A LOOK AT GRADY’S INVESTMENT IN THE HEALTH OF THE COMMUNITY

From providing free and reduced health care services to training all levels of health care providers to leveraging our purchasing power to benefit more women and minority owned businesses, Grady is committed to improving the health of our community. We are continually innovating to improve patient care, prevent disease and injury, and promote well-being. While residents of Fulton and DeKalb counties—the core of our community—receive a majority of Community Benefit resources through Grady’s Charity Care program, medical education partnerships with Morehouse School of Medicine and Emory School of Medicine, and our participation in the Atlanta Regional Collaborative for Health Improvement (ARCHI), our impact is felt far beyond the city of Atlanta.

In 2015, Grady’s net Community Benefit totaled more than $176 million, nearly 20% of total health system expenses.
At Grady, our doors are open to everyone regardless of income, legal status, language or culture. As Atlanta’s safety net hospital, we serve many low income families, some of our community’s most underserved citizens. By providing high quality care to these individuals, we are addressing our community’s greatest health care needs and combating health inequity. To improve care for our patients in and outside the hospital, Grady implemented several new initiatives in 2015.

Through the CareLink electronic medical record (EMR) module, Grady securely shares patient information with 8 external health care providers to ensure seamless care across the system.

In partnership with United Way and local clinics, Grady deployed 6 community health workers who support more than 100 patients with congestive heart failure and other conditions after hospital discharge to promote health and healing at home.

Grady received renewal of our Level III Patient Centered Medical Home (PCMH) designation. As medical homes, our seven primary care settings provide high quality, accessible care and have increased annual patient visits by 15,000 since 2013.

In 2015, Grady opened updated and expanded urology services to help address limited access in our community and increase our capacity for services critical to diagnosing and treating prostate cancer.

**Care Coordination**

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**Healthy Behaviors**

Partnering with many of Georgia’s finest health care and public health providers, Grady is working to prevent injuries, chronic disease, and HIV/AIDS.

**CHRONIC DISEASE**

Physical activity is critical to preventing chronic diseases like diabetes and hypertension, and the Atlanta BeltLine is removing significant barriers to physical activity as they develop a network of parks and trails that will foster community and encourage healthy living. As a member of the Atlanta BeltLine Partnership Health Steering Committee, Grady provides support and guidance to foster a culture of health and physical activity throughout the city.

**HIV/AIDS**

Grady’s Ponce De Leon Center is one of the country’s largest, most comprehensive centers dedicated to the care of people living with HIV. Seamlessly providing onsite medical, dental and other support services to more than 5,500 adults and children living with HIV, treatment as prevention is at the core of our work. Today, high quality HIV treatment can keep people healthy and active and greatly reduce the risk of transmission.
Insurance coverage is a key element to accessing health care. In 2015, Grady helped thousands of individuals get enrolled in health insurance. Our financial assistance counselors diligently screened patients for Medicaid eligibility and helped those who were qualified apply for coverage. To help community members with access to insurance through the ACA’s Federal Marketplace, Grady worked with Enroll America to contact current and former patients and hired navigators to assist with education and enrollment.

At Grady, it is our mission to provide high quality health care to all, regardless of ability to pay. In 2015, we provided more than $164 million in free or reduced cost health care to residents from across the state. While more people are able to get health insurance through the ACA’s Federal Marketplace, many more are still unable to access affordable insurance or pay for the care they need, even with insurance. In 2015, more than 25% of Grady patients were uninsured, compared to 5% for the average Atlanta area hospital.

Whether insured or not, Grady provides excellent care and financial assistance to low-income patients. Fulton and DeKalb county contributions help cover some of these costs, but county funds continue to decline. As our community continues to grow and health care needs remain high, the burden is on Grady to provide care to those in need and remain financially secure.

As one of Atlanta’s premier teaching hospitals, Grady is committed to providing high quality education to health care providers in training. In 2015, Grady incurred more than $103 million in expenses to provide this critical Community Benefit. In addition to training nearly one quarter of Georgia’s physicians, Grady supports the education of a range of health care providers, including nurses, pharmacists, radiation and imaging technicians, emergency medical service (EMS) providers, among others.
At Grady we know that the health care a person receives is only part of what determines their health. Factors like neighborhood, race or ethnicity, and education, also known as social determinants of health, have major impacts on health. Through community-minded business practices, Grady is working to improve community health in the long term. While the costs of these programs often do not qualify for Community Benefit reporting, we know these investments result in better health and more equitable outcomes.

As one of the largest public health systems in the country, our economic impact is significant. In less than five years, Grady has grown supplier diversity from 5% to 28% and extended diversity requirements to subcontractors. By purchasing goods and services from minority and women-owned businesses, Grady is using its resources to help promote success and financial stability among businesses that employ more people of color and women. Because economic security directly impacts health access and outcomes, these investments contribute to improvements in health and well-being among those disproportionately affected by health disparities. Our award-winning Supplier Diversity program is the only program of its kind among hospitals in the region, and we are committed to being a pioneer in this important field.

Supply Chain

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Employment

Grady continues to partner with the Careers in Healthcare Atlanta Mobility Project (CHAMP) to ensure the availability of a competent healthcare workforce now and in the future. CHAMP gives un- or underemployed individuals new opportunities to achieve economic stability and fulfilling careers through innovative training programs. Along with other health care providers in the Atlanta area, Grady provides input on health care pipeline needs, necessary skills and certifications, and other hiring criteria. This collaboration of government agencies, workforce development groups, academic institutions and community providers is making a lasting impact.

One CHAMP program, the Atlanta BeltLine Workforce Development Project, was recognized by President Obama in 2014 as one of 35 “Programs that Work.” This project brought together Grady Health System, Atlanta Workforce Development Authority, Atlanta Technical College, and other partners to train unemployed individuals for Certified Nursing Assistant and Office Operations positions.