

spotlight

Children's commitment to Boston children and families

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Children's commitment to Boston

Children's Hospital Boston strives to be an accessible, reliable and trusted community hospital for Boston families. Improving the health and well-being of Boston's children is one of our four core hospital missions. We transform this mission into action by working with City government and community partners to identify health disparities and unmet health needs, and then developing and investing in programs and partners that respond to those needs. As a major employer located in the heart of the city, we also support our partners to improve the economic health and vitality of Boston's neighborhoods.

Our many partnerships reflect the different roles we play within the Boston community:

- **a good neighbor** to the communities surrounding the hospital and our Martha Eliot Health Center.
- **a health partner** to City and community organizations working to improve children's health.
- **a civic leader** dedicated to the overall health of the city that is our home.

Children's is committed to continuing and strengthening our partnerships to improve community health in ways that recognize and celebrate the diversity that makes Boston a special place to live, work and play.

Our community health initiatives

Children's focuses its programmatic efforts on the health issues of asthma, obesity, mental health and injury prevention—the areas identified by the community as the most pressing for Boston children and families.

- The **Community Asthma Initiative** improves the quality of life for children with asthma living in Jamaica Plain and Roxbury and *has reduced asthma-related Emergency Department visits by 67% and hospital admissions by 84% for children enrolled in the program.*
- **Children's Hospital Neighborhood Partnerships (CHNP)** provided mental health services to 259 children in Boston schools and 556 children in Boston health centers; more than 3,000 youth and 600 parents participated in early intervention and prevention activities during the 2007-2008 school year. *Eleven of the Boston schools participating in CHNP have shown an increased ability to address students' mental health needs.*
- Our **Martha Eliot Health Center (MEHC)**, located in Jamaica Plain, not only provides health services, but also programs that help improve children's school performance, teach families about how to prepare nutritious foods and support victims of trauma and violence. MEHC has played a key role in the **Jamaica Plain Trauma Response Team**, which has been adopted by the Boston Public Health Commission as a model for responding to youth violence.
- Through our **Fitness in the City (FIC)** program, Children's provides support to 11 Boston community health centers including MEHC to reach more than 800 children who report that they are *spending less time watching TV, consuming fewer sugar-sweetened beverages, eating more fruits and vegetables and exercising more.*

BY THE NUMBERS

\$23.3 million

invested by Children's in FY08 to improve the health and well-being of Boston children and families

9,100

 patients from Boston's neighborhoods receive their primary care in the Children's Hospital Primary Care Center; 66% of these children are insured by Medicaid

13

 Boston schools are supported with mental health services and prevention activities through the Children's Hospital Neighborhood Partnerships program

10

 Boston community health centers are affiliated with Children's and receive support for their pediatric practices

34%

 of Children's employees and affiliated personnel are Boston residents

53%

 reduction in lost school days for Boston children participating in our Community Asthma Initiative

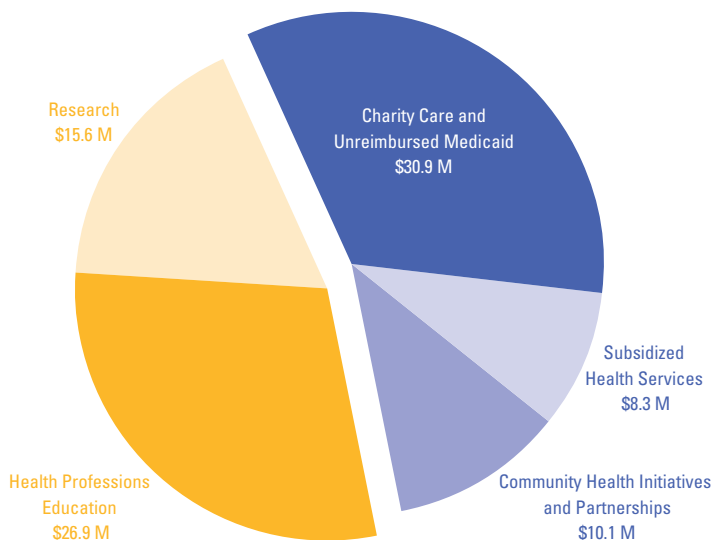
50%

 of Boston children in need of hospitalization come to Children's

95

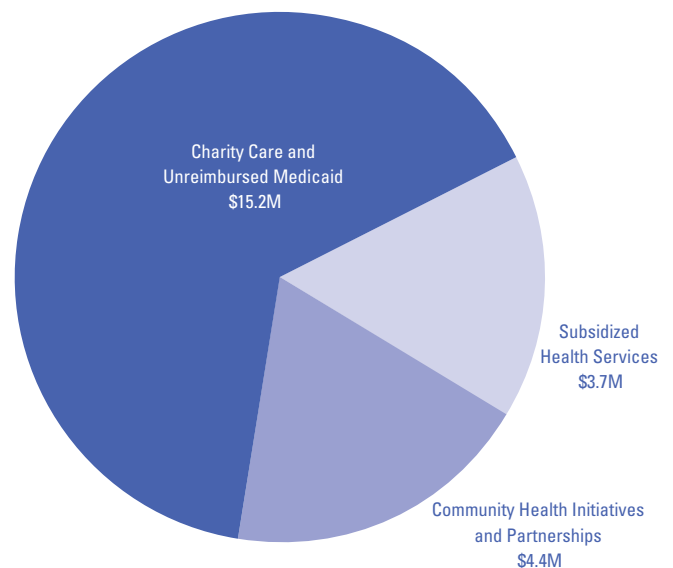
 Boston high school students had summer jobs last year funded by Children's

Children's total investment in community benefits*



Children's invested \$91.8 million in fulfilling its community benefits mission in FY08.

Children's investment in community benefits directed towards Boston children and families**



Out of its total investment in community benefits, Children's invested \$23.3 million towards improving the health and well-being of Boston children and families in FY08.

Fulfilling our role as a community hospital for Boston's children

For Children's, serving as a community hospital means that we provide care for all Boston children regardless of their families' ability to pay. We also provide care for children who are insured by Medicaid, which inadequately reimburses the hospital for services. Additionally, it means that we provide and subsidize services that are unavailable in the community or available in limited supply, such as primary care, dental and mental health services.

Supporting our community partners

Children's also supports a wide-variety of community partners in Boston and believes in developing effective and enduring relationships with the local organizations that make Boston a healthy and vibrant city for families. We place a special emphasis on the organizations serving the neighborhoods that surround the hospital and our health center, the Martha Eliot—Fenway, Mission Hill, Roxbury and Jamaica Plain.

Investing in the City of Boston

Children's contributes financially to the City of Boston in a variety of ways, including making annual voluntary payments, paying real estate taxes and supporting initiatives that are shared priorities. For example, Children's has been an active participant and lead funder of Thrive in Five and Countdown to Kindergarten. In addition, Children's pays real estate taxes directly to the City on property used for commercial purposes and through lease agreements with landlords. In FY08, Children's paid more than \$880,000 in real estate taxes (which is not reflected in the above chart).

Contributing to the local economy

In 2007, Children's hired Tripp Umbach, a national leader in economic impact studies, to conduct an analysis of the hospital's contributions to the local economy. This report found that the direct impact of in-city spending by Children's (for capital improvements, goods and services, employee spending, etc.) and the indirect impact of the recirculation of these first-round expenditures yielded an overall business volume impact on Boston of \$533 million and \$27.7 million in tax revenue.

*Estimate as of May 2009 based on the Internal Revenue Service guidelines for community benefits which impact children and families across Massachusetts and beyond.

**Based on Children's calculations to determine the direct benefit to Boston children and families in the areas of charity care and unreimbursed Medicaid, subsidized health services and community health. At this time, the hospital is unable to determine the direct benefit to Boston children and families in the areas of research and health professions education.