



## 2026 Community Benefit Plan and Report Our Promise to the Community

In fiscal year 2025, Scripps Health provided

# \$816 million

in community benefit services



### Inspiring the Next Generation of Health Care Leaders

At Scripps Health, building healthier communities starts with empowering future medical professionals. Through more than 70 clinical placement agreements with schools, colleges and universities, Scripps provides educational opportunities, internships, and collaborative programs that help shape the next generation of health care leaders.

In partnership with Scripps Well Being Center-Scripps Mercy Hospital, Chula Vista and our talent development team, we are opening doors for high school students interested in health care careers. These programs offer hands-on learning, mentorship, and real-world exposure across hospital departments.

Each year, initiatives such as the Young Leaders in Health Care Program, High School Exploration Internship and School to Health Career Pathway immerse students in clinical environments, from shadowing providers to observing emergency departments. Participants gain valuable insight into health care professions grounded in compassion and service. Scripps is proud to invest in future leaders who will help create a healthier tomorrow.

### Serving Our Community

Scripps has been part of the community for more than 100 years, committed to enhancing community well-being and supporting those in need. In Fiscal Year 2025, Scripps Health continued its dedication to providing essential services and improving quality of life across the region. As a private, tax-exempt health system, Scripps makes lasting investments to ensure a meaningful impact—today and for generations to come.

# 2026 Scripps Community Benefit Plan and Report

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# Letter from the CEO

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Our founders, Ellen Browning Scripps and Mother Mary Michael Cummings, were both women ahead of their time. Their commitment to provide for the health care needs of a growing community resulted in the Scripps Health of today.

Miss Ellen, as she was known, preferred the term “investment” over “donation,” and her contributions were carefully considered as much for their future promise as for their immediate impact. Decades earlier, Mother Mary Michael’s patient logs illustrated her fundamental mission to make quality health care available to all who need it.

Today, more than 20,000 employees, physicians, and volunteers continue to build on our rich history and keep the spirit of community service alive. The pages that follow provide a comprehensive account of how we achieved that: our community benefit programs and services, and our plans for continued action in the future.

In Fiscal Year (FY) 2025 Scripps community benefit contributions totaled **\$815,900,436**.

Scripps has been part of the community for more than 100 years, longer than any other health care provider in San Diego. From 1924 to the present, our mission has been steadfast: to provide exceptional care and improve the health and lives of the people we serve. Scripps has grown and changed to meet the needs of the communities we serve. While Miss Ellen could only have imagined how health care would evolve over the decades, she would undoubtedly recognize that our mission today remains the same as it was when she first envisioned it so many years ago. It’s a mission that has always placed people at its heart – the people we care for and the people who provide care. San Diego has seen Scripps grow from the 57-bed hospital funded by Ellen Browning Scripps into a premier health care system that treats 650,000 patients annually. Scripps has consistently proven that it is here for good, establishing itself as a San Diego institution - past, present, and future. By making lasting investments in the community, Scripps ensures its impact for today and generations to come. As a private, tax-exempt health care system, Scripps will continue its legacy of making a vital and measurable difference in our community.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Chris Van Gorder". The signature is fluid and cursive, written in a professional style.

Chris Van Gorder, FACHE  
President and CEO

# Mission, Vision, and Values

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## Mission

Scripps strives to provide superior health services in a caring environment and to make a positive, measurable difference in the health of individuals in the communities we serve. We devote our resources to delivering quality, safe, cost-effective, socially responsible health care services. We advance clinical research, community health education, education of physicians and health care professionals and sponsor graduate medical education. We collaborate with others to deliver the continuum of care that improves the health of our community.

## Vision

Scripps Health will continue to be the leading health care delivery system in the greater San Diego community, as evidenced by the highest clinical quality, patient safety, and patient, physician, and employee satisfaction. This will be achieved through unending focus on patient-centered and compassionate care, cost-effective operations, research, advanced technology, and innovation.

## Values

*We provide the highest quality of service*

Scripps is committed to putting the patient first, and quality is our passion. In the new world of health care, we want to anticipate the cause of illness and encourage healthy behavior for all that rely on us for service. We teach and encourage patients to participate in their care and to make well-informed decisions. We will be their advocates when they are most vulnerable. We measure our success by our patients' satisfaction, their return to health and well-being, and our compassionate care for dying patients, their families, and friends.

*We demonstrate complete respect for the rights of every individual*

Scripps honors the dignity of all people. We show this by our actions toward one another and those we serve. We embrace the diversity that allows us to draw on the talents of one another. We respect and honor the cultural, ethnic, and religious beliefs and practices of our patients in a manner consistent with the highest standard of care. All of this is done in a compassionate setting. Our goal is to create a healing environment in partnership with all caregivers committed to serving our patients.

*We care for our patients every day in a responsible and efficient manner*

Scripps serves as a major community health care resource for San Diego County and, as such, we are accountable for the human, financial and ecological resources entrusted to our care as we promote healing and wholeness. We begin from a base of excellence and collaborate with co-workers, physicians, patients, and other providers to find new and creative ways to improve the delivery of health care services. All members of our community will have access to timely, affordable, and appropriate care.

## About Scripps Health

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Founded in 1924 by philanthropist Ellen Browning Scripps, Scripps Health (Scripps) is a \$4.9 billion private, tax exempt, integrated health system based in San Diego, California. Scripps treats more than 650,000 patients annually at its five acute-care hospitals, along with a robust network of 32 outpatient centers (including 12 Health Express locations), palliative care, clinical research, and ancillary services to serve our San Diego community and beyond. Scripps is also one of the largest employers in San Diego, with 3,000 affiliated physicians and more than 17,500 employees, and is recognized as one of the country's best companies to work for. Scripps offers payer products and population health services through Scripps Accountable Care Organization, Scripps Health Plan, and customized narrow network plans in collaboration with third-party payers.

Scripps is a leading provider of medical care, dedicated to improving health outcomes and advancing medicine in San Diego County. Recognized as a leader in the prevention, diagnosis, and treatment of disease, Scripps is also at the forefront of clinical research and is the only health system in the region with two Level 1 trauma centers. Both Scripps Mercy Hospital in San Diego and Scripps Memorial Hospital La Jolla have been verified as Level 1 Trauma Centers—the highest designation awarded by the American College of Surgeons (ACS), signifying the most comprehensive level of injury care available.

With three highly respected graduate medical education (GME) programs, Scripps is a longstanding member of the Association of American Medical Colleges (AAMC). Scripps hospitals are consistently ranked among the nation's best by [U.S. News & World Report](#) and numerous other organizations. Scripps is frequently recognized by [Fortune magazine](#), [Working Mother magazine](#), and the Advisory Board as one of the best places in the nation to work. Importantly, Scripps' culture is one of caring. The spirit and culture established by two pioneering founders, Ellen Browning Scripps and Mother Mary Michael Cummings, still define who we are today.

### **Excellence in Primary and Specialty Care**

The system is known for its expertise in various areas, including cancer care, cardiovascular disease prevention and treatment, orthopedics, women's health, and neurocognitive care. Generations of San Diegans have relied on Scripps for excellence in health care, starting with primary care doctors who act as the patient's personal health advocate including a focus on preventive care and wellness. For patients' convenience, Scripps physicians offer several options for ongoing care, including extended office hours, telemedicine options, three urgent care centers and HealthExpress walk-in clinics throughout the county for same-day treatment of minor illnesses and injuries. With some of the most advanced technologies available today for the diagnosis and treatment of acute and chronic illnesses, Scripps offers patients a complete range of medical and surgical services including many that have been nationally recognized for clinical quality and patient outcomes.

## **Governance**

As a tax-exempt health care system, Scripps takes pride in its service to the community. The Scripps system is governed by a 17-member volunteer Board of Trustees. This single point of authority for organizational policy ensures a unified approach to serving patients across the region.

## **Organizational Foundation**

Scripps provides a comprehensive range of inpatient and ambulatory services through our system of hospitals and clinics. In addition, Scripps participates in many partnerships with government and not-for-profit agencies across our region to improve our community's health. And our partnerships do not stop at our local borders. Our collaborations extend beyond our local community to include state, national, and global efforts in disaster preparedness and relief, emergency medical services, health care advocacy, physician education, and direct patient care. In all that we do, we are committed to quality patient outcomes, service excellence, operating efficiency, caring for those in need today while planning for the health care needs of future generations. More information can be found at [www.scripps.org](http://www.scripps.org).

## Scripps Health Board of Trustees - Professions 2026

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**Chris D. Van Gorder\***  
*President and CEO, Scripps Health*

*\*Denotes Ex Officio*



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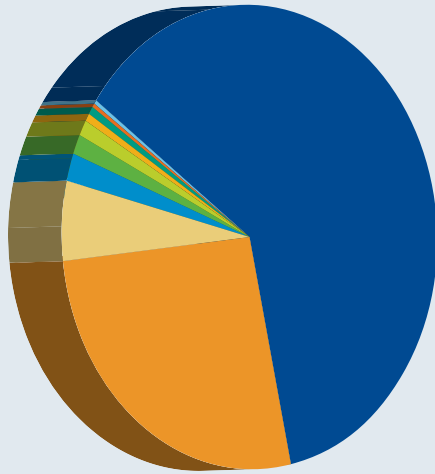
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## Total Community Benefits in FY25: \$815,900,436



Medicare Shortfall	\$503,121,237	61.7%	Health Research	\$5,833,928	0.7%
Medi-Cal and other means tested government programs shortfall*	\$218,467,514	26.8%	Subsidized Health Services	\$3,356,919	0.4%
Health Professional Education	\$45,670,641	5.6%	Cash and In-Kind Contributions	\$1,027,760	0.1%
Charity Care	\$18,663,224	2.3%	Community Building Activities	\$534,692	0.1%
Community Health Improvement Services & Community Benefit Operations	\$7,157,545	0.9%			
Bad Debt	\$12,066,976	1.5%			

Colors coordinate clockwise from Medicare shortfalls.

**17% of our total operating expenses in 2025 were devoted to community benefit services at cost.**

\*Hospital provider fee was reported as offsetting revenue from Medi-Cal.

## Scripps Facts

- More than 3,000 affiliated physicians and 17,600 employees treat and support more than 650,000 patients each year.
- Scripps cares for people throughout San Diego with five acute care hospitals, 32 outpatient locations and 12 Scripps HealthExpress sites.
- Three highly respected graduate medical education programs and two pharmacy resident programs train the next generation of caregivers. Scripps has 70 affiliation agreements for clinical placement with schools, colleges and universities to provide educational opportunities, internships and collaborative programs, fostering the next generation of health care professionals.
- Operating revenue: \$4.847 billion
- Operating expenses: \$4.784 billion
- Total inpatient discharges: 72,896
- Total outpatient visits: 3,179,701
- Emergency visits: 206,570

## Investing in Our Community

In fiscal year 2025, Scripps Health devoted more than \$816 million to community benefit programs, including more than \$18 million in charity care. We offer many free and low-cost services, as well as support groups, screenings for key health indicators, youth programs, professional education, prevention and wellness programs, patient advocacy services and more.

Keeping patients at the center of everything we do, Scripps collaborates with other health systems, community groups, government agencies, businesses and community clinics to serve the greatest needs to help improve the health of our community. For more information, visit [Scripps.org/CommunityBenefit](https://www.scripps.org/CommunityBenefit).

## Financial Assistance

Scripps' financial assistance policy reflects our commitment to help low income and uninsured patients with discounted hospital charges, charity care, and flexible billing and debt collection practices. These programs are consistent with state and federal legislation, and are available to everyone in need, regardless of their race, ethnicity, gender, religion or national origin.



For more information about the programs and services offered by Scripps Health, visit [Scripps.org/CommunityBenefit](https://www.scripps.org/CommunityBenefit) or contact the Scripps Health Office of Community Benefit Services at **858-678-7095**.



# Section 1

## Scripps Health Community Benefit Overview

# Community Benefit Overview

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Senate Bill (SB) 697, enacted in 1994<sup>1</sup>, mandates that California's not-for-profit hospitals annually describe and document the full range of community benefit services they provide. Scripps has gone beyond this legislative requirement by incorporating documentation of community benefit services and by providing a detailed explanation of the specific community benefit activities offered by our five acute-care hospital campuses, wellness centers and ambulatory care clinics.

Covering the period of Fiscal Year (FY) 2025 (October 1, 2024, through September 30, 2025), this report highlights Scripps' dedication of **\$815,900,436** (refer to Figures 1.1, 1.2 & 1.3) to community benefit programs and services. Community outreach efforts are focused on those areas with proximity to a Scripps facility. Scripps hosts, sponsors, and participates in many community-building events throughout the year. Our programs emphasize community-based prevention efforts and use creative approaches to reach residents at high risk for health problems.

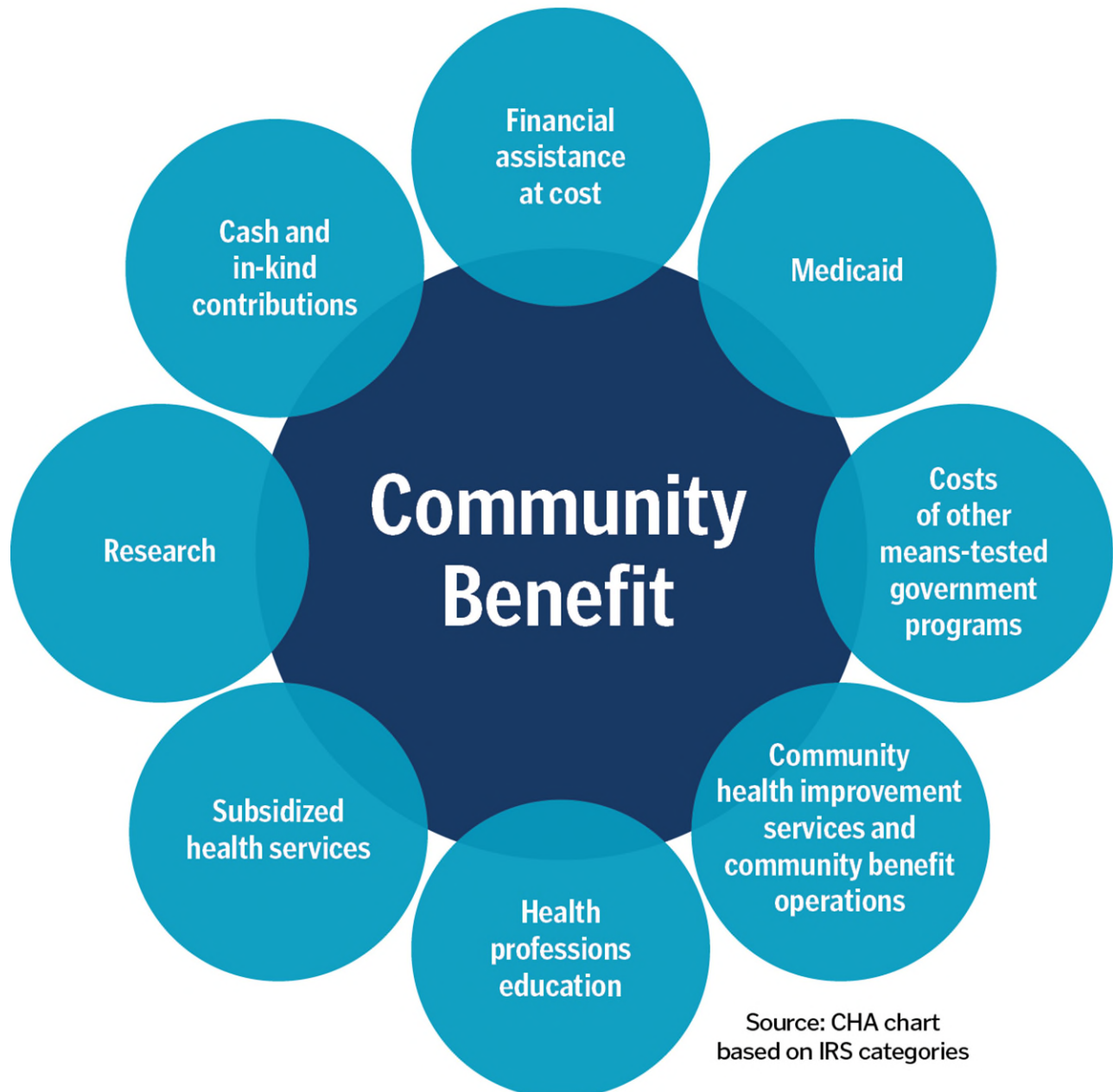
The documented activities in this report reflect our commitments to improving the health of both our patients and the diverse communities of San Diego. As a longstanding member of these communities and as a not-for-profit community resource, it is our goal and responsibility to assist all who seek care, particularly those who are vulnerable and lack support. This responsibility is an intrinsic part of our mission. Through our continued actions and community partnerships, we strive to enhance the quality of life across the entire community.

## Schedule H (Form 990) and IRS Categories

Community benefit services are defined categories of activities designed to improve health in communities and enhance availability of care. The most recent IRS reporting requirements associated with community benefit went into effect in 2009 through Form 990, Schedule H which accompanies tax filings for nonprofit organizations<sup>2</sup>. Tax-exempt hospitals must use this form to report community benefit activities and organization-specific details annually. The next few pages identify the [eight categories of community benefit](#) reportable on Form 990, Schedule H: Charity Care, Medi-Cal shortfall, costs of other means-tested government programs, community health improvement services and community benefit operations, health professions education, subsidized health services, health research, and cash, grants and in-kind contributions. Scripps aligns its 2026 Community Benefit Plan and Report with these categories<sup>3</sup>. For a more comprehensive glossary of terms used in this report refer to Appendix A.

Each community benefit category improves the health and well-being of communities. All community benefit activities are reported at cost, not charges or market rates. Offsetting revenue received from the activity and any funds received in support of the activity are reported. This results in the reported net community benefit expense. For more information, [Community Benefit — Nonprofit Hospital Community Benefit: What Counts and Why It Matters](#).

## Categories of Nonprofit Hospital Community Benefit



Source: Graphic reprinted with permission from Health Progress, Summer 2025. Copyright © 2025 by The Catholic Health Association of the United States (CHAUSA).

**“Cash, Grants and In- Kind Contributions”** refers to contributions made by the organization to health care organizations and other community groups restricted, in writing, to one or more of the community benefit activities. “Cash contributions” does not mean any payments that the organization makes in exchange for a service, facility, or product, or that the organization makes primarily to obtain economic or physical benefit. In-kind contributions include the cost of staff hours donated by the organization to the community, indirect cost of space donated to tax-exempt community groups (such as for community health-related meetings), and the financial value (generally measured at cost) of donated food, equipment, and supplies. *These costs are included in the IRS Form 990, Schedule H Part I Lines 7i.*

**“Charity Care” Financial Assistance at Cost.** Financial assistance at cost is commonly referred to as charity care. Financial assistance is free or discounted health care services provided to low-income individuals. The eligibility criteria are based on the hospital's financial assistance. Charity care shall be recorded at cost. Charity care does not include bad debt or uncollectible charges that the organization recorded as revenue but wrote off due to a patient's failure to pay. *Charity care is included in the Internal Revenue Service (IRS) Form 990 Schedule H Part I Line 7a.*

**“Community Benefit Operations”** refers to activities associated with conducting community health needs assessments, community benefit program administration, and the organization's activities associated with fundraising or grant writing for community benefit programs. “Community benefit operations” does not mean the activities or programs provided primarily for marketing purposes or if they are more beneficial to the organization than to the community. *These costs are included in the IRS Form 990, Schedule H Part I Lines 7e.*

**“Community Health Improvement Services”** refers to activities or programs subsidized by the health care organization and carried out or supported for the express purpose of improving community health through health education and prevention services. Such services do not generate inpatient or outpatient revenue, although there may be a nominal patient fee or sliding scale fee for these services. *These costs are included in the IRS Form 990, Schedule H Part I Lines 7e.*

**“Health Professions Education”** refers to educational programs that result in a degree, a certificate, or training necessary to be licensed to practice as a health professional, as required by state law, or continuing education necessary to retain state license or certification by a board in the individual's health profession specialty. It does not include education or training programs available exclusively to the organization's employees and medical staff or scholarships provided to those individuals. It does include education programs if the primary purpose of such programs is to educate health professionals in the broader community. Costs for medical residents and interns can be included, even if they are considered

"employees" for purposes of Form W-2, Wage and Tax Statement. *These costs are included in the IRS Form 990, Schedule H Part I Lines 7f.*

**"Medicaid Shortfall and Cost of Other Means-Tested Government Program"** refers to a government health program for which eligibility depends on the recipient's income or asset level. Examples include: the State Children's Health Insurance Program (SCHIP), or the California Children's Services (CCS) Program. *These costs are included in the IRS Form 990, Schedule H Part I Line 7b. In the state of California, the Medicaid program is called Medi-Cal.*

**"Health Research"** refers to any study or investigation in which the goal is to generate increased generalizable knowledge made available to the public. It encompasses the communication of findings and observations, including publication in a professional journal. Internally funded research and research funded by tax-exempt, or government entities are eligible for reporting. *These costs are included in the IRS Form 990, Schedule H Part I Lines 7h.*

**"Subsidized Health Services"** refers to clinical services provided despite a financial loss to the organization. The financial loss is measured after removing payments associated with bad debt, financial assistance, Medi-Cal, and other means-tested government programs. Losses attributable to these items are not included when determining the value of subsidized health services. *These costs are included in the IRS Form 990, Schedule H Part I Lines 7g.*

**"Community Building Activities, Bad Debt and Medicare Shortfall"** Community Building Activities, Bad Debt, and Medicare Shortfall are reportable under Schedule H guidelines but are excluded from the community benefit calculation totals in Form 990, Schedule H. However, Scripps includes these categories in our overall community benefit calculations in the report. See Figure 1.3.

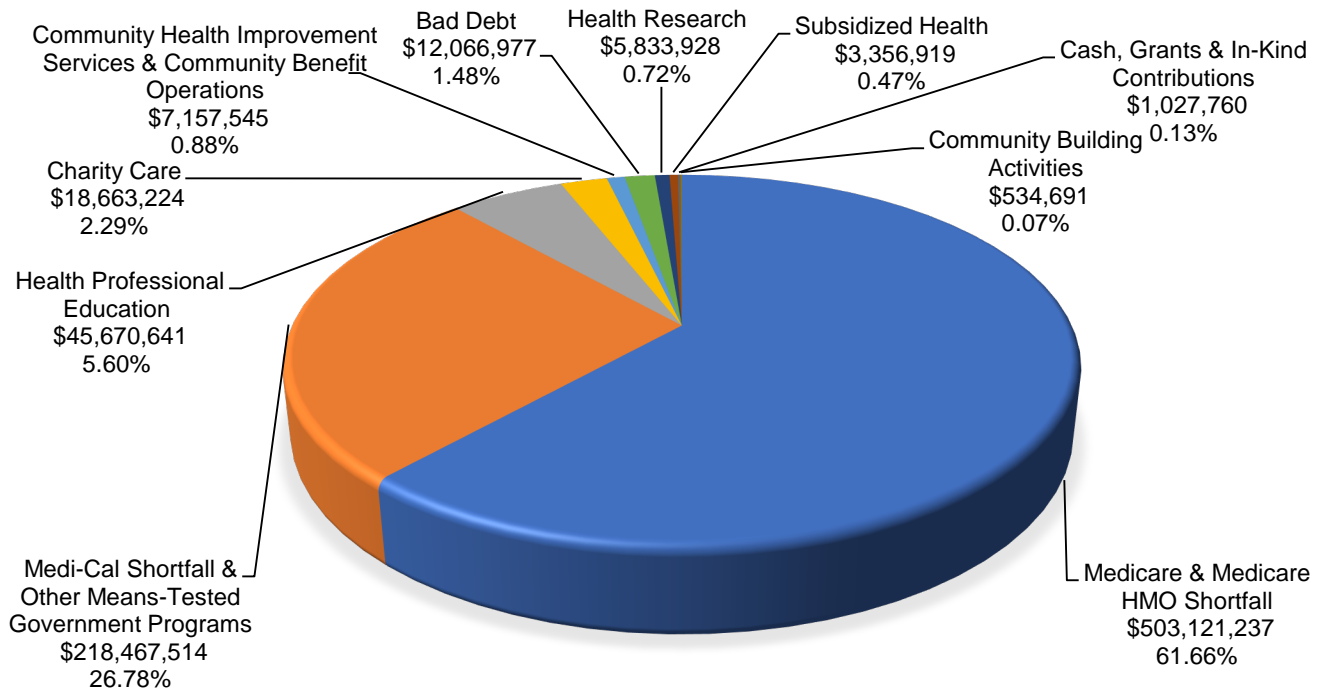
- **"Community Building Activities"** refers to activities that protect or improve the community's health or safety. Community building activities are programs that address the underlying causes of health problems and thus improve health status and quality of life. They focus on the root causes of health problems. These costs are included in the IRS Form 990, Schedule H Part II.
- **"Bad Debt"** refers to unpaid costs for care that are provided to people who do not meet the criteria for charity care, are not covered by a third-party payer or have a co-payment obligation that is not met. These costs are incorporated in the IRS Form 990, Schedule H Part III Section A.
- **"Medicare Shortfall"** refers to a shortfall (losses) in reimbursement from Medicare. Unpaid cost of Medicare is calculated using Scripps' cost accounting system. In the IRS Form 990, Schedule H, the Medicare cost report is utilized, and these expenses are incorporated into Section B of Part III of IRS Form 990, Schedule H. These costs are incorporated in the IRS Form 990, Schedule H Part III Section B.

## Organization of the Report

The report is structured to present systemwide data in Section Four, organized by IRS categories, providing detailed insights into the various programs. Sections Five through Ten adopt an entity-focused framework, covering each hospital site, Scripps Medical Foundation, and Scripps Health Administrative Services. These sections highlight accomplishments from Fiscal Year (FY) 2025 aligned with IRS categories and outline site-specific goals and objectives for Fiscal Year 2026.

Figure 1.1

## Fiscal Year 2025 Scripps Total Community Benefit Services, by Category \$815,900,436



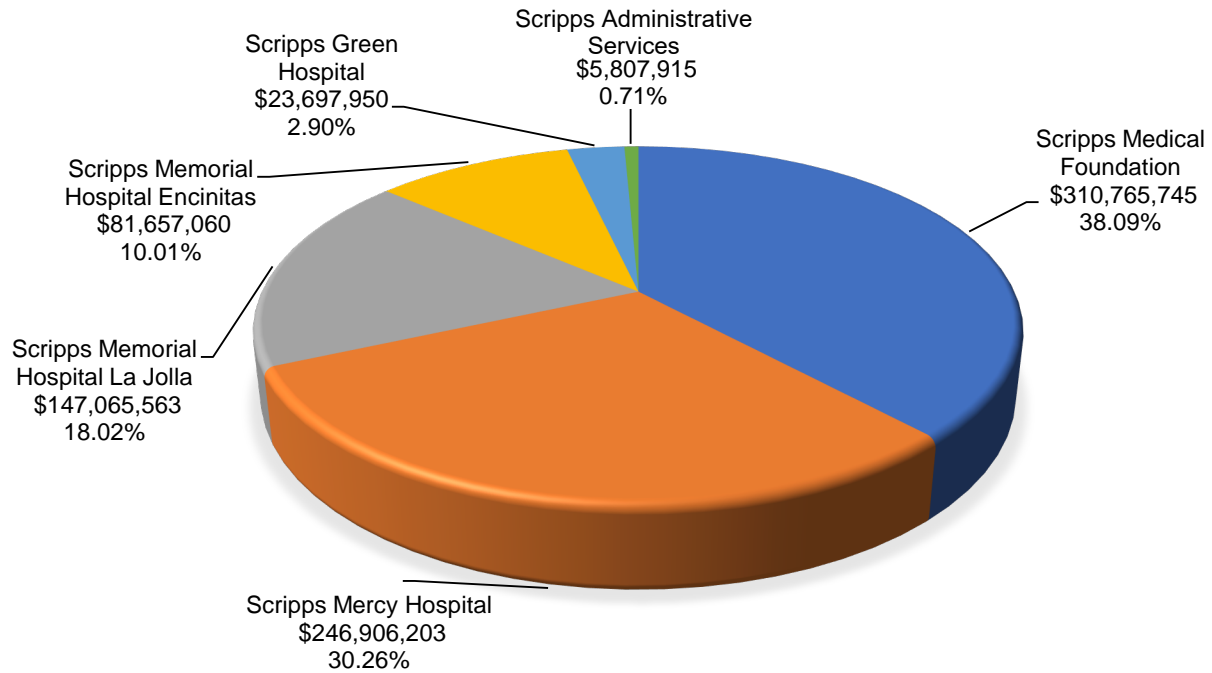
Community Benefits Services (Provider Fee Impact)	Bad Debt	Cash, Grants & In-Kind Contributions	Charity Care	Community Building Activities	Community Health Improvement Services & Operations	Health Professional Education	Health Research	Medi-Cal & Other Means Tested Government Programs (Shortfall)	Medicare & Medicare HMO (Shortfall)	Subsidized Health Services	Total
Before Provider Fee	\$12,066,977	\$1,027,760	\$18,663,224	\$534,691	\$7,157,545	\$45,670,641	\$5,833,928	\$250,345,702	\$503,121,237	\$3,356,919	\$847,778,624
Provider Fee	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	(31,878,188)	-	-	(\$31,878,188)
Net After Provider Fee	\$12,066,977	\$1,027,760	\$18,663,224	\$534,691	\$7,157,545	\$45,670,641	\$5,833,928	\$218,467,514	\$503,121,237	\$3,356,919	\$815,900,436

### Community Benefit Services

Community Benefit Services are programs and services designed to improve health in communities. IRS Form 990, Schedule H instructions define community benefit as activities or programs that respond to community health needs and seek to achieve one or more of the following objectives: improving access to health services, enabling low-income individuals to afford health care, enhancing public health, advancing generalizable knowledge, educating health care professionals, and relieving the government’s burden to improve health. Medicare Shortfall, Bad Debt, and certain Community Building Activities are reportable under Schedule H guidelines but are not included in the IRS-defined community benefit total. For the purposes of this report, Scripps includes these categories in its broader calculation of total community benefit to reflect the full scope of resources dedicated to supporting community health.

Figure 1.2

## Fiscal Year (FY) 2025 Scripps Total Community Benefit Services by Operating Unit, \$815,900,436



Community Benefits Services (Provider Fee Impact)	Scripps Memorial Hospital La Jolla	Scripps Green Hospital	Scripps Memorial Hospital Encinitas	Scripps Mercy Hospital	Scripps Medical Foundation	Scripps Administrative Services	Total
Before Provider Fee	\$148,220,554	\$23,697,950	\$83,604,856	\$275,681,604	\$310,765,745	\$5,807,915	<b>\$847,778,624</b>
Provider Fee	(\$1,154,991)	-	(\$1,947,796)	(\$28,775,401)	-	-	<b>(\$31,878,188)</b>
Net After Provider Fee	\$147,065,563	\$23,697,950	\$81,657,060	\$246,906,203	\$310,765,745	\$5,807,915	<b>\$815,900,436</b>

Figure 1.3

## Fiscal Year (FY) 2025 Scripps Total Community Benefit Services Expenses \$815,900,436

Line	Community Benefit Services Fiscal Year (FY) 2025	Broader Community*	Vulnerable Populations**	Total
	<b>Uncompensated Care</b>			
1	Financial Assistance (Charity Care)	\$ 0	\$ 18,663,224	\$ 18,663,224
2	Medi-Cal and Cost of Other Means-Tested Government Programs Shortfall ***	\$ 0	\$ 218,467,514	\$ 218,467,514
<b>3</b>	<b>Sum Financial Assistance and Means-Tested Government Programs (Sum Lines 1-2)</b>	<b>\$ 0</b>	<b>\$ 237,130,738</b>	<b>\$ 237,130,738</b>
	<b>Other Benefits</b>			
4	Community Health Improvement Services	\$ 1,315,120	\$ 5,309,758	\$ 6,624,878
5	Community Benefit Operations	\$ 532,667	\$ 0	\$ 532,667
6	Health Professions Education	\$ 12,851,046	\$ 32,819,594	\$ 45,670,640
7	Health Research	\$ 5,077,619	\$ 756,310	\$ 5,833,929
8	Cash, Grant, and In-Kind Contributions for Community Benefits	\$ 548,239	\$ 479,521	\$ 1,027,760
9	Subsidized Health Services	\$ 0	\$ 3,356,919	\$ 3,356,919
<b>10</b>	<b>Total Other Benefits (Sum Lines 4-9)</b>	<b>\$ 20,324,691</b>	<b>\$ 42,722,102</b>	<b>\$ 63,046,793</b>
<b>11</b>	<b>Total Community Benefits (Line 4 + Line 10)</b>	<b>\$ 20,324,691</b>	<b>\$ 279,852,840</b>	<b>\$ 300,177,531</b>
	<b>Categories such as Medicare Shortfall, Community Building Activities and Bad Debt are Excluded from the Community Benefit Totals in Form 900, Schedule H. ****</b>			
12	Medicare & Medicare HMO Shortfall*****	\$ 0	\$ 503,121,237	\$ 503,121,237
13	Community Building Activities	\$ 483,759	\$ 50,932	\$ 534,691
14	Bad Debt	\$ 12,066,977	\$ 0	\$ 12,066,977
<b>15</b>	<b>Total Non- IRS Items</b>	<b>\$ 12,550,736</b>	<b>\$ 503,172,169</b>	<b>\$ 515,722,905</b>
<b>16</b>	<b>Total Net Community Benefit Expenses <sup>4</sup> with All Categories Included</b>	<b>\$ 32,875,427</b>	<b>\$ 783,025,009</b>	<b>\$ 815,900,436</b>

**Methodology:** The economic value of all community benefit is reported at cost, in compliance with IRS instructions. Community benefit expenses reflect the actual costs incurred by the hospital organization, not charges, market value, or opportunity costs.

- **Bad Debt & Charity Care:** The cost is estimated by extracting the gross write-offs of bad debt and charity care charges and applying the hospital ratio of costs to charges (RCC) to estimate the cost of care.
- **Medi-Cal, Other Means-Tested Government Programs & Medicare Shortfall:** Costs are derived using the payer-based cost allocation method.
- **Other Net Community Benefit Expenses:** Calculated using a cost accounting methodology.
- **Restricted Offsetting Revenue:** Where applicable, restricted revenue for a specific activity is subtracted from total expenses to determine net benefit in dollars.

\* Broader Community means groups or communities not specifically identified as vulnerable populations. This may include groups or communities where vulnerable populations cannot be identified or the activity is not specifically directed towards vulnerable populations.

\*\* Vulnerable populations means 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 Service Program, or county indigent programs. “Vulnerable populations” also includes both of the following:

- Racial and ethnic groups experiencing disparate health outcomes including Black/African American, American Indian, Alaska Native, Asian Indian, Cambodian, Chinese, Filipino, Hmong, Japanese, Korean, Laotian, Vietnamese, Native Hawaiian, Guamanian or Chamorro, Samoan, or other nonwhite racial groups, as well as individuals of Hispanic/Latino origin, including Mexicans, Mexican Americans, Chicanos, Salvadorans, Guatemalans, Cubans, and Puerto Ricans
- “Socially disadvantaged groups” include the following:
  - *The unhoused*
  - *People with disabilities*
  - *People identifying as lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender, or queer*
  - *Individuals with limited English proficiency*
  - *Communities with inadequate access to clean air and safe drinking water, as defined by an environmental California Healthy Places Index score of 50 percent or lower*

Definitions are referenced directly from [Health and Safety Code 127340 – 127360](#) and [California Code of Regulations §95100-9511](#)

\*\*\* Medi-Cal Shortfall & Other Government Means Tested Government Programs include Provider Fee as a part of Medi-Cal shortfall. The Hospital Fee Program was established in 2009 with the intent of improving hospital Medi-Cal reimbursement and maximizing federal financial participation in the Medi-Cal program. Hospital Fee Program, also known as the Hospital Quality Assurance Fee (HQAF), provides private hospitals with federally- matched supplemental payments for inpatient and outpatient Medi-Cal services, both in fee-for-services (FFS) and managed care, while also generating state General Fund savings to support children’s health care and provide direct grants for public and district hospitals.<sup>5</sup> The Hospital Fee Program is reported as offsetting revenue from Medi-Cal. The pledge/grant (separate from the quality assurance fee) is reported in Cash and In-Kind Contributions for other vulnerable populations.

\*\*\*\* Medicare Shortfall, Bad Debt, and Community Building Activities are reportable under IRS instructions but are excluded from the community benefit totals in Form 990, Schedule H. However, Scripps includes these categories in our overall community benefit calculations within the report.

\*\*\*\*\* Unpaid cost of Medicare is calculated using Scripps' cost accounting system. In IRS Form 990, Schedule H, the Medicare cost report is used.



# Section 2

## Scripps Health Community Served



## Scripps Health Community Served

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Scripps serves the entire San Diego County region with services concentrated in North Coastal, North Central, Central and Southern region of San Diego. Scripps provides significant volumes of inpatient, emergency, outpatient, specialty, and primary care services. In Fiscal Year (FY) 2025, Scripps provided a total of 3,179,701 outpatient visits and facilitated 72,896 hospital discharges. Community outreach efforts are focused in those areas with proximity to a Scripps facility. The hospital's patient population includes all who receive care without regard to insurance coverage or eligibility for assistance. Figure 2.1 on page 16 displays a map of Scripps Health service areas:

- Scripps Memorial Hospital Encinitas
- Scripps Green Hospital
- Scripps Memorial Hospital La Jolla
- Scripps Mercy Hospital San Diego
- Scripps Mercy Hospital Chula Vista
- Scripps Clinic
- Scripps Coastal Medical Center
- Scripps HealthExpress
- Scripps Urgent Care



# Financial Assistance

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## Assisting Low-Income, Uninsured Patients

Scripps Financial Assistance Policy (FAP) is committed to ensuring that all patients have access to medically necessary care, regardless of their ability to pay. The FAP is consistent with State and Federal laws governing hospital pricing, fair billing and financial assistance including:

- **California Assembly Bill 774 (2006), Hospital Fair Pricing Act — Cal. Health & Safety Code §§ 127400–127446:** Requires California hospitals to maintain written financial assistance policies for low-income uninsured and underinsured patients and to limit the amounts charged to eligible patients.
- **California Assembly Bill 1020 (2021), Health Care Debt and Fair Billing — Health & Safety Code §§ 127400 et seq.:** Strengthens consumer protections related to medical debt, including expanded financial assistance eligibility and enhanced billing transparency requirements.
- **California Assembly Bill 1312 (2024), Hospital Pricing — Cal. Health & Safety Code amendments (effective July 1, 2027):** Requires hospitals to proactively screen patients for financial assistance eligibility and streamline eligibility determinations.
- **Internal Revenue Code Section 501(r) (2010), Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act — 26 U.S.C. § 501(r); Treas. Reg. § 1.501(r)-1 through § 1.501(r)-7:** Establishes federal requirements for nonprofit hospitals, including maintaining a written Financial Assistance Policy (FAP), limiting charges to eligible patients, and implementing fair billing and collection practices. These programs are available to everyone in need, regardless of their race, ethnicity, gender, religion, or national origin.

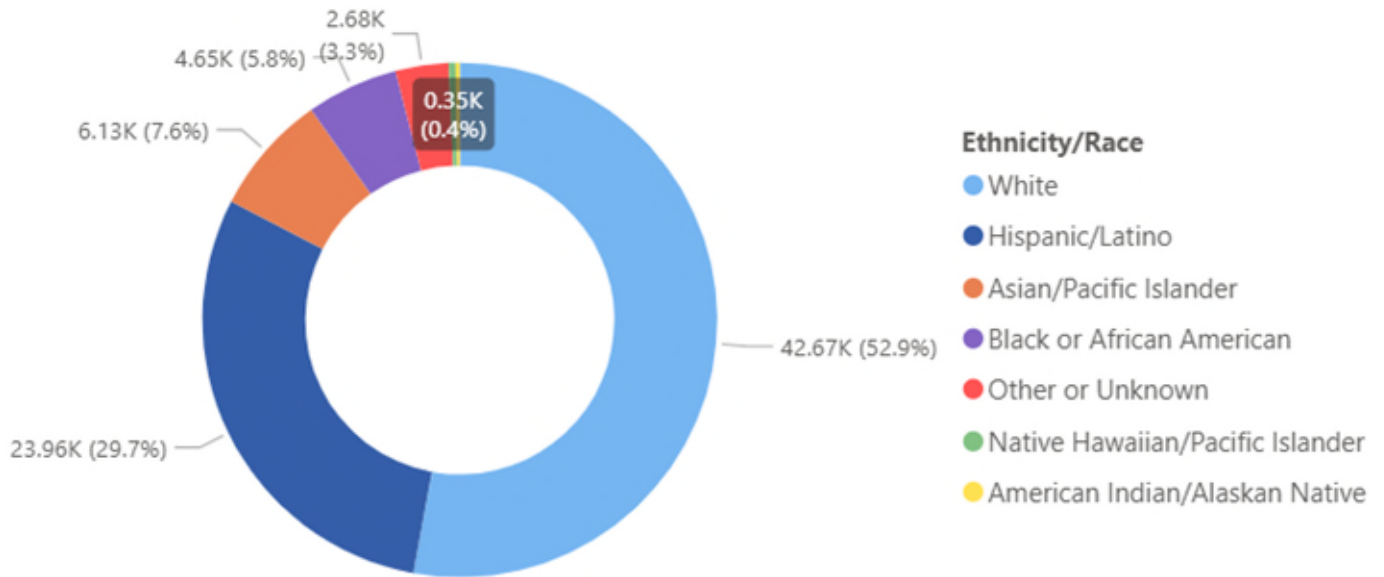
Scripps makes every effort to identify patients who may benefit from financial assistance as soon as possible and provide counseling and language interpretation. Additionally, Scripps does not apply wage garnishment or liens on primary residences as a way of collecting unpaid hospital bills.

Eligibility for financial assistance is based on family income and expenses. For low-income, uninsured patients who earn less than twice the federal poverty level (FPL), Scripps forgives the entire bill. For those patients who earn between two and four times the FPL, a portion of the bill is forgiven. Patients who qualify for financial assistance are not charged more than Scripps' discounted financial assistance amount. For 2026, the Department of Health and Human Services defined a family of four at 200 percent federal poverty level as \$66,000.<sup>6</sup>

# Scripps Health Fiscal Year (FY) 2025 Patient Community Demographics

## Inpatient Discharges by Race/Ethnicity

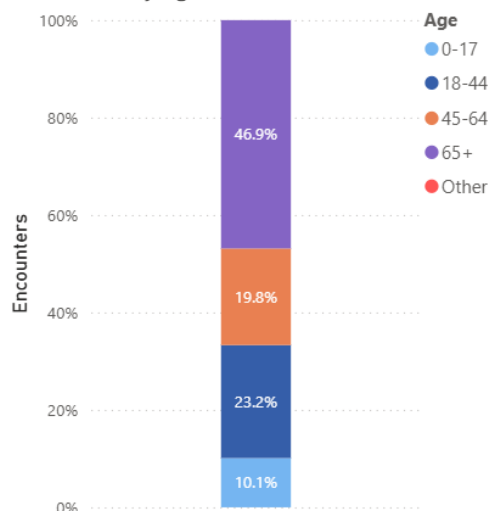
Encounters by Ethnicity/Race



In the Scripps Health service area 52.9% of the inpatient discharges are White, 23.9% are Hispanic/Latino, 7.6% are Asian/Pacific Islander, 4.6% are Black or African American.

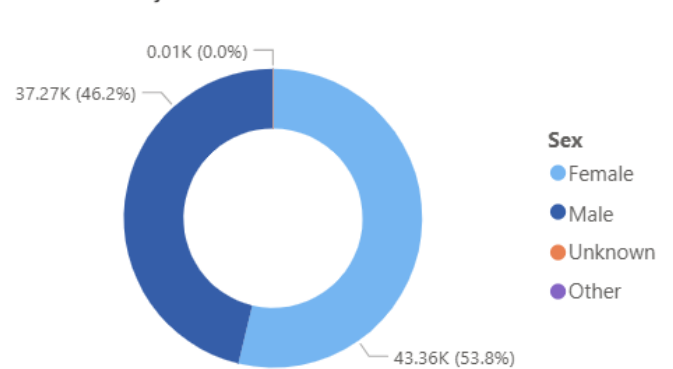
## Scripps FY 2025 Inpatient Discharges by Age

Encounters by Age



## Scripps FY 2025 Inpatient Discharges by Sex

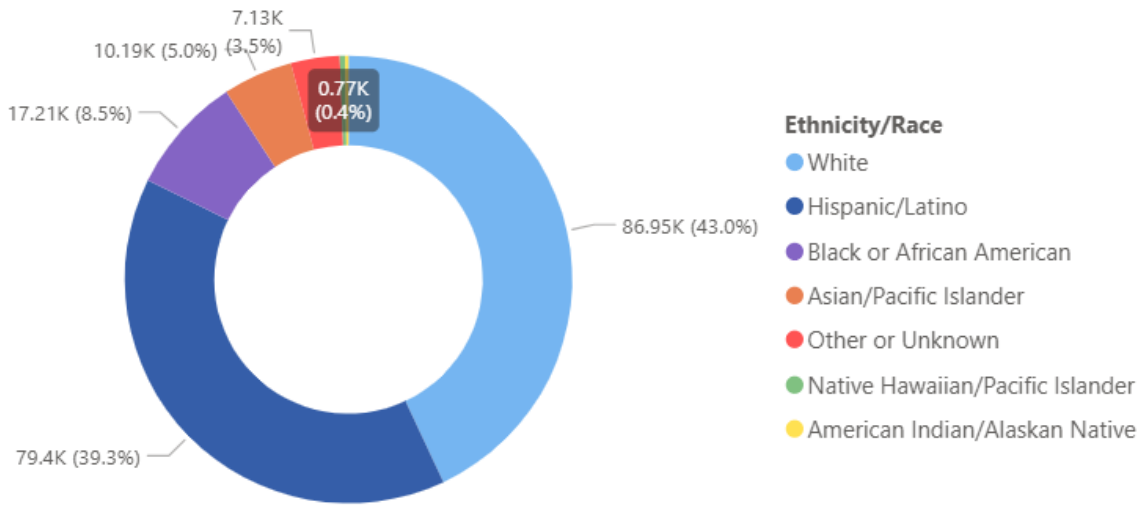
Encounters by Sex



In the Scripps Health service area 53.8% of the inpatient discharges are Female and 46.2% are Male.

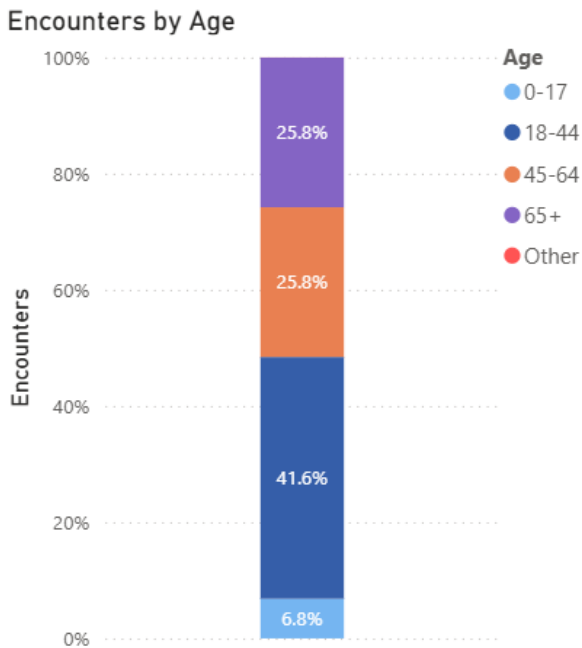
# Scripps Fiscal Year (FY) 2025 Emergency Department (ED) Encounters Encounters by Race/Ethnicity

Encounters by Ethnicity/Race

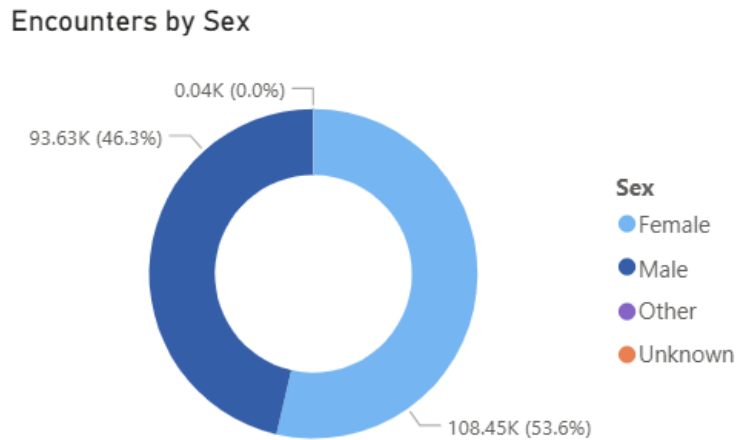


In the Scripps Health service area 43.0% of the emergency department encounters are White, 39.3% are Hispanic/Latino, 8.5% are Black/African American, 5.0% are Asian/Pacific Islander.

## Scripps Fiscal Year (FY) 2025 ED Encounters by Age

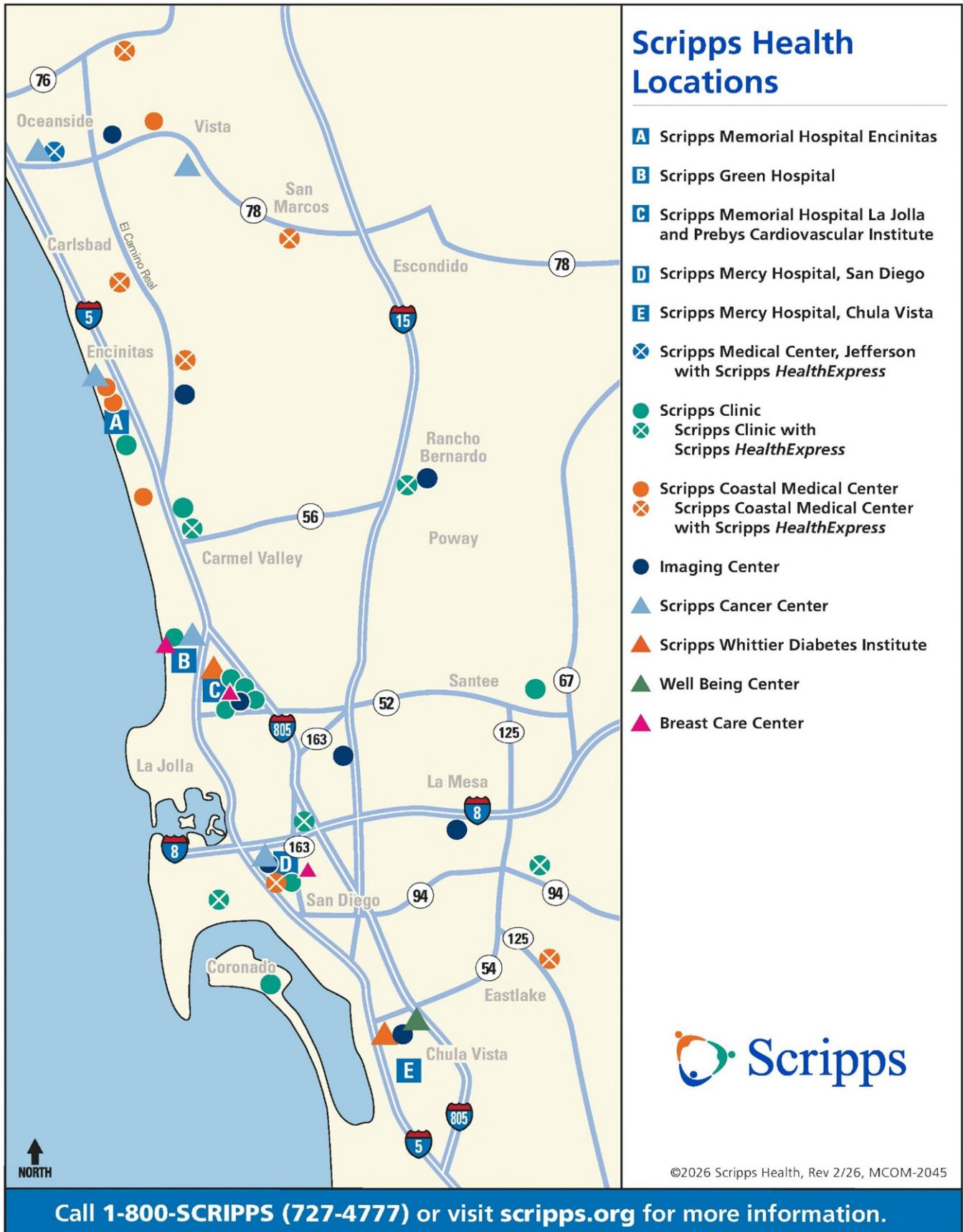


## Scripps Fiscal Year (FY) 2025 ED Encounters by Sex



In the Scripps Health service area 53.6% of the Emergency Department encounters are Female and 46.3% are Male.

Figure 2.1 - Scripps Health Service Area



# Section 3

## State Reporting: Health Equity

# State Reporting: Health Equity

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## Commitment to Improving Health

Scripps is dedicated to improving quality of care and clinical outcomes for patients including reducing identified discrepancies in patient care across populations in its communities. Scripps can accomplish this by evaluating and addressing differences in clinical quality and patient experience as part of its ongoing commitment to delivering high-quality care for the people it serves.

Long term data collection is crucial for developing effective, evidence-based interventions, especially in health care and community programs. By tracking health outcomes, patient demographics, and social determinants of health, Scripps can identify trends, address disparities, and measure the impact of interventions over time. This data-driven approach enables more targeted programs, equitable resource allocation, and improved patient outcomes.

## State Regulatory Requirements: AB 1204 Hospital Equity Reporting

Scripps is committed to meeting federal, state, and regulatory agency requirements to improve health care and clinical outcomes for patients and the communities we serve. In Fiscal Year (FY) 25, Scripps established the necessary infrastructure to comply with [Assembly Bill 1204 \(AB\) 1204](#), *the Medical Equity Disclosure Act*, which mandates the collection and reporting of health care disparities data.

Hospitals are now required to submit annual reports to the Department of Health Care Access and Information (HCAI), which summarize key performance measures, identify the top health disparities, and outline actionable plans to address them. These [Health Equity Reports](#) are publicly accessible through HCAI and made available on each hospital's website.

Scripps worked to improve care and clinical outcomes with a focus on readmission rates across the system and at each hospital site. Readmission rates will continue to serve as a key organizational performance metric, supported by ongoing outreach efforts to assist discharged patients experiencing challenges related to the Social Determinants of Health (SDOH). Action plans and outreach efforts to improve disparities in readmission rates include the following areas of focus:

### **Person-Centered Care:**

Patients discharged with identified SDOH challenges receive follow-up calls from the Scripps Wellbeing Center and are referred to appropriate community resources based on their individual needs. Data are reviewed quarterly to guide targeted improvement strategies.

### **Patient Safety:**

Outreach teams reinforce understanding of discharge instructions, medication regimens, and follow-up care

requirements. Through clear communication and education, these efforts aim to enhance patient safety and reduce preventable readmissions.

**Addressing Social Determinants of Health:**

Scripps patients are referred to supportive resources to help address SDOH factors that may affect recovery and overall health outcomes.

**Effective Treatment:**

Quality and clinical leadership conduct monthly reviews of disease-specific readmission data to identify clinical or documentation gaps and to ensure adherence to evidence-based treatment protocols.

**Care Coordination:**

Outreach teams confirm follow-up appointments, help facilitate connections with primary care providers, and work to resolve barriers that may prevent patients from attending scheduled visits.

**Access to Care:**

Outreach teams help identify and address barriers to accessing care—such as transportation challenges or difficulty navigating the health care system. They can also help provide patients with appropriate resources to support timely and equitable care access.

## Programs Funded by Krueger-Wyeth

In 2021, Scripps Health received five-year funding through the Krueger-Wyeth<sup>7</sup> (KW) award's excess settlement funds distribution to advance patient care, research, and address gaps in care in the areas of breast cancer, cardiovascular disease, and neurocognitive conditions within underserved populations. Two of the awards are described below.

### **Health Outcomes Information Center (HOIC)**

The Health Outcomes Information Center (HOIC) is a knowledge repository funded by the Krueger-Wyeth (KW) award, offering data, research, and insights on health equity. HOIC was created in 2023 to identify and deepen Scripps' understanding of health differences in clinical quality in the populations served by Scripps and across the region, and to support Scripps's efforts to reduce these differences. It is a collection of the latest data, original analytics research, and business intelligence information. It serves as a research and development resource for Scripps groups currently providing equity-focused care and a springboard to develop future enterprise health equity strategies. The goal is to enhance and share the collective knowledge of Scripps' regional and local efforts to address differences in clinical quality, areas of need and opportunity, and the holistic problems affecting patients in their communities beyond the walls of our health system. HOIC is supported and maintained by the Health Data Science team in conjunction with other analytics groups, the Scripps Collaborative for Health Excellence (SCHE), and the Community Benefits and Government Relations teams.

### **Scripps Collaborative for Health Excellence (SCHE)**

[Scripps Collaborative for Health Excellence](#) (SCHE) provides research opportunities for health care professionals and medical trainees in breast cancer, cardiovascular disease, and neurocognitive conditions. SCHE promotes improved health outcomes through initiatives focused on workforce diversity, inclusive research participation, and equitable access to high-quality, culturally responsive care.

SCHE advances Scripps' commitment to community health through education, screenings, and expanded access to care across the region. Its strategic priorities include:

- Closing identified gaps in health outcomes data
- Expanding access to health care resources across the Scripps system
- Strengthening community-based interventions and health education programs throughout San Diego County

## Improving Access to Health Care Resources

Scripps promotes programs and policies that improve access to care throughout the region by:

- Recruiting and retaining physicians and staff who understand and represent the communities served
- Developing health care resources and programs for underserved populations
- Supporting patients' access to services following discharge from care

## Advancing Health: Programs and Services

Scripps has been engaged in a broad range of programs and initiatives that promote better health for people throughout our community for many years. Below are some examples of available programs with further details on these programs throughout our community benefit report.

**Aging Care and Support:** Enhance health, safety, and quality of life for older adults and individuals with aging-related concerns through targeted programs and services. Strategies include proactive medical and social support for adults with multiple chronic conditions, partnerships with senior centers, churches, and senior housing, and senior health chats to provide education to the older adult community.

**Behavioral Health:** Reduce the impact of behavioral health conditions by strengthening the continuum of care and integrating primary and mental health services to improve patient outcomes. Strategies include providing community-based support, vocational training, and initiatives to reduce opioid use and substance abuse.

**Cancer:** Reduce the impact of cancer by providing access to education, resources, and supportive services that empower patients and the community. Strategies include free online nutrition and fitness classes, diverse support groups, a dedicated wig boutique, and an extensive resource library.

**Cardiovascular Disease:** Reduce the prevalence and impact of cardiovascular disease, stroke, and hypertension through prevention, education, screenings, and wellness programs, while supporting individuals in managing chronic conditions. Strategies include sudden cardiac arrest (SCA) screenings, virtual cardiac rehabilitation, cardiometabolic health education, and initiatives to improve food security.

**Diabetes:** Reduce the prevalence and impact of diabetes through prevention, early detection, quality care, and comprehensive management programs, with a focus on vulnerable and underserved populations. Strategies include providing access to education, supporting research, and delivering both in-person and virtual prevention and management programs.

**Maternal Child Health and High-Risk Pregnancy:** Improve health outcomes for mothers, infants, and families, with particular attention to high-risk pregnancies and vulnerable populations. Strategies include providing specialized perinatology and high-risk obstetric services; expanding access to prenatal, perinatal, and postpartum care; delivering health education and community awareness initiatives; and implementing

coordinated care programs that support early identification, intervention, and continuity of care for mothers and newborns.

**Professional Education:** Strengthen access to care and improve health outcomes by training future physicians to provide high-quality, compassionate care and foster meaningful partnerships with underserved communities. Strategies include supporting physician training, clinical research, residency programs, and curricula focused on advancing health equity, reducing bias, and caring for vulnerable populations.

**Health Research:** Establish clear methods for measuring health outcomes through the work of the Scripps Collaborative for Health Excellence (SCHE), related research grants, and the Health Outcomes Information Center (HOIC).

**Youth Career Pathways Programs:** Inspire, prepare, and sustain the next generation of health care professionals by investing in programs that provide education, mentorship, training, and career development—while supporting diversity and cultural competence in underserved communities. Strategies include promoting health care careers through internships, outreach, scholars' programs, and related initiatives.

**Community Outreach:** Support homeless, food-insecure, and low-income patients who are uninsured or under-insured through programs designed to supplement their health care and address broader living needs. Strategies include providing targeted resources, connecting patients with supportive services, and offering programs that enhance overall health and well-being.



## Section 4

# Scripps Health Community Benefit Services

# Community Health Needs Assessment

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The 2025 Community Health Needs Assessment (CHNA) aims to identify, understand, and prioritize the health-related needs of San Diego County residents facing inequities. The CHNA is a primary tool used by hospitals to determine community benefit plans, as well as to inform and adapt hospital programs and strategies to better meet the health needs of residents. It is intended to serve as a useful resource for both residents and health care providers to further community-wide health improvement efforts.

Scripps participates in the CHNA collaborative led by the Hospital Association of San Diego & Imperial Counties (HASD&IC). The 2025 CHNA reflects a coordinated, region-wide effort that includes private, public, behavioral health, and health district hospitals. Although only nonprofit 501(c)(3) hospitals are legally required to conduct a CHNA, this collaborative model demonstrates a shared commitment across hospital systems to identify and address the region's most pressing health challenges.

The CHNA is conducted in partnership with regional health care organizations and researchers, in accordance with state and federal requirements. Every three years, tax-exempt, nonpublic hospitals and health systems in California must conduct a CHNA to identify significant community health needs and adopt an implementation strategy to address those needs. IRS regulations<sup>8,9</sup> require hospitals to define their service area, solicit input from individuals representing the broad interests of the community—including those with public health expertise—and produce a written report adopted by an authorized governing body. The report must be made publicly available, including posting on Scripps.org. See Appendix F for additional details regarding CHNA regulatory requirements.

The programs described in this section respond to the needs identified in the 2025 CHNA, as well as additional priorities addressed through Scripps' community benefit initiatives. Scripps' community benefit efforts are multifaceted and designed to serve diverse populations, including seniors, uninsured and under-insured individuals, and those who are homebound. These services promote health and healing while addressing unmet community needs. Programs include prevention and wellness initiatives, health screenings, education, support groups, health fairs, research, and health professional education, supported through operational funds, grants, in-kind contributions, and philanthropy.

Scripps advances community health through collaboration with a broad network of partners. By working alongside other health systems, community-based organizations, government agencies, businesses, and community clinics, Scripps strengthens collective efforts to achieve shared community health goals. See Appendix H for a list of community partners.

## Scripps Board of Trustees Approval

The Scripps Health Board of Trustees and Select Hospital Management Committee approved the 2025 CHNA and a FY26-FY28 Implementation Strategy in September 2025, during the 2024 tax year. The CHNA written report is posted separately on the Scripps Health and Select Hospital websites, [Scripps 2025 Community Health Needs Assessment](#) and [Select Hospital - San Diego CHNA Report](#).

## Community Engagement

The community engagement process solicits input from a wide range of stakeholders, ensuring the sample is as representative as possible of sub-populations experiencing high needs and those facing inequities in San Diego County. Special efforts were made to include both community members from historically underserved populations and service providers who work closely with them. In total, feedback was gathered from 1,625 community members across the region.

The community engagement approach aimed at answering two central questions:

- What are the most pressing needs of our community?
- How can hospitals and health systems help address those needs?

A central goal of the 2025 CHNA was to involve Community Health Workers (CHWs), local partners, and community members as research collaborators. Playing key roles in designing culturally sensitive data collection tools, conducting interviews, and supporting data analysis were research collaborators from the San Diego Refugee Communities Coalition (SDRCC) and the San Diego County Promotores Coalition (SDCPS). Their efforts helped ensure this was the most representative CHNA sample in San Diego to date.

## Community Input

- 465 field interviews were conducted by the San Diego Refugee Communities Coalition (SDRCC) and San Diego County Promotores Coalition (SDCPC)
- 1,037 online survey responses
- 123 participants in 40 focus groups and key informant interviews

## Prioritization Process

Through a prioritization process described in the [Scripps Community Health Needs Assessment \(CHNA\)](#)<sup>10</sup> the following findings were identified as the top community needs within San Diego County.

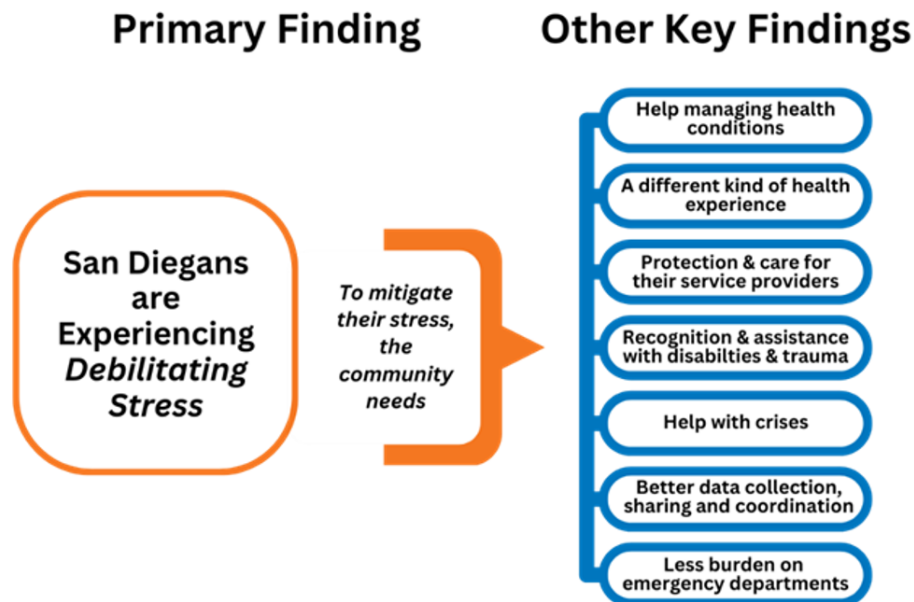
## 2025 CHNA Findings

The findings and graphics below come directly from the CHNA process illustrating the primary community needs serving as the foundation for the strategies outlined in the implementation strategy. **Chronic stress** was consistently highlighted as a significant theme across various qualitative data collection methods. It is recognized as a **Primary Finding**, indicating its role as a barrier affecting community members' capacity to manage their health and health care effectively. The CHNA also explored ways in which hospitals and health care systems could alleviate chronic stress to enhance community health. Several **health improvement**

**strategies** were recommended, which are highlighted as **Other Key Findings**. These strategies aim to address the identified barriers and improve the overall well-being of the community.

*Figure 4.1.*

## 2025 CHNA Top Community Needs



### Addressing Scripps Priority Health Needs

To better serve San Diego County residents facing health inequities, Scripps uses the findings from the Hospital Association of San Diego and Imperial County (HASD&IC) 2025 Community Health Needs Assessment (CHNA) to guide the development and refinement of hospital programs and strategies. As stated previously, health priorities were identified through a comprehensive process involving data collection, analysis, community input, and prioritization.

In response to the 2025 Community Health Needs Assessment (CHNA) findings, Scripps Health developed the [FY26-28 Implementation Strategy](#), which outlines the programs, services, and resources provided by Scripps to address the community's top health needs.

## Strategic Focus Areas of the 2025 CHNA Findings

Scripps directs resources toward initiatives that align with its mission, clinical strengths, and areas of expertise. This includes addressing key regional health issues, integrating CHNA findings into existing programs, and collaborating with community partners on shared priorities. To guide this work, Scripps has grouped the CHNA identified needs into three focus areas: **Managing Health Conditions, Improving Access to Care, and Enhancing Community Safety**. Many of these priorities are closely tied to social determinants of health, such as food insecurity, transportation, education, and community support, which Scripps addresses through a wide range of programs and partnerships.

### Managing Health Conditions

- Aging Care and Support
- Behavioral Health
- Strengthen the Management of Key Chronic Health Conditions (Hypertension, Cancer, Diabetes)

### Improving Access to Care

- A Different Kind of Healthcare Experience
- Less Burden on Emergency Departments
- Recognition of and Assistance with Disabilities and Trauma
- Better Data Collection, Sharing and Coordination

### Enhancing Community Safety

- Trauma and Injury Prevention Efforts
- Protection and Care for Service Providers
- Enhanced Public Health Crisis Support

# Community Health Improvement Services & Community Benefit Operations (Includes In-Lieu of Funds)

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During Fiscal Year (FY) 2025 (October 2024 to September 2025), Scripps invested **\$7,157,545** in Community Health Improvement Services and Community Benefit Operations. The total reflects the costs associated with providing these programs, salaries, materials, and supplies minus revenue.

This investment includes **In-Lieu of Funds** which provides critical support for vulnerable populations, covering essential post-discharge needs for unfunded or underfunded patients. These funds help ensure access to necessary health care support services beyond hospital care.

The following section highlights Scripps activities, programs and services during Fiscal Year (FY) 2025. Figure 4.2 provides a graphic representation of Scripps Health Administrative Services Community Health Improvement Services and Community Benefit Operations program distribution. For more information, refer to the Scripps Community Health Improvement Services and Community Benefit Operations Summary on page 59.

## Manage Health Conditions: Aging Care and Support

The [Scripps 2025 Community Health Needs Assessment](#) identified aging care and support as a priority health issue for the communities served by Scripps Health (Scripps). San Diego County, like the nation, is experiencing a historic demographic shift, with a rapidly growing population of adults over 65. According to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC), longer life spans and the aging of the baby boomer generation are expected to double the U.S. population aged 65 or older over the next 25 years, reaching approximately 72 million by 2030—when older adults will represent 20% of the national population. In San Diego County, the population of older adults is projected to reach nearly 825,000 by 2029, making up almost a quarter of the region’s 3.3<sup>11</sup> million residents.

Older adults visit emergency departments (EDs) at higher rates than younger populations for conditions requiring rapid or advanced treatment, including surgery. They face unique challenges, from fall prevention and mobility assistance to social services and care coordination aimed at reducing readmissions. Many also live with multiple chronic conditions, such as Alzheimer’s and other forms of dementia.

Mortality data from San Diego County in 2023<sup>12</sup> show that Alzheimer’s was the fifth leading cause of death, contributing to 1,177 deaths (5% of total). Scripps provides specialized care and support for individuals with Alzheimer’s, including cognitive screening, memory testing, standard imaging, and

advanced radiology studies. Scripps also collaborates with local organizations to support patients and families with guidance, resources, and care coordination.

Scripps has joined Age-Friendly Health Systems, an initiative led by The John A. Hartford Foundation and the Institute for Healthcare Improvement in partnership with the American Hospital Association and the Catholic Health Association of the United States. This national movement is focused on delivering safe, reliable, high-quality wellness across all care settings, guided by what matters most to older adults.

(See [ihi.org/AgeFriendly](https://ihi.org/AgeFriendly)).

During Fiscal Year (FY) 2025, Scripps offered the following programs and services to address the needs of the aging population.

### **Scripps Health Geriatric Emergency Department Accreditation by the American College of Emergency Physicians (ACEP)**

All Scripps emergency departments have been accredited by the American College of Emergency Physicians (ACEP) as geriatric emergency departments, a distinction that recognizes excellence in providing specialized care to elderly patients. The San Diego Senior Emergency Care Initiative aims to improve older adults' experience and outcomes in EDs by supporting geriatric emergency department accreditation for EDs across the San Diego region.

### **The Alzheimer's Project – San Diego Unites for a Cure and Care**

The [Alzheimer's Project](#) is a countywide initiative aimed at accelerating the search for a cure and helping the estimated 100,000 San Diegans with the disease, along with their caregivers.

### **Fall Prevention Programs and Services**

Scripps offers comprehensive fall prevention programs and services to help older adults stay safe and independent. Scripps Fall Prevention Resource Guide provides information on exercise programs, minor home repairs, caregiving resources, mental health and emotional support, social connections, and more. Workshops like the *Fall Prevention and Home Safety Workshop* educate seniors on reducing fall risks and improving safety awareness, while the *A Matter of Balance* program combines an eight-week series of exercises and safety strategies. Additionally, *Standing Strong Fall Prevention Workshop*, a collaboration with local agencies, includes balance improvement classes, fall risk assessments, medication reviews, and access to helpful resources.

### **Standing Stronger Workshop Series**

In recognition of National Falls Prevention Awareness Week (September 20–26, 2025), Scripps hosted a three-part Standing Stronger Fall Prevention Workshop Series across the Scripps system. Each event brought together interdisciplinary teams from Geriatrics, Pharmacy, Physical and Occupational Therapy, Stroke, and Community Partners to empower older adults and caregivers with the knowledge, tools, and assessments

needed to prevent falls and maintain independence. The series collectively engaged nearly 100 participants across three campuses.

### **Senior Health Education, Prevention & Wellness Programs**

In partnership with Scripps Family Medicine Residency and local senior centers, these programs provide older adults with education on nutrition, wellness, heart health, hearing loss, and other locally relevant topics. Sessions, offered in English and Spanish, promote interactive dialogue between participants and health care professionals to support healthy lifestyles and injury prevention.

## Manage Health Conditions: Behavioral Health

The [Scripps 2025 Community Health Needs Assessment](#) identified behavioral health as a priority issue for the communities served by Scripps. Community members expressed significant concern about mental health and substance use, with 43% of survey respondents identifying mental health as the health condition having the most serious impact on adults. The top behavioral health concerns for adults were depression, anxiety, co-occurring disorders, chronic stress, and alcohol misuse. For children, the leading concerns were anxiety/depression, adverse childhood experiences (ACEs), early childhood development and disabilities (e.g., autism, learning delays), attention-deficit/hyperactivity disorder (ADHD), and suicidal thoughts or behaviors.

Behavioral health encompasses a wide range of conditions, including severe psychological distress, mental and substance use disorders, suicide, and addiction (American Public Health Association, 2015). These issues are critical because they significantly affect overall health and are often associated with chronic conditions such as diabetes, obesity, and asthma (CDC, 2025; NCBI/SAMHSA report)<sup>13</sup>.

The CHNA also revealed that mental health care in San Diego County is often fragmented, particularly during transitions after inpatient or emergency department discharge. Community members reported uncertainty about where to seek help during a crisis, while those experiencing subacute mental health concerns—individuals at risk but not in immediate danger—face even greater barriers to accessing care.

County data indicate both progress and emerging challenges. Adult suicide rates in San Diego County have declined over the past five years, reflecting the impact of prevention and early intervention efforts.

However, analysis of 2023 mortality data<sup>12</sup> shows that intentional self-harm (suicide) remained the twelfth leading cause of death, accounting for 363 deaths—slightly higher than the previous year but part of an overall 12% decline since 2019. Rates were highest among males, adults aged 65 and older, non-Hispanic White residents, and residents of the East Region, with firearms being the most common method of death. Notably, youth suicide rates (ages 10–24) increased 56% from 2022 to 2023<sup>10</sup>, highlighting a growing concern for young populations.

During Fiscal Year (FY) 2025, Scripps engaged in the following behavioral health and community programs to reduce the stigma of mental illness and help affected individuals live and work in the community.

### **Mental Health Outreach Services, A-Visions Vocational Training**

Finding employment can be difficult for people with mental health conditions, so in 2002 Scripps created the A-Vision Vocational Training Program to help decrease the stigma surrounding mental illness. A-Visions has been shown to be an effective vocational training program for candidates receiving treatment for psychiatric disorders. This program helps patients receiving mental health treatment by giving them vocational training and employment or volunteer roles alongside a mentor. Recruitment is closed, but Scripps continues to support current A-Vision's participants.

## **Psychiatric Liaison Team (PLT)**

The Psychiatric Liaison Team (PLT) provides psychiatric evaluation and triage services throughout the Scripps system. The team supports patients in adhering to treatment plans, reducing hospital readmission rates, managing symptoms, and promoting long-term mental health stabilization. PLT services are available across all emergency departments, two urgent care locations, and all inpatient medical units, providing critical psychiatric support in diverse clinical settings.

## **Scripps Substance Use Disorder Service (SUDS) Nurses**

Scripps deploys nurses certified in addiction care to support hospitalized patients experiencing or at risk for substance withdrawal. Substance Use Disorder (SUDS) nurses provide bedside care, coordinate safe detox, and connect patients with long-term recovery resources. They maintain communication with the McAlister Institute, where Scripps leases five beds to serve up to five patients per week, and act as liaisons from emergency and inpatient departments to ensure safe transfers. SUDS nurses also coordinate with the Hazelden Betty Ford Center and Family Health Centers of San Diego to address the community's diverse treatment needs.

## **Medication Assisted Treatment (MAT)**

Medication-Assisted Treatment (MAT) is a treatment approach for substance-use-disorders, particularly opioid addiction, that uses medications in combination with counseling and behavioral therapies. Scripps behavioral health department and Substance Use Disorder Nurses (SUDS) assist in coordinating Medication-Assisted Treatment (MAT) appointments in the community to remove barriers to the timely identification and treatment of affected patients.

## **Cal Hospital Honor Roll – Scripps Achieves Top Substance Use Disorder (SUD) Care Recognition**

All Scripps Health hospitals earned the top tier of the 2025 Healthcare Organizations Leading SUD Care Honor Roll, recognizing excellence in reducing opioid-related harm. Scripps was commended for lowering opioid prescriptions, limiting them to seven days or less, expanding non-opioid pain management (e.g., aromatherapy, music, and pet therapy), and adding fentanyl testing to support early intervention, addiction treatment, and naloxone prescribing.

## **Scripps Drug Take Back Kiosks**

Opioid misuse remains a major public health issue. County overdose deaths fell for the second consecutive year, dropping from 1,203 in 2023 to 945 in 2024—a 21% decrease and roughly 25% below the 2022 peak—though rates remain more than double those in 2015<sup>15</sup>. Safely disposing of unused or expired medications prevents misuse, accidental poisoning, and diversion to illegal markets. Scripps provides year-round, free access to safe prescription medication disposal through drug take-back kiosks at its Encinitas, Geisel Pavilion, and Mercy San Diego outpatient pharmacies.

## Manage Health Conditions: Cancer/Oncology

The [Scripps 2025 Community Health Needs Assessment](#) identified cancer as a priority health issue in the communities served by Scripps. While cancer death rates have declined over the past three decades, it remains a major concern. According to the American Cancer Society, cancer is the second-leading cause of death in the U.S., and the leading cause among women aged 40–79 and men aged 60–79<sup>16</sup>.

In San Diego County, cancer has been the leading cause of death since 2011. Between 2011 and 2023<sup>12</sup>, 65,033 residents died from cancer, with deaths increasing 6.3%. In 2023 alone, cancer accounted for 5,098 deaths (21.8% of total deaths<sup>12</sup>). In the CHNA online survey, 24% of respondents identified cancer as a top health concern and focus group participants highlighted the challenges of navigating diagnosis, treatment, and support services<sup>17</sup>.

Scripps provides comprehensive cancer care through multidisciplinary teams and specialized programs, including the Inflammatory Breast Cancer Clinic (2019) and the Prebys Cancer Center (2021). Initiatives for underserved populations address health disparities and empower patients through technology. Cancer care at Scripps extends beyond medical treatment to include specialized breast care centers, infusion clinics, nurse navigators, nutrition programs, genetic counseling, rehabilitation, counseling and support groups, educational workshops, Shiley Fitness Center access, and complementary therapies through the Scripps Center for Integrative Medicine.

During Fiscal Year (FY) 2025, Scripps engaged in the following [cancer programs](#) and cancer patients support services and resources to help patients with emotional, psychological, financial and lifestyle needs. Various cancer programs listed in this section are not included in the quantification of community benefit totals as they are only offered to Scripps patients.

### **Scripps Cancer Center Registry**

Since 1975, the Scripps Cancer Registry has been collecting cancer data on Scripps patients for research, epidemiological studies, education, and patient treatment. Analysis of this data gives Scripps physicians the ability to measure the quality and effectiveness of the care cancer patients receive within the Scripps system.

### **Scripps Cancer Center Nurse Navigation Program**<sup>18</sup>

Scripps provides registered nurses, dedicated to assisting cancer patients and their families while navigating through the journey from diagnosis, treatment, and survivorship. The focus is on education and outreach, as well as support services in this population.

### **Scripps Cancer Center Outpatient Social Worker and Liaison Program**<sup>19</sup>

Scripps provides specially trained oncology social workers who understand the complexities of living with cancer and are dedicated to assisting cancer patients, along with providing education to health

professionals and caregivers. The social workers help access the most appropriate community and medical resources, provide short-term counseling, and assist with transportation, lodging and financial concerns.

### **Scripps Cancer Center Heredity and Cancer Gene Counseling Program<sup>20</sup>**

Scripps Cancer Center genetic counselors provide expert, caring support and education to patients and their families. They take a personalized approach to every patient and discuss questions and concerns to help them make informed, confident decisions about genetic testing.

### **Scripps Cancer Center Lung Cancer Screening Program<sup>21</sup>**

A recent study by the American Cancer Society (ACS) showed that less than 20% of eligible individuals in the United States were up to date with recommended lung cancer screening. Another recent report showed that less than 40% of people know that computed tomography (CT) scans are an available screening option for those at high risk of lung cancer. Scripps Lung Cancer Screening Program serves people at elevated risk for developing lung cancer. The program offers a comprehensive array of services, including smoking cessation education and coaching. There is also a patient registry database that ensures patients are referred to annual screenings as indicated, and a nodule management database for ongoing monitoring and analysis.

### **Scripps Wellness and Ongoing Care Program**

Operating since 2021, the Wellness & Ongoing Care Program serves as a cancer survivorship clinic bridging oncology and primary care after patients complete routine oncology follow-up. The program focuses on improving access to comprehensive survivorship care by addressing physical, emotional, and social needs and ensuring coordinated, patient-centered care throughout recovery. Designed to support patients beyond active treatment, the program includes dedicated clinics for breast and thoracic cancer survivors. These clinics offer continued medical oversight, wellness planning, and culturally competent support tailored to long-term recovery and quality of life.

### **Scripps Cancer Center Support Groups**

Through generous community support, Scripps Cancer Center provides free professionally facilitated support groups at various locations to help patients and loved ones find support, guidance, and encouragement. Patients and their caregivers are encouraged to join the Breast Cancer, Gynecologic Cancer, Head and Neck Cancer, Men's Cancer, Advanced Cancer and Cancer Survivorship groups both virtually and in person.

### **Scripps Cancer Center Survivor's Day Events**

In June, Scripps Cancer Center invites cancer survivors, cancer patients, their families, and caregivers to take part in free cancer webinars, classes, and support groups. Each event is part of a month-long [Cancer](#)

[Survivors Day](#) celebration and is designed to provide the emotional, mental and physical support needed to promote balance and overall well-being.

### **Scripps Cancer Center Wig Boutique and Prosthesis Bank**

Scripps Cancer Center provides a Wig Boutique and temporary Breast Prosthesis Bank to support women during cancer treatment. These services provide access to wigs, head coverings, and prostheses in a supportive and compassionate setting. Since opening to the public in 2022, the boutique has helped hundreds of patients feel more comfortable and confident during their treatment journey.

### **Scripps Cancer Center Patient Resource Library**

The Scripps Cancer Center Resource Library offers valuable resources to support patients, families, and caregivers throughout their cancer journey. It provides helpful books, brochures and other materials covering specific cancer types, treatment options, side effects, nutrition, exercise, support services, post-treatment guidance, legal matters and more. The library, which opened in 2022, is located at The Woltman Family College Building on the campus of Scripps Mercy Hospital San Diego. Originally built nearly a century ago to train nurses, this historic structure now houses non-clinical cancer support services in addition to the resource library.

### **Scripps Cancer Center Restorative Yoga and Sound Therapy Classes for Cancer Survivors and Caregivers**

Scripps Cancer Center offers restorative yoga and sound therapy classes designed to promote relaxation, reduce stress, and support overall well-being. Participants are able to rest comfortably or engage in gentle movement while experiencing the healing effects of sound through instruments such as singing bowls, chimes, drums, and gongs. These classes are open to cancer survivors and their caregivers, offering a peaceful space for rejuvenation and healing.

### **Scripps Cancer Center Living Life Well Sessions: Nutrition and Fitness Focus**

Up to 80% of cancer patients in the United States are malnourished while undergoing treatments, which can hinder their outcomes. Scripps Shiley Fitness staff and the oncology nutrition team at Scripps Cancer Center offer evidence-based classes designed to help patients maintain and improve their health and wellness through targeted nutrition and fitness interventions. Attendees learn about optimal nutrition and hydration, food flexibility, the importance of adequate protein and calories, and nutritional options to address treatment-related side effects. These sessions provide essential education and support to empower patients on their survivorship journey.

### **Scripps Cancer Center Lymphedema Stretch**

Lymphedema, a common side effect of breast cancer treatment, causes arm swelling when lymphatic fluid is blocked, leading to pain, infection risk, and body image challenges. Scripps Cancer Center offers therapeutic exercises guided by expert therapists to reduce swelling, manage discomfort, and address side effects. In the past fiscal year, more than 1,000 patient visits highlight the program's impact.

### **Scripps Cancer Center Healthy Bones Exercise Class**

Scripps Cancer Center offers specialized exercise classes focused on building bone strength, improving balance, and enhancing overall functional fitness. These classes are designed to support patients—particularly those at risk for or recovering from bone loss—by promoting safe, effective movement and reducing the risk of fractures.

### **Scripps Mercy Hospital Chula Vista Breast Cancer Support Group - Helping Address Breast Health and Awareness**

The Scripps Well Being Center - Scripps Mercy Hospital Chula Vista hosts a bi-monthly support group for the community, specifically designed to assist individuals who are supporting breast cancer survivors. These support group sessions cover a wide range of topics related to navigating the intricate cancer care system and include educational presentations by local health care providers. The primary objective is to enhance education, outreach, and access to early detection and screening services, particularly for breast health screening and support services, and among underserved populations.

### **Scripps Cancer Center Lifeguard Cancer Awareness and Screenings**

Skin cancer is the most common form of cancer in the U.S., with more cases diagnosed annually than all other cancers combined, according to the American Cancer Society. The majority of skin cancers result from excessive exposure to ultraviolet rays, primarily from the sun. Given that lifeguards spend much of their working lives outdoors, summer is an ideal time to screen skin abnormalities that could be cancerous or lead to skin cancer. Scripps has provided free skin screenings to lifeguards and other first responders for more than 25 years, as part of its community benefit program to support the region's overall health and well-being. This initiative remains a vital component of Scripps' Mohs Surgery and Dermatologic Oncology Fellowship. Doctors from Scripps Cancer Center visited the Dempsey Center in Imperial Beach to provide free skin cancer screenings to ocean lifeguards.

## Manage Health Conditions: Cardiovascular Disease, Hypertension and Stroke

The [Scripps 2025 Community Health Needs Assessment](#) identified cardiovascular disease—including stroke and hypertension—as a priority health issue affecting the communities served by Scripps. Cardiovascular disease encompasses a range of conditions related to the heart and blood vessels, such as heart disease, heart attack, stroke, heart failure, arrhythmia, and heart valve disorders<sup>22</sup>.

Heart disease claims more than 950,000 American lives annually<sup>17</sup>, and stroke remains a leading cause of serious, long-term disability. In San Diego County, 2023 mortality data show that diseases of the heart were the second leading cause of death (4,785 deaths, 20.4% of total), cerebrovascular diseases (stroke) were the fourth leading cause, and essential hypertension and hypertensive renal disease ranked eighth<sup>12</sup>.

Scripps is a nationally recognized leader in heart care, consistently ranked by U.S. News & World Report as one of America's Best Hospitals for cardiology and heart surgery. Scripps treats more heart patients than any other provider in the region. In 2025, Scripps hospital campuses earned the Stroke Gold Plus Quality Achievement Award from the American Heart Association/American Stroke Association, recognizing high-quality, guideline-based stroke care provided for at least two consecutive years, along with additional measures that improve long-term outcomes.

Beyond hospital and outpatient care, Scripps supports surrounding communities through outreach programs, partnerships, and resources aimed at cardiovascular health.

During Fiscal Year (FY) 2025, Scripps engaged in the following programs and activities focused on heart health, cardiovascular disease, hypertension, and stroke prevention and treatment.

### **BrainMasters: Improvisational Speaking Group for Stroke & Brain Injury Survivors**

[BrainMasters](#) is a supportive and engaging group for stroke and brain injury survivors, which offers participants a fun environment to practice communication skills and build self-confidence. Facilitated by a fellow brain injury survivor, the group continues to emphasize improvisational speaking, social interaction, and personal empowerment in a safe and welcoming space.

### **Cardiac Treatment Center Classes**

The [Cardiac Treatment Center](#) offers community-based wellness, education, and support programs to promote cardiovascular and pulmonary health. These evidence-informed programs help individuals manage heart and lung conditions through group exercise, stress reduction, balance and fall prevention, dietary counseling, and educational classes like tai chi, meditation, and nutrition. Specialized support groups, including those for chronic lung disease and Long COVID, provide spaces for shared learning and connection. Together, these programs will continue to empower participants with tools, knowledge, and community support to actively manage their health and well-being.

## **Love Your Heart Blood Pressure Screenings**

As a Live Well San Diego partner, Scripps joins national and cross-border efforts to provide free blood pressure screenings on Valentine's Day. In February, partners recorded 57,934 readings, identifying 796 hypertensive crises locally and potentially preventing 806 medical emergencies. Screenings were offered at 365 local sites and 261 Ama Tu Corazón sites across Mexico, including U.S. consulates.

## **Eric Paredes Save A Life Foundation-Cardiac Arrest Screenings**

Scripps Health is raising awareness about sudden cardiac arrest (SCA) in young people through its sponsorship of the [Eric Paredes Save A Life Foundation](#). The organization started in 2010 and has heart screened approximately 45,000 youth finding more than 700 with heart abnormalities that required follow up. This program works to prevent SCA and related deaths among middle and high school students, including those in underserved areas of San Diego County, through education, awareness, and proactive screenings. The program targets middle and high school students across San Diego County, including underserved communities, and provides free heart screenings conducted by a team of Scripps volunteers<sup>23</sup>, including physicians, nurses, echocardiogram technicians, and analysts. In addition to screenings, youth and their families are offered CPR and AED training to improve emergency response readiness.

## **Eric Paredes Save A Life Foundation-Prescription for Prevention**

Scripps continues to refer its providers to the Eric Paredes Save A Life Foundation's Prescription for Prevention cardiac risk assessment continuing medical education (CME) course. This program offers CME credits focused on the prevention of sudden cardiac arrest in youth, specifically tailored for primary care providers. The course is now endorsed by the California Chapter of the American College of Cardiology. More than 1,200 providers have participated, and it maintains a 99% approval rating. Practitioners significantly improve their knowledge, with post-quiz scores.

## **Healing Arts Class and Support Group for Stroke and Brain Injury Survivors**

Scripps offers self-expression through art classes to [brain injury survivors](#). Participants develop a new leisure interest and increase their art skills. Art supplies are free for participants, and the class is free and open to the community.

## **Left Ventricular Assist Device (LVAD) Support Group**

Scripps offers a support group for patients with a Left Ventricular Assist Device. This group provides education and support to those patients and their caregivers/partners.

## **Live Fit Su Vida, Su Corazon Program: Healthy Living Program**

Scripps Mercy Hospital Chula Vista offers the Live Fit program, an education-based community intervention designed to raise awareness and prevent heart disease among underserved patients. Developed by the Scripps Whittier Institute, these cardiometabolic education programs address community needs through accessible, culturally-tailored outreach. The program educates participants on cardiovascular health, improves care continuity for heart disease through outreach and health screenings, and supports underserved, low-income, racially, and ethnically diverse populations in San Diego. It also includes support groups and follow-up services for stroke patients. Community members actively engage in Live Fit activities, led by Scripps staff and Promotoras to ensure cultural relevance and accessibility.

## **Mamma's Kitchen Medically Tailored Meals - Referrals**

Scripps refers congestive heart failure (CHF) patients to [Mama's Kitchen](#), which provides medically-tailored meals aimed at reducing hospital readmissions and enhancing quality of life. By supporting patients with nutrition aligned to their medical needs, the program helps individuals better manage their condition following discharge from Scripps Mercy Hospital Chula Vista and Scripps Mercy Hospital San Diego.

## **Scripps Health Movement Disorder Clinics**

Parkinson's disease is one of the most common movement disorders. Parkinson's disease causes are not known, and its onset is progressive. While no cure is yet available for Parkinson's disease, its symptoms can be managed with proper diagnosis, treatment, and rehabilitation, including physical, occupational and speech therapies. Scripps is providing classes for people with Parkinson's. These classes are supported by the Scripps Movement Disorder Clinic. Patients and families learn about the psychological impact of Parkinson's, the benefits of exercise and positive attitude, dietary considerations, and integrative approaches to treatment.

## **San Diego County Stroke Consortium/Stroke Advisory Committee**

Scripps Stroke Program is actively involved in the San Diego County Stroke Consortium/Stroke Advisory Committee, a county-wide group focused on coordinating stroke care. They lead efforts to promote a unified message about seeking emergency treatment for stroke symptoms in the community.

## **Scripps Health Stroke Program Community Outreach Events**

The Scripps Stroke Team, in partnership with community organizations, is dedicated to reducing stroke and heart attack rates across San Diego County through education and engagement. By participating in local events, the team raises awareness of stroke risk factors, prevention strategies, and the importance of timely response. At each event, Scripps provides stroke risk factor screenings using a stroke scorecard and educates community members on the BE FAST method—recognizing stroke symptoms quickly and calling 911 when someone may be experiencing a stroke. These efforts empower individuals to take proactive steps in managing their health and responding to emergencies.

### **Stroke & Brain Injury Support and Education Group at Scripps Memorial Hospital Encinitas**

Stroke is the fifth leading cause of death and a significant contributor to disability in the United States. It is a serious, potentially life-altering condition. After-stroke care and support is vitally important to our patients and community. To ensure Scripps can provide ongoing connections it has developed a number of support groups for stroke and brain injury survivors, caregivers and loved ones where they learn and discuss meaning and purpose, how to develop encouraging peer relationships and more through dedication, art, interactive work and more. Scripps continues to offer a variety of [stroke-related education, prevention, and support programs](#) designed to improve awareness and enhance the quality of life for stroke and brain injury survivors, their caregivers, and families.

### **Stroke and Brain Injury Support and Education Group at Scripps Well Being Center - Scripps Mercy Hospital Chula Vista**

Scripps Mercy Hospital Chula Vista offers bilingual (English and Spanish) stroke and [brain injury support groups for survivors](#), caregivers, and loved ones. Held bi-monthly at the Scripps Well-Being Center, these sessions provide a vital space for connection, education, and healing. The program supports patients transitioning from hospital to home by helping them navigate the health care system, access needed services and manage social and emotional challenges after discharge.

### **San Diego Brain Injury Foundation**

Scripps Health provides meeting space to the [San Diego Brain Injury Foundation](#). The organization delivers quality of life improvements for brain injury survivors and support for family members.

## Manage Health Conditions: Diabetes

The [Scripps 2025 Community Health Needs Assessment](#) identified diabetes as a priority health issue for the communities served by Scripps. Diabetes is a major health concern due to its high prevalence, its significant impact on morbidity and mortality, and its potential for prevention. Diabetes is a group of diseases that affect the way the body metabolizes sugar (glucose). The three primary types are type 2 diabetes (the most common), type 1 diabetes and gestational (which occurs during pregnancy)<sup>24</sup>.

Across CHNA data collection strategies, community members consistently identified diabetes as a pressing concern. In field interviews, 25% of participants reporting health concerns for themselves or adult loved ones cited diabetes as a top issue, while 15% of those concerned about children named it their primary concern. In the online survey, 29% of respondents indicated that diabetes had the greatest impact on adults—second only to mental health<sup>17</sup>.

Mortality data from 2023 show diabetes mellitus as the seventh leading cause of death in San Diego County<sup>12</sup>, with 911 deaths (3.9% of total). Approximately 9.8% of the County's population lives with diabetes, with mortality rates notably higher among non-Hispanic Black residents (47.4 per 100,000) compared to the countywide rate (27.6 per 100,000)<sup>10</sup>.

Diabetes is a chronic condition requiring ongoing self-management and medical care. CHNA participants highlighted challenges such as limited access to appropriate foods, difficulties monitoring blood sugar, barriers to administering medications, and sustaining improvements following hospitalization for complications.

Founded in 1981, [Scripps Whittier Diabetes Institute](#) is the region's leading comprehensive diabetes center, dedicated to excellence in care, research, and education. Scripps Whittier provides screenings, education, and support services including customized nutrition counseling, professional training, peer support groups, and guidance on using continuous glucose monitors and insulin pumps. Patients also benefit from access to clinical trials and community programs. Scripps researchers have played a pivotal role in advancing diabetes treatment from early insulin therapies to today's broad range of pharmaceuticals and technologies.

During Fiscal Year (FY) 2025, Scripps supported patients and communities with prediabetes and diabetes through a range of self-management and education programs aimed at promoting healthier lives.

### **Woltman Family Diabetes Care and Prevention Center in Chula Vista**

[The Woltman Family Diabetes Care and Prevention Center](#), located in Chula Vista, is dedicated to addressing the diabetes epidemic that has disproportionately affected this community. The Center provides essential services including wellness programs, prevention strategies, diabetes education, medical nutrition services, and specialized endocrinology visits. These services are offered in both English and Spanish to ensure accessibility and inclusivity for the community.

## **Whittier - Project Dulce Care Management**

[Scripps Whittier Diabetes Institute](#) has been at the forefront of developing programs for high-risk, underserved communities. A key focus of Scripps efforts is community education. In 1997, Scripps partnered with other health care and community organizations to launch Project Dulce, a multicultural counseling and support program. The initiative later expanded to offer diabetes management classes tailored for Hispanic, Black, Filipino, and Vietnamese populations, with instruction provided in patients' native languages. The program delivers culturally sensitive diabetes care, utilizing nurses, dietitians, and specially trained educators known as "Promotoras" to counsel patients while empowering them to support others with diabetes within their own cultural communities.

## **Whittier - Dulce Digital**

This program evaluates the effectiveness of real-time digital feedback for people with diabetes by using health technology via text messages tailored to support patients who are managing Type 2 diabetes with prompts ranging from healthy eating habits, physical activity reminders and behavior change management. Dulce Digital has been adapted for Hispanic, African American, Arabic, Filipino and Vietnamese populations delivering messages in native languages.

## **Whittier - Diabetes Prevention Program (DPP)**

The [Scripps Diabetes Prevention Program](#) is part of the National Diabetes Prevention Program, led by the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC). It is proven to help people with prediabetes prevent or delay the development of type 2 diabetes. Scripps Whittier Diabetes Institute provides comprehensive diabetes education and counseling in both English and Spanish. The program covers key components of diabetes care, including nutrition, physical activity, blood glucose monitoring, medication adherence, coping strategies, insulin management, and the use of diabetes-related technology. Participants receive individualized support from a certified lifestyle coach to help them set and achieve personalized health goals.

## **Whittier - Behavioral Health Integration Program in Diabetes (BeHIP)**

[BeHIP](#) offers an integrated, interdisciplinary approach to addressing the emotional and behavioral challenges that can lead to burnout in individuals with Type 1, Type 2, and Gestational Diabetes. Through individual visits and group sessions with psychologists specializing in diabetes care, participants dealing with "diabetes distress" find support and benefit from connecting with others who share similar experiences. The program provides diabetes behavioral therapy to help patients struggling with what is known as diabetes burnout.

## **Whittier - Diabetes in Pregnancy**

Women with gestational diabetes (diabetes during pregnancy) can get education that is coordinated with their obstetrician, perinatologist and endocrinologist when necessary. Every woman with diabetes during pregnancy at Scripps receives individualized nutritional guidance from a registered dietitian to help ensure a healthy pregnancy. In addition, each woman is assigned a care manager who maintains frequent contact with them to monitor blood glucose levels throughout the pregnancy. When the blood glucose levels are higher than recommended targets after making modifications in diet and meal plans, medications may be necessary, and this is managed by a nurse care manager in collaboration with their perinatologist or endocrinologist. Much of the care management communication with patients can be conducted virtually via the patients' MyScripps portal, with only intermittent in-person visits required.

## Manage Health Conditions: Maternal Child Health & High-Risk Pregnancy

Mothers, infants, and children are a critical part of the U.S. population, and their health reflects the well-being of the next generation. The maternal mortality rate in the United States remains higher than in most other high-income countries [The Commonwealth Fund](#). Significant disparities persist across racial and ethnic groups: Black, American Indian and Alaska Native (AIAN) women experience pregnancy-related mortality rates more than three times higher than White women (63.4 and 55.9 vs. 18.1 per 100,000)<sup>25</sup>. Hispanic women also face higher rates compared to White women (22.6 vs. 18.1 per 100,000). Additionally, Black, AIAN, and Native Hawaiian or Pacific Islander (NHPI) women experience higher rates of preterm birth, low birthweight, and late or no prenatal care. Infants born to these groups have substantially higher mortality rates than those born to White women.

High-risk pregnancies—arising from pre-existing medical conditions or complications during pregnancy—require specialized care and monitoring throughout gestation and delivery to optimize outcomes. For more information visit, [Scripps.org/SDPregnancy](https://scripps.org/SDPregnancy). Key maternal and infant health concerns include:

- Use of alcohol, tobacco, or illicit substances during pregnancy, increasing risks for low birth weight and other complications.
- Extremely low birth weight, often associated with preterm birth, spontaneous abortion, low maternal pre-pregnancy weight, and smoking.
- Elevated infant mortality among babies born to young teenagers or mothers aged 44 and older.

As a leading maternal and fetal medicine center, Scripps Health provides expert, comprehensive care for expectant mothers and high-risk babies, grounded in evidence-based perinatal medicine, patient education, and ongoing clinical research. In Fiscal Year (FY) 2025, Scripps provided prenatal education and support to low-income women in San Diego County through a variety of programs and initiatives.

### Scripps Mercy Supplemental Nutrition Program for Women, Infants and Children (WIC)

Scripps Mercy Hospital administers the state-funded [WIC](#) program in San Diego County, serving approximately 6,200 women and children each month, with a focus on low-income families. The program promotes prenatal care, good nutrition, and breastfeeding support, particularly in underserved communities.

### Maternal Child Health Community Benefit Services

Scripps provides a wide range of prenatal, breastfeeding, and childbirth resources to support families. The breastfeeding class, led by a Certified Lactation Educator, covers various topics related to breastfeeding. Additionally, Scripps offers parenting classes and support groups, such as Getting Ready for Baby and Grandparenting Today, at locations throughout San Diego County to help enhance parenting skills. These classes are available to low-income families on a sliding fee scale.

## **Scripps Partnership with San Ysidro Health Center’s Perinatology Services**

Scripps has developed a strong perinatology program to care for patients of San Ysidro Health who are experiencing [high-risk pregnancies](#). Through this affiliation, perinatologists serve as consultants for high-risk pregnancies, providing specialized expertise to enhance overall care and coordinating with other Scripps physicians and specialists. Scripps offers comprehensive obstetrical services in both outpatient and inpatient settings. Scripps has collaborations with local Federally Qualified Health Centers (FQHC’s), including San Ysidro Health, Imperial Beach Clinic, and Operation Samahan, along with Scripps Perinatology, the Scripps Well Being Center-Scripps Mercy Hospital, Chula Vista, and Scripps Family Medicine residents and fellows.

## **Scripps Fourth Trimester Continuum of Care Program**

The Scripps Fourth Trimester Program supports new mothers at the 8–10-week postpartum visit, a critical transition after obstetric care. Focusing on high-risk pregnancies and chronic conditions such as hypertension, diabetes, and cardiovascular disease, the program provides proactive, structured care to address medical, emotional, and physical needs. High-risk patients are flagged in the EMR for timely outreach, enabling flexible follow-up—virtual or in person—to stabilize health, prevent complications, and improve outcomes for future pregnancies. For more information see, [Division of Maternal-Fetal Medicine – Scripps Clinic Medical Group](#).

## **Healthy Women, Healthy Babies**

The Healthy Women, Healthy Babies program, led by Scripps Family Medicine Residency, improves perinatal care for underserved populations in Southern San Diego County. Promotoras/es partner with residents and staff from the San Diego Border Area Health Education Center (SD Border AHEC) to provide culturally appropriate home visits. Services include health education, lactation support, infant safety guidance, immunization assistance, and connections to community resources. Follow-up calls reinforce parenting, nutrition, and mental health support, promoting healthier outcomes for mothers and babies.

## **Breast Pumps for Underserved Patients**

The [Jem Project](#) provided a grant award in the amount of \$25,150 to the Scripps Mercy Postpartum unit to purchase Breast Pumps for low-income women who would not have access to this equipment otherwise. This contribution will allow Mercy to provide hospital-grade breast pumps to vulnerable patients for use at home after delivery, supporting mothers in maintaining a breast milk supply for both preterm and full-term infants.

## **Miracle Babies**

Scripps partners with [Miracle Babies](#) to refer expectant and postpartum mothers, ensuring they receive crucial support and resources for their well-being during and after pregnancy. Additionally, Miracle Babies partners with Rady Children’s Hospital and supports families whose infants are in the Neonatal Intensive Care Unit.

## Access to Care: A Different Kind of Health Care Experience

The [Scripps 2025 Community Health Needs Assessment](#) (CHNA) identified Access to Care and the need for *a different kind of health care experience* as top priority areas, based on both community input and data analysis. Access to high-quality, comprehensive health care is essential for preventing disease, reducing disability, avoiding premature death, and achieving health equity<sup>10</sup>. San Diego residents reported persistent barriers, including transportation challenges, long wait times for emergency and specialty care, high health care costs, medical debt, and limited access to culturally and linguistically appropriate services<sup>17</sup>.

These barriers are interconnected and often influenced by Social Determinants of Health (SDOH). In response, Scripps is implementing strategies to address both immediate access gaps and the broader factors that affect health outcomes. Efforts include screening for food insecurity and other social needs, facilitating health screenings, improving transportation access, and assisting individuals with enrollment in health coverage and other benefits. Through partnerships with community-based organizations, Scripps also advances education, outreach, and chronic disease management programs that promote coordinated, patient-centered, and community-informed care.

During Fiscal Year (FY) 2025, Scripps supported the following Access to Care programs, demonstrating its ongoing commitment to serving the community.

### **The Mobile Health and Resource Fair**

Supported by Scripps funding, the Mobile Health and Resource Fair in Southeast San Diego serves hundreds of community members each month. The fair provides essential health services, including cardiovascular, neurocognitive, breast cancer, and cardiometabolic screenings, in a single, accessible location. Scripps staff regularly participate by offering health education and on-site consultations, with many attendees visiting the Scripps booth for support and to complete a needs assessment survey. The health fair serves underserved communities, promotes preventive care, and engages the community to better understand their unique challenges and identify effective ways to meet health care needs. This initiative reflects Scripps' commitment to expanding access to preventive care and improves community well-being.

### **Scripps Public Resource Specialists - CalFresh Screenings**

Food insecurity impacts health in San Diego, contributing to conditions like diabetes, hypertension, and asthma. [CalFresh](#) helps low-income households access nutritious food, benefiting more than 400,000 residents. Scripps Public Resource Specialists screen uninsured and underinsured patients across five hospital campuses connecting them to CalFresh and other programs to meet immediate needs and support long-term health.

## Promotoras in Action: Prevention, Education and Wellness

In partnership with the Scripps Family Medicine Residency Program and the Chula Vista Community Collaborative, the Scripps Well Being Center - Scripps Mercy Hospital Chula Vista supports Promotoras in Action: Prevention, Education, and Wellness. Scripps Mercy Hospital Chula Vista partners with local programs to train 20 Promotoras—community health workers who share culturally relevant health information and connect residents to health care services. This initiative empowers South County communities to make informed health decisions and access needed resources.

## Medication Patient Financial Assistance Program

The Medication Patient Financial Assistance Program serves patients that may be uninsured, under-insured as well as those that have insurance. Staff members search for funding sources from grants and manufacturers for high dollar medications so that patients do not have to make a choice between their physical and financial health. The purpose is to make medications available to patients that would otherwise be unaffordable.

## Helping Patients Navigate Post Discharge Services and Support

Scripps Mercy Hospital Chula Vista's Well-Being Center leads a program addressing social determinants of health (SDOH) to improve outcomes for patients with chronic conditions. The program enhances access to primary and specialty care, guides patients through the health care system, and connects them to vital community resources. Working closely with social workers from both Mercy campuses, the Center supports patients facing challenges such as food and housing insecurity, aging-related needs, substance use, mental health concerns, and cancer care. By providing continuity of care, virtual follow-ups, and navigation services, the program helps reduce readmission risks. Target populations include patients recovering from AMI, CABG, CHF, stroke, and those at risk for two or more SDOH factors.

### Program Components

- **Stroke Transitional Care:** Supports stroke patients in accessing resources, services, and neurological follow-up care.
- **Medicare Readmission Prevention/Transitional Care:** Reduces preventable readmissions for AMI, CHF, COPD, CABG, and pneumonia through chronic condition management and coordinated post-discharge care.
- **Complex Hospital Patient Referrals:** Links patients with multiple comorbidities or complex medical and psychosocial needs to specialized care providers and community resources.
- **Helping Patients with Food Insecurity to Heal:** Connects patients with food, housing, transportation, and health education resources to support recovery.

## **Scripps Mercy Hospital Chula Vista - Well-Being Center and Social Determinants of Health (SDOH) Screening**

Scripps uses a standardized inpatient screening tool to assess adult patients for social determinants of health, including food access, housing stability, transportation, utilities, and personal safety. Patients who screen positive are connected to community resources through the [Well-Being Center](#), with priority given to those experiencing challenges in two or more domains.

### **Greater La Jolla Meals on Wheels**

[Greater La Jolla Meals on Wheels](#) is a non-profit senior service organization that provides nutritious meals to seniors, the homebound and people with disabilities residing in the communities of La Jolla and University City. Scripps Memorial Hospital La Jolla provides office space to the La Jolla chapter of Meals on Wheels.

### **Facilitating Access to Coordinated Transportation (FACT) Inc.**

Scripps collaborates with [FACT Inc.](#) to provide on-demand transportation services for patients. This partnership simplifies medical transportation by offering various options through a single contact point at FACT. Patients, including those with specialized needs, can access rides for appointments and post-discharge transportation. The service covers curbside, door-to-door, wheelchair-accessible, and gurney rides, benefiting patients across several Scripps facilities supporting patients with specialized needs. They are offered at several Scripps facilities, including both Scripps Mercy Hospital campuses, Prebys Cancer Center, Green Hospital, Scripps Encinitas, and Radiation Therapy centers. Rides are provided across San Diego, Imperial, Riverside, and Los Angeles counties.

### **Mercy Outreach Surgical Team (MOST)**

[The Mercy Outreach Surgical Team \(MOST\)](#) is a volunteer team based out of Scripps Mercy Hospital. MOST began providing free surgical care for children in need in Mexico more than 38 years ago. Since the inception of the program, the team has provided surgeries for more than 15,000 children, conducted 63 week-long trips to the interior of Mexico, 24 weekend trips to Baja California and 15 "Mercy Days," where patients were transported via bus from Mexico to Scripps Mercy Hospital for an organized surgery weekend. To maintain consistency in the care provided, teams include a core group of volunteers and a few new volunteers on each trip. Each team comprises 40 to 50 volunteers. *Volunteers are not compensated and use PTO when volunteering on a MOST trip therefore staff hours are not included as community benefit.*

### **Scripps Sponsored American Red Cross Blood Drives**

Scripps Health's partnership with the American Red Cross involves hosting blood drives. This collaboration aims to encourage blood donations and contribute to the community's blood supply.

## **Scripps Well Being Center - Scripps Mercy Hospital Chula Vista**

[Scripps Well Being Center - Scripps Mercy Hospital Chula Vista](#) is supporting the local South County community by providing prevention and wellness programs for patients and community members. The Center provides a wide array of health promotion, disease prevention and community educational programs in collaboration with Scripps Mercy Hospital Chula Vista Family Medicine Residency Program. Many of the programs are focused on older adults, youth, parents, and patients with chronic disease. In addition, complex patients with chronic disease and multiple Social Determinants of Health are supported, guided, and connected to resources post discharge. As part of the San Diego Border Area Health Education (AHEC) Program, the Center works with K-12 schools and undergraduate and masters-level programs to increase the diversity of future health professions workforce through career education, mentorship, summer camps, internships, and other exploratory programs.

## **Scripps Health Community Benefit (CB) Fund**

In Fiscal Year (FY) 2025, Scripps Health continued its commitment to enhancing the health of our community with the Community Benefit Fund. The funded projects address some of San Diego County's high priority health needs, seeking to improve access to vital health care services for at risk populations, including the homeless, economically disadvantaged, mentally ill and others. Since the Community Benefit Fund began, Scripps has awarded \$4.8 million.

## **Consumer Center for Health Education and Advocacy (CCHEA)**

[The Consumer Center](#) partnership is a Medical Legal Partnership with both Scripps Mercy Hospital campuses. The program helps to educate consumers about health care benefits and changes occurring with eligibility and enrollment in coverage programs.

## **Access to Care: A Different Kind of Health Care Experience – Youth Health Career Pathway Programs**

The [Scripps 2025 Community Health Needs Assessment](#) identified Children and Youth Wellbeing as a significant concern. During interviews and focus groups, participants expressed concerns about rising rates of asthma, mental health conditions, diabetes, and high blood pressure among children. They also highlighted workforce shortages and limited resources needed to address these critical health needs. The most urgent concerns consistently centered on the growing behavioral health needs of children and adolescents.

In response, Scripps is committed to supporting both the well-being and educational attainment of children and youth. This commitment includes providing opportunities for young people to explore health care careers and gain meaningful, hands-on experience alongside Scripps health professionals. By investing in these youth career pathway programs, Scripps helps strengthen the future health care workforce while fostering leadership within the communities it serves.

During Fiscal Year (FY) 2025, Scripps supported youth wellbeing and health career pathway programs to help build and sustain a diverse, culturally competent primary care workforce in San Diego's medically underserved communities. For more information about Scripps' educational and workforce development initiatives, see page 102 Community Building Activities.

## Access to Care: Less Burden on Emergency Departments

The [Scripps 2025 Community Health Needs Assessment](#) identified significant challenges related to emergency department (ED) utilization, including long waits in overcrowded EDs and frequent use of EDs for non-emergent care. This high utilization is, in part, due to long wait times to access primary and specialty care providers. Health care providers reported that EDs remain overburdened, with a need to prioritize life-threatening conditions while referring non-emergent issues for follow-up care with non-emergency providers. Unfortunately, this often results in some conditions going unaddressed or delayed in treatment.

During Fiscal Year (FY) 2025, Scripps engaged in the following programs designed to assist and alleviate pressure on emergency departments.

### **City of Refuge (CoR) Recuperative Care Unit Program (RCU)** <sup>27</sup>

Scripps Health (Scripps) partners with City of Refuge (CoR) San Diego Recuperative Care Shelter (RCS) to offer recuperative care for homeless individuals after hospital discharge, providing them with a safe place to recover and prevent a return to the streets. The Recuperative Care program provides temporary shelter for people experiencing homelessness following hospital discharge, helping prevent them from returning to the streets while recovering. Scripps pays a daily rate to CoR for housing and services for these patients.

### **Father Joes' (FJV) Recuperative Care Beds**

Recuperative care plays a crucial role in reducing hospital readmissions, improving recovery, and preventing individuals from returning to the streets. After the closure of the Rescue Mission's Recuperative Care Unit in January 2019, [Father Joe's Villages \(FJV\)](#) launched its own program, offering housing, case management, meals, and health care services for individuals too sick to return to the streets post-hospitalization. While not long-term housing (stays are typically under 90 days), it serves as a bridge to other housing and social services. Through a contract, Scripps Mercy Hospital (SMH) secures two monthly beds in FJV's program for eligible patients needing extended recovery, with beds filled by new SMH patients as others transition to permanent housing or shelters.

### **Father Joe's Villages (FJV) Street Health Project**

Scripps Mercy Hospital San Diego serves a large volume of San Diego's unsheltered homeless population in the Emergency Services Department. Because of the scarcity of shelter and treatment beds available for these patients, they often leave the Hospital to return to their previous outside location. A collaboration has been established between Father [Joe's Village Street Health Intervention Project](#) and Scripps Mercy San Diego focused on unsheltered discharged patients who could benefit from a follow-up visit in the community setting where they reside.

## **CalAIM Managed Care High-Service User Enhanced Case Management Initiative (ECM)**

Scripps Mercy Hospital has a CalAIM-supported initiative to connect patients with five or more emergency visits in six months to Enhanced Case Management (ECM) services. The program engages patients during hospitalization, enrolls them in ECM, and links them to the Scripps Advanced Care Clinic for chronic condition management. For Community Health Group Managed Medi-Cal members, Scripps EPIC system flags eligible patients and alerts ECM coordinators for rapid follow-up—often within 72 hours. The program improves health, strengthens care coordination, and reduces preventable ER visits.

## **Transitions of Care (ToC) Program**

Scripps Health (Scripps) and Family Health Centers of San Diego embedded social workers at Scripps Mercy Hospital San Diego to bridge post-discharge care. The ToC program connects patients to follow-up primary and behavioral health services, coordinates with case managers, and ensures continuity of care. By linking hospital discharge to community-based support, it reduces avoidable readmissions, eases emergency department burdens, and improves outcomes for patients with complex medical and behavioral health needs. Chula Vista patients are referred directly to the program.

## **Scripps Advanced Care Clinic**

Older adults face increased risks from chronic conditions like diabetes, osteoporosis, and Alzheimer's, as well as infectious diseases such as pneumonia. Scripps provides comprehensive, patient-centered care addressing medical, psychosocial, economic, and spiritual needs through an evidence-based extensivist model. The clinic expands services for underserved populations by offering Healing Touch, a Cardiology Clinic staffed by volunteer cardiologists and Internal Medicine residents, plus weekly free psychotherapy/behavioral health and acupuncture services. The goal is to reduce emergency department visits, avoidable hospitalizations and readmissions.

## **Access to Care: Recognition of and Assistance with Disabilities and Trauma**

The [Scripps 2025 Community Health Needs Assessment](#) identified that people who are disabled and those who have experienced trauma need accommodations, compassion, and assistance in accessing appropriate resources. Community feedback indicated that this is an area where hospitals and health care systems can strengthen their efforts. Specific disability - and trauma-related needs identified include permitting service animals, ensuring compliance with the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA), improving website and phone system accessibility, providing assistance with documentation and eligibility processes, and enhancing understanding of trauma-informed care.

During Fiscal Year (FY) 2025, Scripps engaged in the following programs to enhance communication access for patients with limited English proficiency or hearing impairments, improve digital accessibility for individuals with disabilities, and strengthen trauma-informed screening and referral practices.

### **Friendly Voices Interpreter Program and American Sign Language (ASL) Services**

Scripps ensures clear communication for patients who are deaf, hard of hearing, or have limited English proficiency through qualified medical interpreters. Upon admission, patients' preferred languages are recorded on wristbands and in the electronic health record. The Friendly Voices Interpreter Program provides 24/7 in-person or remote interpretation—including ASL and more than 250 languages—supporting patient rights, care compliance, and an improved patient experience.

### **Accessible Digital Platforms**

Scripps is enhancing its digital tools to ensure all patients—including those with disabilities—can manage care, schedule appointments, access test results, and communicate with care teams independently. The MyScripps portal, powered by Epic, meets national accessibility standards, with features like screen reader compatibility and improved color contrast. Scripps.org is continually updated to reduce barriers for users with disabilities, low digital literacy, or cognitive challenges.

### **Supporting Trauma Care**

Scripps trains medical and non-medical staff to better understand and respond to patients who have experienced trauma, particularly in emergency and trauma settings. The goal is to minimize additional stress and create a supportive, healing environment for every patient.

### **Injured Trauma Survivor Screen (ITSS) Program**

The ITSS is an evidence-based screening tool for PTSD and depression in trauma patients. Following American College of Surgeons (ACS) guidelines, Scripps' Level I and II trauma centers screen patients and provide referrals. At Scripps Mercy San Diego, Trauma Nurse Team Leads administer ITSS, while social workers conduct screenings at Scripps Memorial Hospital La Jolla. Positive screens trigger social work consultations, outpatient mental health referrals, and re-screening during trauma clinic follow-ups.

## **Access to Care: Better Data Collection, Sharing and Coordination**

The [Scripps 2025 Community Health Needs Assessment](#) identified that the community is seeking better data collection, sharing and coordination across systems, including hospitals and community clinics, social service providers and schools. The lack of data coordination creates unnecessary challenges for good health. During Fiscal Year (FY) 2025, Scripps engaged in strengthening data collection, analysis, and cross-sector coordination through the Health Outcomes Information Center (HOIC) to better inform systemwide strategies to improve health outcomes across the region.

### **Health Outcomes Information Center (HOIC)**

The Health Outcomes Information Center (HOIC) is a knowledge repository funded by the Krueger-Wyeth<sup>7</sup> (KW) award, offering data, research, and insights on health equity. HOIC was created in 2023 to identify and deepen Scripps' understanding of health differences in clinical quality in the populations served by Scripps and across the region, and to support Scripps' efforts to reduce these differences. It is a collection of the latest data, original analytics research, and business intelligence information. It serves as a research and development resource for Scripps groups currently providing equity-focused care and a springboard to develop future enterprise health equity strategies. The goal is to enhance and share the collective knowledge of Scripps' regional and local efforts to address differences in clinical quality, areas of need and opportunity, and the holistic problems affecting patients in their communities beyond the walls of our health system. HOIC is supported and maintained by the Health Data Science team in conjunction with other analytics groups, the Scripps Collaborative for Health Excellence (SCHE), and the Community Benefits and Government Relations teams.

## Community Safety: Trauma and Injury Prevention

The [Scripps 2025 Community Health Needs Assessment](#) identified injury, violence, and community safety as priority health issues in the communities served by Scripps. Community members reported rising levels of racism, prejudice, and discrimination in San Diego County, including experiences of homophobia, anti-transgender violence, and hostility toward unhoused individuals. Concerns about safety at home, in neighborhoods, schools, and workplaces were also emphasized, with residents noting that unsafe environments directly harm both physical and mental health.

County data highlights the scope of the problem. In 2023, accidents (unintentional injuries) were the third leading cause of death in San Diego County, accounting for 1,756 deaths, or 7.5% of all deaths<sup>12</sup>. Beyond fatalities, hospitalization data show that unintentional injuries—including motor vehicle accidents, falls, pedestrian incidents, firearms, fires, drownings, poisonings, suffocation, cuts, and exposure to hazardous substances—remain a leading cause of injury and death across all ages, genders, races, and regions. Intentional injuries, such as gun violence and physical assaults, further contribute to the community burden. Unintentional injuries and violence are influenced by multiple factors, including individual behaviors (e.g., alcohol use, risk-taking), the physical environment at home and in the community, access to health care services, and broader social determinants of health.

During Fiscal Year (FY) 2025, Scripps engaged in the following unintentional injury, violence, and community safety activities, supporting residents across the county.

### Trauma and Injury Prevention Community Outreach Programs

[Scripps trauma and injury prevention teams at La Jolla and San Diego](#), led by Community Outreach Coordinators, educate the community on fall prevention, concussions, impaired driving, spinal cord injuries, suicide prevention, and overall trauma safety. By partnering with local organizations, these evidence-based programs help residents understand risks and adopt behaviors to stay safe. San Diego County's trauma system treats more than 12,000 patients annually, highlighting the importance of these preventive efforts.

### Child Passenger Safety Workshop

Scripps Trauma and Injury Prevention Team offered a child passenger safety workshop for both first-time parents and experienced caregivers. Participants learned about car seat basics, including the different types of car seats—infant seats, convertible seats, and booster seats—and how to choose the appropriate seat based on a child's age, weight, and height. The workshop also covered proper installation techniques for different vehicle types.

### Driver Safety Workshops

The Scripps Trauma Injury Prevention Team hosts driver safety workshops to reduce motor vehicle injuries and promote safe, informed driving. Workshops for older adults address age-related risks, hazardous driving

situations, collision prevention, and available community resources. Sessions for novice drivers emphasize defensive driving, risk awareness, and the prevention of distracted and impaired driving. The importance of preventing impaired driving is emphasized throughout all workshops, highlighting the dangers of driving under the influence and promoting safe alternatives.

### **Helmet and E-Bike Safety**

Scripps' Trauma Injury Prevention Team conducts community presentations on head injury prevention and provides bike helmet fittings at events across San Diego County. Partnering with local schools, community groups, and law enforcement, these events will promote safe riding practices, proper helmet use, and e-bike safety education. In addition, Scripps participates in the SANDAG Bike Anywhere Day which is a national bike safety campaign to bring awareness and safety to all people who ride bikes.

### **Shop with a Cop 2025 Pancake Fundraiser**

Scripps Memorial Hospital La Jolla Injury Prevention had a booth at the annual Shop with a Cop pancake fundraiser. Shop with a Cop is an annual event sponsored by local law enforcement agencies, SeaWorld, Target, and STAR/PAL that aims to provide children with a happier holiday season and encourage positive relationships with police.

### **San Diego Human Trafficking Task Force and Project Life (Living in Freedom From Exploitation)**

Scripps Health partners with the San Diego Human Trafficking Task Force and [Project Life](#) to support survivors who enter health care settings. "Soft rooms" at all Scripps hospitals (except Scripps Green, which lacks an ED) provide a safe, confidential space for law enforcement interviews and for service providers to connect victims with emergency shelter and community resources.

### **La Maestra Community Health Centers' Victim Assistance Services Division**

The program provides emergency hotel stays and follow up telemedicine case management services for survivors of trafficking, domestic violence, and sexual assault. Scripps Mercy Hospital San Diego has a longstanding partnership with La [Maestra Family Clinic](#) and is referring and tracking patients as appropriate to La Maestra Emergency Hotel Stay for Victims of Violence Assistance Services.

### **Saving Lives Through Stop the Bleed Campaign and Program**

[Stop the Bleed](#) is a national awareness and hands-on training program that teaches bystanders how to control life-threatening bleeding during emergencies. Designed for nonmedical participants, the 90-minute Scripps course includes instruction and practice in direct pressure, wound packing, and tourniquet use. The program is supported by the American College of Surgeons, the U.S. Department of Homeland Security, and local law enforcement.

## **Scripps Disaster Preparedness Exposition**

Scripps holds an annual disaster preparedness exposition. Booths at the event covered topics such as fire safety, infection control, workplace violence, evacuation tools and routes, trauma prevention, personal preparedness and more.

## **Scripps Lifeguard Advisory Committee (SLAC)**

Established in 2019, the Scripps Lifeguard Advisory Committee (SLAC) brings together marine safety leaders, trauma clinicians, researchers, and public health educators to enhance beach safety through collaboration among all 11 county lifeguard agencies. Led by Scripps Health, SLAC focuses on improving prehospital trauma care, standardizing reporting, and addressing occupational hazards like Tijuana River Valley Sewage pollution.

## **Lifeguard Partnerships and Water Safety Conference**

Each year, Scripps hosts and funds the Annual Lifeguard Education Conference, delivering continuing education on spinal trauma, drowning prevention, rescue science, and infection control. This year, Scripps launched a Winter Lifeguard Leadership Summit to expand professional development.

## **Suicide Prevention and Mental Health**

Scripps Trauma Services advances suicide prevention through firearm safety education, means reduction, and trauma-informed care aligned with national best practices. In partnership with schools, behavioral health agencies, and community organizations, Scripps promotes safe storage of ammunition, awareness of warning signs, and access to mental health resources, including the 988 Suicide & Crisis Lifeline.

## Community Safety: Protection and Care for Service Providers

The [Scripps 2025 Community Health Needs Assessment](#) identified workforce safety as a major concern. Violence in health care settings is a growing public health crisis, with health care workers five times more likely to face violence than other industries.

### Healthcare Violence Task Force (HVTF)

Scripps Health CEO and the San Diego County District Attorney launched a regional Hospital Violence Task Force, now a national model, with 20 health systems and law enforcement partners. Scripps reduces workplace violence through de-escalation training, enhanced security, and situational awareness programs, resulting in a 36% drop in total incidents (97→62) and an 80% decline in injuries from 2022–2025, with a further 21% reduction in 2025, particularly at Mercy San Diego Chula Vista, and Green Hospital.

### Resilience in Stressful Events (RISE) Program

Health care professionals and support staff regularly face high-stress situations. While most stress is manageable, certain experiences—such as the sudden loss of a patient, emotionally-charged interactions, or internal conflicts—can become traumatic. Resilience in Stressful Events (RISE) is a free, 24/7, voluntary, private (no physician-patient relationship is created by this contact) and non-judgmental, peer-to-peer support program that assists employees (clinical and non-clinical) and physicians in coping with work-related stressors. Scripps facilitates the RISE peer-to-peer support program, training volunteers from across the organization to provide psychological first aid to staff experiencing trauma from high-stress events such as patient loss or difficult interactions. Support is available 24/7, offering compassionate care, resilience tools, and referrals to additional internal resources as needed. This program is available for both staff and physicians.

## Community Safety: Enhanced Public Health Crisis Support

The [Scripps 2025 Community Health Needs Assessment](#) identified significant climate-related and public health crisis in recent years. Climate-related events such as extreme heat, wildfires, and flooding further exacerbate financial strain and stress, deepening health inequities<sup>17</sup>.

### Scripps Emergency Management Participation in the San Diego County Hospital Disaster Coalition

Scripps ensures inclusive emergency preparedness through Emergency Operations Plans (EOPs) at hospitals and ambulatory surgery centers, and Emergency Response Plans at clinics and urgent care centers. As an active member of the San Diego County Hospital Disaster Coalition, Scripps collaborates on system vulnerabilities, surge capacity, and equitable resource allocation to strengthen regional crisis response.

#### Key Focus Areas:

- **Climate Change Preparedness:** Incorporating scenarios like wildfires, extreme heat, flooding, and air quality into Hazard Vulnerability Analyses; assessing facility risks; and monitoring climate-related health trends with public health partners.
- **Hazard Vulnerability & Underserved Communities:** Addressing disproportionate impacts on vulnerable populations, using demographic data to target high-risk areas, prioritizing language and health care access, and partnering with community organizations to provide culturally appropriate emergency services.

## Other Community Benefit Services

Scripps is committed to serving the community through various programs and services, showcasing its dedication to its mission. Some of these programs are exclusive to employees and specific services within the community, and their expenses are not counted as community benefit expenses.

### Helping Our Peers in Emergencies (HOPE) Fund

Scripps Work-Life Services, in partnership with the Employee Assistance Program (EAP), provides personalized support to employees facing personal crises—ranging from childcare needs to help with disability paperwork. The program manages the Helping Our Peers in Emergencies (HOPE) Fund, an employee-funded resource offering paid time off (PTO) and financial assistance to colleagues in need. In January 2024, when severe flooding affected several Scripps employees, the HOPE Fund provided \$10,000 in grants and connected impacted workers to local resources. Donations of PTO not only provide income but also help employees maintain their benefits during leave.

### Humanitarian Assistance

Scripps employees generously donated to various organizations in response to local disasters in international conflicts. In Fiscal Year (FY) 25, Scripps partnered with the American Red Cross to support general disaster relief efforts for Hurricane Helene. In addition, employees supported relief for the Los Angeles fires, contributing through payroll deductions and direct online donations.

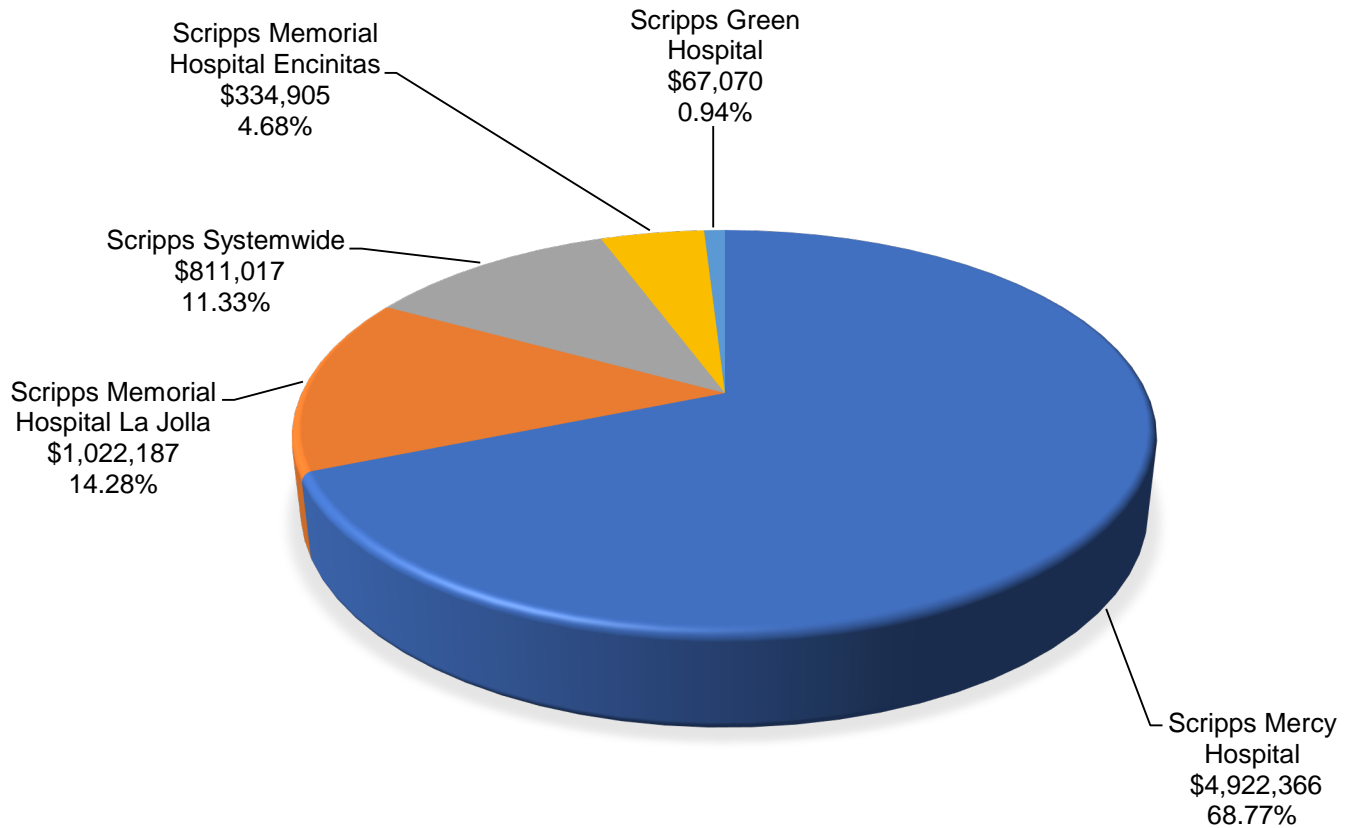
### Fostering Volunteerism

Scripps believes health improvement begins when people take an active role in positively impacting their community. For this reason, Scripps supports volunteer programs for employees and affiliated physicians who want to make an even larger impact in their community. Scripps matches the talents and interests of employees and physicians with community needs, such as mentoring partnerships with local schools and providing free medical and surgical care for patients in need.

In addition to the financial community benefit contributions made during Fiscal Year (FY) 2025, Scripps employees and affiliated physicians donated a sizable portion of their personal time volunteering to support Scripps sponsored community benefit programs. With close to 409 hours, the estimated dollar value of this volunteer labor is \$28,364.87<sup>28</sup> which is not included in the Scripps Fiscal Year (FY) 2025 community benefit programs and services totals.

Figure 4.2

Fiscal Year (FY) 2025  
Scripps Community Health Improvement Services & Community Benefit  
Operations by Operating Unit, **\$7,157,545** (Includes In-Lieu of Funds)



### Community Health Improvement Services & Community Benefit Operations

These services include prevention and wellness programs, screenings, health education, support groups, health fairs and other programs supported by operational funds, grants, and in-kind donations. Calculations are based on cost, less "direct offsetting revenue," which includes any revenue generated by the activity or program, such as payment or reimbursement for services provided to program patients. According to the Schedule H (Form 990) IRS guidelines, "direct offsetting revenue" includes restricted grants or contributions that the organization uses to provide a community benefit. However, it does not include unrestricted grants or contributions used for the same purpose.

## Fiscal Year (FY) Scripps Community Health Improvement Services & Community Benefit Operations Summary List (includes In-Lieu of Funds)

Community Benefit Categories	Person Served	Staff Hours	Volunteer Hours	Financial Support*
Community Health Education	111,931	45,317	47	\$859,178
Community-Based Clinical Services	7,032	4,020	350	\$162,517
Health Care Support Services	17,816	10,000	0	\$5,551,834
Social & Environmental Activities	1,074	512	0	\$51,349
Community Benefit Operations	-	-	-	\$532,667
<b>Totals Fiscal Year (FY) 2025 Community Health Improvement Services &amp; Community Benefit Operations</b>	<b>137,853</b>	<b>59,849</b>	<b>397</b>	<b>\$7,157,545</b>

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*\* "Financial Support" reflects the cost (labor, supplies, overhead, etc.) associated with the program/service less direct revenue. This figure does not include a calculation for physician and staff volunteer hours. In some instances, an entire community benefit program cost center has been divided between several initiatives.*

# Health Professional Education

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Quality health care is highly dependent upon health education systems. Without the ability to train and inspire a new generation of health care providers, or to offer continuing education to existing health care professionals, the quality of health care will diminish. Health Professional Education includes educational programs for physicians, interns and residents, medical students, nurses and nursing students, pastoral care trainees and other health professionals. This education is necessary to retain a state license or certification by boards in the individual's health profession specialty.

Each year, Scripps allocates resources to advance health care services through health professional education. During Fiscal Year (FY) 2025 (October 2024 to September 2025), Scripps invested **\$45,670,641**<sup>29</sup> in professional training programs to enhance service delivery and treatment practices in San Diego County. This section highlights some of our health professional education activities.

Figure 4.3 in this section has a more detailed overview of Fiscal Year (FY) 2025 Scripps Health Professional Education distribution. For an individual breakdown of each activity, see page 73, Scripps Health Professional Education Summary.

## Scripps Health Graduate Medical Education

A key component of Scripps' mission is to advance the education of physicians and health care professionals and sponsor graduate medical education. By investing in these areas, we help secure quality care for our community. Scripps Health is known for providing high quality and patient-centered care, with a long legacy of improving the health of the San Diego community. That legacy is strengthened by training new physicians to be future leaders in medicine through its [Graduate Medical Education](#) (GME).

Today, Scripps GME program spans all [five hospital campuses](#) and [Scripps Clinic](#). After four years of medical school, new doctors embark on a demanding residency program lasting four to five years. Under the guidance of experienced attending physicians, they rotate through various hospital departments, gaining vital real-world experience in trauma, intensive care, cardiology, oncology and other specialties. There are residency programs for internal medicine, family medicine, transitional year, pharmacy and podiatry and fellowships and subspecialty training in internal medicine, family medicine, cardiology, dermatology, podiatry, hematology/oncology, orthopedics, trauma, pharmacy, palliative care, emergency and surgical critical care gastroenterology, endocrinology as well as research-focused programs. These programs are renowned for their commitment to excellence and feature a hands-on curriculum that places a strong emphasis on patient-centered care.

Scripps Graduate Medical Education programs serve our community in two equally important ways: providing much-needed medical care to the diverse patient population of San Diego County; and developing the talent and skills of new leaders in medicine, who together with Scripps will continue to break new ground in innovative, compassionate medical care.

Serving underserved populations across the region is a cornerstone of the Scripps GME program. Trainees are encouraged to give back to the community while exploring their individual interests within medicine. As such, Scripps residents actively engage with the community in a number of ways. They mentor and teach local high school students, participate in food and clothing drives, and provide vaccinations through nonprofit organizations that support individuals experiencing homelessness or domestic violence.

In Fiscal Year (FY) 2025, Scripps enrolled 167 medical residents, and 48 fellows across the Scripps system, underscoring our commitment to medical education and community health care.

## **Scripps Clinic and Scripps Green Hospital Internal Medicine Residency**

The [Internal Medicine Residency Program at Scripps Clinic and Scripps Green](#) Hospital prepares physicians to become excellent practitioners of general and subspecialty internal medicine. The program includes rotations in all internal medicine specialties and most related or affiliated specialties. Inpatient residency training takes place on the campuses of Scripps Clinic, Scripps Green Hospital and Scripps Memorial Hospital La Jolla. In addition, the program offers unique outpatient experiences that involve working with vulnerable populations. This commitment to serving diverse and underserved communities further enriches the residents' clinical training.

### **Community Service Projects - Internal Medicine Residents**

Internal medicine residents at Scripps Clinic and Scripps Green Hospital participate annually in community service projects addressing social determinants of health and barriers to care. Working in teams, residents design and implement initiatives that support underserved populations, enhancing their clinical training while advancing Scripps' mission of equitable, community-connected care. See Section 8 for a description of projects.

### **Underserved Medicine Rotation Curriculum**

Scripps Clinic and Scripps Green Hospital offer medicine rotations designed to prepare residents to care for vulnerable populations. Through training at diverse community-based facilities, residents gain skills to address health care gaps and deliver high-quality, patient-centered care.

Rotation sites include:

- **Owens UCSD HIV Clinic** – A highly active teaching site with medical students, residents, infectious disease fellows, pharmacy residents, and visiting learners. Residents work with a diverse patient

population alongside multidisciplinary teams of physicians, nurse practitioners, physician assistants, pharmacists, nurses, social workers, patient navigators, and other staff.

- **La Maestra Community Health Center** – A Federally Qualified Health Center (FQHC) with ten locations across underserved communities in San Diego, including school-based and mobile clinics. Residents participate in rotations that provide exposure to a wide range of community health services and patient needs.

### **Scripps Green GME Diversity Committee and Equity Curriculum**

Scripps Green Hospital has established a graduate medical education diversity, equity, inclusion and belonging committee and curriculum. The mission is to systematically cultivate a more diverse health care workforce to allow residents and fellows to work and be educated in an environment reflecting and respecting diversity.

## **Scripps Mercy Hospital Graduate Medical Education**

Scripps Mercy Hospital offers residency programs for multiple specialties, including family medicine and internal medicine. Each offers a unique variety of learning environments. Trainees have opportunities to conduct research and collaborate with top-notch faculty at Scripps Mercy. The Scripps Mercy Family Medicine Residency Program and the Internal Medicine Residency Program are described below in more detail.

### **Scripps Mercy Family Medicine Residency**

The [Family Medicine Residency Program](#) at Scripps Mercy Hospital Chula Vista provides training and experiences for family medicine physicians to prepare for full spectrum care in both the inpatient and outpatient settings. The curriculum has a strong emphasis on community medicine which is integrated longitudinally throughout the three years of training. Scripps partnerships with local community health programs allow residents to focus on medically underserved communities, particularly those along the California and Baja border regions. Of the graduates, more than half are from ethnically diverse backgrounds, reflecting the cultural and ethnic mix of the region. The Family Medicine Residency Program collaborates with the Chula Vista Wellbeing Center and the San Diego Border Area Health Education Center Scholar (AHEC) to offer a variety of youth programs that prepare for a diverse workforce in the future.

### **San Ysidro Health Internal Medicine Residency**

Scripps Mercy Hospital Chula Vista has established a valuable partnership with San Ysidro Health, serving as a training site for its Internal Medicine Residency Program since 2020. This collaboration enables residents to receive comprehensive medical education in a community setting, gaining experience with diverse patient populations in various outpatient clinics. Inpatient training is mainly conducted at the Scripps Mercy Chula Vista hospital campus, but also the Scripps Mercy Diego hospital campus.

### **San Ysidro Health Center Training Site - Scripps Family Medicine (FM) Residency Program**

The San Ysidro Health (SYH) Chula Vista site, a Patient-Centered Medical Home (PCMH), serves as a training site for the Scripps Family Medicine Residency Program, which admits nine residents annually focused on underserved communities. More than 70% of residency graduates—and 100% of OB/GYN fellowship graduates—practice in underserved areas. Since 2022, the OB/GYN fellowship has graduated five fellows providing inpatient and outpatient maternity care in these communities.

### **Key Areas of Collaboration with San Ysidro Health Center - Obstetrical Services**

Scripps provides comprehensive obstetrical care through outpatient and inpatient services, with strong partnerships across Southern San Diego County. Key initiatives include:

- High-Risk Pregnancy Care: Scripps perinatologists consult on complex cases for San Ysidro Health patients, coordinating with Scripps physicians and specialists.
- Healthy Women, Healthy Babies: Led by the Scripps Family Medicine Residency, this program improves perinatal care for underserved populations using the Promotora Model for culturally tailored home visits, lactation support, and breastfeeding groups.
- Collaborative Partnerships: Work with local Federally Qualified Health Centers—San Ysidro Health, Imperial Beach Clinic, Operation Samahan— along with the Scripps Well Being Center and residency programs.
- Centering Pregnancy: Group prenatal and well-child visits led by Family Practice Residents at two San Ysidro Health clinics in Chula Vista.

### **San Ysidro Health Center Urgent Care**

Scripps physicians continue to help staff the [San Ysidro Health Center Urgent Care](#), which sees ~100 patients daily, offering timely care for non-life-threatening conditions (e.g., minor injuries, infections, allergic reactions). This alleviates pressure on emergency departments and improves community access.

### **Scripps Mercy Maternal Health Fellowship**

Scripps received grant funding from the [Health Resources and Services Administration \(HRSA\)](#) and is one of thirty-one medical residency programs in the U.S selected as an award recipient in HRSA's highly competitive grant funding opportunity, which was open to primary care residency programs nationwide. Scripps Mercy Family Medicine Residency has created a fourth-year Maternal Health Fellowship that offers advanced training with a focus on underserved communities on the US-Mexico border. The goal is to train family physicians with a passion and commitment to address health disparities, advocate for their patients and improve maternal health outcomes. This includes enhanced clinic case presentations, ultrasound training, rural rotations, and substance use disorder training for residents. Additionally, Scripps perinatology provides comprehensive services to the Chula Vista community in collaboration with the Scripps Family Medicine Residency.

### **RPrIDE (Residency Promoting Inclusion, Diversity and Equity)**

Scripps Family Medicine Resident leadership has played a pivotal role in creating the "RPrIDE" curriculum (This longitudinal curriculum serves as a valuable addition to traditional medical training, with a primary focus on health equity and addressing issues of racism within the medical field.

### **Community Oriented Primary Care Service Projects (COPC)**

The Family Medicine Residency Program at Scripps Mercy Hospital Chula Vista is committed to engaging residents in community-based interventions, advocacy efforts, and other community

medicine experiences. As part of this commitment, residents identify local health needs and community partners to design, develop and implement projects in a collaborative approach.

### **Residency Led Youth Career Pathway Programs**

The Family Practice Medicine Residency program at Scripps is dedicated to nurturing the interest of high school students in health care careers and imparting valuable knowledge about health-related topics. This educational initiative engages various health care professionals, including medical residents, dietitians, nurses, and doctors, to interact with high school students. This program plays a crucial role in inspiring and preparing the next generation of health care professionals.

### **Scripps Mercy Internal Medicine and Transitional Year Residency**

Scripps Mercy Hospital is a major teaching hospital with the longest existing medical education program in San Diego County. Scripps Mercy Hospital San Diego is the primary clinical education site for more than 70 residents annually from their GME programs. These include internal medicine, transitional year, and podiatric medicine residency programs. Scripps Mercy San Diego offers multiple competitive training programs for physicians entering their first post-graduate year after medical school. The three transitional year training tracks include: A broad-based Transitional Year Residency Program, a Transitional-Anesthesiology Residency Program co-managed by Scripps Mercy and University of California (UCSD) Anesthesia Residency, and a joint Transitional-Ophthalmology Residency program with University of California (UCSD) Ophthalmology Residency. Transitional year programs allow physicians to build superior clinical skills that serve as a cornerstone for subspecialty training and careers. Together with attending physicians, residents manage some of San Diego's most ethnically and socioeconomically diverse patient populations. For more information see, [Scripps Mercy Internal Medicine and Transitional Year Residency](#).

Scripps Mercy San Diego is also a participating training site for residents from the University of California, San Diego (UCSD); Kaiser Permanente San Diego; Scripps Mercy Chula Vista Family Medicine site; Family Health Centers of San Diego; San Ysidro Health Center; and the Naval Medical Center.

### **Underserved Medicine Curriculum for Medical Residents**

The Mercy Internal Medicine Faculty at Scripps offers an optional rotation designed to provide residents with valuable insights and skills for serving vulnerable populations. This rotation encompasses training at diverse community-based facilities that cater to medically underserved populations. This rotation equips residents with the knowledge and expertise needed to address health care disparities and provide high-quality care to underserved communities.

## Community Service Projects

Scripps Mercy San Diego Internal Medicine Residents engage in yearly volunteer events especially during the holiday season. These volunteer events included flu vaccine clinics to serve underserved populations at multiple locations as well as staffing the medical tent at the San Diego Rescue Mission outreach events for San Diego's homeless population.

## Family Health Centers of San Diego Partnership (FHCS D)

The GME affiliation with FHCS D has proven to be a significant opportunity for the continuity of care patients allowing them access to much more comprehensive interdisciplinary care including dental, behavioral health outpatient services and a variety of social care support interventions. The Scripps Mercy Hospital Residency program faculty and residents provide care to their clinic population within the FHCS D Clinic system. The Residency program has a dedicated wing within the FHCS D Hillcrest Family Health Center to provide outpatient preventive and primary care services that are embedded with the operations of Family Health Centers of San Diego. Resident Physicians are credentialed as FHCS D clinical providers as well as hospital medical staff which allows for an integrated system of care along the continuum of health care services.

## Teaching Health Center Family Medicine Residency Program

In 2014, Scripps Mercy Hospital began a partnership with Family Health Centers of San Diego to provide inpatient and subspecialty teaching to family medicine residents who were part of the Teaching Health Centers Residency programs. This commitment continues today.

## Teaching Health Center Psychiatric Residency Program

In 2022, Family Health Centers of San Diego (FHCS D) secured a Health Resources and Services Administration (HRSA) grant to establish a [psychiatry residency program in partnership with Scripps Mercy Hospital San Diego](#). The program recruits and trains diverse physicians, addressing the local psychiatrist shortage while enhancing behavioral health care and community collaboration. Scripps supports the program by providing infrastructure, curriculum development, and hosting six PGY-1 residents on hospital medicine rotations starting in the 2024–2025 academic year.

## Scripps Health Specialty Pharmacy Residency

Scripps has a [pharmacy residency program](#) at Scripps Mercy Hospital San Diego and Scripps Memorial Hospital La Jolla which trains residents with Doctor of Pharmacy degrees. The Scripps Hospital Pharmacy Residency Program offers residents a challenging academic experience in a progressive environment that prepares residents for leadership roles in the pharmacy profession. Scripps pharmacists sharing their breadth of knowledge by precepting both pharmacy residents and students.

# Additional Health Professional Education and Training Programs

## **Scripps Conference Services and Continuing Medical Education (CME)**

Scripps conference services & continuing medical education (CME) provides high-quality, evidence-based educational programs for physicians and allied health professionals to enhance knowledge, competence, and clinical performance, ultimately improving patient outcomes. Scripps Health is accredited by the Accreditation Council for Continuing Medical Education (ACCME) to offer AMA PRA Category 1 Credit(s)<sup>™</sup>. Programs are accessible online via [Continuing Medical Education \(CME\) - San Diego - Scripps Health](#).

## **Scripps Mercy Emergency Medical Services (EMS)**

Through the Scripps Mercy Emergency Medical Services (EMS) Base Hospital Program, a variety of health professionals participate in hospital-based clinical internships and continuing education opportunities. The program collaborates with local and regional educational institutions to provide hands-on training to multiple levels of health care professionals such as: First Responders, EMTs, Paramedics, Law Enforcement, Military, Mobile Intensive Care Nurses, and Resident Physicians.

## **Scripps Military Medical Training and Trauma Education**

Since 1927, Scripps Mercy Graduate Medical Education has [trained military physicians in partnership with Naval Medical Center San Diego \(NMCS D\)](#), bridging gaps in trauma education. Each year, about 150 residents gain experience with complex civilian trauma—gunshot wounds, motor vehicle accidents, and traumatic brain injuries—while 90% deploy post-graduation. The program, now including rotations at Scripps La Jolla, Green, and Encinitas, emphasizes multidisciplinary care and mentorship, strengthening military readiness and patient care.

## **Military Residents Rotations**

Military residents begin Scripps rotations after medical school, spending up to five years training across Scripps hospitals, including a research year. Scripps Mercy San Diego and Scripps Memorial La Jolla focus on trauma care, while Scripps Green and Scripps Memorial Encinitas offer specialty rotations. Residents treat complex cases resembling military scenarios—such as gunshot wounds, vehicle accidents, and traumatic brain injuries—gaining critical experience in multidisciplinary care and learning from diverse attending physicians.

## **San Diego Day of Trauma Awareness Conference**

The San Diego Day of Trauma is a nationally accredited continuing medical education conference designed for physicians, nurses, physician assistants and first responders in the fields of trauma, emergency, and critical care medicine. Scripps participates annually with local agencies, giving attendees the opportunity to learn more about Trauma Services.

## **Trauma Research Graduate Student Internship**

The Trauma Research Graduate Student Internship is designed for active students with an interest in public health, epidemiology, trauma and injury prevention, biomedical statistics, and health policy. Students learn to construct study samples, clean data, analyze data, and write manuscripts for submission to medical journals. This program runs concurrently with the Clinical Research Fellowship and provides for an innovative and multidisciplinary approach to applied research.

## **Scripps Whittier Diabetes Institute Professional Education and Training**

[Scripps Whittier Diabetes Institute](#) provides comprehensive health professional education programs led by experts, including endocrinologists, nurses, dietitians, psychologists, and more. These programs are designed to enhance the knowledge of diabetes management and skills of health care professionals, community partners, clinical providers, federally qualified health centers, community-based organizations, and peer educators. These efforts aim to educate health care professionals both locally and nationally, equipping them to deliver exceptional diabetes care.

## **UCSD/Scripps Health Hospice and Palliative Medicine Fellowship**

[The UCSD/Scripps Health Hospice and Palliative Medicine Fellowship Program](#) prepares doctors to provide hospice and palliative care. The program is designed specifically for physicians seeking a subspecialty in hospice and palliative medicine, and equips fellows to practice in diverse settings, including acute care hospitals, outpatient clinics, patients' homes, and long-term care facilities.

## **Nursing, Allied Health and Clinical Student Preceptorships**

Scripps aims to inspire the next generation of health care professionals, contribute to shaping the future health care workforce, and develop future leaders in the community. These student programs provide students with valuable real-world experience and the opportunity to interact with health care professionals in clinical settings, enhancing their education beyond the classroom. Scripps employees play a pivotal role as preceptors, dedicating their time and expertise to create meaningful learning experiences for students, enriching their understanding of health care practices.

In Fiscal Year (FY) 2025, Scripps demonstrated its commitment to education by hosting a total of 1,473 students across its health care system. These students collectively accumulated 244,088 development hours across multiple specialties for direct pipeline programs or hard to fill job specialties while gaining experience in nursing and various allied health settings. New student pipeline programs included Medical Physics and Histology. Table 4.1 provides a detailed breakdown of student placements at various Scripps locations, highlighting the organization's commitment to nurturing the next generation of health care leaders and professionals.

*Table 4.1 Scripps Health Student Placements for Fiscal Year (FY) 2025*

Scripps Location	Nursing		Allied Health		Total	
	# of Students	Total Precepted Hours	# of Students	Total Precepted Hours	# of Students	Total Precepted Hours
Scripps Medical Foundation (Clinic & SCMC)	9	1,116	189	31,027	198	32,143
Scripps Memorial Hospital, Encinitas	125	16,271	51	17,472	176	33,743
Scripps Green Hospital	65	8,551	73	25,190	138	33,741
Scripps Memorial Hospital, La Jolla	189	23,371	103	25,226	292	48,597
Scripps Mercy Hospital, Chula Vista	66	10,545	97	21,932	163	32,477
Scripps Mercy Hospital, San Diego	428	41,691	73	21,136	501	62,827
Scripps Home Health/Hospice	0	0	0	0	0	0
Scripps Health Administrative Services	0	0	3	335	3	335
Scripps Integrative Medicine	0	0	2	225	2	225
<b>Total</b>	<b>882</b>	<b>101,545</b>	<b>591</b>	<b>142,543</b>	<b>1,473</b>	<b>244,088</b>

Scripps Clinic Medical Group and Scripps Coastal Medical Group are dedicated to offering meaningful clinical experiences for Nurse Practitioner and Physician Assistant students. In Fiscal Year (FY) 2025, Scripps Clinic Medical Group hosted 86 preceptorship rotations for nurse practitioners and physician assistants, totaling 10,750 hours of completed training. Similarly, Scripps Coastal Medical Group provided 20 preceptorship rotations, accounting for 2,154 hours of practical learning. These experiences empower students to apply their theoretical knowledge and critical thinking in a genuine health care environment.

### **The San Diego Nursing & Allied Health Service-Education Consortium**

Scripps plays a role in supporting the [San Diego Nursing & Allied Health Service-Education Consortium](#), which was established to facilitate clinical placements for nursing and allied health education programs. This collaboration aims to benefit both health care service providers (such as hospitals and care facilities) and educational programs by streamlining the clinical placement process.

### **Health Professions Education, Resident and Student Training**

The Scripps Well Being Center - Scripps Mercy Hospital Chula Vista collaborates closely with the Scripps Family Medicine Residency Program to offer various community medicine opportunities for residents. This collaboration serves multiple purposes, including:

- **Service Delivery:** Residents have the chance to provide health care services to the community, gaining valuable clinical experience in a real-world setting.
- **Medical Student Engagement:** The WBC facilitates placements for medical students in community health activities, exposing them to the importance of community medicine and encouraging future involvement.
- **Rotating Residents and Medical Students:** The center also coordinates community experiences for visiting or rotating residents and medical students, ensuring that they have meaningful interactions with the community.
- **Community Education:** The WBC organizes and provides opportunities for community members to participate in various educational programs. These programs cover a range of topics, including senior health education, youth activities, parenting classes, and more, contributing to the overall well-being of the community.

### **Clinical Training for Students in Adolescent Mental Health at Local High Schools**

The partnership between Scripps Family Medicine Residency and Scripps Well Being Center - Scripps Mercy Hospital Chula Vista provide MSW students from San Diego State University with clinical training at Southwest and Palomar High Schools to support adolescent mental health. Students gain hands-on experience while residents and trainees provide school-based services—13 adolescents received direct mental health care. In FY 2025, the program reached 851 adolescents through educational sessions on mental health, mindfulness, suicide prevention, stress management, and public health advocacy.

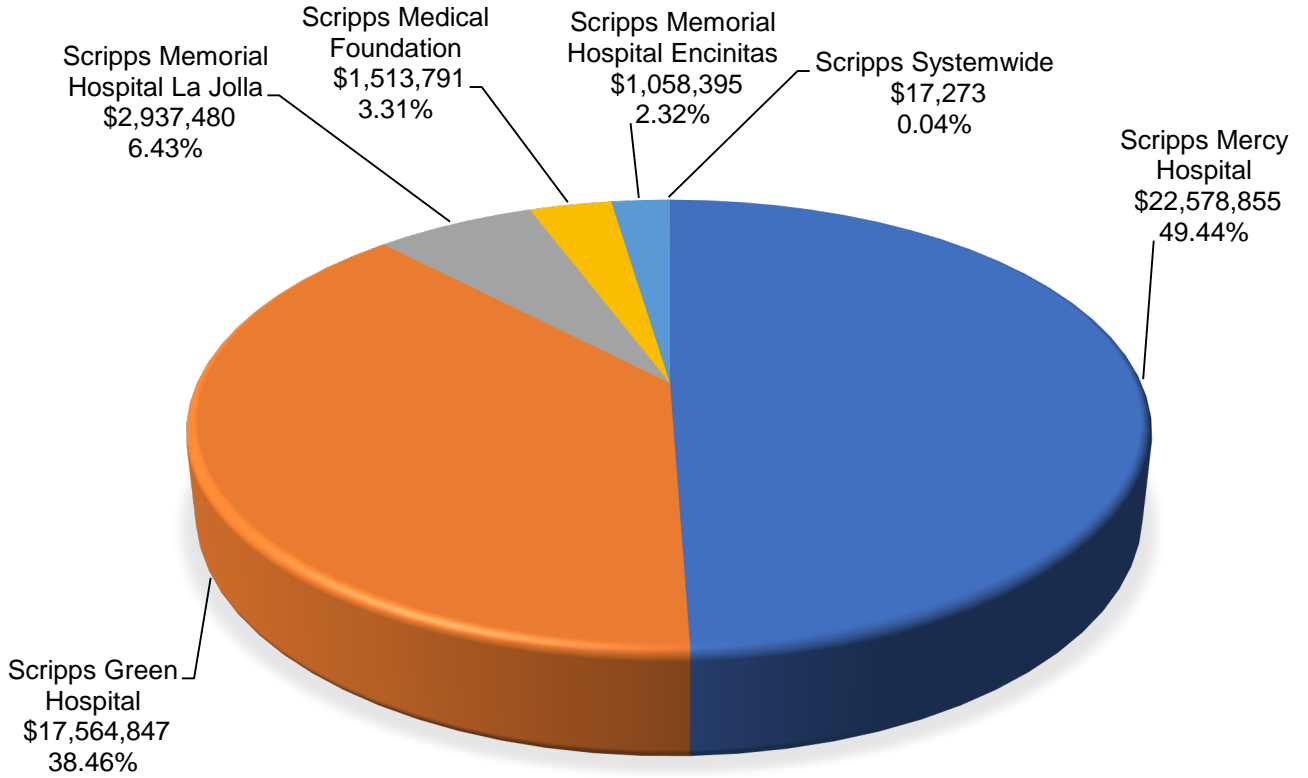
### **Health Professions Community Training**

The Scripps Well-Being Center – Scripps Mercy Hospital Chula Vista offers internships for undergraduate and graduate students in public health and social work, aiming to increase the number, diversity, and retention of health professionals in underserved areas. Interns gain experience in adolescent medicine, youth education, geriatric care, and maternal and child health, equipping them with the skills and knowledge to pursue careers in community-focused health care.

Figure 4.3

### Fiscal Year (FY) 2025

## Scripps Health Professional Education by Operating Unit, \$45,670,641



### Health Professional Education

This graph reflects health professional education for non-Scripps employees, including graduate medical education, nursing resource development and other health professional education. Calculations are based on cost, less "direct offsetting revenue," which includes any revenue generated by the activity or program, such as payment or reimbursement for services provided to program patients. According to the Schedule H (Form 990) IRS guidelines, "direct offsetting revenue" includes restricted grants or contributions that the organization uses to provide a community benefit. However, it does not include unrestricted grants or contributions used for the same purpose.

# Fiscal Year (FY) 25 Scripps Health Professional Education & Graduate Medical Education

## Health Professional Education

Community Benefit Categories	Person Served	Staff Hours	Volunteer Hours	Financial Support*
Physicians/Medical Students	2,569	37,068	-	\$2,797,708
Nurses/Nursing Students/Allied Health	-	77,098	-	\$8,147,654
Other Health Professions Education	41,199	8,207	-	\$1,273,475
<b>Totals Fiscal Year (FY) 2025 Scripps Professional Health Education</b>	<b>43,768</b>	<b>122,373</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>\$12,218,837</b>

## Graduate Medical Education

Community Benefit Categories	Person Served	Staff Hours	Volunteer Hours	Financial Support*
Scripps Family Medicine Residency Program	-	83,987	-	\$5,191,213
Scripps Green Hospital GME Program	-	211,602	-	\$16,539,104
Scripps Mercy Hospital GME Program	-	188,597	-	\$11,721,487
<b>Totals Fiscal Year (FY) 2025 Scripps Graduate Medical Education</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>484,186</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>\$33,451,804</b>
<b>Total Fiscal Year (FY) 2025 Scripps Health Professional Education &amp; Graduate Medical Education</b>	<b>43,768</b>	<b>606,559</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>\$45,670,641</b>

\* "Financial Support" reflects the cost (labor, supplies, overhead, etc.) associated with the program/service less direct revenue. This figure does not include a calculation for physician and staff volunteer hours. In some instances, an entire community benefit program cost center has been divided between several initiatives.

# Health Research

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Scripps Health (Scripps) is committed to providing the best possible patient care, and research is a critical part of that mission. In addition to bringing the latest treatments to our patients, the knowledge gained from these research studies advances the quality of care for people around the world. Scripps physicians study new medications and devices, track patient outcomes for years or even decades, and gather evidence for sophisticated education and treatment programs. This information is then disseminated into the Scripps system through graduate and continuing medical education and to the scientific community through peer-reviewed publications.

Research is defined as systematic investigation designed to generate generalizable knowledge and make it publicly available. Eligible activities include internally-funded research and studies supported by government or other tax-exempt entities. Research efforts span basic science, clinical trials evaluating the safety and effectiveness of new therapies, laboratory-based investigations, epidemiology and health outcomes research, behavioral and sociological studies related to health and care delivery, and studies examining health care system improvements.

In Fiscal Year (FY) 2025, Scripps invested **\$5,833,928**<sup>30</sup> in research. Scripps Clinic and Clinical Research Services supported more than 45 principal investigators and approximately 111 active clinical research protocols across multiple interdisciplinary disease categories. For more information see, [Scripps Research](#). Figure 4.4 provides a detailed overview of FY 2025 Scripps Health Research distribution. For an individual breakdown of research activities, please see page 83, Scripps Health Research Summary.

## **Scripps Research Supported by Clinical Research Services (CRS)**

Research and clinical discovery have been part of Scripps Health's mission since its founding in 1924. In partnership with the Scripps Clinic Medical Group (SCMG) via the Research Innovation Committee (RIC), Clinical Research Services consolidates and expands access to clinical research trials for SCMG physicians and patients across the Scripps system. Currently, around 110 clinical trials are underway at Scripps in such fields as cancer care, cardiology, and orthopedics. The mission of the RIC is to provide comprehensive oversight and allocation of resources for research, so that patients have access to new and emerging treatment opportunities when appropriate. In addition, there are several specialties with nationally accredited continuing and graduate medical education programs supported through the RIC and CRS. Scripps continues building its strong foundation for clinical and translational research through small pilot studies to large multicenter trials placed at various locations across the system, engaging both inpatient and outpatient settings. The Research Innovation Committee was created in 2018. Currently there are more

than 26 Scripps Clinic medical specialties under one operations team. As a result, RIC can accelerate access to new technologies for patients by consolidating the various components of clinical investigation into a seamless, streamlined regulatory, operational, and administrative process. Research at Scripps is a critical part of the mission to provide the best care to patients. Many promising new treatments begin in clinical trials. The knowledge gained from these clinical studies helps advance the quality of care for people in San Diego and beyond.

## **Scripps Research Supported by Whittier Diabetes Institute**

The Scripps Whittier Diabetes Institute (SWDI) is nationally recognized as a leader in endocrinology and diabetes care. SWDI is Southern California's center of excellence providing comprehensive diabetes services and programs. SWDI develops and participates in innovative translational and pragmatic diabetes research studies, advancing medicine, clinical care, and care management for patients with obesity, prediabetes, type 1, type 2, and gestational diabetes. SWDI provides education for patients and health professionals emphasizing the intersection of research and clinical care. For more than 25 years, the institute's dedication to health equity has been recognized as a leader across the health system and community and is reflected in evidence-based education models and investigator-initiated research that effectively reach marginalized populations across the nation and globe.

### **Scripps Whittier Diabetes Institute Studies to Improve the Health of At-Risk Underrepresented Communities**

**Project Dulce Filipino Americans:** "Project Dulce Filipino Americans" customizes diabetes self-management programs, such as Project Dulce and Dulce Digital, for the Filipino American community, which faces a growing prevalence of type 2 diabetes. This intervention involves cultural adaptations and translations into Tagalog to enhance relevance and engagement. The courses are freely available online and in-person at various locations in the County. This study has completed enrollment with 48 participants, and final analysis is expected to be completed in the Spring of 2026.

**Project Dulce Arab Americans:** The "Project Dulce Arab Americans" aims to identify 2 diabetes (T2D) health communication barriers within San Diego's Arab American community. It seeks to develop culturally and linguistically tailored diabetes self-management education programs (Project Dulce and Dulce Digital). The study also explores genetic predisposition for T2D in Arab Americans through a biorepository and incorporates genomics education into the tailored program, delivered in Arabic for cultural relevance and better participant engagement. This study continues to enroll participants, with 28 enrolled in 2025.

**Dulce Digital 2.0 Hispanic Communities:** "Dulce Digital 2.0 Hispanic Communities" focuses on expanding health care access for low socioeconomic status (SES) individuals, reducing health

disparities, and enhancing digital health literacy. The program assesses two mobile health (mHealth) adaptations of Project Dulce, aimed at improving digital health literacy among underserved adults with diabetes. It compares three models: 1) a low-cost, educational text messaging program (Dulce Digital); 2) a telehealth version of Project Dulce; 3) the traditional in-person Project Dulce self-management education program, all available in English or Spanish based on participants' preferences. The trial, which remains open for enrollment and is expected to conclude in 2026.

**CyberGEMS – Continuous Glucose Monitoring:** Scripps Whittier Diabetes Institute received a \$3.1 million NIH grant to study wireless continuous glucose monitoring (CGM) devices in hospitalized patients with type 2 diabetes. The research builds on previous studies and the use of CGM devices during the COVID-19 pandemic to reduce nurse interventions. The study aims to improve blood sugar management during hospitalization, particularly among high-risk, underserved patients. It began in early 2022, and more than 411 individuals have enrolled to date.

**ACTIVATE:** Scripps Whittier Diabetes Institute received a \$3.3 million NIH grant in 2020 for a five-year study called ACTIVATE. It aims to integrate mental health services into type 1 diabetes care, addressing emotional distress in patients. The study evaluates whether this integration improves diabetes management and quality of life in a real health care environment through group-based Acceptance and Commitment Therapy.

### **Scripps Whittier Diabetes Institute - Academic, Health System and Community Partnerships to Support Community Engaged Research**

The Scripps Whittier Diabetes Institute (SWDI) serves as the Community Engagement Research Core for the National Institutes of Health (NIH) / National Center for Advancing Translational Sciences (NCATS), which was awarded the Clinical and Translational Science Award (CTSA). In this capacity, the SWDI actively incorporates community perspectives into the development of research programs, emphasizing the integration of technological advancements into real-world applications. Notable initiatives include the implementation of educational and motivational texting interventions and the use of continuous glucose monitoring systems. These programs have been systematically studied in underserved populations, focusing on primary care and hospital-based diabetes management among predominantly low-income, under-resourced Hispanic patients. The goal of these efforts is to enhance diabetes management and improve health outcomes within these communities. The CTSA is housed at Scripps Research Translational Institute (SRTI) and partners closely with SWDI and San Diego State University (SDSU) to lead innovative community-engaged research projects. SRTI advances personalized medicine through genomics and digital medicine and accelerates laboratory discoveries into clinical trials and treatments. The Community Engagement Core, centered within SWDI, partners with the Institute for Public Health and the South Bay Latino Research Center, both located at SDSU to develop and conduct research reducing health disparities and promoting health justice and equity.

## **Scripps Whittier Diabetes Institute - National Institute of Health (NIH) Community Engagement Alliance (CEAL)**

The NIH Community Engagement Alliance (CEAL) is a research network designed to work with communities and community-based organizations to identify promising engagement and outreach practices that communicate trustworthy, science-based information to communities experiencing health disparities. CEAL awards were given to eleven different statewide teams, including California. The eleven sites are academic centers and reflect the geographic and racial/ethnic diversity of the communities. Scripps, represented by the SWDI team, is one of the seven California sites that initially partnered with local COVID-19 Equity Task Forces in 2020 to reach high-risk, underserved communities as part of the California (CA) CEAL Team award. The CEAL research team and award has evolved over the last 4 years to address ongoing relevant community-determined health needs. SWDI most recently trained rural and urban community-based health centers across California in collaboration with the other CEAL sites in train the trainer programs to deliver its world class, evidence-based diabetes programs, Project Dulce, and Dulce Digital to better manage diabetes in under-resourced diverse communities.

In its fourth year, the CA CEAL study has refined its aims to evaluate how structured technical assistance strengthens the capacity of community-based organizations and academic partners to address social determinants of health. The study will provide Technical Assistance to community organizations across the state and evaluate the program's impact. Additional activities include skill-development webinars for community-based organizations on an array of topics selected by community members, such as mental health, chronic diseases, and nutrition.

## **Scripps Hub Academic Research Core (SHARC)**

[The Scripps Hub Academic Research Core \(SHARC\)](#) is supported in part by the Clinical Translational Science Award (CTSA) housed at the Scripps Research Translational Institute, with a focus on improving the process of translating research from bench-side to practice. Under joint leadership from the Scripps Whittier Diabetes Institute and Research and Development, the SHARC team strives to support translational research at Scripps Health and the Scripps Research Translational Institute in the following ways:

- Research navigation – Provides assistance through the grant process, especially for junior or new investigators.
- Statistical support – Provides statistical support from study design considerations, data management, and processing through data analysis and presentation.
- Community engagement – Encourages bidirectional communication between communities and researchers to foster participation in research, provide mentorship in diversity inclusion and team-

based pragmatic trials, share, and discuss research questions and findings, and improve community health.

### **Biostatistics, Evaluation and Research Design (BERD)**

Support for Biostatistics, Evaluation, and Research Design (BERD) is a critical component of rigorous scientific and clinical research. The newly formed BERD Core includes statistician, data scientist, and data analyst support for grant and industry-funded research projects led by Scripps Health clinical trainees and affiliated physicians. Among these funded projects, the BERD Core supports health equity research including projects conducted through the Scripps Collaborative for Health Excellence pilot awards and Krueger-Wyeth (KW) funded projects, as well as a contract to support the conduct of research by clinical trainees from San Ysidro Health.

### **Data-Driven Projects Addressing Differences in Care and Outcomes Supported by SHARC**

The projects described below are supported by SHARC statisticians and provide valuable insights into health care disparities and outcomes, enabling Scripps Health to better understand and address the needs of their diverse patient population.

- **Patient Portal Utilization Improves Outcomes in Patients with Multiple Myeloma.** This study investigated the clinical outcomes of patients with multiple myeloma based on their utilization of the web-based patient portal, MyChart. Results showed that older, male, Hispanic and Spanish-speaking patients had lower portal utilization. Those with inactive portal status had higher rates of unplanned hospitalization and death. These results were recently accepted for peer-reviewed publication in the Journal of Oncology Advances.
- **Drug Testing on Labor and Delivery: Evaluating Bias and Racism in a Risk-Factor Based Testing Policy.** The results of this study investigated the prevalent disparities in substance use screening in the context of labor and delivery and were recently accepted for publication in the O&G Open Journal.
- **Referral, participation, and reimbursement patterns of an integrated behavioral health program for diabetes.** The study found that while the majority of referrals for the diabetes behavioral health program, BeHIP, were women (70%), gender did not impact the participation status of those referred. These results were presented at the American Diabetes Association's Annual Scientific Sessions in June 2024.
- **Racial, Ethnic & Regional Influences on National Patterns of Mammographic Screening.** This study focused on the Epic COSMOS national database to examine patterns and disparities in mammographic screening for breast cancer. This study found no evidence of lower screening rates in Black and Asian populations, but lower rates were found among the Hispanic/Latino population,

particularly in the South, suggesting that targeted educational and outreach efforts may be warranted.

- **Everything is Pulse-able: Getting to the Heart of Your Wellness.** This equity-focused program is a grass-roots initiative for team-based wellness challenges implemented through a mobile app and deployed in various communities. SHARC has supported this program's evaluation through five wellness challenges over the past two years.
- **Atopic Disease Burden of American Indian/Native Alaskan Population of San Diego County.** This ongoing study aims to understand the understudied burden of atopic diseases in this population including the prevalence of disease, severity, and access to care among affected patients.
- **ReUnidos: Farmworker Skin Cancer Health Navigation Program.** Scripps Health, in collaboration with Farmworker Justice, has initiated the ReUnidos program to address the elevated risk of skin cancer among farmworkers due to sun and pesticide exposure. This research project, supported by Scripps Hub Academic Research Core (SHARC), aims to assess the incidence of skin cancer in the farmworker community and determine the effectiveness of a health navigator program in ensuring follow-up care. The program assigns trained navigators to participants, collects data on biopsies, diagnoses, staging, and treatment times, and measures satisfaction and perceived effectiveness of the navigator program. Community-based screenings linked to health-navigation programs are effective tools to increase access to skin-cancer care among farm workers. To date, 68 health navigators have been trained, and 26 screening events have been conducted in Northern San Diego County by Vista Community Clinic. A total of 428 adult participants have been screened, 16 participants were identified with suspicious lesions, 6 biopsies were performed, and 2 participants were diagnosed with skin cancer.

## Scripps Cancer Center Research Initiatives Funded by Krueger-Wyeth

Scripps Health received five-year funding through the Krueger-Wyeth (KW) excess settlement funds distributed to advance patient care, research, and address gaps in care in the areas of breast cancer, cardiovascular disease, and neurocognitive conditions within underserved populations. The funding has enabled a positive impact on various initiatives.

Scripps established a collaborative approach, with twelve closely integrated programs specified and approved in the original application. To oversee the award, three working groups were formed, covering breast cancer, cardiology/neurocognition, and health equity. These groups meet regularly to review work plans, milestones, achievements, and budgets. The funding from the KW award's fifth year has advanced the mission of Scripps Health, ensuring better care delivery, research outcomes, and the promotion of health equity in the medical disciplines of breast cancer, cardiology, and neurocognition. These achievements signify a strong commitment to improving health care for all communities. The following are

highlights of the achievements made possible because of the award and Scripps' commitment to improving care and reducing care gaps in various medical disciplines.

## **Breast Cancer**

- Scripps is actively engaged in two prospective clinical trials evaluating shortened fractionation schedules for breast cancer management. Both trials have successfully met their accrual goals and completed patient enrollment. The studies have the potential to establish new standards of care for tens of thousands of patients treated annually in the United States. Enrolled patients will continue to be monitored for cancer-related and quality-of-life outcomes.
- Scripps completed an initial trial studying the colon and skin microbiome of breast cancer patients receiving systemic treatments before surgery. Scripps continued to follow the study of patients to correlate the microbiome analyses with cancer outcomes and received approval to begin a new study investigating how chemotherapy and other cancer treatments alter the microbiome.
- Scripps has formed a triple-negative biorepository of serum and tumor specimens and plan unique molecular and genomic investigations to gain insights into predictors' response to therapy.
- The Survivorship Program continues to support the AM-WELL Study (A Multimodal Wellness Intervention for Breast Cancer Survivors), an investigator-initiated pilot trial comparing two behavioral interventions to encourage regular physical activity among breast cancer survivors. To date, there are twenty-seven participants on a rolling basis (divided into six total cohorts). The study is open at both Scripps Mercy San Diego and Scripps Memorial La Jolla. Fifteen patients have completed the intervention thus far. Seven out of eight participants from the first AM-WELL cohort stayed in the study for a full 70 weeks and completed their 12-month post-intervention assessments.
- The Survivorship Program has also launched a new study, the SERENE Study (Supporting Emotional Resilience & Enhancing Needs in Oncology). This investigator-initiated project centered around delivering a psychosocial resource bundle to patients who are beginning cancer-directed infusion treatment.
- In partnership with the SHARC team, KW investigators are accessing nationwide data through EPIC Cosmos platform to better understand disparities and treatment outcomes across diverse populations nationwide.

## **Cardiovascular/Neurocognition**

- The non-invasive imaging techniques for coronary artery disease Scripps helped to develop using computer tomography angiography has been refined to measure fractional flow reserve, an important clinical endpoint. Scripps has also correlated imaging of the left atrium with risk of atrial fibrillation, begun serial study measurements of plaques in patients, and optimized phantoms for the

study of cardiovascular disease. These efforts have resulted in numerous peer-reviewed presentations, publications, and awards.

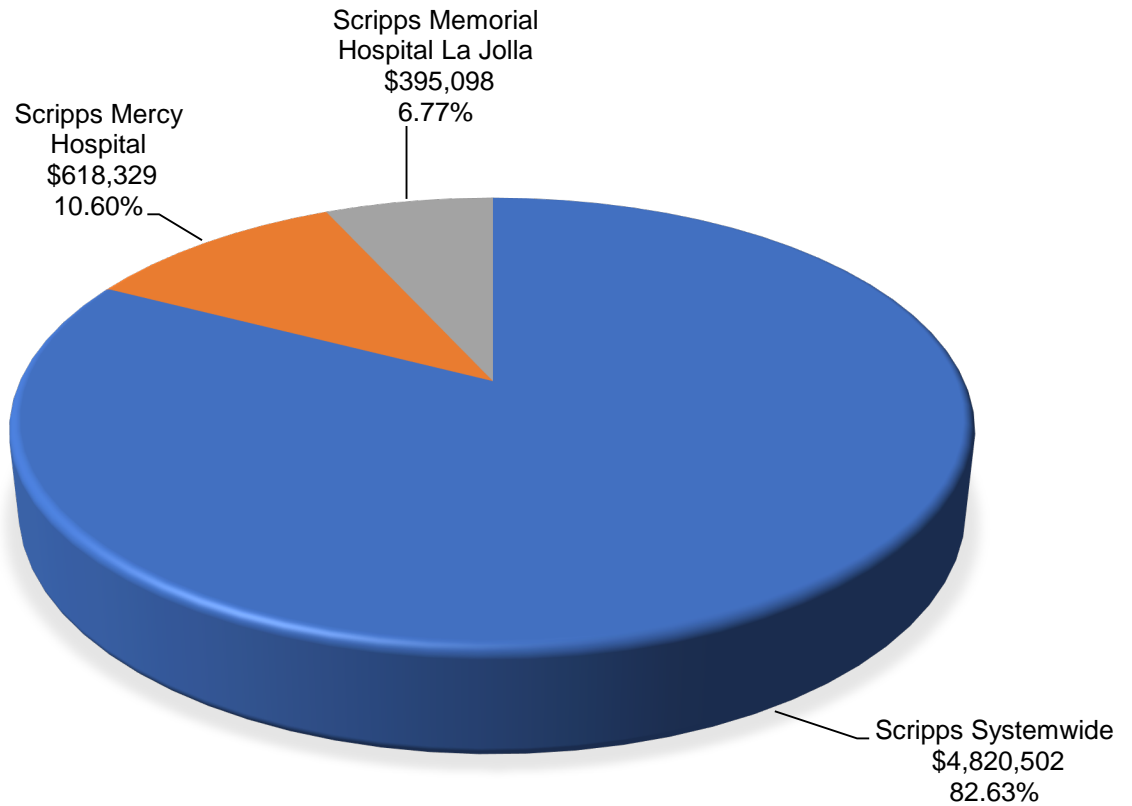
- The Integrated Medicine program within the Advanced Care Clinic continues to provide care for the underserved with significant cardiac disease. This past year, the program began exercise directive programs and cardiovascular health education efforts. Efforts around mind-body therapy and acupuncture were also added.
- Scripps has evaluated more than one hundred patients for virtual cardiac rehabilitation and has enrolled approximately 50% in a novel program aimed at reducing emergency room visits and readmissions.
- A protocol has explored the link between sleep habits, sleep apnea, and neurocognition, focusing on intervention strategies for cognitive health. Scripps has now completed enrollment with more than 180 patients enrolled in the novel digital platform protocol to investigate the associations between sleep habits, sleep apnea, and neurocognition. The findings from this study will help develop intervention strategies to address this important aspect of cognitive health.

### **Health Excellence**

- The Scripps Collaborative for Health Excellence (SCHE) continues to provide health services research opportunities in breast cancer and cardiovascular disease for graduate medical education trainees (medical residents and fellows) who are interested in pursuing health disparities. To date, the program has supported more than fifteen pilot projects.
- Scripps is completing a protocol exploring the financial toxicity of breast cancer treatment within the Spanish speaking, underserved community.
- Scripps performed, presented, and published a national database study assessing rates of mammographic screening for breast cancer according to race and ethnicity.

Figure 4.4

### Fiscal Year (FY) 2025 Scripps Health Research by Operating Unit, \$5,833,928



### Health Research

This graph reflects clinical and community research. Research takes place primarily at Scripps Clinical Research Services and Scripps Whittier Diabetes Institute. Calculations are based on cost, less "direct offsetting revenue," which includes any revenue generated by the activity or program, such as payment or reimbursement for services provided to program patients. According to the Schedule H (Form 990) IRS guidelines, "direct offsetting revenue" includes restricted grants or contributions that the organization uses to provide a community benefit. However, it does not include unrestricted grants or contributions used for the same purpose.

# Fiscal Year (FY) 25 Scripps Health Research Summary List

## Health Research

Community Benefit Categories	Person Served	Staff Hours	Volunteer Hours	Financial Support*
Clinical Research	151	166,024	-	\$5,239,631
Community Health Research	1,064	7,082	-	\$594,297
<b>Totals Fiscal Year (FY) 2025 Scripps Health Research</b>	<b>1,215</b>	<b>173,106</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>\$5,833,928</b>

\* "Financial Support" reflects the cost (labor, supplies, overhead, etc.) associated with the program/service less direct revenue. This figure does not include a calculation for physician and staff volunteer hours. In some instances, an entire community benefit program cost center has been divided between several initiatives.

# Uncompensated Health Care

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Scripps contributes significant resources to providing low and no-cost health care for our patients in need. The costs of providing these services are not fully reimbursed. During Fiscal Year (FY) 2025, Scripps contributed **\$752,318,952** (refer to figure 4.5) in uncompensated health care, including **\$18,663,224** in charity care, **\$721,588,752** in Medi-Cal and Medicare shortfall, and **\$12,066,977** in bad debt. Refer to Appendix C for Scripps Uncompensated Care Methodology.

Scripps Mercy Hospital (including San Diego and Chula Vista campuses) provides 55% percent of the charity care within the Scripps system (refer to figure 4.7). Scripps Mercy's service area has a more economically disadvantaged population compared to the rest of the county, with the lowest numbers of insured adults in the county and a much higher percentage of ethnic minorities, primarily Hispanic and Asian. Both hospital campuses play crucial roles in delivering health care services to the Central/Southern San Diego County area, ranging from Interstate 8 to the United States-Mexico border. More than half of the patients served by Scripps Mercy San Diego and Chula Vista are covered by government insurance programs, including Medicare and Medi-Cal.

## Scripps Uncompensated Health Care

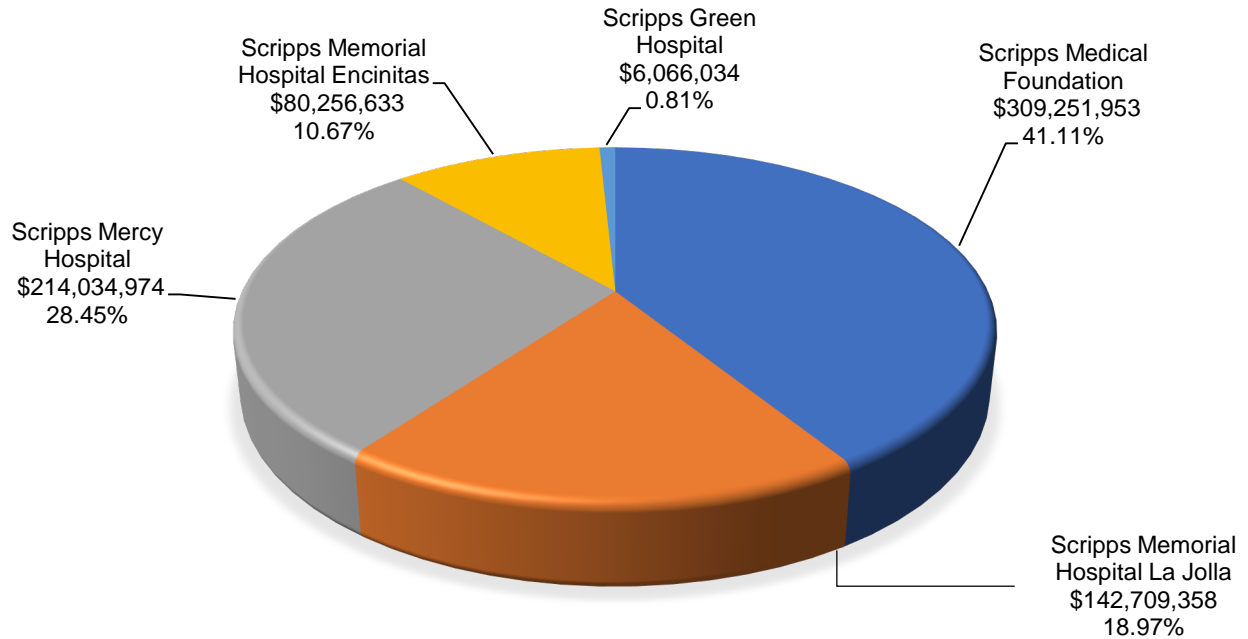
Bad Debt	\$12,066,977
Charity Care	\$18,663,224
Medi-Cal Shortfall	\$218,467,514
Medicare Shortfall	\$503,121,237

**Uncompensated Health Care Total**

**\$752,318,952**

Figure 4.5

**Fiscal Year (FY) 2025**  
**Scripps Total Uncompensated Care by Operating Unit,**  
**\$752,318,952<sup>31</sup>**



Community Benefits Services (Provider Fee Impact)	Scripps Memorial Hospital La Jolla	Scripps Green Hospital	Scripps Memorial Hospital Encinitas	Scripps Mercy Hospital (San Diego & Chula Vista)	Scripps Medical Foundation	Total
Before Provider Fee	\$143,864,349	\$6,066,034	\$82,204,429	\$242,810,375	\$309,251,953	<b>\$784,197,140</b>
Provider Fee	(\$1,154,991)	-	(\$1,947,796)	(\$28,775,401)		<b>(\$31,878,188)</b>
Net Community Benefit Services After Provider Fee	\$142,709,358	\$6,066,034	\$80,256,633	\$214,034,974	\$309,251,953	<b>\$752,318,952</b>

### Uncompensated Health Care

Uncompensated health care includes the sum of expenses associated with Charity Care, Medi-Cal Shortfall and Other Means-Tested Government Programs, Medicare Shortfall and Bad Debt. While Medicare Shortfall, Bad Debt, and Community Building Activities are reportable under Schedule H guidelines, they are excluded from the community benefit totals. However, Scripps includes these in our overall community benefit calculations in the report. A detailed account of Scripps Fiscal Year (FY) 2025 uncompensated care expenditures is contained in the following graphs.

Figure 4.6

Fiscal Year (FY) 2025  
Scripps Total Uncompensated Care by Category,  
\$752,318,952<sup>31</sup>

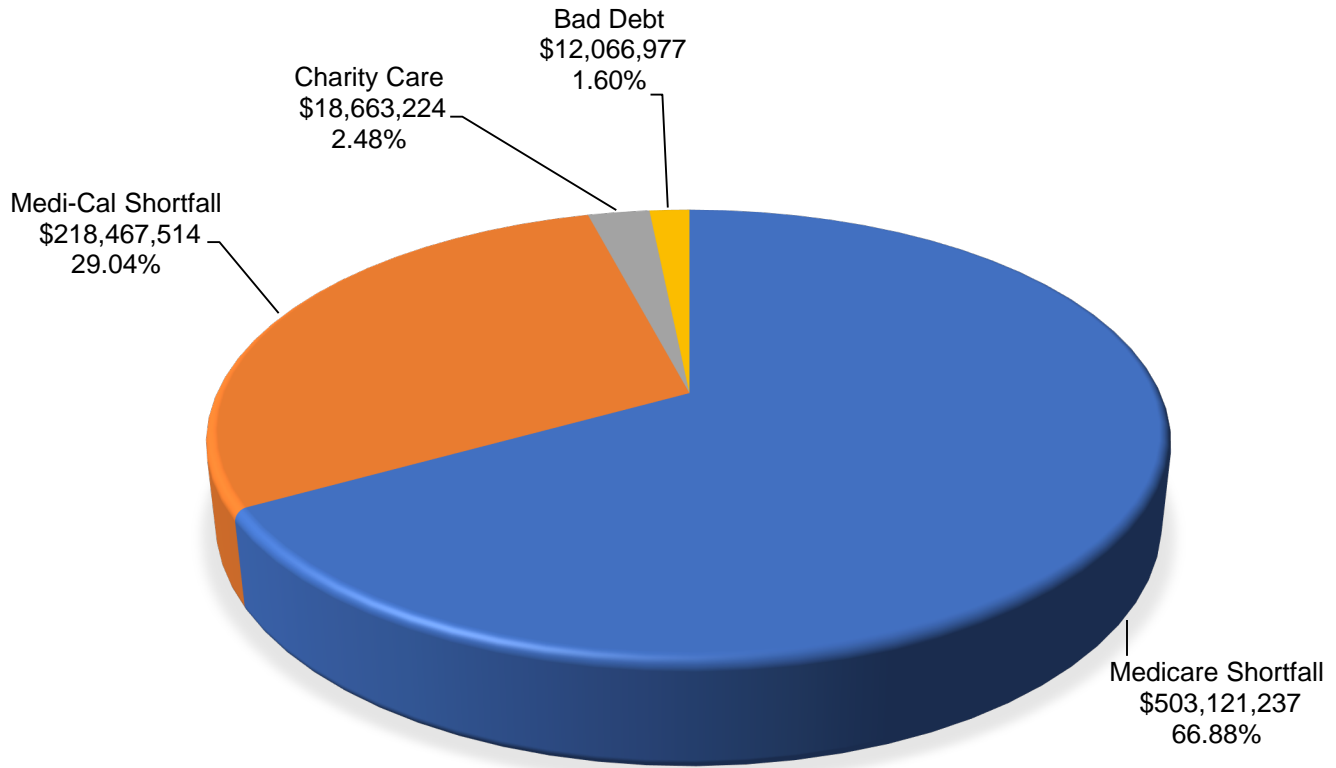
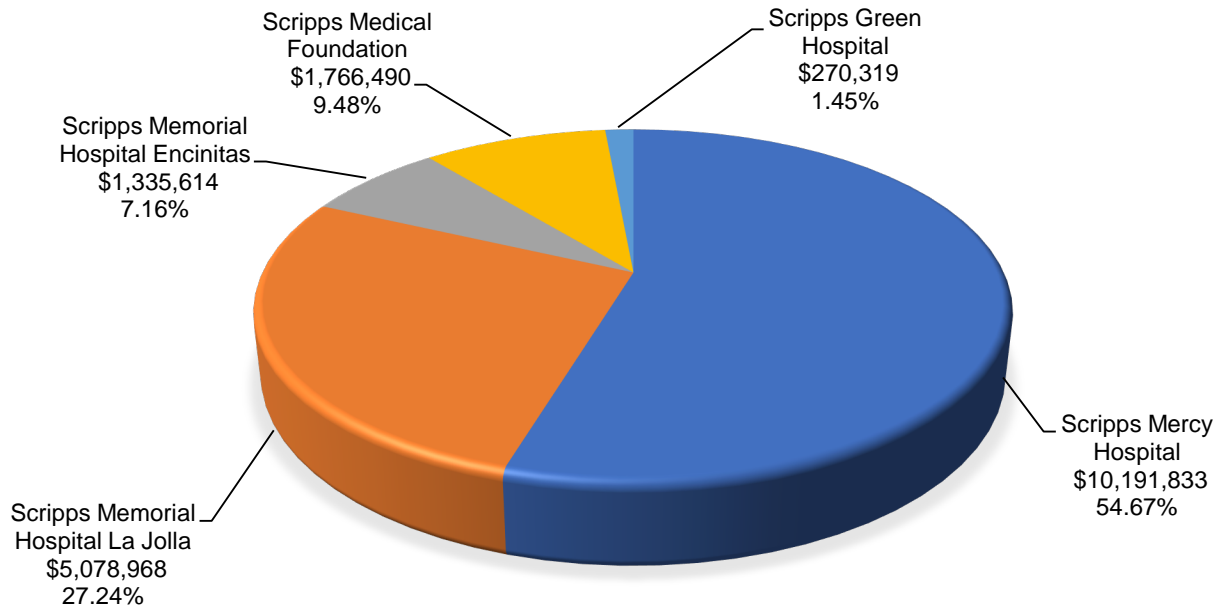


Figure 4.7

Fiscal Year (FY) 2025  
Scripps Charity Care by Operating Unit,  
\$18,663,224<sup>32</sup>

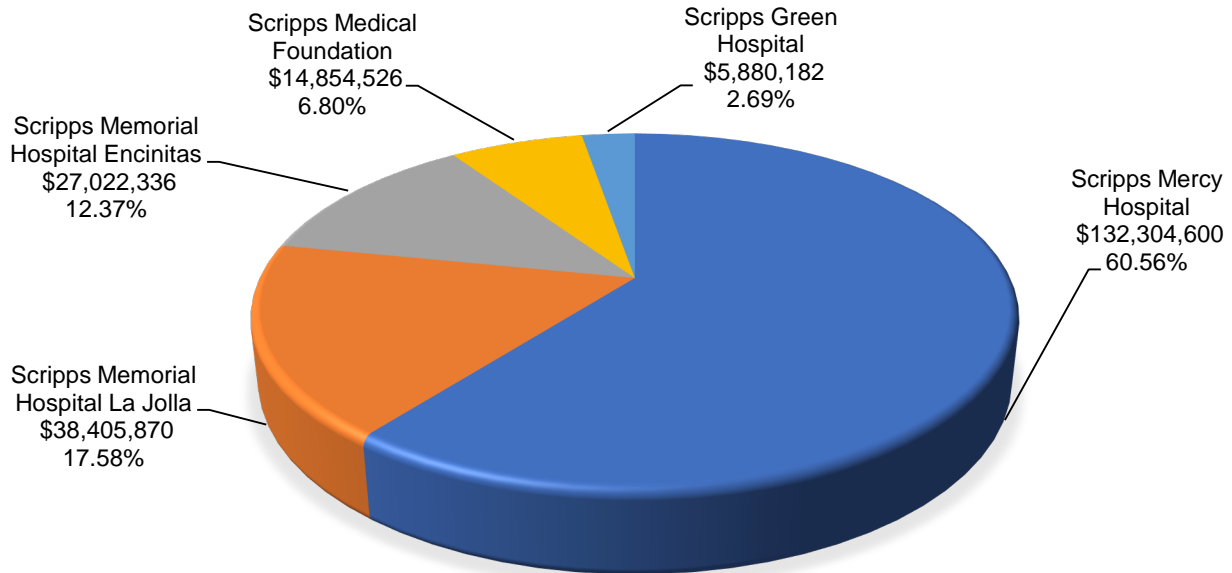


## Charity Care

Part of Scripps legacy is its commitment to providing services for vulnerable populations. Scripps provides Charity Care for patients with little or no resources at all its hospitals. Charity Care is included in the Internal Revenue Service (IRS) Form 990 Schedule H Part I Line 7a.

Figure 4.8

## Fiscal Year (FY) 2025 Scripps Medi-Cal Shortfall & Other Means-Tested Government Programs by Operating Unit, \$218,467,514<sup>33</sup>



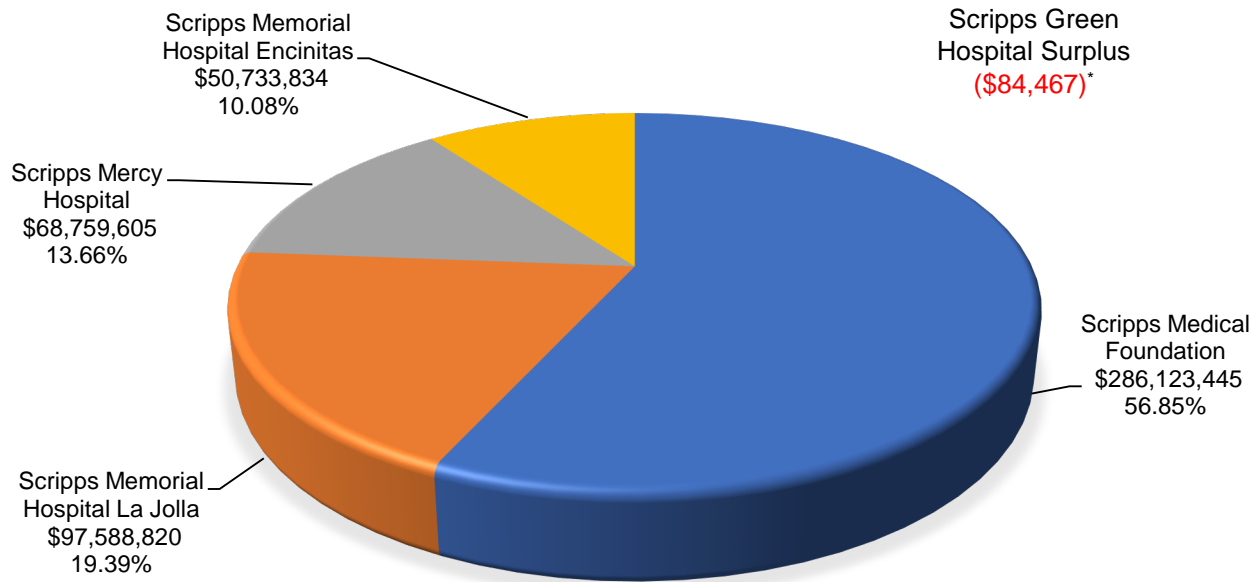
Community Benefits Services (Provider Fee Impact)	Scripps Memorial Hospital La Jolla	Scripps Green Hospital	Scripps Memorial Hospital Encinitas	Scripps Mercy Hospital	Scripps Medical Foundation	Total
Before Provider Fee	\$39,560,861	\$5,880,182	\$28,970,132	\$161,080,001	\$14,854,526	<b>\$250,345,702</b>
Provider Fee	(\$1,154,991)	-	(\$1,947,796)	(\$28,775,401)	-	<b>(\$31,878,188)</b>
Net After Provider Fee	\$38,405,870	\$5,880,182	\$27,022,336	\$132,304,600	\$14,854,526	<b>\$218,467,514</b>

### Medi-Cal Shortfall and Other Means-Tested Government Programs

In addition to providing Charity Care, Scripps accepts patients for whom it is reimbursed under various county, state, and federal indigent care programs (Medi-Cal and Medi-Cal HMO) at amounts that, in most cases, do not cover the full cost of care. These costs are included in the IRS Form 990, Schedule H Part I Line 7b. In the state of California, the Medicaid program is known as Medi-Cal.

Figure 4.9

### Fiscal Year (FY) 2025 Scripps Medicare & Medicare HMO Shortfall by Operating Unit, \$503,121,237<sup>34</sup>



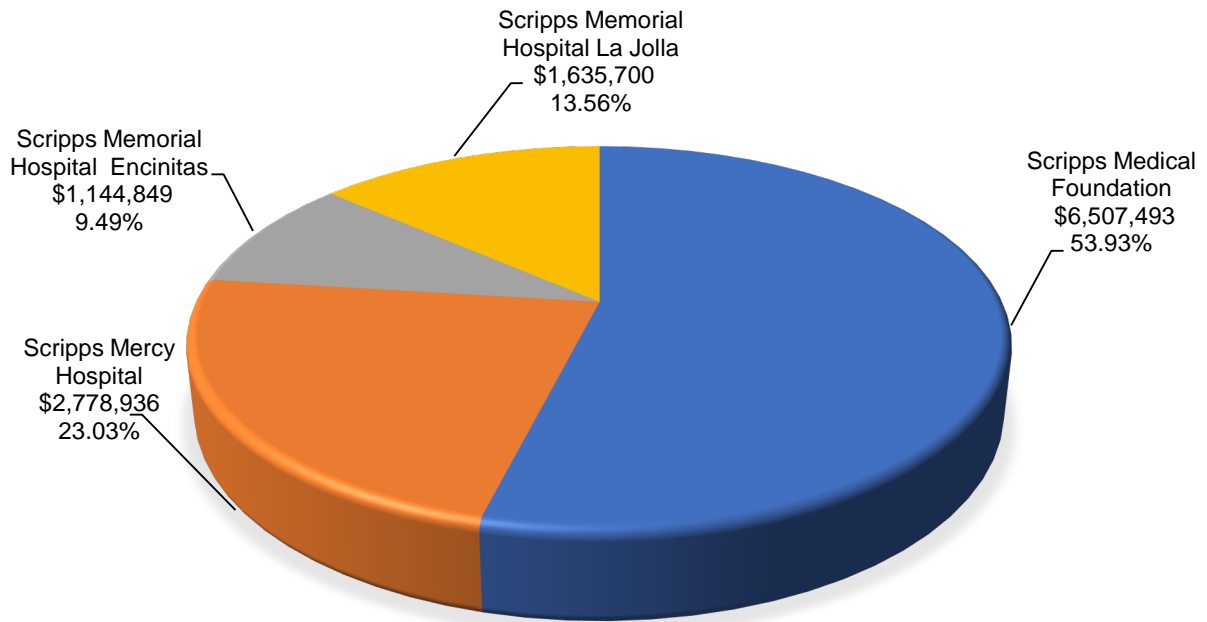
### Medicare and Medicare HMO Shortfall

In addition to providing charity care services, Scripps accepts patients for whom it is reimbursed under various county, state, and federal programs (Medicare, Medicare PPO, Medicare HMO and Medicare SHPS) at amounts that, in most cases, do not cover the full cost of care. Unpaid cost of Medicare is calculated using Scripps cost accounting system. In the IRS Form 990, Schedule H, the Medicare cost report is utilized, and these expenses are incorporated into Section B of Part III of IRS Form 990, Schedule H.

\* The pie chart above does not include Scripps Green Medicare because the FFY24 IPPS payment changes temporarily increased Medicare reimbursement for certain hospitals. This, along with Scripps Green's higher-acuity case mix, resulted in a one-time surplus in FY24. In FY25, Scripps Green again showed a small Medicare surplus of \$84,467, but this represents only about 1.4% of the prior year's surplus, indicating the FY24 result was largely driven by the temporary IPPS reclassification impact and did not continue in FY25.

Figure 4.10

### Fiscal Year (FY) 2025 Scripps Bad Debt by Operating Unit, \$12,066,977<sup>35</sup>



### Bad Debt

Each year, Scripps provides uncompensated care for people who do not meet the criteria for charity care, are not covered by a third-party payor or have a co-payment obligation that is not met. These costs are included in the IRS Form 990, Schedule H Part III Section A.

Under updated regulations for the Hospital Community Benefits Plan Reporting Program, the California Department of Health Care Access and Information (HCAI) no longer tracks or requires reporting of bad debt.

# Cash, Grants, and In-Kind Contributions

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Scripps provides Cash, Grants and In-Kind contributions made by the organization to community groups and nonprofit organizations. In Fiscal Year (FY) 2025, Scripps invested **\$1,027,760**<sup>36</sup> in cash, grants and in-kind. The following are the activities that Scripps participated in. Refer to figure 4.11 for a more detailed overview.

## Cash

### **211 San Diego**

Scripps sponsored the [211 San Diego](#) celebration of 20 years of service. The event honored former Senate President Pro Tem Toni Atkins with the first-ever 211 San Diego champion award to recognize her support and advocacy of the 211 San Diego mission of connecting our region to community, health and disaster services. As a local nonprofit organization, 211 San Diego is the region's trusted source for information and connections to community, health, and disaster resources.

### **American Heart Association - Go Red for Women Luncheon**

Scripps sponsored the [American Heart Association's Go Red for Women](#) fundraising event. United by a passion to end heart disease and stroke in women, tens of thousands of women gather annually for Go Red for Women luncheons across the country. Each event is led by local leaders to address the specific needs of their community.

### **Facilitating Access to Coordinated Transportation (FACT) Inc.**

Scripps sponsored [FACT's](#) annual board meeting this year and continues to collaborate with the organization to provide on-demand transportation services for patients. This partnership streamlines access to medical transportation by offering multiple ride options—curbside, door-to-door, wheelchair-accessible, and gurney—through a single point of contact. The service supports patients with specialized needs and offers transportation for appointments and post-discharge care.

### **Family Health Centers of San Diego (FHCS) Spirit of the Barrio**

Scripps sponsored the [Spirit of the Barrio](#) hosted by Family Health Centers of San Diego, an annual tradition since 1986. The event aims to raise awareness about providing health care services to underserved communities, featuring guest speakers and diverse themes.

## **Family Health Center of San Diego Internal Medicine Outpatient Teaching Clinic Partnership**

Scripps Health and [Family Health Center of San Diego \(FHCSO\)](#) have had a longstanding collaborative partnership. Scripps has entered into a long-term agreement to provide a GME Residency Clinic program fee to FHCSO to increase the availability and enhance the quality of services – specifically those health care services to be provided through the Internal Medicine Outpatient Clinic. These services will be specifically supporting the medically underserved population served by FHCSO.

## **La Maestra Community Health Center**

Scripps sponsored the 35th anniversary event for [La Maestra Community Health Center](#). Scripps has been a long-time partner of this vital organization. La Maestra provides a wide range of health care services—including primary care, behavioral health, dental care, and social support services—to individuals and families in underserved communities.

## **Lifeline Community Services**

Scripps sponsored the 2025 Viva La Vida! Celebration for [Lifeline Community Services](#). Lifeline has been a vital part of the community, delivering over 35 clinically strong and evidence-based programs to community members throughout San Diego County. Lifeline’s goal is to foster long-lasting personal growth and create systemic change in the social conditions affecting youth, adults, and the families they serve. Lifeline supports work in the following areas: behavioral health, economic empowerment, housing and stabilization, youth development, family strengthening and anti-human trafficking.

## **Mental Health Association of San Diego – Meeting of the Minds**

Scripps sponsored the annual Mental Health Association of San Diego Meeting of the Minds conference, serving consumers, providers, and the community at large. The Scripps Mercy Trauma Department played an active role in the planning, organization, and implementation of the program.

## **North County LGBTQIA+ Resource Center**

Scripps sponsored the North County LGBTQIA+ 2025 gala to benefit their [Resource Center](#) which is a vital hub for advocacy, education and support. The Center provides lifesaving services like housing, behavioral health, youth programming, reproductive health and food distribution.

## **San Ysidro Health**

[San Ysidro Health Center](#) is San Diego County’s second-largest community health provider, with more than 50 clinics and program sites throughout San Diego County supported by 3,000 dedicated professionals. It serves more than 161,000 patients annually, many from intergenerational working families, guided by the mission to improve health and well-being with access for all. Scripps yearly corporate partnership for San Ysidro Health Center includes the sponsorship of the Spring into Health fundraiser which enables San Ysidro

to expand vital programs, reach underserved communities, and provide quality, comprehensive care to families and individuals seeking care, regardless of their ability to pay.

### **The San Diego LGBTQIA+ Community Center**

Scripps sponsored the [San Diego LGBTQIA+ Community Center](#), which is one of the nation's largest and most active LGBTQIA+ Community Centers. The Center, led by a 14-member board of directors, employs more than 70 staff members, and engages over 1,200 community volunteers. Their mission encompasses enhancing and sustaining LGBTQIA+ health and human rights, providing a range of programs and services to the diverse San Diego LGBTQIA+ community, including individuals of various demographics and those living with HIV. Through its events, activities, advocacy, and direct service visits, the Center significantly impacts the lives of thousands.

### **Turkey Giveaway and Health Resource Fair**

Scripps supported the Turkey Giveaway and Health Resource Fair event in East San Diego which distributed 1,000 turkeys, along with produce and sides purchased from the San Diego Food Bank and Feeding San Diego, providing complete Thanksgiving meals to the community.

## **Grants**

### **California Health Foundation and Trust**

The California Hospital Association (CHA) created a private program, the California Health Foundation and Trust (CHFT) for several purposes, including aggregating and distributing financial resources to support charitable activities at various hospitals and health systems in California.

### **Consumer Center for Health Education and Advocacy (CCEA)**

This funding provides low-income uninsured patients with assistance in obtaining health care benefits and services, while simultaneously reducing uncompensated care expenses for Scripps Hospitals. This project provides advocacy services for time-intensive government benefit cases.

### **Eric Paredes Save a Life Foundation**

Scripps partners with the [Eric Paredes Save a Life Foundation](#) to prevent sudden cardiac arrest and death in middle and high school aged children, including those in the underserved areas of San Diego County, through awareness, education, and action. Scripps provides a grant and volunteers, including physicians, nurses, and echocardiogram technicians, who screen students throughout San Diego County.

## In-Kind Contributions

### **Father Joe's Villages - Scripps Pay it Forward Blanket Drive**

The Blanket Drive was held as part of Scripps Spirit Week. Donations across the Scripps system were collected and given to Father Joe's Villages to benefit the homeless in the community. Contributions were made by just about every site throughout the system. Scripps gathered 204 blankets valued at \$5,712 from employees, physicians, and volunteers. These contributions benefited the homeless community through various organizations, with employees dedicating 60 hours of work time to this effort.

### **Father Joe's Villages – Ensure Nutritional Supplemental Donation**

Scripps donated 50 cases of Ensure Nutritional Supplemental to Father Joe's Villages.

### **Feeding San Diego - Emergency Meals and Water**

Scripps maintains an emergency supply of meals and water, replenishing it regularly and donating the previously stocked items. In Fiscal Year (FY) 25, Scripps donated 75 cases of water valued at \$435 to Feeding San Diego.

### **La Jolla Greater Meals on Wheels**

Scripps La Jolla supported the [La Jolla Greater La Jolla Meals on Wheels](#) program, offering office space to enhance their service of providing nutritious meals to seniors, homebound individuals, and those with disabilities in La Jolla communities.

### **Healthy Start Families - Birth and Beyond**

Scripps partners with [Global Communities/Healthy Start](#) by providing space for weekly sessions that promote culturally sensitive care to improve maternal and infant health. The program offers free education, resources, and support for parents during prenatal to postpartum stages, with a focus on serving Black, Native Hawaiian/Pacific Islander, Native American/Alaska Native, and Haitian Creole families across San Diego County.

### **Operation Restore Sight**

Scripps donated optical lenses and supplies to [Operation Restore Sight](#). With a fair market value of \$1,600.

### **Promises 2 Kids**

Scripps partners with [Promise2Kids](#) to donate gifts benefitting foster children in San Diego County. This program focuses on giving back to children in need during the holidays. Promises2Kids annually provides more than 3,000 current and former foster youth in San Diego County with the tools, opportunities, and guidance they need to address the circumstances that brought them into foster care, overcome the difficulties of their past, and grow into healthy, happy and successful adults.

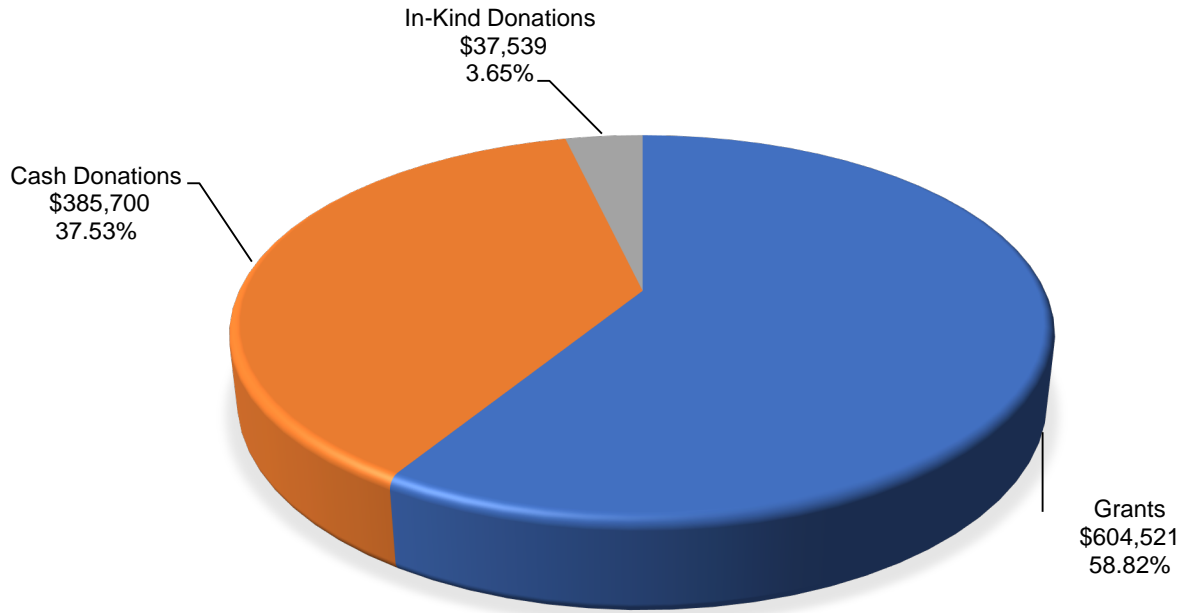
## **RAD-AID International**

Scripps donated BARCO monitors—specialized, high-resolution, and high-value displays used by radiologists to interpret mammography images to [RAD-AID International](#). These monitors undergo regular quality assurance checks to meet California Department of Public Health (CDPH) standards and are replaced when they begin to show signs of degradation. Although no longer in clinical use at Scripps, the monitors remain fully functional and have several years of usability remaining. They were identified as ideal candidates for donation to rad-aid international, an organization that delivers medical equipment to underserved regions around the world. The fair market value was \$21,000.

Figure 4.11

### Fiscal Year (FY) 2025 Cash, Grants and In-Kind Contributions

\$1,027,760<sup>36</sup>



### Cash, Grants, and In-Kind Contributions

Scripps provides Cash, Grants and In-Kind contributions made by the organization to community groups and nonprofit organizations. "Cash contributions" does not mean any payments that the organization makes in exchange for a service, facility, or product, or that the organization makes primarily to obtain economic or physical benefit. In-kind contributions include the cost of staff hours donated by the organization to the community, indirect cost of space donated to tax-exempt community groups (such as for community health-related meetings), and the financial value (measured at cost) of donated food, equipment, and supplies. These costs are included in the IRS Form 990, Schedule H Part I Lines 7i.

# Fiscal Year (FY) 25 Scripps Cash, Grants and In-Kind Contributions

## Cash, Grants, and In-Kind Contributions

Community Benefit Categories	Person Served	Staff Hours	Volunteer Hours	Financial Support*
Cash Donations	-	-	-	\$385,700
Grants	-	-	-	\$604,521
In-Kind Donations	5,982	60	-	\$37,539
<b>Totals Fiscal Year (FY) 2025 Cash, Grants and In-Kind Contributions</b>	<b>5,982</b>	<b>60</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>\$1,027,760</b>

\* "Financial Support" reflects the cost (labor, supplies, overhead, etc.) associated with the program/service less direct revenue. This figure does not include a calculation for physician and staff volunteer hours. In some instances, an entire community benefit program cost center has been divided between several initiatives.

# Subsidized Health Services

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Subsidized Health Services are those clinical services provided despite a financial loss to the organization, after removing payments associated with bad debt, financial assistance, Medi-Cal, and Other Means-Tested Government Programs, to meet an identified community need. Scripps Inpatient Behavioral is categorized as subsidized health.

For Scripps Fiscal Year (FY) 2025, total subsidized health service expenses for inpatient behavioral health were **\$3,356,919**. Scripps offers adult inpatient behavioral health care at Scripps Mercy Hospital San Diego, including a 36-bed psychiatric adult inpatient unit for individuals experiencing acute psychiatric disorders who are unable to live independently or may pose a danger to themselves or others. The program supports patients and their families through short-term crisis stabilization, treatment, and recovery planning to help them safely resume daily life.

Scripps Mercy's behavioral health program also engages in community efforts to reduce the stigma of mental illness and promote community integration. Outpatient behavioral health services are provided through partnerships with community organizations.

Like many behavioral health programs nationwide, reimbursement rates have not kept pace with the cost of care. In Fiscal Year (FY) 2025, the Scripps Mercy behavioral health program reported a total operational loss of \$9.4 million, including \$5.8 million attributable to Medi-Cal, other means-tested government programs, and charity care. Additionally, 1.2% of inpatient behavioral health patients were uninsured, further underscoring the financial pressures facing these essential services.

# Community Building Activities

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Community Building Activities support community assets by offering the expertise and resources of the hospital organization. These activities may address the root causes of health problems or the determinants of health, such as education, homelessness, poverty, and the environment. In Fiscal Year (FY) 2025, Scripps invested **\$534,691** in community building activities. These activities are detailed below and summarized in Figure 4.12.

## Physical Improvements/Housing

### **Leadership Retreat Volunteer Service Day**

Scripps organized a leadership retreat volunteer service day, where leaders painted, cleaned, and improved facilities at nonprofit homeless service providers such as La Maestra Garden of Life, South Bay Community Services, Father Joe's Villages, and Mercy Housing & Gardens.

## Economic Development

### **Executive Leadership – Community Boards and Business Organizations**

Scripps employees participated on various community boards and business organizations, representing the organization's positions on health issues, and addressing matters concerning wellness health and safety within the community.

### **Mercy San Diego – Community Boards and Business Organizations**

Scripps Mercy San Diego is represented in various community boards and business organizations, including the San Diego Downtown Partnership, San Diego Regional Task Force on Homelessness, Hillcrest Business Association (HBA) in support of advocating for Scripps Mercy's mission in the community.

## Community Support

### **Celebrando Latinas**

[Celebrando Latinas](#) is the largest Latina conference in Spanish nationwide. It's an empowering experience of motivation and education for Latina women. The conference provides networking, resources, health and wellness testing and information, and much more.

## **Disaster Preparedness – Active Shooter Drill (Violent Threat Exercise Conducted at New La Jolla Tower)**

Scripps security and clinical staff partnered with local and federal law enforcement—including the FBI, DEA, and fire and police departments—for an active shooter drill at the new tower. The exercise allowed first responders to train in a realistic hospital environment, with Scripps employees volunteering as mock patients, staff, and family members. Scripps has a long history of supporting such preparedness efforts, throughout the past two decades. In Fiscal Year (FY) 25, 125 individuals participated in the drill accounting for 1,300 staff hours.

## **Disaster Preparedness – Community Support and Outreach Education**

Scripps leads in disaster preparedness, collaborating with various levels of government and community leaders. These efforts focus on planning for emergencies and actively promote community awareness and participation in preparedness activities to help care for disaster victims.

## **Equality California**

Scripps sponsored the Equality California “Equality Awards” San Diego. [Equality California](#) is the nation’s largest statewide LGBTQIA+ civil rights organization. Equality California brings the voices of the LGBTQIA+ community and allies to institutions of power in California and across the United States, striving to create a world that is healthy, just, and fully equal for all LGBTQIA+ people.

## **Hospital Incident Command System (HICS) National Advisory Committee**

Scripps Health is an active member of the Hospital Incident Command System (HICS) National Advisory Committee. The training is focused specifically on HICS, an incident management system that can be used by hospitals to manage threats, planned events, or emergencies.

## **LGBTQIA+ Victory Institute**

Scripps sponsored the annual [LGBTQIA+ Victory Institute](#) education fund event which works to achieve and sustain equality through leadership development, training, research and convenings.

## **San Diego County Coalition Surge Test No Notice Exercise**

Scripps participated in the San Diego County Coalition Surge Test No Notice Exercise, a drill simulating an active shooter scenario involving approximately 100 patients, predominantly pediatric cases.

## **San Diego County Operational Regional Full-Scale Exercise**

Scripps participated in the San Diego Regional Full-Scale Exercise, enhancing the region's response to complex mass casualty incidents. The exercise simulated a pediatric surge from multiple incidents across San Diego County, involving various agencies, including hospitals.

## **San Diego County and State of California Advisory Groups**

Scripps participated in San Diego County and State of California advisory groups to plan, implement, and evaluate key disaster preparedness response plans and exercises. In addition, Scripps is an advisor to San Diego County for federal and state grant development and planning.

## **San Diego Healthcare Coalition Advisory Committee (SDHCAC)**

Scripps Health actively collaborates with the San Diego Healthcare Coalition Advisory Committee (SDHCAC) to improve emergency preparedness and response planning.

## **San Diego Pride Inc.**

Scripps sponsored the annual San Diego LGBTQIA+ Pride Parade. Scripps employees participated along with hundreds of individuals from the community in the parade and 5k walk presented by Front Runners & Walkers San Diego. [San Diego Pride](#) incorporated as a 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization in 1994, and continues to bring together the skills, talents, and visions of our diverse community through numerous programs.

## **San Diego Regional Full-Scale Exercise**

Scripps participated in the County Wide Exercise Medical and Health Full Scale Exercise. All hospitals participated, tested, and evaluated the capabilities of the command center and the response plan for patient surge and evacuation.

## **Scripps Medical Response Team (SMRT)**

Scripps has a system-wide disaster preparedness program that includes the volunteer Scripps Medical Response Team (SMRT). SMRT is ready to deploy when requested by the California Medical Assistance Team (Cal-MAT) during state emergencies like wildfires or earthquakes. Although there were no deployments in 2025, the team remains prepared for future calls of assistance.

## **The Chicano Federation of San Diego County**

Scripps sponsored the “Unity luncheon” and “Cesar Chavez day of service.” [The Chicano Federation of San Diego County](#) is a nonprofit, community-based organization that offers a range of family, childcare, housing, community development and advocacy services.

## **Coalition Building**

### **Chula Vista Community Collaborative (CVCC)**

Scripps took part in the [Chula Vista Community Collaborative \(CVCC\)](#), a monthly gathering of more than 150 local organizations focused on improving resident health, safety, economic resources, leadership empowerment, environmental quality, and cultural diversity in the community.

## **Community Engagement Partnerships and Advisory Boards**

Through Community Advisory Boards (CABs), Scripps gathers input from community members to ensure programs and initiatives are aligned with community priorities. CABs also provide valuable guidance on research projects, program design, and evaluation, ultimately contributing to more effective and culturally responsive interventions.

## **South County Action Network (SOCAN)**

Scripps participated in the South County Action Network (SOCAN), a collaborative network of individuals and service providers dedicated to advocating for and enhancing services for older adults and adults with disabilities in the South County region. There are more than 75 network partners.

## **Workforce Development**

### **School Collaborations and Affiliations**

Scripps collaborates with local high schools, colleges, and universities to help students explore health care roles and gain firsthand experience as they work with Scripps professionals. Scripps is affiliated with more than 110 schools and programs, including clinical and nonclinical partnerships.

### **Student Research**

Scripps supports student research for master's, doctoral, and young biomedical scholars at affiliated institutions. This includes students in various health care disciplines, such as public health, physical therapy, pharmacy, nursing, and high school through graduate students.

### **Center for Learning and Innovation - High School Program Collaborations**

At Scripps, our commitment to caring for the community goes beyond hospital walls - it starts with inspiring the next generation. In partnership with our Community Benefits outreach, Scripps Well Being Center - Scripps Mercy Hospital Chula Vista and our internal Talent Development team, our high school programs are opening pathways for students who are curious about careers in health care. These programs offer hands-on learning, mentorship, and real-world exposure to a wide range of medical professions, helping young people explore their passions and envision a future in a field dedicated to helping others.

- **Scripps High School Exploration Internship Program**

Scripps Health initiated the Scripps High School Exploration Internship Program to engage young individuals and cultivate their interest in health care professions facing a shortage of skilled professionals. Each year, 25-30 students gain exposure to various hospital and clinical departments, including the emergency room and surgery, allowing them to explore different career possibilities in health care while also acquiring valuable insights into health and healing. In total, Scripps dedicated 2,875 hours to the program, with each student completing 120 hours alongside a Scripps host. The

program also expanded two additional sites: Scripps Clinic Rancho Bernardo and Scripps Clinic Jefferson.

- **Young Leaders in Health Care**

Scripps hosts the Young Leaders in Health Care program to introduce local high school students to careers in health care while engaging them in community service projects focused on health and wellness. During the 2024–2025 school year, Scripps Encinitas held eight program sessions, reaching more than 802 participants with a variety of health-related topics and presentations. The program culminates in final student presentations, and participants are encouraged to apply for the High School Explorer summer internship program.

### **Scripps School to Health Career Pathway Programs**

The Family Medicine Residency Program at Scripps Mercy Hospital Chula Vista engages high school students in health education and career exploration through interaction with medical residents, dietitians, nurses, and doctors. In partnership with local schools and colleges, students gain hands-on experience via internships, mentoring, classroom presentations, surgical observations, and the Scripps Health Careers Opportunity Camp. Family Medicine residents lead the “Our Health” series, offering public health education and clinical skills workshops. The program especially aims to inspire students from underserved communities to pursue health care careers. The programs below benefited a total of 2,175 young individuals.

#### **Residency Led Youth Programs**

The Family Practice Medicine Residency program uses health care professionals, such as medical residents, dieticians, nurses, and doctors, to enlighten high school students on health care careers and health related topics:

- **Camp Scripps: Summer Enrichment Program**

Scripps offers a three to six-week camp experience to inspire youth about health care careers. Participants gain insights and hands-on experience in different medical fields, including interactions with professionals, mentoring, clinical shadowing, hospital tours, and themed workshops.

- **Career Mentoring Program**

Scripps Career Mentoring Program pairs youth with volunteer mentors in health care, providing exposure to different roles and departments in a hospital setting to inspire and educate them about career pathways in health care.

- **Health Professionals in the Classroom**

The program offers self-paced webinar presentations on various health care careers, health/wellness, leadership, and job readiness to enhance and support the high school classroom curriculum and to introduce youth to health care careers.

- **Youth Surgery Viewing**

Interested students have an opportunity to observe surgeries such as total knee and hip replacements.

- **Cristo Rey Work Study Program**

Scripps collaborates with Cristo Rey San Diego High School, a college-preparatory school serving students from both sides of the border. Cristo Rey follows a unique model where students attend classes four days a week and spend the fifth day working in professional settings—such as law firms, labs, and hospitals. This program introduces students to health care careers, provides insights into hospital operations, and develops job readiness skills, helping prepare them for future careers in health and leadership roles. In Fiscal Year (FY) 25, Scripps sponsored eight students to work in various departments at Mercy Chula Vista, Mercy SD and the Scripps Well-Being Center.

- **California Medicine Scholars Program (CMSP)**

CMSP supports students of color transitioning from community college to medical school through mentorship, career workshops, and interaction with physician mentors, medical students, and residents.

### **Legislative Day at Scripps Mercy Hospital Chula Vista**

Scripps hosted 11 legislative staffers from local, state, and federal offices showcasing the Chula Vista Wellbeing Center's School to Health Career Pathway program. During the visit, 22 Sweetwater High School students participated in a hands-on Casting and Splinting session which allowed the staffers to observe and engage directly with the students and Scripps staff. The event highlighted Scripps' community benefit initiatives, including efforts to support health equity, introduce high school students to health care careers, and share updates on the emergency department expansion and leadership changes.

### **MANA De San Diego (MANASD)**

Scripps sponsored [MANASD](#), the largest chapter of a national Latina organization founded in 1986. MANASD's mission is to empower Latinas for upward mobility and a better quality of life. This sisterhood supports Latinas through education, leadership development, community service, and advocacy. Programs like the Hermanitas initiative for middle and high school students and the Latina Success Leadership Program for mid-level professionals help Latinas at all stages of life.

### **North County African American Women's Association (NCAAWA)**

Scripps sponsored a fundraiser supporting scholarships for girls and women of African American descent. The program helps participants pursue career, vocational, and technical education while promoting life skills and health awareness. Through its efforts, NCAAWA has enabled hundreds of women to reenter the workforce, complete their education, and lead healthy, self-sufficient lives, <https://www.ncaawa.org/>.

### **San Ysidro Women's Club**

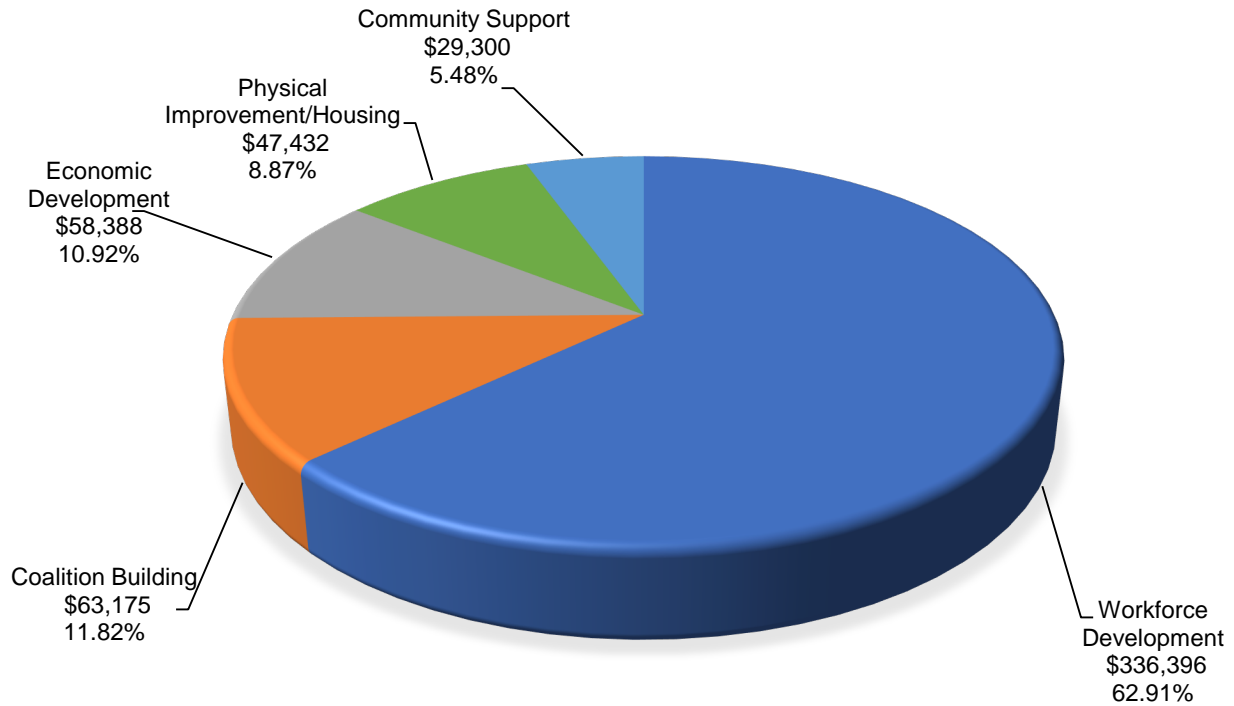
Scripps sponsored the [San Ysidro Women's Club](#) Fiesta celebrating its 25th Anniversary. Over the past 25 years, the club has proudly awarded more than 600 scholarships to hardworking students from San Ysidro High School.

### **San Diego Organization of Healthcare Leaders (SOHL)**

Scripps sponsored the annual conference of the [San Diego Organization of Healthcare Leaders \(SOHL\)](#). SOHL is a combined chapter of the American College of Healthcare Executives (ACHE), an international professional society with more than 49,000 health care executives.

Figure 4.12

Fiscal Year (FY) 2025  
Scripps Community Building Activities  
\$534,691



### Community Building Activities

Community Building Activities are programs that address the underlying causes of health problems and improve health status and quality of life. They focus on the root causes of health problems. The amount reported is total expenses for each activity incurred less any offsetting revenue. These costs are included in the IRS Form 990, Schedule H Part II.

# Fiscal Year (FY) 25 Scripps Community Building Activities

## Community Building Activities

Community Building Activities**	Person Served	Staff Hours	Volunteer Hours	Financial Support*
Physical Improvements/Housing	1,500	336	-	\$47,432
Economic Development	-	450	-	\$58,388
Community Support	2,494	3,175	-	\$29,300
Coalition Building	681	1,821	-	\$63,175
Workforce Development	3,009	9,552	12	\$336,396
<b>Totals Fiscal Year (FY) 2025 Community Building Activities</b>	<b>7,684</b>	<b>15,334</b>	<b>12</b>	<b>\$534,691</b>

\* "Financial Support" reflects the cost (labor, supplies, overhead, etc.) associated with the program/service less direct revenue. This figure does not include a calculation for physician and staff volunteer hours. In some instances, an entire community benefit program cost center has been divided between several initiatives.

\*\*Community Building Activities, Bad Debt and Medicare shortfall do not count as community benefits under Schedule H 990 but are still reportable outside the community benefit table



# Section 5

## Scripps Memorial Hospital La Jolla

# About Scripps Memorial Hospital La Jolla

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Scripps Memorial Hospital La Jolla has served the greater San Diego community since 1924. Located in North Central San Diego County, Scripps Memorial Hospital La Jolla provides health care services for 20 percent of the inpatient population living in the hospital's 50 percent service area. Today, the hospital has 495 licensed beds and 3,253 employees and provides a comprehensive range of adult inpatient and outpatient services. In 2025, Scripps opened a new eight-floor North Tower which includes 146 licensed beds and an array of medical services and advanced technology. Within the hospital's service area, Scripps La Jolla cares for 24 percent of Medicare patients, 9 percent of Medi-Cal patients, 21 percent of commercially insured patients and 10 percent of patients with other payment sources, including self-pay and charity care.

Scripps La Jolla provides a wide range of clinical and surgical services, including but not limited to, 24-hour emergency services, intensive care, interventional cardiology and radiology, cancer care, cardiothoracic and orthopedic services, labor and delivery services (including a level III neonatal intensive care unit, women's health services, comprehensive stroke center, neurology, bariatric services, ophthalmology, and mental health and psychological services.

In 2005, Scripps La Jolla was the first Magnet hospital in San Diego to be recognized by the American Nursing Association and was re-designated in 2021 for continued excellence in patient care. The Barbey Family Emergency and Trauma Center at Scripps La Jolla is a Level I Trauma Center and a critical part of the county's emergency service network. It offers the most advanced technology and medical expertise available to treat life-threatening injuries. The Center includes a 33,000-square-foot emergency department, 51 private beds, precision imaging in two diagnostic X-ray suites, MRI, ultrasound, a low-dose CT scanner and more.



Scripps Memorial Hospital La Jolla

# Scripps Memorial Hospital La Jolla

## 2026 Community Benefit Report

The Scripps La Jolla Community Benefit 2026 Report is an account of the hospital’s dedication and commitment to improving the community’s health, detailing programs that have provided benefit over and above standard health care practices in Fiscal Year (FY) 2025 (October 2024 to September 2025).

### Community Benefit Contribution

During Fiscal Year (FY) 2025, Scripps La Jolla devoted **\$147,065,563** to community benefit services. The programs offered by Scripps La Jolla emphasize community-based prevention efforts and use effective approaches to reach residents at greater risk for health problems.

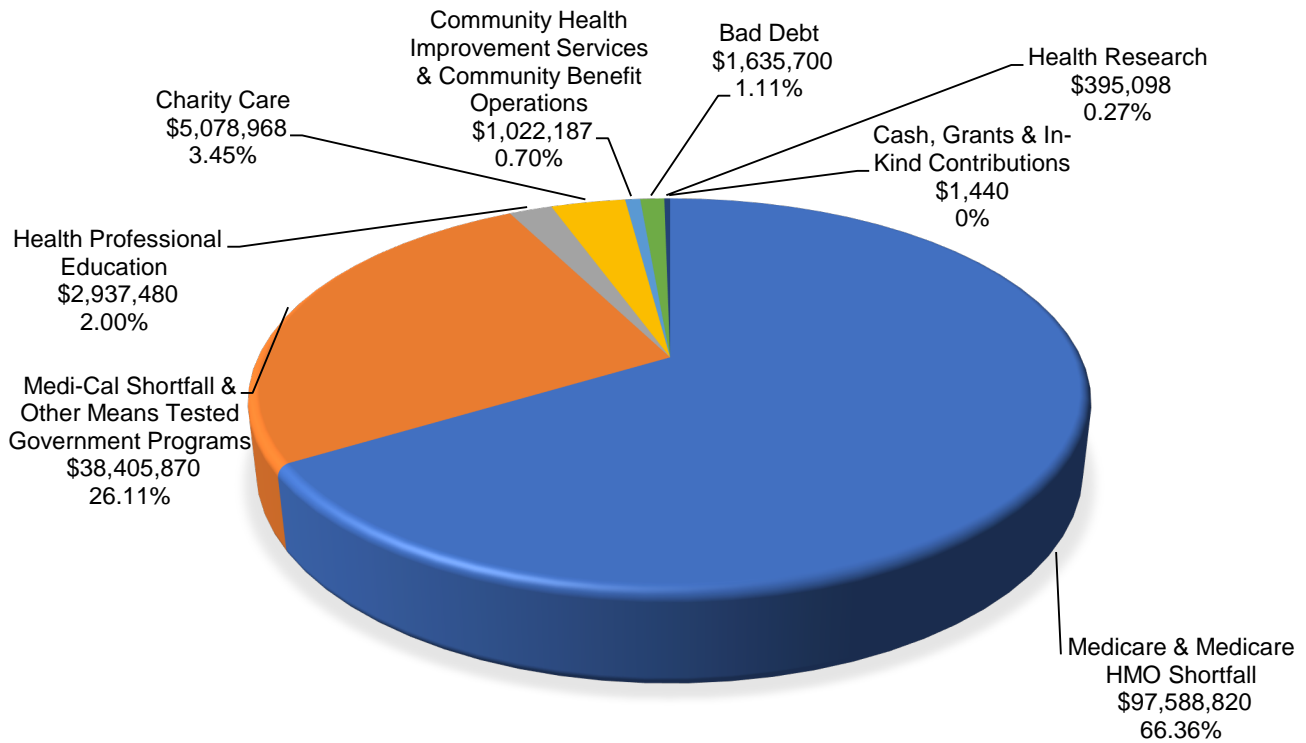
#### Community Benefit Services

Community Benefit Services	
Bad Debt	\$1,635,700
Cash, Grants and In-Kind Contributions	\$1,440
Charity Care	\$5,078,968
Community Health Improvement Services & Community Benefit Operations (Includes In Lieu of Funds)	\$1,022,187
Health Professional Education	\$2,937,480
Health Research	\$395,098
Medi-Cal Shortfall & Other Means Tested Government Programs	\$38,405,870
Medicare & Medicare HMO Shortfall	\$97,588,820
<b>Total Community Benefit Financial Contribution</b>	<b>\$147,065,563</b>

Refer to Figure 5.1 presented on the following page for a graphic representation of Fiscal Year (FY) 2025.

Figure 5.1

## Fiscal Year (FY) 2025 Scripps Memorial Hospital La Jolla, Community Benefit Services Distribution \$147,065,563



Community Benefit Services (provider fee impact)	Bad Debt	Cash, Grants & In-Kind	Charity Care	Community Health Improvement Services & Community Benefit Operations	Health Professional Education	Health Research	Medi-Cal Shortfall & Other Means Tested Government Programs	Medicare & Medicare HMO Shortfall	Total
Before Provider Fee	\$1,635,700	\$1,440	\$5,078,968	\$1,022,187	\$2,937,480	\$395,098	\$39,560,861	\$97,588,820	\$ 148,220,554
Provider Fee							(\$1,154,991)		(\$1,154,991)
Net After Provider Fee	\$1,635,700	\$1,440	\$5,078,968	\$1,022,187	\$2,937,480	\$395,098	\$38,405,870	\$97,588,820	\$147,065,563

### Community Benefit Services

Community Benefit Services are programs and services designed to improve health in communities. IRS Form 990, Schedule H instructions define community benefit as activities or programs that respond to community health needs and seek to achieve one or more of the following objectives: improving access to health services, enabling low-income individuals to afford health care, enhancing public health, advancing generalizable knowledge, educating health care professionals, and relieving the government’s burden to improve health. Medicare Shortfall, Bad Debt, and certain Community Building Activities are reportable under Schedule H guidelines but are not included in the IRS-defined community benefit total. For the purposes of this report, Scripps includes these categories in its broader calculation of total community benefit to reflect the full scope of resources dedicated to supporting community health.

# Fiscal Year (FY) 25 Scripps Memorial Hospital La Jolla Community Benefit Services Summary List

## Community Health Improvement Services & Community Benefit Operations

Community Benefit Categories	Person Served	Staff Hours	Volunteer Hours	Financial Support*
Community Health Education	13,352	5,092	47	\$327,466
Community-Based Clinical Services	157	12	-	\$822
Health Care Support Services (Includes In-Lieu of Funds)	-	-	-	\$693,899
<b>Totals Fiscal Year (FY) 2025 Community Health Improvement Services &amp; Community Benefit Operations</b>	<b>13,509</b>	<b>5,104</b>	<b>47</b>	<b>\$1,022,187</b>

## Health Professional Education

Community Benefit Categories	Person Served	Staff Hours	Volunteer Hours	Financial Support*
Physicians/Medical Students	-	18,746	-	\$1,369,266
Nurses/Nursing Students/Allied Health	-	14,579	-	\$1,524,046
Other Health Professions Education	30	658	-	\$44,168
<b>Totals Fiscal Year (FY) 2025 Health Professional Education</b>	<b>30</b>	<b>33,983</b>		<b>\$2,937,480</b>

## Health Research

Community Benefit Categories	Person Served	Staff Hours	Volunteer Hours	Financial Support*
<b>Totals Fiscal Year (FY) 2025 Health Professional Education</b>	<b>208</b>	<b>5,242</b>		<b>\$395,098</b>

## Cash, Grants, and In-Kind Contributions

Community Benefit Categories	Person Served	Staff Hours	Volunteer Hours	Financial Support*
<b>Total Fiscal Year (FY) 2025 Cash, Grants, and In-Kind</b>	<b>5,778</b>			<b>\$1,440</b>

## Uncompensated Care

Community Benefit Categories	Person Served	Staff Hours	Volunteer Hours	Financial Support*
Charity Care	-	-	-	\$5,078,968
Bad Debt**	-	-	-	\$1,635,700
Medicare and Medicare HMO Shortfall**	-	-	-	\$97,588,820
Medi-Cal Shortfall & Other Means Tested Government Programs***	-	-	-	\$38,405,870
<b>Total Fiscal Year (FY) 2025 Uncompensated Care</b>	-	-	-	<b>\$142,709,358</b>

**Totals Fiscal Year (FY) 2025 Scripps Memorial Hospital La Jolla**

<b>19,525</b>	<b>44,329</b>	<b>47</b>	<b>\$147,065,563</b>
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\* "Financial Support" reflects the cost (labor, supplies, overhead, etc.) associated with the program/service less direct revenue. This figure does not include a calculation for physician and staff volunteer hours. In some instances, an entire community benefit program cost center has been divided between several initiatives.

\*\*Medicare Shortfall, Bad Debt, and Community Building Activities are reportable under IRS instructions but are excluded from the community benefit totals in Form 990, Schedule H. However, Scripps includes these categories in our overall community benefit calculations within the report.

\*\*\* Hospital provider fee was reported as offsetting revenue from Medi-Cal.

# Community Health Improvement Services & Community Benefit Operations

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Community Health Improvement Services are activities conducted to improve community health, available to the public, which address a community need. These include prevention and wellness programs such as screenings, health education, support groups, and health fairs which are supported by operational funds, grants, in-kind donations, and philanthropy. These programs are designed to raise public awareness and understanding of, and access to, identified community health needs. This investment includes In-Lieu of Funds which provides critical support for vulnerable populations, covering essential post-discharge needs for unfunded or underfunded patients. These funds help ensure access to necessary health care support services beyond hospital care.

Scripps Community Benefit Operations include direct and indirect costs associated with assigned staff, community health needs assessments, community benefit planning, tracking, reporting, evaluating and operations. Scripps counts staff costs for managing or overseeing community benefit program activities that are not included in other categories of community benefit.

During Fiscal Year (FY) 2025, Scripps La Jolla programs invested in Community Health Improvement Services and Community Benefit Operations, with notable achievements outlined by IRS categories and detailed further in Section 4.

## Community Health Education

*Definition: Community health education includes lectures, presentations, other group programs and activities, and development and dissemination of materials that focus on prevention and health behaviors. Education activities can be provided in multiple formats, including resources made available to communities through support groups and through initiatives with a self-help emphasis.*

### Cardiac Treatment Center Programs

**Cardiac Treatment Center: Group Exercise Programs.** The programs offered contributed to participants improved cardiovascular health. A total of 5,250 individuals were served, and more than 547 meetings were conducted to support their cardiovascular well-being. Classes include Meditation, Balance Fall Proof Education, Dietary Counseling, Pulmonary Cardiac Classes, Zumba, Yoga, Music Therapy, and more.

**Cardiac Treatment Center: Balance Fall Proof Education.** Balance classes aim to enhance balance, posture, and coordination by incorporating strength and balance exercises. A total of 85 classes were conducted, with 2,428 attendees benefiting from these sessions.

**Cardiac Treatment Center: Dietary Counseling.** This community educational program offers attendees the opportunity to engage in one-on-one discussions with a registered dietitian. The program covers topics related to a heart-healthy diet and exercise. In total, 57 classes were conducted, with 280 attendees benefiting from these informative sessions.

**Cardiac Treatment Center: Pulmonary Cardiac Class.** Education on lifestyle management, nutrition, and exercise was offered to pulmonary patients as part of this program. A total of 200 individuals were served through 31 meetings, providing them with valuable insights into managing their health and well-being.

**Cardiac Treatment Center: Better Breathers Program.** The Better Breathers Club is a welcoming support group designed for individuals living with chronic lung diseases, such as COPD, pulmonary fibrosis, and asthma, as well as their caregivers. In this program, participants learn effective strategies to cope with their conditions while receiving support from others who face similar challenges. Led by a trained facilitator, these support groups—offered both virtually and in-person—empower patients with chronic lung disease, providing them with the tools to improve their quality of life.

**CPR Classes for Patients and Families of the Cardiac Treatment Center.** CPR certification classes were offered at the Cardiac Treatment Center for patients and their families to promote knowledge of cardiopulmonary resuscitation techniques. There were no classes conducted in Fiscal Year (FY) 25 and will strive for better enrollment in Fiscal Year (FY) 26.

## **Stroke Program & Recognition**

**Stroke Program Community Outreach.** The Scripps Health Stroke Team actively participated in community outreach by conducting stroke risk assessments. For more information, see Section 10.

**Stroke Programs and Education Events.** Scripps Health Stroke Programs and Education Events are dedicated to reducing strokes in San Diego County through community outreach efforts. For more information, see Section 10.

## **Maternal and Child Health Education**

**Scripps La Jolla Maternal Child Health Services.** Program offers prenatal education programs across the county, consistently achieving high participant satisfaction ratings above 90%. These programs included the following:

- Scripps provided "**Getting Ready for Baby - Child Safety and Prevention Class**" and "**Grandparenting Today,**" serving 1,097 individuals through 49 meetings, supporting parents and caregivers in raising healthy children.

- Scripps Health facilitated five weekly **breastfeeding support groups** held at Oceanside, Encinitas, La Jolla, San Diego and San Ysidro Health Center in Chua Vista. The support groups benefited 932 individuals in 248 meetings, supporting breastfeeding mothers with guidance and encouragement.
- Additionally, the **Prenatal Pelvic Floor Wellness program**, consisting of 22 classes, empowered 543 women to strengthen their pelvic floor muscles during the postpartum period, promoting their overall well-being.
- **Dogs and Storks.** This prenatal educational class, led by a Pet Behaviorist, teaches parents, grandparents, and caregivers how dogs and babies can live together safely and happily. The class focuses on prevention and safety education for the community.

## Holistic and Pain Management Programs

**Healing Touch Certificate Programs.** Scripps La Jolla continued its holistic well-being commitment by offering Healing Touch Certificate Programs to health care professionals and community members. In three meetings, 36 attendees deepened their knowledge of Healing Touch.

## Trauma and Injury Prevention Programs

**Injury Prevention and Community Outreach Education.** Scripps La Jolla offers trauma education programs to enhance injury prevention and treatment. These outreach initiatives educate the community on various topics like elderly falls, concussions, sports injuries, distracted driving, and more. Fiscal Year (FY) 25 Highlights:

- Delivered trauma prevention education on brain injury, falls, distracted/impaired driving, e-bike safety, suicide awareness, and firearm safety.
- Reached over 1,500 community members through workshops and safety events.
- Contributed 285+ hours to county coalitions and task forces.
- Strengthened partnerships with advisory groups on transportation, aging, alcohol policy, and occupational therapy.

Provided expertise in regional efforts on behavioral health, fall prevention, domestic violence, and overdose response.

**Fall Prevention Initiatives:** Falls are a threat to the health of older adults and can reduce their ability to remain independent. However, falls don't have to be inevitable as you age. Scripps Health Injury Prevention Team uses evidence-based and evidence-informed programming to bring awareness and reduce fall risk factors.

- **Fall Prevention: Standing Strong Workshop.** Scripps La Jolla provided education to older adults through a series of workshops emphasizing exercise and proactive safety measures at home. The

Injury Prevention Team successfully served 40 individuals and conducted comprehensive workshops and sessions as part of this initiative.

- **Standing Stronger Fall Prevention Workshop Three-Part Series.** Scripps La Jolla hosted a Standing Stronger Fall Prevention Workshop. Interdisciplinary teams from Geriatrics, Pharmacy, Physical and Occupational Therapy, Stroke, and Community Partners provided older adults and caregivers with practical tools and assessments to help prevent falls and maintain independence. Total attendees: 33. Workshop highlights included:
  - Keynote: “What Every Older Adult Needs to Know About Falls & How to Prevent Them”
  - “Do Medications Increase My Chance of Falling?” – Medication safety presentation
  - Exercise session by the Cardiac Treatment Center
  - Stroke team presentation on early warning signs and blood pressure management
  - Community resources overview by San Diego County Aging & Independence Services
  - Free fall risk, medication, blood pressure, and stroke risk screenings
- **Fall Prevention: A Matter of Balance.** Scripps La Jolla educated older adults on fall prevention through an eight-week program and lecture series, with 62 participants. The program emphasized exercise, safety measures at home, and improving safety awareness to promote independence and overall safety. Pre/post tests were conducted to assess effectiveness.
- **Geriatric Fall Prevention: Presentations For Older Adults.** The Trauma and Injury Prevention Department offered fall prevention presentations for older adults and their caregivers at multiple community locations, including senior apartments, the Salvation Army Senior Resource Fair, and various police departments. These presentations reached and served a total of 225 participants, providing valuable insights into fall prevention strategies for older adults.
- **National Fall Prevention Awareness Week.** Scripps partnered with the County of San Diego Health and Human Services and the San Diego Fall Prevention Task Force to offer free, virtual events focused on fall prevention. Falls remain the leading cause of injury-related emergency department visits among older adults. Through these virtual sessions, a panel of experts shared essential safety tips, educational information, and exercises to help reduce fall risks. Presentations were offered, covering various topics. For more information, visit [San Diego Fall Prevention](#).

**Transportation Safety Initiatives:** Scripps is committed to preventing injuries and promoting safer behaviors through interactive, engaging education. Programs such as child passenger safety, risky driver education, CarFit, and bike, e-bike, and pedestrian safety workshops use hands-on presentations to highlight risks and protective factors that help keep all road users safe.

- **Bike Anywhere Day.** Scripps hosted official “pit stops” in partnership with SANDAG and Trauma Research Education Foundation (TREF). The locations were held at Scripps Memorial Hospital La Jolla and Scripps Mercy San Diego. Free helmet fittings are offered. (149 individuals served).
- **CarFit Safe Driving for Older Adults.** CarFit is a free, interactive educational program designed to improve safety for older drivers. To support older adult mobility, the Scripps Health Trauma Injury Prevention Team partnered with Solana Beach Presbyterian Church to host a CarFit event. Aimed at adults ages 55 and older, the program has served 15 people and helps participants understand how age-related changes can affect driving and how to adjust their vehicle for a safer fit.
- **Safer California E-Bike Educational Webinar for Prevention Staff.** The E-Bike safety seminar provided information about local E-Bike safety and education programs, and state resources on E-Bike safety courses provided to 350 people including children, parents and e-bike riders of all ages.
- **E-Bike Safety Video for Older Adults.** With e-bike use rising among older adults, the Scripps Injury Prevention and Trauma Department created an educational video to promote safe riding. Featuring a Scripps trauma surgeon and the medical director of trauma and acute care surgery, the video offers safety tips tailored to older riders, who have the highest rate of bicycle-related fatalities in the U.S. For more information, visit [Bike Safety for Older Adults](#).
- **Free E-Bike Training That Could Save Your Teen’s Life.** E-Bikes provide exciting transportation independence for teens, but they’re not just ordinary bicycles. With speeds and dynamics closer to mopeds, these vehicles require specialized knowledge to navigate roads and bike paths safely. Scripps Health Injury Prevention Program is taking the lead to help teens be safe and responsible riders. Scripps has partnered with the American Bicycling Education Association to offer comprehensive E-Bike education at no charge to San Diego County teens, [Scripps Injury Prevention Free Teen E-Bike Online Safety Course](#). Lessons included:
  - Battery safety, brake inspections, and bike security
  - Safety equipment
  - Rules of movement and traffic law
  - Lines, signs and signals on roads and bikeways
  - How crashes happen and how to avoid them
  - How speed and skill affect stopping distance
  - Essential communication skills
  - Best practices for riding in a group

- **Bike Safety: San Diego Police Department Skate Jam.** Scripps La Jolla hosted the annual San Diego Police Department Skate Jam. An event aimed at promoting bike and skateboard safety in the community. This year, 250 community members participated.
- **Shop with a Cop 2025 Pancake Fundraiser.** Scripps Memorial Hospital La Jolla Injury Prevention had a booth at the annual Shop with a Cop and provided 32 free helmet fittings, 50 educational interactions and 175 impressions.
- **Bike and Helmet Safety.** The Scripps Injury and Prevention Department conducted presentations on head injury prevention and provided helmet fittings at various community events, partnering with local organizations to promote bike and e-bike safety. These events allowed Scripps to actively promote bike and helmet safety to thousands across San Diego County. Below is a summary of these outreach efforts:
  - Chula Vista Summer Health and Safety Fair – Loma Verde Community Center.
  - CarFit – 55+ Custom Driving Safety Program – Solana Beach Presbyterian Church.
  - Bro-Am Safety Booth and Helmet Fittings – Moonlight Beach, Encinitas
  - Carlsbad YES (Youth Enrichment Services): 30 people served. Gave away \$150 worth of helmets and bike safety materials.
  - Chula Vista Summer Safety Fair: 275 people served. Gave away \$3,500 worth of helmets, bike safety materials, and spinning wheel prizes.
  - E-Bike Safety Education for Educators: Telebriefing for 500+ educators K-12 covering all of San Diego County and parts of Riverside.
  - Encinitas Ciclovía Open Streets Bike/wheeled Safety Event: 400 people served and \$925 worth of helmets, bike safety materials, and spinning wheel prizes.
  - Safer California E-bike Safety Education Webinar: 350 people served.
  - Bike to School Day education presentation, tabling, and helmet fittings at St. Paul’s Middle School in Pacific Beach: 250 people served. \$265 worth of helmets, bike safety materials.
  - Bike Anywhere Day Pitstop outside Scripps Memorial Hospital La Jolla: 149 people served and \$325 worth of helmets, bike safety materials.

## **Annual Conferences and Special Programs**

**Lifeguard Education Conference 2025.** Scripps Trauma Prevention Programs hosted the 7th Annual San Diego County Lifeguard Education Conference at Scripps Memorial Hospital La Jolla. Conference sessions included: Flight Impact Mass Rescue Operation, Perspectives in Women and Lifeguarding, Marine Pollution and Lifeguard Health, Stingray Study, and the Excellence in Lifeguard Recognition Awards.

There was strong engagement around new data on stingray injuries and pollution-related illnesses, with attendees indicating plans to apply this information to field operations and public education efforts.

The conference drew 101 attendees. Of the 45 participants who completed the post-event survey, 96% rated the conference as “Excellent” or “Very Good.” A total of 41 CEU requests were submitted.

**Trauma Luau 2025.** The 2025 Trauma Luau offered an in-depth look at the behind-the-scenes components of trauma care, highlighting the critical roles of policies, staff, and government agencies in driving excellence. One of the key innovations featured was Scripps’ “OR Pit Stop” process, which has helped save lives over the past year. Recognizing that trauma affects a diverse patient population, the conference addressed the far-reaching impact of traumatic injuries on individuals and families. Sessions explored management strategies for patients experiencing violent behavior or psychosis, along with ways to support staff in navigating these complex situations. The injury prevention team also showcased ongoing efforts to promote safety and reduce risk across the community.

**Trauma Presentation for the BUDI (Binge and Underage Drinking Initiative).** Scripps delivered a status report presentation to 125 people offering a snapshot of indicators related to binge and underage drinking. The report included data on alcohol use among students and young adults, the public health impacts of binge and underage drinking, and the public safety implications of underage drinking and driving. The information helps the community identify trends and strategies to reduce youth access to alcohol and alcohol-related harm.

**Saving Lives Through Stop the Bleed Program.** The program conducted 6 Stop the Bleed training sessions, educating 157 individuals on life-saving techniques like direct pressure, wound packing, and tourniquet use. This initiative equips participants to respond effectively to life-threatening bleeding in emergencies. All Scripps security staff are being trained on the Stop the Bleed program.

**Beach Area Community Court program.** Scripps participated in the Beach Area Community Court program, involving individuals who attended the “Impact Panel” educational class for first-time quality-of-life offenders. They also completed 4 hours of community service, benefiting personal growth and community improvement.

## **Support Groups**

**The Left Ventricular Assist Device (LVAD) Support Group.** The LVAD Support Group provided education and support to 165 patients and their family members, helping them navigate the challenges associated with ventricular assist devices (VADs) and improve their quality of life. The group featured guest speakers and fostered open dialogue among VAD patients and their care partners.

**The Caregiver/Care Partner Support Group.** This support group provided a nurturing space for individuals, including care partners and caregivers. It encouraged connections, open discussions, and sharing experiences, fostering friendships, and offering support in their caregiving journey.

**The ECMO (Extracorporeal Membrane Oxygenation) Survivors Support Group.** This support group assisted individuals who survived critical heart or lung conditions with ECMO support, held monthly virtual meetings with participation from 35 survivors. These gatherings created a supportive community for recovery and healing.

**The Heart Transplant Support Group.** The group offers emotional support to heart transplant patients, transplant candidates, and those awaiting transplants. In Fiscal Year (FY) 25 five meetings were held connecting 47 individuals and fostering camaraderie and insights sharing.

## Community-Based Clinical Services

*Definition: These are clinical services provided on a periodic basis or as special events in the community. They include screenings, one-time or occasionally held clinics, clinics for underinsured and uninsured persons, and mobile units.*

**American Red Cross Blood Drives.** Scripps La Jolla coordinated blood drives with the American Red Cross, resulting in 123 units of blood collected from 151 participants registered. This collection has the potential to save 369 lives. These drives underscore Scripps' dedication to supporting the community's health care requirements and meeting the ongoing demand for blood donations, especially in times of crisis.

## Health Care Support Services

*Definition: Health care and social support services are provided by the hospital to enhance access to and quality of health care services for vulnerable populations, especially people living in poverty.*

**In Lieu of Funds.** One way Scripps La Jolla provides care to some of our most needy patients is through In-Lieu of Funds. In Fiscal Year (FY) 25, Scripps La Jolla provided \$693,899 In-Lieu Funds. These funds are used for unfunded or under-funded patients and their post-discharge needs. Funds are used for board and care, skilled nursing facilities, long term care acute care and home health. In addition, funds are also used for medications, equipment, and transportation services.

# Health Professional Education

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Each year, Scripps La Jolla advances health care services through health professional education programs and provides a wide array of educational and training support to its affiliated physicians, nurses, and other care givers, as well as the community at large. To enhance service delivery and treatment practices for San Diego County, Scripps La Jolla invested in health professional education programs<sup>29</sup> during Fiscal Year (FY) 2025. This section highlights some of Scripps La Jolla health professional education activities.

## Health Professional Education

*Definition: This category includes educational programs for physicians, interns and residents, medical students, nurses and nursing students, pastoral care trainees and other health professionals when that education is necessary to retain state license or certification by a board in the individual's health profession specialty.*

### Physician and Medical Students

- Bias, whether conscious or unconscious, affect the way we treat each other, care for our patients, and interact with our community. Scripps La Jolla Hospital established a graduate medical education curriculum to highlight the importance of diversity in health care and medical education and held a grand rounds session focused on eliminating bias titled, "Cognitive Biases in Physician Decisions Making".
- Scripps La Jolla and Scripps Mercy San Diego are part of a countywide, six-hospital trauma system that was created in 1984 to reduce preventable deaths by coordinating the care of patients with the most severe and life-threatening injuries. As a level 1 Trauma Center Scripps Memorial Hospital La Jolla offers physician medical education and trauma physician training in addition to trauma research. The program offered exceptional training opportunities to various residency and fellowship programs across San Diego. Residents and fellows have the chance to expand their skills through firsthand experience and receive valuable mentorship from attending physicians, contributing to their professional growth and development.
- The residency program at Naval Medical Center San Diego (NMCS D) has been integrated with Scripps for more than 30 years and general surgery residents from NMCS D complete rotations in trauma at Scripps Memorial Hospital La Jolla.

## **Pharmacy**

- The 2025 Cal Hospital Compare Opioid Honor Roll awarded Scripps hospitals superior performance. The goal of the program is increased access to addiction treatment for hospitalized patients and reduction of opioid-related fatalities.
- Scripps La Jolla pharmacists served as preceptors, mentoring pharmacy students through approximately 19 clinical rotations over a span of 114 weeks. This program provided students with practical experience, mentorship, and real-world application of their knowledge, reflecting Scripps dedication to fostering future pharmacists' professional growth.
- Scripps La Jolla pharmacists served as preceptors for three PGY-1 pharmacy and two PGY-2 residents, providing them with a year-long training experience. This program offers comprehensive education in clinical pharmacy, research, and patient care. This commitment reflects Scripps dedication to developing skilled pharmacy professionals and advancing the pharmacy field.

## **Nursing Education**

- Scripps La Jolla Hospital provided nursing students with diverse clinical experiences in various specialized departments, including radiation oncology, cardiac treatment, ICU, labor and delivery, emergency, and more, preparing them for successful nursing careers.
- Scripps La Jolla provided preceptorships for 189 nursing students in clinical and leadership experiences in most clinic areas for a total of 23,371 preceptorship hours. Under this model, students work on a one-to-one basis with a staff nurse, nurse manager, advance practice nurse, and/or nurse educator. Preceptorships do involve a one-to-one assignment with a nurse and include approximately 100-180 hours of supervision per preceptorship.

## **Medical Student Training**

- Scripps La Jolla offers clinical rotations for medical students. All rotations are four weeks in duration and provide medical students with an opportunity to work as an active member of the medical team, attending teaching rounds and conferences, taking patient histories, and assisting with various procedures.

## **Other Health Professional Education**

- Scripps La Jolla Hospital supported clinical instruction and practice affiliations for 103 allied health (non-nursing students) with a total of 25,226 preceptorship hours. These students collectively completed a remarkable total of preceptorship hours, gaining invaluable hands-on experience and mentorship in various allied health fields. This accomplishment underscores Scripps commitment to advancing health care education and fostering the development of future allied health professionals.

# Health Research

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*Definition: research is the study or investigation to generate generalizable knowledge made available to the public. Research includes the communication of findings and observations, including publication in a journal. Internally funded research and research funded by tax-exempt, or government entities are eligible for reporting.*

Research is central to Scripps' mission to provide the best care to patients, with many promising new treatments, beginning in clinical trials. Clinical and community research plays a vital role in improving the community's overall health by developing new and innovative treatments.

**The La Jolla Trauma Research Team** is dedicated to advancing trauma education, community outreach, physician training, and research. In Fiscal Year (FY) 25, the team conducted a wide range of studies addressing critical issues in trauma care, treatment, and outcomes—many of which reflect Scripps' commitment to meeting community-specific health needs. Research topics included adolescent trauma outcomes, simulated driving ability and mild traumatic brain injury, elderly pelvic fracture bleeding and hemorrhage control interventions, alcohol use and polypharmacy in elderly trauma patients, pediatric injury and violence-prevention initiatives, and evaluation of trauma activation criteria and care processes. Collectively, these studies underscore the department's commitment to evidence-based practice, interdisciplinary collaboration, and the dissemination of research that advances trauma care across our community.

# Cash, Grant & In-Kind Contributions

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*Definition: Funds and in-kind services donated to community groups and nonprofit organizations.*

**Greater La Jolla Meals on Wheels Program.** Scripps La Jolla supported the Greater La Jolla Meals on Wheels program by providing office space to enhance its efforts in delivering nutritious meals to seniors, homebound individuals, and people with disabilities in the La Jolla community, serving 5,381 individuals.

# Fostering Volunteerism

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In addition to the financial community benefit contributions made during Fiscal Year (FY) 2025, Scripps La Jolla employees and affiliated physicians donated their personal time volunteering to support Scripps sponsored community benefit programs. With close to 47 volunteer hours, it is estimated that the dollar value associated with this volunteer labor is \$3,259.53<sup>28</sup>.

# Scripps Memorial Hospital La Jolla

## 2026 Community Benefit Plan, Fiscal Year (FY) 2026

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The previous section highlighted Scripps Memorial Hospital La Jolla accomplishments for Fiscal Year (FY) 2025. This section highlights the overall community benefit goals and objectives and the hospital's strategies to support community health during Fiscal Year (FY) 2026 (October 2025 to September 2026).

### Fiscal Year (FY) 2026 Community Benefit Goals & Objectives

Scripps La Jolla Hospital programs will make an impact on the health status of the community through community health improvement programs, health professional education, and health research.

#### **Access to Care (Community Outreach)**

- Provide financial assistance through free and discounted care for health care services, for persons who are uninsured or underinsured and ensure access to emergency and trauma services for all.
- Continue to coordinate quarterly blood drives in collaboration with the American Red Cross at Scripps La Jolla Hospital.
- Offer community-based support groups and educational classes on diverse topics, including cancer, diabetes, fall prevention, and more.

#### **Aging Care and Support**

- Continue fall prevention workshops for seniors, including risk assessments and education on maintaining safety.

#### **Cancer Outreach, Education and Support**

- Collaborate with the Rehabilitation Department to support individuals with lymphedema and participate in breast health education and awareness events.

#### **Cardiovascular Disease and Stroke**

- Partner with organizations like the American Heart Association and Rady Children's Hospital to promote cardiovascular and stroke health through education on heart health, stroke recognition, and emergency response.
- Offer comprehensive programs across San Diego County to reduce heart attack and stroke risks by educating on heart health, BE-FAST stroke recognition, and emergency response.

## **Diabetes Support Services**

- Provide equitable diabetes education and self-management resources, particularly for underserved communities.

## **Maternal Child Health Education**

- Deliver comprehensive prenatal and breastfeeding education programs, grandparenting and pelvic floor classes, and car seat safety instruction.

## **Unintentional Injury and Violence**

- Offer safety programs targeting fall prevention for older adults, “Stop the Bleed” training, and car seat, bike and skateboard safety to promote safe practices and reduce accidents.
- Collaborate with local agencies like the San Diego Police Department, Parks and Recreation, the District Attorney's Office, and Discover Pacific Beach to offer educational classes for the Beach Area Community.

## **Health Professional Education**

- Support nursing internships, clinical rotations, and externships, providing preceptor experiences across diverse nursing roles and allied health fields such as OT, PT, respiratory care, and more.



# Section 6

## Scripps Memorial Hospital Encinitas

# About Scripps Memorial Hospital Encinitas

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Scripps Memorial Hospital Encinitas has served North County's coastal communities since 1978. Located along the coast of San Diego's North County, Scripps Memorial Hospital Encinitas provides health care services for 38 percent of the inpatient population living in the hospital's North County West service area. Today the hospital has 179 licensed beds and 1,723 employees. Within its service area, Scripps Encinitas cares for 46 percent of Medicare patients, 28 percent of Medi-Cal patients, 32 percent of commercially insured patients, and 30 percent of patients with other payment sources, including self-pay and charity care. Scripps Encinitas provides a full range of clinical and surgical services, including but not limited to 24-hour emergency services, primary care, intensive care, cancer/oncology, orthopedics, neurology, urology, ophthalmology, a level II neonatal intensive care unit, obstetrics, gynecology and maternal and infant health services, accredited stroke care outpatient rehabilitation services, and an ambulatory surgery center.



Scripps Memorial Hospital Encinitas

# Scripps Memorial Hospital Encinitas

## 2026 Community Benefit Report

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The Scripps Memorial Hospital Encinitas Community 2026 Benefit Report is an account of the hospital's dedication and commitment to improving the community's health, detailing programs that have provided benefit over and above standard health care practices in Fiscal Year (FY) 2025 (October 2024 to September 2025).

### Community Benefit Contribution

During Fiscal Year (FY) 2025, Scripps Encinitas devoted **\$81,657,060** to community benefit services. The programs offered by Scripps Encinitas emphasize community-based prevention efforts and use effective approaches to reach residents at greater risk for health problems.

#### Community Benefit Services

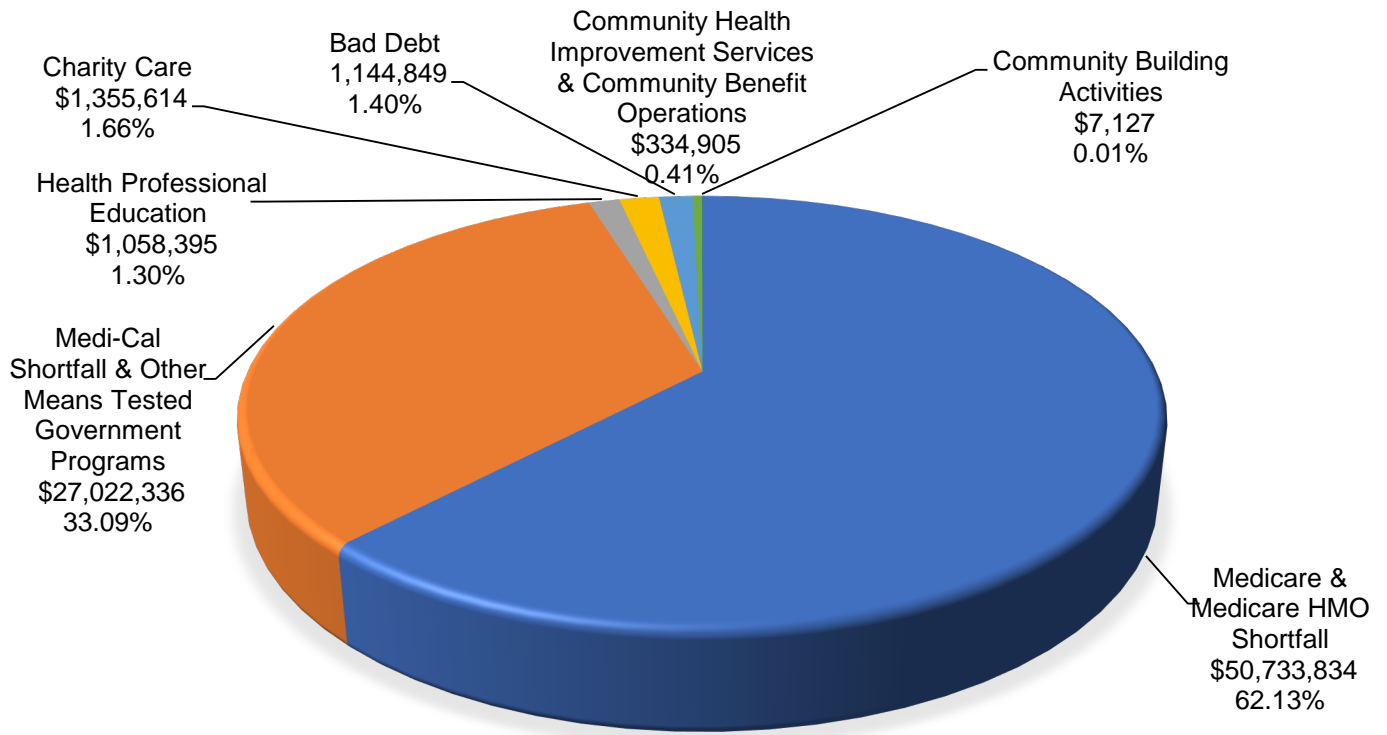
Community Benefit Services	
Bad Debt	\$1,144,849
Charity Care	\$1,355,614
Community Building Activities	\$7,127
Community Health Improvement Services & Community Benefit Operations (Includes In Lieu of Funds)	\$334,905
Health Professional Education	\$1,058,395
Medi-Cal Shortfall & Other Means Tested Government Programs	\$27,022,336
Medicare & Medicare HMO Shortfall	\$50,733,834
<b>Total Community Benefit Financial Contribution</b>	<b>\$81,657,060</b>

Refer to Figure 6.1 presented on the following page for a graphic representation of Fiscal Year (FY) 2025.

Figure 6.1

## Fiscal Year (FY) 2025

### Scripps Memorial Hospital Encinitas Community Benefit Services Distribution, \$81,657,060



Community Benefit Services (provider fee impact)	Bad Debt	Charity Care	Community Building Activities	Community Health Improvement Services & Community Benefit Operations	Health Professional Education	Medi-Cal Shortfall & Other Means Tested Government Programs	Medicare & Medicare HMO Shortfall	Total
Before Provider Fee	\$1,144,849	\$1,355,614	\$7,127	\$334,905	\$1,058,395	\$28,970,132	\$50,733,834	<b>\$83,604,856</b>
Provider Fee						(\$1,947,796)		<b>(\$1,947,796)</b>
Net After Provider Fee	\$1,144,849	\$1,355,614	\$7,127	\$334,905	\$1,058,395	\$27,022,336	\$50,733,834	<b>\$81,657,060</b>

### Community Benefit Services

Community Benefit Services are programs and services designed to improve health in communities. IRS Form 990, Schedule H instructions define community benefit as activities or programs that respond to community health needs and seek to achieve one or more of the following objectives: improving access to health services, enabling low-income individuals to afford health care, enhancing public health, advancing generalizable knowledge, educating health care professionals, and relieving the government’s burden to improve health. Medicare Shortfall, Bad Debt, and certain Community Building Activities are reportable under Schedule H guidelines but are not included in the IRS-defined community benefit total. For the purposes of this report, Scripps includes these categories in its broader calculation of total community benefit to reflect the full scope of resources dedicated to supporting community health.

# Fiscal Year (FY) 25 Scripps Memorial Hospital Encinitas Community Benefit Services Summary List

## Community Health Improvement Services & Community Benefit Operations

Community Benefit Categories	Person Served	Staff Hours	Volunteer Hours	Financial Support*
Community Health Education	663	364	-	\$18,017
Community-Based Clinical Services	86	32	-	\$2,151
Health Care Support Services (Includes In-Lieu of Funds)	-	-	-	\$314,737
<b>Totals Fiscal Year (FY) 2025 Community Health Improvement Services &amp; Community Benefit Operations</b>	<b>749</b>	<b>396</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>\$334,905</b>

## Health Professional Education

Community Benefit Categories	Person Served	Staff Hours	Volunteer Hours	Financial Support*
Nurses/Nursing Students/Allied Health	-	10,123	-	\$1,058,395
<b>Total Fiscal Year (FY) 2025 Health Professional Education</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>10,123</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>\$1,058,395</b>

## Uncompensated Care

Community Benefit Categories	Person Served	Staff Hours	Volunteer Hours	Financial Support*
Charity Care	-	-	-	\$1,355,614
Bad Debt**	-	-	-	\$1,144,849
Medicare and Medicare HMO Shortfall**	-	-	-	\$50,733,834
Medi-Cal Shortfall & Other Means Tested Government Programs***	-	-	-	\$27,022,336
<b>Total Fiscal Year (FY) 2025 Uncompensated Care</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>\$80,256,633</b>

## Community Building Activities\*\*

Community Benefit Categories	Person Served	Staff Hours	Volunteer Hours	Financial Support*
<b>Total Fiscal Year (FY) 2025 Community Building</b>	<b>802</b>	<b>56</b>	<b>12</b>	<b>\$7,127</b>

<b>Totals Fiscal Year (FY) 2025 Scripps Memorial Hospital Encinitas</b>	<b>1,551</b>	<b>10,575</b>	<b>12</b>	<b>\$81,657,060</b>
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\* "Financial Support" reflects the cost (labor, supplies, overhead, etc.) associated with the program/service less direct revenue. This figure does not include a calculation for physician and staff volunteer hours. In some instances, an entire community benefit program cost center has been divided between several initiatives.

\*\*Medicare Shortfall, Bad Debt, and Community Building Activities are reportable under IRS instructions but are excluded from the community benefit totals in Form 990, Schedule H. However, Scripps includes these categories in our overall community benefit calculations within the report.

\*\*\* Hospital provider fee was reported as offsetting revenue from Medi-Cal.

# Community Health Improvement Services & Community Benefit Operations

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Community Health Improvement Services are activities conducted to improve community health, available to the public, which address a community need. These include prevention and wellness programs such as screenings, health education, support groups and health fairs which are supported by operational funds, grants, in-kind donations, and philanthropy. These programs are designed to raise public awareness and understanding of, and access to, identified community health needs. This investment includes In-Lieu of Funds which provides critical support for vulnerable populations, covering essential post-discharge needs for unfunded or underfunded patients. These funds help ensure access to necessary health care support services beyond hospital care.

Scripps Community Benefit Operations include direct and indirect costs associated with assigned staff, community health needs assessments, community benefit planning, tracking, reporting, evaluating and operations. Scripps counts staff costs for managing or overseeing community benefit program activities that are not included in other categories of community benefit.

During Fiscal Year (FY) 2025, Scripps Encinitas invested in Community Health Improvement Services and Community Benefit Operations, with notable achievements outlined by IRS categories and detailed further in Section 4.

## Community Health Education

*Definition: Community health education includes lectures, presentations, other group programs and activities, and development and dissemination of materials that focus on prevention and health behaviors. Education activities can be provided in multiple formats, including resources made available to communities through support groups and through initiatives with a self-help emphasis.*

**Stroke and Brain Injury Support and Education Group.** 250 individuals participated in the support groups, designed for brain injury survivors, caregivers, and their loved ones.

**Stroke Program Community Outreach.** The Scripps Health Stroke Team actively participated in community outreach by conducting stroke risk assessments. For more information see Section 10.

**Stroke Programs and Education Events.** Scripps Health Stroke Programs and Education Events are dedicated to reducing strokes in San Diego County through community outreach efforts. For more information see Section 10.

## Classes:

- **Balance and Gait** – A gentle exercise class focused on balance, stability, and gait.
- **Neuro Fit for Parkinson’s** – Improves physical and mental health through balance and strength, open to the community.
- **Neuro Fit** – Designed to improve neuromuscular strength, endurance, proprioception, and balance, open to the community.
- **Restorative Yoga & Sound Healing** – A 60-minute restorative yoga and sound therapy class promoting relaxation and rejuvenation through instruments like singing bowls, chimes, drums, and gongs. Served more than 365 community members, supporting cancer survivors and caregivers.
- **Scripps Encinitas Healing Art Classes** – Classes for brain injury survivors to develop art skills and leisure interests for self-expression; open to the community, serving 106 participants.

## Support Groups:

- **Spinal Cord Injury Support Group** – Monthly support group facilitated by spinal cord injury survivors and featuring physician speakers; attended by more than 180 patients and family members.
- **BrainMasters Improvisational Speaking Group for Stroke and Brain Injury Survivors** – Supports self-care and coping strategies for survivors; served 124 attendees in Fiscal Year (FY) 2025.
- **Scripps Encinitas Bereavement Support Group** – Bi-monthly group led by a licensed professional to help individuals cope with grief and loss; held 24 meetings and served 137 participants.
- **Scripps Encinitas Healing Art Support Group** – Provides additional support for brain injury survivors alongside art classes, fostering self-expression and social connection.

**Prescription Drug Take Back Day.** Too often, unused prescription drugs find their way into the wrong hands. That's dangerous and often tragic. In 2024, 541 people died from overdoses in San Diego County as can be referenced in an [Overdose Surveillance Dashboard](#) that pulls together data from across the county. Scripps Encinitas partnered with the San Diego DEA and Sheriff's Department to support the annual Prescription Take Back Day providing an easy way for folks to clean out their medicine cabinets and safely and anonymously turn in expired or unused prescription drugs.

Scripps Encinitas is one of many county-wide locations where folks can safely dispose of their expired or unused prescription drugs (human and pet), keeping them out of unintended hands.

**Drug Take-Back Kiosks.** Scripps offers year-round access to safe, free disposal of unused and outdated prescription medications. Drug Take-Back Kiosks are available adjacent to the on-site ambulatory pharmacy at Scripps Encinitas. This program helped reduce the use of opioids and helped prevent patients from becoming dependent on potent pain reducing medications. In Fiscal Year (FY) 25, the DEA National Prescription Take Back Day drop off was hosted at Scripps Memorial Hospital Encinitas

**Scripps Encinitas Standing Stronger Fall Prevention Workshop Three-Part Series.** Scripps Encinitas hosted a Standing Stronger Fall Prevention Workshop. Interdisciplinary teams from Geriatrics, Pharmacy, Physical and Occupational Therapy, Stroke, and Community Partners provided 45 older adults and caregivers with practical tools and assessments to help prevent falls and maintain independence.

**Workshop Highlights included:**

- “*Stay in the Driver’s Seat – Tips from a Driving Instructor*” on visual, cognitive, and physical factors affecting safe driving, DMV reporting requirements, and adaptive evaluations
- Physical therapy demonstrations on fall risk, gait assessment, and balance exercises
- Pharmacy presentations and medication reviews focused on fall risk reduction strategies
- Stroke team education with blood pressure and stroke risk assessments
- Balance and gait exercise sessions led by a Shiley Exercise Physiologist
- Community resources from Aging & Independence Services and local partners

**Prostatectomy Pre-rehab Pelvic Health and Wellness.** The virtual program offered monthly classes for men to provide pre-operative education for those undergoing prostatectomy surgery. Attendees learn about the anatomy, function, and role of the pelvic floor muscles as they relate to urinary control, bladder function and recovery after surgery. The program served 36 individuals who attended the class offering this year.

## Community-Based Clinical Services

*Definition: These are clinical services provided on a periodic basis or as special events in the community. They include screenings, one-time or occasionally held clinics, clinics for underinsured and uninsured persons and mobile units.*

**American Red Cross Blood Drives.** Scripps Encinitas organized blood drives in partnership with the American Red Cross, offering community members and hospital staff the opportunity to donate blood and address the ongoing demand for this critical resource, especially during emergencies. There were 74 units of blood collected from 86 registered donors. This collection has the potential to save 222 lives.

## Health Care Support Services

*Definition: Health care and social support services are provided by the hospital to enhance access to and quality of health care services for vulnerable populations, especially persons living in poverty.*

**In Lieu of Funds.** One way Scripps Encinitas Hospital provides care to some of our most needy patients is through In-Lieu of Funds. In Fiscal Year (FY) 25, Scripps Encinitas provided \$314,737 in In-Lieu of Funds. These funds are used for unfunded or under-funded patients and their post-discharge needs. Funds are

used for board and care, skilled nursing facilities, long term care acute care and home health. In addition, funds are also used for medications, equipment, and transportation services.

## Health Professional Education

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Each year, Scripps Encinitas allocates resources to advance health care services through health professional education programs and provides a wide array of educational and training support to its affiliated physicians, nurses, and other care givers, as well as the community at large. To enhance service delivery and treatment practices for San Diego County, Scripps Encinitas invested in health professional education<sup>29</sup> programs during Fiscal Year (FY) 2025. This section highlights some of Scripps Encinitas health professional education activities.

### Health Professional Education

*Definition: This category includes educational programs for physicians, interns and residents, medical students, nurses and nursing students, pastoral care trainees and other health professionals when that education is necessary to retain state license or certification by a board in the individual's health profession specialty.*

#### Physician and Medical Students

- Scripps Encinitas Hospital's Emergency Medicine Physicians dedicated 15 hours in Fiscal Year (FY) 25 to develop content and educate more than 120 Paramedics and EMTs. Various hospital and pre-hospital topics were covered in an effort to improve pre-hospital quality of care and handoff.

#### Nursing Education

- Scripps Encinitas was a rotation site for nursing students in most clinical areas of the hospital. Scripps Encinitas provided preceptorships for 125 nursing students in clinical and leadership experiences in most clinic areas for a total of 16,271 preceptorship hours. Under this model, students work on a one-to-one basis with a staff nurse, nurse manager, advance practice nurse, and/or nurse educator. Preceptorships do involve a one-to-one assignment with a nurse and include approximately 100-180 hours of supervision per preceptorship.

#### Medical Student Training

- Scripps Encinitas is a rotation site for medical students in most specialties offered at the hospital with the largest number in Medicine and Surgery rotations. This accomplishment reflects Scripps Encinitas

Hospital's commitment to medical education and the development of future health care professionals by providing a rich and varied clinical environment for medical students to enhance their knowledge and clinical skills across a wide spectrum of medical disciplines.

### **Other Health Professional Education**

- Scripps Encinitas supported clinical instruction and practice affiliations for 51 allied health (non-nursing students) with a total of 17,472 preceptorship hours. These students collectively completed a remarkable total of preceptorship hours, gaining invaluable hands-on experience and mentorship in various allied health fields. This accomplishment underscores Scripps commitment to advancing health care education and fostering the development of future allied health professionals.

# Health Research

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*Definition: research is the study or investigation to generate generalizable knowledge made available to the public. Research includes the communication of findings and observations, including publication in a journal. Internally funded research and research funded by tax-exempt, or government entities are eligible for reporting.*

Research is central to Scripps' mission to provide the best care to patients, with many promising new treatments, beginning in clinical trials. Clinical and community research plays a vital role in improving the community's overall health by developing new and innovative treatments. See Section 4 for more information.

# Community Building Activities

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*Definition: Activities that support community assets by offering the expertise and resources of the hospital organization. These activities may address the root causes of health problems or the determinants of health, such as education, homelessness, poverty, and the environment.*

## Workforce Development

Scripps Encinitas hosted the young leaders in health care program for local high school students during the 2024-2025 school year. The program included nine meetings with more than 802 participants in total, covering various health-related topics and presentations. After completing this initiative, students can apply for the High School Exploration summer internship program.

# Fostering Volunteerism

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In addition to the financial community benefit contributions made during Fiscal Year (FY) 2025, Scripps Encinitas employees and affiliated physicians donated their personal time volunteering to support Scripps sponsored community benefit programs. With close to 12 volunteer hours, it is estimated that the dollar value associated with this volunteer labor is \$832.22<sup>28</sup>.

# Scripps Memorial Hospital Encinitas

## 2026 Community Benefit Plan, Fiscal Year (FY) 2026

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The previous section highlighted Scripps Hospital Encinitas accomplishments for Fiscal Year (FY) 2025. This section highlights the overall community benefit goals and objectives and the hospital's strategies to support community health during Fiscal Year (FY) 2026 (October 2025 to September 2026).

### Fiscal Year (FY) 2026 Community Benefit Goals & Objectives

Scripps Encinitas programs will make an impact on the health status of the community through community health improvement programs, health professional education, and health research.

#### **Access to Care (Community Outreach)**

- Provide financial assistance through free and discounted care for health care services, for persons who are uninsured or underinsured and ensure access to emergency and trauma services for all.
- Continue to coordinate quarterly blood drives in collaboration with the American Red Cross.

#### **Community Health Education**

- Offer a variety of in-person and online classes for health improvement, supporting survivors, caregivers, and their families.

#### **Cardiovascular Disease and Stroke**

- Promote heart health and support stroke and brain injury survivors through the Brain Masters group, offering resources and education.

#### **Health Professional Education**

- Support local nursing and allied health programs by providing clinical experiences and partnering with high schools to encourage health care careers, including the Young Leaders in Health Care program for student mentorship and leadership projects.

# Section 7

# Scripps Mercy Hospital

# About Scripps Mercy Hospital

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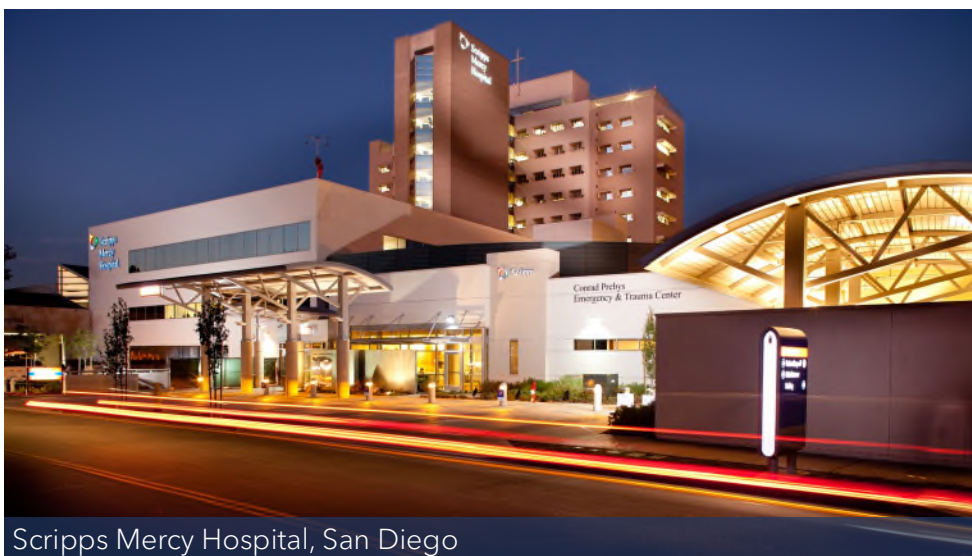
Scripps Mercy Hospital consists of two campuses in San Diego and Chula Vista that operate under a shared license and report all utilization and financial data as a single entity to the Department of Health Care Access and Information (HCAI). Together, these combined locations provide health care services for 24 percent of the inpatient population residing within the hospital's service areas. Today, Scripps Mercy campuses collectively have 655 licensed beds and employ more than 4,744 people.

Within the Scripps Mercy combined service area, the campuses care for 29 percent of Medicare patients, 27 percent of Medi-Cal patients, 12 percent of commercially insured patients, and 16 percent of patients with alternative payment sources, including self-pay, CMS, or charity care.

## San Diego Campus

Scripps Mercy Hospital marks 135 years of service to the San Diego community this year. Established in 1890 by Mother Mary Michael Cummings and the Sisters of Mercy, the hospital began as St. Joseph's Dispensary — a five-bed facility located above a men's clothing store at Sixth Avenue and H Street (now Market Street) — with initial funds totaling \$50. The dispensary treated its first patient, a malaria case, within hours of opening. Over time, the facility underwent several name changes and relocations, ultimately becoming Scripps Mercy Hospital, with campuses in San Diego and Chula Vista. Throughout its history, Scripps Mercy has remained committed to its founding mission of delivering compassionate, high-quality health care to all individuals, with particular dedication to those most in need and is also San Diego's only Catholic hospital. Located in Central San Diego County, Scripps Mercy Hospital San Diego has 482 licensed beds and employs 3,451 staff members.

As a teaching hospital, Scripps Mercy Hospital San Diego serves as a primary site for the clinical education of residents each year. These hospitals offer a comprehensive range of acute medical care services, including 24-hour emergency room services, intensive care, cancer care, cardiac treatment, behavioral health (mental health), endoscopy, neurology, nuclear medicine, orthopedics, radiology, urology, rehabilitation, respiratory care, outpatient physical rehabilitation, minimally invasive robotic surgery, and childbirth services (including a level II neonatal intensive care unit), plus a variety of support services for low-income patients. As a Level 1 trauma center in the County of San Diego, Scripps Mercy Hospital San Diego makes up a critical part of the county's emergency service network with a dedicated trauma floor, an intensive care unit (ICU), telemetry and medical/surgical bed capability. The care team collaborates with specialists every step of the way, from the scene of the injury through hospital care, discharge, follow-up care and rehabilitation.



## Chula Vista Campus

Located less than 10 miles from the US-Mexico border, the Chula Vista campus of Scripps Mercy serves the cities of Chula Vista, Otay Mesa, National City, Imperial Beach, Bonita and beyond. Scripps Mercy Hospital Chula Vista has 173 licensed care beds and employs 1,293 staff members. It became a Scripps Mercy Hospital campus in October 2004 and together with the Scripps Mercy Hospital in Hillcrest, provides care for San Diego's Metro and South Bay communities. Scripps Mercy Hospital Chula Vista provides a wide range of acute clinical care services including, but not limited to, 24-hour emergency room, cancer care services, stroke care, rehabilitation (physical, occupational and speech therapies), inpatient and outpatient radiology, neurology, and a full range of surgical services (orthopedic, thoracic/vascular, urology and general surgery).



# Scripps Mercy Hospital

## 2026 Community Benefit Report

The Scripps Mercy Hospital Community Benefit 2026 Report is an account of the hospital’s dedication and commitment to improving the health of the community, detailing the programs that have provided benefit over and above standard health care practices in Fiscal Year (FY) 2025 (October 2024 to September 2025).

### Community Benefit Contribution

During Fiscal Year (FY) 2025, Scripps Mercy Hospital (San Diego Campus, Chula Vista Campus) devoted \$246,906,203 to community benefit services. The programs offered by Scripps Mercy emphasize community-based prevention efforts and use effective approaches to reach residents at greatest risk for health problems.

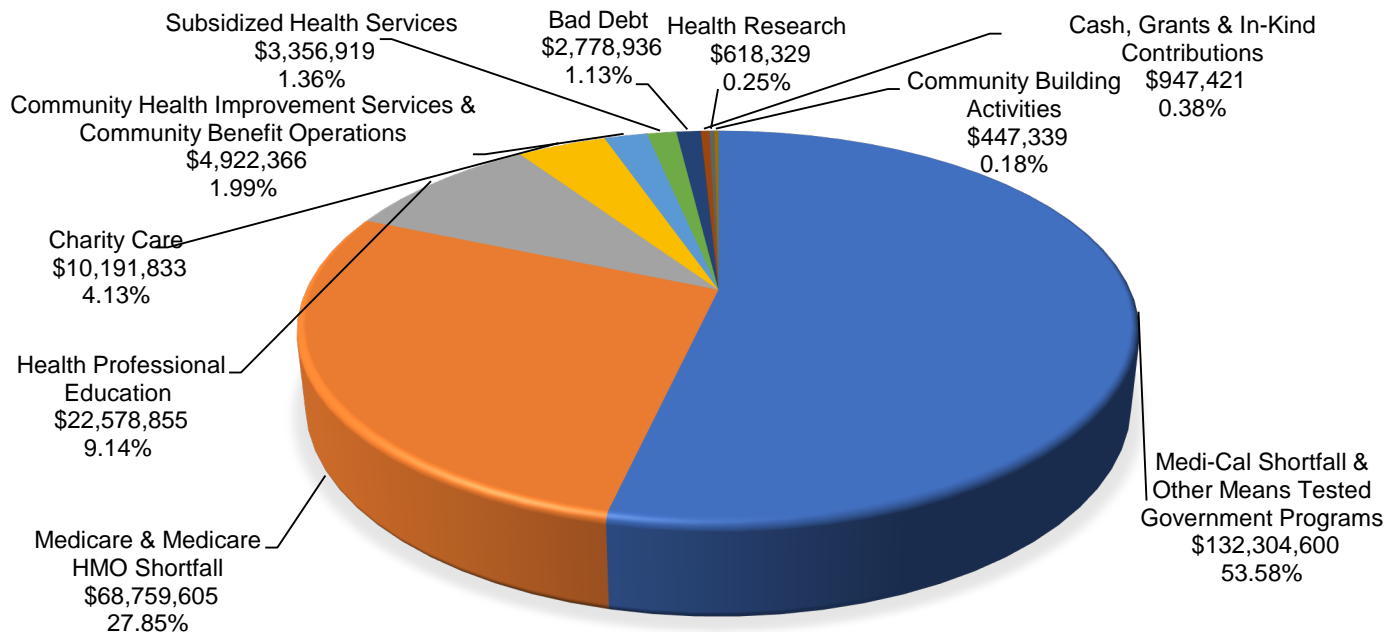
#### Community Benefit Services (combined San Diego and Chula Vista)<sup>37</sup>

Community Benefit Services	
Bad Debt	\$2,778,936
Cash, Grants and In-Kind Contributions	\$947,421
Charity Care	\$10,191,833
Community Building Activities	\$447,339
Community Health Improvement Services & Community Benefit Operations (Includes In Lieu of Funds)	\$4,922,366
Health Professional Education	\$22,578,855
Health Research	\$618,329
Medi-Cal Shortfall & Other Means Tested Government Programs	\$132,304,600
Medicare & Medicare HMO Shortfall	\$68,759,605
Subsidized Health Services	\$3,356,919
<b>Total Community Benefit Financial Contribution</b>	<b>\$246,906,203</b>

Refer to Figure 7.1 presented on the following page for a graphic representation of Fiscal Year (FY) 25.

Figure 7.1

## Scripps Mercy Hospital<sup>37</sup> Community Benefit Distribution, \$246,906,203 Fiscal Year (FY) 2025



Community Benefit Services (provider fee impact)	Bad Debt	Cash, Grants & In Kind	Charity Care	Community Building Activities	Community Health Improvement Services & operations	Health Professional Education	Health Research	Medi-Cal <sup>33</sup> & Other Means Tested Government Programs (Shortfall)	Medicare & Medicare HMO (Shortfall)	Subsidized Health Services	Total
Before Provider Fee	\$2,778,936	\$947,421	\$10,191,833	\$447,339	\$4,922,366	\$22,578,855	\$618,329	\$161,080,001	\$68,759,605	\$3,356,919	<b>\$275,681,604</b>
Provider Fee								(\$28,775,401)			<b>(\$28,775,401)</b>
Net After Provider Fee	\$2,778,936	\$947,421	\$10,191,833	\$447,339	\$4,922,366	\$22,578,855	\$618,329	\$132,304,600	\$68,759,605	\$3,356,919	<b>\$246,906,203</b>

### Community Benefit Services

Community Benefit Services are programs and services designed to improve health in communities. IRS Form 990, Schedule H instructions define community benefit as activities or programs that respond to community health needs and seek to achieve one or more of the following objectives: improving access to health services, enabling low-income individuals to afford health care, enhancing public health, advancing generalizable knowledge, educating health care professionals, and relieving the government’s burden to improve health. Medicare Shortfall, Bad Debt, and certain Community Building Activities are reportable under Schedule H guidelines but are not included in the IRS-defined community benefit total. For the purposes of this report, Scripps includes these categories in its broader calculation of total community benefit to reflect the full scope of resources dedicated to supporting community health.

# Fiscal Year (FY) 25 Scripps Mercy Hospital Community Benefit Services Summary List

## Community Health Improvement Services & Community Benefit Operations

Community Benefit Categories	Person Served	Staff Hours	Volunteer Hours	Financial Support*
Community Health Education	86,927	36,631	-	\$456,197
Community-Based Clinical Services	382	2,906	72	\$121,155
Health Care Support Services (Includes In-Lieu of Funds)	5,495	3,351	-	\$4,141,874
Social and Environmental Improvement Activities	1,074	202	-	\$22,565
Community Benefit Operations	-	-	-	\$180,575
<b>Total Fiscal Year (FY) 2025 Community Health Improvement Services</b>	<b>93,878</b>	<b>43,090</b>	<b>72</b>	<b>\$4,922,366</b>

## Health Professional Education

Community Benefit Categories	Person Served	Staff Hours	Volunteer Hours	Financial Support*
Physicians/Medical Students (GME)	-	272,584	-	\$16,912,700
Physicians/Medical Students	-	18,322	-	\$1,428,442
Nurses/Nursing Students/Allied Health	-	28,591	-	\$3,015,853
Other Health Professions Education	40,653	7,341	-	\$1,221,860
<b>Total Fiscal Year (FY) 2025 Health Professional Education</b>	<b>40,653</b>	<b>326,838</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>\$22,578,855</b>

## Cash, Grants, and In-Kind Contributions

Community Benefit Categories	Person Served	Staff Hours	Volunteer Hours	Financial Support*
Cash Donations	-	-	-	\$344,200
Grants	-	-	-	\$599,521
In-Kind Donations	-	-	-	\$3,700
<b>Total Fiscal Year (FY) 2025 Cash and In-Kind Contributions</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>\$947,421</b>

## Uncompensated Care

Community Benefit Categories	Person Served	Staff Hours	Volunteer Hours	Financial Support*
Charity Care	-	-	-	\$10,191,833
Bad Debt**	-	-	-	\$2,778,936
Medicare and Medicare HMO Shortfall**	-	-	-	\$68,759,605
Medi-Cal Shortfall & Other Means Tested Government Programs***	-	-	-	\$132,304,600
<b>Total Fiscal Year (FY) 2025 Uncompensated Care</b>	-	-	-	<b>\$214,034,974</b>

## Subsidized Health Services

Community Benefit Categories	Person Served	Staff Hours	Volunteer Hours	Financial Support*
<b>Total Fiscal Year (FY) 2025 Subsidized Health Services</b>	-	-	-	<b>\$3,356,919</b>

## Health Research

Community Benefit Categories	Person Served	Staff Hours	Volunteer Hours	Financial Support*
Clinical Research	-	4,396	-	\$419,130
Community Health Research	99	1,840	-	\$199,199
<b>Total Fiscal Year (FY) 2025 Health Research</b>	<b>99</b>	<b>6,236</b>	-	<b>\$618,329</b>

## Community Building Activities\*\*

Community Benefit Categories	Person Served	Staff Hours	Volunteer Hours	Financial Support*
Physical Improvements and Housing	1,500	336	-	\$47,432
Economic Development	-	150	-	\$19,463
Coalition Building	600	1,821	-	\$63,175
Workforce Development	2,183	6,621	-	\$317,269
<b>Total Fiscal Year (FY) 2025 Community Building Activities</b>	<b>4,283</b>	<b>8,928</b>	-	<b>\$447,339</b>

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<b>Total Fiscal Year (FY) 2025 Scripps Mercy Hospital (San Diego and Chula Vista Campuses)</b>	<b>138,913</b>	<b>385,092</b>	<b>72</b>	<b>\$246,906,203</b>
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\* "Financial Support" reflects the cost (labor, supplies, overhead, etc.) associated with the program/service less direct revenue. This figure does not include a calculation for physician and staff volunteer hours. In some instances, an entire community benefit program cost center has been divided between several initiatives.

\*\*Medicare Shortfall, Bad Debt, and Community Building Activities are reportable under IRS instructions but are excluded from the community benefit totals in Form 990, Schedule H. However, Scripps includes these categories in our overall community benefit calculations within the report.

\*\*\* Hospital provider fee was reported as offsetting revenue from Medi-Cal.

# Scripps Mercy Hospital San Diego Community Health Improvement Services & Community Benefit Operations

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Community Health Improvement Services are activities conducted to improve community health, available to the public, which address a community need. These include prevention and wellness programs such as screenings, health education, support groups and health fairs which are supported by operational funds, grants, in-kind donations, and philanthropy. These programs are designed to raise public awareness and understanding of, and access to, identified community health needs. This investment includes In-Lieu of Funds which provides critical support for vulnerable populations, covering essential post-discharge needs for unfunded or underfunded patients. These funds help ensure access to necessary health care support services beyond hospital care.

Scripps Community Benefit Operations include direct and indirect costs associated with assigned staff, community health needs assessments, community benefit planning, tracking, reporting, evaluating and operations. Scripps counts staff costs for managing or overseeing community benefit program activities that are not included in other categories of community benefit.

During Fiscal Year (FY) 2025, Scripps Mercy Hospital programs (San Diego Campus and Chula Vista Campus) invested in Community Health Improvement Services and Community Benefit Operations, with notable achievements outlined by IRS categories and detailed further in Section 4.

## Community Health Education

*Definition: Community health education includes lectures, presentations, other group programs and activities, and development and dissemination of materials that focus on prevention and health behaviors. Education activities can be provided in multiple formats, including resources made available to communities through support groups and through initiatives with a self-help emphasis.*

**Mental Health Outreach Services, A-Visions Vocational Training Program.** Established in 2002, the A-Visions Vocational Training Program continues to demonstrate growth and measurable improvements in patient functioning. The program currently employs eight paid casual employees.

**The Supplement Nutrition Program for Women, Infants and Children (WIC).** During Fiscal Year (FY) 25, WIC provided nutrition services, counseling, and food vouchers to 79,728 vulnerable women and children residing in South and Central San Diego.

**Breast Pumps to Underserved Patients.** The [JEM Project](#) awarded \$25,150 to the Scripps Mercy Postpartum Unit to purchase hospital-grade breast pumps for low-income mothers who would not otherwise have access to this equipment. This funding supports both pre-term and full-term infants by helping mothers maintain adequate breast milk supply after discharge.

**Medication Assisted Treatment (MAT) Appointment Coordination.** Medication-Assisted Treatment (MAT) is a treatment approach for substance use-disorders, particularly opioid addiction, which uses medications in combination with counseling and behavioral therapies. Scripps behavioral health department and Substance Use Disorder Nurses (SUDS) assist in coordinating MAT appointments in the community to remove barriers to the timely identification and treatment of affected patients. In Fiscal Year (FY) 25 there were 4 referrals from the SUDs nurses to the program.

**Drug Take-Back Kiosks.** Year-round drug take-back kiosks are available adjacent to the ambulatory pharmacy at Scripps Mercy. The program provides safe, free disposal of unused and expired prescription medications, helping prevent misuse, opioid dependency, and accidental poisoning.

**Injury Prevention and Education Programs – Trauma Department.** Scripps Mercy Hospital San Diego provides trauma education and injury prevention programs addressing topics such as elderly falls, concussions, sports injuries, and distracted driving. The Injury Prevention and Community Outreach team collaborates with county health and safety coalitions and task forces on issues including behavioral health, homelessness, aging services, violence prevention, highway safety, suicide prevention, and substance use. In total, the department contributed close to 200 hours to these community efforts.

**Child Passenger Safety Workshop.** The Trauma Injury Prevention Team conducted two virtual workshops for more than 20 participants. The sessions covered car seat selection, proper installation techniques, and age-, weight-, and height- and appropriate safety recommendations.

**Older Driver Safety Workshop.** An in-person workshop for older adults focused on maintaining independence while addressing age-related driving risks. Topics included high-risk driving scenarios, safety strategies, and available community resources.

**Saving Lives Through Stop the Bleed Program.** The program conducted 5 Stop the Bleed training sessions, at Scripps Mercy educating 50 individuals on life-saving techniques like direct pressure, wound packing, and tourniquet use. This initiative equips participants to respond effectively to life-threatening bleeding in emergencies.

**Standing Stronger Fall Prevention Workshop Three-Part Series.** Scripps Mercy Hospital San Diego hosted a Standing Stronger Fall Prevention Workshop, serving 18 older adults and caregivers. Interdisciplinary teams from Geriatrics, Pharmacy, Physical and Occupational Therapy, Stroke, and community partners provided participants with practical tools and assessments to help prevent falls and maintain independence.

Workshop highlights included:

- Presentation on top fall prevention tips and the role of medications in fall risk
- Balance & Gait exercise demonstration led by rehabilitation specialists
- Aging and Driving presentation on maintaining safe mobility and independence through functional assessments and early intervention
- Collaboration with San Diego County Aging & Independence Services (AIS) to share free community resources and services

**Spiritual Care and Grief and Loss Support Groups.** Grief and loss support groups are offered twice monthly to support individuals coping with bereavement.

**Stroke Program Community Outreach.** The Scripps Health Stroke Team actively participated in community outreach by conducting stroke risk assessments. For more information see Section 10.

**Stroke Programs and Education Events.** Scripps Health Stroke Programs and Education Events are dedicated to reducing strokes in San Diego County through community outreach efforts. For more information see Section 10.

## Community-Based Clinical Services

*Definition: These are clinical services provided on a periodic basis or as special events in the community. They include screenings, one-time or occasionally held clinics, clinics for underinsured and uninsured persons and mobile units.*

**The Mercy Outreach Surgical Team (MOST).** Scripps Mercy Outreach Surgical Team (MOST) conducted three missions in 2025:

- In October, 62 eye surgeries were performed, and 31 pairs of eyeglasses were provided in Tijuana, Baja California
- In March, 58 plastic, general and urological surgeries were performed in Morelia, Michoacan.
- In September, 68 eye surgeries were performed, and 19 eyeglasses were provided in Mexicali, Baja California.
- Physicians contributed 72 volunteer hours and staff contributed 112 volunteer hours. A total of 238 individuals received care.

**American Red Cross Blood Drives.** Scripps Mercy hosted blood drives collecting 50 units of blood from 57 registered donors. This collection has the potential to save up to 150 lives.

**Influenza Vaccines for Shelter Residents.** Internal Medicine Faculty and Residents administered 68 influenza vaccines at four community-based sites, including Salvation Army Rehabilitation Center, San Diego Rescue Mission, Street Corner Café (First Presbyterian Church), and Rachel’s Women’s Center.

## Health Care Support Services

*Definition: Health care and social support services are provided by the hospital to enhance access to and quality of health care services for vulnerable populations, especially persons living in poverty.*

### **Outpatient Behavioral Health Services: Scripps Mercy & Family Health Centers of San Diego**

**Behavioral Health Partnership.** Since 2016, Scripps Mercy Hospital has partnered with Family Health Centers of San Diego (FHCS) to provide comprehensive outpatient behavioral health services, primarily for Medi-Cal patients. This partnership strengthens the continuum of mental health care by expanding access to community-based services and integrating primary and behavioral health care for patients discharged from inpatient, outpatient, and emergency settings. In Fiscal Year (FY) 25, Scripps Behavioral Health collaborated with Family Health Centers (FHC) to improve patient discharge processes and reduce psychiatric patient readmissions. This partnership aims to enhance patient care and decrease psychiatric recidivism. Of the patients who kept their appointments, 88 were seen, with 7 readmitted within 30 days, while 81 were not. Among 114 patients who missed appointments, 24 were readmitted within 30 days, while 100 were not. The readmission rate was approximately 8% for patients who attended their appointments, compared to about 21% for those who missed them.

**The City of Refuge (CoR) San Diego Recuperative Care Unit Program (RCU).** Scripps partners with City of Refuge San Diego Recuperative Care Shelter (RCS) to offer recuperative care for homeless individuals after hospital discharge, providing them with a safe place to recover and prevent a return to the streets and avoid hospitalization. The RCU served 14 Scripps patients and had a cumulative of 214 hospital days of stay, an average of 15 hospital days of stay, before transitioning to the RCU.

**Father Joes’ (FJV) Recuperative Care Program.** Through a contract, Scripps Mercy Hospital (SMH) secured two monthly beds and served 15 total patients in FJV’s program for eligible patients needing extended recovery, with beds filled by new SMH patients as others transition to permanent housing or shelters. Patients had a cumulative of 241 hospital days of stay, an average of 16 hospital days of stay, before going to RCU.

**Transitions of Care Program (ToC).** In partnership with Family Health Centers of San Diego (FHCS), the Scripps Transitions of Care Program provides follow-up support for high-risk patients after hospital discharge. In Fiscal Year (FY) 25, Scripps expanded access to addiction recovery beds and completed 1,245 follow-up mental health and primary care visits through the program. Of these, 392 appointments were completed; 319 patients were lost to follow-up; 221 established care elsewhere; 165 required a higher level of care; 136 declined services; 8 missed appointments; and 4 patients were deceased.

**Scripps Advanced Care Clinic** was established as a value-based intervention strategy to reduce emergency room visits and unnecessary hospitalization among the Medicare population, of which 45% had Medi-Cal as secondary insurance. In 2025, the ACC generated a 51% reduction in emergency department visits, 53% reduction in hospitalizations, and 25% reduction in readmissions for its enrolled patients. The ACC added acupuncture and behavioral health offerings in addition to healing touch and cardiology services.

**CalAIM Managed Care High-Service User Enhanced Case Management Initiative (ECM)**

At Scripps Mercy Hospital, high-service Community Health Group (CHG) Medi-Cal members—defined as patients with five or more emergency department visits within six months—are identified through a modified Epic workflow during registration. Funded by the San Diego CalAIM Incentive Payment Program (IPP), alerts are sent to Enhanced Case Management (ECM) Care Coordinators in the Scripps Advanced Care Clinic to initiate outreach during hospitalization or within 72 hours post-discharge. The program aims to stabilize health conditions and reduce avoidable hospital utilization. In FY 2025, 48 patients were enrolled in ECM.

**The Psychiatric Liaison Team (PLT).** The Psychiatric Liaison Team covers four emergency departments, two urgent care locations, and all inpatient medical floors. In Fiscal Year (FY) 25, there were 59,175 PLT encounters, assisting 5,997 patients.

**Scripps Substance Use Disorder Service (SUDS) Nurses.** Scripps utilizes specialized SUDS nurses who had 18,979 encounters in Fiscal Year (FY) 25, assisting 144 patients with placements to McAlister. The Hazelden Betty Ford Foundation had 15 Scripps referrals and 7 admissions from the referrals.

**Family Health Centers of San Diego.** Scripps Mercy continued collaboration with the Family Health Centers of San Diego to expedite patient discharges and reduce recidivism of psychiatric inpatients or patients waiting in the emergency department.

**In-Lieu of Funds.** Scripps Mercy supports some of our most vulnerable patients through the In-Lieu of Funds program. In Fiscal Year (FY) 25, Scripps provided \$2,995,082 in assistance to help cover essential post-discharge needs for unfunded or underfunded patients. These funds support costs for board and care, skilled nursing facilities, long-term acute care, and home health services. Additionally, they help provide medications, medical equipment, and transportation services, ensuring patients receive the necessary care beyond their hospital stay.

# Health Professional Education

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Each year, Scripps Mercy Hospital (San Diego Campus and Chula Vista Campus) advances health care services through health professional education programs and provides a wide array of educational and training support to its affiliated physicians, nurses, and other care givers, as well as the community at large. To enhance service delivery and treatment practices for San Diego County, Scripps Mercy Hospital invested in health professional education<sup>29</sup> programs during Fiscal Year (FY) 2025. The section below highlights the activities for Scripps Mercy Hospital San Diego Campus.

## Health Professional Education

*Definition: This category includes educational programs for physicians, interns and residents, medical students, nurses and nursing students, pastoral care trainees and other health professionals when that education is necessary to retain state license or certification by a board in the individual's health profession specialty.*

### Physician and Medical Students

- Scripps Mercy Hospital San Diego Hospital has established a graduate medical education curriculum to highlight the importance of diversity in health care and medical education. Bias, whether conscious or unconscious, affects the way we treat each other, care for our patients, and interact with our community. Below are grand rounds sessions held at Scripps focused on eliminating bias. Below are grand rounds sessions held at Scripps Mercy Hospital San Diego focused on eliminating bias in Fiscal Year (FY) 25:
  - Words Matter: A Toolkit for Mitigating Bias in Narrative Assessment
  - Bias Lecture - Food Insecurity, Health Disparities, and Actionable Solutions
- The Underserved Medicine rotation is available to Internal Medicine and Transitional Year residents through partnerships with rural physicians, asylum care providers, Rachel's House, Father Joe's Clinic, and the San Diego Rescue Mission. During this rotation, residents provide care to patients in these settings. It offers a valuable opportunity for residents to become more familiar with the care of patients utilizing these services and to better understand the unique challenges they face.
- In collaboration with Family Health Centers of San Diego Psychiatric Residency Program, Scripps Mercy Hospital hosts 6- PGY-1 Residents within the Hospital's Medical Service Floors for training in co-occurring medical and behavioral health conditions.

- Scripps Mercy GME emphasizes the integration of community health and medical education. Below are selected Grand Rounds and Residency Program sessions held in Fiscal Year (FY) 25 that align with the promotion of community health. *(Note: These are not included in the quantification of community benefits.)*

### **Grand Rounds Sessions (Fiscal Year (FY) 25)**

- What's New in HIV Care in 2025 – Update for the Primary Care Provider
- Management of Psychiatric Agitation and Behavioral Emergencies
- Addiction as a Brain Disease
- TB and Latent TB Infection (LTBI)
- Downstream Pollution, Health and Medicine's Duty to Engage
- E-cigarettes: Helpful or Hazardous?
- Vaccinations: A Review of Guidelines and What's New
- It's Just Pot – What's the Big Deal?
- Foods that Fight Inflammation: Are the Microbiome-Derived Metabolites the Missing Link?
- Epidemiology of Asylum Seekers at the San Diego–Tijuana Border: Outcomes from Over 400,000 Arrivals
- No Quick Fix: Our Opioid Crisis, Opioid Use Disorder Management, and Opioid Safety

### **Residency Program Noon Conference Lectures (Fiscal Year (FY) 25)**

- Geriatrics
- Atypical Syphilis
- Gender-Affirming Care
- Medication-Assisted Treatment Program for Opioid Use Disorder
- Women's Health
- SB-43 Expansion of Grave Disability
- HIV and AIDS
- Organic Foods: Review of Evidence
- Male-Partner Treatment to Prevent Recurrence of Bacterial Vaginosis
- Scripps Mercy Hospital is a leader in Graduate Medical Education (GME), offering exceptional training opportunities to various residency and fellowship programs across San Diego and annually training for more than 107 interns and residents doing Trauma Service rotations. Residents and fellows have the chance to expand their skills through hands-on experience and receive valuable mentorship from attending physicians, contributing to their professional growth and development.

- In Fiscal Year (FY) 25, Scripps Mercy Hospital provided trauma education to 104 residents in its Graduate Medical Education program, including five full-time general surgery residents involved in trauma research. This reflects the hospital's dedication to education and research in trauma care.
- The residency program at Naval Medical Center San Diego (NMCSO) has been integrated with Scripps Mercy Trauma for more than 30 years. General surgery residents from NMCSO completed rotations in trauma at Scripps Mercy Hospital.
- Scripps Mercy Hospital further extends its commitment to medical education by providing valuable clinical rotations for residents from Kaiser Permanente San Diego's emergency medicine program and pediatric emergency medicine fellows from Rady Children's Hospital. These rotations in trauma offer these medical professionals a unique opportunity to enhance their skills and knowledge in the field of trauma care.

### **Pharmacy**

- The 2025 Cal Hospital Compare Opioid Honor Roll awarded Scripps hospitals superior performance. The goal of the program is to increase access to addiction treatment for hospitalized patients and reduction of opioid-related deaths.
- Scripps pharmacists served as preceptors, mentoring 28 pharmacy students during 162 weeks of hands-on experience, contributing to the development of the next generation of pharmacists.
- Scripps pharmacists served as preceptors for 3 PGY1 and 2 PGY2 pharmacy residents over a total of 172 weeks, offering comprehensive education in clinical pharmacy, research, and patient care. This commitment underscores Scripps dedication to developing highly skilled pharmacy professionals and advancing the field of pharmacy.

### **Nursing Education**

- Scripps Mercy Hospital San Diego provided preceptorships for 428 nursing students in clinical and leadership experiences in all clinic areas for a total of 41,691 preceptorship hours. Under this model, students work on a one-to-one basis with a staff nurse, nurse manager, advance practice nurse, and/or nurse educator. Preceptorships do involve a one-to-one assignment with a nurse and include approximately 100-180 hours of supervision per preceptorship.

### **Medical Student Training**

- Scripps offers clinical rotations for medical students. All rotations are four weeks in duration and provide medical students with an opportunity to work as an active member of the medical team, attending teaching rounds and conferences, taking patient histories, and assisting with various procedures.

## Other Health Professional Education

- Scripps Mercy Hospital San Diego supported clinical instruction and practice affiliations for 73 allied health (non-nursing students) with a total of 21,136 preceptorship hours. These students collectively completed a remarkable total of preceptorship hours, gaining invaluable hands-on experience and mentorship in various allied health fields. This accomplishment underscores Scripps commitment to advancing health care education and fostering the development of future allied health professionals.
- Through the Scripps Mercy Emergency Medical Services (EMS) Base Hospital Program, a range of health care professionals engage in hospital-based clinical internships and continuing education opportunities. The program collaborates with local and regional educational institutions to provide hands-on training for various levels of health care professionals, including first responders, EMTs, paramedics, law enforcement, military personnel, mobile intensive care nurses, and resident physicians. During their clinical rotations and continuing education sessions, students are introduced to a range of emergency medical care topics relevant to both prehospital and hospital care. These opportunities are designed to enrich students' learning experiences, equipping them to better serve their patients and communities. In Fiscal Year (FY) 25, a total of 1,017 health professionals participated in these clinical internships.
- Scripps participates in the San Diego Day of Trauma; a nationally accredited continuing medical education annual meeting tailored for all health care providers. In attendance are trauma surgeons, nurses, medical students, researchers, EMT service providers, and law enforcement. Esteemed speakers from across the country share the latest advancements in managing life-threatening emergencies frequently faced in the field. The conference features experts in prehospital care, trauma surgery, and critical care. Through lectures, real-life case presentations, and interactive sessions, attendees actively engage in novel ways to improve patient outcomes.

# Health Research

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*Definition: research is the study or investigation to generate generalizable knowledge made available to the public. Research includes the communication of findings and observations, including publication in a journal. Internally funded research and research funded by tax-exempt, or government entities are eligible for reporting.*

Research is central to Scripps' mission to provide the best care to patients, with many promising new treatments beginning in clinical trials. Clinical and community research plays a vital role in improving the community's overall health by developing new and innovative treatments. Scripps Mercy Hospital invested in health research during Fiscal Year (FY) 2025. See Section 4.

**Medical Residents Research Projects.** The following are proposed and active research projects conducted by Internal Medicine Residents.

- Breast Health Education; Reaching Underserved and Vulnerable California Communities
- Differences in Breast Cancer Survival: A Systematic Review and Meta Analysis of Private Versus Public Insurance Coverage
- The Effect of Area Deprivation Index on Colon Cancer Screening Completion Rates
- Differences in Cancer Surveillance Among Women with Autoimmune Hepatitis: A Sex and Race-Based Analysis
- Differences in Surveillance and Hepatocellular Carcinoma Stage at diagnosis Among Hispanic Women with Hepatitis C in Southern California

**The Mercy Trauma Research Team.** The Trauma Research Team conducted studies on prehospital whole blood use, motorcycle injuries and military readiness, pediatric traumatic brain injury, pedestrian injury disparities among persons experiencing homelessness, injuries among pregnant migrants at the U.S.–Mexico border, and pediatric appendicitis outcomes statewide.

From 2024–2025, the team produced 16 publications, three manuscripts under review, and 26 scientific presentations. The program collaborates nationally with civilian and military partners and supports Navy residency research and MPH internships.

# Cash, Grant & In-Kind Contributions

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*Definition: Funds and in-kind services donated to community groups and nonprofit organizations.*

**Father Joe's Villages.** Scripps donated 50 cases of Ensure Nutritional Supplement to Father Joe's Villages. The fair market value was \$2,400.

**Family Health Center of San Diego (FHCS D).** Scripps Health and FHCS D have a longstanding collaborative partnership. Scripps has entered into a long-term agreement to provide a program fee to FHCS D aimed at increasing the availability and enhancing the quality of health care services delivered through the Internal Medicine Outpatient Clinic. These services will specifically support the medically underserved population served by FHCS D.

**Family Health Centers of San Diego - Spirit of the Barrio.** Scripps sponsored the Spirit of the Barrio event, an annual tradition since 1986. The event aims to raise awareness about providing health care services to underserved communities, featuring guest speakers and diverse themes.

**Healthy Start Families: Birth and Beyond.** Scripps partnered with Global Communities/Healthy Start by providing space for their weekly sessions, supporting culturally sensitive care to improve maternal and infant health outcomes. The program promotes positive birth outcomes and supporting parents during prenatal, childbirth and postpartum stages. The program focuses on providing free education, resources and services to empower families with a particular emphasis on serving Black, Native Hawaiian/Pacific Islander, and Native American/Alaska Native and Haitian Creole parents across San Diego County.

## **La Maestra Community Health Center**

Scripps sponsored the 35th anniversary event for La Maestra Community Health Center. Scripps has been a long-time partner of this vital organization. La Maestra provides a wide range of health care services—including primary care, behavioral health, dental care, and social support services—to individuals and families in underserved communities.

**Mental Health Association of San Diego - Meeting of the Minds.** Scripps sponsored the annual Meeting of the Minds conference, serving consumers, providers, and the community at large. The Scripps Mercy Trauma Department played an active role in the planning, organization, and implementation of the program.

**The Consumer Center for Health Education and Advocacy (CCHEA).** The CCHEA partnership is a Medical Legal partnership with Scripps Mercy hospital. The program helps to educate consumers about health care benefits and changes occurring with eligibility and enrollment in coverage programs. The project

team received 130 referrals, and 31% progressed into cases. During this period, a total of 40 patients received services and of those 15 were granted health benefits, 16 received advice and legal services. Only 1 patient's case remains open, a significant achievement.

## Subsidized Health

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*Definition: Subsidized health services are clinical programs that are provided despite a financial loss so significant that negative margins remain after removing the effects of charity care, bad debt and Medi-Cal shortfalls. Nevertheless, the service is provided because it meets an identified community need, which if no longer offered would either be unavailable in the area or fall to government or another not-for-profit organization. Subsidized services do not include ancillary services that support care lines, such as lab and radiology (if these services are provided to low-income persons, they are reported as charity care/financial assistance).*

**The Scripps Mercy Behavioral Health Program.** The program is dedicated to supporting community initiatives aimed at reducing the stigma surrounding mental illness and aiding affected individuals in leading productive lives within the community. In Fiscal Year (FY) 25, subsidized health services at Scripps Mercy amounted to a total expense of \$3,356,919 in expenses.

# Community Building Activities

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*Definition: Activities that support community assets by offering the expertise and resources of the hospital organization. These activities may address the root causes of health problems or the determinants of health, such as education, homelessness, poverty, and the environment.*

## Physical Improvements/Housing

Scripps Mercy leaders participated in volunteer service projects supporting homeless service providers, including La Maestra Garden of Life, South Bay Lighthouse, South Bay Community Services, Father Joe's Villages (multiple sites), and Mercy Housing & Gardens. Activities included facility improvements, organizing donations, meal service, and assembling welcome kits for unsheltered families.

## Economic Development

Scripps Mercy Hospital San Diego participated on various community boards and business organizations, including the San Diego Downtown Partnership, San Diego Regional Task Force on Homelessness, Hillcrest Business Association (HBA) in support of advocating for Scripps Mercy's mission in the community.

# Fostering Volunteerism

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In addition to the financial community benefit contributions made during Fiscal Year (FY) 25, Scripps Mercy Hospital San Diego employees and affiliated physicians donated their personal time volunteering to support Scripps sponsored community benefit programs and services. With close to 72 hours volunteer time, it is estimated that the dollar value associated with this volunteer labor is \$4,993.33<sup>28</sup>.

# Scripps Mercy Hospital Chula Vista Community Health Improvement Services & Community Benefit Operations

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Community health improvement services are activities conducted to improve community health, available to the public, which address a community need. These include prevention and wellness programs such as screenings, health education, support groups and health fairs which are supported by operational funds, grants, in-kind donations, and philanthropy. These programs are designed to raise public awareness and understanding of, and access to, identified community health needs. The section below highlights some of Scripps Mercy Hospital, Chula Vista Fiscal Year (FY) 2025 achievements. For more comprehensive descriptions of these programs, please refer to Section 4.

## Community Health Education

*Definition: Community health education includes lectures, presentations, other group programs and activities, and development and dissemination of materials that focus on prevention and health behaviors. Education activities can be provided in multiple formats, including resources made available to communities through support groups and through initiatives with a self-help emphasis.*

**Scripps Well Being Center - Scripps Mercy Hospital, Chula Vista.** Scripps Well Being Center - Scripps Mercy Hospital, Chula Vista supports the community by providing critical prevention and wellness programs for patients and community members through an array of health promotion, disease prevention, educational programs, and support groups. The Center aims to increase accessibility and education for disadvantaged and medically underserved residents, free of charge in both English and Spanish. In Fiscal Year (FY) 2025 a total of 12,837 individuals were served with health education, support groups, and community outreach.

**Helping Address Breast Health and Awareness.** The Breast Cancer Support Group was established in 2014 for Spanish-speaking women undergoing or having completed breast cancer treatment. The group provides emotional support, new coping skills, navigation, and educational presentations. A total of 262 outreach and cancer education services were provided. Additionally, 409 women participated in the bi-monthly support group. The group's strong sense of cohesiveness has not only has created a space for women during sessions but has evolved into life-long friendships and support beyond the group.

**Promotoras in Action Prevention, Education and Wellness.** Scripps Mercy Hospital Chula Vista delivered five Spanish-language Promotoras in Action presentations on high-priority health and social issues, engaging more than 40 community promotoras in prevention, education, and wellness.

**Senior Health Education, Prevention & Wellness Programs.** Scripps Mercy Hospital Chula Vista implemented senior health education programs at community senior locations, covering topics like heart health, nutrition, fall prevention, and mental health. More than 250 seniors from various locations participated annually, with a 12% increase in knowledge observed through pre- and post-program data.

**Maternal and Child Health.** Scripps Mercy Hospital Chula Vista Perinatology collaborated with Scripps Family Medicine Residency to improve education and training. They also continued their partnership with San Ysidro Medical Center to provide perinatology services in Chula Vista.

**Stroke Transitional Care Program and Brain Injury Support Group at Scripps Well Being Center - Scripps Mercy Hospital, Chula Vista.** Scripps offers stroke and brain injury support groups for survivors, caregivers and loved ones at the Scripps Well Being Center - Scripps Mercy Hospital Chula Vista. Provided monthly bilingual stroke and brain injury support groups for more than 110 participants and delivered outreach to 191 stroke and TIA patients, offering education, emotional support, and help navigating follow-up care and social services.

**Stroke Program Community Outreach.** The Scripps Health Stroke Team actively participated in community outreach by conducting stroke risk assessments. For more information see Section 10.

**Stroke Programs and Education Events.** Scripps Health Stroke Programs and Education Events are dedicated to reducing strokes in San Diego County through community outreach efforts. For more information see Section 10.

**Stroke Gold Quality Achievement Award.** Scripps Mercy Hospital Chula Vista earned the Stroke Gold Quality Achievement Award for 2025, from the American Heart Association/American Stroke Association (AHA). The award recognizes hospitals that deliver high-quality, life-saving stroke care. The Joint Commission also certified Scripps emergency rooms as Primary Stroke Centers. Scripps remains dedicated to continuous education and training, ensuring our staff stays updated on the latest advancements in stroke treatment and prevention strategies. This award serves as a national benchmark for excellence in stroke care, reflecting each hospital's commitment to delivering timely, evidence-based treatment in alignment with the most current clinical guidelines.

### **Mama's Kitchen Medically Tailored Meals - Post Discharge**

Scripps refers patients with congestive heart failure (CHF) to Mama's Kitchen for medically tailored meals that help reduce readmissions and support recovery after discharge from Scripps Mercy Hospital Chula Vista and Scripps Mercy Hospital San Diego. The pilot has concluded. In Fiscal Year (FY) 25, the program served 137 individuals, with 47 completing the full intervention—including nutrition education, individualized

support from a Registered Dietitian Nutritionist (RDN), and heart-healthy meals. Among those 47 participants, 9 were readmitted.

**Live Fit Su Vida, Su Corazon: Healthy Living Program.** Scripps Mercy Hospital Chula Vista delivers the *Live Fit* suite of cardiometabolic education programs—developed by the Scripps Whittier Institute—to raise awareness and prevent heart disease among underserved community members. The program provides accessible wellness classes, nutrition guidance, exercise sessions, and culturally tailored education. The *Live Fit* initiatives include Project Dulce, Dulce Digital, Healthy Living, and Su Corazón, Su Vida. In Fiscal Year (FY) 25, 286 participants attended sessions across community sites such as low-income housing, senior centers, faith organizations, and CBOs. Scripps delivered nine Su Vida, Su Corazón heart-health series, each offering three classes on risk factors, nutrition, physical activity, and prevention. Participant assessments showed improved health knowledge and outcomes.

## Health Care Support Services

*Definition: Health care and social support services are provided by the hospital to enhance access to and quality of health care services for vulnerable populations, especially persons living in poverty.*

**Healthy Women, Healthy Babies.** Scripps Family Medicine Residency initiated the "Healthy Women, Healthy Babies" program, aimed at improving perinatal care for underserved Latina women, benefitting 400 pregnant women in Southern San Diego County.

**Helping Patients Navigate Post Discharge Services and Support.** This program improves continuity of care by helping patients manage their health after leaving the hospital and connecting them to needed follow-up services, primary and specialty care, and virtual resources. By simplifying navigation of the health care system, the program reduces readmission risk and strengthens patient support. In Fiscal Year (FY) 25, the program served 4,477<sup>38</sup> patients at Scripps Mercy Hospital San Diego and Scripps Mercy Hospital Chula Vista, achieving a 14% readmission rate. It reached 2,640 patients directly, connected 2,037 to follow-up services, and ensured 76% secured a follow-up appointment within two weeks. It also delivered more than 1,100 support interventions.

**Improving Health Education and Awareness for Parents.** Scripps Mercy Hospital Chula Vista collaborated with Grossmont College to offer parenting education classes, enhancing health and education awareness for parents. In total, 229 parents participated in 22 educational sessions offered in English and Spanish.

**In-Lieu of Funds.** Scripps Mercy Hospital Chula Vista supports some of our most vulnerable patients through the In-Lieu of Funds program. In Fiscal Year (FY) 25, Scripps provided \$904,715 in assistance to cover essential post-discharge needs for unfunded or underfunded patients. These funds help cover costs

for board and care, skilled nursing facilities, long-term acute care, and home health services. Additionally, they support medications, medical equipment, and transportation services, ensuring patients receive the necessary care beyond their hospital stay.

## Social and Environmental Improvement Activities

*Definition: These are programs and activities that improve the health of persons in the community by addressing social and environmental determinants that impact health. They include programs that address social and community factors, poverty and economic stability, education, and neighborhood and the built environment.*

**Residency Led Youth Programs.** Family Medicine Medical Residents have developed an interactive classroom presentations series called *Our Health*. The presentations focused on a variety of public health concerns and medically focused topics as well as hands-on clinical skills workshops at the local high schools. To introduce them to health careers, students receive health career tools/brochures that include information on education requirements, scholarships, and ways to pay for college. Scripps Family Medicine Residents also facilitate the Health Presentation series, “DOC-4-A-Day” as well as serve as mentors. In Fiscal Year (FY) 25, 1,074 people were served.

# Health Professional Education

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Each year, Scripps Mercy Hospital, Chula Vista allocates resources to advance health care services through professional health education programs. This section highlights some Scripps Mercy Hospital, Chula Vista health professional education activities in Fiscal Year (FY) 2025.

## Health Professional Education

*Definition: This category includes educational programs for physicians, interns and residents, medical students, nurses and nursing students, pastoral care trainees and other health professionals when that education is necessary to retain state license or certification by a board in the individual's health profession specialty.*

### Physician and Medical Students

- Through Health Resource Service Administration (HRSA) funding, the Scripps Family Medicine Residency Program expanded its training in Obstetrics and Maternal Child Health to include rural medicine and other diverse areas. This initiative enhances health care education and services in underserved regions.
- Scripps Family Medicine Residency and Scripps Well Being Center - Scripps Mercy Hospital, Chula Vista partnered with San Diego State University to provide clinical training for Master of Social Work (MSW) students. These students work in local high schools to support vulnerable adolescents' mental health needs.

### Nursing Education

- Scripps Mercy Hospital Chula Vista provided preceptorships for 66 nursing students in clinical and leadership experiences in all clinic areas for a total of 10,545 preceptorship hours. Under this model, students work on a one-to-one basis with a staff nurse, nurse manager, advance practice nurse, and/or nurse educator. Preceptorships do involve a one-to-one assignment with a nurse and include approximately 100-180 hours of supervision per preceptorship.

### Medical Student Training

- The Scripps Family Medicine Residency Program offers both outpatient and inpatient training opportunities for medical students seeking to acquire firsthand experience in a family medicine setting tailored to the underserved Latino population residing in the San Diego border region.

Medical students from all over the country can apply for this internship experience and the program also maintains a strong connection with the University of California, San Diego Family Medicine program.

### **Other Health Professional Education**

- Scripps Mercy Hospital Chula Vista Hospital supported clinical instruction and practice affiliations for 97 allied health (non-nursing students) with a total of 21,932 preceptorship hours. These students collectively completed a remarkable total of preceptorship hours, gaining invaluable hands-on experience and mentorship in various allied health fields. This accomplishment underscores Scripps commitment to advancing health care education and fostering the development of future allied health professionals.
- Internship and [California Area Health Education Center \(AHEC\)](#) Scholars Program – Scripps Well Being Center - Scripps Mercy Hospital, Chula Vista trained a total of 33 students who completed their internship placement at Scripps Well Being Center-Scripps Mercy Hospital, Chula Vista. Field of study includes undergrads in public health and social work, and master's in social work and public health. Interns completed a combined total of 2,992 training hours; 27 also completed the AHEC Scholar Program which is combination of clinic and didactic online training.
- Secured more than \$1.5 million in grants to support community programs and family medicine residency initiatives.

## **Health Research**

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*Definition: research is the study or investigation to generate generalizable knowledge made available to the public. Research includes the communication of findings and observations, including publication in a journal. Internally funded research and research funded by tax-exempt, or government entities are eligible for reporting.*

Scripps research is a critical to our mission of providing the best care to patients, with many promising new treatments beginning in clinical trials. Clinical and community research plays a vital role in improving the community's overall health by developing new and innovative treatments. See Section 4, Health Research Section for a detail of Scripps research programs.

**A Quality Improvement Project in Family Medicine Residency Training: Improving Preeclampsia Prevention Through Risk Factor Screening and Low-Dose Aspirin.** This quality improvement project

trained family medicine residents to improve preeclampsia prevention in an underserved population through enhanced risk factor screening and low-dose aspirin prescription. A preeclampsia awareness campaign was launched using a public toolkit, and a multidisciplinary team implemented clinical changes to boost screening rates and aspirin use. Published in the [American Journal of Public Health \(May 2024\)](#), all authors are affiliated with the Scripps Mercy Family Medicine Residency Program at Scripps Health.

## Cash, Grant & In-Kind Contributions

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*Definition: Funds and in-kind services donated to community groups and nonprofit organizations.*

### **San Ysidro Health**

Scripps maintains an annual corporate partnership with San Ysidro Health, including sponsorship of the Spring into Health Brunch. As San Diego County's second-largest community health provider, San Ysidro Health operates more than 50 clinics and program sites, serving more than 161,000 patients annually. Event sponsorship supports the expansion of vital programs and access to comprehensive, high-quality care for underserved individuals and families, regardless of ability to pay.

## Community Building Activities

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*Definition: Activities that support community assets by offering the expertise and resources of the hospital organization. These activities may address the root causes of health problems or the determinants of health, such as education, homelessness, poverty, and the environment.*

### Coalition Building

**Chula Vista Community Collaborative (CVCC).** Scripps participated in the Chula Vista Community Collaborative, working with more than 120 community organizations to strengthen health, safety, economic resources, and local leadership. Staff dedicated 24 hours to this collaborative.

**South County Action Network (SOCAN).** Scripps engaged in the South County Action Network alongside more than 75 partner organizations to improve services and advocacy for older adults and adults with disabilities.. Staff dedicated 12 hours to this collaborative.

#### Workforce Development

**Cristo Rey Work Study Program.** Scripps partners with Cristo Rey San Diego High School, a college-preparatory school serving students from both sides of the border. Students attend classes four days a week and spend the fifth working in professional settings such as law firms, labs, and hospitals. The program exposes students to health care careers and develops job readiness skills. In Fiscal Year (FY) 25, Scripps sponsored eight students who worked in various departments at Mercy Chula Vista, Mercy San Diego, and the Scripps Wellbeing Center.

#### **Legislative Day at Scripps Mercy Hospital Chula Vista**

Scripps hosted 11 legislative staffers from local, state, and federal offices at Scripps Mercy Hospital Chula Vista to observe a Wellbeing Center class from the School to Health Career Pathway program. Staffers met 22 Sweetwater high school students, observed their cast-making activity, and engaged with students and staff. The event highlighted Scripps' community benefit initiatives and efforts to inspire future health care professionals.

**Scripps Mercy Hospital Chula Vista School to Health Career Pathway Program.** This program introduced 2,175 youth to health professions through mentoring, classroom presentations, surgical observations, the Cristo Rey Work Study Program, and the Scripps Health Careers Opportunity Camp. Scripps Family Medicine Residents also lead the "DOC-4-A-Day" health presentation series and serve as mentors.

# Scripps Mercy Hospital San Diego Campus

## 2026 Community Benefit Plan, Fiscal Year (FY) 2026

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The previous section highlighted Scripps Mercy Hospital accomplishments for Fiscal Year (FY) 2025. This section highlights the overall community benefit goals and objectives and the hospital's strategies to support community health during Fiscal Year (FY) 2026 (October 2025 to September 2026).

### Fiscal Year (FY) 2026 Community Benefit Goals & Objectives

Scripps Mercy Hospital San Diego programs will make an impact on the health status of the community through community health improvement programs, health professional education, and health research.

#### **Access to Care (Community Outreach)**

- Provide financial assistance through free and discounted care for health care services, for persons who are uninsured or underinsured and ensure access to emergency and trauma services for all.
- Support MOST mission trips providing surgical care for children in Mexico. The team aims to conduct at least two week-long mission trips and one weekend mission trip in the upcoming year.
- Facilitate safe discharge and recuperative care for eligible homeless patients and enhance case management for high-need Medi-Cal patients.
- Assist eligible Scripps Mercy patients with mental health and substance use concerns by connecting them to emergency shelter services and ongoing support, improving their overall well-being.

#### **Behavioral Health**

- Continue to support the individuals currently enrolled in the A-Visions vocational training program in mental health treatment, provide detox services through McAlister Institute, reduce mental illness stigma, and strengthen partnerships for integrated mental health services. Psychiatric Liaison Team to continue evaluations in ER and urgent care.

#### **Economic Stability**

- Reduce food insecurity through the Supplemental Nutrition Program for Women, Infants and Children, also known as WIC. Offering nutrition education, breastfeeding support, and food vouchers for underserved mothers and young children.

## **Injury Prevention**

- Partner with local organizations to sustain injury prevention and health education programs, focusing on leading causes of traumatic injuries like falls and transportation safety. For a complete list of available topics, visit [Scripps.org/InjuryPrevention](https://scripps.org/InjuryPrevention).

## **Health Professional Education**

- Provide clinical education experiences for health students studying physical therapy, occupational therapy, speech therapy, radiography, surgical technology, respiratory care, and clinical social work.
- Scripps Mercy Internal Medicine Residents will continue to have an optional rotation focused on serving vulnerable populations. The goals include understanding health care disparities, participating in underserved patient care, and learning about community resources for underserved care in San Diego.
- In collaboration with FHCS Health Center Psychiatric Residency Program, Scripps Mercy Hospital has committed to host 6- PGY-1 Residents within the Hospital's Medical Service Floors for training in co-occurring medical and behavioral health conditions among patients during Academic Year 2024-2025.
- Scripps Mercy Hospital in San Diego will continue to serve as a medical education training site for various programs, including internal medicine, podiatry, palliative care, medical students, trauma and surgical critical care, trauma research, military physicians assistants-in-training, family medicine, Kaiser Emergency Medicine residents, UCSD Psychiatry interns, Navy Transitional Year interns, and San Ysidro Health Centers Internal Medicine Residency Program. The hospital provides comprehensive graduate medical education and training for multiple residents and fellows across these programs.

# Scripps Mercy Hospital Chula Vista

## 2026 Community Benefit Plan, Fiscal Year (FY) 2026

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The previous section highlighted Scripps Mercy Hospital Chula Vista accomplishments for Fiscal Year (FY) 2025. This section highlights the overall community benefit goals and objectives and the hospital's strategies to support community health during Fiscal Year (FY) 2026 (October 2025 to September 2026).

### Fiscal Year (FY) 2026 Community Benefit Goals & Objectives

Scripps Mercy Hospital Chula Vista programs will make an impact on the health status of the community through community health improvement programs, health professional education, and health research.

#### **Access to Care (Community Outreach)**

- Provide financial assistance through free and discounted care for health care services, for persons who are uninsured or underinsured and ensure access to emergency and trauma services for all.
- The Scripps Well Being Center - Scripps Mercy Hospital Chula Vista will support patient care post-discharge, offer preventive health education, and health career training with a goal of reaching 6,500 participants.
- Improve health care outcomes for high-risk underfunded patients and community members by facilitating referrals and connection to other essential services within the community.
- Helping Patients Navigate Services and Support Post-Discharge Program will strive to support patients through post discharge phone calls, visits at hospital bedside and referrals to local social service agencies.
- Health and Education Awareness for Parents will offer community-based education for local parents.

#### **Aging Care and Support**

- Conduct community-based educational sessions at local senior centers, churches, and senior housing facilities.
- Actively engage and benefit seniors by providing opportunities for social interaction, knowledge sharing, and health enhancement.

#### **Behavioral Health**

- Support mental health education and resources for middle, high school, and college students to promote emotional well-being and prevent crises.

## **Cancer Support Services**

- Enhance breast health screenings and outreach, connecting individuals with early detection services and coordinating care for women.
- Offer services to include telephone reminders, outreach and education, social/emotional support, and the distribution of essential supplies and resources.
- Offer community-based educational services in the community that support education and awareness of breast health wellness

## **Cardiology and Stroke Programs**

- The Live FIT program aims to educate participants on cardiovascular health to promote overall health improvements and will also provide support groups and follow-up services for stroke patients.

## **Health Career Pathway Programs**

- Engage youth in hands-on learning and career pathways in health fields, with numerous mentoring and camp participants pursuing health careers within a year.

## **Maternal Child Health Education**

- Support access to obstetrical services in both the outpatient and inpatient settings, with a focus on the South Bay region. This will be achieved through collaborations including local FQHCs (San Ysidro Health, Imperial Beach clinic, Operations Samahan), Scripps perinatology, Scripps Well Being Center – Scripps Mercy Hospital, Chula Vista, Scripps Family medicine residents and fellows.
- Continue to provide Centering Pregnancy, group visit model of care for pregnancy and well child visits. Support obstetrical services and address the social determinants of health that impact pregnancy outcomes through partnerships with local doula organizations.
- Collaborate to provide expanded mental health services to address the needs related to reproductive health.

## **Health Professional Education**

- Provide clinical education experiences across various health fields and offer career development through the San Diego Border Area Health Education Center (AHEC).
- Engage student interns in meaningful experiences at the Scripps Well Being Center - Scripps Mercy Hospital, Chula Vista.

# Section 8

# Scripps Green Hospital

# About Scripps Green Hospital

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Scripps Green Hospital has served the greater San Diego community since 1977. Located on Torrey Pines Mesa in La Jolla, Scripps Green Hospital has 173 licensed beds, 1,321 employees and cares for 5 percent of the inpatient population living in the hospital's 50 percent service area. Within the service area, Scripps Green cares for 8 percent of Medicare patients, less than 0.3 percent of Medi-Cal patients, 5 percent of commercially insured patients, and 0.9 percent of patients with other payment sources including charity care.

Scripps Green Hospital has been recognized for a variety of medical "firsts" – such as offering San Diego's first liver transplant program and being one of the nation's first hospitals to use stem cell transplants as a treatment for blood and marrow disorders. Scripps Green Hospital offers a broad array of inpatient and outpatient services, including comprehensive cancer treatment; cardiology and cardiothoracic surgery; orthopedic surgery; and organ, tissue, marrow, and cell transplantation. Additionally, Scripps Center for Integrative Medicine was established in 1999. Scripps Green Hospital is a teaching facility, offering graduate medical education (GME) programming.



Scripps Green Hospital

# Scripps Green Hospital

## 2026 Community Benefit Report

The Scripps Green Hospital Community Benefit 2026 Report is an account of the hospital’s dedication and commitment to improving the community’s health, detailing programs that have provided benefit over and above standard health care practices in Fiscal Year (FY) 2025 (October 2024 to September 2025).

### Community Benefit Contribution

During Fiscal Year (FY) 25, Scripps Green Hospital devoted \$23,697,950 to community benefit services. The programs offered by Scripps Green Hospital emphasize training new physicians, community-based prevention efforts and use effective approaches to reach residents at greater risk for health problems.

#### Community Benefit Services

Community Benefit Services	
Charity Care	\$270,318
Community Health Improvement Services & Community Benefit Operations (Includes In Lieu of Funds)	\$67,070
Health Professional Education	\$17,564,847
Medi-Cal Shortfall & Other Means Tested Government Programs	\$5,880,182
Medicare & Medicare HMO Surplus	\$84,467*
<b>Total Community Benefit Financial Contribution</b>	<b>\$23,697,950</b>

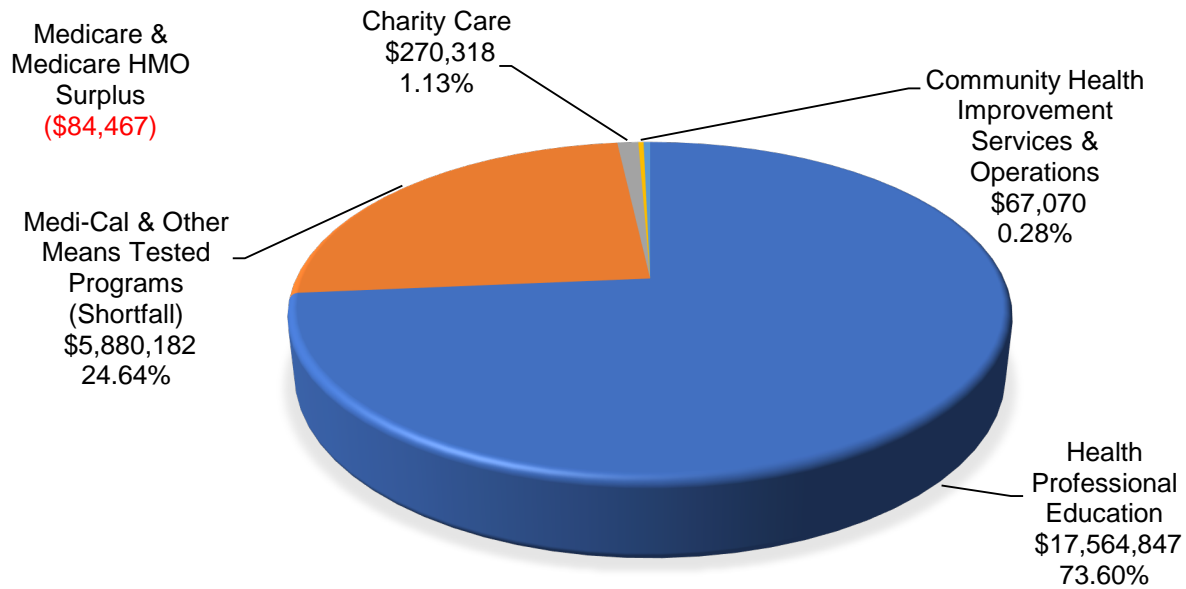
Refer to Figure 8.1 presented on the following page for a graphic representation of Fiscal Year (FY) 2025.

\*The table above does not include Scripps Green Medicare because the FFY24 IPPS payment changes temporarily increased Medicare reimbursement for certain hospitals. This, along with Scripps Green’s higher-acuity case mix, resulted in a one-time surplus in Fiscal Year (FY) 24. In Fiscal Year (FY) 25, Scripps Green again showed a small Medicare surplus of \$84,467, but this represents only about 1.4% of the prior year’s surplus, indicating the Fiscal Year (FY) 24 result was largely driven by the temporary IPPS reclassification impact and did not continue in Fiscal Year (FY) 25.

Figure 8.1

## Fiscal Year (FY) 2025

### Scripps Green Hospital Community Benefit Distribution, \$23,697,950



Community Benefit Services (provider fee impact)	Charity Care	Community Health Improvement Services & Operations	Health Professional Education	Medi-Cal Shortfall & Other Means Tested Government Programs	Medicare & Medicare HMO (Surplus)	Total
Before Provider Fee	\$270,318	\$67,070	\$17,564,847	\$5,880,182	(\$84,467)	\$23,697,950
Provider Fee	-	-	-	-	-	-
Net After Provider Fee	\$270,318	\$67,070	\$17,564,847	\$5,880,182	(\$84,467)	\$23,697,950

### Community Benefit Services

Community Benefit Services are programs and services designed to improve health in communities. IRS Form 990, Schedule H instructions define community benefit as activities or programs that respond to community health needs and seek to achieve one or more of the following objectives: improving access to health services, enabling low-income individuals to afford health care, enhancing public health, advancing generalizable knowledge, educating health care professionals, and relieving the government’s burden to improve health. Medicare Shortfall, Bad Debt, and certain Community Building Activities are reportable under Schedule H guidelines but are not included in the IRS-defined community benefit total. For the purposes of this report, Scripps includes these categories in its broader calculation of total community benefit to reflect the full scope of resources dedicated to supporting community health.

# Fiscal Year (FY) 25 Scripps Green Hospital Community Benefit Services Summary List

## Community Health Improvement Services & Community Benefit Operations

Community Benefit Categories	Person Served	Staff Hours	Volunteer Hours	Financial Support*
Community-Based Clinical Services	3,786	1,070	151	\$38,389
Health Care Support Services (Includes In-Lieu of Funds)	-	-	-	\$28,681
<b>Total Fiscal Year (FY) 2025 Community Health Improvement Services</b>	<b>3,786</b>	<b>1,070</b>	<b>151</b>	<b>\$67,070</b>

## Health Professional Education

Community Benefit Categories	Person Served	Staff Hours	Volunteer Hours	Financial Support*
Physicians/Medical Students (GME)	-	211,602	-	\$16,539,104
Nurses/Nursing Students/Allied Health	-	10,122	-	\$1,025,743
<b>Total Fiscal Year (FY) 2025 Health Professional Education</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>221,724</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>\$17,564,847</b>

## Uncompensated Care

Community Benefit Categories	Person Served	Staff Hours	Volunteer Hours	Financial Support*
Charity Care	-	-	-	\$270,318
Medicare and Medicare HMO Surplus**	-	-	-	(\$84,467)
Medi-Cal Shortfall & Other Means Tested Government Programs***	-	-	-	\$5,880,182
<b>Total Fiscal Year (FY) 2025 Uncompensated Care</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>\$6,066,033</b>

<b>Total Fiscal Year (FY) 2025 Scripps Green Hospital</b>	<b>3,786</b>	<b>222,794</b>	<b>151</b>	<b>\$23,697,950</b>
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\* "Financial Support" reflects the cost (labor, supplies, overhead, etc.) associated with the program/service less direct revenue. This figure does not include a calculation for physician and staff volunteer hours. In some instances, an entire community benefit program cost center has been divided between several initiatives.

\*\* The table above does not include Scripps Green Medicare because the FFY24 IPPS payment changes temporarily increased Medicare reimbursement for certain hospitals. This, along with Scripps Green's higher-acuity case mix, resulted in a one-time surplus in Fiscal Year (FY) 24. In FY25, Scripps Green again showed a small Medicare surplus of \$84,467, but this represents only about 1.4% of the prior year's surplus, indicating the Fiscal Year (FY) 24 result was largely driven by the temporary IPPS reclassification impact and did not continue in Fiscal Year (FY) 25.

\*\*\* Hospital provider fee was reported as offsetting revenue from Medi-Cal.

# Community Health Improvement Services & Community Benefit Operations

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Community Health Improvement Services are activities conducted to improve community health, available to the public, which address a community need. These include prevention and wellness programs such as screenings, health education, support groups and health fairs which are supported by operational funds, grants, in-kind donations, and philanthropy. These programs are designed to raise public awareness and understanding of, and access to, identified community health needs. This investment includes In-Lieu of Funds which provides critical support for vulnerable populations, covering essential post-discharge needs for unfunded or underfunded patients. These funds help ensure access to necessary health care support services beyond hospital care.

Scripps Community Benefit Operations include direct and indirect costs associated with assigned staff, community health needs assessments, community benefit planning, tracking, reporting, evaluating and operations. Scripps counts staff costs for managing or overseeing community benefit program activities that are not included in other categories of community benefit.

During Fiscal Year (FY) 2025, Scripps Green Hospital invested in Community Health Improvement Services and Community Benefit Operations, with notable achievements outlined by IRS categories and detailed further in Section 4.

## Community Health Education

*Definition: Community health education includes lectures, presentations, other group programs and activities, and development and dissemination of materials that focus on prevention and health behaviors. Education activities can be provided in multiple formats, including resources made available to communities through support groups and through initiatives with a self-help emphasis.*

**Drug Take-Back Kiosks.** Scripps offers year-round access to safe, free disposal of unused and outdated prescription medications. Drug Take-Back Kiosks are available adjacent to the on-site ambulatory pharmacy at Scripps Green Hospital. This program helped reduce the use of opioids and helped prevent patients from becoming dependent on potent pain reducing medications.

**Stroke Program Community Outreach.** The Scripps Health Stroke Team actively participates in community outreach by conducting stroke risk assessments. For more information see Section 10.

**Stroke Programs and Education Events.** Scripps Health Stroke Programs and Education Events are dedicated to reducing strokes in San Diego County through community outreach efforts. For more information see Section 10.

**Scripps Green Hospital Community Service Projects, Internal Medicine.** This curriculum includes resident participation in community service projects aimed at addressing social barriers to health. Each year, residents engage in various community service activities, forming groups to work on different projects. These community service projects reflect the commitment of Scripps Green Hospital residents to addressing social determinants of health and improving access to care for underserved populations. This year, five groups, each consisting of eight residents, participated in unique community service initiatives. Some of the projects included:

- **La Costa Canyon High School:** Residents volunteered to teach point-of-care ultrasound skills using handheld Butterfly devices and led discussions about medical careers and health care disparities, serving 30 students.
- **San Diego Mesa College:** Residents provided a lecture on ultrasound for pre-med and radiology tech students, reaching 15 students.
- **The Burrito Boyz:** Residents helped feed individuals experiencing homelessness, supporting the organization's mission to nourish the spirit of San Diego's unhoused community through hot meals and human connection, serving 380 individuals.
- **San Diego Food Bank – Miramar location:** Residents assisted in distributing food to families in need, serving 1,300 families and packing 11,000 pounds of apples and oranges to address food insecurity.

## Community-Based Clinical Services

*Definition: These are clinical services provided on a periodic basis or as special events in the community. They include screenings, one-time or occasionally held clinics, clinics for underinsured and uninsured persons and mobile units.*

**American Red Cross Blood Drives.** Scripps Green Hospital hosted blood drives with the American Red Cross, resulting in 65 units of blood collected from 71 participants. This collection has the potential to save 195 lives. These blood drives underscore Scripps dedication to supporting the community's health care requirements and meeting the ongoing demand for blood donations, especially in times of crisis.

**Eric Paredes Save a Life Foundation.** Residents from Scripps Green Hospital volunteered for the Eric Paredes Save A Life Foundation by providing youth heart screenings.

**La Maestra Community Health Center.** Residents from Scripps Green hospital have a medical rotation at La Maestra Community Health Center which is a Federally Qualified Health Center with ten locations in underserved communities throughout San Diego, including school-based clinics and a mobile clinic. At La Maestra, residents gain experience managing addiction, mental health care, women’s health care, Hepatitis C and general adult medicine in an outpatient setting. Residents collectively saw 110 patients and contributed 180 hours of service.

**Resident HIV Clinic Inpatient/Outpatient Rotation: Owen HIV Clinic.** The HIV clinic is a very active teaching site with medical students and residents, infectious disease fellows, pharmacy residents, and visiting learners. Residents from Scripps Green Hospital work a diverse patient population with multidisciplinary teams of clinicians (physicians, nurse practitioners, physician assistants), pharmacists, nurses, social workers, patient navigators, and other staff. Residents engaged in specialized care through the HIV clinic rotation, seeing 220 patients and dedicating 400 hours to inpatient and outpatient care.

## Health Care Support Services

*Definition: Health care and social support services are provided by the hospital to enhance access to and quality of health care services for vulnerable populations, especially persons living in poverty.*

**In-Lieu of Funds.** One way Scripps Green hospital provides care for some of our most needy patients is through In-Lieu of Funds. In Fiscal Year (FY) 25, Scripps Green Hospital provided \$28,681 In-Lieu of Funds. These funds are used for unfunded or under-funded patients and their post-discharge needs. Funds are used for board and care, skilled nursing facilities, long term care acute care and home health. In addition, funds are also used for medications, equipment, and transportation services.

# Health Professional Education

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Each year, Scripps Green Hospital advances health care services through health professional education programs and research and provides a wide array of educational and training support to its affiliated physicians, nurses, and other care givers, as well as the community at large. To enhance service delivery and treatment practices for San Diego County; Scripps Green Hospital invested in health professional education<sup>29</sup> during Fiscal Year (FY) 25. This section highlights some of Scripps Green Hospital health professional education activities.

## Health Professional Education

*Definition: This category includes educational programs for physicians, interns and residents, medical students, nurses and nursing students, pastoral care trainees and other health professionals when that education is necessary to retain state license or certification by a board in the individual's health profession specialty.*

### Physician and Medical Students

- Scripps Green Hospital has a graduate medical education diversity committee and equity curriculum to emphasize the importance of diversity and address bias in health care. In Fiscal Year (FY) 25, grand rounds sessions focused on eliminating bias included: (not included in the quantification of community benefits)
  - *Race and Ethnicity in Osteoporosis: Time to Reconsider?*
  - *Cognitive Biases in Physician Decision-Making*
  - *Food Insecurity, Health Disparities, and Actionable Solutions*

### Nursing Education

- Scripps Green Hospital was a rotation site for nursing students in most clinical areas of the hospital. Scripps Green Hospital provided preceptorships for 65 nursing students in clinical and leadership experiences in most clinical areas for a total of 8,551 preceptorship hours. Under this model, students work on a one-to-one basis with a staff nurse, nurse manager, advance practice nurse, and/or nurse educator. Preceptorships do involve a one-to-one assignment with a nurse and include approximately 100-180 hours of supervision per preceptorship.

## Medical Student Training

- Scripps Green Hospital offers clinical rotations for medical students. All rotations are four weeks in duration and provide medical students with an opportunity to work as an active member of the medical team, attending teaching rounds and conferences, taking patient histories, and assisting with various procedures.

## Other Health Professional Education

- Scripps Green Hospital supported clinical instruction and practice affiliations for 73 allied health (non-nursing students) with a total of 25,190 preceptorship hours. These students collectively completed a remarkable total of preceptorship hours, gaining invaluable hands-on experience and mentorship in various allied health fields. This accomplishment underscores Scripps commitment to advancing health education and fostering the development of future allied health professionals.

# Health Research

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*Definition: research is the study or investigation to generate generalizable knowledge made available to the public. Research includes the communication of findings and observations, including publication in a journal. Internally funded research and research funded by tax-exempt, or government entities are eligible for reporting.*

Research is central to Scripps' mission to provide the best care to patients, with many promising new treatments beginning in clinical trials. Clinical and community research plays a vital role in improving the community's overall health by developing new and innovative treatments. See Section 4, for more information.

Scripps Green Hospital residents and fellows have been actively engaged in more than 100 research activities, encompassing publications, poster presentations, local and national conference appearances, as well as receiving research awards.

# Fostering Volunteerism

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In addition to the financial community benefit contributions made during Fiscal Year (FY) 25, Scripps Green Hospital employees and affiliated physicians donated their personal time volunteering to support Scripps sponsored community benefit programs and services. In Fiscal Year (FY) 2025, Scripps Green Hospital had 151 volunteer hours, it is estimated that the dollar value associated with this volunteer labor is \$10,472.11<sup>28</sup>.

# Scripps Green Hospital

## 2026 Community Benefit Plan, Fiscal Year (FY) 2026

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The previous section highlighted Scripps Green Hospital accomplishments for Fiscal Year (FY) 2025. This section highlights the overall community benefit goals and objectives and the hospital's strategies to support community health during Fiscal Year (FY) 2026 (October 2025 to September 2026).

### Fiscal Year (FY) 2026 Community Benefit Goals & Objectives

Scripps Green Hospital programs will make an impact on the health status of the community through community health improvement programs, health professional education, and health research.

#### **Access to Care (Community Outreach)**

- Provide financial assistance through free and discounted care for health care services for persons who are uninsured or underinsured.
- Maintain regular blood drives in collaboration with the American Red Cross to contribute to lifesaving blood donations for the community.
- Sustain and enhance the provision of education and support services for patients undergoing liver, kidney and stem cell transplants, individuals with end-stage liver disease, renal disease and blood cancers and offer additional services for caregivers and those interested in becoming organ donors and stem cell donors. These services play a vital role in promoting health and well-being among these populations.

#### **Health Professional Education**

- Enhance resident education by integrating community service projects into the Internal Medicine curriculum at Scripps Green. Each year, residents will participate in group-led initiatives aimed at addressing social determinants of health and completing unique service projects annually.
- Strengthen trainee Spanish proficiency: Provide regular Medical Spanish Workshops to improve communication skills with Spanish-speaking patients.
- Expand clinical training and cultural competency: Offer community-based rotations at La Maestra Community Health Center and the Owen HIV Clinic, where residents gain hands-on experience in managing complex medical, behavioral health, and infectious disease cases. These rotations provide valuable exposure to multidisciplinary care while serving diverse and underserved populations.

- Support Endocrinology Fellows: Continue enhancing clinical training and cultural competency for endocrinology fellows through monthly Endocrinology Clinics at Family Health Centers of San Diego, a Federally Qualified Health Center.
- Dermatologic Oncology fellows: Fellows from the Micrographic Surgery and Dermatologic Oncology training program will continue to provide free annual events to screen lifeguards and first responders for skin cancer, promoting preventive care and awareness.



# Section 9

# Scripps Medical Foundation

# About Scripps Medical Foundation

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Scripps Medical Foundation physicians and staff share a common goal: to provide the best possible health care for every patient. At Scripps Clinic, Scripps Coastal Medical Center and Scripps Cardiovascular and Thoracic Surgery Group, experts offer preventive screenings, advanced diagnostics and innovative treatments based on each person's individual risk factors, including family history and health goals. When hospitalization is necessary, hospitalists from Scripps Clinic, Scripps Coastal and Scripps Inpatient Providers Medical Group partner closely with primary care physicians and specialists to round out the health care team. Scripps Health also offers health education resources, including integrative therapies, weight management programs, nutrition and fitness classes, and programs for managing chronic conditions like diabetes and congestive heart failure. Below is a sampling of some of the clinics across the County of San Diego.



## **Scripps Clinic**

Caring for San Diegans since 1924, Scripps Clinic provides highly rated primary care and highly specialized, coordinated specialty care. With board-certified physicians and other providers, Scripps Clinic offers a comprehensive range of medical and surgical services that are nationally recognized for quality, excellence, and innovation. From primary to specialty care, Scripps Clinic's team-based model is designed to provide the best care and outcomes for patients at every stage of life.

## **Scripps Coastal Medical Center**

Scripps Coastal Medical Center makes it convenient for people throughout San Diego to receive exceptional primary care. Scripps Coastal's physicians and care teams provide annual exams, preventive health screenings, wellness information, diagnosis and treatment options for patients and families. With offices throughout San Diego County, Scripps Coastal Medical Center physicians provide expertise in family medicine, internal medicine, pediatrics, obstetrics, and gynecology. Some locations also provide rheumatology, gastroenterology, urgent and express care. When specialty care is needed, Scripps Coastal patients have access to an extensive network of medical specialists throughout the region.

## **Scripps Cardiovascular and Thoracic Surgery Group**

Scripps Cardiovascular and Thoracic Surgery Group brings together some of the region's top surgeons whose combined excellence and experience in cardiovascular and thoracic surgery is recognized throughout Southern California. Their extensive experience and high surgical volume contribute to superior outcomes and elevated quality indicator scores. The group is at the forefront of innovation, providing innovative options such as cardiothoracic robotic surgery.

# Scripps Medical Foundation

## 2026 Community Benefit Report

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The Scripps Medical Foundation Community Benefit 2026 Report is an account of the hospital’s dedication and commitment to improving the community’s health, detailing programs that have provided benefit over and above standard health care practices in Fiscal Year (FY) 2025 (October 2024 to September 2025).

### Community Benefit Contribution

During Fiscal Year (FY) 25, Scripps Medical Foundation devoted **\$310,765,745** to community benefit services, focusing on prevention programs that reach individuals at higher risk for health issues.

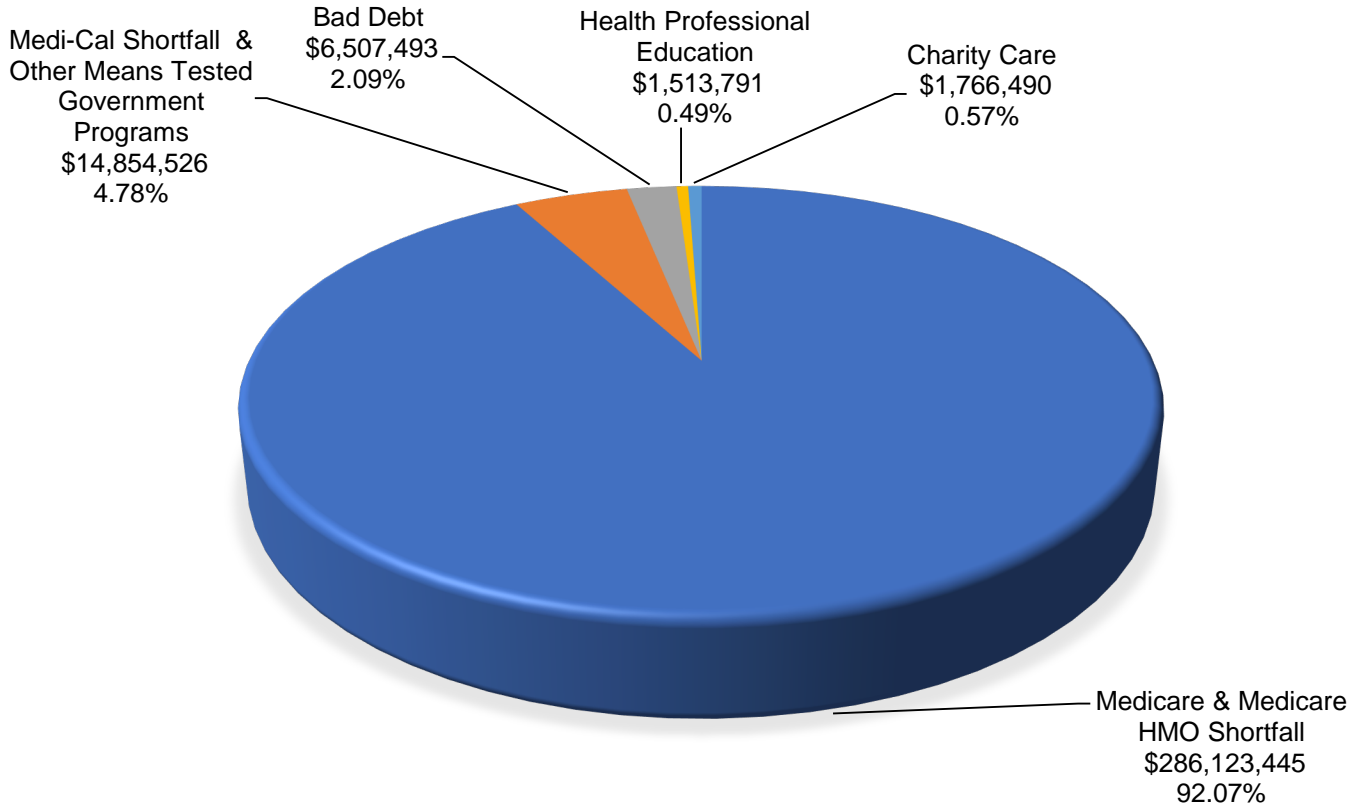
#### Community Benefit Services

Community Benefit Services	
Bad Debt	\$6,507,493
Charity Care	\$1,766,490
Health Professional Education	\$1,513,791
Medi-Cal Shortfall & Other Means Tested Government Programs	\$14,854,526
Medicare & Medicare HMO Shortfall	\$286,123,445
<b>Total Community Benefit Financial Contribution</b>	<b>\$310,765,745</b>

Refer to Figure 9.1 presented on the following page for a graphic representation of Fiscal Year (FY) 2025

Figure 9.1

Fiscal Year (FY) 2025  
Scripps Medical Foundation Community Benefit Distribution,  
\$310,765,745



### Community Benefit Services

Community Benefit Services are programs and services designed to improve health in communities. IRS Form 990, Schedule H instructions define community benefit as activities or programs that respond to community health needs and seek to achieve one or more of the following objectives: improving access to health services, enabling low-income individuals to afford health care, enhancing public health, advancing generalizable knowledge, educating health care professionals, and relieving the government’s burden to improve health. Medicare Shortfall, Bad Debt, and certain Community Building Activities are reportable under Schedule H guidelines but are not included in the IRS-defined community benefit total. For the purposes of this report, Scripps includes these categories in its broader calculation of total community benefit to reflect the full scope of resources dedicated to supporting community health.

# Fiscal Year (FY) 25 Scripps Medical Foundation Community Benefit Services Summary List

## Health Professional Education

Community Benefit Categories	Person Served	Staff Hours	Volunteer Hours	Financial Support*
Nurses/Nursing Students/Allied Health	-	13,582	-	\$1,513,791
<b>Total Fiscal Year (FY) 2025 Health Professional Education</b>	-	<b>13,582</b>	-	<b>\$1,513,791</b>

## Uncompensated Care

Community Benefit Categories	Person Served	Staff Hours	Volunteer Hours	Financial Support*
Charity Care	-	-	-	\$1,766,490
Bad Debt**	-	-	-	\$6,507,493
Medicare and Medicare HMO Shortfall**	-	-	-	\$286,123,445
Medi-Cal Shortfall & Other Means Tested Government Programs***	-	-	-	\$14,854,526
<b>Total Fiscal Year (FY) 2025 Uncompensated Care</b>	-	-	-	<b>\$309,251,953</b>

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<b>Total Fiscal Year (FY) 2025 Scripps Medical Foundation</b>	-	<b>13,582</b>	-	<b>\$310,765,744</b>
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\* "Financial Support" reflects the cost (labor, supplies, overhead, etc.) associated with the program/service less direct revenue. This figure does not include a calculation for physician and staff volunteer hours. In some instances, an entire community benefit program cost center has been divided between several initiatives.

\*\*Medicare Shortfall, Bad Debt, and Community Building Activities are reportable under IRS instructions but are excluded from the community benefit totals in Form 990, Schedule H. However, Scripps includes these categories in our overall community benefit calculations within the report.

\*\*\* Hospital provider fee was reported as offsetting revenue from Medi-Cal.

# Community Health Improvement Services & Community Benefit Operations

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Community Health Improvement Services are activities conducted to improve community health, available to the public, which address a community need. These include prevention and wellness programs such as screenings, health education, support groups and health fairs which are supported by operational funds, grants, in-kind donations, and philanthropy. These programs are designed to raise public awareness and understanding of, and access to, identified community health needs.

Scripps Community Benefit Operations include direct and indirect costs associated with assigned staff, community health needs assessments, community benefit planning, tracking, reporting, evaluating and operations. Scripps counts staff costs for managing or overseeing community benefit program activities that are not included in other categories of community benefit.

During Fiscal Year (FY) 2025, Scripps Medical Foundation invested in Community Health Improvement Services and Community Benefit Operations. *Most programs listed under Community Health Improvement Services in this section are excluded from the quantification of total community benefit, as they are exclusively provided to Scripps patients*<sup>39</sup>. However, they are included here because they align with key findings from the 2025 Community Health Needs Assessment (CHNA). Specifically, these programs help patients manage health conditions and contribute to a different kind of health care experience—addressing five themes identified by the community: respect for their time, timely care, improved transportation options, stronger relationships with providers, and support navigating the medical system, insurance, and follow-up care. In addition, these programs support better data collection, sharing, and coordination, and help reduce the burden on emergency departments.

## Community Health Education

*Definition: Community health education includes lectures, presentations, other group programs and activities, and development and dissemination of materials that focus on prevention and health behaviors. Education activities can be provided in multiple formats, including resources made available to communities through support groups and through initiatives with a self-help emphasis.*

**All-in Digital Health Program for One Medicine Specialty.** This initiative develops comprehensive digital care solutions for a specific specialty, enhancing patient access, streamlining navigation, and supporting more coordinated care.

**Anchored in Wellness Event.** Scripps participated in the Anchored in Wellness event at Liberty Station. A community gathering focused on health and well-being. Attendees received blood pressure checks and tips for maintaining a heart-healthy lifestyle. The event took place near Scripps Clinic Liberty Station, where Scripps offers primary care, dermatology, and convenient walk-in services through Scripps HealthExpress.

**CALHIVE Behavioral Health Integration Collaborative.** California Quality Collaborative (CQC) led 3-year program to integrate behavioral health (BH) services into the Primary Care setting. This program aims to increase access to BH to support management for mild to moderate needs. Currently piloting for 10 PCPs at Clinic Rancho Bernardo.

**Call Hubs (GI, Ophthalmology, Orthopedics, Dermatology).** The initiative aims to improve scheduling, reduce delays and fills appointment slots efficiently.

**Fast Pass Expansion.** The initiative is an automated appointment waitlist management that supports increasing patient access, reduces burden on staff.

**Getting to Surgery.** The initiative reduces barriers to surgical care through standardization and transparency. Reduces controllable late surgery cancellations (pre-op clearance related) and improves transparency between departments.

**Hem/Onc & Infusion - Standardized Scheduling.** Provides a seamlessly coordinated patient scheduling experience, regardless of location, reducing delays, filling appointment slots efficiently.

**HIV Care Team.** Scripps Coastal Hillcrest has, for 30 years, provided the community with much needed care for persons living with HIV (PLWH). The team of three certified physicians offers integrated primary and HIV care, along with education, testing, and PrEP medication to reduce HIV transmission.

**Medicine Specialty & Primary Care Referral Coordination.** Program reduces unnecessary specialty referrals, improving care coordination, efficiency and access.

**Model Practice Staffing Optimization (MPSO).** This initiative improves workflow efficiencies & employee retention by aligning clinical duties to the proper physician and staff roles to achieve top of license status, ensure efficient, accessible care and reduce burnout that can impact access.

**MPSO Primary Care Development Center.** Improves workflow efficiencies & employee retention by aligning clinical duties to the proper physician and staff roles to achieve top of license status, ensure efficient, accessible care and reduce burnout that can impact access.

**On Demand Video Visits (Incl. Plus Hours).** Offers patients on-demand video visits with primary care provider & expands after-hours / weekend virtual care, improving access and allowing patients to be seen when/where they want.

**On My Way.** Allows the community to view wait times at EDs, urgent cares, and Health Express locations, then notify the location of their choice that they are on their way. This helps enhance communication

around wait times, provides staff with greater visibility on incoming patients (allowing them to prepare) and expedites patient care. The initiative will be expanding to outpatient laboratory locations.

**Online Scheduling.** Allows for self-scheduling for new and existing patients, increases ease of scheduling/convenience, improves patient access, reduces burden on staff.

**Quality Epic Campaigns.** The campaign increases annual screening completion rates through automation of patient outreach, reducing burden on staff, helping patients stay on top of their care.

**Remote Patient Monitoring (RPM) for Hypertension in Primary Care.** Scripps Medical Foundation uses RPM to support chronic disease management, with a focus on hypertension. The program offers remote blood pressure monitoring, personalized coaching by clinical staff, and improved access to high-touch care—enhancing outcomes through continuous data collection and collaborative support.

**RPM for High-risk maternity patient.** Allows early detection and intervention to improve maternal and fetal outcomes by monitoring BP to promote better control of chronic conditions and reduce risk of adverse events.

**Screening/Diagnostic Mammography Access.** Scripps Coastal has expanded breast health access by prioritizing screening and diagnostic mammograms and breast ultrasounds. Scripps Coastal Medical Center Cedar in North County has doubled its capacity to meet community demand, ensuring quicker and more efficient access to these critical services and timely interpretation of diagnostic results.

**Scripps Medical Laboratory offers a Mobile Phlebotomy Service.** This service recognizes the challenges faced by patients with chronic medical conditions or compromised immune systems. This service provides remote blood draws for patients who may have difficulty accessing one of the lab's patient service centers.

**Scripps Whittier Behavioral Health Integration Program (BeHIP).** This program integrated their services with Scripps Clinic and Scripps Coastal Medical Groups to provide support for those with diabetes who struggle with distress and motivation related to managing their diabetes. BeHIP served 125 people in Fiscal Year (FY) 25.

**Scripps Whittier Diabetes in Pregnancy Program.** The program collaborated with Scripps Clinic OB-GYNs, perinatologists, and endocrinologists to provide comprehensive care and education to women with gestational, Type 1 and Type 2 diabetes. The program recorded 624 women enrolled in the diabetes in pregnancy program.

**Scripps Whittier Diabetes Self-Management Education and Support Program.** The Scripps Whittier Diabetes Prevention Program is integrated into the two large primary and multi-specialty groups, Scripps Clinic and Scripps Coastal Medical Group. This integration provides enhanced efficiency and ease of access for people with pre-diabetes and diabetes.

**The Alana Program.** This program offers comprehensive disease management for individuals with chronic conditions like COPD and CHF. It enhances quality of life, reduces hospital visits, and controls costs by providing in-home clinician visits, education, resources, and 24/7 access to specialized care.

**Ticket Scheduling.** Ticket scheduling is sending an "invitation" to patient to schedule themselves based on an order or referral. Improves patient experience, expands direct scheduling options, decreases dependency on support staff.

**Transition of Care Initiative.** This project aims to optimize and streamline the scheduling process for post-discharge appointments, ensuring timely follow-up care with primary care providers, addressing delays in post-hospital discharge care, and improving patient outcomes while reducing gaps in continuity of care. Ensures timely follow-up post-hospitalization, improving continuity and access.

**Weight Loss Surgery Educational Seminars.** Scripps Clinic offers a monthly education seminar led by bariatric surgeons, who cover the comprehensive surgical options available, as well as the benefits and risks associated with each.

## Community-Based Clinical Services

*Definition: These are clinical services provided on a periodic basis or as special events in the community. They include screenings, one-time or occasionally held clinics, clinics for underinsured and uninsured persons and mobile units.*

**American Red Cross Blood Drives.** Scripps Medical Foundation coordinated blood drives with the American Red Cross, resulting in 57 units of blood collected from 64 participants registered. This collection has the potential to save 171 lives. These drives underscore Scripps dedication to supporting the community's health care requirements and meeting the ongoing demand for blood donations, especially in times of crisis.

**Pediatric Vaccines.** Scripps Coastal provides vaccines in its pediatric offices and HealthExpress locations and continued to administer monoclonal antibody therapy infusion clinics at Coastal Cedar, Hillcrest, Mission Valley, Rancho Bernardo, Carmel Valley, Rancho San Diego, and Santee locations.

**Retinal Scanners Primary Care (RetinaVue).** Scripps Medical Foundation screening program designed for early retinopathy detection in patients with diabetes at the primary care provider (PCP) level.

**Scripps Cancer Center Lifeguard Cancer Screenings.** According to the American Cancer Society, skin cancers are the most common type of cancer in the United States, with the number of new cases continuing to rise each year. Doctors from Scripps Cancer Center visited the Dempsey Center in Imperial Beach to provide free skin cancer screenings to ocean lifeguards from South County. Scripps has provided free skin screenings to lifeguards and other first responders for more than 25 years, as part of its community

benefit program to support the region's overall health and well-being. Lifeguards spend a great deal of their time outdoors, putting them at higher risk for skin cancer. Summer is a good time to check for skin abnormalities that may be cancerous or may lead to skin cancers. In Fiscal Year (FY) 25, the program screened 22 lifeguards, and a biopsy was recommended for 2 lifeguards.

**The Scripps Lung Cancer Screening Program.** In 2022, Scripps launched The Jana Oliphant Hackett Lung Cancer Screening Program to help improve early diagnosis for people across San Diego County who are at increased risk for developing lung cancer. The screening program is a collaborative effort of experts, focused on early lung cancer detection and treatment to help reduce overall medical costs and increase patient survivability. Retention rates and getting patients to follow through with subsequent scans is a challenge among lung cancer screening programs across the country. So far, Scripps Cancer Center's program has been more successful than many others at seeing patients for their follow-up scans. In the reported period, 1,543 patients were referred and 1,482 received care.

## Health Care Support Services

*Definition: Health care and social support services are provided by the hospital to enhance access to and quality of health care services for vulnerable populations, especially persons living in poverty.*

**Fourth Trimester Program.** The Scripps Health 4th Trimester Program serving Scripps patients is a continuation of care offered at the 8–10-week postpartum visit, marking a vital transition point at the end of obstetric care. This program is designed to support long-term maternal health by addressing medical, emotional, and physical needs that may emerge during and after pregnancy. Key focus areas include managing or reducing the risk of chronic conditions such as hypertension and cardiovascular disease, screening for postpartum depression, and evaluating pelvic floor health. By integrating preventive care and early intervention, the program promotes a healthier future for mothers and lays the foundation for ongoing primary care engagement.

**Scripps Iris Virtual Advance Care Planning (ACP).** The program offers comprehensive virtual ACP services, including outreach, expert-facilitated conversations, and document generation. These patient-centered sessions are conducted by Iris facilitators through video or phone, with flexible availability. The program prioritizes the patient's experience and reduces the provider's effort.

**The Medication Patient Financial Assistance Program.** The Medication Patient Financial Assistance Program served 2,725 patients, providing support to identify and enroll vulnerable individuals in free or reduced-cost medication programs throughout San Diego County. Additionally, Scripps funded three full-time employees dedicated to this initiative.

# Health Professional Education

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Each year, Scripps Medical Foundation advances health care services through health professional education programs and provides a wide array of educational and training support to its affiliated physicians, nurses, and other care givers, as well as the community at large. To enhance service delivery and treatment practices for San Diego County, Scripps Medical Foundation invested in health professional education<sup>29</sup> during Fiscal Year (FY) 2025. This section highlights some of Scripps Medical Foundation health professional education activities.

## Health Professional Education

*Definition: This category includes educational programs for physicians, interns and residents, medical students, nurses and nursing students, pastoral care trainees and other health professionals when that education is necessary to retain state license or certification by a board in the individual's health profession specialty.*

### Physician and Medical Students

- The Scripps Clinic Division of Cardiovascular Fellowship Training Program trains top candidates to become leaders in cardiovascular medicine, including many who remain at Scripps and provide lifesaving care.
- Scripps Clinic Residents rotate through subspecialty and outpatient clinics, working closely with vulnerable and underserved populations. This commitment to serving diverse communities enhances the residents clinical training and prepares them for a broad range of patient care challenges. For more information see Section 4.

### Nursing Education

- Scripps Medical Foundation was a rotation site for nursing students in most clinical areas of the hospital. Scripps Medical Foundation provided preceptorships for 9 nursing students in clinical and leadership experiences in most clinic areas for a total of 1,116 preceptorship hours. Under this model, students work on a one-to-one basis with a staff nurse, nurse manager, advance practice nurse, and/or nurse educator. Preceptorships do involve a one-to-one assignment with a nurse and include hours of supervision per preceptorship.

### Medical Student Training

- Scripps Coastal Medical Group processed 20 preceptorship rotations for medical students (nurse practitioners and physician assistants) with 2,154 completed hours.

- Scripps Clinic Medical Group processed 86 rotations with 10,750 completed hours.

### **Other Health Professional Education**

- Scripps Medical Foundation supported clinical instruction and practice affiliations for 189 allied health (non-nursing students) with a total of 31,027 preceptorship hours. This accomplishment underscores Scripps Medical Foundation commitment to advancing health care education and fostering the development of future allied health professionals.

## Health Research

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*Definition: research is the study or investigation to generate generalizable knowledge made available to the public. Research includes the communication of findings and observations, including publication in a journal. Internally funded research and research funded by tax-exempt, or government entities are eligible for reporting.*

Research is central to Scripps' mission to provide the best care to patients, with many promising new treatments beginning in clinical trials. Clinical and community research plays a vital role in improving the community's overall health by developing new and innovative treatments. For more detail see Section 4.

## Cash, Grant & In-Kind Contributions

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### **Operation Restore Sight**

Scripps donated optical lenses and supplies to operation restore sight. The fair market value was \$1,600.

# Scripps Medical Foundation

## 2026 Community Benefit Plan, Fiscal Year (FY) 2026

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The previous section highlighted Scripps Medical Foundation accomplishments for Fiscal Year (FY) 2025. This section highlights the overall community benefit goals and objectives and strategies to support community health during Fiscal Year (FY) 2026 (October 2025 to September 2026).

### Fiscal Year (FY) 2026 Community Benefit Goals & Objectives

Scripps Medical Foundation programs will make an impact on the health status of the community through community health improvement programs, health professional education, and health research.

#### **Access to Care**

- Provide financial assistance for uninsured or underinsured patients needing health care.
- Host multiple Red Cross Blood Drives across San Diego County.
- Enhance access to breast health screenings for timely care.
- Initiate a Transition of Care program similar to Scripps Clinic. The goal of this program is to reduce avoidable hospital readmissions by hardwiring best practice post-discharge care.
- Support patients in need through the Medication Patient Financial Assistance Program.
- Apply a health population lens to breast cancer, diabetes, and hypertension initiatives.
- Provide education and support for chronic disease management.
- Offer integrated primary and HIV care, including education, testing, and PrEP.
- Continue Medicare Wellness Visits to close care gaps and address chronic conditions.
- Facilitate remote blood draws for patients with access challenges.
- Partner with primary care to promote lung cancer awareness and screening for high-risk patients.
- Provide Virtual Advance Care Planning (ACP) services, including outreach, expert-led conversations, and document preparation.

#### **Diabetes Support Services**

- Offer specialized support and education for diabetes self-management, including tailored care for women with gestational, Type 1, and Type 2 diabetes.

#### **Health Professional Education**

- Continue Scripps Medical Foundation's preceptorship opportunities for clinical and non-clinical students.



# Section 10

## Scripps Health Administrative Services

# About Scripps Health Administrative Services

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Scripps offers a number of enterprise-wide programs that meet the health care needs of patients and community members throughout San Diego County. These specialized centers include Scripps Cancer Center, Scripps Whittier Diabetes Institute, Prebys Cardiovascular Institute, and Scripps Health Administrative Services Community Benefit Services. The services of these programs are described in the hospital and site sections of the report.

## **Scripps Cancer Center**

Scripps is committed to fighting cancer through a collaborative, team approach that puts the patient at the center of care. Scripps Cancer Center brings together a multi-disciplinary team of surgeons and radiation oncologists, medical oncologists and support staff who develop personalized care plans based on patients' unique needs and provide some of the most advanced treatments available from initial cancer diagnosis through recovery and follow up care. Scripps is a leader in cancer therapy, delivering advanced cancer care to San Diego. Scripps physicians and staff work collaboratively toward cancer prevention, early detection, coordinated treatment and community support services, and are actively involved in leading-edge clinical, translational, and basic research. The commitment to community health has been further reinforced through initiatives aimed at underserved populations, addressing health care disparities and empowering patients through technology.

## **Scripps Whittier Diabetes Institute**

Founded in 1982 Scripps Whittier stands alone as the region's leading comprehensive diabetes institute. The mission at Scripps Whittier has always been to achieve excellence in diabetes care, research, and education. Scripps Whittier Diabetes Institute provides diabetes support services, in collaboration with the Division of Endocrinology, across both the inpatient and ambulatory environments. In addition, the Scripps Whittier provides screenings, education and support services including customized nutrition counseling, health professional education, and education programs, leveraging technological advancements in diabetes care by educating patients on how to use their continuous glucose monitors and insulin pumps, access to clinical trials and community programs including peer support groups.

## **Prebys Cardiovascular Institute**

Prebys Cardiovascular Institute at Scripps Memorial Hospital La Jolla is one of the largest, most advanced centers on the West Coast for cardiovascular medicine, research, and training. Through a longtime

partnership with Kaiser Permanente, Scripps also is the exclusive provider of cardiac surgery and interventional cardiology surgery for Kaiser Permanente members in the San Diego region.

## **Scripps Health Administrative Services Community Benefit Operations**

Scripps Community Benefit Services Office provides oversight, support, guidance and coordination of Scripps community health and outreach programs, helping ensure that they are in accordance with the Scripps mission, values, and strategic objectives. This program also supports the Strategic Planning Committee of the Scripps Board of Trustees in assessing and planning to meet community need. Additionally, this program is responsible for developing the triennial health needs assessment and, through the Community Benefit Fund, supports community programs that address San Diego County's high-priority health needs.

# Scripps Health Administrative Services 2026 Community Benefit Report

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The Scripps Health Administrative Services programs reflect the dedication and commitment to improving the community’s health, detailing programs that have provided benefit over and above standard health care practices in Fiscal Year (FY) 2025 (October 2024 to September 2025).

## Community Benefit Contribution

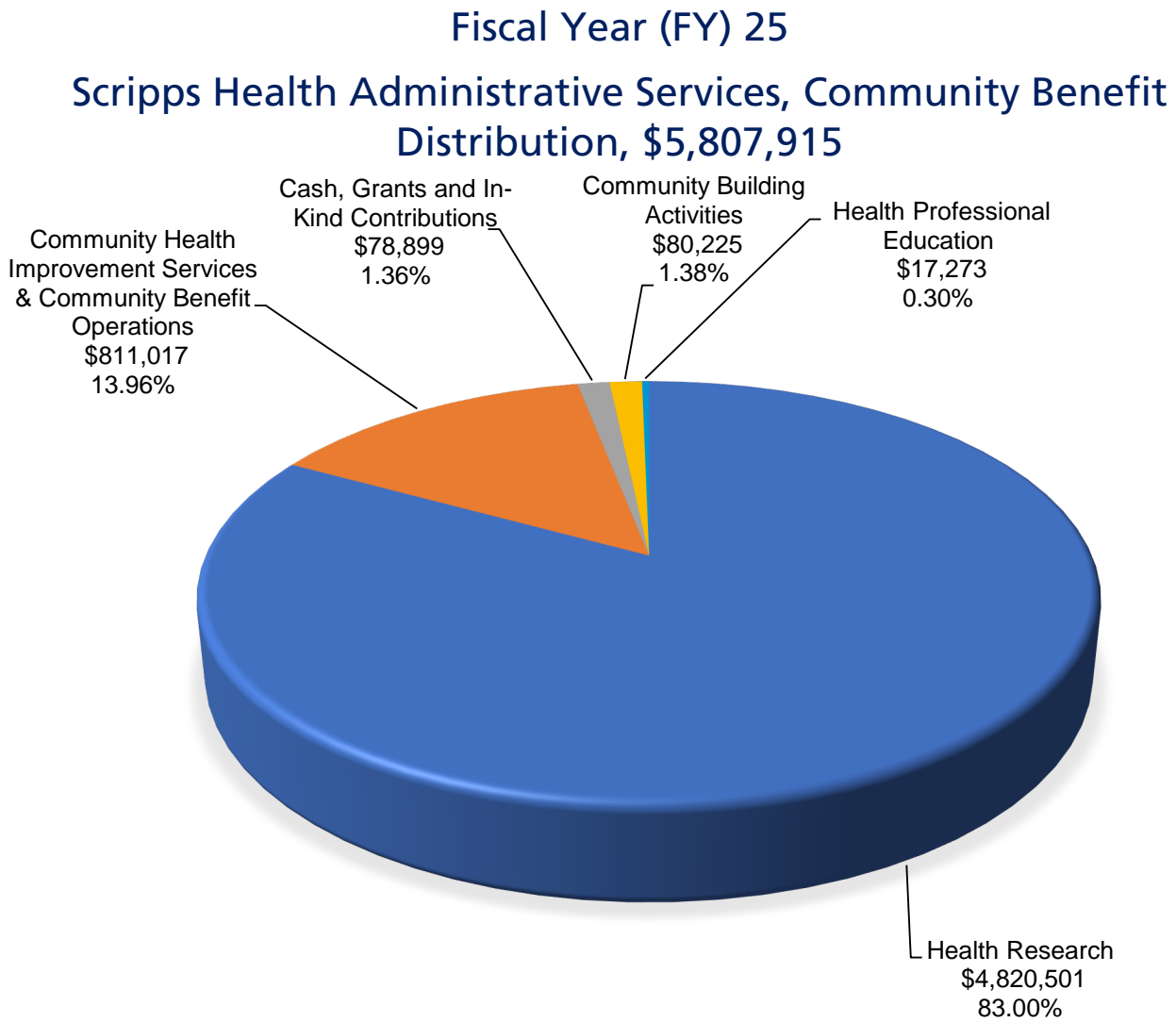
During Fiscal Year (FY) 2025, Scripps Health Administrative Services programs devoted **\$5,807,915** to community benefit services. The programs offered by Scripps Health Administrative Services emphasize community-based prevention efforts and use effective approaches to reach residents at greater risk for health problems.

### Community Benefit Services

Community Benefit Services	
Cash, Grants and In-Kind Contributions	\$78,899
Community Building Activities	\$80,225
Community Health Improvement Services & Community Benefit Operations	\$811,017
Health Professional Education	\$17,273
Health Research	\$4,820,501
<b>Total Community Benefit Financial Contribution</b>	<b>\$5,807,915</b>

Refer to Figure 10.1 presented on the following page for a graphic representation of Fiscal Year (FY) 25.

Figure 10.1



### Community Benefit Services

Community Benefit Services are programs and services designed to improve health in communities. IRS Form 990, Schedule H instructions define community benefit as activities or programs that respond to community health needs and seek to achieve one or more of the following objectives: improving access to health services, enabling low-income individuals to afford health care, enhancing public health, advancing generalizable knowledge, educating health care professionals, and relieving the government’s burden to improve health. Medicare Shortfall, Bad Debt, and certain Community Building Activities are reportable under Schedule H guidelines but are not included in the IRS-defined community benefit total. For the purposes of this report, Scripps includes these categories in its broader calculation of total community benefit to reflect the full scope of resources dedicated to supporting community health.

# Fiscal Year (FY) 25 Scripps Health Administrative Services Community Benefit Services Summary List

## Community Health Improvement Services & Community Benefit Operations

Community Benefit Categories	Person Served	Staff Hours	Volunteer Hours	Financial Support*
Community Health Education	10,989	3,231	-	\$57,498
Community-Based Clinical Services	2,621	-	127	-
Health Care Support Services	12,321	6,649	-	\$372,643
Social and Environmental Activities	-	310	-	\$28,784
Community Benefit Operations	-	-	-	\$352,092
<b>Total Fiscal Year (FY) 2025 Community Benefit Health Improvement Services</b>	<b>25,931</b>	<b>10,190</b>	<b>127</b>	<b>\$811,017</b>

## Health Professional Education

Community Benefit Categories	Person Served	Staff Hours	Volunteer Hours	Financial Support*
Physicians/Medical Students	2,569	-	-	-
Nurses/Nursing Students/Allied Health	-	101	-	\$9,826
Other Health Professions Education	516	208	-	\$7,447
<b>Total Fiscal Year (FY) 2025 Health Professional Education</b>	<b>3,085</b>	<b>309</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>\$17,273</b>

## Cash, Grants, and In-Kind Contributions

Community Benefit Categories	Person Served	Staff Hours	Volunteer Hours	Financial Support*
Cash Donations	-	-	-	\$41,500
Grants	-	-	-	\$5,000
In-Kind Donations	204	60	-	\$32,399
<b>Totals Fiscal Year (FY) 2025 Cash, Grants, and In-Kind Contributions</b>	<b>204</b>	<b>60</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>\$78,899</b>

## Health Research

Community Benefit Categories	Person Served	Staff Hours	Volunteer Hours	Financial Support*
Clinical Research	151	161,628	-	\$4,820,501
Community Health Research	757	-	-	-
<b>Total Fiscal Year (FY) 2025 Health Research</b>	<b>908</b>	<b>161,628</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>\$4,820,501</b>

## Community Building Activities\*\*

Community Benefit Categories	Person Served	Staff Hours	Volunteer Hours	Financial Support*
Economic Development	-	300	-	\$38,925
Community Support	2,494	3,175	-	\$29,300
Coalition Building	81	-	-	-
Workforce Development	24	2,875	-	\$12,000
<b>Totals Fiscal Year (FY) 2025 Community Building Activities</b>	<b>2,599</b>	<b>6,350</b>	-	<b>\$80,225</b>
<hr/>				
<b>Totals Fiscal Year (FY) 2025 Scripps Health Administrative Services</b>	<b>32,727</b>	<b>178,537</b>	<b>127</b>	<b>\$5,807,915</b>

\* "Financial Support" reflects the cost (labor, supplies, overhead, etc.) associated with the program/service less direct revenue. This figure does not include a calculation for physician and staff volunteer hours. In some instances, an entire community benefit program cost center has been divided between several initiatives.

\*\*Medicare Shortfall, Bad Debt, and Community Building Activities are reportable under IRS instructions but are excluded from the community benefit totals in Form 990, Schedule H. However, Scripps includes these categories in our overall community benefit calculations within the report.

# Community Health Improvement Services & Community Benefit Operations

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Community Health Improvement Services are activities conducted to improve community health, available to the public, which address a community need. These include prevention and wellness programs such as screenings, health education, support groups and health fairs which are supported by operational funds, grants, in-kind donations, and philanthropy. These programs are designed to raise public awareness and understanding of, and access to, identified community health needs.

Scripps Community Benefit Operations cover both direct and indirect costs, including staff, community health needs assessments, planning, tracking, reporting, and evaluation. This also includes staff costs for managing community benefit activities and overseeing programs not covered elsewhere. Scripps Health Administrative Services (SHAS) handles costs related to developing the community benefit plan and report, conducting needs assessments, creating implementation strategies, and producing annual progress reports. Additionally, expenses for the Community Benefit Inventory for Social Accountability (CBISA) by Lyon Software are included to support program operations.

During Fiscal Year (FY) 25, Scripps Health Administrative Services invested in Community Health Improvement Services and Community Benefit Operations, with notable achievements outlined by IRS categories and detailed further in Section 4.

## Community Health Education

*Definition: Community health education includes lectures, presentations, other group programs and activities, and development and dissemination of materials that focus on prevention and health behaviors. Education activities can be provided in multiple formats, including resources made available to communities through support groups and through initiatives with a self-help emphasis.*

**Community Benefit Fund.** Scripps awarded various grants through the Community Benefit Fund to address some of San Diego County's high priority health needs. Scripps has awarded \$4.8 million since program inception more than twenty years ago.

**Miracle Babies.** Scripps partners with Miracle Babies to refer expectant and postpartum mothers, ensuring they receive crucial support and resources for their well-being during and after pregnancy. Additionally, they partner with Rady Children's hospital and support families who infants are in the NICU.

**Scripps Partnership with San Ysidro Perinatology Services.** Scripps collaborated with San Ysidro Perinatology Services, actively educating and supporting 498 patients in Fiscal Year (FY) 25. This partnership provided comprehensive parenting education, specialized care, and diagnostic imaging services for expectant mothers navigating high-risk pregnancies or complex medical conditions.

**Scripps Whittier Diabetes Institute - Education and Community Programs.** Delivered 2,095 Project Dulce community clinic visits, enrolled 329 individuals in the diabetes prevention program, and provided 11 Dulce Digital visits.

**Project Dulce** provided more than 2,095 diabetes clinical care visits for low income and underserved individuals throughout San Diego.

**Diabetes Prevention Program (DPP).** The Diabetes Prevention Program (DPP) provided education and counseling, resulting in 329 encounters.

**The Mobile Health and Resource Fair.** The Scripps Whittier Institute collaborated with the Mobile Health and Resource Fair in Southeast San Diego, reaching more than 3,199 individuals with education and services focused on breast cancer prevention, early detection, and cardiovascular health. The health fair serves the underserved communities and promote preventive care and engages the community to better understand their unique challenges and identify effective ways to meet their health care needs.

### **Overall Reach**

- 3,199 individuals served
- 496 underserved/high-risk participants completed needs assessment surveys (Oct 2024–Sept 2025)
- 69% increase in completed health surveys compared to FY24
- Median age: 62 years
- Gender: 70% female | 30% male
- Most commonly served ethnic groups:
  - o 26.1% Hispanic/Latino
  - o 21.5% Black/African American

### **Clinical Screenings & Preventive Services Delivered**

- Total Screenings & Services: 8,392
- 2,903 blood sugar screenings
- 2,870 blood pressure checks
- 996 cholesterol checks
- 447 A1c tests
- 884 breast cancer education sessions

- 146 breast exams
- 146 vaccines

## **Follow-Up & Continuity of Care - Digital and Education Programs**

### **Digital & Education Programs**

- Participants screening positive for diabetes or cardiometabolic conditions were enrolled in Dulce Digital, a six-month multilingual text-based education program (English, Spanish, Tagalog, Arabic, Vietnamese).
- Delivered 9 Live Fit: Su Vida, Su Corazón heart-health series for 286 participants, providing three-session education programs on risk reduction, nutrition, physical activity, and prevention.
- Participant assessments demonstrated improved health knowledge and self-management outcomes.

**Cognitive Health Screenings** have been administered to more than 495 community members attending the monthly mobile health fair using a validated tool to assess cognitive decline in under-insured minorities.

**Stroke Program Community Outreach.** The Scripps Health Stroke Team advanced stroke awareness and prevention through community outreach at the Imperial Beach and Coronado Firehouse Open House events, where 175 community members received stroke risk assessments and education on the BE FAST method, emphasizing the importance of calling 911 at the first sign of symptoms. Additional blood pressure screenings and BE FAST education were provided to 45 participants at the Love Your Heart and Standing Strong events in February and September 2025. In total, the Stroke Team educated 470 community members on stroke recognition and prevention, strengthening early intervention awareness and community health outcomes.

**Stroke Programs and Education Events.** Scripps Health Stroke Programs and Education Events are dedicated to reducing strokes in San Diego County through community outreach efforts. In this reporting period, Scripps conducted five stroke presentations, educating 470 individuals, and actively participated in two stroke risk assessment events, performing blood pressure screening to 45 people to increase awareness and promote stroke prevention.

**Stroke Awareness San Diego Padres Event.** Scripps was part of the San Diego County Stroke Consortium/Stroke Advisory Committee, a county-wide stroke group comprised of SD County Stroke Receiving Center Stroke Program Coordinators, Stroke Champions, and Stroke Leadership. Scripps partnered with the San Diego County Stroke Consortium to deliver stroke education to 225 attendees at a Padres game, where the BE FAST message reached 35,019 spectators.

**Adult, Infant and Child CPR and Basic First Aid.** The Scripps Center for Learning offered a variety of classes for the community.

**California Hospital Compare's Opioid Care Honor Roll.** Scripps Health's hospitals earned recognition on California Hospital Compare's 2025 Opioid Care Honor Roll, recognizing sustained superior performance in reducing opioid-related harm. Scripps contributes to reducing opioid use by educating both patients and providers about opioid risks associated with opioids and promoting alternative methods for managing pain.

**Scripps Cancer Center.** The center offered a wide range of cancer support services for patients and families, including support groups, oncology nutrition, emotional support, alternative therapies, financial guidance, and more, all aimed at improving well-being and quality of life.

**Scripps Cancer Center Registry.** Since 1975, the Scripps Cancer Registry has been collecting cancer data on Scripps patients for research, epidemiological studies, education, and patient treatment.

**Scripps Cancer Center Heredity and Cancer Gene Counseling Program**<sup>20</sup> served more than 4,134 individuals.

**Scripps Cancer Center Lung Screening**<sup>21</sup>. Scripps Lung Cancer Screening Program was launched in 2022 to screen people who are at an elevated risk for developing lung cancer. Since its inception, 1,400 patients have received screening and surveillance services. Some have been diagnosed in early stages and referred for treatment by a multidisciplinary cancer team.

**Scripps Cancer Center Wellness and Ongoing Care Program.** Operating since 2021, the Wellness & Ongoing Care Program serves as a cancer survivorship clinic bridging oncology and primary care after patients complete routine oncology follow-up. The program focuses on improving access to comprehensive survivorship care by addressing physical, emotional, and social needs and ensuring coordinated, person-centered care throughout recovery. Designed to support patients beyond active treatment, the program continues to include dedicated clinics for breast and thoracic cancer survivors. These clinics offer continued medical oversight, wellness planning, and culturally competent support tailored to long-term recovery and quality of life.

**Scripps Cancer Center Nurse Navigation Program**<sup>18</sup>. Scripps Cancer Center's Registered Nurse Navigator Program offers invaluable support to cancer patients and their families by providing a dedicated registered nurse to guide them through every stage of their journey, from diagnosis to treatment and survivorship. Scripps emphasizes ongoing education and training for the nurse navigators to ensure they are equipped with the latest knowledge and resources to provide comprehensive care and support to patients and their families. Thirteen Intake Nurse Navigators navigated 5,743 patients.

**Scripps Cancer Center Outpatient Social Worker and Liaison Program**<sup>19</sup>. Scripps provides specially trained oncology social workers who understand the complexities of living with cancer and are dedicated to assisting cancer patients, along with providing education to health professionals and caregivers. Four oncology social workers assisted 1,490 patients. This program started a new men's cancer support group.

**Scripps Cancer Center delivered free chemo comfort bags.** Scripps Cancer Center distributed chemo comfort bags to 553 individuals, providing essential items to alleviate discomfort during chemotherapy treatment. Scripps is committed to patient education, providing resources and information on managing treatment side effects and promoting overall well-being throughout the cancer journey.

**Scripps Cancer Center Support Groups.** Scripps Cancer Center Support Groups provided assistance to 159 individuals through various support offerings.

**Scripps Cancer Center Patient Resource Library.** The Scripps Cancer Center Oncology Patient Resource Library assisted 119 patients and their families in comprehending their diagnoses and accessing a range of educational programs and patient information.

**Scripps Cancer Center Survivor Day.** Scripps Cancer Center hosted Survivor Day, a celebration for cancer survivors featuring a combination of virtual and in-person activities such as webinars, classes, and support groups. The event aimed to inspire survivors, share insights on cancer treatment, and foster connections among survivors and caregivers.

**Scripps Cancer Center Restorative Yoga and Sound Therapy Classes for Cancer Survivors and Caregivers** enrolled 447 patients and community members in a 60-minute restorative yoga and sound therapy experience that focuses on relaxation and rejuvenation.

**Scripps Cancer Center Living Life Well Sessions and Nutrition and Fitness Focus.** Registered Dietitians served more than 31 individuals educating patients on maintaining and improving their level of health and wellness via fitness and nutrition interventions.

**Scripps Cancer Center Lymphedema Stretch.** Scripps Cancer Center's Lymphedema Stretch program assisted 10 individuals, offering therapeutic exercises aimed at alleviating swelling and pain associated with lymphedema.

## Community-Based Clinical Services

*Definition: These are clinical services provided on a periodic basis or as special events in the community. They include screenings, one-time or occasionally held clinics, clinics for underinsured and uninsured persons and mobile units.*

**Eric Paredes Save A Life Screenings.** Scripps sponsored the Eric Paredes Save A Life Foundation for youth heart screenings. In Fiscal Year (FY) 25, Eric Paredes screened 2,535 out of 4,216 registered students from six middle/high schools, identifying 37 with cardiac abnormalities requiring follow-up (1.5%), and of those 17 serious enough to cause sudden cardiac arrest (1%). All identified cases were referred to their physicians and advised to include ECG (electrocardiogram) in their medical records as a baseline. An average 52% of participants were families with low to moderate income and of total registrants, an average 14% reported

no pediatrician and average 19% reported use of a community clinic. Approximately 4,474 youth and parents received CPR and AED training. Scripps employees collectively donated nearly 560<sup>23</sup> hours across the series of screening events, including physicians, nurses, techs, analysts, and other staff. *Note: Scripps employees who volunteer for the Eric Paredes screening events do so during their personal time, and as such, staff time is not included in the community benefit report totals*

## Health Care Support Services

*Definition: Health care and social support services are provided by the hospital to enhance access to and quality of health care services for vulnerable populations, especially persons living in poverty.*

**Scripps Cancer Center Wig Boutique and Prosthesis Bank.** Scripps Cancer Center's Wig Boutique and Prosthesis Bank fitted 122 women with new wigs and provided other head coverings, including hats, turbans, and scarves. Currently, Scripps is in the process of certifying fitters to provide permanent prostheses.

**The Public Resource Specialist (PRS).** The Public Resource Specialist (PRS) team conducted successful screenings and held important conversations about food insecurity with 5,218 patients in Fiscal Year (FY) 25. Following these screenings, PRS submitted 3,665 Medi-Cal applications and 870 CalFresh applications to the County.

**Facilitating Access to Coordinated Transportation (FACT) Inc.** Scripps collaborated with Facilitating Access to Coordinated Transportation (FACT) Inc. for on-demand patient transportation, resulting in more than 12,000 rides since inception. For the time period July 2024 through June 2025 FACT provided more than 5,000 rides. This service plays a vital role in ensuring patients can access critical medical care, regardless of geographic barriers.

## Social and Environmental Improvement Activities

*Definition: These are programs and activities that improve the health of persons in the community by addressing social and environmental determinants that impact health. They include programs that address social and community factors, poverty and economic stability, education, and neighborhood and the built environment.*

**Coastal Roots Farm.** Scripps sponsored Coastal Roots Farm’s Organic Food Access Program for Tribal Communities. Coastal Roots Farm is a nonprofit community farm and education center that practices organic farming and expands dignified access to fresh, organic produce and eggs for food-insecure residents across San Diego County. Through onsite and offsite distributions, the Farm serves more than 35,000 low-income community members annually, helping reduce hunger and promote a healthier, more sustainable community.

**San Marcos Blue Zone Project.** In Fiscal Year (FY) 25, Scripps became a partner of the San Marcos Blue Zones project—a community well-being initiative designed to improve residents' health and quality of life. Inspired by regions around the world where people live the longest and healthiest lives, the project promotes changes in the built environment, food systems, and lifestyle practices. Its primary goal is to make healthier choices easier and more accessible for everyone in their daily lives.

**Scripps Health Public Policy and Advocacy.** Scripps Health actively engages in public policy and advocacy, meeting with policymakers at various levels. Advocacy priorities align with Scripps mission of delivering superior health care to communities, focusing on long-term financial sustainability and areas that support community health and access expansion.

**Southwestern College (SWC) Foundation - Jag Kitchen Food Pantry.** Scripps supported the Southwestern College Jag Kitchen Food Pantry, which provides free food, hygiene items, and other essentials to Southwestern College where nearly half of our student population reports experiencing food insecurity.

**Violence Against Health Care Workers Taskforce.** Across the United States, health care workers are five times more likely to experience workplace violence than employees in other industries, with incidents steadily increasing in recent years. Under the leadership of the Scripps Health CEO and the San Diego County District Attorney, a regional Hospital Violence Task Force was established to address these challenges through coordinated local action and legislative advocacy. The Task Force includes 20 health systems and law enforcement agencies across San Diego County and meets six times annually. In FY25, Scripps dedicated 250 staff hours to support this collaborative effort.

### Program Outcomes

Scripps has demonstrated measurable progress in reducing workplace violence injuries across its hospitals:

- 36% reduction in workplace violence injuries (2022–2025), decreasing from 97 injuries in 2022 to 62 in 2025.
- 21% decline in incidents in 2025 compared to 2024 (as of August 20, 2025).
- 80% reduction in injury rate, decreasing from 3.06% (January 2022–September 2025 average) to 0.6% in 2025 (January–August), with 66 injuries occurring among approximately 11,000 reported incidents.
- Improvements were observed across all hospitals, with the most significant injury reductions at Scripps Mercy San Diego, Scripps Mercy Chula Vista, and Scripps Green Hospital.
- Sustained reporting levels alongside declining injury rates reflect a strengthened safety culture, increased staff confidence in reporting systems, and effective early intervention strategies.

# Health Professional Education

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Each year, Scripps Health Administrative Services advances health care services through health professional education programs and provides a wide array of educational and training support to its affiliated physicians, nurses, and other care givers, as well as the community at large. To enhance service delivery and treatment practices for San Diego County, Scripps Health Administrative Services programs documented health professional education<sup>29</sup> programs during Fiscal Year (FY) 25.

## Health Professional Education

*Definition: This category includes educational programs for physicians, interns and residents, medical students, nurses and nursing students, pastoral care trainees and other health professionals when that education is necessary to retain state license or certification by a board in the individual's health profession specialty.*

### Physician and Medical Students

- **Continuing Medical Education** events reached more than 2,500 health professionals with up-to-date medical education activities.
- **Scripps Cancer Center hosted several GME Oncology events**, including the Clinical Hematology & Oncology Conference, Oncology Care Symposium, Melanoma Conference, Oncology Update Conferences, and an Oncology Lectureship Series.
- **Eric Paredes Save A Life Foundation: Prescription For Prevention.** Scripps continues to refer Scripps providers to the Eric Paredes Save A Life Foundation's "Prescription For Prevention" cardiac risk assessment in youth continuing medical education, which offers credits for Sudden Cardiac Arrest prevention learning in primary care. The course is endorsed by the California Chapter of the American College of Cardiology. Practitioners significantly improve their knowledge, with post-quiz scores.

### Nursing Education

- **Transition Programs.** Scripps clinical educators and leaders developed special training programs to facilitate the growth and development of employees at Scripps. Programs include an ICU RN program, an RN New Grad Residency program, and a Radiology Tech program.
- **San Diego Nursing Service/Education Consortium.** Scripps Health participated in the San Diego Nursing Service/Education Consortium, a nonprofit organization that plays a crucial role in coordinating clinical placements for students in nursing and related health care education programs.

## Other Health Professional Education

- **Ancillary Students** (non-nursing students). Scripps supported clinical instruction and practice affiliations for 5 allied health students with a total of 560 preceptorship hours.
- Scripps offers a convenient way to access discounted rates and scholarships for various learning opportunities by **partnering with 12 academic program partnerships** to help foster the next generation of health care professionals. Each partner institution provides its own unique tuition rates and scholarship options.
- **Scripps has 70 affiliation agreements for clinical placement** with schools, colleges, and universities to provide educational opportunities, internships, and collaborative programs, fostering the next generation of health care professionals.
- **Life Support Courses.** Scripps offered a variety of courses through the Center for Learning such as Advanced Cardiac Life Support, Pediatric Advanced Life Support, and Neonatal Resuscitation Program.
- **Scripps Whittier Diabetes Institute Professional Education and Training.** Scripps Whittier Diabetes Institute offers advanced diabetes education and training for health care professionals through webinars and specialized programs. These initiatives enhance knowledge and skills in delivering high-quality diabetes care locally and nationally. In Fiscal Year (FY) 25, the team conducted four webinars, four training programs (including the Project Dulce curriculum), and one professional CME training course, serving 373 participants.

# Health Research

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*Definition: research is the study or investigation to generate generalizable knowledge made available to the public. Research includes the communication of findings and observations, including publication in a journal. Internally funded research and research funded by tax-exempt, or government entities are eligible for reporting.*

Research is central to Scripps' mission to provide the best care to patients, with many promising new treatments beginning in clinical trials. Clinical and community research plays a vital role in improving the community's overall health by developing new and innovative treatments. Scripps Health Administrative Services programs invested in health research programs during Fiscal Year (FY) 25. See Section 4, for a detail of Scripps research programs.

**Scripps Collaborative for Health Excellence (SCHE)** achieved important milestones in its fifth year:

- Developed and executed a peer-review process to promote trainee research focused on health disparities in breast cancer, cardiovascular disease, and neurocognition. SCHE awarded research projects ranging from cardiovascular care, health and wellness, liver disease, diabetes care among the Filipino population, and research support focused on women and multicultural populations.
- Implemented a wide variety of services to support culturally and linguistically appropriate resources and support for patients and community members. More than 12,000 participants from the community participated in these programs.
- Provided post-discharge support for more than 4,400 patients recovering from conditions such as Acute Myocardial Infarction (AMI), Coronary Artery Bypass Grafting (CABG), Congestive Heart Failure (CHF), and stroke as well as an additional population screened at risk for two or more Social Determinants of Health (SDOH) risk factors.
- Offered youth pipeline programs for 3,249 youth to supporting building a diverse health care workforce.
- Hosted the annual Research Symposium with more than 100 participants attending virtually. The symposium showcased innovative health disparities research being conducted by clinicians, research scientists, and trainees throughout Scripps. The symposium is aimed at increasing awareness of health equity needs, fostering information exchange, future collaboration and highlighting the wealth of knowledge and expertise within Scripps. The symposium is supported by a partnership between Scripps Health Research and SCHE leadership, and its funded by the Krueger-Wyeth award.

Among the presentations:

- Comparing Risk of In-Hospital Mortality in Patients With STEMI/NSTEMI or Cardiogenic Shock Using CSWG-SCAI Criteria.
- Scripps Whittier Diabetes Institute Dissemination and Implementation Programs
- Advancing Health Equity Through Data
- AM-WELL Pilot Study: A Multimodal Wellness Intervention for Breast Cancer Survivors
- Disparities Within the Provision and Utilization of Genetic Counseling and Testing Among Women With Newly Diagnosed Breast Cancer at High Genetic Risk
- Genentech: Industries Role in Health Equity

**Scripps Whittier Diabetes Institute conducted community-based research** with the following partners: San Diego County Health and Human Services Agency, federally qualified health centers and community clinics, Scripps Research Translational Institute (SRTI) and San Diego State University, to prevent and treat diabetes in San Diego’s multi-ethnic communities.

**Scripps Whittier Research and Development Programs** engaged 1,473 active participants and engaged in studies and projects. The team successfully developed 22 manuscripts, delivered 23 presentations, and had 5 principal investigators leading various endeavors.

**Clinical Translational Science Award (CTSA).** Scripps Whittier Diabetes Institute served as the community engagement arm for the Clinical Translational Science award (CTSA) funded by the National Institute of Health.

**Hospital Digital Programs: Continuous Glucose Monitoring Study.** Hospital Digital Programs: Continuous Glucose Monitoring Study. With a longstanding commitment to addressing health disparities, the Whittier Diabetes Institute is currently evaluating Continuous Glucose Monitoring use in hospitalized Hispanic individuals with type 2 diabetes and delivering culturally and linguistically tailored digital diabetes education for Hispanic, Filipino, and Arab American populations.

**Advancing Diabetes Through Culturally Tailored Diabetes Interventions.** The Scripps Whittier Diabetes Institute is conducting studies to improve health outcomes among at-risk, underrepresented communities. These programs test the effectiveness of real-time digital feedback for people with Type 2 diabetes, using tailored health technology delivered via text messages. Prompts include guidance on healthy eating habits, physical activity reminders, and behavior-change support, all designed to help patients better manage their diabetes.

#### **Recruitment to Date**

- Dulce Digital – Filipino Americans: 39 participants
- Dulce Digital – Arab Americans: 98 participants (*recruitment currently on hold as logistics are coordinated with an external community partner*)

- Dulce Digital 2.0 – Hispanic Communities: 75 participants
- CyberGems – Continuous Glucose Monitoring: 412 participants
- ACT1VATE study: 243 participants

**Recruitment goals for these studies are:**

1. 50 Dulce Digital Filipino Americans (from FQHC community partners and Scripps registry - EPIC)
2. 50 Dulce Digital Arab Americans (from FQHC community partners)
3. 100 Dulce Digital 2.0 Hispanic Communities
4. 550 CyberGems (from Scripps registry - EPIC)
5. 250 participants in the ACT1VATE study (from Scripps registry - EPIC)

## Cash, Grant & In-Kind Contributions

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*Definition: Funds and in-kind services donated to community groups and nonprofit organizations.*

**211 San Diego.** Scripps sponsored the 211 San Diego luncheon to celebrate 20 years of service. The event honored former Senate President Pro Tem Toni Atkins with the first-ever 211 San Diego champion award to recognize her support and advocacy of the 211 San Diego mission of connecting our region to community, health and disaster services. As a local nonprofit organization, 211 San Diego is the region’s trusted source for information and connections to community, health, and disaster resources.

**American Heart Association Go Red for Women Luncheon.** Scripps sponsored the Go Red for Women Luncheon. Go Red for Women is the American Heart Association's national movement to end heart disease and stroke in women.

**Eric Paredes Save a Life Foundation.** Scripps partners with the Eric Paredes Save a Life Foundation to prevent sudden cardiac arrest and death in middle and high school aged children, including those in the underserved areas of San Diego County, through awareness, education, and action. Scripps provides a grant and volunteers, including physicians, nurses, and echocardiogram technicians, screen students throughout San Diego County.

**Facilitating Access to Coordinated Transportation (FACT) Inc.** Scripps was the welcome speaker and shared a patient story with community and elected leaders at FACT’s annual board meeting this year and continues to collaborate with the organization to provide on-demand transportation services for patients and remove barriers to access.

**Father Joe’s Villages – Scripps Pay it Forward Blanket Drive.** The blanket drive was held as part of Spirit Week. The Pay it Forward Drive helps the homeless in our community, such as Father Joe’s Villages. Scripps gathered 204 blankets valued at \$5,712 from employees, physicians, and volunteers across Scripps locations. Father Joe’s will include the donated items in hygiene kits for the homeless and distribute them at shelters and day centers. Employees dedicated 60 hours of working time to this effort at a net benefit of \$8,162.

**Feeding San Diego - Emergency Meals and Water.** Scripps maintains an emergency supply of meals and water, replenishing it regularly and donating the previously stocked items. In Fiscal Year (FY) 25, Scripps donated 75 cases of water valued at \$435.

**Lifeline Community Services.** Scripps sponsored the 2025 Viva La Vida! Celebration for Lifeline Community Services. Lifeline has been a vital part of the community, delivering more than 35 clinically strong and evidence-based programs to community members throughout San Diego County. Lifeline’s goal is to foster long-lasting personal growth and create systemic change in the social conditions affecting youth, adults and families they serve. Lifeline supports work in the following areas: behavioral health, economic empowerment, housing and stabilization, youth development, family strengthening and anti-human trafficking.

**North County Resource Center.** Scripps sponsored the North County LGBTQIA+ 2025 gala event to benefit their resource center. The resource center is a vital hub for advocacy, education and support. The Center provides lifesaving services like housing services, behavioral health, youth programming, reproductive health and food distribution.

**RAD-AID International.** Scripps donated BARCO monitors—specialized, high-resolution, and high-value displays used by radiologists to interpret mammography images. These monitors undergo regular quality assurance checks to meet California Department of Public Health (CDPH) standards and are replaced when they begin to show signs of degradation. Although no longer in clinical use at Scripps, the monitors remain fully functional and have several years of usability remaining. They were identified as ideal candidates for donation to rad-aid international, an organization that delivers medical equipment to underserved regions around the world. The fair market value was \$21,000.

**The San Diego LGBTQIA+ Community Center.** Scripps sponsored the San Diego LGBTQIA+ Community Center, which is one of the nation's largest and most active LGBTQIA+ Community Centers. The center, led by a 14-member board of directors, employs more than 70 staff members, and engages more than 1,200 community volunteers. Their mission encompasses enhancing and sustaining LGBTQIA+ health and human rights, providing a range of programs and services to the diverse San Diego LGBTQIA+ community,

including individuals of various demographics and those living with HIV. Through its events, activities, advocacy, and direct service visits, the center significantly impacts the lives of thousands.

**Turkey Giveaway and Health Resource Fair.** Scripps supported the Turkey Giveaway and Health Resource Fair event in East San Diego distributed 1,000 turkeys, along with produce and sides purchased from the San Diego Food Bank and Feeding San Diego, to provide complete Thanksgiving meals to the community.

## Community Building Activities

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*Definition: Activities that support community assets by offering the expertise and resources of the hospital organization. These activities may address the root causes of health problems or the determinants of health, such as education, homelessness, poverty, and the environment.*

### Economic Development

**Executive Leadership - Community Boards and Business Organizations.** Scripps participated on various community boards and business organizations, representing the organization's positions on health issues, and addressing matters concerning health and safety within the community.

### Community Support

**Celebrando Latinas.** Celebrando Latinas is the largest Latina conference in Spanish nationwide. It's an empowering experience of motivation and education for Latina women. Celebrando Latinas is an unforgettable and unique day completely in Spanish. Networking, resources, health and wellness testing and information and much more.

**The Chicano Federation "Unity Luncheon" and "Cesar Chavez Day of Service."** Scripps sponsored the Unity Luncheon. The Chicano Federation of San Diego County is a nonprofit, community-based organization that offers a range of family, childcare, housing, community development and advocacy.

**Equality California.** Scripps sponsored the Equality California "Equality Awards" San Diego. Equality California is the nation's largest statewide LGBTQIA+ civil rights organization. Equality California brings the voices of LGBTQIA+ people and allies to institutions of power in California and across the United States, striving to create a world that is healthy, just, and fully equal for all LGBTQIA+ people.

**San Diego LGBTQ Pride Parade.** Scripps sponsored the annual Pride Parade. Scripps participated with a contingency of more than 50 walkers and Scripps leadership at San Diego Pride Parade led by the LGBTQIA+ employee Affinity Group.

**LGBTQIA+ Victory Institute.** Scripps sponsored the LGBTQIA+ Victory Institute fundraising event “champagne brunch fundraiser.” The LGBTQIA+ Victory Institute works to achieve and sustain equality through leadership development, trainings, research and convenings.

**Scripps Medical Response Team (SMRT).** Scripps has a system-wide disaster preparedness program that includes the volunteer Scripps Medical Response Team (SMRT). SMRT is ready to deploy when requested by the California Medical Assistance Team (Cal-Mat) during state emergencies like wildfires or earthquakes. Although there were no deployments in 2025, the team remains prepared for future calls for assistance.

**Disaster Preparedness – Community Support and Outreach Education.** Scripps leads in disaster preparedness, collaborating with various levels of government and community leaders. These efforts focus on planning for emergencies and actively promote community awareness and participation in preparedness activities to help care for disaster victims. In Fiscal Year (FY) 25, the program served 200 individuals.

**Disaster Preparedness – Active Shooter Drill at New La Jolla Tower**

Scripps security and clinical staff partnered with local and federal law enforcement—including the FBI, DEA, and local fire and police departments—for an active shooter drill at the new La Jolla tower. The exercise allowed first responders to train in a realistic hospital environment, with Scripps employees volunteering as mock patients, staff, and family members. Scripps has a long history of supporting such preparedness efforts, throughout the past two decades. In Fiscal Year (FY) 25, 125 individuals participated in the drill with 1,300 staff hours.

**San Diego County and State of California Advisory Groups.** Scripps participated in this advisory group to plan, implement, and evaluate key disaster preparedness response plans and exercises. In Fiscal Year (FY) 25, 100 staff hours were dedicated and 100 people were served. In addition, Scripps is an advisor to San Diego County for federal and state grant development and planning.

**Hospital Incident Command System National Advisory Committee (HICS).** Scripps Health is an active member in the Hospital Incident Command System National Advisory Committee (HICS). The training is focused specifically on HICS, an incident management system that can be used by hospitals to manage threats, planned events or emergencies. Scripps hosted a course which was open to the community and 139 people attended.

**San Diego Healthcare Coalition Advisory Committee (SDHDC).** Scripps Health actively collaborates with SDHDC to improve emergency preparedness and response planning. In Fiscal Year (FY) 25, a total of 230 people attended.

**San Diego Operational Area Full-Scale Exercise.** When disaster strikes, like a wildfire, earthquake, flood, or other emergency, San Diego County needs a clear plan to keep people safe, protect property, and support our communities. The Emergency Operations Plan (Plan) is that guide. It explains how the County and all the cities within the county work together during disasters and major emergencies. Scripps participated in the Operational Area Full-Scale Exercise, enhancing the region's response to complex mass casualty incidents. The exercise simulated a pediatric surge from multiple incidents across San Diego County, involving various agencies, including hospitals. In Fiscal Year (FY) 25, a total of 700 people participated.

**San Diego County Coalition Surge Test No Notice Exercise.** Scripps participated in the County Coalition Surge Test No Notice Exercise, a drill simulating an active shooter scenario involving approximately 100 patients, predominantly pediatric cases. In Fiscal Year (FY) 25, a total of 450 people participated.

**San Diego Regional Full-Scale Exercise.** Scripps participated in the San Diego Regional Full-Scale Exercise. All hospitals participated, tested, and evaluated the capabilities of the command center and the response plan for patient surge and evacuation.

#### Community Coalition

**Community Engagement Partnerships and Advisory Boards.** Through Community Advisory Boards (CABS) gather input from community members, ensuring programs and initiatives are aligned with community priorities and provide valuable input on research projects, program design, and evaluation, ultimately leading to more effective and culturally sensitive interventions.

#### Workforce Development

**MANA de San Diego (MANASD).** Scripps sponsored MANASD, the largest chapter of a national Latina organization founded in 1986. MANASD's mission is to empower Latinas for upward mobility and a better quality of life. This sisterhood supports Latinas through education, leadership development, community service, and advocacy. Programs like the Hermanitas initiative for middle and high school students and the Latina Success Leadership Program for mid-level professionals help Latinas at all stages of life.

**North County African American Women's Association (NCAAWA).** Scripps sponsored a fundraiser for NCAAWA. Support provided scholarship funds for girls and women of African American descent. The program has helped hundreds of women receive career, vocational and technical education, in addition to life skills and health awareness. NCAAWA has been assisting women reentering the workforce and graduating seniors to achieve their educational goals through fundraising efforts.

**San Ysidro Women's Club.** Scripps sponsored the San Ysidro Women's Club Fiesta celebrating its 25th Anniversary Ranchera. Over the past 25 years, the club has proudly awarded more than 600 scholarships to hardworking students from San Ysidro High School.

**Scripps High School Exploration Internship Program.** Scripps Health initiated the Scripps High School Exploration Internship Program to engage young individuals and cultivate their interest in health care

professions facing a shortage of skilled professionals. Each year, 25-30 students gain exposure to various hospital and Clinical departments, including the emergency room and surgery, allowing them to explore different career possibilities in health care while also acquiring valuable insights into health and healing. In total, Scripps dedicated 2,875 hours to the program, with each student spending 120 hours with a Scripps host.

**San Diego Organization of Healthcare Leaders (SOHL).** Scripps sponsored the SOHL annual conference. Founded in 2001, the SOHL is an official combined chapter of the American College of Healthcare Executives (ACHE), an international professional society of more than 49,000 health care executives.

## Other Community Benefits

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Scripps is committed to serving the community through various programs and services, showcasing its dedication to its mission. Some of these programs are exclusive to employees and specific services within the community, and their expenses are not counted as community benefit expenses.

**Helping Our Peers in Emergencies (HOPE) Fund.** The Helping Our Peers in Emergencies (HOPE) Fund at Scripps provided meaningful support to employees in need during Fiscal Year (FY) 25. Out of 91 requests, 54 were approved, distributing a total of \$77,440 in financial aid. Additionally, 10 employees benefited from 448 hours of PTO.

**Scripps Rapid Crisis Response.** This fiscal year, Scripps partnered with the American Red Cross to support general disaster relief efforts, including a \$2,500 contribution for Hurricane Helene. In addition, employees donated a total of \$23,725 to support relief for the Los Angeles fires, contributing through payroll deductions and direct online donations.

**Scripps Food Drives.** Led by Work-Life Services, hundreds of staff have donated food, gift cards, and funds through payroll deductions—and volunteered to sort and distribute. Each drive, our culinary services team secures large donations from vendors. To date, Scripps has conducted seven drives, delivering 43,000+ pounds of food to 903 colleagues and nearly 3,700 family members.

# Fostering Volunteerism

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In addition to the financial community benefit contributions made during Fiscal Year (FY) 25, Scripps Health Administrative Services (SHAS) employees and affiliated physicians donated a portion of their personal time volunteering to support Scripps sponsored community benefit programs. With close to 127 hours, the estimated dollar value of this volunteer labor is \$8,807.67<sup>28</sup>, which is not included in the Scripps Fiscal Year (FY) 25 community benefit programs and services totals.

# Scripps Health Administrative Services Programs 2026 Community Benefit Plan, Fiscal Year (FY) 26

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The previous section highlighted Scripps Health Administrative Services program accomplishments for Fiscal Year (FY) 25. This section highlights the overall community benefit goals and objectives to support community health during Fiscal Year (FY) 26 (October 2025 to September 2026).

## Fiscal Year (FY) 26 Community Benefit Goals & Objectives

Scripps Health Administrative Services programs will make an impact on the health status of the community through community health improvement programs, health professional education, and health research.

### **Access to Care (Community Outreach)**

- Enhance health care access for underserved communities through direct programs and partnerships with community organizations, including financial assistance, education, counseling, and interpretation services as needed.

### **Cancer Support Services**

- Educate on cancer prevention and early detection; offer support groups and community resources for various cancer types; actively support cancer awareness events.

### **Cardiovascular Disease and Stroke**

- Partner with local organizations to deliver cardiac and stroke education and prevention programs to address risk factors.

### **Diabetes Support Services**

- Offer culturally sensitive diabetes education and support to underserved populations, using both in-person and virtual programs to promote prevention and awareness.
- Address socioeconomic and linguistic barriers and facilitate referrals to local community resources when needed.
- Use multidisciplinary health care teams to provide comprehensive diabetes care and ensure access to self-management education through professional and community resources.

### **Emergency And Disaster Preparedness**

- Collaborate with other health systems and first responders to ensure regional readiness and provide emergency care during disasters.

## **School Partnerships**

- Continue to align Scripps Talent Development Services programs with the organization's workforce development strategy.
- Promote health care as a rewarding career choice to students through continued partnerships with high schools, colleges, and universities which brings students to hospital and clinical settings.
- Strategically continue to work with the San Diego Nursing & Allied Health Service Education Consortium in partnership with local school programs that support Scripps's talent pipeline.
- Continue to oversee new requests for affiliation agreements with a focus on establishing agreements that support Scripps talent pipeline.
- Continue to expand visibility of our academic program partners who offer discounted rates and/or program scholarships on a variety of learning opportunities, by providing information to employees during workforce development month.

## **Diabetes Professional Education**

- Expand diabetes education for health care providers nationwide through Scripps Whittier, promoting equitable research and training community health workers to implement Project Dulce.

## **Diabetes Training and Research**

- Partner with San Ysidro Health and Neighborhood Healthcare to adapt diabetes programs for Filipino and Arab American communities.

## **Clinical Variance Education and Research**

- Scripps is committed to meeting federal, state and regulatory agency requirements to improve health care and clinical outcomes.
- Evaluate and address differences in clinical quality and patient experience as part of our ongoing commitment to delivering high-quality care for the people we serve.
- Scripps will address disparities with a focused emphasis on readmission rates across the system and at each hospital site. Readmission rates will continue to serve as a key organizational performance metric, supported by ongoing outreach efforts to assist discharged patients experiencing challenges related to the Social Determinants of Health (SDOH).

# Section 11

# Appendices

## Appendix A – Definition of Terms

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**Bad Debt** – Unpaid costs for care that are provided to people who do not meet the criteria for charity care, are not covered by a third-party payer or have a co-payment obligation that is not met.

**Broader Community** – Groups or communities not specifically identified as vulnerable populations. This may include groups or communities where vulnerable populations cannot be identified, or the activity is not specifically directed towards vulnerable populations.

**California Department of Health Care Access and Information (HCAI)** – The agency that manages community benefit reporting at the state level. In 1996, HCAI (then named the Office of Statewide Health Planning and Development) began collecting and reviewing CHNAs and community benefit plans.

**Cash and In-Kind Contributions** – In-kind contributions are donations of items or services. In-kind contributions for community benefit include the cost of staff hours donated by the organization to the community while on the organization’s payroll, indirect cost of space donated to tax-exempt community groups, and the financial value of donated food, equipment, and supplies. Cash contributions should not include donations made by employees; loans, advances or contributions to the capital of another organization; or unrestricted gifts to another organization that are not to be used to provide community benefit. Examples: donations of clothing, shoes, hygiene products to people experiencing homelessness in the community; cash donations and grant funds awarded to community organizations that support hospital health priorities; hospital midwives’ time to support a prenatal clinic for vulnerable pregnant people; staff time for participation in conferences, collaboratives, or other partnership meetings related to the hospital’s health priorities.

**Charity Care (Financial Assistance at Cost)** – Free or discounted health services provided to people who meet the organization’s criteria for financial assistance and are unable to pay for all or a portion of the services. Charity care shall be recorded at cost. Charity care does not include bad debt or uncollectible charges that the organization recorded as revenue but wrote off due to a patient’s failure to pay.

**Community Benefit** – Refers to the programs or activities that provide treatment and/or promote health and healing as a response to identified community needs. Qualifying activities or programs must improve access to health care, enhance community health, advance medical or health knowledge or reduce the burden of public or government health efforts.

**Community Benefit Plan** – Refer to the written document prepared for annual submission to the Department of Health Care Access and Information that shall include, but shall not be limited to, a description of the activities that the hospital has undertaken in order to address identified community needs

within its mission and financial capacity, and the process by which the hospital developed the plan in consultation with the community.

**Community Benefit Operations** – Community benefit operations are activities associated with community health needs assessments (CHNAs), community benefit program administration, and the organization’s activities associated with fundraising or grant-writing for the organization’s community benefit programs. Activities or programs cannot be reported if they are provided primarily for marketing purposes or if they are more beneficial to the organization than to the community.

*Examples: Community benefit consultants: consultants and operations to support the CHNA process; staff salaries, benefits, and expenses; other administrative staff and support; software subscriptions.*

**Community Building Activities** – Community-building activities protect or improve the community’s health or safety and cannot be reported on Schedule H as a community benefit under Part I. Beginning with the 2011 Schedule H, the IRS clearly indicated that some community-building activities may also meet the definition of community benefit. Activities that demonstrate evidence-based results in improving health better meet the definition of community benefit.

Community-building activities help build the capacity of the community to address health needs and often address the “upstream” factors and social determinants that impact health such as education, air quality, and access to nutritious food. It should be noted that the financial reporting of community-building activities may be embedded under community health improvement. The following are examples:

- a. Physical improvements and housing, which can include the provision or rehabilitation of housing for vulnerable populations.
- b. Economic development, which can include assisting small business development in neighborhoods with vulnerable populations and creating new employment opportunities in areas with high rates of joblessness.
- c. Community support, which can include childcare and mentoring programs for vulnerable populations or neighborhoods, neighborhood support groups, violence prevention programs, and disaster readiness and public health emergency activities.
- d. Environmental improvements, which can include activities to address environmental hazards that affect community health, such as alleviation of water or air pollution, safe removal or treatment of garbage or other waste products, and other activities to protect the community from environmental hazards.
- e. Leadership development and training for community members, which can include training in conflict resolution; civic, cultural, or language skills; and medical interpreter skills for community residents.
- f. Coalition building which can include participation in community coalitions and other collaborative efforts with the community to address health and safety issues.

- g. Community health improvement advocacy, which can include efforts to support policies and programs to safeguard or improve public health, access to health care services, housing, the environment, and transportation.
- h. Workforce development, which can include recruitment of physicians and other health professionals to medical shortage areas or other areas designated as underserved, and collaboration with educational institutions to train and recruit health professionals needed in the community.
- i. Other community building activities that protect or improve the community's health or safety that are not described in the categories listed in lines a through h above.

**Community Health Improvement Services** – Activities or programs, subsidized by the hospital, carried out or supported for the express purpose of improving community health. Such services don't generate inpatient or outpatient revenue, although there may be a nominal patient fee or sliding scale fee for these services. Community health improvement examples. Hospital community wellness program providing free diabetes screenings and health and wellness education; hospital breastfeeding program that provides access to lactation consultants, nurse training, and patient education; providing mental health education to hospital partners and community organizations; screening older adults for cognitive, behavioral, and psychosocial issues.

**Community Health Needs** – Refers to non-clinical approaches for improving health, preventing disease, and reducing health disparities through addressing social, behavioral, environmental, economic, and medical determinants of health in a geographically defined population.

**Community Health Needs Assessment Report (CHNA)** – The written report adopted for the hospital facility by an authorized body of the hospital facility.

**Cost Accounting** – Accounting for Community Benefit Expenses are reported in terms of cost and in compliance with Schedule H instructions. Community benefit expenses are the expenses actually borne by the hospital organization, NOT charges, market value, or opportunity costs. Cost accounting systems provide the most accurate portrayal of the true cost of community benefit activities. Measurement of the costs associated with specific activities and programs to provide information meaningful to management. For example, cost accounting is used to determine the amount of an organization's total expense that can be attributed to community benefit, to assign indirect (overhead) expense to the direct cost of a program, and to estimate the cost associated with serving a subset of patients, such as Medicaid recipients.

**Direct Costs** – "Direct costs" means salaries and benefits, supplies, and other expenses directly related to the actual conduct of each activity or program.

**Direct Offsetting Revenue** – Revenue from the activity during the year that offsets the total community benefit expense of that activity. Includes any revenue generated by the activity or program, such as reimbursement for services provided to program patients. Direct offsetting revenue also includes restricted

grants or contributions that the organization uses to provide a community benefit, such as a restricted grant to provide financial assistance or fund research. Direct offsetting revenue does not include unrestricted grants or contributions that the organization uses to provide a community need.

**Health Equity** – Health equity is attainment of the highest level of health for all people. Achieving health equity requires valuing everyone equally, with focused and ongoing societal efforts to address avoidable inequalities and historical and contemporary injustices and to eliminate health and health care disparities.

**Health Disparities** – Health disparities are differences in health outcomes and their determinants between segments of the population, as defined by social, demographic, environmental and geographic attributes.

**Health Inequities** – Health inequities are a subset of health inequalities that are modifiable, associated with social disadvantage and considered ethically unfair.

**Health Professional Education** – Refers to educational programs that result in a degree, a certificate, or training necessary to be licensed to practice as a health professional, as required by state law, or continuing education necessary to retain state license or certification by a board in the individual's health profession specialty. Includes clinical research as well as professional education of non-Scripps employees including graduate medical education (GME), nursing resource development, and other health care professional training. Costs for medical residents and interns may be included as health professions education costs. It doesn't include education or training programs available exclusively to the organization's employees and medical staff or scholarships provided to those individuals. It does include education programs if the primary purpose of such programs is to educate health professionals in the broader community. Calculations based on total program expense. Costs for medical residents and interns can be included, even if they are considered "employees" for purposes of Form W-2, Wage and Tax Statement.

*Examples: Medical residency programs; continuing medical education lectures and training for physicians, physical therapists, ultrasound technicians, social workers, paramedics, dietary technicians, and other health care professionals; nursing clinical experience; registered nurse preceptorship programs.*

**Health Research** – Refers to any study or investigation the goal of which is to generate increased generalizable knowledge made available to the public. "Research" does not mean direct or indirect costs of research funded by an individual or an organization that isn't a tax-exempt or government entity. For example, research can include behavioral or sociological studies related to health, delivery of care, or prevention, or studies related to changes in the health care delivery system.

*Examples: Clinical, epidemiological, and health care services and delivery research conducted by hospital research department.*

**Hospital** – Means a private not-for-profit acute hospital licensed under subdivision (a) (b), or (f) of Section 1250 of the Health and Safety Code and is owned by a corporation that has been determined to be exempt

from taxation under the United States Internal Revenue Code. "Hospital" does not mean any of the following:

1. Hospitals that are dedicated to serving children and that do not receive direct payment for services to any patient.
2. Small and rural hospitals as defined in Section 124840 of the Health and Safety Code, unless the hospital is part of a hospital system.
3. A district hospital organized and governed pursuant to the Local Health Care District Law (Division 23 (commencing with Section 32000)) or a nonprofit corporation that is affiliated with the health care district hospital owner by means of the district's status as the nonprofit corporation's sole corporate member pursuant to subparagraph (B) of paragraph (1) of subdivision (h) of Section 14169.31 of the Welfare and Institutions Code

**Hospital Fee Program** – The Hospital Fee Program was established in 2009 with the intent of improving hospital Medi-Cal reimbursement and maximizing federal financial participation in the Medi-Cal program. Hospital Fee Program, also known as the Hospital Quality Assurance Fee (HQAF), provides private hospitals with federally matched supplemental payments for inpatient and outpatient Medi-Cal services, both in fee-for-services (FFS) and managed care, while also generating state General Fund savings to support children's health care and provides direct grants for public and district hospitals. Through the Hospital Fee Program arrangements, providers pay funds to states that then are appropriated to Medicaid agencies and serve as a source of matching funds that yields federal Medicaid revenue. These fees are included in community benefit accounting as Medicaid cost, and any revenues they yield are also included in Medicaid "direct offsetting revenue."

**Hospital System** – Refers to two or more hospitals licensed under subdivision (a), (b), or (f) of Health and Safety Code section 1250 that are owned, sponsored, or managed by the same organization.

**Implementation Strategy** – The written document that describes the hospital facility's strategy to meet the community health needs identified through the hospital facility's Community Health Needs Assessment (CHNA).

**Indirect Costs** – Indirect costs, or overhead costs, are expenses that support the overall operations of a business but cannot be directly linked to a specific cost object, such as a product, project, or service. Scripps utilizes four indirect cost categories: Indirect Patient Support, Indirect Business Services, Indirect Site Overhead, and Indirect Corporate Overhead. Each category houses specific departments within the organization. Expenses are then allocated down to direct departments based on the most appropriate statistics. For example, depreciation is allocated using square footage.

**In-Kind Contributions** – In-kind contributions include the cost of staff hours donated by the organization to the community, indirect cost of space donated to tax-exempt community groups (such as for community

health-related meetings), and the financial value (generally measured at cost) of donated food, equipment, and supplies. In community benefit accounting, in-kind contributions are valued fairly. For example, the hospital donates a two-year old computer to a community clinic. The community benefit expense would be \$1,000 if the computer were purchased for \$3,000 and after two years of use it has depreciated to a value on the books of the hospital of \$1,000.

**In-Lieu of Funds** – Funds used for unfunded or under-funded patients and their post-discharge needs. Funds are used for board and care, skilled nursing facilities, long-term acute care, and home health. In addition, funds are also used for medications, equipment, and transportation services.

**Means- Tested Government Program** – Means a government health program for which eligibility depends on the recipient’s income or asset level. Government-sponsored health programs where eligibility for benefits or coverage is determined by income or assets. Examples include: the State Children’s Health Insurance Program (SCHIP), or the California Children’s Services (CCS) Program.

**Medi-Cal Shortfall** – Hospitals report an estimate of the difference between what they receive from Medi-Cal for patient services and the cost of providing these services to patients covered by Medi-Cal. The difference is referred to as Medi-Cal shortfall.

**Medicare Shortfall** – Hospitals report an estimate of the difference between what they receive from Medicare for patient services and the cost of providing these services to patients covered by Medicare. Unpaid cost of Medicare is calculated using Scripps cost accounting system. In IRS Form 990, Schedule H, the Medicare cost report is used.

**Net Community Benefit Expense** – Refers to a hospital’s total expenses less direct offsetting revenue for the purpose of administering community benefit programs and activities. This definition aligns with the IRS Instructions for Schedule H (Form 990) and is the value to be reported by hospitals on activities listed on the Community Benefits Report table. Other Community Benefits –Programs that are exclusive to employees and specific services within the community, and their expenses are not counted as community benefit expenses.

**Payer** – Insurance companies, health care service plans, Medicare, Medi-Cal and other private or public entities that pay hospitals for health care provided to their sponsored patients.

**Private Not-For-Profit** – Refers to health facility licensee type of control as determined by California Department of Public Health to be a nonprofit corporation.

**Race, Ethnicity, and Language (REaL)** – In the U.S., disparities in health care outcomes have been widely noted. Race, ethnicity, and language (REaL) data preferences can contribute to an individual’s ability to receive reliable health care. REaL data allows hospitals and health systems to identify health care disparities by patient demographics, gain a deeper understanding of their community and ultimately develop patient-centered performance improvement plans to reduce health disparities.

**Restricted Contributions (Grants)** – Donations, gifts, bequests and other transfers of money or property made by a donor or grantor that has stipulated a temporary or permanent use for the resources provided. Donors or grantors provide restricted contributions with the intent of supporting a particular activity or program. Restrictions are stated in writing by the donor or grantor when they make a gift or grant.

**Report Period** – Means the time frame for reporting that begins on the first day of the hospital’s fiscal year and ends on the last day of the fiscal year. A reporting period may be less than one year due to changes in the hospital’s fiscal year-end or ownership.

**Sexual Orientation and Gender Identity (SOGI)** - Everyone has a sexual orientation and gender identity (SOGI). It's an inclusive term that applies to everyone, whether they identify as lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender, queer, two-spirit, heterosexual or cisgender (identifying with the same gender that one was assigned at birth).

**Social Determinants of Health** – Social determinants of health are conditions in the environments in which people are born, live, learn, work, play, worship and age that affect a wide range of health, functioning, and quality-of-life outcomes and risks.

**Subsidized Health Services** – Patient care services the organization provides despite a financial loss, (even) after removing the effects of charity care and Medi-Cal shortfalls (and bad debt). Clinical programs are provided at a loss because the community needs them. The service meets an identified community need if it is reasonable to conclude that if the organization no longer offered the service, the service would be unavailable in the community, the community’s capacity to provide the service would be below the community’s need, or the service would become the responsibility of government or another tax-exempt organization. Examples of such services are inpatient psychiatric units; satellite clinics serving low-income communities and burn units.

**Total Community Benefit Expense** – Total gross expense of the activity incurred during the year. Accounting for Community Benefit Expenses are reported in terms of cost and in compliance with Schedule H instructions Community benefit expenses are the expenses actually borne by the hospital organization, NOT charges, market value, or opportunity costs.

**Uncompensated Health Care** – Includes charity, under-reimbursed care, and bad debt. Shortfalls are derived using the payer-based cost allocation methodology. Bad debt and charity care are estimated by extracting the gross write offs of bad debt and charity care charges and applying the hospital RCC (Ratio of Cost to Charge) to estimate net uncompensated cost.

**Under-Reimbursed Care** – Care that is reimbursed below cost by County Medical Services, Medi-Cal and Medi-Cal HMO, Medicare, Medicare PPO, Medicare HMO

**Unrestricted Contributions (Grants)** – Donations, gifts, bequests and other transfers of money or property that are free from any external restrictions and are available for general use.

**Volunteer Hours** – Includes the labor hours contributed by Scripps employees and affiliated physicians in support of Scripps-sponsored activities for which no compensation is received. The dollar value is not included in Scripps “community benefit contribution.”

**Vulnerable Population** – [AB 1204](#) 2021 Leg., Reg. Sess. (Cal. 2021). AB 1204 defines “vulnerable populations” as 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 Service Program, or county indigent programs. “Vulnerable populations” also includes both of the following:

1. The definition also includes racial and ethnic groups experiencing disparate health outcomes.  
Includes Black/African American, American Indian, Alaska Native, Asian Indian, Cambodian, Chinese, Filipino, Hmong, Japanese, Korean, Laotian, Vietnamese, Native Hawaiian, Guamanian or Chamorro, Samoan, or other nonwhite racial groups, as well as individuals of Hispanic/Latino origin, including Mexicans, Mexican Americans, Chicanos, Salvadorans, Guatemalans, Cubans, and Puerto Ricans.
2. Socially disadvantaged groups, including all of the following:
  - (A) The unhoused.
  - (B) communities with inadequate access to clean air and safe drinking water, as defined by an environmental California Healthy Place Index score of 50 percent or lower.
  - (C) People with disabilities; people identifying as lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender, or queer
  - (D) Individuals with limited English proficiency.

## Appendix B – Community Benefit Criteria

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Activities or programs cannot be reported if they are provided for marketing purposes or if they are more beneficial to the organization than to the community. For example, the activity or program may not be reported if it is designed primarily to increase referrals of patients with third-party coverage, restricted to individuals affiliated with the organization (employees and physicians of the organization). For further information, visit [CHAUSA Community Benefit What Counts](#).

Community benefit services are defined as programs or activities that respond to a demonstrated health related community need and seek to achieve at least one community benefit objective.

- Improve access to health services,
- Enhance public health,
- Advance knowledge through education or research,
- Relieve or reduce the health burden of government or other tax-exempt organization.

This includes activities or programs that:

- Are available broadly to the public and serve low-income consumers.
- Reduce geographic, financial, or cultural barriers to accessing health services, and if they ceased would result in access problems.
- Address federal, state, or local public health priorities such as eliminating disparities in access to health care services or disparities in health status among different populations.
  - Leverage or enhance public health department activities such as childhood immunization efforts.
  - Strengthen community health resilience by improving the ability of a community to withstand and recover from public health emergencies.
  - Would otherwise become the responsibility of government or another tax-exempt organization.
- Advance increased general knowledge through education or research that benefits the public.

## Appendix C – Scripps Uncompensated Care Methodology Fiscal Year (FY) 25

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Scripps continues to contribute resources to provide low and no-cost health care services to populations in need. The costs of these services are not fully reimbursed. In Fiscal Year (FY) 25, Scripps contributed **\$752,318,952** in total uncompensated health care:

- **\$18,663,224** in charity care
- **\$721,588,751** in Medi-Cal and Medicare shortfall
- **\$12,066,977** in bad debt

### Schedule H Methodology

Bad debt and Medicare shortfalls are reportable under the Schedule H guidelines but are not reportable in the community benefit totals. Categories are reported in a specific hierarchy, with charity care and under-reimbursed Medi-Cal and Other Means-Tested Government Programs counted first.

### Charity Care Methodology

Uncompensated costs are estimated by applying the hospital's ratio-of-cost-to-charge (RCC) percentage to gross charity adjustments. Charity Care is included in the Internal Revenue Service (IRS) Form 990 Schedule H Part I Line 7a. The following costs are excluded:

- Community health improvement services
- Professional education
- Health research
- Expenses excluded in the Medicare cost report

### Medi-Cal Shortfall

The shortfall is derived by computing operating margin at the patient level and summarizing patients with, Medi-Cal, Medi-Cal HMO, and CMS primary insurance carriers. These costs are included in the IRS Form 990, Schedule H Part I Line 7b. In the State of California, the Medicaid program is called Medi-Cal.

Operating margin is defined as net revenue less all variable, fixed, and overhead costs.

Profitability is estimated as follows: Net revenue is equivalent to payments plus an estimation of the account balance for all open accounts, plus revenue from uncompensated care pools including Medi-Cal DSH. Cost is derived using the relative value allocation methodology per the Syntellis Performance Solutions cost accounting system. The following costs are excluded: Charity adjustments at cost for Medi-Cal patients, community health services, professional education, health research, and expenses excluded in the Medicare cost report.

## Medicare and Medicare HMO Hospitals

Shortfall is derived by computing operating margin at the patient level and summarizing the patients with Medicare and Medicare Senior primary insurance carriers. These costs are included in the IRS Form 990, Schedule H Part III Section B.

Operating margin is defined as net revenue less all variable, fixed, and overhead costs.

Profitability is estimated as follows: net revenue is equivalent to payments plus an estimation of the capitation account balance for all open accounts, plus other revenue including. Cost is derived using the relative value allocation methodology per the Syntellis Performance Solutions cost accounting system.

## Bad Debt Methodology

Uncompensated cost is estimated by applying ratio- cost-to-charge (RCC) percentages for the hospital to the gross bad debt adjustments less recoveries.

The following costs are excluded:

- Bad debt adjustments at cost for Medi-Cal and CMS patients
- Community health improvement services
- Professional education
- Health research
- Expenses excluded in the Medicare cost report. These costs are included in the IRS Form 990, Schedule H Part III Section A.

## Shortfall Methodology Clinics

Shortfall is derived by computing operating margin at the patient level and summarizing the patients with Medicare and Medicare Senior primary insurance carriers.

Operating margin is defined as net revenue less all variable, fixed, and overhead costs.

Profitability is estimated as follows: net revenue is equivalent to payments plus an estimation of the capitation account balance for all open accounts, plus other revenue including. Cost is derived using the relative value allocation methodology per the Syntellis Performance Solutions cost accounting system. These costs are included in the IRS Form 990, Schedule H Part III Section B.

## Select Specialty Hospital - San Diego

Scripps has a 24.5% ownership percentage with [Select Specialty Hospital](#). Accordingly, Scripps reports amounts from Select Hospital in Form 990, Schedule H based on Scripps ownership percentage.

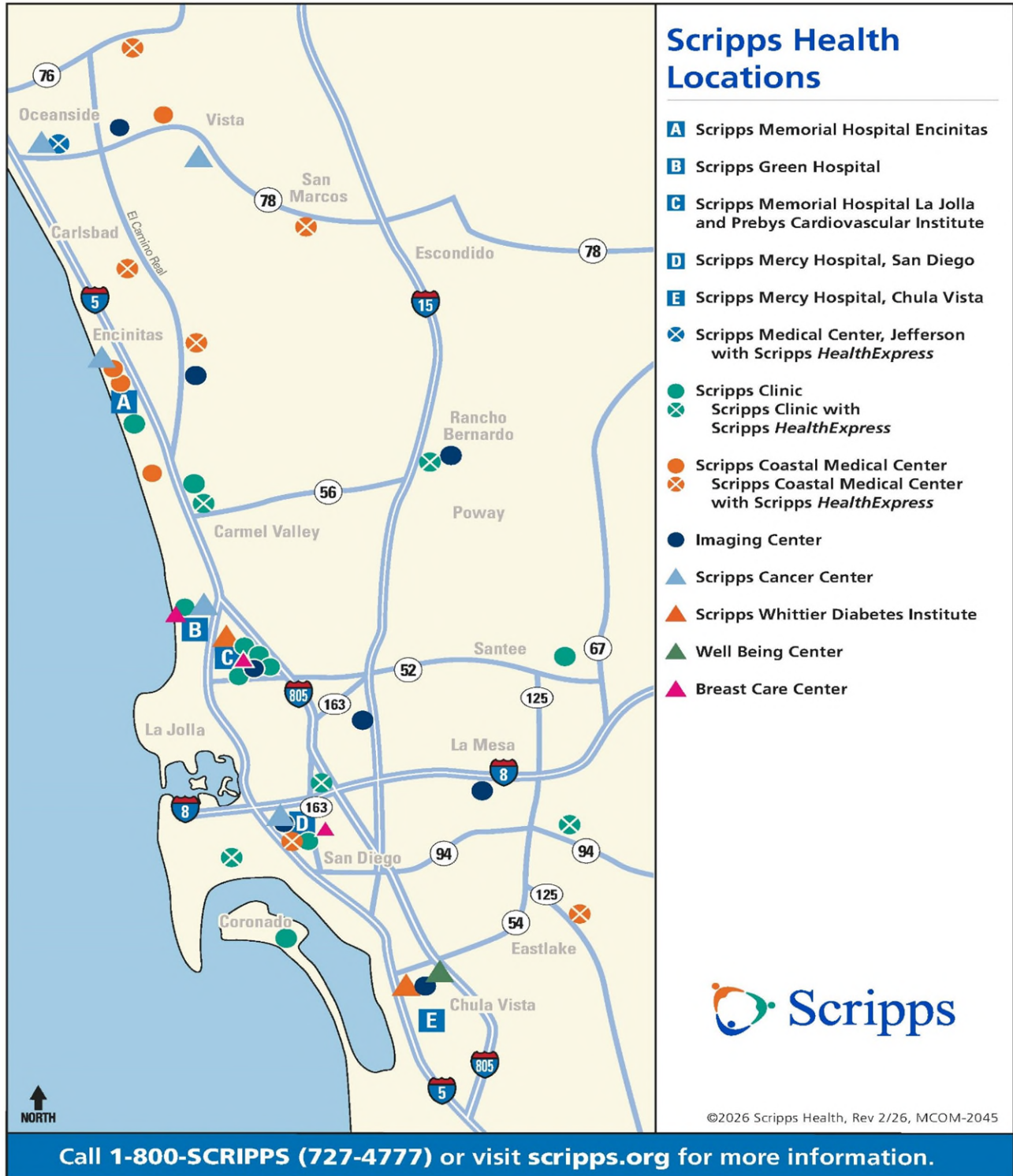
## **Hospital Provider Fee Program**

The State of California enacted legislation for a provider fee program to fund certain Medi-Cal coverage expansions (“Provider Fee Program”). The Provider Fee Program charges hospitals a quality assurance fee that is used to obtain federal matching funds for Medi-Cal with the proceeds redistributed as supplemental payments to California hospitals that treat Medi-Cal patients. In December 2023, CMS approved the January 1, 2023, through December 31, 2024, Provider Fee Program VIII. The Organization’s policy is to recognize program revenues and expenses on the accrual basis once the Federal waiver has been approved. Federal and state payments received from these programs are included as provider fee revenue in total patient service revenue, and fees paid or payable to the state and California Health Foundation and Trust are included in provider fee expense in operating expenses. The Provider Fee Program for the period of January 1, 2025, through December 31, 2025, is pending approval by the Federal Government. As the related revenue and expense have not met the criteria for recognition, they are not included in the Organization’s financial statements for 2025. Included in the results for the year ended September 30, 2024, is \$25,936,000 of net provider fee program revenue related to the timing of program approval from the previous fiscal year.

## **340 B Drug Pricing Program**

Scripps Mercy Hospital participates in the [340B Drug Pricing Program](#). The 340B Drug Pricing program allows a hospital to purchase outpatient drugs at reduced prices, enabling it to extend limited federal resources further, serve more eligible patients and offer more comprehensive services. The 340B Drug Pricing Program is a vital lifeline for safety-net providers such as those at Scripps Mercy Hospital who provide critical health services in our communities. The program is tailored to reach only hospitals that provide a high level of services to low-income individuals or that serve isolated rural communities. Savings from the 340B program help hospitals meet the health care needs of underserved patients across the country.

# Appendix D – Scripps Health Locations



# Appendix E – San Diego Co Geographic Services Regions



Source: County of San Diego: [https://www.sandiegocounty.gov/content/dam/sdc/live\\_well\\_san\\_diego/indicators/Map\\_and\\_Regional\\_Data.pdf](https://www.sandiegocounty.gov/content/dam/sdc/live_well_san_diego/indicators/Map_and_Regional_Data.pdf)

Central	North Coastal	East	North Inland	North Central	South
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Central San Diego</li> <li>• Mid-City</li> <li>• Southeast San Diego</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Carlsbad</li> <li>• Del Mar</li> <li>• Oceanside</li> <li>• Pendleton</li> <li>• San Dieguito</li> <li>• Vista</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Alpine</li> <li>• El Cajon</li> <li>• Harbison Crest</li> <li>• Jamul</li> <li>• La Mesa</li> <li>• Laguna/Pine Valley</li> <li>• Lakeside</li> <li>• Lemon Grove</li> <li>• Mountain Empire</li> <li>• Santee</li> <li>• Spring Valley</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Borrego Springs</li> <li>• Escondido</li> <li>• Fallbrook</li> <li>• North San Diego</li> <li>• Palomar/Julian</li> <li>• Pauma</li> <li>• Poway</li> <li>• Ramona</li> <li>• San Marcos</li> <li>• Valley Center</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Coastal</li> <li>• Elliott Navajo</li> <li>• Kearny Mesa</li> <li>• Mira Mesa</li> <li>• Miramar</li> <li>• Peninsula</li> <li>• University</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Chula Vista</li> <li>• Coronado</li> <li>• National City</li> <li>• South Bay</li> <li>• Sweetwater</li> </ul>

Note: These regions have been designated by the County of San Diego Health and Human Services Agency (HHS) for the purpose of service delivery. The regions include different sub-regional area (SRA) groupings that the regions designated by the San Diego Association of Governments (SANDAG).

# Appendix F – Regulatory Requirements

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## **SB 697 and Scripps History with Past Assessments**

Scripps Health has a long history of responding to the health needs of the communities it serves, extending beyond traditional hospital care to address the health care needs of the region’s most vulnerable populations. In 1994, California legislators passed Senate Bill 697 (SB 697), which requires all private not-for-profit hospitals in the state to conduct a CHNA every three years. Since 1994, these programs have been created based on an assessment of needs identified through hospital data, community input, and major trends. Previous collaborations among not-for-profit hospitals, health care systems, and other community partners have resulted in numerous well regarded Community Health Needs Assessments (CHNA) reports. Information is gathered through the CHNA for the purposes of reporting community benefit, developing strategic plans, creating annual reports, providing input on legislative decisions, and informing the general community of health issues and trends.

## **Federal Requirements**

In 2010, Congress added several new requirements for hospital organizations to maintain federal income tax exempt status under Section 501 (r) of the Internal Revenue Code (the “Code”) as part of the Affordable Care Act (ACA). One of the requirements set forth in Section 501 (r)<sup>40</sup> of the Code is for each hospital organization to conduct a Community Health Needs Assessment (CHNA) at least once every three tax years. The requirement to conduct a CHNA applies to Scripps Health, which is a health system that operates four hospital facilities. In addition, Scripps Health must adopt a triennial Implementation Plan which is a separate written document to address certain community health needs identified in the CHNA. Additional information on the ACA requirements for nonprofit hospitals can be found at [www.irs.gov](http://www.irs.gov), keyword: “Charitable Organizations.”

## **Required Components of the Community Health Needs Assessment**

Per IRS requirements, (Treas. Reg. § 1.501 (r)-3(b) (6) (i)) the following are components the CHNA must include:

- A description of the community served by the health system and how it was determined.
- A description of the processes and methods used to conduct the assessment.
- A description of how the hospital organization considered input from people who represent the broad interests of the community served by the hospital facility including those with special knowledge of or expertise in public health.

- Prioritized description of all the community health needs identified through the CHNA, as well as a description of the process and criteria used in prioritizing such health needs.
- A description of the existing health care facilities and other resources with the community available to meet the community health needs identified in the CHNA.
- An evaluation of the impact of any actions that were taken since the hospital finished conducting its immediately preceding CHNA to address the significant health needs identified in the prior CHNA.
- Make the CHNA widely available to the public via the hospital's website.

## **Community Served**

A hospital facility may take into account all the relevant facts and circumstances in defining the community it serves. This includes:

- The geographic area served by the hospital facility,
- Target populations served, such as children, women, or the aged, and
- Principal functions, such as a focus on a particular specialty area or targeted disease.

However, a hospital facility may not define its community in a way that excludes medically underserved, low-income, or minority populations who live in the geographic areas from which it draws its patients (unless such populations are not part of the hospital facility's target population or affected by its principal functions) or otherwise should be included based on the method the hospital facility uses to define its community.

Medically underserved populations include populations experiencing health disparities or that are at risk of not receiving adequate medical care because of being uninsured or underinsured, or due to geographic, language, financial, or other barriers. Populations with language barriers include those with limited English proficiency. Medically underserved populations also include those living within a hospital facility's service area but not receiving adequate medical care from the facility because of cost, transportation difficulties, stigma, or other barriers.

Additionally, in determining its patient populations for purposes of defining its community, a hospital facility must take into account all patients without regard to whether (or how much) they or their insurers pay for the care received or whether they are eligible for assistance under the hospital facility's financial assistance policy.

If a hospital facility consists of multiple buildings that operate under a single state license and serve different geographic areas or populations, the community served by the hospital facility is the aggregate of these areas or populations.

If a hospital facility consists of multiple buildings that operate under a single state license and serve different geographic areas or populations, the community served by the hospital facility is the aggregate of these areas or populations.

## Assessing Community Health Needs

To assess the health needs of its community, a hospital facility must identify the significant health needs of the community. It must also prioritize those health needs, as well as identify resources potentially available to address them. Resources can include organizations, facilities, and programs in the community, including those of the hospital facility, potentially available to address those health needs.

The health needs of a community include requisites for the improvement or maintenance of health status both in the community at large and in particular parts of the community, such as particular neighborhoods or populations experiencing health disparities. Needs may include, for example, the need to:

- Address financial and other barriers to accessing care,
- Prevent illness,
- Ensure adequate nutrition, or
- Address social, behavioral, and environmental factors that influence health in the community.

A hospital facility may determine whether a health need is significant based on all the facts and circumstances present in the community it serves. Additionally, a hospital facility may use any criteria to prioritize the significant health needs it identifies, including, but not limited to the:

- Burden, scope, severity, or urgency of the health need,
- Estimated feasibility and effectiveness of possible interventions,
- Health disparities associated with the need, or
- Importance the community places on addressing the need.

## Input Representing the Broad Interests of the Community

A hospital must both solicit and take into account input received from all of the following sources in identifying and prioritizing significant health needs and in identifying resources potentially available to address those health needs.

1. At least one state, local, tribal, or regional governmental public health department (or equivalent department or agency), or a State Office of Rural Health described in Section 338J of the Public Health Services Act, with knowledge, information, or expertise relevant to the health needs of the community.
2. Members of medically underserved, low-income, and minority populations in the community served by the hospital facility, or individuals or organizations serving or representing the interests of these populations.
3. Written comments received on the hospital facility's most recently conducted CHNA and most recently adopted implementation strategy.

## **Additional Sources of Input**

In addition to soliciting input from the three required sources, a hospital facility may solicit and take into account input received from a broad range of persons located in or serving its community. This includes, but is not limited to:

- Health care consumers and consumer advocates
- Nonprofit and community-based organizations
- Academic experts
- Local government officials
- Local school districts
- Health care providers and community health centers
- Health insurance and managed care organizations
- Private businesses, and
- Labor and workforce representatives

Although a hospital facility is not required to solicit input from additional persons, it must take into account input received from any person in the form of written comments on the most recently conducted CHNA or most recently adopted implementation strategy.

## **Documentation of a CHNA**

A hospital facility must document its CHNA in a report that is adopted by an authorized body of the hospital facility. The CHNA report must include the following items.

- A definition of the community served by the hospital facility and a description of how the community was determined.
- A description of the process and methods used to conduct the CHNA.
- A description of how the hospital facility solicited and took into account input received from persons who represent the broad interests of the community it serves.
- A prioritized description of the significant health needs of the community identified through the CHNA. This includes a description of the process and criteria used in identifying certain health needs as significant and prioritizing those significant health needs.
- A description of resources potentially available to address the significant health needs identified through the CHNA.
- An evaluation of the impact of any actions that were taken to address the significant health needs identified in the immediately preceding CHNA.

A CHNA report will be considered to describe the process and methods used to conduct the CHNA report if it:

- Describes the data and other information used in the assessment,
- Describes the methods of collecting and analyzing this data and information,
- Identifies any parties with whom the hospital facility collaborated or contracted for assistance in conducting the CHNA.

A hospital facility may rely on (and the CHNA report may describe) external source material in conducting its CHNA. In such cases, the hospital facility may simply cite the source material rather than describe the methods of collecting the data.

A hospital facility's CHNA report must describe how the hospital facility took into account input received from persons who represent the broad interests of the community it serves. The CHNA report should:

- Summarize, in general terms, the input provided by such persons,
- Describe how and over what time period such input was provided (for example, whether through meetings, focus groups, interviews, surveys, or written comments and between what approximate dates),
- Provide the names of any organizations providing input and summarizes the nature and extent of the organization's input, and
- Describe the medically underserved, low-income, or minority populations being represented by organizations or individuals that provided input.

### **CHNA Report: Widely Available**

A hospital facility must make its CHNA report widely available to the public. This must be done by making the CHNA report available on a website and by making a paper copy of the CHNA report available for public inspection upon request and without charge at the hospital facility. Prior CHNA reports must remain widely available to the public, both on a Web site and in paper, until the hospital facility has made two subsequent CHNA reports available to the public.

### **Background/Required Components of the Implementation Strategy**

Provisions in the Affordable Care Act permit a hospital facility that adopts a joint CHNA report to also adopt a joint implementation strategy which, with respect to each significant health need identified through the joint CHNA, either describes how one or more collaborating facilities plan to address the health need or identifies the health need as one collaborating facilities do not intend to address. The joint implementation strategy adopted for the hospital facility must: (Treas. Reg. § 1.501 (r)-3(c) (4).

- Adopt an implementation strategy to meet community health needs identified in the CHNA.
- Describe how it is addressing needs identified in the CHNA.

- Describe any needs in the CHNA that are not being addressed and the reasons for not addressing them.

The written implementation strategy describes both:

- How the hospital plans to meet significant health needs.
- Describe actions the hospital facility intends to take to address each significant health need identified in the CHNA, and the anticipated impact of those actions, or identify the health need as one it does not intend to address and explain why.
- The anticipated impact of these actions.
- The programs and resources the hospital plan to commit to address the health need.
- Describe any planned collaboration between hospital facilities and other facilities or organizations in addressing health needs.
- The significant health need of the hospital does not intend to meet, explaining why the hospital does not intend to meet the health need.

## Appendix G – Scripps Health Fiscal Year (FY) 25 Community Benefit Programs

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The list below highlights Scripps community health improvement programs, professional education, and health research programs by alphabetical order for Fiscal Year (FY) 25.

### Category A – Community Health Services

A Matter of Balance: Managing Concerns About Falls  
Bereavement Support Group  
Bicycle/E-Bike Safety and Education  
Blood Drive - American Red Cross  
BrainMasters: Stroke & Brain Injury Survivors Support Group  
Breast Pumps to Underserved Patients  
Car Seat Safety  
CarFit Safe Driving for Older Adults  
Cardiac Treatment Center Group Exercise Programs  
Cardiac Treatment Center (Long COVID Support Group)  
CFLI - Heartsaver CPR, AED and Basic First Aid - American Heart  
Coastal Roots Farm  
Community Service Projects, Internal Medicine Residents  
Dogs and Storks - Child Safety and Prevention Education Program  
Educating Women about Heart Health  
Eric Paredes Save A Life Foundation - Cardiac Arrest Screenings  
Fall Prevention Presentations for Older Adults  
Father Joe's Village (FJV) Recuperative Care Program  
Flu Vaccines for Homeless Shelter Residents  
Full Access and Coordinated Transportation (FACT) Inc.  
Getting Ready for Baby - Child Safety and Prevention Class  
Grandparenting Today - Child Safety and Prevention Class  
Healing Arts Class and Support Group  
Healing Touch Educational Programs - SMH La Jolla

Healthy Women, Healthy Babies  
Helping Address Breast Health and Awareness  
Helping Patients Navigate Post Discharge Services and Support  
Improving Health Education and Awareness for Parents  
Injury Prevention and Community Outreach Education  
Left Ventricular Assist Device (LVAD) Support Group  
Lifeguard Education Conference  
Live Fit Su Vida Su Corazon Healthy Living Program  
Mature Riders Transportation Safety  
Mental Health Awareness Month  
Mental Health Outreach Services, A-Visions Vocational Training Program  
Mercy Outreach Surgical Team (MOST)  
Parkinson's Voice Group "SPEAK OUT!"  
Pelvic Floor Wellness: Prenatal  
Prescription Drug Take Back Day  
Promotores in Action Prevention, Education and Wellness  
Psychiatric Liaison Team (PLT)  
Public Resource Specialist  
Residency Led Health and Well Being Programs  
Residency Led Youth Programs  
San Diego County Stroke Consortium  
San Diego Day of Trauma Awareness Conference  
San Marcos Blue Zones Project  
Saving Lives through Stop the Bleed Campaign & Program  
Scripps Advanced Care Clinic  
Scripps Cancer Center - Exercise Programs  
Scripps Cancer Center - Healthy Bones Exercise Class  
Scripps Cancer Center - Lifeguard Cancer Screenings  
Scripps Cancer Center - Living Life Well Sessions  
Scripps Cancer Center - Lymphedema Stretch  
Scripps Cancer Center - Oncology Resource Library

Scripps Cancer Center - Restorative Yoga  
Scripps Cancer Center - Support Groups  
Scripps Cancer Center - Wig Boutique and Prosthesis Bank  
Scripps Health Public Policy and Advocacy  
Scripps Health Stroke Programs and Education Events  
Scripps Mercy & Family Health Centers Behavioral Health Partnership  
Scripps Mercy Supplemental Nutrition Program for WIC  
Scripps San Diego County Lifeguard Advisory Committee  
Scripps Substance Use Disorder Service (SUDS) Nurses  
Senior Health Education, Prevention & Wellness Programs  
Medication Patient Financial Assistance Program  
Shop with a Cop  
Sibling Preparation Class - Child Safety and Prevention Class  
Southwestern College Foundation  
Standing Strong Fall Workshop  
Stroke and Brain Injury Support and Education Group  
Trauma Education Programs  
Trauma Presentation for Binge & Underage Drinking  
Underserved Medicine Rotation for Medical Residents  
Violence Against Health Care Workers Taskforce  
Whittier - Breast Cancer Prevention Education  
Whittier - Diabetes Prevention Program (DPP)  
Whittier - Dulce Digital Community  
Whittier - KW Mobile Health Fair  
Whittier - Outreach Events (Diabetes Education)  
Whittier - Project Dulce Care Management  
Whittier-Behavioral Health Integration Program in Diabetes (BeHIP)

### **Category B – Professional Education**

American College of Surgeons (ACS) Prep  
American Association for the Surgery of Trauma Conference

American College of Surgeons Clinical Congress  
Center For Learning - Advanced Cardiac Life Support (ACLS) Renewal Course  
Center For Learning - Basic Life Support for Health Care Provider Online Skills Check  
Center For Learning - Neonatal Resuscitation Program (NRP)  
Center For Learning - Pediatric Advanced Life Support (PALS) Renewal Course  
Continuing Medical Education Programs  
Health Professions Education, Resident and Student Training  
Internship and Area Health Education Scholars Program (AHEC)  
Literature Reviews  
Maternal and Child Health – Obstetrics Residency Education  
Navy Research Fellow Program  
Physical Therapist and Physical Therapy Assistant Student Program  
Scripps Mercy Emergency Medical Services (EMS)  
Scripps Memorial Hospital La Jolla Trauma Research Symposium 2025  
Southern California Chapter of the American College of Surgeons  
Supportive Mental Health Services at Local School-Based Clinics  
Trauma Luau  
Trauma Quality Improvement Program (TQIP)  
UCSD Graduate Student Internship  
Western Trauma Association Conference  
Whittier – Scripps Whittier Diabetes Institute - Professional Education and Training

### **Category D – Health Research**

Alcohol, Polypharmacy, and Elderly  
COVID Appy Study  
Defining Outcomes of Early vs. Delayed Cholecystectomy  
Dulce Digital+ Continuous Monitoring (CGM)  
Elderly Pelvic Fracture Bleeding Study  
Epidemiology, Injury Control, Treatments, Outcomes  
Evaluation of Simulated Driving Ability in MTBI Patients

Gallbladder Study

Helping Patients with Food Insecurities to Heal

Hemorrhage Control Interventions in Pelvic Fractures (HIPS)

Immediate CT Post

Mamma's Kitchen/Management of Congestive Heart Failure Patients

Morel-Lavallée lesions diagnostic and treatment a multicenter prospective observational

NTDB Post Discharge Data

Outcomes & Trends in Traumatic Injury & Surgical Critical Care (OSHPC)

Outcomes of Adolescents Trauma in San Diego

Pediatric Trauma along the California-Mexico Border

Pediatrics HVI Study

Penetrating Thoracic Trauma Management: Epidemiology & Outcomes from a Nationwide Perspective (ALL NTDB/TQP-PUF)

Phleginous Appendicitis Outcomes

Postural Sway Analysis and Risk

Project Dulce Arab Americans

Project Dulce Filipino Americans

Rady Dexmedetomidine Use in Neonates

Relationship of Trauma Activation Criteria to Utilization of High-Intensity Time-Sensitive (HITS) Interventions in Geriatric and Non-Geriatric Patients

Resuscitation of Critical Trauma Patients – “OR Pit Stop”

Splenic Angio

The End of Title 42 and the Effects on Cross-Border Trauma

The Utility of Routine CXR after Chest Tube Removal in Trauma Patients

Trauma Quality Improvement Program (TQIP) Adolescent Study - Discharge Disposition

Utilization of Cardiopulmonary Bypass in Traumatic

Violence and Violence-Prevention Interventions for Adolescents

Whittier – Community Engagement Alliance (CEAL) Year 3

Whittier - Continuous Glucose Monitoring Study (CyberGEMS)

Whittier - Dulce Digital 2.0

Whittier – National Institute of Health (NIH) Community Engagement

Whittier - Scripps Whittier Diabetes Distress Study (ACTIVATE)

## **Category E – Cash, Grants, and In-Kind Contributions**

2-1-1 San Diego Annual Event  
American Heart Association - Go Red for Women Luncheon Sponsorship  
Car Seat Program  
City of Refuge Recuperative Care Unit Program  
Consumer Center for Health Education and Advocacy (CCHEA)  
Eric Paredes Save a Life Foundation  
Facilitating Access to Coordinated Transportation - Sponsorship  
Family Health Centers of San Diego - Spirit of the Barrio  
Family Health Centers of San Diego Internal Medicine Outpatient Teaching Clinic Partnership  
Father Joe's Villages – Ensure Nutritional Supplemental Donation  
Father Joe's Villages - Scripps Pay it Forward Blanket Drive  
Feeding San Diego – Emergency Meals and Water  
Greater La Jolla Meals on Wheels  
Healthy Start Families – Birth and Beyond  
Jewish Family Services – Embrace a Family  
La Maestra 35<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Sponsorship  
Lifeline Community Services  
Mental Health Association of San Diego - Meeting of the Minds  
North County LGBTQ Resource Center  
Promises 2 Kids  
RAD-AID International  
San Ysidro Health Center – Spring into Health Brunch  
Scripps Medical Foundation – Operation Restore Sight  
The San Diego LGBT Community Center  
Turkey Giveaway and Health Resource Fair

## **Category F – Community Building Activities**

Celebrando Latinas  
Chicano Federation

Chula Vista Community Collaborative  
Community Engagement Partnerships and Advisory Boards  
Cristo Rey Work Study Program  
Disaster Preparedness – Active Shooter Drill  
Disaster Preparedness - Community Outreach and Education  
Equality California  
Executive Leadership - Community Boards and Business Organizations  
Hospital Incident Command System National Advisory Committee  
Legislative Day at the Scripps Mercy Hospital Chula Vista  
LGBTQ+ Victory Institute  
MANA de San Diego  
Mercy San Diego: Community Boards and Business Organizations  
North County African American Women's Association  
San Diego County and State of California Advisory Groups  
San Diego County Coalition Surge Test No Notice Exercise  
San Diego County Health Care Coalition Advisory Committee  
San Diego County Operational Area Full Scale Exercise  
San Diego Health Care Coalition Advisory Committee  
San Diego LGBT Pride Inc.  
San Diego Organization of Health Care Leaders (SOHL)  
San Diego Regional Full-Scale Exercise  
San Ysidro Women’s Club  
Scripps High School Exploration Internship Program  
Scripps Mercy - Leadership Retreat Volunteer Service Day  
Scripps School to Health Career Pathway Programs  
South County Action Network (SoCAN) Meeting  
Young Leaders in Health Care

## Appendix H – Scripps Health Participation with Community Organizations

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The list below highlights Scripps community partners and coalitions in Fiscal Year (FY) 25. Community organizations are listed alphabetically.

2-1-1 San Diego

Adventist Health - Sonora

Aging & Independence Services - Fall Prevention Task Force

Aging and Independent Services (AIS) Advisory Council

Alameda County Public Health Department

Alcohol Policy Panel (APP)

Alzheimer's San Diego

American Academy of Dermatologists

American Cancer Society

American Heart Association

American Lung Association

American Red Cross of San Diego

Asian Business Association

Be There San Diego

Beach Area Community Court Program

Behavioral Health Advisory Board

Hazelden Betty Ford Center

Biocom - Life Science Association of California

CA Emergency Medical Services Authority - CAL MAT

CA Medicine (CalMed) Region

California Health Collaborative - Every Women Counts

California Highway Patrol

California Hospital Association/Behavioral Health Advisory Board

California Medicine Scholars Program (CMSP)

California State Parks

California State University San Marcos (CSUSM)

California Surf Lifesaving Association

California Teen Safe Driving Coalition (CATSDC)

Cantebria Senior Homes Encinitas

Cardiff 101 Main Street

Carlsbad Chamber of Commerce  
Carlsbad Senior Center  
Castle Park Elementary School  
Castle Park High School  
Castle Park Middle School  
Catholic Charities, Diocese of San Diego  
Catholic Charities – Rachel’s Women’s Center  
Celebrando Latinas  
Central Region HHS Public Health  
Chicano Federation  
Chula Vista Foundation  
Chula Vista Chamber of Commerce  
Chula Vista Community Collaborative  
Chula Vista Elementary School District  
Chula Vista Wellbeing Center  
City of Refuge Recuperative Care  
Coastal Roots Farm  
Consulado de Mexico: Ventanilla de Salud  
Commission on Gang Prevention & Intervention  
Community Health Improvement Exchange (CIE)  
Community Health Improvement Partners (CHIP)  
Community Housing Works  
Consumer Center for Health Education & Advocacy (CCHEA)  
County Aging & Independent Services  
County Mental Health Department  
County of San Diego  
Cristo Rey High School  
Cristo Rey Middle School  
Diabetes Prevention Program (DPP)  
Downtown Encinitas Main Street Association  
Downtown San Diego Business Partnership  
Eastlake High School  
Encinitas 101 Main Street (DEMA)  
Encinitas Chamber of Commerce  
Eric Paredes Save a Life Foundation

Escondido Chamber of Commerce  
Fall Prevention Task Force  
Fallbrook Chamber of Commerce  
Fallbrook Regional Health District - Community & Wellness Center  
Family Health Centers of San Diego (FHCSO)  
Father Joe's Villages  
Feeding San Diego  
Foster, Adoptive and Kinship Care Education Program at Grossmont College  
Full Access & Coordination Travel (FACT) Inc.  
Greater La Jolla Meals on Wheels  
Grossmont College  
Grossmont-Cuyamaca College District Auxiliary  
Global Communities Healthy Start Collaborative  
Gun Violence Reduction Advisory Group  
Health and Human Services County of San Diego  
Health and Science Pipeline Initiative  
Health Resources and Services Administration - HRSA  
Health Services Advisory Group (HSAG)  
Hillcrest Business Association Business Improvement Dist.  
Hospital Association of San Diego & Imperial Counties  
Hospital Incident Command System (HICS) National Advisory Committee  
Imperial Valley AHEC  
Interfaith Community Services  
Jackie Robinson Family YMCA  
Jewish Family Services  
Kiwanis Club of Chula Vista  
KOCT (Oceanside Local TV Network)  
La Costa Glen  
La Jolla Historical Society  
La Maestra Community Clinic  
La Maestra Family Clinic, Inc  
Lake San Marcos Kiwanis Club  
Latinos y Latina en Accion  
Legal Aid Society of San Diego - LEAD

Leucadia 101 Main Street Association  
Leukemia & Lymphoma Society  
LGBTQ+ Victory Institute  
Lifeline Community Services  
Live Well San Diego  
Live Well San Diego Community Leadership Team  
MAAC Laurel Tree Apartments  
MainStreet Oceanside  
Mama's Kitchen  
Mana De San Diego  
Many Shades of Pink  
March of Dimes  
Mar Vista High School  
Marijuana Prevention Initiative  
Mercy Gardens Hillcrest  
Mercy Housing  
Metro Caring  
Mid-City CAN-SAY  
Molina's San Diego Community Advisory Committee  
NAMI San Diego  
Naval Medical Center (NMCSD)  
Neighborhood Health Center  
New Direction Family Resource Center  
Norman Park Senior Center  
North City Prevention Coalition (NCPC)  
North County African American Women's Association  
North County Economic Development Council  
North County LGBT Resource Center  
North County Lifeline, Inc  
North San Diego Business Chamber  
Northeast Valley Health Corporation  
Oasis  
Ocean View Hills Middle School  
Oceanside Chamber of Commerce  
Otay Mesa Chamber of Commerce

Pacifica Senior Living Bonita  
Palomar College  
Parkinson's Association of San Diego  
Partnerships for Success (P4S) Coalition  
PATH San Diego  
Pioneers Memorial Hospital  
Point Loma Nazarene University (PLNU)  
Projects for Assistance in Transition from Homelessness PATH  
Public Health Institute - Telehealth  
Rescue Mission - Shelter Bed Placement  
Roots Community Health Center  
SafeKids Coalition  
Salt Pima River Indian Maricopa Community  
San Diego Border Area Health Education Center  
San Diego Border Health Collaborative General Meeting  
San Diego City College  
San Diego County Alcohol Policy Panel for Public Strategies  
San Diego County Health Care Disaster Coalition  
San Diego County Medical Society  
San Diego County Office of Education  
San Diego County Sheriff's Department  
San Diego County Substance Use and Overdose Prevention Task Force  
San Diego County Taxpayers Association  
San Diego Domestic Violence Council (SDDVC)  
San Diego Fall Prevention Task Force  
San Diego Family Care: Linda Vista Health Center  
San Diego Health Connect  
San Diego Health Care Coalition Advisory Committee  
San Diego Healthy Start  
San Diego Human Trafficking Task Force  
San Diego Hunger Coalition  
San Diego Mesa College  
San Diego North Economic Development Council  
San Diego Nursing & Allied Health Education Consortium  
San Diego Padres

San Diego Police Department  
San Diego Pride  
San Diego Regional Chamber of Commerce  
San Diego Regional Continuum of Care Collaborative Governance  
San Diego Regional Economic Development Corporation  
San Diego Regional Task Force on Homelessness; Continuum of Care Advisory Board  
San Diego Rescue Mission (SDRM)  
San Diego State University  
San Dieguito Alliance  
San Elijo State Beach Lifeguard Headquarters  
San Marcos Blue Zones  
San Marcos Chamber of Commerce  
San Ysidro Chamber of Commerce  
San Ysidro Health Center (SYHC)  
San Ysidro High School  
San Ysidro Mental Health Workgroup  
San Ysidro Middle School  
San Ysidro Women's Club  
Scripps Research Translational Institute  
San Diego Community Colleges  
San Diego Unified High School District  
Serving Seniors  
Solana Beach Chamber of Commerce  
South Bay Community Services  
South County Action Network (SoCAN)  
South County Economic Development Council  
Southwest Senior High School  
Southwestern College Foundation  
St. Charles Nutrition Center  
St. John's Catholic Church  
St. Leo's Clinic  
Stop The Bleed Program  
Strategic Highway Safety Plan  
Suicide Prevention Council (SPC)  
Sweetwater High School

Sweetwater Union High School District  
The Alzheimer's Project - SD Unites for a Cure & Care  
The California Endowment  
The Downtown San Diego Partnership  
The National Council on Aging  
The San Diego Foundation  
The San Diego LGBT Community Center  
Tiburcio Vasquez Health Center  
Trenton Health Team  
Tulare County Health & Human Services Agency  
U.S Department of Health and Human Services  
U.S. Agency International Development (USAID)  
UC San Diego School of Medicine  
UCSD Family and Preventive Medicine  
University City High School  
University of California San Diego (UCSD)  
University of San Diego (USD)  
Vision Zero Coalition  
Vista Chamber of Commerce  
Vista Community Clinic  
Volunteers of America  
Women, Infant and Children Program

## Appendix I – County of San Diego Data and Resources

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This appendix highlights key data and resources to understand chronic diseases, health disparities, and health equity in San Diego County.

**3-4-50: Chronic Disease Deaths in San Diego County (2000-2021):** Overview of chronic disease mortality trends. [Detailed Brief 2023](#)

**County of San Diego Health Equity Dashboard Series,** Interactive dashboards highlighting racial equity and well-being. [Racial Equity Dashboards, San Diego County | Tableau Public](#)

**County of San Diego Public Health Data and Resources (2023):** Community profiles, metadata, and codebooks. [Public Health Services Data Guide and Codebook.](#)

**County of San Diego Regional Equity Indicators Report (FY 2022–2023):** Insights into equity challenges and opportunities. [Equity Indicators Report](#)

**Demographic Profiles San Diego County, (2019- 2023):** [2023 Region SRA Demographic Profiles Updated.pdf](#)

**Exploring Health Disparities in San Diego County: Executive Summary (2022):** [Health Equity Report Series.](#)

**Harm Reduction/Overdose Data to Action (OD2A):** Analysis of opioid-related overdoses and encounters in San Diego County. Opioid-Related Overdoses and Encounters in San Diego County Retrospective Analysis, [PowerPoint Presentation \(sandiegocounty.gov\)](#)

**Leading Causes of Death Among San Diego County Residents by Year (2011-2022):** , [2011-2022 Leading Causes of Death among San Diego County Residents Dashboard | Tableau Public](#)

**LGBTQ Health and Well-Being Dashboard (2018-2022),** [Adult LGBTQ Dashboard 2018-2022 | Tableau Public](#)

**Racial Equity Framework & Outcomes Brief:** Framework for advancing racial equity [Racial Equity Framework and Outcomes Brief, Data Guide.pdf \(sandiegocounty.gov\)](#)

**Suicide in San Diego County (2024):** [Suicide Prevention Action Plan \(SPAP\)](#)

## Appendix J – Endnotes

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<sup>1</sup> As per Senate Bill 697, hospitals under the common control of a single corporation or another entity may submit a consolidated report to California’s Department of Health Care Access and Information (formerly known as the Office of Statewide Health Planning and Development). Please refer to California Health and Safety Code Section 127340, et seq.

<sup>2</sup> Congressional Research Services, 501 (c)(3) Hospitals and the Community Benefit Standard, <https://crsreports.congress.gov/product/details?prodcode=RL34605>, Updated May 12, 2010.

<sup>3</sup> For full category definitions and accounting methods, see: [Instructions for Schedule H \(Form 990\) \(2023\) | Internal Revenue Service](#).

<sup>4</sup> Net Community Benefit Expense is a hospital’s total expense less direct offsetting revenue for the purpose of administering community benefit programs and activities. This definition aligns with the IRS Instructions for Schedule H (Form 990) and is the value to be reported by hospitals on activities listed on the Community Benefits Report table.

<sup>5</sup> California Hospital Association, <https://calhospital.org/hqaf-status-2/>.

<sup>6</sup> American Council on Aging, 2025 Federal Poverty Levels/Guidelines and How They Determine Medicaid Eligibility, <https://www.medicaidplanningassistance.org/federal-poverty-guidelines/>.

<sup>7</sup> The Health Equity Information Center was made possible in part by residual class settlement funds in the matter of April Krueger v. Wyeth, Inc., Case No. 03-cv-2496 (US District Court, SD of Calif.).

<sup>8</sup> Section 501(r)(3)(A) requires a hospital organization to conduct a community health needs assessment (CHNA) every three years and to adopt an implementation strategy to meet the community health needs identified through the CHNA. <https://www.irs.gov/charities-non-profits/community-health-needs-assessment-for-charitable-hospital-organizations-section-501r3>.

<sup>9</sup> Section 501(r)(3)(B) provides that the CHNA must: Take into account input from persons who represent the broad interests of the community served by the hospital facility, including those with special knowledge of or expertise in public health, and be made widely available to the public. A hospital organization meets the requirements of Section 501(r)(3) with respect to a hospital facility it operates: If the hospital facility has conducted a CHNA in the taxable year or in either of the two immediately preceding taxable years, and an authorized body of the hospital facility has adopted an implementation strategy to meet the community health needs identified through the CHNA on or before the 15th day of the fifth month after the end of such taxable year. <https://www.irs.gov/charities-non-profits/community-health-needs-assessment-for-charitable-hospital-organizations-section-501r3>.

<sup>10</sup> Demographic and community need information data presented throughout the body of this document are based upon the findings of the Hospital Association of San Diego and Imperial Counties 2025 Community Health Needs Assessment, <https://hasdic.org/chna/> which includes data from the San Diego County Health and Human Services Agency (HHS), Public Health Services including Community Health Statistics, Health Equity Dashboards and Morbidity and Mortality data. Hospital discharge trend data retrieved from California’s Department of Health Care Access and Information (HCAI) Limited data sets, 2021-2022, SpeedTrack©.

<sup>11</sup> [Aging Roadmap | Live Well San Diego](#). 2024 Aging Roadmap Annual Update – [County of San Diego – Live well San Diego](#).

<sup>12</sup> Rank is based on total number of deaths in each of the National Center for Health Statistics (NCHS) "rankable" categories. The top 15 leading causes of death presented here are based on the San Diego County residents for their respective years. Cause of death is based on the underlying cause of death reported on death certificates as classified by ICD-10 codes. Deaths for specific demographics or geographic area may not equal the total deaths for San Diego County due to missing data. For data years 2020-2022, the COVID-19 pandemic was associated with increases in all-cause mortality. COVID-19 deaths have affected the patterns of mortality including Leading Causes of Death. Starting in data year 2023, San Diego County resident deaths that occurred out of state are now included. Source: California Department of Public Health, Center for Health Statistics, Office of Health Information and Research, Vital Records Business Intelligence System. 2011-2023. Prepared by: County of San Diego, Health and Human Services Agency, Public Health Services, Community Health Statistics Unit, May 2025. 2011-2023 Leading Causes of Death among San Diego County Residents Dashboard | Tableau Public

<sup>13</sup> American Public Health Association. (2015). Support for social determinants of behavioral health (policy brief). <https://www.apha.org/policy-and-advocacy/public-health-policy-briefs/policy-database/2015/01/28/14/58/support-for-social-determinants-of-behavioral-health>, Centers for Disease Control and Prevention. (2025, June 9). About behavioral health. U.S. Department of Health and Human Services. <https://www.cdc.gov/mental-health/about/about-behavioral-health.html>. Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration. (2023). Behavioral health across the lifespan. In Behavioral Health Needs in the United States. National Center for Biotechnology Information. <https://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/books/NBK609444/>

<sup>14</sup> Suicide Report Shows Small Increase in Suicide Deaths Overall, but [Youth High Risk | News | San Diego County News Center](#)

<sup>15</sup> San Diego County Substance Use and Overdose Prevention Taskforce, 2025 Annual Report Card, [2025 SUOPT Report Card IP 7.30.25](#)

<sup>16</sup> American Society of Clinical Oncology 2023 Report <https://ascopost.com/news/january-2023/american-cancer-society-cancer-statistics-2023-report-released/#:~:text=While%20the%20continuing%20decline%20in,aged%2060%20to%2079%20years>.

<sup>17</sup> San Diego Hospital Association and Imperial Counties 2025 Community Health Needs Assessment and the most recent San Diego County Community Health Statistics (unless otherwise indicated). <https://hasdic.org/chna/>.

<sup>18</sup> Scripps Cancer Center Nurse Navigator Program is not quantified as a community benefit since the program is exclusively for its patients.

<sup>19</sup> Scripps Cancer Center Outpatient Social Worker and Liaison Program is not quantified as a community benefit since the program is exclusively for its patients.

<sup>20</sup> Scripps Cancer Center Outpatient Heredity and Cancer Genetic Counseling Program is not quantified as a community benefit since the program is exclusively for its patients.

<sup>21</sup> Scripps Cancer Center Lung Screening and Survivorship Program is not quantified as a community benefit since the program is exclusively for its patients.

<sup>22</sup> American Heart Association. What is cardiovascular disease? American Heart Association Web site. <https://www.heart.org/en/health-topics/consumer-healthcare/what-is-cardiovascular-disease>. Updated May 31, 2017. Accessed on January 30, 2022.

<sup>23</sup> Scripps employees who volunteer for the Eric Paredes screening events do so during their personal time, and as such, staff time is not included in the community benefit report totals.

<sup>24</sup> Centers for Disease Control and Prevention. Diabetes. CDC Web site. <https://www.cdc.gov/maternal-infant-health/pregnancy-diabetes/index.html>. Accessed May 15, 2024.

<sup>25</sup> Racial Disparities in Maternal and Infant Health: Current Status and Efforts to Address Them. <https://www.kff.org/racial-equity-and-health-policy/issue-brief/racial-disparities-in-maternal-and-infant-health-current-status-and-efforts-to-address-them/>.

<sup>26</sup> County of San Diego, Health and Human Services Agency, Public Health Services, Community Health Statistics Unit, 2019-2023 Demographic Profiles: [2023 SRA Demographic Profiles FINAL 02.05.25.pdf](#). Published February 2025.

<sup>27</sup> Recuperative care programs, also known as medical respite care, provide room, board, and medical care coordination for people experiencing homelessness who are too ill or frail to recover on the streets or in a shelter but not sick enough to be in a hospital. Under the state's California Advancing and Innovating Medi-Cal (CalAIM) Initiative, managed care plans have the option to cover medical respite care.

<sup>28</sup> Volunteer time calculations are determined using an average hourly wage for the Scripps Health system, inclusive of benefits.

<sup>29</sup> Health Professional Education encompasses graduate medical education, nursing resource development, and other health care professional education.

<sup>30</sup> Health Research comprises clinical research activities primarily conducted at Scripps Clinical Research Services and Scripps Whittier Diabetes Institute. Calculations are based on total program expenses.

<sup>31</sup> Uncompensated health care includes the sum of expenses associated with Charity Care, Medi-Cal Shortfall and Other Means-Tested Government Programs, Medicare Shortfall and Bad Debt.

<sup>32</sup> Calculation for Charity Care is estimated by extracting the gross write-offs of Charity Care charges and applying the hospital ratio of cost to charges (RCC) to estimate the cost of providing Charity Care.

<sup>33</sup> Calculation for Medi-Cal and other means-tested government programs are derived using the payer-based cost allocation method. The Hospital Fee Program was reported as offsetting revenue from Medi-Cal. The pledge/grant (separate from the quality assurance fee) is reported in the Cash and In-Kind Contributions for other vulnerable populations category.

<sup>34</sup> Calculations for Medicare are derived using the payer-based cost allocation methodology. In Schedule H, the Medicare cost report is used.

<sup>35</sup> Calculation for Bad Debt is estimated by extracting the gross write-offs of Bad Debt charges and applying the hospital ratio of cost to charges (RCC) to estimate the cost of providing Bad Debt.

<sup>36</sup> Calculation for Cash, Grants, and In-Kind contributions are generally measured at cost. "Cash contributions" does not mean any payments that the organization makes in exchange for a service, facility, or product, or that the organization makes primarily to obtain economic or physical benefit. In-kind contributions include the cost of staff hours donated by the organization to the community, indirect cost of space donated to tax-exempt community groups (such as for community health-related meetings), and the financial value (measured at cost) of donated food, equipment, and supplies.

<sup>37</sup> Scripps Mercy Hospital operates Scripps Mercy Hospital San Diego and Scripps Mercy Hospital Chula Vista under one license. The community benefit total includes Scripps Mercy Hospital (San Diego Campus and Chula Vista Campus).

<sup>38</sup> Patients in the program are only Medicare, Sprint, and Stroke and do not include all case management and social work referrals.

<sup>39</sup> Various programs listed in Section 9 (Scripps Medical Foundation) are excluded from the quantification of community benefit totals as programs are exclusively provided to Scripps patients.

<sup>40</sup> Community health needs assessment for charitable hospital organizations - Section 501(r)(3)  
<https://www.irs.gov/charities-non-profits/community-health-needs-assessment-for-charitable-hospital-organizations-section-501r3>.

For more information about the programs and services offered by Scripps Health, visit [Scripps.org/CommunityBenefit](https://www.scripps.org/CommunityBenefit) or contact the Scripps Health Office of Community Benefit Services at **858-678-7095**.

