

# Alexian Brothers Behavioral Health Hospital

## FY24 Annual Hospital Community Benefits Plan Report



**Ascension**



**Ascension Alexian  
Brothers Behavioral Health Hospital**

The purpose of this report is to describe how the hospital meets the requirements outlined in the State of Illinois Community Benefits Act and Hospital Uninsured Patient Discount Act. This annual report of community benefits is public information, filed with the Attorney General and available to the public on request from the Attorney General.

**Ascension Alexian Brothers Behavioral Health Hospital**

1650 Moon Lake Blvd, Hoffman Estates, IL 60169

[healthcare.ascension.org](http://healthcare.ascension.org)

800-432-5005

Hospital EIN/Tax ID: 36-4251848

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## Introduction

As one of the leading non-profit and Catholic health systems in the United States, Ascension is committed to delivering compassionate, personalized care to all, with special attention to persons living in poverty and those most vulnerable.

### **Ascension Alexian Brothers Behavioral Health Hospital**

As a Ministry of the Catholic Church, Ascension Alexian Brothers Behavioral Health Hospital is a non-profit hospital that provides medical care to the Village of Hoffman Estates and the surrounding communities. Ascension Alexian Brothers Behavioral Health Hospital is part of Ascension Illinois which operates 15 hospital campuses and 230 sites of care. The organization includes more than 600 providers as part of Ascension Medical Group, as well as 17,000 associates.

Serving Illinois since 1999, Ascension Alexian Brothers Behavioral Health Hospital is continuing the long and valued tradition of addressing the health of the people in our community, following in the footsteps of legacy Alexian Brothers, a Roman Catholic Order.

Ascension Alexian Brothers Behavioral Health Hospital is the 10th largest behavioral health hospital in the United States and has 141 licensed beds. It is nationally recognized for its breadth of programs and highly sub-specialized staff expertise. Offering a full continuum of care for individuals with mental health issues, substance abuse and other addictions, Ascension Alexian Brothers Behavioral Health Hospital Hoffman Estates provides inpatient, residential, partial hospitalization, intensive outpatient and traditional outpatient services for children, adolescents, adults and older adults. Specialty programs include chemical dependency, eating disorders, self-injury, neuropsychiatry, obsessive-compulsive disorder, clinical research, anxiety, school refusal, autism spectrum disorders, and women's issues. Community services are also provided through the Alexian Brothers Center for Mental Health, offering counseling for students in schools, training and education, shelter for the homeless, and support for adults with serious mental illness who have nowhere else to turn. Our behavioral health programs are critical to improve the health of patients and families, as well as improving the health of our community.

For more information about Ascension Alexian Brothers Behavioral Health Hospital, visit [healthcare.ascension.org](https://healthcare.ascension.org).

### **Ascension Mission Statement**

Rooted in the loving ministry of Jesus as healer, we commit ourselves to serving all persons with special attention to those who are poor and vulnerable. Our Catholic health ministry is dedicated to spiritually centered, holistic care which sustains and improves the health of individuals and



**Ascension Alexian  
Brothers Behavioral Health Hospital**

communities. We are advocates for a compassionate and just society through our actions and our words.

This statement was adopted on April 1, 2022.

## Community Benefits Report

### Community Benefits Provided

Below are the financial community benefits provided by the hospital during the fiscal year of July 1, 2023 through June 30, 2024.

Total Financial Assistance (Emergency & Non-Emergency Care at cost)	\$944,577
Emergency Department Financial Assistance (at cost)	n/a
All other Community Benefits including: Government Sponsored Care, Language Assistance Services, Cash & In-Kind Donations, Health Professions Education, Research, Subsidized Health Services, Total Volunteer Services (employee & non-employee), other Government-Sponsored Program Services, Bad Debts, Other Community Benefits not detailed in the Annual Non-Profit Hospital Community Benefits Plan Report instructions.	\$22,613,131
<b>Total Community Benefits for Ascension Alexian Brothers Behavioral Health Hospital</b>	<b>\$23,557,707</b>
<i>In addition to hospital community benefits, Ascension Illinois non-hospital entities provided \$2,605,328 in community benefits in the fiscal year.</i>	

### Other Benefits:

Listed above are “Other Community Benefits.” These are benefits not detailed in the Annual Non-Profit Hospital Community Benefits Plan Report instructions.

Other Community Benefits categories include Community Building Activities and Community Benefit Operations. The IRS 990 Schedule H instructions and the Catholic Health Association (CHA) publication, A Guide for Planning & Reporting Community Benefit, both identify these categories in their materials. Listed below is the detail associated with these categories.

#### Community-Building Activities

Community-building activities improve the community’s health and safety by addressing the root causes of health problems, such as poverty, homelessness and environmental hazards. These activities strengthen the community’s capacity to promote the health and well-being of its residents by offering the expertise and resources of the health care organization. Costs for these activities include

cash and in-kind donations and expenses for the development of a variety of programs and partnerships. This category includes activities such as:

- Physical improvements and housing
- Economic development
- Community support
- Environmental improvements
- Community leadership development & training
- Coalition building
- Advocacy for community health improvement & safety
- Workforce development

Community-building is documented on Part II of the IRS 990 Schedule H.

### **Community Benefit Operations**

Community benefit operations include costs associated with assigned staff and community health needs and/or assets assessments, as well as other costs associated with community benefit strategy and operations. This category includes items such as:

- Assigned staff
- Community health needs/health assets assessments
- Other resources

Community benefit operations are documents on Part 1 7a of the IRS 990 Schedule H.

## Financial Assistance

As part of our faith-based mission, Ascension Illinois is dedicated to helping the most vulnerable and treating everyone with compassion, dignity and respect. Financial assistance reflects our commitment to and reverence for individual human dignity and the common good, our special concern for and solidarity with persons living in poverty and other vulnerable persons, and our commitment to distributive justice and stewardship.

A copy of our Financial Assistance Policy can be found here:

[https://healthcare.ascension.org/-/media/healthcare/financial-assistance/illinois/fap/runningfile\\_ilchi\\_english\\_financial-assistance-policy.pdf](https://healthcare.ascension.org/-/media/healthcare/financial-assistance/illinois/fap/runningfile_ilchi_english_financial-assistance-policy.pdf)

During the fiscal year, Ascension Alexian Brothers Behavioral Health Hospital collected the following data on financial assistance applications:

<i>Facility Name</i>	<i>Approved and Denied Applications</i>	<i>Number of Applications</i>
Ascension Alexian Brothers Behavioral Health	Total submitted (complete & incomplete)	41
	Approved	30
	Denied	11

<i>Facility Name</i>	<i>Financial Assistance Denial Reason</i>	<i>Total</i>
Ascension Alexian Brothers Behavioral Health	Missing Supporting Documents	10
	Over Income	1

<i>Facility Name</i>	<i>Gender</i>	<i>Total</i>
Ascension Alexian Brothers Behavioral Health	Female	25
	Male	16

<i>Facility Name</i>	<i>Preferred Language</i>	<i>Total</i>
Ascension Alexian Brothers Behavioral Health	Spanish	1
	Not Provided	9
	Not Available	13
	Bulgarian	1
	English	13
	Greek	1



	Polish	1
	Tagalog	2

<i>Facility Name</i>	<i>Race</i>	Total
Ascension Alexian Brothers Behavioral Health	Not Provided	7
	Not Available	13
	White	18
	Filipino	3

<i>Facility Name</i>	<i>Ethnicity</i>	Total
Ascension Alexian Brothers Behavioral Health	Not Provided	24
	Not Available	13
	Hispanic-Latino/a-or Spanish origin	4

## **Community Health Needs Assessments (CHNA)**

Federal law requires tax-exempt hospitals to conduct periodic Community Health Needs Assessments (CHNAs) and adopt plans to meet assessed needs. In order to comply with federal tax-exemption requirements in the Affordable Care Act, a tax-exempt hospital facility must: 1) conduct a community health needs assessment every three years, 2) adopt an implementation strategy, and 3) report how identified needs not being addressed by the hospital are still being targeted by other community organizations.

Each Ascension Health hospital ministry follows the following guidelines for Community Health Needs Assessments (CHNAs):






- Each ministry will conduct a CHNA every three years by involving community partners and members representing diverse sectors within the community.
- There will be an annual review and update of the ministry's CHNA Implementation Strategy highlighting the outcomes of community benefit programs that target prioritized needs.
- Monthly reporting of community benefit is required to local and system leadership.

Complete Community Health Needs Assessment reports for each hospital are made publicly available at: <https://healthcare.ascension.org/chna> and paper versions can be requested at Ascension Alexian Brothers Behavioral Health Hospital Office of President or Community Health.

## **Prioritized Community Needs**

Included in Code Section 501(r)(3) is the requirement that hospitals must provide a description of the process and criteria used to determine the most significant health needs of the community identified through the CHNA, along with a description of the process and criteria used to determine the prioritized needs to be addressed by the hospital. Accordingly, Ascension Alexian Brothers Behavioral Health Hospital used a phased prioritization approach to identify the needs with the hospital community. The first step was to determine the broader set of identified needs. Through the CHNA assessment, identified needs were then narrowed to a set of significant needs which were determined most crucial for community stakeholders to address.

Following the completion of the CHNA assessment, significant needs were further narrowed down to a set of prioritized needs that the hospital will address within the implementation strategy. To arrive at the prioritized needs, Ascension Alexian Brothers Behavioral Health Hospital used the following process and criteria:

	<b>Scope of Problem:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• How severe or prevalent is this issue in the community?</li> <li>• How many are impacted?</li> </ul>
	<b>Disparities &amp; Equity:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Are there health disparities that exist?</li> <li>• Can we address those in an impactful way?</li> </ul>
	<b>Feasibility:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• What is our capacity to make progress (staffing resources, financial resources, other support, etc.)?</li> <li>• Are there known interventions that exist?</li> </ul>
	<b>Momentum:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Is there community readiness and/or political will to address this issue?</li> </ul>
	<b>Alignment:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Do we have community partners that we can align with on this issue?</li> <li>• Do we need to build new relationships?</li> </ul>

Preliminary community need prioritizations recommendations were presented to a group of internal and external stakeholders for their review. Recommendations were discussed and voted upon to determine the prioritized needs for the hospital community.

Following the completion of the current CHNA, Ascension Alexian Brothers Behavioral Health Hospital has selected the prioritized needs outlined below for its Implementation Strategy. Ascension has defined “prioritized needs” as the significant needs which have been prioritized by the hospital to address through the three-year CHNA cycle:

- **Social and Structural Determinants of Health-**
  - **Workforce Development (SDoH - Education):** This need was selected as education is an important determinant of health because poverty, unemployment, and underemployment

are highest among those with lower levels of educational attainment. Higher levels of poverty are primarily concentrated in the far Northwest, West, and South sides of the city and county. Additionally, workforce needs and challenges, specifically for healthcare including behavioral health, were listed as high priority in the CHNA stakeholder listening sessions.

- **Access to Care and Community Resources -**
  - **Resources, Referrals, Coordination, and Connection to Community -Based Services (Access to Care):** This need was selected because in the CHNAs focus groups, access to needed healthcare and community resources are named as critical components to achieving the best health outcomes. This need was voted the number two need in this category in the prioritization process.
- **Prevention and Treatment of Priority Health Conditions: Mental Health, Substance Use Disorders -**
  - **Mental Health (Mental & Behavioral Health):** This need was selected because 39% of community survey respondents identified mental health as one of the most important health needs in their communities. Forty percent of community survey respondents identified access to mental health services as being needed to support improvements in community health. The self-reported adult depression rates in Cook County are higher (17.3%) than national averages (10%). Similarly, youth depression has been on the rise. This need was voted in the top two of this category for the Ascension Alexian Brothers Behavioral Health Hospital prioritization process.
  - **Substance Use Disorders (Mental & Behavioral Health):** This need was selected because mental health and substance use (behavioral health) were two of the most discussed topics within the CHNAs focus groups and community input surveys. There were 4,467 drug induced overdose deaths in Cook County between 2018-2020.

Ascension Alexian Brothers Behavioral Health Hospital understands the importance of all the health needs of the community and is committed to playing an active role in improving the health of the people in the communities it serves. For the purposes of this implementation strategy, Ascension Alexian Brothers Behavioral Health Hospital, as a specialty hospital focused on behavioral health, has chosen to focus its efforts on the priorities listed above.

### **Acute Community Concern Acknowledgement**

A CHNA and Implementation Strategies (IS) offer a construct for identifying and addressing needs within the community(s) it serves. However, unforeseen events or situations, which may be severe and sudden, may affect a community. At Ascension, this is referred to as an acute community concern. This could describe anything from a health crisis (e.g., COVID-19), water poisoning, environmental events (e.g., hurricane, flood) or other event that suddenly impacts a community. In which case, if adjustments to an IS are necessary, the hospital will develop documentation, in the form of a SBAR

(Situation-Background-Assessment-Response) evaluation summary, to notify key internal and external stakeholders of those possible adjustments.

**Written Comments**

This annual report has been made available to the public and is open for public comment. Questions or comments about this implementation strategy can be submitted via the email:

[ilarl.communitybenefit@ascension.org](mailto:ilarl.communitybenefit@ascension.org)

## Community Implementation Strategies

These strategies and action plans represent where the hospital will focus its community efforts over the next three years, July 1, 2022 to June 30, 2025. While these remain a priority, the hospital will continue to offer additional programs and services to meet the needs of the community, with special attention to those who are poor and vulnerable.

STRATEGY #1: Workforce Development	
<b>Hospital Name</b> Ascension Alexian Brothers Behavioral Health Hospital (AABBHH)	
<b>Prioritized Health Need</b> Social and Structural Determinants of Health ( <i>SDoH - Education</i> )	
<b>Strategy</b> Provide opportunities for students to engage with health care professionals.	
<b>Strategy Source</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>College Student Practicums/Internships/Clinical Rotations</li> </ul>	
<b>Objective</b> By June 30, 2025, increase the number of students who participate in workforce development programs.	
<b>Target Population</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><b>Target Population:</b> AABBHH community residents, teens and college students.</li> </ul>	
<b>Collaborators</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><b>Other Ascension hospital:</b> Ascension Saint Joseph-Elgin, Ascension Alexian Brothers</li> <li><b>Joint Venture:</b> N/A</li> <li><b>Collaborators:</b> Harper College, Chamberlain College; other area colleges and universities</li> <li><b>Consultants:</b> N/A</li> <li><b>Other non-profit hospital:</b> N/A</li> </ul>	
<b>Resources</b> Resources the collaborators plan to commit: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><b>Other Ascension hospital(s):</b></li> <li><b>Joint Venture:</b> N/A</li> <li><b>Collaborators:</b> Local area colleges and universities: Program Coordinators</li> <li><b>Consultants:</b> N/A</li> </ul>	
ACTION STEPS	ROLE/OWNER
Appoint Associate Lead for this strategy	Ascension Alexian Brothers Behavioral Health Hospital
Identify community partners for workforce development opportunities	Ascension Alexian Brothers Behavioral Health Hospital
Mentor students interested in healthcare careers	Ascension Alexian Brothers Behavioral Health Hospital
Support student clinical rotations and internships for those who are entering healthcare careers	Ascension Alexian Brothers Behavioral Health Hospital

Partner with a local college or university to offer a career accelerated program	Ascension Alexian Brothers Behavioral Health Hospital
Monitor work, evaluate progress, report outcomes	Ascension Alexian Brothers Behavioral Health Hospital
<b>Output(s) and/or Outcome(s)</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Baseline:</b> FY22 Data</li> <li>• <b>Target:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Increase number of students participating in workforce development programs or partnerships</li> </ul> </li> <li>• <b>Data Source; Data Owner:</b> CBISA, Nursing</li> </ul>	
<b>ANTICIPATED IMPACT</b>	
The anticipated impact of these actions is increased workforce opportunities hosted by AABBBH.	

<b>STRATEGY #2: Access to Community Resources</b>	
<b>Hospital Name</b>	Ascension Alexian Brothers Behavioral Health Hospital (AABBBH)
<b>Prioritized Health Need</b>	Access to Care and Community Resources ( <i>Access to Care</i> )
<b>Strategy</b>	Increase access to community resources and community-based services for AABBBH community.
<b>Strategy Source</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Ascension Neighborhood Resources Directory/FindHelp</li> </ul>
<b>Objective</b>	By June 30, 2025, the number of searches in the directory will increase.
<b>Target Population</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Target Population:</b> AABBBH community residents and patients.</li> <li>• <b>Medically Underserved Population:</b> AABBBH community residents who are underinsured/uninsured.</li> </ul>
<b>Collaborators</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Other Ascension hospital:</b> Ascension Holy Family, Ascension Mercy, Ascension Resurrection, Ascension, Ascension Saint Francis, Ascension Saint Joseph Chicago, Ascension Saint Joseph-Elgin, Ascension Saint Joseph-Joliet, Ascension Saint Mary-Kankakee, Ascension Saints Mary and Elizabeth-Chicago, Ascension Alexian Brothers</li> <li>• <b>Joint Venture:</b> N/A</li> <li>• <b>Collaborators:</b> Community Based Organizations, Faith Based Institutions</li> <li>• <b>Consultants:</b> FindHelp</li> <li>• <b>Other non-profit hospital:</b> N/A</li> </ul>
<b>Resources</b>	Resources the collaborators plan to commit:

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Other Ascension hospital(s):</b> Strategy Sources and Funding</li> <li>• <b>Joint Venture:</b> N/A</li> <li>• <b>Collaborators:</b> Community Based Organization, Faith Based Institutions</li> <li>• <b>Consultants:</b> Neighborhood Resources, Findhelp.org-directory source</li> <li>• <b>Other non-profit hospital:</b> N/A</li> </ul>	
<b>ACTION STEPS: Community Resource Directory</b>	<b>ROLE/OWNER</b>
Appoint Associate Lead for this strategy	Ascension Illinois Community Health
Promote awareness of the Neighborhood Resource Directory via flyers, social media, e-newsletters	Ascension Alexian Brothers Behavioral Health Hospital
Provide Neighborhood Resource Directory training for internal and external partners.	Ascension Illinois: Population Health , Community Benefit, Community Health
Monitor work, evaluate progress, report outcomes.	Ascension Saint Alexius Implementation Strategy Workgroup
<b>Output(s) and/or Outcome(s)</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Baseline:</b> FY22 Baseline Data</li> <li>• <b>Target:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Increase the number of searches within the directory from baseline.</li> <li>○ Increase the number of persons trained on directory from baseline.</li> </ul> </li> <li>• <b>Data Source/Data Owner:</b> Neighborhood Resource Directory/FindHelp.org</li> </ul>	
<b>ANTICIPATED IMPACT</b>	
The anticipated impact of these actions is increased access to community resources, services and referrals for individuals in need.	

<b>STRATEGY #3: Access to Mental Health Resources and Services</b>
<b>Hospital Name</b> Ascension Alexian Brothers Behavioral Health Hospital (AABBHH)
<b>Prioritized Health Need</b> Prevention and Treatment of Priority Health Conditions: Mental Health ( <i>Mental &amp; Behavioral Health</i> )
<b>Strategy</b> Provide Emergency Department (ED) Annex Clinical Support initiative.
<b>Strategy Source</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Emergency Department (ED) Annex Clinical Support</li> </ul>
<b>Objective</b> By June 30, 2025, increase access to mental health assessments, services, education and resources through the ED Annex Clinical Support initiative.
<b>Target Population</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Target Population:</b> hospital patients and community residents</li> <li>• <b>Medically Underserved Population:</b> Un- &amp;/or under-insured individuals</li> </ul>
<b>Collaborators</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Other Ascension Hospitals:</b> Ascension Alexian Brothers Behavioral Health Hospital</li> </ul>



<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Joint Venture:</b> N/A</li> <li>• <b>Collaborator:</b> Ascension Alexian Brothers Behavioral Health Hospital,</li> <li>• <b>Consultants:</b> N/A</li> <li>• <b>Other Non-Profit Hospitals:</b> N/A</li> </ul>	
<b>Resources</b> Resources the collaborators plan to commit: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Other Ascension hospital(s):</b> Ascension Saint Alexius</li> <li>• <b>Joint Venture:</b> N/A</li> <li>• <b>Collaborators:</b> Ascension Saint Alexius</li> <li>• <b>Consultants:</b> N/A</li> <li>• <b>Other non-profit hospital:</b> N/A</li> </ul>	
<b>ACTION STEPS: Emergency Department (ED) Annex Clinical Support</b>	<b>ROLE/OWNER</b>
Appoint Associate Lead for this Strategy	Ascension Alexian Brothers Behavioral Health Hospital & Ascension Saint Alexius
Establish timeline for implementation of ED Annex services at Ascension Saint Alexius	Ascension Alexian Brothers Behavioral Health Hospital & Ascension Saint Alexius
Identify internal resources for supporting ED Annex services at Ascension Saint Alexius	Ascension Illinois: Community Benefit, Community Health
Assist with designing implementation workflows that allow for more access, safety and privacy	Ascension Illinois: Community Benefit, Community Health
Orient and train internal team members on services and workflow	Ascension Illinois: Community Benefit, Community Health
Monitor work, evaluate progress, and report outcomes	Ascension Illinois: Community Benefit, Community Health, Marketing/ Communications
<b>Output(s) and/or Outcome(s)</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Baseline:</b> FY22 Data</li> <li>• <b>Target:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Increase number of patients served by ED Annex Clinical Support initiative from baseline</li> </ul> </li> <li>• <b>Data Source; Data Owner:</b> Emergency Department; BHS Service Line</li> </ul>	
<b>ANTICIPATED IMPACT</b>	
The anticipated impact of these actions is increased access to mental health services and resources for individuals that present to the ED experiencing mental health symptoms or crisis.	

#### **STRATEGY #4: Access to Substance Use Disorder (SUD) Resources & Services**

##### **Hospital(s) Name(s)**

Alexian Brothers Behavioral Health Hospital

<b>Prioritized Health Need</b> Prevention and Treatment of Priority Health Conditions: Substance Use Disorders ( <i>Mental &amp; Behavioral Health</i> )	
<b>Strategy</b> Expand warm hand-off programs for patients in need of access to SUD treatment in Ascension Illinois.	
<b>Strategy Source</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Warm Handoff Program Expansion</li> <li>• SBIRT Model (Screening, Brief Intervention, Refer to Treatment)</li> </ul>	
<b>Objective</b> By June 30, 2025, expand the number of Ascension Illinois hospitals that provide warm hand-off services for SUD patients that present in the ED and medical floors.	
<b>Target Population</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Target Population:</b> Patients that present to emergency department or medical floors with a substance use disorder in need of substance use disorder services and resources.</li> <li>• <b>Medically Underserved Population:</b> Individuals experiencing mental health issues.</li> </ul>	
<b>Collaborators</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Other Ascension Hospitals:</b> Ascension Saint Joseph Elgin, Ascension Saint Joseph Joliet, Ascension Alexian Brothers Behavioral Health Hospital, Ascension Saint Francis, Ascension Saint Mary and Elizabeth</li> <li>• <b>Joint Venture:</b> N/A</li> <li>• <b>Collaborator:</b> Gateway Foundation</li> <li>• <b>Consultants:</b> Gateway Foundation</li> <li>• <b>Other Non-Profit Hospitals:</b> N/A</li> </ul>	
<b>Resources</b> Resources the collaborators plan to commit: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Other Ascension hospital(s):</b> Ascension Alexian Brothers Behavioral Health Hospital, Ascension Saint Joseph Elgin</li> <li>• <b>Joint Venture:</b> N/A</li> <li>• <b>Collaborators:</b> Gateway: Recovery Coach and Recovery Support Specialists (assessments, evaluations, referrals to treatment and data dashboards on outcomes of referrals and completion of treatment)</li> <li>• <b>Consultants:</b> Gateway Foundation: Recovery Coach and Recovery Support Specialists</li> <li>• <b>Other non-profit hospital:</b> N/A</li> </ul>	
<b>ACTION STEPS: Warm Hand-Off Expansion</b>	<b>ROLE/OWNER</b>
Appoint Associate Lead for this strategy	Ascension Alexian Brothers Behavioral Health Hospital
Participate in Ascension Illinois Warm-Handoff Workgroup	Ascension Illinois
Identify Ascension Illinois hospitals for Warm-Handoff Pilot	Ascension Alexian Brothers Behavioral Health Hospital Ascension Illinois Behavioral Health Service Line
Identify internal resources for supporting substance use disorder services and care coordination at each hospital	Ascension Alexian Brothers Behavioral Health Hospital

	Emergency Department Care Management Ascension Illinois Behavioral Health Service Line
Design implementation workflows that allow for warm handoffs at each hospital	Ascension Alexian Brothers Behavioral Health Hospital Emergency Department Care Management Ascension Illinois Behavioral Health Service Line
Orient and train internal team members in warm-handoff program and workflows	Ascension Alexian Brothers Behavioral Health Hospital Emergency Department Care Management Ascension Illinois Behavioral Health Service Line
Educate patients, families and the community of warm handoffs	Emergency Department Care Management Ascension Illinois Behavioral Health Service Line Ascension Illinois Community Health
Monitor work, evaluate progress, and report outcomes	Ascension Alexian Brothers Behavioral Health Hospital Implementation Strategy Workgroup
<b>Output(s) and/or Outcome(s)</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● <b>Baseline:</b> FY22 Data</li> <li>● <b>Target:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Increase the number of Ascension Illinois hospitals offering warm handoff programs from baseline.</li> </ul> </li> <li>● <b>Data Source; Data Owner:</b> Emergency Department, BHS Service Line</li> </ul>	
<b>ANTICIPATED IMPACT</b>	
The anticipated impact of these actions is increased access to substance use disorder services and community resources for individuals in need.	

<b>STRATEGY #5: Mental Health &amp; Behavioral Health Education and Awareness</b>
<b>Hospital(s) Name(s)</b> Alexian Brothers Behavioral Health Hospital
<b>Prioritized Health Need</b>

Prevention and Treatment of Priority Health Conditions: Mental Health ( <i>Mental &amp; Behavioral Health</i> )	
<b>Strategy</b> Provide Mental Health First Aid (MHFA) Training and other MH/BH education to the community.	
<b>Strategy Source</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Mental Health and Behavioral Health professional and community education</li> <li>• Mental Health First Aid Training</li> </ul>	
<b>Objective</b> By June 30, 2025, there will be an increase in the number of individuals that receive mental health and behavioral health education and training.	
<b>Target Population</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Target Population:</b> local community residents, including associates and patients, teen students in junior high and high school.</li> <li>• <b>Medically Underserved Population:</b> Teen and Adult individuals experiencing mental health issues.</li> </ul>	
<b>Collaborators</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Other Ascension Hospitals:</b> Ascension Holy Family, Ascension Mercy, Ascension Resurrection, Ascension Alexian Brothers, Ascension Saint Alexius, Ascension Saint Francis, Ascension Saint Joseph-Chicago, Ascension Saint Joseph-Elgin, Ascension Saint Joseph-Joliet, Ascension Saints Mary-Kankakee, and Ascension Saints Mary and Elizabeth-Chicago</li> <li>• <b>Joint Venture:</b> N/A</li> <li>• <b>Collaborator:</b> Community-based organizations, Faith-based Institutions, Schools, Colleges and Universities</li> <li>• <b>Consultants:</b> Americorps</li> <li>• <b>Other Non-Profit Hospitals:</b> N/A</li> </ul>	
<b>Resources</b> Resources the collaborators plan to commit: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Other Ascension hospital(s):</b> Trainings and mental health education; funding for the consultants</li> <li>• <b>Joint Venture:</b> N/A</li> <li>• <b>Collaborators:</b> Community-based organizations, Faith-based Institutions, Schools, Food Pantries - program collaborators</li> <li>• <b>Consultants:</b> Americorps - Staff to provide trainings</li> <li>• <b>Other non-profit hospital:</b> N/A</li> </ul>	
<b>ACTION STEPS</b>	<b>ROLE/OWNER</b>
Appoint Associate Lead for this strategy	Ascension Illinois Community Benefit; Community Health
Promote awareness of Mental Health and Behavioral Health education and trainings and via flyers, social media, e-newsletters	Ascension Alexian Brothers Community Health
Identify internal staff and external partners that may benefit from education and training	Ascension Illinois: Community Benefit; Community Health

Establish calendar of mental health/behavioral health trainings for virtual and/or hybrid offerings including dates, times, and locations	Ascension Illinois: Community Benefit; Community Health
Promote availability of mental health/behavioral health trainings within target audiences	Ascension Illinois: Community Benefit; Community Health, Marketing/ Communications
Monitor work, evaluate progress, and report outcomes	Ascension Resurrection Implementation Strategy Workgroup
<b>Output(s) and/or Outcome(s)</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Baseline:</b> FY22 Data</li> <li>• <b>Target:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Increase the total number of individuals that received MHFA training from baseline.</li> <li>○ Increase the total number of individuals that receive mental health/behavioral health training and education from baseline.</li> </ul> </li> <li>• <b>Data Source; Data Owner:</b> Mental Health First Aid; Americorps</li> </ul>	
<b>ANTICIPATED IMPACT</b>	
The anticipated impact of these actions is increased access to Mental Health and Behavioral Health resources, education and services.	

Complete Implementation Strategy reports for each hospital are made publicly available at: <https://healthcare.ascension.org/chna> and paper versions can be requested at Ascension Alexian Brothers Behavioral Health Hospital Office of the President or Community Health.

## Community Implementation Strategy & Health Equity Progress

During the fiscal year, the following was progress achieved on its implementation strategies or other activities the hospital is undertaking to address health equity, reduce health disparities and improve community health. Please note this list is not intended to be comprehensive of all activities the hospital is undertaking, but to highlight initiatives of interest.

Social & Structural Determinants of Health	<p>Strategy: Provide opportunities for students to engage with health care professionals.</p> <p>Progress: During the tax year, 258 students were provided opportunities to engage with hospital professionals such as nursing or other allied professionals.</p>
Prevention and Treatment of Priority Health Condition	<p>Strategy: Provide Emergency Department (ED) Annex Clinical Support Initiative</p> <p>Progress: During the tax year, an Emergency Department Annex dedicated to mental health patients was opened resulting in 2,434 persons served.</p> <p>Strategy: Provide Mental Health First Aid and other training education to the community.</p> <p>Progress: During the tax year, 47 trainings were provided to 472 community members on MH topics.</p> <p>Strategy: Expand warm hand-off program for patients in need of access to SUD treatment.</p> <p>Progress: During the tax year, Ascension Illinois Behavioral Health partnered with Gateway Foundation to begin offering additional warm hand-off programs at three sites (increase from two sites last tax year) that served 871 individuals resulting in 304 persons accepting treatment plans and 203 entering treatment.</p>
Access to Care and Community Resources	<p>Strategy: Increase access to community resources and community-based services for the community.</p> <p>Progress: Alexian Brothers Behavioral Health Hospital associates utilized the social determinant of health software, Findhelp, to connect and refer patients to local resources such as food pantry, health clinics, utilities support and more. During the tax year, 587 searches were performed to assist with health related social needs. There will be increased focus on associate training of the software in the next tax year.</p>
Community Support (Investing)	<p>Strategy: Standardization of Community Investment Alignment</p>

	<p>Progress: Guidelines for community investment criteria to guide outgoing contributions to the community were established across Ascension hospitals late in the fiscal year that became effective July 1, 2023. A system-wide goal of 90% of all community investments must align with at least two of six criteria points including: Strategic Priority, Community Health Needs Assessments, Social Determinants of Health, Identified health disparities within the community, health equity improvement and Laudato Si' environmental improvements. At the close of FY24 on June 30, 2024, 100% of the community investments aligned with the criteria established.</p>
Diversity, Equity & Inclusion (DEI)	<p>Strategy: ABIDE Framework Progress: At Ascension, the ABIDE (Appreciation - Belongingness - Inclusivity - Diversity - Equity) framework is used to help uncover what we need to review, dismantle, or rebuild in our policies, practices and ways of working so that we can eliminate what contributes to or perpetuates disparities, and inequities, including systemic racism. This work is ongoing and begins with leadership commitment through words and actions.</p> <p>The Ascension Illinois ABIDE Engagement Committee was formed, including representatives from each hospital and major operational function. This Committee met monthly throughout FY24 and engaged in group activities and training to support members' work as ambassadors for ABIDE in their respective roles.</p> <p>During FY24, established ABIDE ministry councils at the hospital level ensured integration and alignment with the Ascension Illinois ABIDE Engagement Committee and with Ascension national strategic direction, our Mission and Values and our Essential Behaviors within our organizations.</p> <p>Each hospital ABIDE council focuses on cultural/workforce related initiatives, patient/consumer related initiatives, supplier/partner diversity related initiatives and community related initiatives.</p> <p>Strategy: Cultural Trainings Progress: In FY24, Ascension training module ABIDE in Action Exploring Equitable Interactions in Healthcare had over 1,400 persons complete the training. A new training module, Creating a Culture of ABIDE and Psychological Safety had over 2,300</p>

	persons complete the training.
Diverse & Local Purchasing	<p>Strategy: Diverse Procurement Spend Progress: Ascension has set guidelines toward measurable success of supplier diversity. Specific numeric goals are currently being evaluated for FY25. Ascension has engaged with 151 unique diverse suppliers during FY24 for a total spend of \$11,674,599.</p> <p>Ascension guidelines are still being adopted, but include:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Maintaining a portfolio of contract categories/areas for diverse-owned suppliers consideration Engaging the Senior Manager, Diversity and Sustainability as soon as a business need for contracting in said portfolio is identified to provide sufficient time to identify potential opportunities for diverse-owned suppliers to participate in the process.</li> <li>2. Identifying suppliers to include in the sourcing process and to evaluate diverse-owned suppliers where possible.</li> <li>3. Ensuring diverse-owned supplier classifications (i.e., minority, women, veteran or small) are flagged appropriately in the contract management system.</li> <li>4. Consistent monitoring of metrics and analytics to evaluate and assess the effectiveness of the program and compliance with this policy.</li> <li>5. Include diverse-owned suppliers who can meet The Resource Group requirements in procurement opportunities.</li> <li>6. Participate in outreach events for diverse-owned suppliers to inform them of contracting opportunities available for them to participate in the procurement of products and services by The Resource Group.</li> </ol> <p>Ascension Illinois has worked with the local community organization, West Side United, to increase opportunities for diverse suppliers in the community. West Side United connects diverse suppliers on the west-side of Chicago with healthcare organizations for service procurement.</p>
Diverse & Local Hiring	<p>Strategy: SOAR (Strengths, Opportunities, Aspirations and Recommendations) Ascension Illinois' Associate Engagement Survey surrounds the ABIDE hallmarks. Our SOAR action planning focuses on efforts for improvement in each of the ABIDE hallmarks. The Associate</p>



	<p>Engagement Survey and the SOAR process is conducted and performed annually with evaluation and modified throughout the year. This process is guided by Executive and Senior Leadership with implementation and evaluation by Department Leaders.</p> <p>Strategy: Workforce Development In September 2023, Ascension launched a proactive workforce development team of managers who strategically sit under human resources in the organizational effectiveness space within the Center for Career Advancement. The center focuses on preparing, recruiting, retaining, and enhancing the skills of individuals in the healthcare professions to meet the evolving needs of the patients and communities. Goals include addressing challenges like workforce shortages, skill mismatches, diversity gaps, and technology integration. The workforce development managers are proactive in collaborating on local workforce development programs, partnering with key leaders and stakeholders to identify new program needs or improvement of existing programs, functioning as an intermediary between local chambers of commerce and community organizations, seeking local and federal funding opportunities, developing and over-seeing high school work-based learning programs through career exploration, job shadowing, internships, apprenticeships, and collaborating with community colleges through advisory councils and increased student clinical opportunities.</p>
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## Appendix

### Hospital Net Patient Revenue Report

<b>Ascension Illinois</b>	
<b>Net Revenue</b>	
<b>For the Twelve Months Ended June 30, 2024</b>	
	<b>ABBHH</b>
Net Patient Service Revenue	75,583,692
Add Back Charity	2,253,387
<b>AG Reported Net Patient Service Revenue</b>	<b>\$77,837,079</b>