



November 29, 2021

Amy Clary
Research and Data Manager
Oregon Health Authority
421 SW Oak Street
Portland, OR 97204

Re: Community benefit requirements

Dear Ms. Clary,

Providence Health & Services has a long tradition of compassionate care and dedication to our communities. We are committed to serving all, especially those who are poor and vulnerable. This commitment manifests itself in a number of ways – through partnerships to increase food security, access to affordable housing and oral health services. We are always striving to identify the most meaningful ways to connect those most vulnerable with the support they need.

Community benefit is integral to our Mission as a not-for-profit Catholic health care organization and is one way Providence demonstrates our commitment to serving the poor and vulnerable. Providence supported House Bill 3076 and has continued to be a collaborative partner with the Oregon Health Authority to ensure complete and accurate community benefit reporting.

Community benefit in 2020

Providence's total community benefit in 2020 was \$271 million, including \$23 million in community health improvement and strategic partnerships, \$10 million in subsidized health services and over \$61 million in free and discounted care for the uninsured and underinsured. Providence partners with over 100 community-based organizations annually through program donations, grants and joint service agreements serving the poor, vulnerable and BIPOC populations.

In 2020, we focused on addressing access to care, improving behavioral health, reducing and caring for chronic conditions and health-related social determinants to help people gain stable housing, nutritious food, living-wage jobs and dependable transportation. In response to the economic impact of COVID and massive wildfires in Oregon, over one million in rapid relief funding was made available to impacted communities. Diversity, equity and inclusion are central to how we fund and partner with community-based organizations. Data regarding health disparities, race, ethnicity and economic need are integrated with our community investment decision-making processes.

Providence continues to work within local communities to address the specific needs. In 2021, Providence collaborated on the establishment of the Oregon Convention Center COVID-19 mass vaccination site and conducted over 300 community-based vaccination clinics geared towards BIPOC neighbors.

Providence will continue to pursue new opportunities to serve the health and social needs of our community's most vulnerable. We are exploring solutions to address health related social needs and ensure families have stable, consistent access to health care, social services, and other resources necessary for healthy communities.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'J. Ichter', with a stylized flourish at the end.

Joseph Ichter, DrPH, MHA
Director, Community Health Investment
Providence Health & Services