

## UPMC Children's Hospital of Pittsburgh Division of Community Health

### Clinical-Community Connections

Children's Hospital of Pittsburgh recognizes the value of community and the integral role it plays in the health of children and families. Through the facilitation of clinical-community partnerships, we incorporate community-based organizations into our provider network while also bringing Children's medical care into neighborhoods to improve access to care for children and families. Some of our current initiatives are highlighted here.

#### **Community Connections for Asthma Management**

Children who visit the hospital for asthma care are provided with community-based resources and referrals to help them better manage their condition and prevent future emergency visits. Our community connections include Breathe PA, Allegheny County's Healthy Homes Program, Family Care Connection centers, and more.

#### **Community Connections for Food Security**

Children's is working to improve food security for families who visit the hospital and primary care clinics for care by asking them about food needs and providing direct referral to community partners for both emergent and sustainable food assistance. Just Harvest, 412 Food Rescue, and the Greater Pittsburgh Community Food Bank are among our community connections for food security.

#### **Community Connections for Clinical Services**

A 2016 report by the Children's Health Fund estimated that over 20 million youth across the U.S. lack sufficient access to primary care. Children's increases access to medical care by providing quality clinical services in the community and via schools, free of charge, for children who are most in need and hardest to reach.

Community connections for clinical services are provided by:

- Ronald McDonald Care Mobile
- Neighborhood Health Hubs in Mt. Oliver and Homewood-Brushton
- Telemedicine Service in Schools

#### **Impact**

Innovative patient care models, such as these, allow Children's staff to connect patients and families with important community resources, thereby improving access to food, transportation, social supports, and community-based medical care.

#### **About UPMC Children's Hospital of Pittsburgh Community Health**

Children's Hospital of Pittsburgh Community Health works together with hospital, other healthcare, and community partners to improve health outcomes, reduce health disparities, and elevate quality of life for children and families in the communities where they live, learn, work and play.