



Reid Hospital
& Health Care Services
Caring • Healing • Leading

Reid About Value

Reid Hospital - A True Community Benefit

August 2007

Dear Community Leader:

Reid Hospital has a rich tradition of benefiting this community. When the hospital was founded more than a hundred years ago, it was not because of an economic opportunity but to meet a need for health services.

In those early days, when the community saw a need, as for a hospital to replace the overcrowded St. Stephen's, the community responded, raised funds, and the hospital provided the services. Before health care insurance, hospitals were known for taking care of all in the community, regardless of ability to pay. Community members saw our good works on a daily basis.

Today, the community benefits role of Reid might not be as well understood. Across the nation, government and consumer advocacy groups have challenged whether not-for-profit hospitals deserve tax exemption.

Many times, communities do not see the behind-the-scenes benefits provided by the local hospital. That might also be true for Reid.

For instance, at Reid we undertake a sophisticated community needs assessment to determine the health needs of our constituents, including the low-income and at-risk populations. We share this information freely, so other not-for-profit agencies and organizations can use it in grant-writing and program development. We also use this information to provide free and low-cost screenings in areas of high need.

Reid also conducts free screenings, health assessments, health fairs and supports many community groups through its structured Social Responsibility program. This program accepts applications for funds, and a special committee of Reid's Governing board reviews and allocates an average of more than \$100,000 annually. Reid's Health Ministries program provides equipment, educational topics and materials at no cost to more than 70 churches and organizations.

Reid provides yet another benefit as the community's largest employer. The salaries we pay go back into this community in retail spending, home purchases and contributions to many philanthropic causes.

Our employees attend and financially support churches, participate on a variety of community boards and committees and take active support roles in school and youth activities.

Reid also works to recruit and retain excellent physicians, nurses, therapists and other high need-health care professional who will make this area their home. Maintaining the people needed to provide for the community's health care is an ongoing and growing challenge.

The point is that Reid desires, and I believe deserves, to be seen as a good citizen in ways that go far beyond what some might see as our focus. Along with you, we have a vested interest in making all aspects of our community healthy, nurturing and full of vitality.

Sincerely,

Barry S. MacDowell
President