

Community Benefit 2021

Community Benefit Northern Light Health joins community partners to tackle opioid epidemic

At the start of the 2021 school year, new faculty and staff at Nokomis Regional High School in Newport learned to administer the lifesaving anti-overdose medication Narcan as part of their first aid and CPR training. On a sunny Saturday in October, the Pittsfield Police department held a drug takeback event as part of National Prescription Drug Takeback day. And in February, Northern Light Sebasticook Valley Hospital in Pittsfield welcomed Jean Antonucci, MD, to provide medication-assisted treatment (MAT) to people with opioid use disorder.

> These efforts to address the opioid epidemic are examples of the work underway by a group of community partners in the Sebasticook Valley region. The group, called the Sebasticook Valley Opioid Response Network (SVORN), held its first meeting in October 2020 and has been meeting monthly since. The group includes the Pittsfield Police Department, Regional School Unit (RSU) 19 (Corinna, Dixmont, Etna, Hartland, Newport, Palmyra, Plymouth, and St. Albans), Hometown Health Center, Kennebec Behavioral Health, TeamHealth, Northern Light Acadia Hospital, Northern Light Health, and Northern Light Sebasticook Valley Hospital.

> > Dr. Antonucci, who now sees patients at Northern Light Primary Care in Pittsfield, says the community partnerships are vital because opioid use disorder is a community problem. "Drugs and alcohol, child abuse, and poverty are everywhere in the state, and loss of family structure is everywhere," she says, adding that

Jean Antonucci, MD Northern Light Primary Care, Pittsfield a lot of her patients started drinking and using drugs when they were in middle school. One of the SVORN priorities was to provide Narcan training to school staff and first responders, including Pittsfield police officers. "We're seeing our share of people who are dependent on opioids and other drugs, and we've had our fair share of incidents," shares Harold Bickmore, Pittsfield Chief of Police, noting that officers used Narcan kits several times in the past year. Chief Bickmore attends the monthly SVORN meetings and provides updates to the group on overdoses in the community, which the police department now tracks using specialized mapping software. He is appreciative of the collaboration. "I think it's the way to go. It's like working on a task force. It's a force multiplier when you work together as a team," he says.

SVORN is funded by a \$1 million dollar federal grant provided through the Rural Communities Opioid Response Program. The program is a three-year initiative supported by the Health Resources and Services Administration.

"People in rural communities suffering from the opioid epidemic are facing challenges accessing needed services, especially during the pandemic," says Terri Vieira, MHA, FACHE, president of Northern Light Sebasticook Valley Hospital. "This grant will allow us to strengthen partnerships, develop sustainable plans, and expand services to help more people."

The goals for the SVORN include improving the regional coordination and communication response for opioid use disorder, increasing community awareness, improving local access to treatment services, and improving clinical support for treatment and recovery.



If you'd like more information on Northern Light Health's Opioid resources visit Maine Opioid Crisis - Northern Light Health

Total Community Investment by Category

Community Health Improvement Services	\$8,197,861
Health Professions Education	\$2,694,311
Research	\$1,124,827
Cash and In-Kind Contributions	\$177,414
Community Building Activities	\$400,843
Community Benefit Operations	\$2,514,382
Traditional Charity Care	\$12,192,727
Unpaid Cost of Public Programs:	
Medicaid	\$89,815,764
Medicare	\$153,861,338
Total Systemwide	\$270,979,467

Northern Light Health Member Community Benefit to our Communities

Acadia Hospital	\$12,755,941
AR Gould Hospital	\$21,231,203
Blue Hill Hospital	\$2,914,540
CA Dean Hospital	\$544,992
Eastern Maine Medical Center	\$156,138,207
Home Care & Hospice	\$714,080
Inland Hospital	\$12,648,641
Maine Coast Hospital	\$12,810,430
Mayo Hospital	\$779,075
Mercy Hospital	\$46,550,704
Northern Light Health	\$1,908,257
Sebasticook Valley Hospital	\$1,983,397

Acadia Hospital

Community Health Improvement Services	\$471,183
Health Professions Education	\$454,554
Cash and In-Kind Contributions	\$1,643
Community Benefit Operations	\$49,561
Traditional Charity Care	\$7,940,767
Unpaid Cost of Public Programs: Medicare	\$3,838,233

Total \$12,755,941

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AR Gould Hospital

Community Health Improvement Services	\$796,780
Health Professions Education	\$1,132,744
Cash and In-Kind Contributions	\$5,000
Community Building Activities	\$378
Community Benefit Operations	\$32,128
Traditional Charity Care	\$219,809
Unpaid Cost of Public Programs: Medicaid Medicare	

Total \$21,231,203

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Blue Hill Hospital

Community Health Improvement Services	\$201,748
Cash and In-Kind Contributions	\$10,102
Community Building Activities	\$13,334
Community Benefit Operations	\$14,481
Traditional Charity Care	\$151,551
Unpaid Cost of Public Programs: Medicare	\$2,523,324

Total \$2,914,540

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CA Dean Hospital

Community Health Improvement Services	\$115,180
Health Professions Education	\$47,810
Cash and In-Kind Contributions	\$1,218
Community Benefit Operations	\$26,558
Traditional Charity Care	\$134,452
Unpaid Cost of Public Programs: Medicare	\$219,774

Total \$544,992

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Eastern Maine Medical Center

Community Health Improvement Services	\$2,119,499
Health Professions Education	\$710,583
Research	\$1,124,827
Cash and In-Kind Contributions	\$21,446
Community Building Activities	\$6,243
Community Benefit Operations	\$1,330,540
Traditional Charity Care	\$2,000,889
Unpaid Cost of Public Programs: Medicaid Medicare	

Total \$156,138,207

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Home Care & Hospice

Community Health\$496,917 Improvement Services	
Health Professions Education\$38,116	
Cash and In-Kind Contributions\$2,822	
Community Benefit Operations\$166,835	
Traditional Charity Care\$878	
Unpaid Cost of Public Programs: Medicaid\$8,512	

Total \$714,080

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Inland Hospital

Community Health Improvement Services	\$494,928
Health Professions Education	\$58,030
Cash and In-Kind Contributions	\$35,830
Community Building Activities	\$12,500
Community Benefit Operations	\$88,706
Traditional Charity Care	\$163,285
Unpaid Cost of Public Programs:	4
Medicaid	
Medicare	\$5,522,237

Total \$12,648,641

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Maine Coast Hospital

Community Health Improvement Services	\$218,725
Health Professions Education	\$3,814
Cash and In-Kind Contributions	\$13,960
Community Building Activities	\$2,506
Community Benefit Operations	\$71,795
Traditional Charity Care	\$483,636
Unpaid Cost of Public Programs:	
Medicaid	\$1,283,548
Medicare	\$10,732,446

Total \$12,810,430

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Mayo Hospital

Community Health Improvement Services	\$199,503
Health Professions Education	\$104,509
Community Benefit Operations	\$17,103
Traditional Charity Care	\$149,198
Unpaid Cost of Public Programs: Medicare	\$308,762

Total \$779,075

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Mercy Hospital

Community Health Improvement Services	1,416,560
Health Professions Education	\$5,777
Cash and In-Kind Contributions	\$6,726
Community Building Activities	\$365,796
Community Benefit Operations	\$316,001
Traditional Charity Care	\$839,287
Unpaid Cost of Public Programs:	
Medicaid	\$10,847,304
Medicare	\$32,753,253

Total \$46,550,704

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Northern Light Health Home Office

Community Health	\$1,457,722
Cash and In-Kind Contributions	\$78,187
Community Benefit Operations	. \$372,348

Total \$1,908,257

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Sebasticook Valley Hospital

Community Health Improvement Services	\$209,116
Health Professions Education	\$138,374
Cash and In-Kind Contributions	\$480
Community Building Activities	\$86
Community Benefit Operations	\$28,326
Traditional Charity Care	\$108,975
Unpaid Cost of Public Programs: Medicare	\$1,498,040

Total \$1,983,397

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