

2017 KAISER PERMANENTE

COMMUNITY HEALTH SNAPSHOT

WASHINGTON





EXECUTIVE LETTER

In partnership with each person we serve, we are unwavering in our focus to help people and their communities thrive.

Our first year as Kaiser Permanente Washington, the eighth and newest region in one of the nation's leading not-for-profit health care organizations, was one of listening, learning, and discovery.

While we have focused on expanding access to high-quality, coordinated care through the doctors and care teams our members know and trust, we have also been clear that our commitment to creating better health for more people extends well beyond what takes place in the care setting.

We have spent significant time learning from our partners and communities about the incredible work already under way to meaningfully improve people's lives. Through these conversations we have renewed relationships, created new ones, and looked at where – together – we can have the greatest impact.

It's clear that our shared focus needs to address those factors that contribute to health, ensuring everyone has the opportunity to have more healthy years. This includes understanding barriers to health in the places where we interact every day, and co-creating approaches to address distinct community needs.

Our Community Health Snapshot gives a quick glimpse of some of our work on this front in 2017. Focus areas include mental health support – particularly for youth, safe places to exercise and play, economic opportunity, and access to care.

This is just the beginning, and we couldn't be more excited about the work ahead. In partnership with each person we serve, we are unwavering in our focus to ensure they and their communities thrive.



Susan Mullaney
President

Kaiser Foundation Health Plan
of Washington



Stephen Tarnoff, MD
President and Executive
Medical Director

Washington Permanente
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On the cover: Students participate in a ropes course designed to help build trust and resiliency. The program is offered through one of Kaiser Permanente's school-based health centers.



COMMUNITY INVESTMENT



MENTAL HEALTH

Our Educational Theatre Program

focused on topics that included bullying and conflict resolution during the 2017-2018 school year. The program was offered in collaboration

with Seattle Children's Theatre and reached more than 20,000 students in King, Pierce, Kitsap, Snohomish, Spokane, and Whitman counties.

Mental health and wellness in K-12 schools in Washington state was the topic of an environmental scan we commissioned in 2017 and have shared widely. The report is helping us engage with communities and organizations on how to respond to the greatest needs.



ACTIVE LIVING

Georgetown Playfield's outdoor fitness center is one example of our work with cities, community groups, and The Trust for Public Land to create public spaces that encourage physical activity.

At Georgetown Playfield we supported installation of outdoor cardio and strength equipment. A total of 10 safe places to play are being created in Seattle, Lynnwood, Tacoma, Wenatchee, and Spokane.

We also collaborated on the Skykomish-Snohomish Rivers Trail development, which encourages physical activity and connects communities. Facilitated by Forterra, the project fosters a resilient environment and broad-based economic prosperity. It involves outreach and engagement with Native American and Latino populations.



ECONOMIC OPPORTUNITY

The Little Brook Youth Corps is digging in to help restore open space and grow green-job and leadership skills. We're supporting their efforts through the Lake City Neighborhood Alliance, which

represents 26 local groups. This is a fresh approach to engaging a community through their children, and rallying neighbors around long-term restoration of their surroundings. This area has many immigrant, low-income, and traditionally marginalized residents.

We're also working with other communities to explore how we can support learning that helps residents seeking living-wage careers. We are partnering with technical and community colleges, and apprenticeship programs, in these efforts.



ACCESS TO CARE

Our medical financial assistance and charity care programs in Washington state increased to \$4.7 million, and we approved more than 4,000 applications in 2017. Fewer restrictions on patient eligibility and system enhancements enabled quicker turnaround, and support for those on Medicare substantially improved.

At YouthCare's Orion Center in Seattle, we provided health care through our family practice residency. We also worked with 8 school-based health centers, reaching more than 7,000 students. And we helped fund a full-time resource at the Washington School-Based Health Alliance to provide guidance for communities interested in bringing clinics into their schools.

Financials

Medicaid & Other Government Programs	\$34,368,716
Philanthropy	\$5,236,645
Charitable Coverage & Care	\$4,653,714
Research	\$8,114,866
Health Professions Education	\$7,773,966
Other	\$2,986,992
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Kaiser Permanente Washington Community Health Governance Council

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To find out more about how we are shaping the future of health,
visit kp.org/wa/community