

Essential People Essential Communities Essential Hospitals



AMERICA'S
ESSENTIAL
HOSPITALS

As cornerstones of the communities they serve, essential hospitals touch the lives of all people, including the most vulnerable. Their commitment to those in need and to providing vital community services, such as trauma and burn care, reflects their role as the foundation of the nation's health care safety net.

But beyond serving as reliable havens for the underserved, essential hospitals stand among the nation's top research and teaching institutions. They innovate and advance best practices, generate better approaches to care quality and safety, and harness technology and other emerging tools to improve efficiency and outcomes.

These are today's essential hospitals: centers of quality and innovation for all who need care, regardless of social or economic circumstance.

Who Are Members of America's Essential Hospitals?

We represent more than 220 mostly urban hospitals across the United States. Many of our members operate large systems with multiple campuses and extensive ambulatory care networks. Others are more modest. But all share these fundamental characteristics of an essential hospital:

They care for the vulnerable, particularly the uninsured and Medicaid recipients, and

- train the next generation of clinicians;
- deliver comprehensive, coordinated care to communities;
- provide specialized, lifesaving services, such as trauma and neonatal intensive care; and
- advance public and population health.

Patients of Essential Hospitals

Essential hospitals care for a richly diverse patient population. Greater than half of patients discharged by members of America's Essential Hospitals are racial or ethnic minorities, and, among them, they speak more than 100 languages. They face challenges, too: More than half are uninsured or Medicaid recipients, and they often are sicker and more complex than those served by other hospitals.

A Profile of Essential Hospitals

22,000

average annual inpatient admissions per member

500,000

average annual outpatient visits per member

7.2 million

aggregate emergency department patients annually

18,000

health professionals trained annually

1/3

share of level I trauma centers and burn care beds in 10 largest cities

200,000

babies delivered annually

17 percent

share of all U.S. uncompensated care

-0.4 percent

aggregate operating margin

2,417

harm events averted by our hospital engagement network

Learn more at essentialhospitals.org or contact us at info@essentialhospitals.org or 202-585-0100