

2024

Rehabilitation Hospital of Indiana

Annual Community Benefit Report

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Rehabilitation Hospital of Indiana
1/1/2025



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Introduction

RHI is dedicated to the community it serves. The hospital conducts a Community Health Needs Assessment (CHNA) every three years to understand the current community health needs and to inform strategies designed to improve community health. The CHNAs are conducted using widely accepted methodologies to identify the significant needs of the community served by the hospital. The assessments are also conducted to comply with federal laws and regulatory requirements that apply to tax-exempt hospitals.

RHI follows federal guidelines regarding community benefits. Our programs are designed to improve health, increase access to healthcare services as well as other community investments. As defined by these guidelines, community benefit includes charity care, financial assistance, unreimbursed costs of government-sponsored programs, support for medical research along with other healthcare services that provide care to promote health and wellness in response to identified community needs.

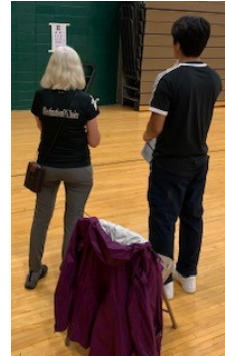
“Positively Impacting Our Community”

The following highlights programs and activities implemented by RHI this past year to impact the priority needs identified by the most recent CHNA:

Obesity and Diabetes

IPS Sports Physical Screens - RHI’s Community Benefit program is focused on carrying our mission outside the walls of our hospital to serve our community and the top health needs identified in the 2021 Community Health Needs Assessment (CHNA). One specific health need the CHNA identified as significant in our community is the prevalence of obesity and diabetes. In America’s Health Rankings, Indiana ranks 41st for diabetes and 40th for obesity. Both are known risk factor for stroke and contribute to risks associated with falls and other injuries. To help promote access to physical activity for high school students, RHI team members partnered with our colleagues at IU Health on Monday, April 22nd at Shortridge High School to provide free sports physical screens for local IPS students. Volunteer roles included greeting, screening for vision and measuring the height, weight and blood pressure of student athletes. Because of these collaborative efforts, we have helped 162 Marion County high school students complete the required physicals that will allow them to stay active and participate in sports activities. Helping students to participate in sports they enjoy is one way in which RHI is encouraging individuals to be and stay physically active.

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Health and Wellness Program - RHI's Community Benefit program is focused on carrying our mission outside the walls of our hospital to impact the top health needs of our community. RHI team members participated in a Health and Wellness program in April at Jonathan Jennings Elementary School 109. The goal of the program is to provide education to reduce the risk of developing Type II Diabetes and Obesity. The 140 students in grades 4th through 6th were educated on the need for 60 minutes of moderate to high intensity exercise per day and the importance of good nutrition to maintain good health. Students tasted samples of healthy snacks that they could make themselves and received a goodie bag with the recipes and educational materials.



Social Determinants of Health

Winter Volunteer Reading Program - RHI's Community Benefit program is focused on carrying our mission outside the walls of our hospital to impact the top health needs of our community. In the 2021 Community Health Needs Assessment (CHNA), Indiana ranked in the bottom half of states for a variety of Social Determinant of Health issues. One specific issue was

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the fact that educational achievement (high school graduation rates) in Marion County is below the U.S. average. A lack of educational achievement complicates efforts to ensure community members are aware of health issues and injury prevention strategies. Team RHI enjoyed the opportunity to again partner with Jonathan Jennings Elementary School 109 for the 2024 Winter Volunteer Reading Program. Our volunteers committed to assisting Ms. Jones and Ms. Winkel and their 2nd grade students with reading, journaling, and other lesson planning activities over a 4-week period. Research supports the benefits of volunteer reading programs and the impact on reading proficiency. Additionally, students who are involved in such programs with adult reading volunteers demonstrate improved school attendance, a major predictor of graduation rates. THANK YOU to our amazing volunteer team including for their efforts to positively impact the health needs of our community.

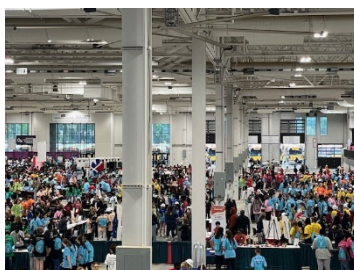


Blessings in Backpacks – Indiana’s overall food insecurity rate is significantly higher than the national rate and has continued to increase over the past decade. RHI team members continue their relationship with Jonathan Jennings Elementary School to fight food insecurity in our local community by providing the students with backpacks of ready to eat and easy to prepare food. A total of 150 backpacks were delivered to the school, 50 in March for distribution over the extended Spring Break, 50 in October over the Fall Break and 50 in December for the Holiday Break.

Junior Achievement JobSparks – A number of Social Determinants of Health have been identified as significant in our community. Specifically, educational achievement (high school graduation rate) in Marion County is below the U.S. average, which complicates efforts to ensure community members are aware of health and injury prevention strategies. On September 24th and 25th, RHI team members partnered with Junior Achievement of Central Indiana, a coalition of a educators, organizations and representatives of over 120 companies to support the 2024 JA JobSparks event at the Indiana State Fairgrounds. We had the opportunity to collaborate with several other local hospitals to support the Health and Life Sciences cluster.

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This multi-day career expo impacted over 11,000 Indianapolis eighth graders by providing hands-on learning experiences meant to “spark” an interest in students and provide them with a greater understanding of the coursework and skills required to be successful in a wide range of careers. Research shows when students have an idea of what they might want to do after high school, they are more likely to stay in school and graduate. RHI’s occupational and speech therapists assisted with this year’s event by providing interactive, job-specific experiences and sharing their clinical expertise on careers in occupational and speech therapy.



Servants at Work - RHI’s Community Benefit program is focused on carrying our mission outside the walls of our hospital to serve our community and the top health needs identified in the recently conducted Community Health Needs Assessment (CHNA). One specific health need the CHNA identified as significant in our community is unsafe housing conditions that can result in injury/falls and impact the need for rehabilitation services. As part of RHI’s commitment to increasing the health and well-being of the community by addressing social, economic, physical, and/or environmental factors that impact health, on Friday, September 13th, RHI volunteers collaborated with Servants at Work (SAW) to sponsor and build a ramp for Laurie at her home in Indianapolis, Indiana. Laurie has been living with her daughter in Greenfield, IN because of difficulty with navigation into and out of the house. Because she is wheelchair bound, the ramp will be a great benefit to her and allow her to return to her home soon.



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Fall Volunteer Reading Program - In the recently conducted CHNA, Indiana ranked in the bottom half of states for a variety of Social Determinant of Health issues. One specific issue was the fact that educational achievement (high school graduation rates) in Marion County is below the U.S. average. A lack of educational achievement complicates efforts to assure community members are aware of health issues and injury prevention strategies. RHI was proud to partner with Jonathan Jennings Elementary School 109 for the Spring Volunteer Reading Program. Our volunteers committed to assisting teachers and students in the 2nd grade with reading, journaling, and other lesson planning activities. Research supports the benefits of volunteer reading programs and the impact on reading proficiency. Additionally, students who are involved in such programs with adult reading volunteers demonstrate improved school attendance, a major predictor of graduation rates.

Student Book Gifting Program – As part of RHI’s commitment to support educational achievement, RHI sponsored the 4th annual Book Gifting Program for the students at Jonathan Jennings Elementary School 109. This program partners with First Book to put brand-new, age appropriate books in the hands of kids who need them most, providing each of the 272 students and 13 teachers at the school with high quality reading resources. Additional funding was provided to support the stocking of the school’s book vending machine, thus allowing selected students to be rewarded with a new book throughout the school year. Research suggests that 60% of students in the United States do not own a book at their reading level at home. This statistic is even higher for low income households. RHI looks is pleased to support reading initiatives such as these that contribute to the educational improvement within our local community right here in Marion County.



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Attachments:

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References/Citations:

Reviewed Dates: 01/2016, 01/2017, 01/2018, 01/2019, 01/2020, 03/2021, 03/2022, 03/2024, 02/2025

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Approvals:

Community Benefits: 01/2016, 01/2017, 01/2018, 01/2019, 01/2020, 03/2021, 03/2022, 03/2024, 02/2025

Signatures: