

COMMUNITY BENEFIT REPORT 2022

Organization Name:	St. Mary's Regional Medical Center	City & State:	Lewiston ME
Completed by:	Elizabeth Keene, VP, Mission Integration		
Legacy Statement:	<p>In 1888, the Sisters of Charity of Saint-Hyacinthe established a healing ministry to meet the needs of this community. In the spirit of the Sisters and their foundress, St. Marguerite d'Youville, St. Mary's Health System will continue its unwavering commitment to provide holistic care, offered with respect and compassion, for all in our community.</p> <p style="text-align: center;">"We shall continue to love and to serve."</p> <p style="text-align: right;">-St. Marguerite d'Youville</p>		
Written Introduction:	<p>St. Mary's Health System, a member of Covenant Health, is the parent corporation of:</p> <p>ST. MARY'S REGIONAL MEDICAL CENTER (SMRMC)- a 233-bed acute care hospital, a primary care provider network, urgent care and emergency department, behavioral and mental health services, and outpatient specialty practices that combine talented and compassionate caregivers with state-of-the-art medical technology to meet the healthcare needs in the Androscoggin County area and beyond.</p> <p>ST. MARY'S d'YOUVILLE PAVILION - the state of Maine's largest nursing home providing skilled long-term care and nursing services.</p> <p>ST. MARY'S RESIDENCES - 128 private, non-smoking apartments reserved exclusively for the independent elderly and handicapped.</p>		
Milestones and Highlights of 2022	<p>One of the highlights of 2022 was that St. Mary's d'Youville Pavilion was recognized with a coveted five-star rating by the Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services' (CMS) Nursing Home Compare Rating System.</p> <p>The rating system features a five-star overall quality score, which is based on a facility's performance in four specific categories, each with its own associated five-star rating. They include Health Inspections, Quality Measures, Staffing and Registered Nurse Staffing. The rating system's goal is to assist consumers in making meaningful evaluations of nursing homes.</p>		

CATEGORY 3: COMMUNITY BENEFIT SERVICES SUMMARY

CATEGORY 3: COMMUNITY BENEFIT SERVICES (SEE CATEGORIES BELOW)						
2020 Community Benefit Summary by Category						
3A. Community Health Improvement Services	3B. Health Professions Education	3C. Subsidized Health Services	3D. Research	3E. Cash and In-Kind Contributions	3F. Community-Building Activities	3G. Community Benefit Operations
SECTION TOTAL \$1,668, 842	SECTION TOTAL \$1,267,477	SECTION TOTAL \$0	SECTION TOTAL \$0	SECTION TOTAL \$124,890	SECTION TOTAL \$43,359	SECTION TOTAL \$82,192
Total Community Benefit Services Provided in 2022:			\$3,186,760			


CATEGORY 3-A: Community Health Improvement Services

CATEGORY 3A: COMMUNITY HEALTH IMPROVEMENT SERVICES: These activities are carried out to improve community health, extend beyond patient care activities and are subsidized by the health care organization. Such services do not generate patient care bills although they may involve a nominal fee.


Category 3A Narrative Introduction:	St. Mary's provided many community health improvement services to address the public health needs identified in Androscoggin County. The most recent Community Health Needs Assessment from 2021-2022 indicated the most significant public health issues continue to be mental health and substance use disorder; social determinants of health were also a prioritized need in this cycle. Plans for these events were greatly curtailed again in 2022 due to COVID-19 but St. Mary's continued to be responsive to community needs.	Category Total:	\$1,668,842
3-A1: Community Health Education	3-A2: Community-Based Clinical Services	3-A3: Health Care Support Services	3-A4: Social and Environmental Improvement Activities

3-A1: COMMUNITY HEALTH EDUCATION

Program Name:	Brief Description:
Commit to Get Fit Challenge	<p>St. Mary's Health System successfully completed its 9th annual Commit to Get Fit Challenge in October 2022. One of the most exciting aspects of the event was the ability to host a safe, in-person walk/run race. Our connection with our local businesses and community organizations was reaffirmed with the number of sponsors that committed to our event and raising over \$90,000 for St. Mary's Nutrition Center. There were demonstrations and tables providing information about health and nutrition.</p> <p>In addition, 200 people registered for our "Harvest Walk", a new collaborative event between the St. Mary's Nutrition Center and its neighborhood partners! Walkers explored a route of downtown Lewiston, and with each stop participants had the opportunity to learn about the tremendous work of our partners and collect fresh ingredients along with the recipe for Tuscan Farro Stew, a delicious, nutritious soup!</p> <div>    </div>
National Healthcare Decisions Day	St. Mary's partnered with Androscoggin Home Healthcare + Hospice and Seniors Plus, the local area agency on aging, to offer a virtual workshop on advance directives for National Healthcare Decisions Day in April 2022. The workshop included a game style approach to learning about terminology of advance directives, as well as a resource sheet with detailed information about completing advance directives. Ten people participated in the session.

	
Breast Health Education	<p>The American Cancer Society estimates Maine will have over 1400 new cases of breast cancer diagnosed in 2022. St. Mary's Breast Health navigator provided education on breast health at Schooner Estates (assisted living facility) and the Auburn Mall. At Schooner Estates, 10 people participated in the 2-hour session where the navigator reviewed the importance of mammograms and how to conduct self-examinations. At the Auburn Mall, she staffed a table to explain about the risks of lung cancer and breast cancer, including education about the risks to men as well.</p>

3-A2: COMMUNITY CLINICAL SUPPORT SERVICES

Program Name:	Brief Description:
Vaccine Clinic	<p>On Saturday, December 10th, AK Health Support Services, in partnership with the YWCA, St. Mary's Health System, Northern Light Health, and York Emergency Management Agency, hosted a COVID and flu vaccine clinic. The clinic resulted in a total of 145 vaccinations, which included 90 COVID-19 vaccines and 55 Influenza vaccines. Lewiston Mayor Carl Sheline and Maine State Senator Peggy Rotunda made a special appearance to thank the community and vaccine providers. St. Mary's donated the flu vaccine doses for this clinic.</p> 




3-A3: HEALTH CARE SUPPORT SERVICES

Program Name:	Brief Description:
HIV Case Management Program	<p>The HIV/AIDS Case Management Program started in 1998 when St. Mary's was awarded the Ryan White grant/contract under the Maine CDC and is now the second largest AIDS Service organization in the state of Maine. The program serves 95 clients between Portland and Ellsworth, Maine. Services provided include medical, dental and eye care linkages; ongoing monitoring of client health status</p>




	<p>including treatment and care, lab results and helping to ensure ongoing treatment adherence on all levels; access to vital medications, linkages to health care, substance abuse and mental health services; and access to food and financial assistance as well as housing and transportation assistance. The program also offers client support groups, holiday luncheons and much needed personal care supplies.</p> <p>2022 continued to pose challenges for the clients in the HIV Case Management Program with continued needs related to the COVID-19 Pandemic as well as Flu and RSV. These infectious diseases served to compound challenges with their compromised immune systems and continued to heighten their isolation, mental health and substance abuse issues. Case Management provided education related to these infectious diseases as well as the need for vaccines and safety precautions. Case Management worked closely with clients needing resources to address their mental health and substance abuse issues. While staffing at other AIDS Service Organizations across the state has not returned to pre-pandemic levels with many agencies continuing to work remotely, St. Mary's continues to serve clients safely in person. Clients expressed appreciation for in person services which helps to provide support and create a sense of normalcy in their lives especially when everything around them continues to be challenging, including one advisory board member who stated the St. Mary's HIV program was a life changer for him. The program has experienced an increase in New Mainers seeking services. Case Management continues to help provide access to medical care, needed medication, oversight with HIV and other health processes as well as food, transportation, dental, housing assistance and mental health and substance abuse services.</p>
--	--

3-A4: SOCIAL AND ENVIRONMENTAL SUPPORT SERVICES

Program Name:	Brief Description:
Physician Recruitment	<p>Since St. Mary's is a medically underserved area, incentives to hire providers to serve in our area and in our subsidized service lines (primary care and behavioral health) are reported for community benefit. One of our newly hired nurse practitioners at our Urgent Care Center notes that helping people in their time of need is an essential part of her sense of purpose. She finds it very rewarding to serve the community in which she lives as this sense of community-mindedness has always been important to her. In addition, several of the patients at the Urgent Care Center have asked if she could be their primary care provider-certainly a testament to her compassionate, caring presence! The physician recruitment dollars make it possible for us to welcome providers to our community to create increased access to health care for Androscoggin County residents.</p>
Mayor's Task Force on Opioids	<p>St. Mary's Chief Medical Officer was appointed to the City of Lewiston's Mayoral Task Force on Substance Use and Recovery in response to the increasing levels of overdose deaths and substance use crises. The task force conducted an asset and needs assessment. The group will focus on five areas: prevention, harm reduction, treatment, recovery and leadership and is currently identifying what will be pursued for short-term and long-term goals in 2023 and beyond.</p>
Community Gardens	<p>Food insecurity and injustice can have profound impacts on health, economic opportunity, and the ability to connect to and care about the environment. Building more equitable and reliable access to good food is one essential piece of the puzzle in creating conditions for people, neighborhoods, and places, to thrive. After more than two decades of growing food in Lewiston-Auburn, the community gardens in neighborhoods of low-income remain a core part of St. Mary's Nutrition Center's effort to support healthy people and places.</p> <p>The Nutrition Center (NC) managed ten community gardens in Lewiston and Auburn, supporting more than 160 households in growing their own food and building neighborhood connections. The community garden team supported additional engagement, gathering, and learning opportunities through regular "garden gatherings," field trips, and a collaboration with partners in Portland to provide regional meet-ups through a Community Agriculture Network.</p> <p><u>Auburn Community Garden Initiative highlight:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Through continued advocacy in partnership with the Good Food Council of Lewiston-Auburn, the City of Auburn added a new section to its Comprehensive Plan – "Promoting Food Access and Production and Growing the Agriculture Economy." Included in this is a specific strategy to "Ensure that future land use designations provide flexibility for sufficient open space for

	<p>community gardens..." and "Continue to support the establishment and maintenance of community gardens through the city to provide residents with easy access to healthy food."</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - This policy and comprehensive plan provided a platform for City staff to engage in more meaningful ways in the Auburn Community Garden Initiative, which the Nutrition Center manages, and laid the foundation for improvements to gardens this year as well as plans for future investments <div data-bbox="404 359 808 663">  </div> <div data-bbox="862 352 1268 663">  </div>
<p>Good Food Bus</p>	<p>The Good Food Bus is a mobile food market, creating easier access to good food. The goal is to bring food that is local, convenient, and affordable to local neighborhoods and employers. Despite a later than anticipated start to the season of the Good Food Bus mobile market, 2022 saw fruitful partnerships with Housing sites and participation in a series of great community events including the first annual "Juneteenth Ain't Enough" celebration in Kennedy Park, the "Androscoggin River Fest" and the Lewiston Youth Advisory Council (LYAC) "Celebrating Lewiston" gathering.</p> <p>The project's Market Leader of four years assumed greater responsibility for project operations and deepened relationships with regular customers at the Lewiston Housing Authority stops of Meadowview Park and Blake Street Towers and neighborhood stops of Center for Wisdom's Women.</p> <div data-bbox="604 989 1182 1423">  </div>
<p>Food Pantry</p>	<p>In 2022 St. Mary's Food Pantry distributed over 352,000 pounds of food, including 161,000 pounds of fresh produce. In over 8200 visits to the pantry, more than 15,000 people were served. There were also more than 3000 deliveries to people's homes in 2022. The food pantry distribution time was also used as a community resource; there was a table from the Career Center there each week and a local ethnic community based organization focusing on public health distributed COVID-19 tests and information. In the spring of 2022 St. Mary's leaders volunteered to reorganize the food pantry to shift from an outside distribution process back to an inside process.</p> <p>In early May, 21 families seeking asylum were relocated to this community. In part due to the lack of advance notice, coordination of services for the families – case-management, housing, food, medicine, school for the children etc. - was non-existent until the CEO at Community Clinical Services, with the support of Nutrition Center staff, stepped in to organize weekly meetings with key service providers in Lewiston-Auburn.</p>

	<p>The Nutrition Center became the primary organization in charge of food access. This included cooking and delivering culturally appropriate hot meals to the families since they had limited cooking resources at the hotel (~6 times in their first days).</p> <p>In addition to pre-made meals, the Nutrition Center provided rides twice a week to and from Portland so families could pick up General Assistance food vouchers and shop in the Portland stores where the vouchers were accepted. NC staff also provided direct support to families in navigating the food shopping and the many unfamiliar food items available. When there were gaps or delays in the food vouchers as families transitioned municipalities, the NC paid directly for groceries that families needed.</p> <p>Beginning in August, as families were gradually moved to apartments in downtown Lewiston-Auburn, the Nutrition Center provided staple items for families to start to stock their cupboards and continued to provide rides to the grocery stores in Portland, Lewiston, and Auburn.</p> <p>The families seeking asylum are invited to shop at the Food Pantry twice a week. The Nutrition Center has also provided the families with grocery carts so they can carry their pantry items back to their homes.</p> <div data-bbox="417 676 846 919" data-label="Image"> </div> <div data-bbox="911 676 1235 919" data-label="Image"> </div>
<p>Lewiston Farmers' Market</p>	<p>The Lewiston Farmers' Market (LFM) was co-founded by the St. Mary's Nutrition Center in 2004 in Kennedy Park in downtown Lewiston. Now in its 18th year of operation- its 12th as a weekend destination market with family friendly programs- the Lewiston Farmers' Market operates year-round, with approximately 20 full time vendors, and sees an average of 13,000 visits during the height of the season.</p> <p>In addition to supporting on the ground operations and administration of critical equitable food access programs at the market, the Nutrition Center steadily worked to build community and municipal support for the LFM, help increase its resiliency through forming a multi-stakeholder Board of Directors, facilitated its incorporation as a state non-profit, and supported its recent move to a more permanent location along the region's Riverfront.</p> <p>This year's move to 2 Oxford Street and 75 Lincoln Street offered the ability to put down roots at the center of the Twin Cities, collaborate with others to revitalize and beautify the Riverfront, expand and strengthen the market's community programs, increase vendors and offerings, and more closely link the Lewiston Farmers' Market to other community events, activities and local business.</p> <p>The creation and hiring of the LFM's first ever year-round Market Manager and a mini-grant from Healthy Neighborhoods Planning Council helped to further energize the space and building community through collaborative events and activities such as a dance workshop in partnership with the Bates Dance Festival, community art therapy activities with the Art Van, and a Halloween Fun Day. The LFM was also able to bring back the very popular weekly Kids Club, where children participate in a good food or exercise activity, interact with farmers, and receive a \$2 token to spend on fresh fruits and veggies at the market.</p> <p>As LFM continues to move towards independence, the Nutrition Center has stayed committed to continuing to support the market's capacity and sustainability as a lead sponsor and fiscal administrator. The Nutrition Center will also continue to administer the nutrition incentive program for the Lewiston Farmers' Market, as part of its deep commitment to equitable food access and thriving local food economy. More than 10,000 people visited the Farmers' Market in 2022!</p>

	
School Partnerships for Cooking Education and Gardens	<p>Through our continued FoodCorps partnership (the NC has been a host site since the inaugural year in 2011), the Nutrition Center provided regular garden education and cooking programs for 28 elementary school classrooms, reaching over 420 students in consistent programming.</p> <p>The Nutrition Center partnered with FoodCorps national to host a pilot position focused on working with Nutrition Services across the school district. This position started in September and quickly made progress in supporting goals of securing more local farmers as vendors and integrating taste tests to have student voice and preference inform menu items in the cafeteria.</p> <p><u>Sustainability progress:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - The NC has been working closely with the Superintendent and McMahon Elementary School Administration to plan for FoodCorps “graduation” from McMahon after this school year. NC staff submitted a job description for a garden teacher similar to the position that we helped secure at Connors last year – we are working alongside administration to advocate for dedicated teaching roles tied to the gardens. - FoodCorps member secured a \$10,000 grant to support major infrastructure improvements at McMahon’s school garden - Secured grant for “kitchen carts” to support mobile cooking education across McMahon and Montello schools. - Created an online garden & nutrition lesson plan database that are cross-referenced with grade-level standards for teachers to access beyond the tenure of FoodCorps service members. <div data-bbox="490 1281 774 1659">  </div> <div data-bbox="922 1276 1435 1659">  </div>
Lewiston-Auburn Community Market	<p>After three years of research, feasibility assessments, and planning led by the Nutrition Center, the development of an innovative Community Food Center in downtown Lewiston is making major headway. Based on a careful review of preexisting model structures, best practice research, and localized community needs and market assessments, the Lewiston-Auburn Community Market (LACM) will be a transformational milestone for the development of Lewiston-Auburn that will serve as a living monument to the power of community engagement and cooperation. LACM will be a</p>

	<p>community-owned multi-stakeholder cooperative – an environmentally sustainable and affordable grocery store and shared kitchen and storage space and a community gathering space that will anchor all of the project activities and become an example for other small cities across the United States.</p> <p>The Lewiston-Auburn Community Market (LACM) is now incorporated as a worker-owned cooperative community food center in Lewiston, Maine. With a shared vision to strengthen the Lewiston-Auburn community through a cooperative venture supporting women, members of the Black and Indigenous communities, immigrant and refugee communities and the L-A community at large, LACM seeks to empower food systems by keeping food dollars local, providing quality food at fair prices, and fueling the community health and well-being through local food access, education, business development and engagement.</p> <p>As a “for Community by Community” food center, LACM will include grocery, rentable test and production kitchens, dry, cold and freezer storage, and community event space. The Nutrition Center’s multi-year investment, including bringing in the Cooperative Development Institute to support business development, has facilitated the shift of ownership to community members. LACM uses a multi-stakeholder cooperative business approach that centers marginalized community members in decision-making and ownership. LACM is now governed by an 18-member multicultural and multilingual board of directors comprised of farmers, gardeners, cooks, butchers, bakers, educators, entrepreneurs, and lovers of local food.</p>
--	---

Category 3-B: Health Professions Education

CATEGORY 3-B: HEALTH PROFESSIONS EDUCATION: St. Mary’s staff serve as preceptors for many types of health care professional students including medical, nursing, social work, and allied therapists. As a medically underserved area, this is a crucial component of community benefit. It is projected that Maine will experience a nursing shortage of 3200 by the year 2025. In addition, there are about 1200 primary care providers in the state and the projected need is for 120 more by the year 2030 (9% of the current workforce.)			
	Category Total:	\$1,267,477	
B1: Graduate and Undergraduate Medical Education and Continuing Medical Education for Physicians	B2: Nurses / Nursing Students	B3: Other Health Professions Education	B4: Scholarships / Funding for Health Professions Education

3-B1: GRADUATE AND UNDERGRADUATE MEDICAL EDUCATION AND CONTINUING MEDICAL EDUCATION FOR PHYSICIANS

Program Name:	Brief Description:
Tufts University Medical Student Longitudinal Curriculum	<p>The third year of medical school typically requires students to complete six 6-8-week rotation blocks in specialties like Family Medicine, Surgery, OB/GYN, Pediatrics, Internal Medicine, and Psychiatry. The Tufts University School of Medicine - Maine Medical Center program allows students to complete a longitudinal program over a period of nine months at more rural hospitals, like St. Mary’s Regional Medical Center in Lewiston. Medical students live on campus and follow patients for the entire nine months to learn in a more holistic approach. One of this year’s students shares that the longitudinal program has been a wonderful experience and a great place to learn. She feels the ability to see patients over time in multiple settings has provided valuable insight about being a physician and increased the bonds with her patients. She is also grateful for the providers and staff who helped her overcome anxiety about working in the operating room!</p>

3-B2: NURSES / NURSING STUDENTS

Program Name:	Brief Description:
Nursing Student Clinical Rotations	St. Mary's Health System is dedicated to providing meaningful learning experiences to all students coming to us for their clinical rotations and/or internships. Our employees go above and beyond to provide each student with a positive experience. This year's nursing students report that they hadn't considered psychiatric nursing before their experience here. We are grateful to be sharing our knowledge, mission, and values with our community through our learning opportunities.
Nursing Students	In April 2022, two St. Mary's interpreters presented a class to 45 nursing students at the local community college about culturally appropriate care. Topics included: diet, use of medication, modern medication vs. cultural beliefs, remedies, and treatment, the use of touch and eye contact in the medical setting regarding same sex and opposite sex patients, family dynamics (home life, family, community, who makes decisions, discipline), prayer, issues regarding mental illness, and community outreach. The students expressed their appreciation for the session and noted that they were glad to learn tools to use to help them provide compassionate, respectful care.

CATEGORY 3-E: CASH AND IN-KIND CONTRIBUTIONS

3E. CASH & IN-KIND DONATIONS: This category includes funds and in-kind services donated to community organizations or to the community at large for a community benefit purpose. In-kind services include hours contributed by staff to the community while on health care organization work time, the cost of meeting space provided to community groups and the donations of food, equipment, and supplies. (Note: contributions to provide support services to individuals should be reported in category A3. Health Care Support Services.)


Donations in this category must be restricted, in writing, to programs or activities that would qualify as community benefit if provided by the organization itself. If the contribution is used for a community-building activity or program, it should be reported as community-building.

Category Total:	\$124,890		
E1: Cash Contributions for Community Benefit	E2: Grants for Community Benefit	E3: In-Kind Donations	

3-E1: CASH CONTRIBUTIONS

Donation Title:	Brief Description:
Cash Contributions	St. Mary's has a philanthropic review committee and designates charitable contributions for organizations that fulfill identified community health needs. These organizations received charitable contributions in 2022: Healthy Androscoggin (local public health organization for tobacco cessation programming) Central Maine Community College (scholarship for nurses) Sophia's House (residential program for women coming out of trafficking, prison or addiction) Androscoggin Home Healthcare + Hospice (to provide free hospice care for those who cannot pay)

3-E3: IN-KIND DONATIONS

Organization/Cause Receiving Donation:	Purpose of Donation:
Service on boards	<p>St. Mary's leadership provided service on these boards which address identified community health needs:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> -Androscoggin Home Healthcare + Hospice Board -Central Maine Community College Advisory Board -Maine Center for Palliative Medicine Advisory Board -Maine College of Health Professionals Advisory Board -Maine Hospital Association Board -United Ambulance Board -United Way Board <p>St. Mary's President was asked to serve on the Maine Hospital Association Board and Policy Committee. Their work focuses on improving the quality of healthcare in Maine, along with the financial stability of hospitals. A major focus for 2022 was to explore the increasing violence in the workplace and how to protect healthcare workers.</p> <p>In addition, 9 St. Mary's leaders volunteered for the United Way Day of Caring in 2022.</p> 

CATEGORY 3-F: COMMUNITY BUILDING ACTIVITIES


CATEGORY 3F: COMMUNITY-BUILDING ACTIVITIES: Community-building activities are activities the organization engages in to protect or improve the health and safety of its residents.							
Category 3F Introduction:	St. Mary's is very active in programs that address the root causes of health problems, such as poverty, homelessness and environmental concerns. Leadership is involved in local coalition building and economic development to address these issues.					Category Total:	\$43,359
F1. Physical Improvements and Housing	F2. Economic Development	F3. Community Support	F4. Environmental Improvements	F5. Leadership Development and Training	F6. Coalition Building	F7. Community Health Improvement Advocacy	F8. Workforce Development

3-F5: LEADERSHIP DEVELOPMENT AND LEADERSHIP TRAINING FOR COMMUNITY MEMBERS


Program/Activity Name	Description/Purpose/Focus
Leadership Training	<p>The Nutrition Center provided in-depth training and workforce development opportunities to young adults and adults in our community. These paid training opportunities included a Fellowship program and our Community Food Champion program. Fellows engaged in internships that ranged from 3 to 12 months, up to 30 hours/week. Based on professional and learning goals they identified, they participated in a tailored job experience program – engaging with community members and supporting programs including the community gardens, food pantry, Good Food Bus, Lewiston Farmers’ Market, and youth engagement and school partnership programs. One Fellow who is a student at nearby Bates College then decided to complete her anthropology thesis exploring practices of care in a work environment.</p> <p>The Community Food Champions is a peer-to-peer outreach program that hires and trains community members to help increase awareness of fresh food opportunities in the community. Through this program, we provided on-going training, mentorship, and on-the-job skill building through weekly planning meetings and Champions supported more robust outreach at the Food Pantry and other food access outlets.</p> <p>The Nutrition Center also engaged the Restorative Justice Institute of Maine to provide a two-part training for staff and Fellows working with young adults and children. This training provided our team with a solid foundation for how create a more inclusive and safe classroom/program culture and equipped them with concrete tools to use in urgent circumstances.</p>

3-F6: COALITION BUILDING

Program/Activity Name	Description/Purpose/Focus
Local Foods, Local Places	<p>The Nutrition Center continued its partnership with the Good Food Council of Lewiston-Auburn to lead the implementation of the community-driven Local Foods, Local Places Action Plan for Lewiston-Auburn. The LFLP initiative connects local food access strategies to city planning and downtown revitalization strategies. Sherie Blumenthal, Community Programs Manager, served in a leadership role supporting the coordination of a group of community “Leads” responsible for implementing one or more of the plan’s 16 specific and measurable action steps under four broad goals. Priority areas have included supporting innovative and equitable land access strategies as a well as providing research and guidance for the twin cities to adopt new “urban agriculture” ordinances that make it easier to grow, sell, and access local foods.</p> <p>Another outcome was the successful Taste the Harvest Dinner in October. An outcome of one Local Foods, Local Places Action Plan goals focused building a local food brand, the Taste the Harvest is a community dinner that highlights and promotes our local food economy, from farm to table. The Lewiston Auburn Metropolitan Chamber of Commerce, along with the Good Food Council, Local Food Local Places, Sonder & Dram, and Little Ridge Farm organized this event as part of a larger economic growth strategy to build a local food brand for the region that benefits restaurants, the hospitality industry, food producers, and value-added food producers for decades to come.</p> <p>LFLP Partners include: LA Metro Chamber of Commerce, The Somali-Bantu Community Association, Cooperative Development Institute, Planning & Economic Development Staff in Auburn & Lewiston, Land In Common, the Lewiston Farmers’ Market, and New Roots Cooperative Farm.</p> <p>The Nutrition Center also co-led an effort to build a Community Agriculture Network and hosted a series of gatherings for the Cities of Lewiston, Auburn, and Portland with garden</p>

	<p>gatherings for sharing and learning together, listening sessions, planning mini-grant projects, sharing food, and workshops. The Lewiston event was hosted at the Nutrition Center's Learning Garden. Food, transportation, and interpretation was provided.</p> 
Mayor's Task Force on Homelessness	<p>After success with a pilot model of supporting people experiencing homelessness in our community, the Mayor of Lewiston convened a task force on homelessness to work for a more permanent solution. The task force included stakeholders from various city, social service and health care organizations, including the Vice President of Mission Integration from St. Mary's. The task force met throughout the spring and summer and submitted a final report with recommendations to address homelessness in the fall of 2022.</p> <p>Click here for the final report.</p>

3-F7: COMMUNITY HEALTH IMPROVEMENT ADVOCACY

Program/Activity Name	Description/Purpose/Focus
State Palliative Care Advisory Council	<p>St. Mary's Vice President of Mission Integration serves on this statewide council to advise the legislature about palliative care. In 2022 the council planned the inaugural statewide palliative care conference, held in October 2022. More than 150 health care professionals attended the conference which includes presentations on spiritual care, health care policy, pain and symptom management and the results of a statewide study about the availability of palliative care in Maine. Evaluations included comments such as, "Amazing conference with well prepared, articulate speakers passionate about caring for others", "I am refreshed and INSPIRED after this conference. Full of great reminders and new information to bring with me and to my team", and "I have to say this conference has been extremely rejuvenating for me as a nurse who lives on the line of burnout, thank you!"</p> 

Category 3G: Community Benefit Operations

CATEGORY 3G: COMMUNITY BENEFIT OPERATIONS: Community benefit operations include costs associated with assigned staff and community health needs and/or assets assessment, as well as other costs associated with community benefit strategy and operations.			
Category Introduction:	Community benefit operations include costs associated with assigned staff and community health needs, community benefit strategy and operations. St. Mary's uses Lyons software to record and report community benefit efforts (the software system recommended by the Catholic Health Association). It also includes grant writing and fundraising costs for community benefit programs.	Category Total:	\$82,192
G1. Assigned Staff	G2: Community Health Needs / Implementation Strategy	G3: Other Resources	

3-G1: ASSIGNED STAFF

Title	Description/Purpose/Focus
VP, Mission Integration	Coordinates Community Health Needs Assessment (CHNA); facilitates monthly Community Health Stakeholder Coalition meeting; plans/implements/coordinates CHNA and implementation strategy
Executive Secretary, Mission Integration	Enters monthly community benefit forms into CBISA software and runs monthly and annual reports

3-G2: COMMUNITY HEALTH NEEDS / IMPLEMENTATION STRATEGY

Title	Description/Purpose/Focus
Community Health Stakeholder Coalition	<p>St. Mary's VP for Mission Integration facilitates the local coalition established to conduct the community health needs assessment and improve health in our community. In Androscoggin County, representatives from the two local hospital systems established the Community Health Stakeholder Coalition in 2012. The coalition includes a group of community health agencies, public health and hospitals. The purpose statement is:</p> <p><i>Improve the health of Androscoggin County by convening community health stakeholders to collaborate on:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> -Conducting community health needs assessments (CHNA) -Educating members and constituents on findings of community health needs assessments -Develop strategies to address prioritized needs -Share relevant resources through networking <p>In 2022 the coalition focused on completing the latest CHNA and developing a work plan to address some of the prioritized needs from the CHNA. Five strategies were created to address mental health issues and social determinants of health. The coalition established five subcommittees to plan, implement and measure the strategic initiatives.</p> <p>A copy of St. Mary's current CHNA and implementation strategy are available at: https://stmarysmaine.com/our-mission/community-resources/</p>