

The Rockefeller University Hospital One-Year Community Service Plan Update

1. Mission Statement

To promote health and enhance the quality of life by conducting clinical research and providing quality patient care in an environment where science, medical practice and learning blend to advance medical scholarship and alleviate human suffering. There were no changes made to our mission statement

2. Service Area

There were no changes made to the service area.

The Rockefeller University Hospital is a very unique institution. As an institution solely committed to conducting clinical research our service area is defined as the five boroughs of New York City, New York State, Long Island, New Jersey, and Connecticut. The Rockefeller University Hospital has provided an array of clinical research and patient care services since its founding in 1910. Research participants are culled from all over New York City as well as through collaborations with neighboring hospitals, universities, and clinics.

The Rockefeller University Hospital is owned by the University and is licensed for 40 inpatient beds for clinical research. The Hospital provides researchers with an opportunity to conduct clinical studies, and offers both normal volunteers and people with diseases under study the opportunity to stay in the hospital and help to contribute to important advances in science. The Hospital has an inpatient unit as well as an outpatient center where prospective patients are screened and many outpatient studies are conducted.

The Hospital is staffed 24 hours a day with professional nurses and has nutritional research, social work, and a radiology suite as well as its own research pharmacy. Our staff Hospitalist and on-call physicians provide additional medical support to the clinical research teams.

In 2011 The Rockefeller University Hospital had about 750 inpatient days (99 admissions) and over 4,460 outpatient visits. Nine research studies were conducted in the hospital's inpatient unit and 73 studies were conducted in the outpatient research center.

3. Participants and Hospital Role

The Rockefeller University Hospital continues to receive support and participation on its public health priorities and Community Service Plan from The Rockefeller University Center for Clinical and Translational Science (RUCCTS) Advisory Committee on Community Engagement and Recruitment (ACCER). The ACCER membership includes representatives from local Practice Based Research Networks (PBRNs), local institutions of higher education as well as hospital administration. The ACCER coordinates community engagement activities for the RUCCTS as well as the hospital, conducts strategic planning initiatives to identify success, challenges and barriers focused on community engagement and recruitment. It should be noted that ACCER members are members of local and

national public health organizations such as the Public Health Association of New York City (PHANYC), American Public Health Association (APHA), Health Care Leaders of New York (HLNY), and the City University of New York (CUNY).

Hospital Administration staff also continue to participate in meetings, conferences and executive briefings throughout the year focused on the Prevention Agenda Priorities toward a healthy state and strategies hospitals can adopt to address public health priorities over the next three years.

Some event highlights that took place in the previous reporting year include:

October 21, 2011- Rockefeller University hosted its first Science Outreach day for middle school students. This was the first science outreach day targeting students not currently attending high school. Fifty-seven 7th grade students attended the event from P.S.M.S. 29 in the South Bronx. The outreach day focused on research processes, mentoring, and hands on science experiments. Information was distributed to the students regarding science enrichment programs in the tri-state area.

In November The Rockefeller University began to collaborate with 6 community health centers and The Clinical Directors Network on a new MRSA initiative. The goal of this study is to get a better understanding of CA-MRSA in New York City and to develop targeted prevention strategies, population-based surveillance if necessary. A total of 129 participants will be recruited from 6 community health centers. To date more than 77% of participants have been screened and recruited. This is an ongoing project, which we hope to complete Phase 1 by 2013.

In December Dr. Monica Sweeney, Assistant Commissioner at the New York City Department of Health and Mental Hygiene's Bureau of HIV/AIDS Prevention and Control, presented at the Wednesday seminar series on Using Guidelines & Research to Enhance HIV Prevention and Treatment.

The Rockefeller University Hospital also hosted our second science outreach day on December 16, 2011. Students from Park East High School in Manhattan participated in the outreach event that included lab tours and hands on activities.

On May 23, 2012, New York State Department of Health Commissioner of Health Nirav Shah, MD visited the Rockefeller University Hospital and Center for Clinical and Translational Science to discuss potential areas of collaboration. The RUCCTS provided the commissioner with information on current community engagement activities and an overview of the CA-MRSA project.

In June The Rockefeller University in collaboration with Weill Cornell Medical College and Memorial Sloan Kettering Cancer Center hosted its 2nd Annual Achieving Successful and Productive Research Careers (SPARC)Senior Conference. More than 140 individuals attended the conference from backgrounds traditionally underrepresented in science and medicine.

As a follow-up to the New York State Department of Health commissioner visit in May, The Rockefeller University Hospital, the Center for Clinical and Translational Science, and the Clinical Directors Network visited the NYSDOH Wadsworth labs to identify potential areas for collaboration.

4. Identification of Public Health Priorities

Physical Activity/ Nutrition-

Goal- Provide physical activity and nutrition education information and programs for the community served by The Rockefeller University Hospital.

Chronic Disease-

Goal- Provide chronic disease education information and programs for the community served by The Rockefeller University Hospital

There have been no impact or changes to date. The Rockefeller University Hospital continues to provide information to our staff on the benefits of physical activity and good nutrition.

5. Update on the Plan of Action

Physical Activity/Nutrition- The Rockefeller University hosted its annual Rockefeller Walks competition June 27, 2012 through September 12, 2012. More than 100 individuals participated in this year's competition.

Chronic Disease education and information- The Rockefeller University conducted its annual skin cancer screening event in April and May of 2012. The program is conducted by board certified dermatologists and provides the RU community with the opportunity to be screened for and educated on the risks associated with skin cancer. The screenings are conducted in the Outpatient Research Center of the Hospital.

During the reporting year The Rockefeller University incorporated a wellness lecture series for employees. On April 5, 2012 Dr. Nieca Goldberg MD, Medical Director, Women's Heart Program, Clinical Associate Professor, New York University Langone Medical Center, Co-Medical Director of 92nd Street Y talked to the RU community about Loving Your Heart: Preventing Heart Disease at Any Age. This event was well attended by RU Hospital employees.

The Rockefeller University Hospital will continue to educate the RU research community in the principles of community engagement, provide education to the lay public regarding translational science and medicine, develop strategic partnerships with communities, or entities bridging to communities, foster mentored relationships between researchers/trainees, and community practitioners/researchers to facilitate develop or join, community based participatory research, create opportunities to interact directly with community members and practitioners and seek to diminish health disparities.

6. Dissemination of the Report to the Public

The Rockefeller University Hospital Community Service Plan is available on our website www.rucares.org. It is also available by mail upon request. Our Community Service Plan is shared with local organizations as requested and is publicized annually through our eNewsletter. Community members and leaders can provide feedback to The Rockefeller University Hospital's community programs by contacting Maija Williams, MPH Administrative Director at 212 327-8501 or by e-mail at mwilliams@rockefeller.edu.

7. Changes (Actual or Potential) Impacting Community Health, Provision of Charity Care, and Access to Services

In today's economy, health care organizations, The Rockefeller University Hospital included, are faced with a myriad of financial challenges that may impact community initiatives and the health care services we provide. Specialty hospitals such as Rockefeller continue to work within the confines of our institutional commitment, private and government support through grants and gifts, and our commitment to research. Although The Rockefeller University Hospital does not bill for patient-oriented research conducted at our facility, we are sensitive to the budget cuts affecting neighboring health care institutions. The current economic environment however affects the Rockefeller University Hospital as our financial support from the University has decreased. In an effort to address the volatile economy, the University has instituted a series of cost containment measures which include reviewing vacant administrative positions, limiting future salary increases, minimizing future maintenance projects, and flat funding university departments. The hospital has learned how to do more with less and is looking at ways of cost sharing with investigators who receive external funding for their research projects.

Even in the wake of the economic challenges described above, The Rockefeller University Hospital will continue to support our mission, provide physical activity and nutrition education information and programs for the community served by The Rockefeller University Hospital, and increase access to chronic disease education and screening programs.

8. Financial Aid Program

The Hospital conducts research funded primarily through a cooperative agreement with the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services (DHHS), National Center for Advancing Translational Sciences (NCATS) division of the National Institutes of Health (NIH). Approximately 50% of the Hospital's operations are funded by this agreement. The balance of the operating costs is funded primarily by a subsidy from The Rockefeller University. All patients are voluntary research subjects who are not charged for their participation in clinical research studies at the Rockefeller University Hospital. In the process of performing patient-oriented research, the need for medically indicated and thus potentially reimbursable care could arise. In 2011 the Hospital did not bill any patient's insurance company for such service, nor did the Hospital attempt to collect charges from any patient. The Rockefeller University Hospital provides access to social services to help patients access care externally should the need arise. All patients are aware when they agree to participate in a research protocol that there are no fees for services rendered.