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Connecticut Hospitals and Health Systems Invest \$1.7 Billion in Community Benefit Initiatives and Generate \$27.7 Billion for the State's Economy

WALLINGFORD — Connecticut hospitals and health systems play a critical role in preserving, protecting, and improving lives. They offer excellent quality care, state-of-the-art technology, and competent, compassionate staff. In addition to serving people in their time of need, Connecticut hospitals and health systems advance the health of their communities and foster economic growth throughout the state. Their impact is illustrated in two reports published today by the Connecticut Hospital Association (CHA): The [2019 Economic Impact Report](#) and the [2019 Community Benefit Report](#).

“Connecticut hospitals and health systems provide high quality care for everyone, both in the hospital setting and in our communities,” said Jennifer Jackson, CEO, CHA. “In addition to improving lives, they also strengthen the state’s economy. Vibrant hospitals and health systems require support and collaboration from government and many other sectors, and it is important to work together to build a better, healthier future for Connecticut.”

Connecticut hospitals and health systems are economic cornerstones in the communities they serve. According to the *2019 Economic Impact Report*, they generate \$27.7 billion for the state’s economy and drive growth in the health, medical, and research fields, as well as in many other sectors. Connecticut hospitals and health systems provide great jobs to 103,000 people. And nearly every hospital job produces another job outside the hospital. In total, Connecticut hospitals and health systems generate 204,000 jobs in our state.

Hospitals also collaborate with community partners to deliver outreach and support programs that address critical health needs for expectant mothers, patients with asthma, cancer, substance use, behavioral health disorders, and heart disease, in settings that are close to home. Their staff participate in community-based care for patients, organize free medical screenings, and connect patients to services to help with food, housing, and transportation. The *2019 Community Benefit Report* shows that in 2017, Connecticut hospitals provided more than 12 million community benefit services to individuals and families – an investment of \$1.7 billion; that’s 15 percent of total hospital revenue.

In 2017, Connecticut hospitals benefitted their communities in many ways.

- \$679 million: Unpaid government-sponsored healthcare (Medicaid)
- \$763 million: Unpaid government-sponsored healthcare (Medicare)

- \$196 million: Uncompensated care: Charity care/bad debt to provide services for those who cannot pay
- \$26 million: Community services to improve the health of the community
- \$12 million: Research and other programs to advance healthcare for patients and the community
- \$13 million: Donations to help support community organizations
- \$7 million: Community building to create stronger, healthier communities
- \$7 million: Subsidized health services* to provide care needed by the community

** Most subsidized health services funds are reflected in the “unpaid costs of government programs” numbers.*

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The Connecticut Hospital Association has been dedicated to serving Connecticut’s hospitals and health systems since 1919. Through state and federal advocacy, CHA represents the interests of Connecticut’s hospitals and health systems on key healthcare issues in the areas of quality and patient safety, access and coverage, workforce, community health, health equity, and hospital reimbursement.