



Nationally recognized program leads to local recovery.

Addiction is a disease that not only affects individuals and families but communities as well. In 2021, 24% of MedStar Montgomery Community Health Needs Assessment survey respondents indicated that addiction affects the quality of life in their community. Data shows that patients who've been diagnosed with substance abuse disorders have more health complications, experience higher care costs, and are readmitted to the hospital more frequently.

To combat the growing problem, MedStar Montgomery Medical Center implemented the nationally recognized Screening Brief Intervention Referral to Treatment (SBIRT) program in fiscal year (FY) 2018. The goal of the SBIRT program is to improve the identification of high-risk substance use behaviors, access to substance use treatment, and education.

All emergency department patients are assessed for risky substance use behavior using standardized screening tools. Patients who screen positive are connected to Peer Recovery Coaches who conduct a brief intervention and refer them to treatment if appropriate. Compared to FY21, FY22 saw an increase in screenings and referrals to treatment, substantially exceeding the MedStar Health goal of 15%.

Letter from the president.

MedStar Montgomery Medical Center has been a pillar of the community for over 100 years. It is our duty to meet the evolving healthcare needs of those around us. We are dedicated to increasing access to much-needed social services.

Thanks to our cultivation of external partnerships, lack of access is no longer a barrier to good health. I am grateful for the strides we have made, but our work is still not done. I am looking forward to the impact we will make this upcoming fiscal year and beyond.

Sincerely,

Thomas J. Senker, FACHE
President,
MedStar Montgomery Medical Center

To learn more about the community health programs at MedStar Montgomery Medical Center, please visit [MedStarHealth.org/CommunityHealth](https://www.MedStarHealth.org/CommunityHealth)

Free Food for Families makes healthy lifestyles accessible.

Montgomery County, Maryland is one of the wealthiest counties in the country. Despite this, 6% of households with children in Montgomery County experience food insecurity. The global pandemic has only increased this number. In response, MedStar Montgomery Medical Center partnered with Manna Food Center to address the needs of underserved families.



Implemented in June 2022, Free Food for Families provided access to healthy food and health education to low-income families in the Aspen Hill community. The program was supported by grant funding from the Maryland Community Health Resource Commission. Instead of providing commonly donated shelf-stable foods, the Community Health Department was able to provide fresh produce options. The focus on supplying families with fresh ingredients emphasized the need for nutrient-rich foods in a healthy diet.

Free Food for Families benefitted 325 families during five mobile events. The events took place in three key locations in the community: Harmony Hills Elementary School, Millian United Methodist Church, and Aspen Hills Apartments. Families were provided with food and screened for future food needs by MedStar Montgomery Community Health Advocates. The long-standing relationship between MedStar Montgomery and Manna Food Center has and will continue to reduce inequities caused by food insecurity in Montgomery County.

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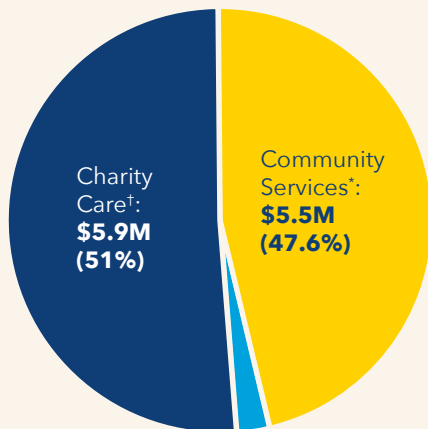
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2022 Community benefit contribution: \$11.5M

†Includes subsidies, community health improvement services, community building activities, financial contributions, and community benefit operations
‡Includes Medicaid assessments

Health Professions Education: \$0.2M (1.4%)

Free Food for Families benefitted 325 families during five mobile events in 2022.

It's how we treat people.