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Michigan Nonprofit Hospitals Provided More Than \$1.3 Billion in Community Benefits

MHA 2006 Release: A Measure of Our Value and Service

LANSING, Mich. — Michigan’s nonprofit community hospitals provided more than \$1 billion in uncompensated care and in the unreimbursed costs of government programs (such as Medicaid and Medicare) and more than \$327 million in free or reduced-fee community-based programs in fiscal year 2004 (the most recent year for which data is available), according to a report released today by the Michigan Health & Hospital Association (MHA).

In total, Michigan hospitals provided more than \$1.3 billion in community benefits programming, the new report shows.

The *MHA 2006 Hospital Community Benefits Report* is based on data from 126 of Michigan’s nonprofit community hospitals. Eighty-eight percent of the state’s 144 nonprofit community hospitals voluntarily submitted data for the report, which quantifies two types of hospital community benefits: traditional and nontraditional. **Traditional community benefits** are uncompensated care that includes health care services provided to patients who are unable to pay and the unreimbursed costs of government programs such as Medicaid and Medicare. **Nontraditional community benefits** are programs and services offered by Michigan’s nonprofit hospitals out in the community — beyond hospital walls — to improve health status or increase access to care.

“The *MHA 2006 Hospital Community Benefits Report* demonstrates how Michigan’s nonprofit hospitals are going above and beyond the delivery of essential health care services to ensure healthier children, safer environments, earlier detection of disease, and enhanced access to basic health care services,” said MHA President Spencer Johnson.

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SPENCER JOHNSON, PRESIDENT

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The MHA has published the report annually since 1997 to illustrate nonprofit hospitals' efforts to benefit the communities they serve beyond the delivery of essential health care services. In addition to statewide aggregate community benefits data, the report includes examples of actual community programs being conducted by hospitals.

In 2004, Michigan's nonprofit hospitals helped people reduce or eliminate tobacco use, aided residents through free weight-management and physical-activity programs, and provided disease prevention and education programs.

Quick Facts from the *MHA 2006 Hospital Community Benefits Report*:

- Michigan's nonprofit hospitals offer free clinics in nearly every community in the state. Hospitals included in this report recorded more than 266,000 visitors to their free hospital- and community-based clinics. Care provided at these free clinics totaled more than \$22 million.
- Virtually every Michigan hospital works hard to prevent diseases by offering a variety of free health screening programs, many where residents work, play and go to school. In 2004, 126 Michigan hospitals provided a total of more than 7,300 health screening opportunities in the communities they serve, providing free screenings to nearly 261,000 residents.
- Michigan residents participated more than nine million times in nearly 23,000 community-based education and outreach programs offered by Michigan hospitals. These programs, valued at more than \$22 million, are aimed at improving the health status of residents.
- Hospitals provided free or discounted prescription drugs to more than 111,000 residents.
- More than 600,000 Michigan residents received in-home meals, respite care and similar services from Michigan hospitals.
- Michigan hospitals provided nearly \$20 million in cash and in-kind donations to community groups and programs.

For a copy of the 2006 report, please visit www.mha.org and click on "Reports" or contact Marlene Hulteen or Kevin Downey at (517) 323-3443. The MHA is a state association, based in Lansing, that represents and supports Michigan hospitals, health systems and health care providers through education, advocacy and communication.

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