

# Rady Children's

Hospital  
San Diego



Rady Children's Hospital and Health Center  
**Community Benefit Plan and Report**  
Fiscal Year 2016

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## Preface

Rady Children's Hospital and Health Center prepared this Community Benefit Report for Fiscal Year 2016 (FY2016) in accordance with the requirements of Senate Bill 697, community benefit legislation.

Enacted in September 1994, Senate Bill 697 requires not-for-profit hospitals to file a report annually with the Office of Statewide Health Planning and Development (OSHPD) on the activities undertaken to address community needs within their mission and financial capacity. In addition, not-for-profit hospitals are required to assign and report the economic value of community benefits they provide. The Community Benefit Report is one way not-for-profit hospitals demonstrate the tangible benefits that they provide to their communities.

## Executive Summary

Rady Children's Hospital and Health Center (Rady Children's) has been meeting the health needs of San Diego County children and families since 1954. In response to a polio epidemic, Rady Children's officially opened its doors on August 19, 1954 to receive its first 12 patients. Today, Rady Children's is a non-profit, 551-bed pediatric-care facility dedicated to excellence in care, research and teaching. Rady Children's is the only hospital in the San Diego area dedicated exclusively to pediatric healthcare and the region's only designated pediatric Trauma Center. Rady Children's is ranked among the top Children's Hospitals in 9 pediatric specialties surveyed by *U.S. News & World Report*. In partnership with the [University of California, San Diego School of Medicine](#), Rady Children's is the region's teaching hospital for the next generation of pediatric physicians, and is a major pediatric clinical research center.

San Diego County (San Diego) is the second most populous of California's 58 counties, and the fifth largest county in the United States. San Diego is currently home to approximately 3.3 million residents, and is anticipated to grow to four million by 2020. Approximately 23% of the population is under the age of eighteen and on average, 240,000 veterans reside here. The region is socially and ethnically diverse with approximately 37% of persons speaking a language other than English at home. While the median household income is \$63,996, over 14% of persons are living below poverty level, and children under age 18 are disproportionately affected.<sup>1</sup>

Continuing a longstanding commitment to address community health needs in San Diego, seven healthcare systems reconvened in 2015 through the Hospital Association of San Diego and Imperial Counties (HASD&IC) and contracted with the Institute of Public Health to complete a 2016 triennial Community Health Needs Assessment (CHNA). The CHNA identifies and prioritizes the most critical health-related needs of

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<sup>1</sup> United States Census Bureau <http://quickfacts.census.gov/qfd/states/06/06073.html>

San Diego County residents and includes substantial feedback from community residents in high risk neighborhoods.

Top health priorities for all age groups identified in the CHNA (in alphabetical order) included: 1) Cardiovascular disease; 2) Diabetes (Type 2); 3) Mental and Behavioral Health; and 4) Obesity. Recognizing that children have unique healthcare needs, Rady Children's supplemented the findings of the CHNA with the [2015 San Diego County Report Card on Children & Families](#) (the Report Card) and other reports to develop a more comprehensive, child-focused assessment of the pediatric community it serves. Top priorities identified for children include:

- 1) Mental and Behavioral Health;
- 2) Obesity and Type 2 diabetes;
- 3) Other health needs identified in the CHNA and the Report Card.

Recommended strategies for hospitals to address top health needs included:

- Knowledge/education
- Community and cultural competency
- Early identification and prevention
- Care integration and coordination

Rady Children's 2016 Community Benefit Report summarizes significant Community Benefit activities that are responsive to top child health needs identified in the assessments. Going forward, planning and strategies developed will continue to be adjusted based on the most current information provided by our Community Health Needs Assessment findings and other reports that provide guidance on how child health status and population health in the community can be improved.



## **Top Community Health Needs – Community Health Needs Assessment (CHNA) Priorities**

Senate Bill 697 requires not-for-profit hospitals to file a report annually with the Office of Statewide Health Planning and Development (OSHPD) on the activities undertaken to address community needs within their mission and financial capacity. In order to assess community needs, and per recently added IRS requirements for hospital organizations to conduct a Community Health Needs Assessment (CHNA) at least once every three tax years, Rady Children's collaborated with six hospitals and health care systems under the auspices of the Hospital Association of San Diego and Imperial County (HASD&IC) to complete and publish a CHNA report. HASD&IC engaged the Institute of Public Health (IPH) at San Diego State University to design and complete the report in April 2016. The report was made available to a broad segment of the community, and the findings are reflected in Rady Children's 2016 Community Benefit Report.

IPH employed a methodology that included both qualitative and quantitative data sources. Quantitative data included hospital discharge data, statistics from the San Diego County Health and Human Services Agency, the U.S. Census Bureau, the Centers for Disease Control, and others. In response to the desire of the community in Phase 2 of the 2013 CHNA that the next (2016) CHNA delve deeper into the 2013 prioritized health needs, IPH explored the 4 priorities in greater depth. Through a comprehensive survey of health experts and community leaders, qualitative data was obtained via key informant interviews and detailed input from resident forums in communities with the highest level of health disparities and needs (identified using the Dignity Health Community Needs Index). IPH was able to confirm that the 4 priorities of

2013 continued to be the top concerns for residents in 2015. In addition, a great deal of input obtained from discussions with residents painted a clearer picture of the barriers and improvements that are most relevant to this underserved population.

The 4 top community health needs in San Diego County (in alphabetical order) that remained consistent for 2016 included:

- Cardiovascular Disease
- Diabetes (Type 2)
- Mental/Behavioral Health
- Obesity

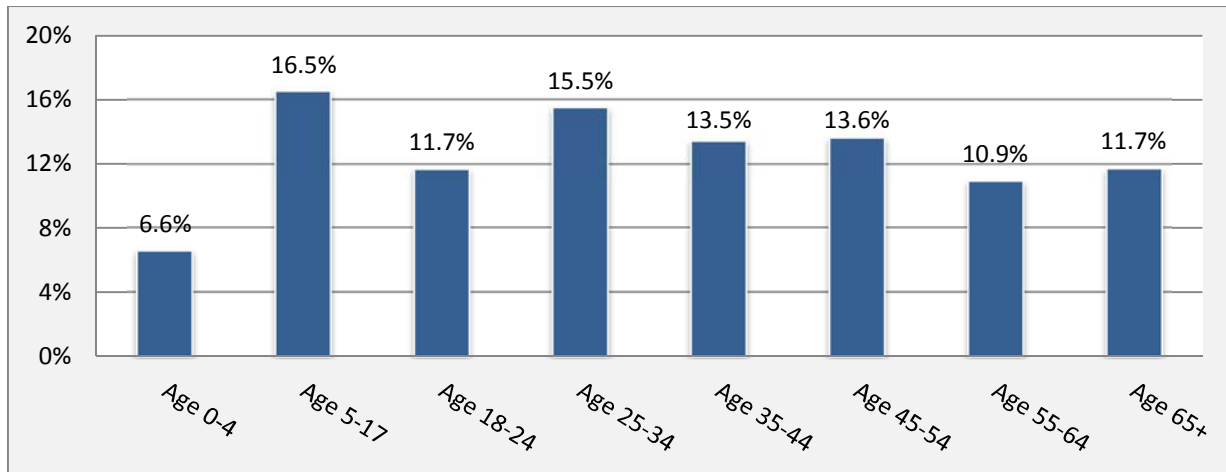
Five broad categories of recommendations for hospitals to improve community health included:

- Knowledge/education
- Community and cultural competency
- Early identification and prevention
- Care integration and coordination

### Age Specific Community Defined

The median age for San Diego County is 34.8 years. The distribution of the population by age shows that 23.1% of the population is under the age of 18, 65.2% is between the ages of 18 and 64, and 11.7% is 65 years old or greater (Figure 1).

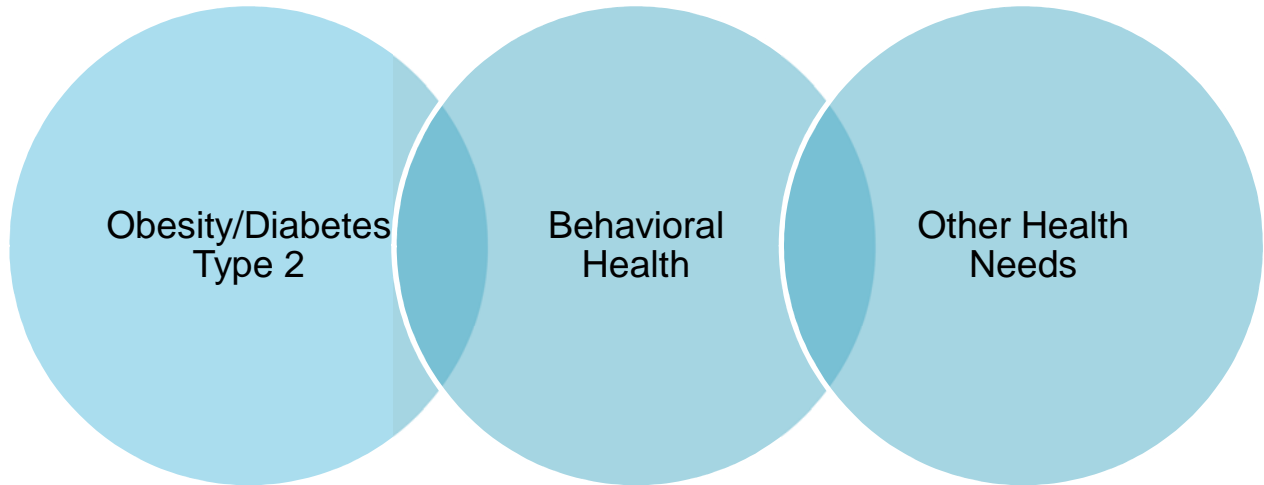
Figure 1. Percentage of San Diego Population by Age Group, 2009-2013



Data Source: U.S. Census Bureau, American Community Survey. 2009-2013.

## Child Specific Priorities

Considering the top four community health needs identified by IPH, Management and Clinical Leadership also considered the Report Card indicators, and other pediatric assessments and reports, to refine high priority community health needs for children. Obesity and Type 2 diabetes are integrally related and combined into one category.



### Other Health Needs:

In addition to the top health needs, Rady Children's also addresses the following physical, mental and social health needs of children through numerous hospital departments and community-based settings:

- Childhood Unintentional Injury.
- Physical and Sexual Abuse.
- Oral Health.
- Developmental Delays and Special Needs.





## Community Benefit Summary

In FY 2016, Rady Children’s provided \$105,833,374 in quantifiable benefit services to the community<sup>2</sup>. Community Benefit programs are categorized primarily as one of two types:

**Living in Poverty:** Any population that is exposed to medical or financial risk, by virtue of being uninsured, underinsured, or eligible for Medi-Cal, Medicare, California Children’s Services Program, or county indigent programs.

**Broader Community:** Services that improve overall community health, and can include: in-kind contributions, health professions education, research, and subsidized health services.

In addition, Rady Children’s provides uncompensated and undercompensated medical care services. The following table summarizes Rady Children’s investment in medical care and community services for populations living in poverty, and benefits for the broader community.

<sup>2</sup>Medicare shortfall and patient bad debt are not included in the calculation of total community benefit.

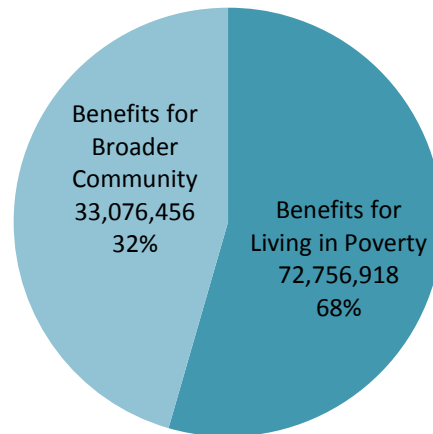


**Un-sponsored Community Benefit Expense (unaudited) for year ended June 30, 2016 Total Community Benefit provided:**

<b>IRS Category</b>	<b>Persons</b>	<b>Total Expenses</b>	<b>Offsetting Revenue</b>	<b>Net Benefit</b>
<b>Benefits for Living in Poverty</b>				
Financial Assistance	5,000	4,453,527	0	4,453,527
Medicaid	7,500	373,501,234	316,998,059	56,503,175
Means-Tested Programs	1	2,742,340	250	2,742,090
<b>Total for Financial Services</b>	<b>12,501</b>	<b>380,697,101</b>	<b>316,998,309</b>	<b>63,698,792</b>
<b>Community Services</b>				
A - Community Health Improvement Services	63,545	10,732,935	5,627,730	5,105,205
C - Subsidized Health Services	4,404	9,527,686	5,718,734	3,808,952
D - Research	0	4,154	8,284	(4,130)
E - Financial and In-Kind Contributions	38	36,918	25,286	11,632
F - Community Building Activities	322	435,294	298,827	136,467
<b>Totals for Community Services</b>	<b>68,309</b>	<b>20,736,987</b>	<b>11,678,861</b>	<b>9,058,126</b>
<b>Totals for Living in Poverty</b>	<b>80,810</b>	<b>401,434,088</b>	<b>328,677,170</b>	<b>72,756,918</b>
<b>Benefits for Broader Community</b>				
<b>Community Services</b>				
A - Community Health Improvement Services	131,850	17,109,009	10,782,836	6,326,173
B - Health Professions Education	427,587	17,461,353	5,197,651	12,263,702
C - Subsidized Health Services	2,447	20,812,454	7,119,617	13,692,837
D - Research	606	2,028,537	1,409,725	618,812
F - Community Building Activities	44	32,977	19,634	13,343
G - Community Benefit Operations	6	463,850	302,261	161,589
<b>Totals for Broader Community</b>	<b>562,540</b>	<b>57,908,180</b>	<b>24,831,724</b>	<b>33,076,456</b>
<b>Community Benefit Grand Total</b>	<b>643,350</b>	<b>459,342,268</b>	<b>353,508,894</b>	<b>105,833,374</b>

*In Fiscal Year 2016 Rady Children's Hospital provided over \$105.8M.*

**FY 2016 Community Benefit \$105,833,374**



■ Benefits for Living in Poverty    ■ Benefits for Broader Community

*and we had an impact on over 643,350 lives.*

<b>FY 2016 Persons Served</b>	
Financial Assistance	5,000
Medi-Cal/Means Tested Programs	7,501
Community Health Improvement Services	195,395
Health Professions Education	427,587
Subsidized Health Services	6,851
Research	606
Financial/In-Kind Contributions	38
Community Building Activities	366
Community Benefit Operations	6
<b>Total Persons Served</b>	<b>643,350</b>



## **Rady Children’s Hospital and Health Center in the Community**

As the sole pediatric hospital and trauma center for San Diego and Imperial Counties, Rady Children’s aims to meet its mission to restore, sustain and enhance the health and developmental potential of children through excellence in care, education, research and advocacy. Rady Children’s is dedicated to providing the best healthcare for individual patients and serving as a valuable community resource to improve the health and well-being of children in our community.

Rady Children’s has been an active leader in providing critical support programs and services to populations living in poverty, as well as education and outreach to the broader community. The Rady Children’s team – in the many hospital departments committed to community health improvement – develops, provides and/or tailors programs to address top and other health needs. Numerous programs throughout Rady Children’s, aim to improve the health of the community through inpatient as well as outpatient, community-based and in-home settings. The following summary of community benefit programs conducted in fiscal year 2016 has been prepared in accordance with the Catholic Health Association of the United States document, *A Guide for Planning and Reporting Community Benefit* (2015 edition) using the *Community Benefit Inventory for Social Accountability* (CBISA) tool and with the 2015 IRS Form 990 Schedule H instructions.

## Financial Assistance and Medi-Cal

### 12,501 Persons Served

#### **Benefits for Low-income Patients and Financial Assistance**

Rady Children's provides medically necessary care to patients regardless of their ability to pay. Over half of our patients have no private health insurance, and most patients are covered by Medi-Cal, which usually covers only approximately 20 percent of charges.

Rady Children's is committed to providing financial assistance to persons who have healthcare needs and are low-income, uninsured, ineligible for a government program and are otherwise unable to pay for medically necessary care based on their individual family financial situations. Rady Children's provides a Charity Care Financial Assistance Program to provide partial and/or full charity care, which will be based upon the guarantor's ability to pay as defined by the Federal Poverty Income Guidelines. Through our efforts, Rady Children's strives to ensure that the financial capacity of families whose children need healthcare services does not prevent them from seeking or receiving care.

## Subsidized Health Services

### 6,851 Persons Served

Rady Children's provides clinical services that despite a financial loss are continued because the services meet a community need. These are measured after removing losses from Medicaid, financial assistance and bad debt.

#### **Anderson Center for Dental Care**

The Anderson Center strives to improve the oral health of children in San Diego County, particularly young children and children with disabilities, through community and professional education, improved access to care, advocacy and treatment. The Anderson Center works with the San Diego/Imperial County Regional Center for Developmental Disabilities; Oral Health Initiative/Community Clinics Health Network; Juvenile Hall Wellness Team; and other community-based groups to provide community and professional education, oral health assessment and related services.

#### **Chadwick Center**

**Failure to Thrive Clinic:** A multidisciplinary team including a doctor, nurse, nutritionist and social worker collaborate to evaluate infants and toddlers with poor growth or poor weight gain. The evaluation focuses on: identifying underlying medical conditions, addressing psychosocial issues, and developing a specific nutrition plan for each patient.

**Kids and Teens in Court:** This program provided by the Chadwick Center, increases children's ability to competently and effectively participate in the courtroom experience by decreasing their anxiety, and in turn, improving/ensuring the efficacy of the judicial process. The program assists children, teens and their families with the courtroom experience by teaching a variety of skills such as relaxation and education about their court process. The Kids and Teens in Court Program assists children and adolescents by providing support to help reduce their fear and anxiety to testify in court in front of an individual who hurt them.

### **Heart Institute**

The Rady Children's Heart Institute was created to integrate and coordinate the research and educational programs of the Cardiology and Cardiovascular Surgery Divisions at the Hospital. The goal is to provide optimal care for infants, children and adults born with congenital heart defects and to advance our knowledge and understanding of congenital heart disease. Expert Cardiologists treat the full range of pediatric cardiac conditions, as well as acquired heart disease in some adult patients.

Research is a major focus of the Institute. Through clinical trials, outcome analysis and the continuous evaluation of our clinical pathways, we strive to discover the most promising treatments, and ultimately to find cures.

### **Hemophilia Treatment Center**

The Hemophilia and Thrombosis Treatment Center is one of more than 130 centers in the country specializing in the diagnosis and treatment of individuals with bleeding disorders. It is part of a federally funded network of hemophilia treatment centers supported by the federal Maternal Child Health Bureau and Centers for Disease Control and Prevention. This center cares for approximately 300 children in San Diego and the surrounding area with hemophilia, von Willebrand disease and platelet disorders. The Center works with the local hemophilia Foundation chapter-the Hemophilia Association of San Diego- to continue to provide patient education and advocate for patients in our community with bleeding disorders.

The Center is active in clinical research, participating in national outcomes studies and data collection on major complications of hemophilia, including joint disease and bloodborne viruses. The Center is also involved in clinical trials on the latest and most promising therapies.

## **Hospital Emergency Transport (PICU/NICU)**

The Rady Children's Hospital Emergency Transport (CHET) Pediatric and Neonatal Teams provides emergency transports, including seriously ill and injured children and neonates. CHET provides immediate response to hospitals, clinics, and physician offices in San Diego, Imperial and Riverside Counties. The CHET air and ground transportation vehicles are outfitted with self-contained medical equipment to provide expert pediatric and neonatal critical care to its patients.

## **Psychiatric Services**

The Rady Children's Outpatient Psychiatry department is unique because it provides comprehensive mental health and psychosocial services to children and their families within a full-service pediatric medical facility. Its state-of-the-art, cost-effective clinical programs are also available at outpatient clinics, schools and homes throughout the County. Services include:

- Diagnostic assessments;
- Crisis Stabilization;
- Individual, family or group therapy;
- Psychological testing; and
- Medication evaluation and follow-up.

Depression and suicidal ideation, attention deficit disorder and oppositional disorders are the most frequently treated diagnoses. Other diagnoses include chemical dependency, eating disorders, learning disabilities and developmental delays, and sleep disorders.

From September through June, the Rady Children's Outpatient Psychiatry department hosts Grand Rounds on a variety of behavioral health topics three times per month. The Grand Rounds are open to clinicians in the community. The aim is to provide cutting-edge and evidence based treatment and research information to providers to increase their knowledge base and accelerate the spread of best practices.

## **Regional Pediatric Trauma Center**

The Hospital's Regional Pediatric Trauma Center was formally designated by the County of San Diego as the sole provider of pediatric trauma care in 1984. While clinical trauma care is the primary focus of the Trauma Center, it is also committed to providing a wide range of non-clinical community services, including providing injury data to a wide spectrum of community, state and national agencies; advocating for keeping children safe by functioning as media spokespersons on key topics; providing professional (pre-hospital and hospital providers) educational forums; providing community group informational and educational forums; and participating in front line



injury prevention programs such as car safety seat/restraint and helmet distribution and education. The Trauma Center also functions as a community resource in disaster planning for children.

Each year, the Trauma Center provides education to allied health professionals to improve pediatric trauma knowledge. The Trauma Center staff also makes available ongoing educational interface with pre-hospital providers by providing “real time” feedback on clinical care, as well as participating in case review, regarding children transported to Rady Children’s, at agency meetings.

### **Renal Dialysis Center**

Children needing hemodialysis are treated at Rady Children’s new five-station hemodialysis Unit, which has a state-of-the-art ultrapure water processing facility. Specially trained dialysis nurses are experts in treating patients of all ages and sizes, from infants to young adults. Along with receiving personalized care from our nurses and doctors, each patient will see the other members of our comprehensive care team.

## **Community Health Improvement Services and Community Benefit Operations**

### **195,401 Persons Served**

Rady Children’s has activities that are carried out to improve community health and include community health education, outreach and prevention services. These services do not generate patient bills, although they may involve a nominal fee.

### **Center for Healthier Communities**

The Center for Healthier Communities (CHC) serves as a hub of Rady Children’s community health improvement strategies. The CHC collaborates with health providers, schools, childcare providers, youth-serving organizations, universities, researchers, community leaders, parents, government agencies, the media and the business community to address community-based child health. The CHC analyzes child health issues and develops strategies, convenes and stimulates organizations and individuals to act to improve child health, launches strategically focused interventions, advocates to support health improvement, and links providers with resources to improve health within the community.

Increasing access to care is a priority for Rady Children's. Rady Children's Center for Healthier Communities is at the forefront of training healthcare providers and reaching out to the community to improve access for vulnerable populations. Training healthcare providers and working collaboratively with school systems, community agencies, and community to ensure access to care.

Key areas of focus include maternal and infant health, injury prevention, oral health, nutrition and fitness, obesity prevention, adolescent health and positive youth development. CHC has gained recognition for facilitating practical and successful community health outcomes and mobilizing individuals, organizations and systems to combine forces to create healthier communities for children. Strategically focused initiatives, providing community health services and benefits for the community include:

### **City Heights Wellness Center and Teaching Kitchen**

Rady Children's has been participating in the City Heights Wellness Center (Wellness Center) and Teaching Kitchen through strengthening existing nutrition education and obesity prevention efforts. The Wellness Center is a unique partnership between Scripps Health and Rady Children's, designed to improve the long-term health of children and families in City Heights through a variety of community based services.

The Wellness Center has offered lactation counseling, nutrition education, cooking demonstrations, and physical activity classes aimed to reduce childhood overweight status. By reducing childhood obesity, Rady Children's and its partners at the Wellness Center aim to prevent Type 2 Diabetes and help children that are already diabetic manage their condition through diet and exercise. Programs include:

***Teaching Kitchen: Let's Get Cooking:*** Cooking demonstrations, food preparation, nutrition planning, safety education and tips for shopping economically for nutritious foods.

***Health and Lifestyle Programs:*** English and Spanish CPR classes, home-safety education, parenting classes and more.

### **Childhood Obesity Initiatives**

Rady Children's holds leadership positions in a countywide collaborative program to reduce and prevent childhood obesity. Programming includes ***Nutrition Education and Re-Think Your Drink***, which aims to reduce consumption of sugar laden drinks in a number of settings, and ***Safe Routes to School***, collaboration with local government and school districts to make biking and walking to school safe and healthy obesity prevention alternatives to driving for children and their families.

## **Childhood Injury Prevention**

The CHC plays a primary leadership role in the community in childhood injury prevention. Data from the Rady Children's Trauma Center and other sources is reviewed to determine priorities and focus, and the information is brought to communities to raise awareness, problems solve, and advocate for public policy and safety regulations. Programs include:

**Safety Store:** Providing products to keep families safe.

**Safe Kids San Diego:** Addressing drowning prevention, child passenger safety and other prevalent injury areas through a local coalition, in which Rady Children's is the lead organization.

**Injury-Free Coalition for Kids:** Preventing injuries as part of a national program of the Robert Wood Johnson Foundation.

**Safe Routes to School:** Increasing the number of children who walk or bike to school safely as part of a national initiative.

**Kohl's Transportation Safety Program:** Providing weekly child passenger safety seat inspections through a grant from Kohl's Department Store.

**Sports Injury and Concussion Prevention Program:** Preventing sports injuries and concussions in children and teens through our 360 Sports Medicine program and other initiatives.

## **Maternal and Child Health**

**Immunizations:** Ensures the safety of children in the community by increasing numbers of fully immunized children through information and resources provided to parents.

**Juvenile Hall Wellness Team:** Provides health and wellness information and counseling for incarcerated youth. A Wellness Team works in conjunction with medical, mental health and probation staff to promote healthier lifestyles and assist minors in avoiding high-risk behaviors through increasing the incarcerated minors' knowledge of pertinent health issues, connecting them to outside health services, and encouraging minors and/or their families to obtain health insurance coverage.

## **Chadwick Center for Children and Families**

The primary focus of the Chadwick Center for Children and Families at Rady Children's is the prevention, detection and treatment of child abuse and neglect, domestic violence, and post-traumatic stress in children. The Center staff is composed of a variety of professional disciplines from medicine and nursing to child development, social work, and psychology. In addition, the Chadwick Center provides professional

education to providers. The Center served more than 9,000 children, parents and professionals in fiscal year 2016.

**The Child Abuse Treatment (CHAT):** Provides evidence based therapy services to treat the after-effects of a traumatic event experienced by a child.

**Forensic and Medical Services:** Children receive expert medical assessment or a forensic interview for abuse. This does not include the children assessed by Chadwick doctors at the US Navy or at Riverside County, which the Chadwick Center continues to support.

**Options For Recovery Program:** This program provides training to foster parents and relative caregivers who have an interest in gaining knowledge on how to care for infants and children who were born drug and/or alcohol exposed.

**Polinsky Center:** The Chadwick Center provides administrative support, medical evaluations, developmental screenings and evaluations of abused, neglected and abandoned children at the Polinsky Children's Center. The Polinsky Children's Center is an emergency shelter for abused, abandoned and neglected children. Services are provided 24/7 by physicians affiliated with Rady Children's Hospital, along with nurses, and developmental screening personnel.

**Trauma Counseling:** Trauma counseling for children and parents that were involved in child abuse, domestic violence and other forms of trauma were provided trauma counseling services.

### **Child Life Services**

The healthcare environment brings many new and sometimes stressful experiences for children, teenagers, and families. The Child Life Specialists at Rady Children's work with patients and their families to help them understand and cope with these experiences.

On any day, at almost any time of day, Child Life Specialists help a child get ready for a frightening medical procedure. Based on the child's individual needs and developmental level, Child Life Specialists have provided:

- Psychological preparation, pre-operative tours, and education to help patients and siblings understand and cope with upcoming healthcare experiences.
- Emotional support and coping techniques, such as relaxation, diversion, and deep breathing.
- Medical and therapeutic play to become more familiar with medical equipment and procedures, and encourage expression of feelings.
- Preparing siblings to see their brother or sister (who looks very different with bandages or tubes) for the first time after surgery.

- Resource information on child development and effects of healthcare.
- Activity room programming to promote healing, creativity, peer interaction and independence, which are all vital to normal growth and development.
- School visits or consultations to promote classmates' understanding of illness and healthcare. Child Life Specialists accompany special visitors to the Hospital, such as athletes and celebrities, and support the work of our volunteers.

### **Community Benefit Operations**

Accounting for Community Benefit takes a team. Rady Children's has assigned staff and consultants that work throughout the year to ensure the CHNA reflects the needs of the community and that program evaluation and financial reporting are completed according to regulation.

### **Developmental Services**

The Developmental Services department at Rady Children's provides a continuum of integrated services across various disciplines and community partners to support early brain development, social/emotional development, and the needs of the whole child through every aspect of care delivery. Developmental Services rehabilitates children and adolescents with disorders related to congenital anomalies, injuries, illnesses and other special needs. A variety of programs are provided that emphasize early identification, diagnosis and intervention through access to community resources.

**The Autism Discovery Institute (ADI):** The Autism Discovery Institute serves children with Autistic Spectrum Disorders (ASD) through a multidisciplinary approach, and provides a forum for research. A variety of intervention strategies are provided in naturalistic settings. The ADI provides one of the nation's only research and clinical collaborations that fosters knowledge exchange to enhance treatment for autistic children. Finally, the ADI is bringing together many of Developmental Services' experts and multidisciplinary programs on autism under one roof.

#### **Alexa's Playful Learning Academy for Young Children (Alexa's PLAYC):**

Part of the Autism Discovery Institute, is a unique early education program for typically developing children and children with or at risk for an autism spectrum disorder. Alexa's PLAYC provides children with a warm and loving environment that stimulates physical, social, intellectual and emotional growth. The curriculum focuses on teaching developmentally appropriate communication, cognitive skills and social skills, while fostering independence in our young students.

**Children's Care Connection (C3):** C3 provides services to identify and address developmental and behavioral concerns in children up to five years of age prior to kindergarten entry. Program participant children and their families participated

in a variety of treatment services, which included behavior classes taught by professional speech, occupational, physical and developmental/behavioral therapists. These developmental classes are offered to facilitate healthy development of the mind and body, and to introduce skills that will prepare children for kindergarten. Speech and language classes help parents understand the age-appropriate milestones for language and speech development and learn how to facilitate their children's development.

**Developmental Evaluation Clinic (DEC):** At the Developmental Evaluation Clinic, specially trained clinical and developmental psychologists provide diagnostic developmental evaluations for infants, preschoolers, and school-age children to identify developmental, learning and social delays and determine the need for further intervention. Once delays have been identified, referrals are made to a variety of public education programs as well as public and private therapy programs.

**Developmental Screening and Enhancement Program (DSEP):** DSEP provides developmental and behavioral assessment and linkage to services for children birth to six years upon entry into the child welfare system following removal from their homes for abuse and neglect. Approximately 50 to 60 percent of children in foster care have developmental delays, compared with 10 to 12 percent in the general population. Addressing these needs can improve long-term placement and developmental outcomes for children in foster care. Nearly all of the children screened in DSEP were successfully linked to recommended services. The success of the DSEP program demonstrates the need for standardized and routine developmental and behavioral check-ups for children in child welfare.

### **Pathways Support Group**

A group language therapy program designed for children ages 3 to 5 with limited, but emerging expressive language skills. The goal of Pathways is to help children with autism spectrum disorders generalize skills learned in one-on-one setting to more complex social settings.

### **Pediatric Down Syndrome Center**

Down syndrome is the most common genetic cause of cognitive and developmental disabilities. The Pediatric Down Syndrome Center was established through a partnership between Rady Children's Hospital-San Diego and DS Action (a local non-profit group) to address the unmet needs of children with Down syndrome. The Center provides diagnostic evaluation services, comprehensive case management in collaboration with education and clinical stakeholders, genetic counseling, patient advocacy, resource referral and social



service. The Center also serves as a resource to healthcare professionals.

### **Healthcare Support Services**

**Customer Service and Referral Center:** The Customer Service and Referral Center helps facilitate access to care for children in our community by identifying community-based providers. The information provided is not exclusively to Rady Children's Hospital or its affiliated physicians.

**Health Science Library:** The Rady Children's Health Science Library combines clinical pediatric literature and a Family Resource Library that can be used to conduct research. Open to parents of Rady Children's patients, as well as staff, physicians and visitors, the Library provides a sound reference collection and computers with access to the Internet. Parents are encouraged to learn more about their child's illness by accessing information at the Library.

**Enrollment Assistance:** Rady Children's provides healthcare support services to the community through the Financial Counseling Team. Rady Children's Financial Counselors proactively explore and assist patients/guarantors in applying for health insurance coverage from public and private payment programs. Medi-Cal eligibility workers are available on-site to assist families. Rady Children's Financial Counselors also coordinate with CCS enrollment programs. Rady Children's also partners with local agencies to improve access to healthcare for uninsured patients.

**Healthy Development Services (HDS) – First Five Program:** To improve school readiness, the Healthy Development Services program identifies and treats developmental and behavioral concerns in children from birth to five years of age. The HDS program coordinates developmental screenings, assessments, referrals and treatment. Care Coordinators work with families to navigate the healthcare system to obtain services for their child(ren). In addition, the program provides hearing and vision screening; behavioral health services; and parenting classes.

### **High Risk Infant Clinic (HRI)**

The High Risk Infant Clinic provides neurodevelopmental evaluation and follow-up to infants cared for in a Neonatal Intensive Care Unit (NICU) setting. A pediatric nurse practitioner (PNP) coordinates the program and works closely with NICU staff to identify patients and educate families regarding follow-up services. The PNP conducts a comprehensive history and physical examination, developmental screening, neurological assessment, and family psychosocial assessment. Coordination of referral to services in the community is also provided. The PNP also teaches at weekly NICU parent discharge classes to ensure parents have an understanding of their infant's growth and development. The HRI Program helps infants from San Diego, Imperial and Riverside counties.

**Hope Bereavement Support Program:** The Hope Bereavement Support Program seeks to provide hope for families in the midst of pain that is enormous and unrelenting. The program provides a way to help families address their grief.

**KidSTART Clinic:** KidSTART provides a centralized program of comprehensive triage, assessments, referral and treatment for children ages birth through five with complex developmental and psycho-social behavioral health problems to help client children receive timely treatment and reach their highest potential. The child's needs are at the center of case-planning through a "home-based" delivery model. A multidisciplinary team, including pediatricians, clinical psychologists, speech pathologists, occupation and physical therapists, mental health therapists, early intervention specialists and school representatives, work together to develop and implement the comprehensive plan of care.

**Telephone Triage Line:** The Triage Telephone Line is a special service offered to families of subscribing physicians. Staffed by Rady Children's pediatric nurses, the line serves as an after-hours service for doctor's offices, with nurses answering parent's questions, providing home care instructions and making referrals for care according to each physician's preference. More than 100 area pediatricians subscribe to this service, which is free to families.

## Community Building Activities

### 366 Persons Served

Community Building activities seek to address root causes of health problems and protect or improve the community's health or safety.

### Center for Healthier Communities

**Workforce Development:** FACES for the Future (FACES) prepares high school students, many from disadvantaged backgrounds, for careers in healthcare

**Trauma Services:** Advocacy for Community Health

- Speakers Bureau
- Trauma Research Education Foundation Injury Prevention Committee

## Health Research

### 606 Persons Served

Rady Children's conducts a number of studies and investigations designed to generate knowledge that will be made available to the public. Community Benefit Research projects captured in this report are funded by federal sources such as the National Institutes of Health or through other tax-exempt entities such as foundations or the

organization itself. In addition to the reported projects, Investigators also conduct unfunded research projects (mostly retrospective data collections) that can benefit the community of researchers, hospitals, and educational institutions and ultimately the communities these institutions serve.

Rady Children's participates in clinical research to identify new solutions to treat childhood illnesses and conditions and to promote child health. Rady Children's and the Research Center are participating in research in collaboration with UCSD, which includes the specialty areas of oncology, hematology, neonatology, emergency medicine, urology, allergy & immunology, neurology, dermatology, general pediatrics, genetics, orthopedics, autism, pulmonology, infectious disease, psychiatry, endocrinology, gastroenterology, cardiology, and cardiovascular surgery.

## Health Professions Education and Training

427,587

### Health Professions Education

Rady Children's engages in a multitude of ongoing educational programs to provide continuous learning opportunities for clinicians and community-based stakeholders. These educational programs result in the training needed to practice as a health professional.

By engaging in these educational programs, Rady Children's aims to provide the highest level of quality care to patients. Programs include but are not limited to:

**Grand Rounds (Pediatric and Psychiatry):** Lecture series presented by Rady Children's and the University of California, San Diego School of Medicine to keep medical providers up-to-date on important and timely pediatric health topics.

**Continuing Medical Education:** A variety of educational opportunities to help physicians and other health professionals advance their knowledge.

**Graduate Medical Education:** Comprehensive training to educate future leaders in pediatric medicine. Rady Children's is the training site for more than 300 pediatric family practice and specialty residents each year from four major teaching hospitals in San Diego: UC San Diego; Scripps Health (Chula Vista/Green/Mercy); Balboa Naval Medical Center; and Camp Pendleton Naval Medical Center. Rady Children's also trains more than 200 medical students and fellows each year.

**Peds Focus:** Videos on the latest research from Rady Children's and the University of California, San Diego School of Medicine specific to pediatrics.

**Community Health Briefs:** Information on timely community health topics from Rady Children's Center for Healthier Communities.

**Office of Human Subjects Protection:** Provides educational opportunities for all research investigators, research staff, IRB members and Hospital administration.

### **Chadwick Center Clinical Training Program**

The Chadwick Center's Clinical Training Program provides training in the assessment and treatment of child abuse to professionals nationally and at the Center. The Center provided professional education to professionals from throughout the United States and numerous countries.

To improve the dissemination of evidence-based treatment, the Chadwick Center conducted multiple trainings to professionals in a variety of formats, including the clearinghouse on evidence based best practices. In addition, the Chadwick Center manages the California Mandated Reporter Training website ([www.MandatedReporterCA.com](http://www.MandatedReporterCA.com)), which is composed of six modules designed to train mandated child abuse reporters so they may carry out their responsibilities properly.

### **Disaster Preparedness**

A disaster can occur without warning. Rady Children's has prepared for the possibility to provide any and all assistance possible to handle a large influx of victims and to help victims cope and heal from trauma. Rady Children's established the Rady Children's Hospital Incident Command System as a guide in responding to a disaster. Rady Children's personnel are oriented to the System, and trained for their specific department.

## **Non-quantifiable Benefits**

### **Support Groups**

Rady Children's offers over 20 support groups to families on a variety of topics. Ranging from oncology to cardiology, from parenting to school readiness, Rady Children's is proud to fulfill our mission through supporting families and helping children and families heal.

The following is a small sample of offerings to support families free of charge:

- Bereavement
- Cancer Support
- Cardiac Support Group
- Child Life Services

- Family Advisory Council
- Helen Bernardy Center Parent-to-Parent Support
- Liam's Fund for Neurosurgery

### **Rady Children's Web Team**

The Web Team at Rady Children's provides customized web sites on health, medical and safety information for families and patients, and the community.

The Rady Children's web site provides comprehensive health, medical and safety information in English and Spanish. All content is reviewed and revised annually by a clinical team. Pediatric health topics are designed especially for parents to help them determine how sick their child is and if they should seek medical help, and provides instructions for treating their child at home when it is safe to do so. The health tips section is continually being expanded on a variety of subjects and includes methods for treating bites and stings, advice on proper dental care, how to treat a fever, child's behavior and parenting, and injury prevention and safety (including age-related dangers, seatbelt use, bicycle helmets). The web site also provides information about poison prevention, and how to choose day care and healthcare for your child.

*The Health Library* is a nationally established online information tool for parents, teens and kids providing education and information about a variety of child health topics. Special sections of the Library are devoted to kids and teens, which provides topics that they can access themselves. For kids, topics include: asthma, first aid and back-to-school worries. For teens, topics include: common health concerns, alcohol and drugs, talking to parents, yoga and fitness, and suicide prevention.

Links to valuable information are available on a wide-array of topics, including but not limited to:

- Staying fit
- Managing Your Medical Care
- Coping with your emotions and managing stress