sleepless nights, experiencing anger, regret, fearfulness and shame. He wondered if coworkers could tell he was sick. He worried about what family and friends would think. And he heard how others with AIDS were shamed. “I made a choice to distance myself from people because of that. It can become a very lonely place to be without the support of others.”

With thoughts about his future, Dale became inspired by reflecting on his spirituality and the Positive Mental Attitude award he earned in high school marching band. After researching his options, Dale came to the John T. Carey Special Immunology Unit (SIU) at UH Cleveland Medical Center – a place dedicated to the care of those with HIV and AIDS regardless of ability to pay. And today - many years later, Dale feels secure in the compassion he receives from familiar faces in warm surroundings and the medically advanced treatment brought forth by clinical trials. Dale’s experience is that UH’s SIU is the premier HIV treatment center in Northeast Ohio. His primary care physician can arrange specialist visits with providers who understand HIV-AIDS. Additional services are provided through the LGBTQ service line for those who identify through sexual orientation.

“SIU has a home-like environment - no matter where you come from, what your walk in life is, or where your path has been, you are treated like a human being and respected as an individual,” said Dale. “Walking in the door and seeing a familiar face at the reception desk, having the same phlebotomist and seeing the same doctor – I call that holistic care. It’s made a difference in my mental state. There’s no place like home; there’s no place like home.”

\*Dale is a pseudoname for this patient who retains anonymity.



# The Pathway to Health: Access & Awareness

## ISSUE

Despite abundant medical facilities throughout Northeast Ohio, many lack access to quality health care. Access is defined as an individual's ability to obtain adequate or appropriate health care or social services. While largely determined by location, transportation and type of service, access also is influenced by poverty, culture and education.

## UH SOLUTIONS

**UH provides access to care close to home throughout the Northeast Ohio region.** No-cost screenings offer prevention and early detection of cancer, diabetes, cardiovascular health, pulmonary health and more at UH medical facilities and community sites. UH medical centers in rural communities offer telehealth clinics to provide access to top specialists at our academic medical center main campus. For chronic disease management, UH offers educational programs and support groups.

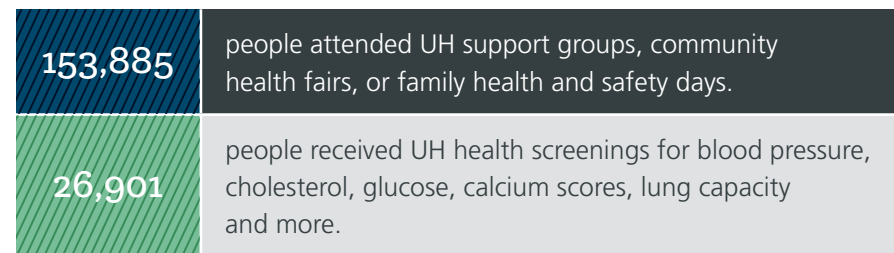
### UH's accessible care includes:

- The Medical Access Clinic at UH Cleveland Medical Center provided care to over 8,700 patients who didn't have a primary care physician through emergency department referrals and central scheduling. The clinic establishes the patient with a primary care physician or provides a hospital follow-up visit. In 2019, the Medical Access Clinic relocated to the walk-in clinic at UH Otis Moss Jr. Health Center to better serve the health care needs of community residents.
- At the UH Cleveland Medical Center Douglas Moore Clinic, residents and attending internal medicine physician teams cared for more than 7,300 patients. In addition to those with commercial insurance, both clinics treated low-income patients who receive Medicare or Medicaid.

### UH awareness efforts include:

- UH Bedford Medical Center educated more than 3,090 people on cardiac health and heart disease.
- UH Elyria Medical Center provided diabetes, lung and congestive heart failure information to 584 community members.
- UH St. John Medical Center reached over 77,000 people through an outreach strategy of educational events and mailings.
- UH Portage Medical Center provided educational programming to over 300 Windham, Ohio residents.

## UH Access & Awareness



# UH – Breakthrough Schools “Mini Medical School”

Young dreams of becoming a physician, saving lives, being a nurse – and the wonder of what that would be like - are a step closer to reality for students who participated in University Hospitals’ Mini Medical School.

The first class of 15 students from Breakthrough Schools in Cleveland spent the day at UH Harrington Heart & Vascular Institute observing what surgeons, physicians and nurses do daily.

In addition to learning about EKGs and ECHOs, each student dissected a real heart (from a pig) with the cardiac surgical team.

Outreach such as this is part of UH’s mission to serve the community. “When we learned about this incredible school with an incredible mission, we did not wait and jumped in with an open invite, a seminal idea of working together to develop a program to stimulate middle school-age children to think bigger and better about their future, a future where health is not just an imaginary, remote job of health professionals, but something tangible and at reach for all,” said Marco Costa, MD, PhD, MBA, President, UH Harrington Heart & Vascular Institute.

The students also learned First Aid, casting and splinting, and mindfulness techniques.

“We are blown away by how much we all learned,” said Breakthrough Schools Director of Volunteer Services Kelly Berg. “So much thoughtfulness and careful planning went into it, and the day was a huge success.”

This UH program serves as a model to create community awareness and develop interest in health care careers. “We must get out and develop a pipeline for our future. No better place to start our recruitment than a school full of highly motivated, diverse, bright and purposeful-minded middle schoolers,” said Dr. Costa.



# Learning to Live Healthy: Education & Awareness

## ISSUE

Early diagnosis and treatment are key to a successful recovery and good health. Yet for lack of health education and awareness, many go without the timely treatment required. These situations are compounded when health care providers lack a true understanding of the social determinants of health that impact many of our under-resourced patients.

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## UH SOLUTIONS



*UH caregivers Tia Melton, MD, Kim Barnett, RN, Veronica deLeon, RN, Da'Na Langford, CNM and Danielle Price, Director, UH Community Health Engagement, participated in the Jack and Jill of America, Inc. event.*

**UH engages community residents, health care providers and caregivers to increase knowledge of medical conditions and social factors influencing health.** Our educational and youth-focused career exposure activities include:

**Poverty simulation experience** – UH Rainbow Babies & Children's Hospital resident physicians and Case Western Reserve University law students participate in an educational, role-playing workshop to learn about social determinants of health, such as poverty, accessibility (transportation issues) and types of violent crime impacting under-resourced community residents. The experience is augmented by virtual reality program instruction.

**Stop the Bleed training** – These efforts are part of a national initiative from the U.S. Department of Homeland Security that is offered by University Hospitals EMS Training and Disaster Preparedness Institute and local police and fire departments. This program trains teachers and the general public in bleeding control techniques during a life-threatening emergency.

**Jack and Jill of America, Inc. Community Service Day** – African-American middle school students from several high-performing, local schools learned about health careers and provided care packages to parents of babies in UH Rainbow Babies & Children's Hospital's NICU in coordination with the March of Dimes. Jack and Jill of America, Inc., is an organization of mothers dedicated to raising the next generation of African-American leaders while enhancing the lives of children. Through diverse programs focused on leadership, they work to accomplish their mission through development, cultural exposure, community service, legislative advocacy and philanthropic giving.

**Botvin LifeSkills® Training** – UH Conneaut and Geneva medical centers provided developmentally appropriate substance abuse and violence prevention classes for 3,500 students, grades 3 – 8, in Ashtabula County schools.

# UH Offers Fresh Food and Creative Cooking in Former Food Desert

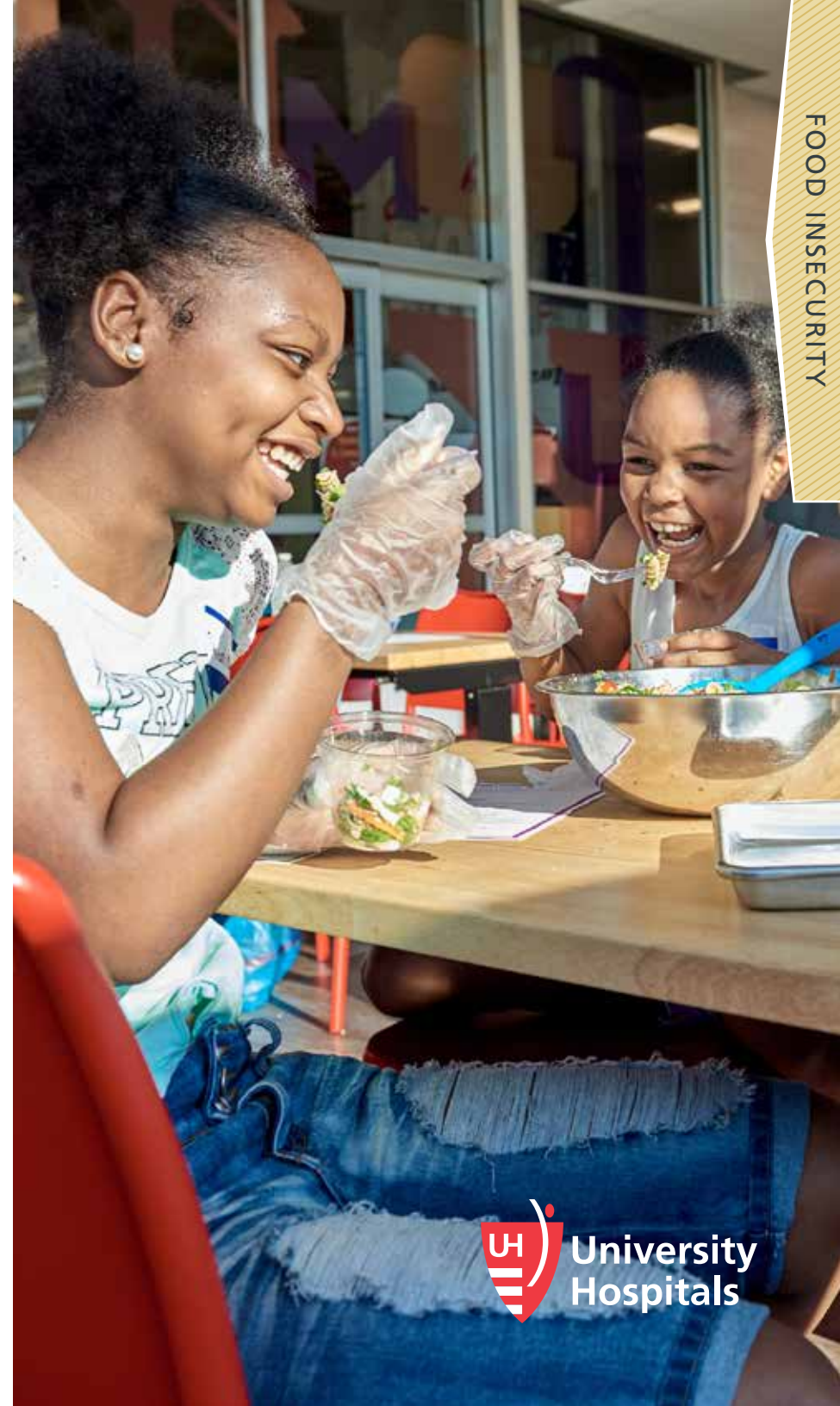
UH Executive Chef Tracy Meardy chops a rainbow of vegetables and herbs while young cousins Tiara and Paris peer over the counter of the teaching kitchen inside the new Dave's Market & eatery in Cleveland's MidTown neighborhood.

They are among the eager guests and local residents learning how to cook healthy, creative dishes in "Easy Recipes for Busy Parents" with an array of colorful produce and protein sources. The ongoing UH cooking classes are led by chefs and registered dietitians.

The bustling, full-service grocery store, located in a former food desert where fast food and convenience stores once provided the only options, is a hive of activity. When UH committed to build the new UH Rainbow Center for Women & Children, in MidTown Cleveland, they worked with Dave's Market to establish its 13th location, ensuring that local families will have the food resources to live healthier lifestyles.

Taught in both demonstration-style and hands-on sessions, Lora Silver, Community Outreach Dietitian with Sodexo at UH, said these classes show people how to apply the advice they receive from their health practitioners. Senior centers and community groups are also requesting use of this busy teaching kitchen and community room.

"These opportunities are really about building community, just like so many other outreach programs offered by UH Rainbow Center for Women & Children," said Lora. "By providing social support, we can help people make long-term lifestyle changes."



# Addressing Food Insecurity

## ISSUE

While most people in northern Ohio can get to a local grocery store and buy healthy foods for their families, this unfortunately is not the case for everyone.

Food deserts are areas that are located more than a half mile from the nearest supermarket, and have more than 30 percent of its population with income below 200 percent of the poverty level. Lack of available fresh food is linked to diet-related diseases, including obesity, heart disease and diabetes. And when healthy fruits and vegetables are available, many residents still need help to know how to choose and prepare nutritional food.



### Cuyahoga County Food Desert, 2016-2017:

■ 35.6% – Population Affected  
60.4% – African-American\* | 22.7% – White\*

22.3%

Households That Do Not Own a Vehicle and Live in Food Desert



### City of Cleveland Food Desert, 2016-2017:

■ 60.7% – Population Affected  
67.8% – African-American\* | 47.1% – White\*

25.7%

Households That Do Not Own a Vehicle and Live in Food Desert

## UH SOLUTIONS

**Healthy food classes** – are offered at Dave’s Market & eatery, in an east-side neighborhood of Cleveland, with UH Rainbow Center for Women & Children – a location that is accessible by public transportation.

**Community vegetable gardens** – are located at UH Portage Medical Center and UH St. John Medical Center, a Catholic hospital, in Westlake, and through UH Bedford Medical Center.

**USDA Summer Food Service Program** – with Sodexo, over 7,300 summer lunches were served at UH Cleveland Medical Center, UH Ahuja, Bedford, Elyria, Parma, Portage and Richmond medical centers.

**The Backpack Program** – at UH Ahuja Medical Center provided weekend food for meals to Warrensville Heights elementary school families during the school year.

**Food for Life Market** – a preventative model to address chronic health conditions by providing free, healthy food and dietician consultation at UH Otis Moss Jr. Health Center in Cleveland.

**Meals on Wheels** – the independently-run local program, as part of the national program, assists immobile individuals by providing nutritional food. UH served 2,874 meals through UH Parma Medical Center.

\*Includes persons of Hispanic origin

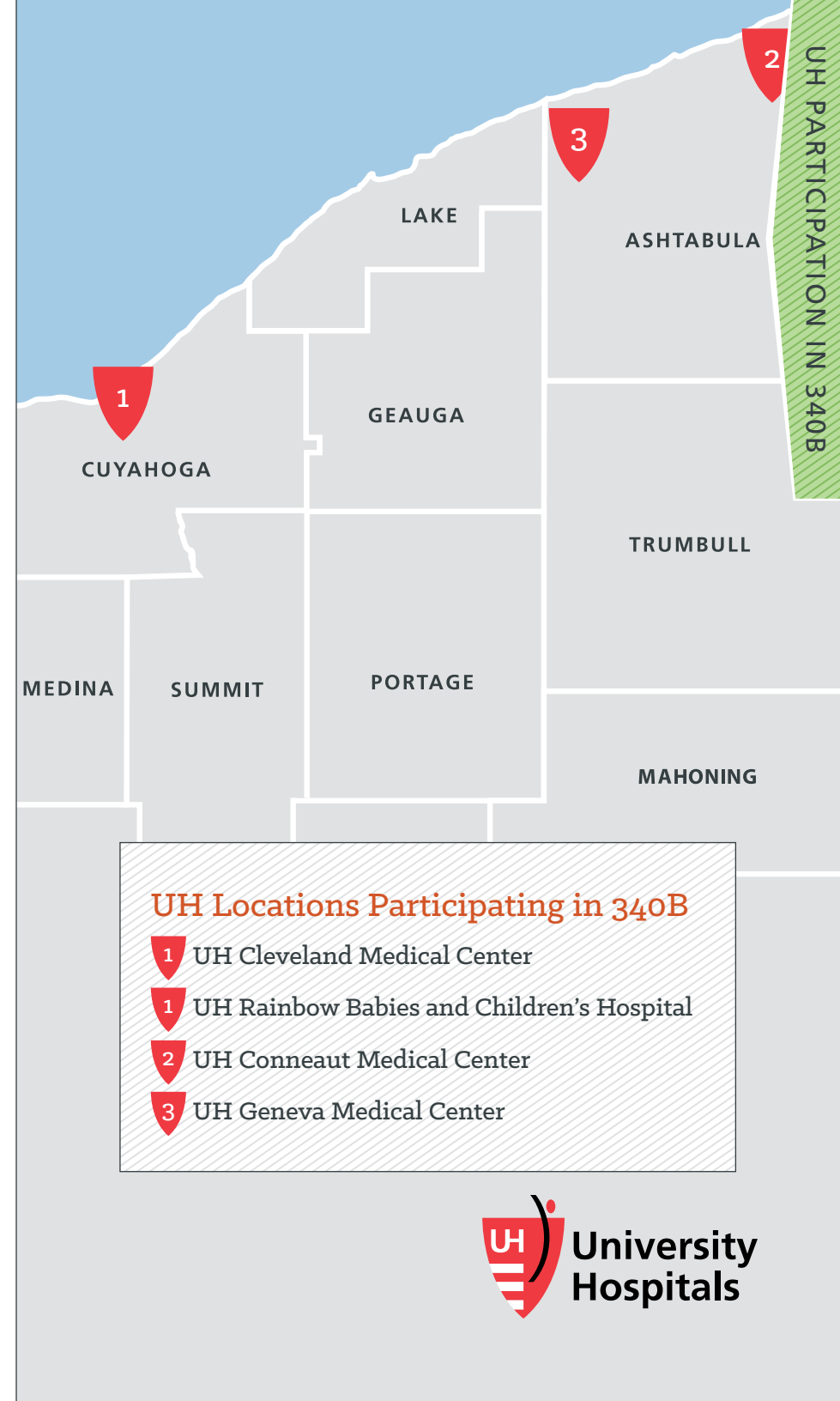
# UH Participation in 340B

Many hospitals face challenging financial situations in part as a result of two factors: from government payers (such as Medicaid and Medicare) paying hospitals well below the cost of providing care and rising hospital bad debt. Many rural and inner city hospitals have recently experienced financial losses from operations. The savings from the 340B drug discounts allow many hospitals to keep their doors open.

University Hospitals has committed to participate in the American Hospital Association's 340B Good Stewardship principles. These principals are endorsed by America's Essential Hospitals, the Association of American Medical Colleges, the Catholic Health Association of the United States, the Children's Hospital Association and 340B Health.

"Adherence to these principles helps 340B hospitals across the country communicate why this vital program is so important to their patients and communities. To ensure good stewardship of the 340B program, hospitals participating in the program should structure hospital policies and practices to demonstrate their commitment.

"That demonstration of commitment includes sharing publicly how 340B savings are used to benefit the community, such as reaching more eligible patients and providing more comprehensive services for those in the community," according to the American Hospital Association.





## ISSUE

Health care challenges are particularly acute in rural and inner city areas across the U.S. where hospitals treat a large number of low-income residents. In Ohio, rural Ashtabula County and inner-city Cleveland residents face daunting barriers to health care from social determinants of health, including unemployment and the inability to afford health insurance, housing, safe neighborhoods, education and food.

## UH SOLUTIONS

**For more than 25 years, the 340B Drug Pricing Program has been critical in helping hospitals expand access to health care services used by low-income and uninsured individuals.** 340B hospitals support transparency to ensure that the program meets the U.S. Congressional objective, “to stretch scarce federal resources as far as possible, reaching more eligible patients and providing more comprehensive services,” according to the American Hospital Association.

At UH, the 340B program has contributed positively to our communities by giving our safety net providers, including UH Cleveland Medical Center, UH Rainbow Babies & Children’s Hospital, and UH Geneva and Conneaut medical centers, relief from high-cost outpatient drugs. UH Cleveland

Medical Center Special Immunology Unit also participates in the 340B program, and is eligible through the Ryan White HIV/AIDS Program Part D Grant Awards. Through the savings from the 340B program, UH addresses the health needs of its rural and inner city communities by assisting uninsured patients with free care, subsidizing losses from Medicaid coverage, investing in community health programs, and providing hospital pharmacy services 24/7 for all patients.

The savings from the 340B program enable UH hospitals to use those savings for local health priorities, including infant mortality reduction efforts, diabetes clinics, cancer outreach, and mental health and substance use disorder assistance.

## How UH Uses the 340B Program

