

#### 2022 COMMUNITY BENEFIT SNAPSHOT

# We invest in Montana's health.



Total benefit to our communities in 2022 \$22 MILLION

#### **Bringing our Mission to life**

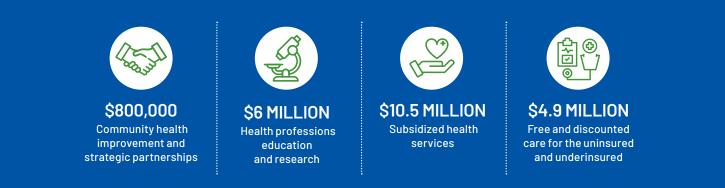
At Providence, we are dedicated to improving community health and reducing disparities in the Western U.S. and beyond. Called by our Mission, we are steadfast in serving all, especially those who are poor and vulnerable.

#### Taking action on health challenges

To achieve our vision of health for a better world, the Providence family of organizations identifies community health needs and invests in programs and meaningful solutions that meet the diverse needs of our neighbors. Alongside local partners, we build stronger, healthier communities by focusing on areas of lasting impact:

- Foundations of health
- Removing barriers to care
- Community resilience
- Innovating for the future

Our longstanding commitment to identify needs and provide community benefit is an essential way we live our Mission each day.



\*Data is consolidated based on unaudited financial reporting. Free and discounted care totals reflect at-cost amount.

### Community investment in action

#### Montana legal program helps address social determinants of health



Attorney Megan Dishong (Left) discusses patients who will be referred to the medical-legal partnership with Hollie Timmons, Program Manager, Community Health Investment Eastern Washington | Montana.

In 2020, Providence Montana and Montana Legal Services Association partnered to form the state's first hospital-based medical-legal partnership.

Providence St. Patrick Hospital and Providence St. Joseph Medical Center caregivers in Missoula and Polson who work with patients to improve social determinants of health, such as housing and food access, can now connect patients to legal assistance to address civil needs.

Of the more than 280 patients who have been referred to the medical-legal partnership, assistance with housing has been the biggest need, with 40% of referrals originating from a housing issue.

A medical-legal partnership attorney, Megan Dishong, explained, "In our community's current housing environment, we often don't have perfect solutions, but I can work to dial the level of crisis down." Once that crisis level is reduced, impacted individuals have an opportunity to focus on their health and safety.

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## Financial assistance helps those in need in Montana focus on their health

At Providence St. Patrick Hospital in Missoula and Providence St. Joseph Medical Center in Polson, a team of financial counselors helps ensure that patients' concerns about payment never get in the way of their care. In 2022, Providence Montana provided more than \$4.9 million in charity care, which is free or discounted care for those in need.

The financial counseling team's expertise extends to health coverage and benefits, helping patients in need find insurance coverage options.

After being diagnosed with a serious illness, Alicia<sup>\*</sup> worked with a financial counseling supervisor, who guided her through the financial assistance process that helped cover future medical expenses.

\* To protect patient identity, names were changed for the purposes of this story. Free and discounted care total reflects at-cost amount.

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KIRK BODLOVIC
Interim Chief Executive
Providence Montana

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MEGAN DISHONG
Medical-Legal
Partnership Attorney