The Mission and Ministry Fund of Catholic Health Initiatives awarded 36 grants totaling more than $3.2 million for 2012. The grants support the planning, development and implementation of initiatives to promote healthy communities across the country and around the world.

Established in 1996 at the suggestion of Catholic Health Initiatives’ founding congregations, the Mission and Ministry Fund has awarded 347 grants totaling approximately $41.6 million to programs across the globe. The grants awarded for 2012 include 22 grants specifically allocated to fund violence prevention programs, in keeping with Catholic Health Initiatives’ systemwide commitment to nonviolence; and 14 grants that fund other healthy community initiatives in the U.S. and abroad.

Mission and Ministry Fund grants support innovative projects designed to improve the health of a community, often by serving disadvantaged individuals and populations. Applications may be submitted by Catholic Health Initiatives’ affiliated facilities, participating congregations and strategic partner organizations. All supported initiatives must meet an identified community need, invite collaboration with community partners and be replicable in other communities. For more information, visit www.catholichealthinitiatives.org.
UNITY FAMILY HEALTHCARE/ST. GABRIEL’S HOSPITAL
Little Falls, Minnesota
$114,526 (over three years)
Live Better! Live Longer!
Start Strong Project (LBLL)

Opportunity
Childhood obesity is growing at an alarming rate. According to the 2009-2010 National Health and Examination Survey, 17% of American children and adolescents are obese. The accompanying health problems add a burden to the health care system and prevent children from enjoying better health. The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) supports findings that breastfeeding lowers the risk of a child becoming overweight.

Initiative
The LBLL Start Strong Program will promote, encourage, teach and support breastfeeding as a means to control childhood obesity. It will use evidence-based interventions recommended by the CDC: maternity care practices, workplace support, peer support, education, professional support, and media and social marketing.

Key Goals and Objectives
The program goal is to increase breastfeeding in Morrison County so that mothers, infants, families and employers can share in the resulting health benefits. The program will measure outcomes through surveys distributed by Head Start, breastfeeding support groups, Mothers of Preschoolers and workplace wellness programs. Data will be tracked and compared with data from numerous local, state and national organizations.

Contact
Patrick Rioux
320-631-5608
patrickrioux@catholichealth.net

DOMINICAN SISTERS OF PEACE
Blacklick, Ohio
$67,925 (over two years)
Shepherd’s Corner Ecological Center

Opportunity
During the past two decades, the Rocky Fork Creek Watershed has developed into an urbanized area with a moderate pollution index and diminished rural and agricultural focus. There is a need to educate local residents on sustainable practices for land use and water safety, as well as growing fruits and vegetables that can minimize health problems as part of a healthy diet.

Initiative
Shepherd’s Corner Ecological Center will provide community education on sustainable practices during the school year and through a new summer camp, Earth Adventures. The Center also plans to provide an ongoing supply of fresh produce to food pantries in Central Ohio, along with programming that explains the benefits of healthy nutrition to recipients of food from the pantries.

Key Goals and Objectives
The program’s goal is to provide weekly donations of in-season produce to three to five food pantries. Shepherd’s Corner will consider the program a success if:

- 2,000 pounds of produce or more is donated annually to local food pantries.
- 30 individuals/families a month use coupons from local food pantries to obtain produce at the Shepherd’s Corner food stand.
- Community attitudes toward and understanding of land and water use, recycling, food buying practices and the food production cycle improve, as measured by pre- and post-testing and journaling.

Contact
Sister Rose Ann Van Buren, OP
614-866-4302
rosievbop@sbcglobal.net
ALEGENT HEALTH
Omaha, Nebraska
$55,000
*Faith Community Health Home Project*

**Opportunity**
About four cents of every health care dollar go to prevention and health promotion, but about half of chronic diseases are linked to preventable problems such as smoking, obesity and lack of physical activity. In 2007, 75% of health care spending went toward treatment of chronic diseases. Research shows that patients with chronic disease who get involved in their care see improvement and lower health costs. In addition, faith-based organizations can be powerful support systems for health care decisions and outcomes.

**Initiative**
The Faith Community Health Home Project will plan a dynamic, covenant-based relationship with faith communities to help improve the health and well-being of their congregations. The plan will include the creation of a model that will bring the concept of a medical home to each congregation. A web-based tool, the Faith Community Health Home Registry, will enable congregants to be part of Alegent Health’s integrated patient navigation structure, which will provide them with more personalized health education and coaching.

**Key Goals and Objectives**
Measurement of progress will include three elements: completion of a work plan and finalization of the Faith Community Health Home model; development of use of readiness/interest survey tools; and completion of a congregational well-being registry.

**Contact**
Beth Llewellyn
402-343-4612
beth.llewellyn@alezent.org

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FLAGET MEMORIAL HOSPITAL
Bardstown, Kentucky
$77,200 (over three years)
*Bardstown at Home*

**Opportunity**
Every day, about 10,000 “baby boomers” turn 65, a situation that will continue for the next 19 years. As the baby boomers age, they have a greater need for health services, along with a desire to remain in their homes as long as possible. Due to its rural character, Nelson County has a scarcity of resources for the elderly. For those who no longer drive or have access to transportation, isolation from the community can be a serious problem.

**Initiative**
Bardstown at Home will support the growing elderly population in Nelson County so as many seniors as possible can “age in place” in their homes. The program will assure that a full continuum of high-quality, affordable services are available to the aging population.

**Key Goals and Objectives**
The program’s goal is to expand Bardstown at Home to 120 members, provide 450 episodes of transportation, provide four to six educational seminars annually, and oversee 1,500 volunteer hours by the end of the program’s third year.

**Contact**
Bobbi Harned
502-350-5058
foundation@flaget.com

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GOOD SAMARITAN HOSPITAL
Kearney, Nebraska
$121,442 (over three years)
*Project SEARCH*

**Opportunity**
The 2000 Census counted 49.7 million people in the United States who have a long-term disability. Individuals can become disabled at any time of life, but their impairments don’t need to define them. Good Samaritan Hospital’s Project SEARCH promotes the health and well-being of people who have disabilities and is part of the hospital’s work toward the goals of Healthy People 2020.

**Initiative**
Project SEARCH provides high school students who have disabilities with meaningful internships at Good Samaritan Hospital, where they will develop marketable skills. The internship experiences are designed to lead to greater employment opportunities for the participants.

**Key Goals and Objectives**
Project SEARCH aims to provide internship experiences to 12 students from July 1, 2012, to June 30, 2015; and to offer post-program career coaching to 18 graduates during the
same time period. Project goals include achieving a 100% graduation rate for participants and 100% job placement within three months of program completion. Measurement will be conducted through surveys of the participants and their families and feedback collected from employers.

Contact
Lesley LaFile
308-865-2703
lesleylafile@catholichealth.net

MERCY HOUSING NORTHWEST
Seattle, Washington
$30,000
Affordable Housing and Health Care Integration
Opportunity
In spite of the availability of programs like Medicare and Medicaid, 22% of Tacoma’s low-income residents have no health insurance, which puts a strain on the health care system. A 2011 report by the Center for Healthcare Research and Transformation notes that 10% of people who are uninsured use hospital emergency rooms for primary care.

Initiative
Mercy Housing Northwest will launch a one-year planning project to lay the groundwork for implementation of a three-year pilot program designed to increase low-income individuals’ access to quality health care. The planning project will gather data, engage community partnerships and stakeholders, and conduct focus groups to determine health care needs and the barriers encountered.

Key Goals and Objectives
The goals of the one-year planning project are to identify gaps in health care for low-income individuals, determine best practices for linking affordable housing and health care, and build a consensus on the need for a medical home for residents of low-income housing. With this information, Mercy Housing Northwest will also develop a three-year implementation plan for a pilot program.

Contact
Parke Nietfeld
206-838-5700 x16
pnietfeld@mercyhousing.org

ST. FRANCIS MEDICAL CENTER
Grand Island, Nebraska
$113,015 (over three years)
Outreach Education and Screening Project
Opportunity
Hall County has a growing minority population. Nearly 30% of county residents and almost half of the students in Grand Island schools belong to ethnic minorities. Many minority residents do not have adequate access to health care due to lack of health insurance, lack of information about local resources or language barriers. However, minority populations have a higher incidence of chronic illnesses such as diabetes, breast cancer and high blood pressure, and can benefit from health screenings and follow-up education.

Initiative
The Outreach Education and Screening Project will use community partnerships to provide screenings and structured education to low-income individuals and minority individuals who don’t speak English as a first language. During two annual health fairs, quarterly cholesterol screenings and other health events, nurses will collect data for the project coordinator, who will organize follow-up care and patient education on disease management and lifestyle changes.

Key Goals and Objectives
The project goals include:
- Treatment and education provided to individuals with high blood glucose, cholesterol or blood pressure readings.
- Enrollment in a health education program for individuals with elevated blood glucose readings and additional diabetes risk factors, or with elevated cholesterol or blood pressure readings.

Contact
Bill Brennan
308-398-5823
bbrennan@sfmc-gi.org

MERCY COLLEGE OF HEALTH SCIENCES
Mercy Medical Center, Des Moines, Iowa
$94,802 (over three years)
Maroons in Health Care
Opportunity
Iowa is expected to experience a significant shortage of health care professionals, which is projected to leave nearly 242,000 people without reliable access to health care by 2015.
Initiative

A new educational program will help high school students at Dowling Catholic High School, home of the Maroons, to explore careers in health care in an attempt to address the projected shortage of health care professionals and the need for future Catholic leaders for Catholic health care. The Maroons in Health Sciences program will also promote good physical, mental and nutritional health for teenagers.

Key Goals and Objectives

Pre- and post-program surveys of the student participants will assess the effect of the program on their knowledge and interest in health care careers, as well as their understanding of the unique aspects of Catholic health care. Students who are in 10th and 12th grades will also participate in cardio risk assessments and will be surveyed on their knowledge and practice of healthy behaviors.

Contact

Brian Tingleff
515-643-6663
btingleff@mercydesmoines.org

MERCY FOUNDATION

Mercy Medical Center, Roseburg, Oregon
$45,539

Patient Voice

Opportunity

The 2003 National Assessment of Adult Literacy reported that only 12% of adults in the United States have “proficient” health literacy, and 14% have “below basic” health literacy. Low health literacy can lead to negative health outcomes. Douglas County ranks 31st of 33 Oregon counties in health outcomes and factors that influence health.

Initiative

The Patient Voice community outreach initiative will help improve health literacy among county residents and help patients and providers communicate with each other clearly. The initiative will focus on three key areas.

- Community education to promote patient self-advocacy and health literacy.
- Training for Mercy clinicians and providers in “plain language” communication practices.
- Training for hospital staff in patient-centered communications.

Key Goals and Objectives

Success in this program would yield the following results:

- Improved capacity by clinicians and providers to communicate clearly, provide health education and empower their patients.
- Increased the ability of Mercy’s staff to communicate clearly, educate about health and empower their patients.

Measurement tools will include pre- and post-presentation surveys, patient satisfaction surveys, follow-up evaluations and staff completion of Continuing Medical Education in Health Literacy.

Contact

Lisa Platt
541-677-6545
lisaplatt@chiwest.com

GOOD SAMARITAN HOSPITAL FOUNDATION

Cincinnati, Ohio
$200,000 (over two years)

Increasing Healthcare Access Through Volunteers

Opportunity

Good Samaritan Free Health Center of Price Hill is experiencing increasing patient volume and striving to increase capacity. To do so, it must address needs for an ongoing revenue source, volunteer physician recruitment, and IT support for the volunteer staff’s use of an electronic medical record (EMR). Volunteer physicians cite lack of understanding of the EMR and the resulting need to use paper records as a major challenge; as a result, the EMR hasn’t been fully utilized.

Initiative

The Center will hire a volunteer/fundraising manager to create incoming revenue and oversee physician recruitment and retention. A part-time, onsite IT technician will be added to the staff to provide EMR support and education. These steps are expected to result in greater use of the EMR and improved tracking of patient outcomes.

Key Goals and Objectives

The program’s goals are to increase the center’s capacity and revenue, and to improve the recruitment and retention of volunteers. Progress will be measured by reviews of patient rosters and appointment lists, revenue, the volunteer roster and EMR proficiency test results.

Contact

Mary Rafferty
513-862-3786
mary_rafferty@trihealth.com
INTERNATIONAL GRANTS

Dominican Sisters of Peace
Ciudad Juarez, Mexico
$57,000 (over two years)

Centro Santa Catalina

Opportunity
Ciudad Juarez is the second most dangerous city in the western hemisphere, based on high rates of murder and other violence. One remedy is to build a stronger community by keeping children in school so they are less exposed to gang recruitment, and creating economic opportunities so that parents can provide for their families.

Initiative

Centro Santa Catalina is a supportive community for women and children in the city. This grant will help the center provide funds for the advanced education of teachers and tutors so they can provide stronger educational programs for children; for an ongoing women's development program, Valores, Fe y Vida; for dental screening and intervention for children so they do not miss school due to dental pain and complications; and for vision screening for young children. The center will also purchase computers for the use of the children in its primary school tutoring program.

Key Goals and Objectives
Progress will be measured through:

- Review the grades of each teacher and tutor who receives funds for advanced education.
- Growth and learning evaluations of women who participate in Valores, Fe y Vida.
- Monitoring of children's computer learning.
- Assessment of children who participate in dental and vision screenings.

Contact
Sister Rene Weeks, OP
915-564-9003
reneweeks223@gmail.com

Jamaican Outreach Collaborative

Opportunity
The problem of violence in Kingston, Jamaica, is multifaceted and includes issues related to lack of education, unemployment and competition for basic needs, as well as illegal drugs, corruption and political upheaval. The community is also plagued by poverty related to violence.

Initiative

The Jamaican Outreach Collaborative aims to alleviate the suffering and economic despair of Kingston residents. The collaborative will build on the work of the Dominican Sisters of Peace’s established Jamaican ministry. The collaborative will care for some of the most vulnerable people in Kingston by addressing their many needs holistically through a variety of year-round programs. This work will be possible through collaboration and partnership with several local, national and international organizations.

Key Goals and Objectives
Both qualitative and quantitative measurements will be used to monitor progress. Participation records will be kept for all programs, and evaluations of those served will ensure continuous improvement. Qualitative evaluation will include capturing and keeping records of participant success stories.

Contact
Sister Gene Poore, OP
614-416-1023
gpoore@oppeace.org

CHI Colorado Foundation/
St. Anthony Health Foundation
Lakewood, Colorado
$95,000

Alma Mater Hospital, Haiti

Opportunity
Alma Mater Hospital in Gros Morne, Haiti, is the only 24-hour health facility for a community of 135,000 regular residents, which grew to 150,000 after the earthquake that devastated Port-au-Prince in 2010. There is little clean water, no sewage facilities, and no reliable electricity or communication with the rest of Haiti. The area suffers from the same health challenges as the rest of Haiti, including rampant infectious disease.

Initiative
A year-long planning project will include a full assessment of the needs at Alma Mater Hospital, which include administrative expertise, nursing best practices, emergency and infectious disease management, handling systems for medical waste, etc. The assessment will be done in collaboration with Alma Mater staff and board members; medical staff and other professionals from Centura’s Mountain and North Denver Operating Group (MNDOG); Regis University faculty and graduate students; a network of seven hospitals in Haiti; and the Catholic Health Association’s campaign for Rebirth and Renewal, among others.
**Key Goals and Objectives**

The outcomes of the planning project will be a five-year strategic and business plan for Alma Mater Hospital, which will guide the developing sister hospital relationship between Alma Mater and the MNDOG hospitals in Colorado. The completion of the plan will also help Alma Mater obtain funding for a planned facility expansion and renovation.

**Contact**

Beth Elland
303-629-4049
bethelland@centura.org

**KentuckyOne Health**
Lexington, Kentucky

$45,921

*Belize Outreach Program*

**Opportunity**

After two trips to Belize to gather information, KentuckyOne Health, together with residents of Belize, determined that there is a need for a sustainable health program in the village of Las Flores, Belize.

**Initiative**

With this planning grant, KentuckyOne will work with a collaborative network of Belizean residents to determine a strategy that will result in a sustainable health program. This program will center on a health clinic that will provide health education, training and primary care to the community. The focus of the primary care services will be on people who are poor or uninsured, but everyone will be welcome. The clinic will also partner with the University of Belize and the Belize Ministry of Health to offer health education and training to help alleviate the shortage of trained health workers.

**Key Goals and Objectives**

Desired results include improved health outcomes through health education, training and follow-up, as well as collaboration with the University of Belize to train nursing assistants and provide students with clinical experience. The ultimate goal is a decrease in disease and other health-related issues for the people of Las Flores.

**Contact**

Flora Washburn
859-986-6336
washbufr@sjhlex.org

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**VIOLENCE PREVENTION DESIGN**

**Year One**

**FRANCISCAN SISTERS OF LITTLE FALLS, MINNESOTA**

Little Falls, Minnesota

$23,700

*St. Francis Music Center*

**Opportunity**

Little Falls is a community of about 8,000 in rural Morrison County. Youth in the area have few outlets for their free time, especially if they’re not involved in school sports or activities. As a community school for the arts that has informal ties with local authorities, social services, courts, schools and churches, St. Francis Music Center has witnessed how the arts can make a difference in the life of a troubled child or teen.

**Initiative**

The St. Francis Music Center will provide an arts and music mentorship program for at-risk youth in Morrison County, primarily those in 5th through 8th grades. The target group is students who are part of the social services/judicial system and youth identified as needing guidance in good decision-making. In addition, the program will reach out to victims or potential victims of bullying to enhance self esteem and self-image, and provide a place of belonging where young people can explore their talents.

**Contact**

Robyn Gray
320-632-1714
rgray@fslf.org

**GOOD SAMARITAN HOSPITAL**

Kearney, Nebraska

$56,255

*Buffalo County Violence Prevention Partnership*

**Opportunity**

Many groups are working on preventing violence in the community, but there is no coordinated effort. Good Samaritan Hospital is working closely with Buffalo County Community Partners (BCCP), an initiative created to improve the health of the area’s citizens, on a vision for violence prevention. BCCP recently identified “Injury Free Living” as one of five goals for Buffalo County, and a violence prevention coalition will become part of this goal area. BCCP is now leading the effort to combine multiple local violence prevention efforts into the Buffalo County Violence Prevention Partnership.
**Initiative**
The Buffalo County Violence Prevention Partnership will conduct a needs assessment and devise a strategic plan for the partnership. While bullying prevention has already emerged as a need in Buffalo County, the formal needs assessment and strategic plan development process will determine the type of violence on which the coalition will focus.

**Contact**
Lesley LaFile
308-865-2703
lesleylafile@catholichealth.net

**LISBON AREA HEALTH SERVICES**
Lisbon, North Dakota
$12,600

**Opportunity**
In the rural community of Lisbon, the general public’s awareness of violence is very low. Many residents are hesitant about becoming involved in violence awareness and prevention. Changing these attitudes will be a significant part of this violence prevention work.

**Initiative**
Through collaboration with community partners, Lisbon Area Health Services will foster a safe and healthy community by creating a plan to reduce violence in Lisbon and the surrounding small communities of Fort Ransom, Gwinner, Milnor, Enderlin, and Sheldon. Through community meetings, the Health Center will identify the types of violence that are most prevalent in these communities, as well as the types of interventions and preventive steps needed.

**Contact**
Pat Olofson
701-683-6447
patolofson@catholichealth.net

**MERCY HOSPITAL OF VALLEY CITY**
Valley City, North Dakota
$16,455

**Opportunity**
Valley City is the urban center of the very rural area of Barnes County. It has a population of 11,066 and a coalition of stakeholders who are interested in identifying and preventing violence in the community.

**Initiative**
The grant will fund the creation of a violence prevention coalition that will focus on Barnes County residents, including those in Valley City and neighboring small towns. During the first year, milestones will include convening the coalition, identifying the current state of violence in the county, and determining what type of violence to target for prevention. From that work, the coalition will develop an action plan with measurable goals and a specific timeline.

**Contact**
Camille Settelmeyer
701-845-6487
camillesettelmeyer@catholichealth.net

**MERCY HOSPITAL**
Devils Lake, North Dakota
$8,575

**Opportunity**
Violence in the Devils Lake area is more pervasive than community awareness indicates. This grant will provide an opportunity to bring the community together to discern what types of violence are most common, then develop a plan to reduce violence. The plan will serve the 15,000 residents of the hospital’s service area.

**Initiative**
This work will be coordinated by an existing Violence Prevention Committee, which is a subcommittee of the Lake Region Safe Communities Coalition. The committee includes representatives of Mercy Hospital, law enforcement, and local agencies that provide services to victims of violence. More collaborators may join the committee when an area of focus is identified. The committee will use the Spectrum of Prevention to develop action steps for violence prevention.

**Contact**
Donna Langton
701-662-2131
donnalangton@catholichealth.net

**MERCY MEDICAL CENTER**
Williston, North Dakota
$9,300

**Opportunity**
There has been a huge influx of new residents in the Williston area due to the discovery of local oil reserves. The
area’s population has more than doubled during the last few years. This rapid growth has led to greater community concern about and conversation on the issue of violence.

**Initiative**
The Coalition for the Prevention of Violence will engage the community in identifying the type of violence most prevalent in Williams County. Once the type of violence to be addressed is determined, the coalition will create a strategy, based on the Spectrum of Prevention, for violence reduction and prevention. The coalition will consist of school officials, Williams County social workers, health care providers, law enforcement and judicial system professionals, along with other stakeholders.

**Contact**
Rev. Marianne Ell
701-774-7474
marianneell@catholichealth.net

**OAKES COMMUNITY HOSPITAL**
Oakes, North Dakota
$13,474

**Opportunity**
It’s known that domestic violence, drug and alcohol abuse, and bullying are present in the community. However, the community needs to go through the process of convening and identifying the most prominent forms of violence and their root causes.

**Initiative**
Beginning with a definition of the community as extending to a 20-mile radius around Oakes, the Violence Prevention Coalition will assess the state of community violence and what type of violence is most prominent. With that information, the coalition will choose the type of violence to address and create an action plan focused on prevention.

**Contact**
Kim Schmit
701-742-3854
kimschmit@catholichealth.net

**SISTERS OF CHARITY OF NAZARETH**
Nazareth, Kentucky
$25,000

**Opportunity**
The Sisters of Charity of Nazareth have a vision to create a climate in Nelson County that is opposed to violence of all types, with a special focus on the issue of human trafficking.

**Initiative**
This effort will make key community leaders aware of county residents who are at risk for trafficking; knowledgeable about the signs of human trafficking; and equipped to take action when a potential case is identified. Ultimately, the goal is to create systemic change so individuals and organizations have the knowledge and resources to prevent human trafficking in the county. A number of community members have already committed to serve on a task force.

**Contact**
Leslie Wilson
502-348-1551
lwilson@scnazarethky.org

**ST. JOSEPH’S HOSPITAL AND HEALTH CENTER**
Dickinson, North Dakota
$10,500

**Opportunity**
The city of Dickinson has a population of 22,000. Violence awareness is a new concern for this community because of recent changes and growth in the area. The discovery of oil reserves in western North Dakota has changed the dynamics of the community dramatically during the last five years.

**Initiative**
The grant will be used to provide funding that will enable St. Joseph’s Hospital and Health Center and the Healthy 8 Communities Network to determine the factors that contribute to violence in the area. Then, the partners will create an action plan using the Spectrum of Prevention. After obtaining data and feedback from residents of Dickinson and surrounding communities, the initial focus area for these efforts will be finalized.

**Contact**
Dennis Cannon
701-456-4287
denniscannon@catholichealth.net
CARRINGTON HEALTH CENTER
Carrington, North Dakota
$11,200
Healthy Communities Coalition
Opportunity
Carrington is a community of 2,400, but the service area of Carrington Health Center includes an estimated 8,000 people spread across four counties. The Healthy Communities Coalition, which already exists, will also serve as the Violence Prevention Coalition. Additional community members will be invited to join as well.

Initiative
The goal for the use of the grant funds is to bring the community together to identify types of violence that are present, set a baseline, develop a measurable goal and create an action plan to increase the awareness and prevention of violence.

Contact
Jan Bakke
701-652-7218
janbakke@catholichealth.net

Year Two

DOMINICAN SISTERS OF PEACE
Columbus, Ohio
$67,600
Opportunity
Using the CHI model of collaborative planning, the Dominican Sisters of Peace and their collaborators identified a specific community in the 45219 zip code (where the congregation is headquartered) for a violence prevention initiative. This community of Mexican nationals experiences a high incidence of illegal drugs, gang activity and violence. There is no existing health care intervention program in this community. Identified risk factors in the community include a lack of gathering space; lack of personal safety; ongoing gang activity; apprehension among children; lack of interpreter services; and drug use.

Initiative
A new family literacy program has helped to gain the trust of community members by giving them an opportunity to interact with the initiative’s violence prevention coordinator. Special events held for families, including a Christmas craft party and a Mardi Gras-themed party, attracted some 30 people from the community. Several more events are being planned to give families the opportunity to have fun in an educational, violence-free atmosphere. Year two of this initiative will see continued planning with the collaborative network, the development of a strategic plan and research into the best way to provide the community with a safe gathering place.

Contact
Alice Black
614-416-1020
ablack@oppeace.org

MEMORIAL HEALTH CARE SYSTEM
Chattanooga, Tennessee
$49,840
Opportunity
The violent crime rate in Chattanooga is more than twice that for all of Tennessee, and nearly three times greater than the national average. With community input, the violence prevention initiative selected domestic violence as a focus due to its relationship to several types of violent crime, including assault and rape. After mapping Chattanooga’s domestic violence resources, the initiative published a well-received Domestic Violence Resource Guide. Local experts recommended a narrowed focus on a subset of domestic violence: this led to a focus on teen dating violence as a place for domestic violence prevention to begin.

Initiative
National research shows that teen dating violence goes largely unreported, even though it is included in statutes in all 50 states that require reporting of child abuse. Local research determined that there is no existing source of data on adolescent intimate partner abuse (AIPA) in Chattanooga or Hamilton County; and that neither adolescents nor adults know how to get help for teen dating violence. This initiative will now focus on the creation a collaboration that will develop middle school-based education programs. These programs will empower teens to help each other with AIPA, encourage young victims to seek help from specific sources, and educate teens and adults about mandatory reporting of AIPA.

Contact
Liz Jenkins
423-495-8686
elizabeth_jenkins@memorial.org
ST. CATHERINE HOSPITAL
Garden City, Kansas
$87,590

Opportunity
The work of a Violence Prevention Stakeholder Group – including focus group sessions, community meetings and interviews with key community leaders – determined priority issues related to health and safety in Finney County. The need for more youth activities, issues between families and school, and the need for parents to be able to better cope with children and their behaviors emerged as the top three issues. When this information was combined with crime data, school violence data and information from agencies that deal with domestic violence, the group determined that the issues stem from a basic lack of parenting and coping skills among area families. The group determined that the focus of its violence prevention work should be the prevention of family violence.

Initiative
While research and planning work continues, the group expects to have a three-pronged plan that will increase protective factors for families in the neighborhoods that have the highest incidence of person-to-person crime; work with teachers and students in the intermediate schools (fifth and sixth grades) that serve these neighborhoods; and implement an anti-violence media campaign throughout the community. The plan is also expected to include services that will build parent knowledge and coping skills; a cultural campaign that promotes understanding of the city’s history and diversity; and support for schools in their interactions with parents on violence issues.

Contact
Edward Smink
620-272-2570
edwardsmink@catholichc.net

ST. MARY’S HEALTHCARE CENTER
Pierre, South Dakota
$86,672

Opportunity
Information gathered from community forums and surveys revealed that the top three violence-related issues in and around Pierre are child abuse, domestic violence and bullying. Through a series of subcommittee meetings, the focus was narrowed to child abuse, and work began on baseline data collection and an action plan that addresses all levels of the Spectrum of Prevention.

Initiative
The work and partnerships of the Central South Dakota Child Assessment Center (CSDCAC), established in 2006 to address the needs of children who are victims of abuse, provides a solid foundation for St. Mary’s violence prevention initiative. The grant coordinator has been able to reach out to other communities, including two Native American reservations, to begin building relationships and addressing their violence prevention needs. Year two of this initiative will focus on developing additional partnerships in the community; gathering the resources needed to implement the action plan beginning in January 2013; and advocacy to influence organizational, local and state policies regarding child abuse prevention.

Contact
Ellen Lee
605-224-3100
ellenlee@catholichc.net
VIOLENCE PREVENTION IMPLEMENTATION GRANTS

ALEGENT HEALTH
Omaha, Nebraska
$284,963 (over three years)

Opportunity
During two years of planning, Alegent Health developed a strategy for prevention of partner violence and sexual assault on college campuses. Partners in the effort include the University of Nebraska at Omaha, Creighton University and the Women’s Center for Advancement, a major provider of services for victims of domestic violence. Anti-violence coalitions were formed on the University of Nebraska at Omaha and Creighton University campuses, and each chose to implement Green Dot as an initial violence prevention strategy. The Green Dot program emphasizes the important role of bystander diffusion of, or intervention in, potentially violent situations.

Initiative
A public health researcher was hired to conduct surveys of students to establish baseline data on partner violence and sexual assault on each campus. In spring 2012, Green Dot coordinators at both universities guided the creation of an implementation plan for the Green Dot program. The new grant will support the realization of this plan during the next three years. This will include the launch of Green Dot’s three core components: overview presentations, bystander intervention training and a social media campaign. Forty campus faculty and staff members, as well as personnel from other community partners in the violence prevention initiative, have been trained as Green Dot facilitators.

Key Goals and Objectives
The goal is to reduce the occurrence of sexual assault and partner violence within the targeted community by 10% by 2015 and by 20% by 2020.

Contact
Mikki Frost
402-343-4691
mikki.frost@alegent.org

FRANCISCAN FOUNDATION
Tacoma, Washington
$300,305 (over two years)

Opportunity
Franciscan Health System’s (FHS) service area includes three counties with economically and racially diverse urban, suburban, rural and island communities. With five hospitals serving five communities, FHS found that prevention of youth violence is a top need in all five communities.

Initiative
FHS decided to focus on one community each year for the development of a violence prevention coalition and a youth violence prevention initiative. The first community was Federal Way due to its serious youth violence issues. A neighborhood improvement project, which included the construction of a new soccer field and community garden, increased residents’ trust and solidarity. In Enumclaw, a violence prevention task force already transitioned to a permanent coalition that has organized community-wide violence prevention events. In the Peninsula community, which includes Gig Harbor, there is strong interest in collaborating to prevent violence.

Key Goals and Objectives
The goal is to decrease school expulsions and suspensions for violent or risky behavior by 20% in 10 initial selected schools and by 10% in the Federal Way school district.

Contact
Monet Craton
253-428-8424
monetcraton@fhshealth.org

LAKEWOOD HEALTH CENTER
Baudette, Minnesota
$24,600 (over three years)

Opportunity
The planning work of the LakeWood Violence Prevention Coalition has included gathering and reviewing information about violence in the community and the selection of family violence, especially as it affects youth, as a focus. The coalition also developed forms for tracking baseline data, examined local stories of youth affected by family violence and discussed best practices for intervention. Staff at Lake of the Woods School has noticed that the area’s population is changing, with more students coming from families that live in poverty and more children who experience stress, behavior problems and learning disabilities.

Initiative
The violence prevention initiative will implement the Parenting Café Conversations program, which gives parents an opportunity to meet, talk and strengthen protective factors for their families. The coalition will also sponsor a workshop for teachers and another workshop for nurses and providers.
to enhance their ability to recognize signs of family violence and increase their knowledge of resources available in Lake of the Woods County.

Key Goals and Objectives
The goal is to decrease the number of domestic violence cases in which children are present by 5% during the first year and 10% by the end of year three.

Contact
Kay Schell
218-634-3434
kayschell@catholichealth.net

MERCY FOUNDATION
Roseburg, Oregon
$110,275

Opportunity
Community stakeholders saw an opportunity to expand community capacity to respond to child abuse in Douglas County. The community also wanted to shift resources from responding to child abuse to preventing child abuse.

Initiative
The Child Abuse Prevention Coalition holds monthly meetings to share information and further strengthen the collaboration among more than 30 local organizations, including nonprofit and social service organizations, law enforcement, education, public health and faith-based organizations. The coalition’s Child Abuse Data project created a more complete picture of the number of children affected by abuse and the diverse prevention needs in the community. With funding from Mercy Medical Center and CHI, the coalition was able to hire and train six local nurses and two midlevel practitioners as Sexual Assault Nurse Examiners. The coalition is also using education on shaken baby syndrome, public service announcements and a teen violence prevention curriculum to reduce the incidence of child abuse.

Key Goals and Objectives
Goals include reducing the number of “found cases” of child abuse and neglect 5% by 2015 and 10% by 2020; and, reducing the number of “screen-out” cases of child abuse and neglect 5% by 2015 and 15% by 2020.

Contact
Lisa Platt
541-677-6545
lisaplatt@chiwest.com

MERCY MEDICAL CENTER
Des Moines, Iowa
$169,073 (over three years)

Opportunity
In 2009, clinical care providers at Mercy Medical Center witnessed a growing number of adolescent females who presented to clinics and emergency departments with symptoms consistent with assault, but who would not acknowledge a cause for their injuries. Mercy convened a broad array of community leaders and received strong affirmation that relationship violence is a true community concern. During the design and start-up phases of this violence prevention initiative, the Mercy Healthy Relationship Coalition identified the local Chrysalis Foundation as a key asset; determined that partnership with local schools would be a critical success factor; and decided that the Peaceful Pathways program for prevention of youth violence should be part of the coalition’s initiative.

Initiative
The coalition will conduct after-school programming for young women aged 12 to 18 at five schools in Polk County. This programming will use the Peaceful Pathways curriculum. The participants will also have opportunities to learn leadership skills and participate in service/learning projects with positive adult role models. Additional plans include also creating a strategy for communicating healthy relationship messages in refugee, immigrant and minority communities; starting a peer mentorship program in the five schools; developing a community event to acknowledge those who contribute to promotion of healthy relationships; and convening a student group to identify more activities to promote healthy relationships.

Key Goals and Objectives
The goal is to decrease the number of girls age 12 to 18 who have reported being purposefully slapped, hit or physically hurt by a boyfriend or girlfriend in the previous 12 months by 20% by 2020.

Contact
Laura Wenman
515-643-8212
lwenman@mercydesmoines.org
SAINT FRANCIS MEDICAL CENTER  
Grand Island, Nebraska  
$230,280 (over three years)  

Opportunity  
In Grand Island Public Schools, 52.3% of students are minorities (45.7% are Latino), and 63% of students qualify for free or reduced-price meals. Poverty has been identified as the leading reason why youth have fewer of the 40 Developmental Assets, and as a result are less resilient to gang recruitment. According to recommendations from the Grand Island Police Department, reduction of gang recruitment is the most effective way to reduce gang violence.  

Initiative  
The Violence Prevention Coalition will use an evidence-based program to work with at least 60 middle school students (and their families) who are at risk of being recruited into gangs in Grand Island. The coalition is considering four programs that have been used with Latino youth and are culturally competent.  

Key Goals and Objectives  
Goals include providing intervention and gang resistance to at least 180 at-risk youth over a three-year period and preventing at least 90 youth from becoming gang members.  

Contact  
Bill Brennan  
308-398-5823  
bbrennan@sfmc-gi.org  

ST. JOSEPH REGIONAL HEALTH NETWORK  
Reading, Pennsylvania  
$297,713 (over two years)  

Opportunity  
Youth violence is widespread in the U.S. According to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, violence is the second leading cause of death for people between the ages of 10 and 24. Youth violence also affects the overall health of a community.  

Initiative  
In its planning and start-up phases, The Reading Youth Violence Prevention (RYVP) coalition finalized its community needs assessment, established and expanded stakeholder engagement, and created a detailed implementation plan, completing steps one through five of CHI’s Violence Prevention Model.  

Key Goals and Objectives  
The goal is to reduce youth-on-youth violence in the city of Reading 5% by 2014 and 20% by 2020.  

Contact  
Kelly Altland  
610-378-2358  
kellyaltland@catholichealth.net  

ST. JOSEPH’S AREA HEALTH SERVICES  
Park Rapids, Minnesota  
$127,966 (over two years)  

Opportunity  
Believing that exposure to or experience with violence is damaging to children and leads to bullying, the Hubbard County Violence Prevention coalition’s goal is to reduce relational aggression in the lives of youth. The community selected three priorities for reducing relational violence: fatherhood, mentoring, and family resources and activities.  

Initiative  
The coalition has received a federal Responsible Fatherhood Grant and is committed to changing the culture regarding the importance of fathers. A father’s absence from family life can negatively affect children’s development, behavioral adjustment, anger management and academic achievement. In promoting fatherhood, the coalition wants to assure that all children have the opportunity to have a warm relationship with both parents and live in a home free from violence.  

Key Goals and Objectives  
The goal is to reduce by 20% the bullying reported among sixth-grade students in Hubbard County by 2017.  

Contact  
RaeAnn Mayer  
218-237-5474  
raeannmayer@catholichealth.net