

# 2021 Community Benefit Report

## Introduction

Seattle Cancer Care Alliance (SCCA) unites the leading research teams and cancer specialists from Fred Hutchinson Cancer Center, Seattle Children's and UW Medicine. At SCCA, our sole purpose is the pursuit of better, longer, richer lives for our patients. Our alliance partners had an ambitious vision two decades ago: to lead the world in translating scientific discovery into the prevention, treatment and cure of cancer. We provide state-of-the-art, patient- and family-centered care; run hundreds of clinical trials that advance the standard of care; support education; and enhance access to improved cancer interventions.

Based in Seattle's South Lake Union neighborhood, SCCA is the only National Cancer Institute (NCI)-designated cancer center in Washington state. SCCA has nine treatment centers in the greater Seattle region encompassing hematology/medical oncology, radiation oncology and infusion services, as well as Network affiliations with hospitals in five states.

As a nonprofit, mission-driven organization, SCCA takes seriously our commitment to serving our community. Our Community Benefit Program transcends the walls of our clinics, extending to the community that surrounds and supports our patients.

## Community Benefit Resource Investment

We devoted \$73.2 million — more than 8.7 percent of our operational costs — to community benefit activities. A significant portion of this funding extended our high-quality clinical services to those who could not otherwise afford them, providing subsidized care and offering needed services at a financial loss. We also invested in community health improvement activities aimed at reducing the burden of cancer among high-needs populations through programs such as mobile mammography screenings, research and education opportunities for health professionals at Fred Hutch and in the community.

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## Here is an overview of our investment in the community

**\$53.6 million** in subsidized care for individuals

**\$8.7 million** to educate health professionals on the latest best practices in cancer care

**\$7.4 million** on leading-edge research that improves treatment and prognosis for cancer patients

**\$3.5 million** in community health improvement services, including:

- Mammography screenings for underserved populations
- Subsidized health care support services such as housing and transportation
- Educational offerings at community events on the latest developments in cancer treatment options
- Education on treatment and prevention for low-income populations
- Financial counseling
- Survivorship
- Cash and in-kind donations

## Spotlight: Access to COVID-19 vaccine

SCCA was selected by the Washington State Department of Health to be one of the first of 17 sites to receive the authorized COVID-19 vaccine. In February 2021, the Fred Hutch/SCCA Cancer Consortium established a broad COVID-19 vaccination program with hospital-based and community-outreach vaccination centers.

These community-outreach vaccination centers were established to help address health disparities and vaccine access inequities faced by underserved populations in King County. Between January–July 2021, almost 84,000 people were vaccinated.

The program established two main clinic series: a fixed-site clinic in Kent with African Americans Reach and Teach Health Ministry and a mobile vaccine clinic active throughout King County that primarily ran in partnership with Public Health – Seattle & King County. In addition to these ongoing partnerships, we had numerous shorter-term collaborations with local grassroots organizations, faith communities, government agencies, businesses and other organizations throughout King County.



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## Community Health Grants



The Community Health Grant program was designed to aid organizations focused on supporting cancer-related community health activities. The grants are intended to expand the impact of our resources by supporting local organizations that provide underserved community members with access to information, guidance and services for cancer prevention, screening and treatment. This year's beneficiaries were the Cierra Sisters, Communities of Color Coalition and the Korean Women's Association.

**Cierra Sisters** is a breast cancer education and support organization whose mission is to break the cycle of fear and empower African American and underserved communities with evidence-based knowledge to detect, treat and overcome breast cancer. Cierra Sisters engages low-to-no-income women and families of color living in South King and North Pierce counties. The grant supported focus groups to learn more about how cancer patients, survivors and family members coped with COVID-19. The information gathered was used to ensure community members were connected to the best available resources.

**Coalition of Communities of Color (C3)**, located in Snohomish County, educates and advocates for social justice and human rights, especially for people of color and other underrepresented groups that have been systemically oppressed. C3 serves as the solution provider that bridges community needs with health care organizations. Because prostate cancer is the second-leading cause of cancer death in Black men, their grant supported free prostate cancer screenings in the community. Research has shown that one effective way to reduce the morbidity rate is to increase early detection. Among Black men, a lack of education for early screening is indicative of the communities that are so adversely affected. Making the free PSA test available will provide an additional tool in early detection of prostate cancer.

**The Korean Women's Association (KWA)** was founded 45 years ago by a group of limited-English-proficiency immigrant women with a mission to help improve health equity for underserved communities. Today, they provide comprehensive and multicultural services that span in-home care, social services, community health care coordination, preventative health education and behavioral health interventions. The funds continued the KWA's work to support breast and colorectal cancer education and mobile mammogram events in Pierce and South King counties.

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## Community benefit allocations

**Cash and in-kind contributions** for community benefit, including funds, materials and staff resources that are donated to individuals and community groups. \$ 1,435,500 2%

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**Community health improvement services** and community benefit operations are intended to improve the health of our communities and go above and beyond direct patient care services to individuals. \$ 2,089,669 3%

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**Research** includes clinical and community-health research that Fred Hutch undertakes, with results that are shared outside Fred Hutch and used to improve the practice of health care. \$ 7,408,992 10%

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**Health professions education** includes the work that Fred Hutch does to train medical professionals in the community in the type of advanced care and support that we provide, in order to share expertise and expand our reach beyond our immediate patient population. \$ 8,728,068 12%

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**Financial assistance** includes free or discounted health services provided to patients who can't afford to pay and who meet Fred Hutch or government criteria for assistance. \$ 53,566,556 73%

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**Total** \$ 73,228,785