

Executive Summary:

2009 Griffin Hospital Community Benefit Report

Beyond the inpatient care and outpatient services it provides to the community, Griffin Hospital has a history of community service and social responsibility dating back to its founding in 1909. In 1970, Griffin established one of the first hospital Departments of Community Health in the country to focus on the health and well being of the community it serves, providing a variety of health screenings and preventive programs and services.

Over the past decade, however, Griffin has been expanding its reach into the community like never before. In addition to providing health information and services to the public at the hospital and other satellite locations, Griffin takes these activities into the communities where patients live, work, and worship. By offering a variety of support groups, training sessions, educational programs, and other community-based resources and activities, and collaborating with other non-profit organizations and government entities, Griffin has extended its mission “to provide leadership to improve the health of the community served” far beyond the hospital’s walls.

The hospital established the Department of Community Outreach and Parish Nursing to fulfill its healthy community mission and goals. The department sponsors the Valley Parish Nurse Program (VPN), one of the largest parish nurse initiatives in the country. Parish nurses are persons of faith who are experienced registered nurses, and who have received special education in holistic health care. They have skills in teaching and health counseling as well as knowledge of community resources. More than 100 VPN Program nurses currently serve 35 area congregations as part of the hospital’s outreach efforts.

A key component of these outreach efforts is the Griffin Hospital Mobile Health Resource Van, a custom built Winnebago. The van visited 1,125 sites last year, including senior centers, shopping centers, neighborhoods, companies and community events and fairs. Focusing on preventive health services and providing health education and screening services, the van is equipped with cholesterol, osteoporosis, diabetes and blood pressure screening equipment, as well as a television and VCR for patient education.

Last year, the Department of Community Outreach and VPN Program collectively served more than 41,000 people, a significant portion of the hospital’s primary service area population, and provided nearly 9,500 health screenings. A summary of VPN activities follows:

Griffin Hospital/Valley Parish Nurse Program Statistics

Total Resident Contacts	41,434
Sites Visited	1,125
Health Screening Recipients	9,480
Number of People Referred for Care	14,895
Education/Wellness Programs Offered	1,790
Attendees at Education/Wellness Programs	28,403
Bike Helmets Provided and Fitted	649
Pedestrian Safety Program Participants	959
Infection Control/ “Germ Buster” Program Participants	1,259
Drug/Alcohol/Smoking Prevention Calendars Distributed	3,235

Infant/Booster Car Seats Provided and Installed	104
Child Passenger Safety Education Program Participants	1,642
People Trained in CPR	3,609
AEDs Placed at Community Sites	3
Community AED Oversight Locations	86
CHIP (Childhood Identification Program) Participants	2,031

To bring services directly to students in the school system, Griffin worked with the Ansonia Board of Education to create the Charger Health Clinic at Ansonia High School, which provides comprehensive physical and mental health services to the school’s students. For the past decade, all students, especially the un- or under-insured, can access medical care onsite in a timely fashion. As a result, students are able to stay in school to pursue their education and to receive treatment for physical, mental, and/or emotional problems.

The Clinic has more than 600 students enrolled and over 900 student visits each year. Outcomes include money saved by preventing hospitalizations and Emergency Department visits for children with asthma, increased access to mental healthcare for children, and greater overall access to preventive care.

Griffin further extends its reach and health leadership into the community by empowering residents to take a more active role in their health and their healthcare. Nearly 10,000 area residents now hold library cards with Griffin’s Health Resource Center, which makes its vast collection of consumer health information available to the public six days a week. Griffin’s award-winning 10-week Griffin Hospital Mini Med School continued in 2009, with the fall session attended by 75 community members. And the ongoing Health Empowerment Series – healthcare related talks that are offered free of charge throughout the year – continued to expand, covering a growing list of topics ranging from the latest in cancer care and treatment to sleep wellness, pain management, integrative therapies, and joint replacement surgery, to name a few.

In total, Griffin Hospital provided more than \$12 million in community benefit in 2009. A summary follows:

Community Benefit

Charity Care Provided	\$2,026,456
Unpaid Cost of Medicaid	\$3,937,103
Unpaid Cost of Medicare	\$1,316,489
Unpaid Cost of Campus	\$5,406
Community Health Improvement Services	\$823,502
Health Professions Education	\$980,564
Subsidized Health Services	\$1,841,614
Research	\$1,045,200
Financial and In-Kind Contributions	\$6,879
Community Building Activities	\$53,440
Community Benefit Operations	\$22,964
Total Community Benefit	\$12,059,617

Additional Information:

- [Corporate Social Responsibility Summary](#)
- [Schedule H \(Form 990\) Department of the Treasury Internal Revenue Service – Hospitals – Charity Care and Other Community Benefits](#)

Note: A complete copy of Department of the Treasury Internal Revenue Service (Form 990) 2008 is available for review at the Griffin Hospital Comptroller's office, 130 Division Street, Derby, CT