MCHD

Marion County Hospital District

2024-2025

IMPACT REPORT

The Marion County Hospital District is a dependent special district that invests in targeted chronic disease and acute injury prevention initiatives for Marion County citizens. Operating similar to a foundation, we invest, annually, at least 4% of our assets on health improvement projects in five health focus areas:

1. Behavioral Health *(Mental Health and Substance Use Disorders)*
2. Dental Health
3. Diabetes and Obesity
4. Unintentional Injury Prevention
5. Prevention of Chronic Disease

Though strategic partnerships, we remove cost and access barriers to ensure uninsured and underinsured residents receive treatment and prevention services. The Hospital District typically invests between $10M to $19M per year in health improvement services to improve the health span and lifespan of our citizens, while also enhancing the safety-net treatments for uninsured, underinsured and homeless citizens of Marion County.

Through multiple internal programs and funding support to multiple agencies aligned with our five health pillars, the Marion County Hospital District helped deliver services across various programs with over 214,000 impacts within in our community.

BOARD MEMBERS

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Dr. Mark Ortolani
Trustee (Beginning July 2025)

A BIG THANKS

The Marion County Hospital District extends our sincere appreciation to all of our funded partners for their unwavering dedication to improving the health and well-being of Marion County residents.

Your tireless efforts are the foundation of our collective impact, and we are grateful for your continued commitment to the community we all call home.

PROGRAM UPDATES

The free Fitness and Nutrition in Schools (FANS) program is an innovative initiative aimed at helping both public and private schools in Marion County. It focuses on reducing childhood obesity and diabetes while providing a healthy roadmap for children, parents, and school employees. This is achieved by:

- Increasing physical fitness opportunities
- Promoting healthy lifestyle choices
- Creating a culture of wellness

This fiscal year, increased emphasis was placed on the Supportive Enforcement program within public schools to ensure that students with first-time drug-related infractions are provided services and remain at their school rather than being alternatively placed. Secondary schools also focused on expanding the amount of harvested produce supplied to school cafeterias. In addition, the Mayor's Fitness Challenge was launched, engaging 27,970 students.

As a result of increased participation and improved tracking across these initiatives, the FANS program recorded a total impact of 87,762 for the year. This reflects that every student enrolled in Marion County Public Schools- totaling 45,651-received at least one impact through the FANS program, with most students benefiting from two or more.

27,970
PARTICIPATED IN THE MAYOR'S FITNESS CHALLENGE

87,762
FANS IMPACTS

COMBINED **74** COMMUNITY GARDENS

9073 lbs OF PRODUCE

AMP

Active Marion Project

A project of the Marion County Hospital District

Active Marion Project (AMP) is a project of the Marion County Hospital District focusing on workplace wellness and community health education. AMP acts as a challenge to Marion County residents to get moving towards a healthier lifestyle through fun step challenges, and workplace wellness initiatives, AMP aims to motivate the community to become healthier, together.

28,234
TOTAL IMPACTS THIS YEAR

1758
EMPLOYEES ENGAGED IN WORKPLACE TRAININGS

7476 ACTIVE APP USERS

7,131,399,659 STEPS LOGGED

The Active Marion Project (AMP) has significantly expanded its community impact, gaining 28,234 impacts this year, up from 21,417, a 31% increase over last fiscal year. This reflects steady expansion from the prior year and demonstrates increased community connection with AMP's activities. Enhanced tracking methods, deeper partnerships with local employers, and strengthened relationships with community influencers have all contributed to this momentum. AMP's visibility and accessibility continue to improve, supporting its mission to foster a more active and health-minded culture throughout Marion County.

Highlights include 1758 employees engaged in workplace trainings last fiscal year, 7476 active app users and 7,131,399,659 steps logged.

96% IMPROVEMENT

IN BIOMETRIC SCREENING RESULTS AT DEEP CLASSES"

Community Home Project

Healthy Options Made Easy

A project of the Marion County Hospital District

The Community Home Project is a partnership between the Marion County Hospital District and Marion County Public Schools offering free programs and resources to support families in the Ocala area.

CHP continues to make strong progress in expanding program participation and community engagement. This fiscal year, CHP recorded 3,658 impacts across all offerings, reflecting substantial growth from the prior year. This is a significant increase from 2,654 last year — demonstrating rising awareness, stronger outreach, and growing trust within the community. These results underscore CHP's continued commitment to strengthening its presence and broadening the reach of its services throughout Marion County.

In addition to engaging more community members, CHP was able to close the year with a 72% successful closure rate for those seeking case management assistance. CHP's efforts are showing results, highlighting their commitment to enhancing CHP's presence and impact within the community.

3,658
IMPACTS

38%
INCREASE IN ENGAGEMENTS

72%
SUCCESSFUL CLOSURE RATE

EMPLOYMENT
EDUCATION
MEDICAL & DENTAL
FITNESS & NUTRITION

Beacon Point

HOPE COMMUNITY PURPOSE

A project of the Marion County Hospital District

In 2019, the Marion County Hospital District established Beacon Point by purchasing a six building campus to create a centralized continuum of care for individuals struggling with addiction. This full-spectrum treatment facility offers assessments, counseling, detox, residential treatment, and other life stabilization services—regardless of a patient's ability to pay. Today, four funded and three in-kind providers collaborate onsite to deliver integrated medical, behavioral health, and support services to some of the community's most vulnerable residents. Combined, these providers have had 6266 impacts through the different programs offered.

6266 Program Engagements

IN MARION COUNTY

CASA MARION - 978 CLIENTS
XTREME SOULUTIONS - 207 CLIENTS
WELL FLORIDA - 40 CLIENTS

MAT CLINIC:

521 CLIENTS
80% COMPLIANCE
90 DAYS OR MORE

DETOX:

367 CLIENTS
84% SUCCESSFUL DISCHARGE

RESIDENTIAL:

94 CLIENTS
73% SUCCESSFUL COMPLETION

PEER:

2757 CONTACTS MADE

ACCESS:

414 ASSESSMENTS
97% REFERRED FOR ON-SITE SERVICES

MED MANAGEMENT:

284 CLIENTS SERVED

PRIMARY CARE:

141 CLIENTS

OUTPATIENT:

463 CLIENTS
77% SUCCESSFUL COMPLETION

FIRST RESCUE ALLIANCE

A project of the Marion County Hospital District

This year the First Aliiance Resuce, comprised of Dove Wellness Counseling and Ocala Consulting and Prevention, works to improve the mental health of Marion County first responders. They served 327 First Responders and their families in Marion County. 72% showed an improvement in symptom severity. The First Rescue Alliance offers specialized and comprehensive psychological support designed for those who protect us with 24/7 availability and evidence-based approaches.

OCP

OCALA CONSULTING AND PREVENTION

SERVED **327** FIRST RESPONDERS

72% IMPROVEMENT

IN SYMPTOM SEVERITY

MCHD WORKED WITH SMA TO SUCCESSFULLY SECURE

21 New Residential Beds

FOR MARION COUNTY, BRINGING OVER

$3 Million

IN ADDITIONAL SUBSTANCE ABUSE TREATMENT FUNDS TO MARION COUNTY.

Healthy Ocala

Healthy Ocala was launched and managed by MCHD this fiscal year to fill the gap left by 211. Since it was launched, the Healthy Ocala website had 14,699 sessions (or clicks), indicating a growing presence in the community.

HEALTH PROJECTS

The Marion County Hospital District partners with multiple community health initiatives to support programs aligned with our five strategic health pillars. In the last fiscal year, MCHD collaborated with 14 community partners that collectively reached 42,161 Marion County residents through direct services, school-based education, weekend clinics, outreach, and other engagement strategies.

Scan the QR to learn more about our projects.

REACHED

42,161

MARION COUNTY RESIDENTS COMBINED

HEALTH PROJECTS

NUMBER OF CLIENTS SERVED

Interfaith Emergency Services	219
FreeDOM Clinic USA	1663
Kimberly's Center	33279
SADD	2709
Transitions Life Center	277
My Life Counsel	444
Kut Different	553
Project Hope	38
Estella Byrd Whitman	738
Marion County Sexual Assault Center	1153
SMA Community Counselors	74
SMA Amnesty	26
Veteran's Resource Center	443
Heart of Florida Adult Dental Clinic	718

COMMUNITY IMPACT BY PROGRAM

IMPACT: *The people we serve*, even considering that some may receive multiple services, such as dental and behavioral health. While individuals may appear more than once across different service areas, each program's metrics are distinct, with no duplication within the same program.

410,000 Marion County Population

MCHD PROJECTS IMPACTED

52.2% of Marion County

CITIZENS IN SOME WAY

Programs Funded & Impact

FANS (Fitness and Nutrition in Schools): **87,762**

AMP (Active Marion Project): **28,234**

214,384 IMPACTED

Community Home Project (Healthy Options Made Easy): **3,658**

Health Projects: **42,161**

Beacon Point (Hope Community Purpose): **6,266**

MATCH Programs: **31,604**

Healthy Ocala: **14,699**

GROWTH

As we enter Fiscal Year 2025–2026, the Marion County Hospital District is working on researching and expanding health projects in our newest two pillars: Unintentional Injury Prevention and Prevention and Early Detection of Chronic Disease.

MCHD also administers $500 million in Domestic Violence Appropriations Funds and the Opioid Abatement funds for Marion County.

FANS is expanding into a consistently growing school system, adding two new schools this year with more to come the following year. AMP and CHP are expanding their curricula to include a new evidence-based class, Strong Families Living Well. Healthy Ocala is continuously adding categories for community support and Beacon Point will add more accessible and comprehensive dental care to its array of services.

These new responsibilities present important opportunities to expand our impact and explore innovative strategies that improve outcomes for residents across our NEW focus areas.

FITNESS AND NUTRITION IN SCHOOLS FANS

AMP Active Marion Project

chp Community Home Project Healthy Options Made Easy

BEACON POINT HOPE COMMUNITY PURPOSE

FIRST RESCUE 2023 ALLIANCE

Healthy Ocala

GOALS

AIMING HIGH IN 2026

Marion County Hospital District

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