



**2023** MEMORIAL HEALTH  
**COMMUNITY  
BENEFIT REPORT**



## About Memorial Health

---

One of the leading healthcare organizations in Illinois, Memorial Health is a community-based, not-for-profit organization that provides a full range of inpatient, outpatient, home health, hospice, behavioral health and primary care physician services. With eight affiliates based in Sangamon and the neighboring counties, we deliver high-quality, patient-centered care in support of our mission to improve lives and build stronger communities through better health.

## School Partnership Supports Decatur Families

Last school year, Decatur Memorial Hospital began a partnership with Hope Academy, a K-8 school in Decatur Public School District 61 that serves about 560 students.

According to the Illinois State Board of Education, more than 88% of Hope Academy students come from families that are considered low-income. Some of these students experience food insecurity, lack access to healthcare or have other circumstances in their lives that can make it difficult to fully engage in learning.

Sonja Chargois, DMH Community Engagement and Equity, Diversity and Inclusion coordinator, said that the idea for the partnership came about as DMH leaders considered ways to engage in the community to support health and well-being.

“We can’t meet all their needs, but we can look at our priorities and see what’s feasible for us to do within our own space,” Chargois said, noting that some families who are reluctant to visit a healthcare facility might feel more comfortable learning about health and wellness in a familiar place like a school. “It’s a win-win when we can bring healthcare resources directly to the community in spaces where they feel comfortable.”

During the 2022–2023 school year, DMH held a Wellness Night for students and families, providing education and information about community resources. DMH leaders and colleagues helped introduce students in third through fifth grade to healthcare careers by visiting the school to read books and answer questions.

The current school year kicked off with a session by DMH Emergency Department nurses, who held a training session for students that covered basic first aid and how to respond in medical emergencies. Students even got to take home their own first aid kit. A second Wellness Night was held at the end of October.

Chargois said she’s excited about the future of the partnership and the opportunity to come alongside families and address their needs. “I’m looking forward to potentially changing some lives through community health,” she said.







## DMH Provides Stop the Bleed Training

---

During fiscal year 2023, DMH nurses led 15 Stop the Bleed training sessions for the Decatur community.

The Stop the Bleed program from the American College of Surgeons teaches people who are not healthcare professionals to respond to emergencies in which people are experiencing rapid loss of blood, including accidents and violence.

More than 215 people were trained in Stop the Bleed in Decatur last year, including all Decatur Public Schools nurses and security team members. A session for the public was also held at the Macon County Health Department.

## TMH Honored for Anti-Vaping Program

---

In November 2022, Taylorville Memorial Hospital's vaping prevention and cessation program was honored with a Community Project Award from the Illinois Critical Access Hospital Network.

The Community Project Award recognizes projects that strengthen and improve the health of communities.

From December 2021 to February 2022, an evidence-based youth vaping prevention program, "Catch My Breath," was implemented for all sixth-, seventh- and eighth-grade students at Taylorville Junior High School.

Approximately 500 students completed the program. A post-program survey revealed that 92.3% of the participants were less likely to vape as a result of the program, while 91.6% of the participants said they learned a lot about e-cigarettes from the program. The survey showed that 92.7% of students felt they understand e-cigarette advertising better as a result of the program and 93.2% felt confident in using refusal skills learned in the program.



## Addressing Homelessness in Central Illinois

---

Memorial Health is involved in efforts to address homelessness in communities across central Illinois.

In Sangamon County, Memorial Health is among multiple organizations providing financial and planning support to Heartland HOUSED (Housing Opportunities for the Under-Served through Equitable Delivery), which seeks to create a collaborative, unified system to help people experiencing homelessness access the housing and support services they need.

Memorial has also helped convene community partners in Morgan and Christian counties to begin identifying gaps in services for people experiencing homelessness and working toward a strategic plan to address homelessness in those areas.

“Partnerships are key in this type of work, and we’re proud to be part of these efforts,” said Memorial Health president and CEO Ed Curtis. “Homelessness affects every facet of a person’s life, including their physical and mental health, so it’s crucial for healthcare organizations like Memorial to have a place at the table as we work to find solutions.”



## Fresh Food for Local Communities

A nutritious diet is central to good health—but access to healthy food is a challenge for many people. Memorial Health is working to make fresh produce more affordable and easily accessible throughout the region.

### Lending a hand in the garden

Colleagues from Springfield Memorial Hospital volunteered their time at Motherland Gardens this summer as part of Community Health Improvement Week, helping founder Yves Doumen clean up an unused part of the garden, harvest peas and more. Motherland Gardens, which held its grand opening in August, provides a place for local residents to plant produce, particularly those who lack easy access to fresh fruits and vegetables. Doumen also helps people interested in learning more about gardening and sustainable agriculture to hone their skills



### **Growing for those in need**

In the summer of 2023, volunteers donated more than 100 pounds of fresh vegetables from the Taylorville Memorial Hospital Community Garden to the Taylorville Food Pantry.

This year's harvest included tomatoes, peppers, onions, cucumbers, squash, green beans and herbs. The Community Garden also benefited TMH colleagues, who could choose to spend their work break or lunch outside in the sunshine, weeding or helping to harvest vegetables.

### **Making food dollars go further**

During the 2023 season, the Lincoln Memorial Foundation provided \$10,170 in matching benefits for shoppers enrolled in the Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP) who purchase fresh food at The LMH Market. This was the eighth season for The Market, which promotes health and wellness through local food and health-focused programming.

At the Jacksonville Farmers Market, families enrolled in SNAP can earn match vouchers thanks to a grant from the Jacksonville Memorial Foundation. This year, shoppers redeemed more than \$4,500 in vouchers.

### **Partnering for wellness**

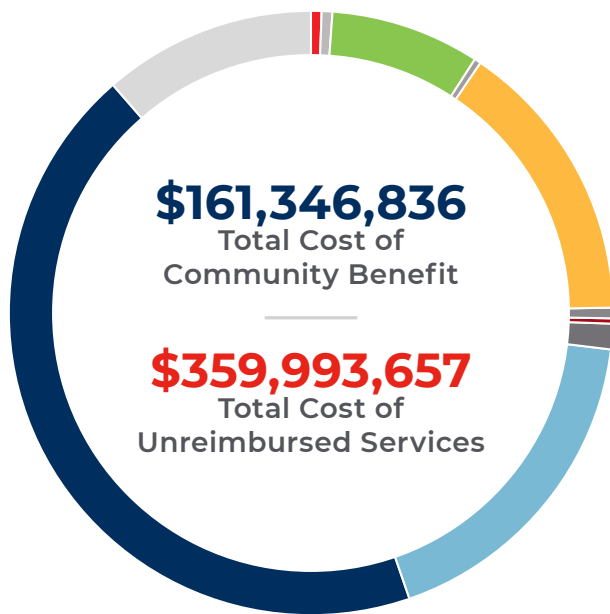
In 2023, the Memorial Wellness Center partnered with the University of Illinois Extension to bring free healthy cooking classes to Taylorville Memorial Hospital, Lincoln Memorial Hospital and Decatur Memorial Hospital.



# Community Health Needs Assessment and Implementation Strategies

Every three years, Memorial Health conducts Community Health Needs Assessments in collaboration with county health departments and other community health and social service providers.

This in-depth process took place in 2021 and identified health priorities that are being addressed using a variety of strategies during FY22–24. Detailed information on each hospital’s Community Health Needs Assessment and outcomes of the implementation strategies are available at [memorial.health/about-us/community/communityhealth-needs-assessment](https://www.memorialhealth.com/about-us/community/communityhealth-needs-assessment).



● Community Health Improvement	\$ 2,337
● Health Professions Education	\$ 2,481
● Subsidized Health Services	\$ 29,026
● Research	\$ 212
● Cash/In-Kind Contributions	\$ 55,032
● Community Building Activities	\$ 2,534
● Community Benefit Operations	\$ 642
● Financial Assistance	\$ 4,885
● Unpaid Medicaid	\$ 64,198
● Unpaid Medicare	\$ 158,576
● Bad Debt	\$ 40,070

*dollars in thousands*

## Community Health Needs Assessment 2022–2024 Priorities

### Memorial Health

- Mental Health

### Decatur Memorial Hospital

- Mental/Behavioral Health
- Economic Disparities
- Access to Health

### Jacksonville Memorial Hospital

- Mental Health
- Obesity
- Cancers

### Lincoln Memorial Hospital

- Youth Mental Health
- Obesity
- Substance Use

### Springfield Memorial Hospital

- Mental/Behavioral Health
- Economic Disparities
- Access to Health

### Taylorville Memorial Hospital

- Mental Health
- Obesity
- Lung Health



<b>Decatur Memorial Hospital</b>		<b>FY2023</b>
<b>Community Benefit Total</b>	<b>\$</b>	<b>25,681</b>
Patient Financial Assistance	\$	195
Unpaid Medicaid	\$	17,557
Other Community Programs	\$	7,929
<b>Decatur Memorial Foundation</b>	<b>\$</b>	<b>71</b>
<b>Jacksonville Memorial Hospital</b>		<b>FY2023</b>
<b>Community Benefit Total</b>	<b>\$</b>	<b>8,492</b>
Patient Financial Assistance	\$	573
Unpaid Medicaid		—
Other Community Programs	\$	7,919
<b>Jacksonville Memorial Foundation</b>	<b>\$</b>	<b>53</b>
<b>Lincoln Memorial Hospital</b>		<b>FY2023</b>
<b>Community Benefit Total</b>	<b>\$</b>	<b>5,412</b>
Patient Financial Assistance	\$	826
Unpaid Medicaid	\$	853
Other Community Programs	\$	3,733
<b>Lincoln Memorial Foundation</b>	<b>\$</b>	<b>215</b>
<b>Springfield Memorial Hospital</b>		<b>FY2023</b>
<b>Community Benefit Total</b>	<b>\$</b>	<b>106,784</b>
Patient Financial Assistance	\$	2,388
Unpaid Medicaid	\$	33,013
Other Community Programs	\$	71,383
<b>Springfield Memorial Foundation</b>	<b>\$</b>	<b>327</b>
<b>Taylorville Memorial Hospital</b>		<b>FY2023</b>
<b>Community Benefit Total</b>	<b>\$</b>	<b>2,586</b>
Patient Financial Assistance	\$	587
Unpaid Medicaid	\$	1,434
Other Community Programs	\$	565
<b>Taylorville Memorial Foundation</b>	<b>\$</b>	<b>1</b>
<b>Additional Community Benefit</b>		<b>FY2023</b>
Memorial Behavioral Health	\$	1,175
Memorial Home Care	\$	549
Memorial Medical Group	\$	10,001

*dollars in thousands*



340 W. Miller St.  
Springfield, IL 62702

*Read the 2023 Memorial Health  
Annual Report online.*

