

2025 community benefit report



dayton
children's



listening to families, leading with heart

At Dayton Children's, our work begins with listening. Families across our region share what they need to keep their children healthy, supported and thriving, and this year's Community Benefit Report reflects the many ways we turned those voices into action. From expanding access to care in West Dayton, to strengthening mental health support in schools, to advancing early literacy, nutrition, housing stability and injury prevention, each initiative

was shaped by what families told us matters most. Guided by community partnerships and a commitment to reducing barriers to health, we continue to meet children and caregivers where they are, building programs, resources and opportunities that reflect their lived experiences and help every child reach their full potential.



Deborah A. Feldman, *President and CEO*



supporting kids' mental health with the On Our Sleeves movement

This year, the On Our Sleeves initiative grew in both reach and momentum as deeper community partnerships began to take shape. We heard that families wanted more accessible ways to spark meaningful conversations with their children, so we partnered with the Dayton Art Institute to bring those moments into everyday experiences. Together, we introduced conversation starter materials across the museum's permanent exhibits, thoughtfully tailored for three different age groups. Each visit now offers opportunities for families to connect in new and unexpected ways.



At the same time, the Let's Talk Kindergarten books continued to gain traction. What began as a simple tool for families entering the school system has now

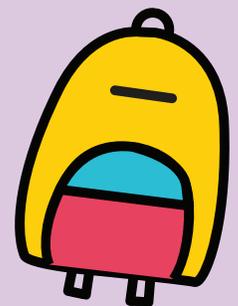
become a resource available at multiple doctors' clinics, with a broader distribution plan underway to reach even more parents and caregivers.

Community outreach also played a major role in expanding awareness. Presentations to Centerville Rotary and Job and Family Services helped introduce the initiative to new audiences, while participation in events like Oakview Elementary Family Night, the Valley View Early Learners Fair, and the Cultivating Resiliency Summit created valuable touchpoints with families and educators. During Children's Mental Health Awareness Day, an interactive table welcomed Dayton Children's staff and families, giving them a hands-on way to learn and engage.



The story reached even further through a media interview on WDTN that highlighted summer screen time and its connection to mental wellness.

The response from the community was strong and encouraging. **A total of 1,863 people signed up for On Our Sleeves, and 172 classrooms registered to use the Classroom Kit Program.**



Together, these milestones reflect a growing movement that is helping families, schools and community partners build a stronger foundation for children's emotional well-being.

strengthening community efforts to prevent suicide

Families have shared that mental health challenges often surface long before a child reaches a crisis point. They have asked for earlier identification, more consistent screening and clear pathways to support. Dayton Children's listened and during 2025, the Zero Suicide Initiative continued to grow in direct response to what families told us they needed most.

This year, the initiative expanded deeper into outpatient and specialty clinics to ensure that every child, no matter where they enter the health system, is met with compassionate, proactive care. Suicide risk screening and follow-up interventions were fully implemented in rheumatology, providing families with a safety net that goes beyond physical health needs. Planning advanced in allergy and additional specialty clinics, bringing us closer to a future where mental health screening is woven throughout the full continuum of care.

We also heard from families and clinicians that better data and clearer insights are essential for meaningful prevention. In response, teams strengthened data analytics and enhanced decision support tools to monitor regional suicide outcomes. This included deeper analysis of patient encounters in relation to suicide mortality, helping us understand where risks are emerging and how to intervene earlier.

These efforts represent more than process improvements. They reflect Dayton Children's commitment to building a systematic,



coordinated approach to suicide prevention across all clinical settings. By listening closely to families and acting on what they need, we are creating safer, more connected pathways that support the mental well-being of every child who walks through our doors.

supporting student mental health through school partnerships

This year, Dayton Children's deepened its commitment to youth mental health by listening closely to what families, educators and students were telling us they needed most: support right where children spend their days. Families shared that navigating mental health challenges at home and school can feel overwhelming, and school leaders voiced a growing need for trusted partners who could walk alongside them. Acting on that feedback, Dayton Children's strengthened its collaboration with Dayton Public Schools, Alcohol and Drug Addiction and Mental Health Services and OneOhio to bring compassionate mental health care directly into classrooms and hallways across our region.

As a result, a network of 40 mental health professionals—including Student Resiliency Coordinators and school-based therapists—were embedded in more than 30 schools spanning nine districts. By placing these teams where children learn and grow, we ensured that over 1,100 students and families received timely prevention, intervention and therapeutic support without the barriers that often accompany traditional care.

We heard that families needed help addressing trauma, crisis situations and social-emotional development long before challenges escalated, so Student Resiliency Coordinators provided individualized and group-based supports tailored to each school community. They also helped families navigate community and health care resources, reinforcing continuity of care. Their early intervention efforts played an important role in keeping hospitalization rates for mental health crises low and strengthening the bridge between home, school and clinical care.

We heard from students and caregivers that ongoing, evidence-based therapy within the school day would remove obstacles to attending appointments and maintaining progress, so our School-Based Therapy Program delivered cognitive behavioral therapy and partnered closely with parents and school staff. Students showed meaningful improvements in emotional regulation, anxiety and depression, with **more than 70 percent making progress toward their goals.**

Together, these programs reflect Dayton Children's response to what families have long been asking for: accessible, consistent and compassionate mental health support woven into the fabric of their daily lives. By listening first and acting with intention, we are helping students build resilience, confidence and well-being in the very places where they learn, connect and imagine their futures.



equipping families early: the community impact of Be Ready by 5

Our community health needs assessment revealed a significant challenge. Many children in Montgomery County are entering kindergarten without the foundational skills they need. Early readiness is closely tied to long term educational milestones, including third grade reading levels, high school graduation and future workforce success. Families and partners also emphasized that a child's health and education go hand in hand.

“We know part of achieving optimal health for all children is tied to meeting educational milestones too,” said Jessica Salem, executive director for the Center for Community Health. “Partnering and aligning with community organizations who all care for children birth to five is a key strategy as we aim to improve outcomes for children in our community.”



We listened, and we acted.

Families shared that navigating early childhood programs can feel overwhelming. They wanted a simpler way to understand what resources exist, how to access them and what support their child needs during these critical early years.

In response, local partners came together, led by Preschool Promise, to create Be Ready by 5, a coordinated initiative that connects families with tools and resources that support development, health and learning from birth to age five.

The program helps parents:

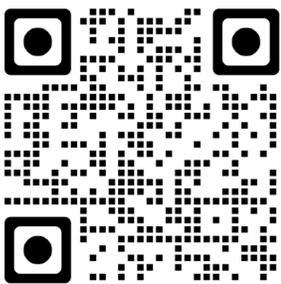
- Access pregnancy and newborn support
- Track developmental milestones
- Connect with parent groups or home visiting programs
- Choose a pediatrician and stay on track with preventive care
- Find high quality child care and preschool options

Be Ready by 5 streamlines information, reduces barriers and ensures families receive guidance tailored to their needs. It strengthens the pathway from early childhood to kindergarten readiness, helping more children reach key milestones that shape lifelong health and success.

Community members can play an important role by sharing the Be Ready by 5 website with families and encouraging them to complete the three minute eligibility screener. The personalized resources they receive can make a meaningful difference in their child's trajectory.

By listening to our community and responding with action, we continue to advance our mission of supporting the optimal health and well-being of every child within our reach.

To find out more about Preschool Promise and the Be Ready by 5 program, scan the QR code below.



growing young readers: the impact of Imagination Library across our region



Families across our region have shared a simple but powerful truth: reading early and often opens doors for children. Many parents told us they wanted more support in building strong reading habits at home and more access to books that spark imagination and early literacy skills. Dayton Children's listened, and since launching the Montgomery County Imagination Library in 2019, the hospital has partnered with community organizations and families to expand access to early reading for thousands of children.

This shared commitment is showing measurable impact. By the end of the year, enrollment reached 20,332 children, with 19,131 graduates

who completed the program. Participation remains strong at more than 62 percent reflecting the enthusiasm families have for accessible early literacy resources.

Families told us they needed evidence that these efforts truly make a difference in school readiness, and new evaluation results confirm it. A study conducted by the University of Dayton's Business Research Group found that children enrolled in the program are read to more frequently at home and consistently demonstrate stronger performance on kindergarten readiness assessments, especially in language and literacy development.

helping families create safe sleep environments when they need it most



Families have told us that safe sleep can be one of the most stressful parts of caring for an infant, especially when financial challenges or sudden life changes make it hard to access essential equipment. They shared that they need clear guidance, reliable education and fast support during urgent situations. Dayton Children's listened, and in 2025, we strengthened our safe sleep efforts to meet families exactly where they are.

Throughout the year, Dayton Children's continued to provide emergency safe sleep equipment to families facing immediate needs. A total of 47 safe sleep items were distributed, ensuring that infants had a safe place to sleep when families needed help most. We also expanded education across the community, delivering 12 safe sleep presentations to groups seeking practical information and guidance they could trust.

Inside the hospital, we heard that staff wanted consistent training to better support families at the bedside. In response, 350 clinical staff members received safe sleep education through core orientation, helping to create a unified approach to modeling and reinforcing safe sleep practices with every family we serve.

Partnerships played a crucial role in getting support to families quickly. The Family Resource Connection, Dayton Children's Pediatrics and the integrated care department worked closely together to make sure that families with urgent needs could access equipment and education without delay. Our collaboration with Public Health–Dayton and Montgomery County also advanced plans to relaunch the Safe Sleep Ambassador Program in early 2026, expanding the network of trusted messengers who can share safe sleep knowledge throughout the community.

By listening to families and acting with purpose, Dayton Children's is helping create safer sleep environments and giving parents and caregivers the confidence and tools they need to protect their infants.

rolling toward safety: how families shaped our bike safety outreach



Families often tell us that they want their children to enjoy being active outdoors, but they worry about safety, especially when it comes to biking. Parents shared that cost, access to equipment and a lack of safety education can make it harder to keep kids protected. Dayton Children's listened, and in 2025, the "This is How We Roll" campaign expanded bike safety outreach and helmet distribution to respond directly to those needs.



Throughout the year, helmets were donated to 28 different organizations so families across the region could access proper protective gear. More than 100 additional helmets were provided to patients in the emergency departments at both south and main campuses, ensuring that children who experienced a bike-related incident could leave the hospital safer than they arrived.



Families also told us they value hands-on learning opportunities, so the team brought bike safety education directly into the community. Dayton Children's participated in Springboro's Bike the Boro in September and Trotwood's Touch-A-Truck and Bike Safety Spring Fling in April, engaging children and caregivers with interactive demonstrations and safety tips. The campaign also reached youth through programs like Dayton Children's Scrubs Camp and Kiser Elementary's summer program, reinforcing skills that help kids stay active while avoiding preventable injuries.

strengthening family nutrition through education and access

Families across our region have shared that they want practical, hands-on support to help their children build healthy eating habits. Many told us they needed guidance tailored to real challenges like picky eating, added sugar or reducing fat in everyday meals. Dayton Children's listened, and the Community Teaching Kitchen expanded its classes in 2025 to meet those needs directly.

What began as a series of free healthy cooking classes grew into a robust set of group Medical Nutrition Therapy classes designed specifically around the concerns families voiced most. Children and caregivers learned side by side, practicing skills they could bring home to their own kitchens.

In 2025, the teaching kitchen hosted 110 classes for 875 participants, including 580 children.

Families, summer camps, preschools, Girl Scout troops and community agencies all took part, showing just how strong the demand is for accessible, family-friendly nutrition education.

We also heard that access to healthy food remains a barrier for many families, so the Food Pharm program shifted its eligibility to include anyone in the Dayton community

rather than limiting it to Dayton Children's families. This change reflects what parents and caregivers told us they needed: a sustainable source of support that reaches more households and leverages broader collaboration with the Foodbank.

To further support families facing food insecurity, two grants totaling \$29,750 were secured. These funds made it possible to deliver fresh produce twice a month for six months to 54 Dayton Children's families who needed additional help. Meanwhile, the Food Pantry continued to serve an average of 80 families each month, maintaining steady access to essential staples.

Together, these efforts reflect Dayton Children's commitment to listening to families and acting with intention. By expanding education, increasing access to healthy foods and strengthening partnerships, we are helping families build the foundation for lifelong health, one meal and one skill at a time.





bolstering regional collaboration to improve childhood asthma care

Families across the region have shared that managing childhood asthma can feel overwhelming, especially when resources, communication and support vary widely from one community to another. They told us that they want clearer information, stronger coordination and a more united approach to addressing the disparities that affect so many children. Dayton Children's listened, and 2025 marked important progress in reshaping the Dayton Asthma Alliance to meet those needs.

Throughout the year, interviews and surveys were conducted to better understand what families, providers and community partners needed from a regional coalition. These listening efforts helped refine partner goals and clarify commitments, ensuring that the alliance reflects the voices of those most affected by childhood asthma.

By the end of 2025, the alliance had grown to 16 active members, including 12 representatives from partner organizations. This expanding network shows how many groups are ready to work together on behalf of children with asthma. To strengthen collaboration even further, work groups were formed with specific focus on outreach and communications. These teams are bringing partners together to share information, coordinate efforts and reach families more effectively.

While still early in its evolution, the alliance is laying the groundwork for a new regional initiative that will focus on reducing disparities in asthma care for children. By listening closely and acting on what families need, Dayton Children's and its partners are helping build a more connected, equitable and responsive system of asthma support across the region.

building healthier beginnings through Roots to Rise Dayton



Roots to Rise Dayton began with listening. Families, caregivers and community leaders across Montgomery County shared their hopes, their concerns and the very real challenges they face during pregnancy and early childhood. They told us that too many barriers stand in the way of healthy beginnings. They asked for a system that truly hears them, supports them and reflects their lived experiences. In response, our community came together to take meaningful action.

Over the past several months, we have embarked on a transformative journey to reduce infant mortality by adopting the Cradle Cincinnati model, a proven and data-driven approach built on community voice, collaboration and shared accountability. In Montgomery County, this work is advancing through Partnering for Change, a multi-year

initiative announced by Governor Mike DeWine and supported by a 3-year \$750,000 grant from the Ohio Department of Children and Youth. Dayton Children's serves as the backbone agency, bringing partners together, supporting data sharing and making sure that community insight remains the driving force behind every step.

As we listened to families and organizations across the county, a shared identity emerged. Together, our project leadership team chose the name Roots to Rise Dayton: Nurturing Moms and Babies. The name reflects what parents told us they want most: strong roots, connected communities and the opportunity for every baby to thrive.

At the heart of Roots to Rise Dayton are our mission, vision, core values and guiding principles. They anchor the work and keep us focused on what families have asked for.

- **Mission:** We exist to improve the health and well-being of moms and babies by engaging families, eliminating disparities and empowering communities to create lasting change.
- **Vision:** A Montgomery County where every mother and baby is deeply supported, empowered and thrives, and every baby reaches their first birthday.

Core values:

- Advocacy that ensures accountability
- Collaboration that amplifies community voices
- Empathy that drives purposeful change

Guiding principles:

- Address root causes through systemic change
- Build trust through respectful, inclusive care
- Center Black voices and lived experience

These commitments guide how we listen, how we act and how we hold ourselves accountable to the families who trust us.

Early work has focused on building trust, strengthening relationships and aligning partners around a shared vision for collective impact. As we meet with parents, providers, community groups and neighborhood leaders, we hear a consistent message: families want

coordinated support, better access to prenatal care and systems that work together rather than in silos. Acting on this feedback, partners are now organizing data, identifying collective strengths and forming learning collaboratives that will reimagine the full experience of prenatal care and support.

Already, the momentum is powerful. Cross-sector partners are aligning efforts, engaging deeply with lived experience and laying the groundwork for long-term improvements in maternal and infant health. Looking ahead, our goals include reducing infant mortality and preterm birth rates, strengthening access to high-quality prenatal care and deepening our relationships with families and providers throughout the county.



Nurturing Moms & Babies

Roots to Rise Dayton is more than an initiative. It is a response to what families have told us they need. Through collaboration, shared purpose and community leadership, we are building lasting change for moms, babies and future generations across Montgomery County.



A first-of-its-kind commitment: supporting kinship families with safe, stable housing



Vermillion Place, a new kinship housing community in Greater Old North Dayton began with one simple truth that families shared again and again: housing stability is one of the greatest challenges facing kinship caregivers. Grandparents, aunts, uncles and close family friends often step in during moments of crisis to care for children, yet many told us they struggled to find safe, affordable homes big enough to keep siblings together. Dayton Children’s listened, and this year, we celebrated a project designed entirely around their needs.

The initiative is a first-of-its-kind effort for a children’s hospital and reflects Dayton Children’s commitment to supporting families beyond clinical care. The development includes 26 units, each with three bedrooms so that larger families can stay together and children can grow without the fear of being separated from siblings. Every

home is intentionally designed to provide safety, comfort and the stability that families told us they needed most.

We heard that proximity matters. Caregivers shared how important it is to live near schools, parks, grocery stores and the hospital itself, so the homes are located on Alaska Street and Rita Street, surrounded by neighborhood amenities and just minutes from Dayton Children’s. Shared community spaces, including play areas and a community room, will help reduce isolation and give families opportunities to build trust, connection and resilience. Programmatic ties to education, food and social services will offer continued support and help families thrive.

The project aligns with the hospital’s vision to *reinvent the path to children’s health in our region* by acknowledging that most of what shapes a child’s well-being occurs outside

hospital walls in the places they live, learn and play. This initiative is about more than buildings. It is about honoring the caregivers who give so much of themselves and creating a sense of belonging for the children in their care.

The idea emerged from three years of listening sessions with Dayton Children's Community Health Workers, who brought forward the stories of kinship families struggling to find stable housing. By choosing to maintain ownership of the homes, Dayton Children's is ensuring that support will extend to future generations of caregivers and children.

This ambitious project is made possible through strong partnerships with the Ohio Housing Finance Agency, City of Dayton, Montgomery County, HOPE of the Midwest, First Financial Bank, the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development, PNC Bank, Wallick Communities, ATA Beilharz Architects, PNC Bank and CityWide Community Development. Together, these partners are helping Dayton Children's act on what families need most and address the social determinants of health that shape a child's ability to learn, grow and thrive.

supporting families when it matters: free tax assistance boosts financial stability

Families across our region have shared that tax season can be stressful and confusing, especially for those trying to access refunds and credits that could make a meaningful difference in their financial stability. Many told us they wanted help navigating the process, understanding what they qualify for and filing accurately without added cost. Dayton Children's listened, and since 2020, the hospital has offered free tax filing assistance to help families secure the Earned Income Tax Credits they deserve.

Through the Volunteer Income Tax Assistance (VITA) Program, an IRS-led initiative supported by community partners, Dayton Children's has helped file more than 300 tax returns, resulting in over \$200,000 in earned income tax credits for eligible taxpayers. This program exists because families told us they needed support, and data shows just how impactful these credits can be in reducing poverty, especially for households with children.

On March 22, 2025 that commitment continued as the hospital hosted a one-day tax clinic for the community. During the event, volunteers completed 43 tax returns, helping families receive a combined total of \$39, 889 in federal earned income tax credits. Eleven volunteers worked together to collect documents, process returns and ensure that every participant could pick up their completed tax filing within a week, reducing stress and offering families timely access to their refunds.

Families shared that many people who qualify for earned income and child tax credits never claim them due to lack of awareness or access. National data confirms this, showing that one in five eligible individuals does not receive the benefits available to them. By offering free, accessible tax assistance, Dayton Children's is acting directly on what families say they need: support that strengthens financial stability, reduces barriers and helps them build a more secure foundation for their children.



access to care: Xenia school-based health center

Families in Xenia shared that getting children to medical appointments during the school day can be challenging. Many described the stress of missed work, long wait times, limited transportation or the difficulty of balancing chronic conditions with academic demands. They told us they needed care that was convenient, accessible and built into the places children already spend their time. Dayton Children's and Xenia Community Schools listened, and together they created the Xenia school-based health center at Warner Middle School.

The center is open to all K through 12 students in the district and brings high-quality health care directly into the school environment. By offering on-site services and even transportation during the school day when needed, the program helps students stay healthy, stay in class and stay engaged in learning.

Families asked for care that felt just like a traditional doctor's office, so the center was

designed to provide a full range of services that meet students' physical and preventive health needs. These include well check-ups for children who do not have a pediatrician, diagnosis and treatment of minor illnesses and injuries, management of chronic conditions such as asthma or diabetes, lab testing, prescriptions, and sports or work physicals. With care available right inside the school, students can receive timely attention without missing extended instructional time, helping them stay on track academically.

Research reinforces what families have told us: when children have regular access to health care, they attend school more consistently, perform better academically and experience less stress, especially those managing chronic health issues. The Xenia school-based health center also makes life easier for families by offering convenient access to in-person or virtual visits, allowing children to receive exams, diagnoses and medications with minimal disruption to their day.

removing barriers so kids can learn: community support in action at Kiser Elementary

Families in the Kiser Elementary School community have shared that meeting daily needs can be a constant challenge. They told us they needed help with food, clothing, mentorship and access to basic health services that support their children's success at school. Dayton Children's and our Neighborhood School Center partnership listened, and throughout the year, the Family Resource Coordinator at Kiser Elementary worked to respond to those needs with care, consistency and community collaboration.

Each week, 204 students received weekend food bags to help reduce hunger when school meals were not available. Families shared that food insecurity creates stress for both parents and children, so this routine support ensured students returned to school ready to learn. Partner outreach also strengthened the school's support network, generating more than 150 volunteer hours from six community partners.

- We heard from parents and teachers that students benefit greatly from positive role models, so a partnership with the University of Dayton's College Mentor Program connected 27 students in grades 1 through 6 with supportive mentors.
- Families also told us that clothing and shoes are frequent financial burdens, especially for young children. In response, the Dayton

Optimist Club donated Kiser sweatshirts to all 80 kindergarten students, and Shoes 4 the Shoeless hosted a large school event where 402 pairs of new shoes were distributed.

- Families shared that access to dental care is often limited, so the school facilitated registration for an A SMILE Dental visit, where 47 students received vital dental services right on site.

Listening to families also revealed that state testing season can be a time of stress and pressure for students. To encourage and support them, Dayton Children's, Kiser Alumni, Brunner Literacy, Goodwill Easter Seals and the Old North Dayton Neighborhood Association came together to assemble and distribute testing kits to 800 students. Each kit included needed supplies, a small treat and a personal note of encouragement.





bringing care closer to home: new West Dayton urgent care meets a longstanding need

Families in West Dayton have shared the same message for years: they need timely pediatric care close to home. Many described long travel times, limited evening options and the stress of visiting the emergency department for conditions that could be managed in an urgent care setting. Dayton Children's listened, and in 2025, the hospital broke ground on a new pediatric urgent care in West Dayton to meet those needs head-on.

The new urgent care will offer on-demand care for injuries and illnesses that are not life-threatening but still require same-day attention. It is designed to give families accessible options for common concerns like ear pain, sore throat or stomach ache, helping them receive care when and where they need it most.

Located at 1711 Germantown Street, the urgent care will serve children living in the surrounding

four zip codes, an area home to more than 17,000 children. Data showed that 64 percent of low-acuity visits to Dayton Children's emergency department come from these neighborhoods. Families told us they needed convenient evening and weekend care, so the urgent care will offer extended hours and walk-in appointments to provide timely, cost-effective care while reducing unnecessary emergency department visits.

This transformative project is made possible through a generous \$1.5 million donation from CareSource. Expected to open in summer 2026, the West Dayton Urgent Care reflects Dayton Children's ongoing commitment to ensuring that every child has access to high-quality care in the neighborhoods where they live. It stands as a powerful example of what can happen when a community speaks and a hospital listens.

strengthening children's health through strategic community partnerships

Families across our region have shared that children's health and well-being depend on strong communities, supportive programs and opportunities that help kids grow, learn and thrive. They told us that access to mentorship, nutritious food, safe spaces, emotional support and enrichment programs can make all the difference in a child's life. Dayton Children's listened, and in 2025, we invested in community partners who are meeting these needs every day.

This year, funding was provided to a wide range of organizations that support children and families across our 20-county region.

These included:

- Strategic Ohio Council for Higher Education
- Victory Project
- American Red Cross of Miami Valley Ohio Chapter
- The Foodbank Boys and Girls Club of Dayton
- Daybreak
- Big Brothers Big Sisters of the Greater Miami Valley
- Miami Valley Meals
- Greater Edgemont Community Coalition and Solar Garden
- Goodwill Easterseals Miami Valley
- Elizabeth's New Life Center
- Everybody Plays Ohio
- Youth House
- Crayons to Classrooms
- Ohio Tri County Food Alliance doing business as Second Harvest Food Bank of Clark, Champaign and Logan Counties

Programs supported through these investments align with the priorities identified in the hospital's Community Health Needs Assessment. One powerful example is The Victory Project which is a privately funded after-school program serving disengaged young men in Dayton, which received \$11,500.

Through mentoring, life-skills training, academic support and employment opportunities, the program helps participants ages 12-18 build responsibility and self-sufficiency. With Dayton Children's support, over 50 young men gained access to job training, mentorship and paid work in landscaping, maintenance and community service. Services were expanded to The Victory Project's new West Dayton campus. The grant also expanded tutoring and career coaching to help students progress toward graduation or GED completion and funded Life Launch workshops promoting mental health and emotional resilience.

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Another is Daybreak Inc, Drop-In Center which gives youth a safe place to meet basic needs while accessing supportive services. Funding awarded was \$7,500.

Staff connect youth to Daybreak's broader network of programs—housing, parenting services, mental health therapy, and employment opportunities.

The Center also fosters positive social engagement with peers and caring adults in a safe environment.

- Served 183 unduplicated youth and 15 families/25 children in FY25.

- Provided 2,674 visits: food, clothing, hygiene, showers, laundry, computer/phone access and safe daytime shelter.
- Connected youth to housing, employment, mental health and community resources.
- Outreach includes canvassing at local shelters, libraries and community centers.
- In FY25, the Center distributed over 1,300 food packages, 200 laundry visits, 91 clothing packages and 139 hygiene packages, highlighting its critical role in reducing health disparities.

community voices leading the way: how families shaped our work in 2025

Families across our region have told us that real progress in health equity begins by listening to the people most affected by disparities. They want programs, materials and decisions that reflect their lived experiences and cultural perspectives. Dayton Children's responded by strengthening the role of the Center for Community Health's Community Advisory Board, a group designed to ensure community voices guide our work every step of the way.

The Community Advisory Board (CAB) serves as a foundational partner in our mission to reduce health disparities across the hospital's 20-county service area. Created to foster ongoing

collaboration between Dayton Children's and community stakeholders, the board provides insight into the social and environmental factors that shape health for families throughout the region.

The board is composed of 7 to 15 members, currently 12, who reflect the diversity and lived experiences of the families we serve. Members commit to two-year terms, with the option to renew once, and participate in at least four of the six annual meetings. These gatherings, facilitated by Center for Community Health staff, create a structured space for dialogue, feedback and community-informed recommendations.

During FY25, the CAB continued to influence programming, research and community interventions across the hospital. Members engaged in thoughtful discussion to help shape strategies that address some of the most pressing health challenges facing families today. Their guidance ensured that initiatives were grounded in the realities of the communities we serve, not just in data or clinical perspectives.

Families also shared that educational materials often feel confusing or inaccessible. Acting on that feedback, the board played a vital role in improving resources used across the hospital. One of the most impactful collaborations focused on improving asthma outcomes in partnership with Dayton Children's Community Health Worker team. Community Advisory Board members reviewed existing materials, identified gaps and recommended changes that would have greater meaning and utility for families.

Their insights led to several major improvements:

- A cartoon video was created to accompany asthma education materials, making the information more engaging and easier for children to understand.
- The Asthma Action Plan was redesigned as a refrigerator magnet, giving families a simple and visible way to keep important health instructions within reach.
- Materials are now being translated into the hospital's most frequently spoken languages, with QR codes added to connect families to resources in their preferred language.

This project reflects the power of listening and acting with intention. By elevating community voices, the Community Advisory Board helps ensure that Dayton Children's programs and materials are culturally responsive, practical and shaped by the people who use them.

The Community Advisory Board continues to be an essential partner in our vision for healthier and more equitable communities. Through their lived experience, commitment and thoughtful guidance, the board ensures that the hospital's work remains rooted in what families say they need most.

community benefit and investment

investing in kids... investing in our community

As a nonprofit children's hospital, our mission calls us to reinvest every dollar of margin back into the communities we serve. That commitment extends beyond the walls of the hospital and into the neighborhoods where children live, learn and play.

Hospital earnings are reinvested into programs and partnerships that strengthen the health and well-being of kids across our region. These efforts go beyond traditional clinical care and address the broader factors that shape a child's opportunity to thrive.

While capturing the full scope of this impact can be complex, In fiscal year 2023-2024 Dayton Children's reported more than \$78 million in community benefit activities. This report reflects audited financial results for fiscal year 2024 along with a comprehensive overview of our current community-focused investment and initiatives.

financial assistance

We report the unreimbursed costs from providing care to patients enrolled in Medicaid and other government programs reflecting payment shortfalls versus our actual costs to provide the care.

community health improvement

Community health improvement programs allow us to prevent injuries, improve health literacy, address mental wellness and engage the community to promote health and wellness.

health professionals education

To ensure we have the workforce that meets the health care needs of the future, we provide clinical and educational experience for many students throughout our community.

cash and in-kind

Dayton Children's contributes cash and in-kind gifts to not-for-profit organizations that share our mission and focus on children and families.

financial assistance

research

Dayton Children's engages in medical and health-related research that generates knowledge that is made available to and benefits the public, enhancing the future of health care and improving the long-term welfare of the community at large.

subsidized health services

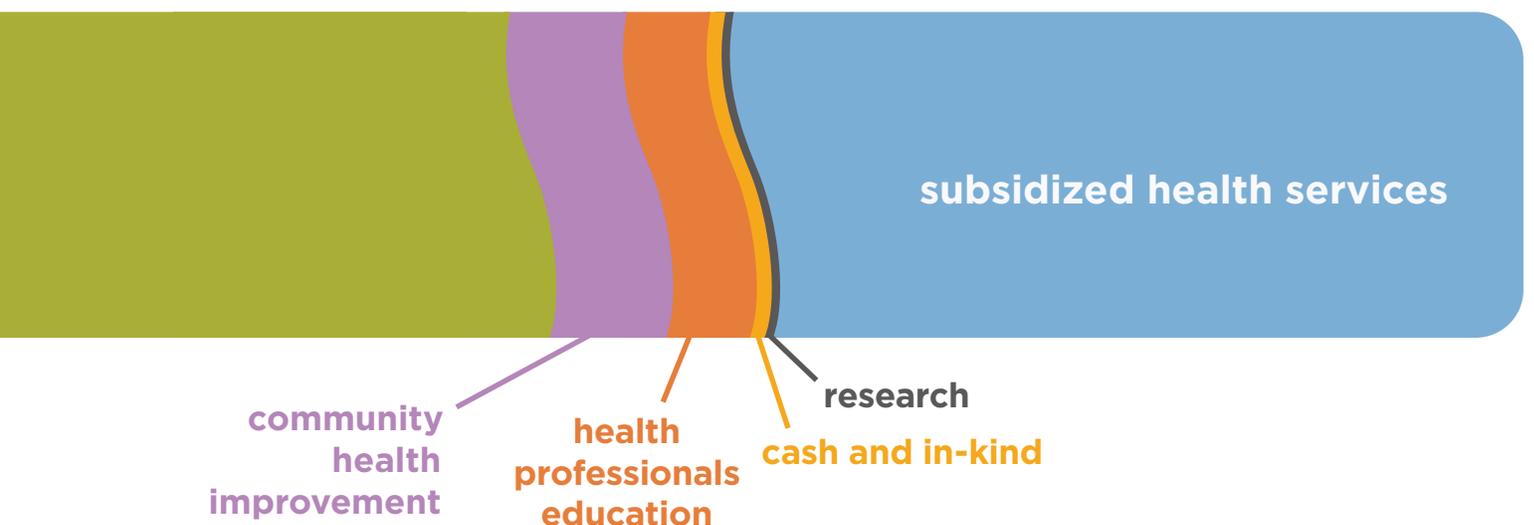
Dayton Children's supports several clinical programs despite financial loss because they meet an identified community need.

community-building activities

Reported separately from community benefit, community-building activities include environmental improvements, workforce development and community health improvement advocacy efforts which are critical to our role as an anchor institution and community leader.

total community benefit

financial assistance	\$52,288,893
community health improvement	\$3,166,312
health professionals education	\$2,288,696
cash and in-kind contributions	\$378,686
research	\$101,950
subsidized health services	\$20,427,132
total	\$78,651,668
community building activities	\$221,500



Deborah A. Feldman
*president and chief
executive officer*

Kelly Kavanaugh
*vice president and
chief strategy officer*

Jessica Salem
*executive director,
center for community health*

editorial team

Stacy Porter
*managing editor,
director of public relations*

Katie Solovey
public relations manager

Jennifer McCray
photographer, creative designer

*For more information on community benefit and
Dayton Children's Center for Community Health
contact Jessica Salem at salemj@childrensdayton.org*

