



Community Health & Well-Being Impact Report





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Our Mission

We, Trinity Health, serve together in the spirit of the Gospel as a compassionate and transforming healing presence within our communities.

Our Core Values

Reverence

We honor the sacredness and dignity of every person.

Commitment to Those Who are Poor

We stand with and serve those who are poor, especially those most vulnerable.

Safety

We embrace a culture that prevents harm and nurtures a healing, safe environment for all.

Justice

We foster right relationships to promote the common good, including sustainability of Earth.

Stewardship

We honor our heritage and hold ourselves accountable for the human, financial and natural resources entrusted to our care.

Integrity

We are faithful to who we say we are.

Our Vision

As a mission-driven innovative health organization, we will become the national leader in improving the health of our communities and each person we serve. We will be the most trusted health partner for life.

St. Mary's Health Care System

At St. Mary's, we are dedicated to our mission to be a compassionate and transforming healing presence in the communities we serve.

St. Mary's is much more than a hospital. We are a health care ministry that includes three hospitals, numerous physician practices, our region's first medical residency program, one of the state's pioneering home health care/hospice services, a retirement community, extensive outpatient services, and much more. We are proud to be part of Trinity Health, one of the nation's largest Catholic healthcare organizations. Partnering with Trinity Health, we are able to bring the strength of a national healthcare ministry to our communities. Our partnership also enables St. Mary's to be on the leading edge of developing best practices.

In the tradition of our sponsors, Catholic Health Ministries, we are committed to bringing high-quality, evidence-based health care services to you and your family. As a not-for-profit Catholic health care system, we invest our resources back into our community. We strive continually to enhance our facilities and services to better meet your needs and those of everyone we serve.

St. Mary's is recognized as a national leader in quality and patient satisfaction, but we know there is no such thing as "good enough". Day and night, our dedicated physicians and staff work to further improve our quality of care. This effort grows from our faith, which inspires us to be committed to the sacredness of human life and the dignity of each person we serve. We pledge to strive for ever higher levels of compassion and excellence in all we do, 24 hours a day, seven days a week.

“For more than 116 years, it has been St. Mary's honor and privilege to serve the families, businesses, and communities of Northeast Georgia. Thank you for choosing St. Mary's as your preferred healthcare partner, for life. We are here to serve you. Exceptional care for life.”

Ministry Overview

St. Mary's Health Care System is proud to be a Regional Health Ministry of Trinity Health. Trinity Health is one of the nation's largest Catholic health care systems, serving people multiple states from coast to coast. Being a part of a large national system gives us access to resources and ideas across the broad spectrum of care, making it easier for us to advance clinical quality in significant ways at the local level and providing economies of scale that reduce our costs. It also allows us to contribute our knowledge and best practices to make care better where Trinity Health operates.

St. Mary's Health Care System is a faith-based, not-for-profit health care ministry whose mission is to be a compassionate and transforming healing presence in the communities we serve. St. Mary's puts special focus on neurosciences, cardiac care, orthopedics, general medicine, general surgery, women's and children's health, and care for older adults. Our system includes hospitals in Athens, Lavonia and Greensboro, as well as a multi-practice medical group, a retirement community, outpatient care facilities, graduate medical education, and a region-wide home health care/hospice service. St. Mary's Hospital in Athens is a certified chest pain center, a gold-plus hospital for stroke care, and has been named Georgia's Large Hospital of the Year multiple times. For more information, visit St. Mary's website at www.stmaryshealthcaresystem.org.

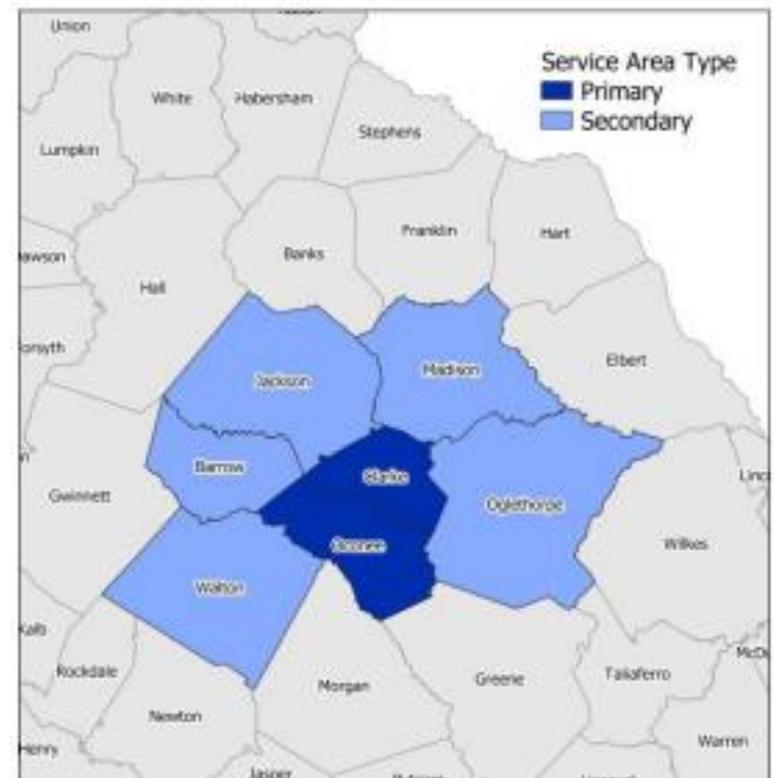


Our Community

The geographic service area was defined at the county-level for the purposes of the 2022 Community Health Needs Assessment (CHNA). The service area was determined by counting the number of patient visits by county of residence. Seven counties are defined as the service area for St. Mary's Health Care System: Athens-Clarke, Barrow, Jackson, Madison, Oconee, Oglethorpe, and Walton. The counties with the most patient visits are the Primary Service Area. The counties with the next highest patient visits are the Secondary Service Area. See the map of the service area.

The inpatient discharge data for the hospital was reviewed and Zip codes reflecting the top inpatient discharges within the most recent year of data were included within the defined community. Demographic data by Zip code was analyzed to ensure that medically underserved, low-income, or minority populations who live in the geographic areas from which the hospital draws patients were not excluded from the defined community.

St. Mary's Health Care System service area
Zip codes are: 30529, 30549, 30605, 30606, 30607, 30621, 30625, 30628, 30629, 30633, 30635, 30641, 30642, 30643, 30650, 30655, 30656, 30662, 30677, 30680, and 31024..



Community Benefit

St. Mary's is proud to give back to Athens and Northeast Georgia, which have supported our institution for more than a century. Because we are a Catholic health care system, Community Benefit is a vital part of our Mission and Values.

“Community Benefit is the process by which St. Mary's measures and reports the impact on our community of health improvement services, health professions education, research, and financial and in-kind contributions.



Advancing Social Care

Community Health Worker Program

St. Mary's Health Care System understands that issues like unstable housing, food insecurity, and low income can have a significant impact on your health as well as your quality of life. A Community Health Worker (CHW) is a frontline health worker who is a trusted member of and/or has demonstrated working knowledge of the community and individuals served. Our Community Health Workers help connect patients and their family to valuable resources that can enhance their quality of life and can have a significant impact on overall health.

St. Mary's Community Health Workers help connect you with community resources for the following:

- Access to Primary Care- including local federally qualified health centers and free/low-cost community clinics
- Basic Needs
- Food Insecurity
- Health Literacy
- Housing
- Rent and Utility Assistance
- Social Isolation
- Transportation

The graphic features a central image of two hands cupping a glowing, multi-faceted sphere. The background is a soft-focus bokeh of warm colors. The text is arranged in a clean, modern layout with a pink header and footer.

COMMUNITY HEALTH WORKER

Need a little help? We're focused on understanding your needs and connecting you to the right resources within our community.

ST. MARY'S
HEALTH CARE SYSTEM

Advancing Social Care

Community Resource Directory

The Community Resource Directory is an online portal connecting those in need to free or reduced-cost health and social service resources within the community. And, it's accessible to anyone:

<https://communityresources.trinity-health.org/>

One way Community Health Workers (CHWs) assess and address social needs is using the Community Resource Directory to identify and refer patients to the appropriate resources for things such as transportation, finding access to healthy foods, medication assistance, housing/shelter, etc. CHWs are key components of Social Care and serve as liaisons between health/social services and the community to address patients' social needs and mitigate barriers.



Community Engagement

- **1,702** social care searches and **275** referrals
- **1,274** social care encounters with patient referred to CHW
- **97** vaccine clinics held
- **1,458** COVID vaccinations provided

Advancing Social Care

Breast Health Engagement Program

Tralee Hale did not set out to be a community advocate in the fight against breast cancer. She was happy working as a flight attendant and raising Kelee Ringo, a standout football player in high school who was being recruited by multiple college teams, including the University of Georgia Bulldogs.

But then she was diagnosed with breast cancer and every aspect of her life changed. Now, she is working with St. Mary's and breast surgery specialist Dr. Kathleen Jeffery to bring her story to women who need to hear it. Her core message:

- 1-in-8 women will be diagnosed with breast cancer in their lifetime.
- The earlier cancer is found, the better.
- No matter who you are, no matter how good you feel, you are not immune.

"I just knew it could not happen to me," Tralee says. "I believe a lot of people have that state of mind."

"This mission is important to me because it's personal," she concludes. "I'm going to use my voice. My goal is to spread education and awareness in an effort to prevent women from going through what I had to. It's all about prevention. Early detection is the key. People have to know about it."

Breast Health Influencer



Tralee Hale, Breast Health Influencer and breast cancer survivor.



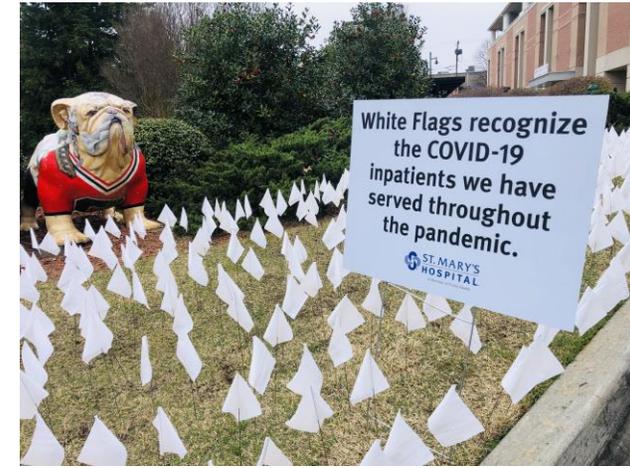
Tralee Hale, left, has teamed up with breast surgeon Dr. Kathleen Jeffery to educate women on the importance of early detection.

Impacting Social Influencers of Health

Throughout FY22, St. Mary's Health Care System implemented strong measures to ensure an effective response to the historic COVID-19 global health crisis. In response to COVID-19, St. Mary's mobilized infrastructure to assess the most urgent community needs, strengthened partnerships with community-based organizations, and collaborated with medical groups and clinically integrated networks providing direct patient care to ensure that patient social needs were met.

St. Mary's Health Care System accelerated its response for social services by launching Social Care programs, and pivoted community education classes to online platforms and/or telephonic check-in. COVID-19 testing and non-COVID-19 medical services were provided for those who are homeless, uninsured, underinsured or with Medicaid, and/or lack the resources to obtain care. Hospital priorities shifted to focus community related efforts towards COVID education, testing, and vaccination. These efforts were done in collaboration with the local health department, community clinics, first responder organizations, and the neighboring hospitals and healthcare facilities.

The Community Health Worker Program was shifted to prioritize social needs impacting COVID-19 patients, families, and those impacted by the pandemic. In a survey of 6 months during FY22 of those patients referred for one or more social needs include basic financial needs 35%, food 31.7%, transportation 28.3%, housing 21.7%, isolation 20%, access to care 16.7%, health literacy 5%.



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