

**CHARITABLE  
HEALTHCARE  
NETWORK**



# **2024 ANNUAL REPORT**

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[charitablehealth.org](https://charitablehealth.org)





# Our Mission

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*To strengthen and ensure high-quality health care for people who are vulnerable.*

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# Executive Director's Note



One of the greatest privileges I have as Executive Director of the Charitable Healthcare Network (CHN) is the opportunity to regularly travel around Ohio and meet the leaders, volunteers, and providers who power our state's free and charitable clinics. Every visit reaffirms that our network is made up of dedicated, passionate individuals committed to delivering high-quality, patient-centered care to those who need it most.

Just as the communities we serve have their own distinct identities, each clinic in our network is unique, yet all are united by a shared mission to provide compassionate, high-quality healthcare to Ohioans who might otherwise go without it. Your commitment to this mission makes our work possible, and I am deeply grateful for the many ways you help expand access to care.

In 2024, we took a significant step in sharpening our focus by refining CHN's mission statement to more directly emphasize our role in strengthening and ensuring high-quality healthcare for Ohio's most vulnerable populations. Every day, with and through the free clinics and charitable providers in our network, we work to turn that mission into reality.

Our network has long focused on delivering exceptional care, and we also recognize the importance of sharing our story of resilience, impact and unwavering service with those who are not familiar with our work. Since 2022, CHN clinics have increased the number of healthcare services provided by more than 200,000. In 2024 alone, our network delivered more than 715,000 healthcare services, valued at nearly \$225 million, at little to no cost to the patient. That represents a \$25 million increase in care provided in just the past two years. By amplifying our message, we can ensure more Ohioans understand the critical role free and charitable clinics play in our healthcare system.

A transformational gift from the estate of Warren H. Wefler continues to help us tell the powerful story of our impact. Thanks to his generosity, CHN has launched a strategic public awareness campaign to ensure that more Ohioans recognize the essential role free clinics and charitable providers play in our healthcare system. In 2024, we completed phase one of this effort in partnership with Geben Communication, and we look forward to working directly with clinics in 2025 to further amplify their stories.

In addition to the generosity of the Wefler estate, none of this would be possible without the partnership of the Ohio General Assembly, the Ohio Department of Health, and the DeWine Administration, and we remain incredibly thankful for their support and inclusion of Free Clinic Safety-Net funding in the state's biennial budget. We also thank the Cardinal Health Foundation for supporting our work to redefine medication access through the innovative Equity Rx initiative.

Through these partnerships, Ohio's free and charitable clinics continue to make our state a healthier, stronger place for all.

A handwritten signature in dark ink, reading "Jason Koma".

**JASON KOMA**

Executive Director  
Charitable Healthcare Network

# CHN Staff Members

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**JASON KOMA, MHA**  
EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR



**KALA BREAN, MLIS, LSW**  
DIRECTOR OF OPERATIONS  
AND GRANT MANAGEMENT



**EVANTHIA BRILLHART**  
DIRECTOR OF DEVELOPMENT  
AND EVENTS

## 2024 Board of Directors

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Paul Baumgartner- *President*  
Linda Smith-Berry, RN, BSN - *Vice President*  
Joel Kessel- *Treasurer*  
Carole Merckle, MSN, RN, DTR, CDCES- *Secretary*  
Jackiethia Butsch, C-CHW, C-CP, AE-C  
Josh Cernetic  
Rusty Curington, PharmD, BC-ADM  
Isi Green, MPH  
Denise Lucas, PNP-CB, FAANP  
Arunashish Majumdar  
Andy Priday, CPA, FACHE, MHA, MAcc  
Summit Shah, MD, MPH



# CHN at a Glance

Charitable Healthcare Network's (CHN) purpose is to strengthen and ensure high-quality health care for people who are vulnerable. Our five values, access, quality, collaboration, community, and equity, ensure representation of the needs of charitable healthcare institutions united to increase access to high-quality care. Our diverse membership includes free clinics, charitable clinics, rural health centers, charitable pharmacies, counseling centers, and more! As of 2024, our **56** network institutions serve **86** of Ohio's 88 counties.



**346,553**  
MEDICATIONS  
PRESCRIBED



**79,927**  
PATIENTS  
SERVED



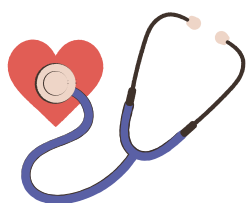
**86**  
OHIO  
COUNTIES  
SERVED



**45%** OF NETWORK  
ORGANIZATIONS ARE  
OPEN AT LEAST **20**  
**HOURS** PER WEEK



**43%** OF NETWORK  
ORGANIZATIONS  
OPERATE ON LESS  
THAN **\$150,000** PER  
YEAR



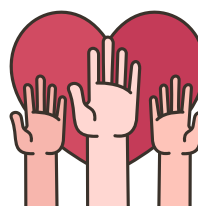
**163,963**  
PATIENT  
VISITS



**57%** OF  
TRACKED  
PATIENTS  
WERE  
**UNINSURED**



**62,021**  
LABORATORY  
AND DIAGNOSTIC  
TESTS



**11,178**  
TOTAL  
VOLUNTEERS

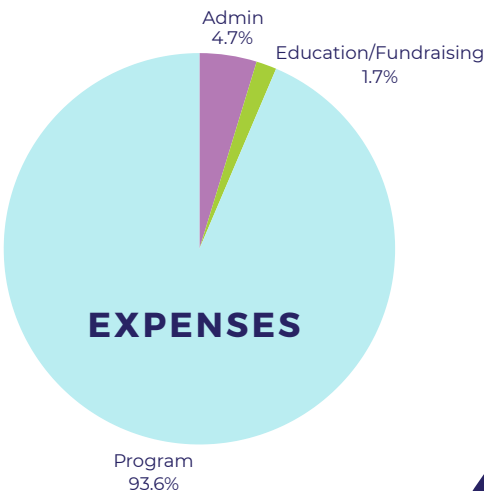
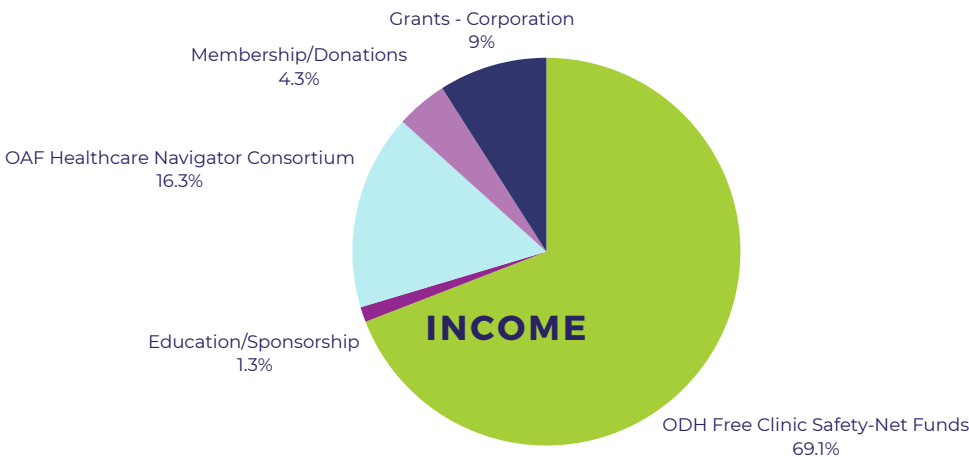
# Financials



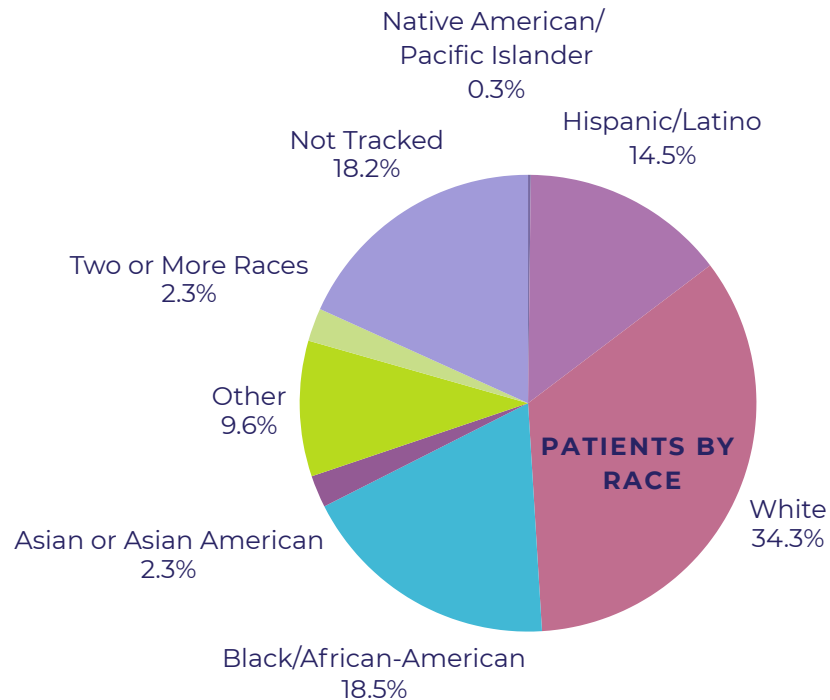
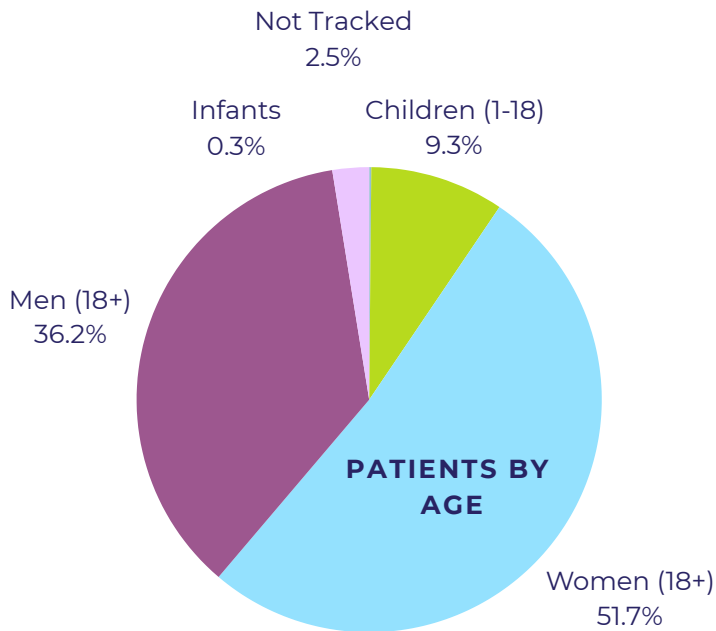
## OUR VALUE OF CARE

	2024 Services	Value of Services
Primary Care Visits	44,029	\$17,875,774
Specialty Visits	8,983	\$7,455,890
Vision Visits	6,954	\$3,171,024
Dental Visits	4,684	\$1,667,504
Behavioral Health	3,006	\$853,704
Social Services/Case Management	12,596	\$2,116,128
Pharmacy Services	51,498	\$9,012,150
Other Clinical Services	32,213	\$4,831,950
Education	95,619	\$16,017.40
Outreach and Screenings	42,675	\$6,401,250
Prescriptions	346,553	\$121,293,550
Tests (Diagnostic + Laboratory)	62,021	\$32,472,600
Insurance Enrollment	5,096	\$764,400
<hr/>		
→ Total	715,927 (+9%)	\$223,933,664 (+9%)

\*Healthcare cost values are based on data from the 2022 Healthcare Bluebook



# Patient Demographics



## ACA Health Insurance Navigator Program



Ohio Counties Covered

In September 2024, CHN signed a five-year, renewed contract with the Ohio Association of Foodbanks to receive pass-through funding from the federal Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services for Insurance Navigators to be placed throughout the state. Navigators are federally certified and licensed by the State of Ohio to provide free and unbiased help enrolling in Medicaid and Marketplace health insurance. Regardless of where they are located, each Navigator is dedicated to helping enroll as many consumers as they can in health insurance. In 2024, our Navigators saw nearly **7,700** consumers serving 23 counties across the state of Ohio, resulting in **1,103** people enrolling in coverage.



# Cardinal Health Equity Rx

With generous support and partnership from the Cardinal Health Foundation, CHN developed a two-pronged approach in 2024 to ease one of the biggest issues for patients served by free clinics and charitable providers: consistent access to affordable and/or free medications.

The first part of the two-year, \$500,000 grant, sought to take a short-term support approach by offering \$1,000 for free clinics and charitable providers to help care for patients in medication crisis. This funding helped support the immediate need of our network by supporting the gaps in care quickly.

Simultaneously, CHN partnered with St. Vincent de Paul Charitable Pharmacy (SVDP) to develop an extensive approach to easing barriers to medication access for vulnerable patients. SVDP became the pharmacy of record for three clinics (Good Samaritan Free Health Center in Cincinnati, Reach Out Montgomery County, and Good Neighbor House, both in Dayton) in the first year of the grant, serving as a medication distribution vehicle but more importantly, inserting a pharmacist into the care team of these clinics to support patient education, medication adherence and, overall, to improve the care for these patients.

As a result of this partnership, CHN is working towards the goal of doing more than just providing medication procurement and delivery but supporting the short-term needs of clinics while building towards a long-term goal of improved patient care.

**3,270**

total patients served



**22,096**

total prescriptions dispersed

**41**

clinics/pharmacies served



**84%**

medication adherence rate (regional pilot)

**\$2.6M**

rx retail value (regional pilot)



**CardinalHealth™**  
FOUNDATION

# Our Network

## NORTHWEST OHIO:

- Community of Hope Free Health Clinic
- CommunityCare Free Clinic
- Compassion Medical Clinic of Williams Co.
- Free Clinic of Fulton Co.
- Halim Clinic
- ONU HealthWise
- Toledo/Lucas Co. CareNet

## CENTRAL OHIO:

- Asian Health Initiative
- Charitable Pharmacy of Central Ohio
- Columbus Free Clinic
- Dwell Free Clinic
- Free Clinic of Licking Co.
- Grace Clinics of Ohio
- Helping Hands Health and Wellness Center
- La Clínica Latina
- LifeCare Alliance
- New Life Community Outreach
- Physicians CareConnection
- Stowe Mission
- The Breathing Association
- Victory Ministries Center of Hope
- Vineyard Community Clinic
- Vineyard Free Health Clinics
- Vineyard Free Medical Clinic of Delaware
- Vocalize Columbus

## SOUTHWEST OHIO:

- Compassionate Care of Shelby Co.
- Good Neighbor House
- Good Samaritan Free Health Center

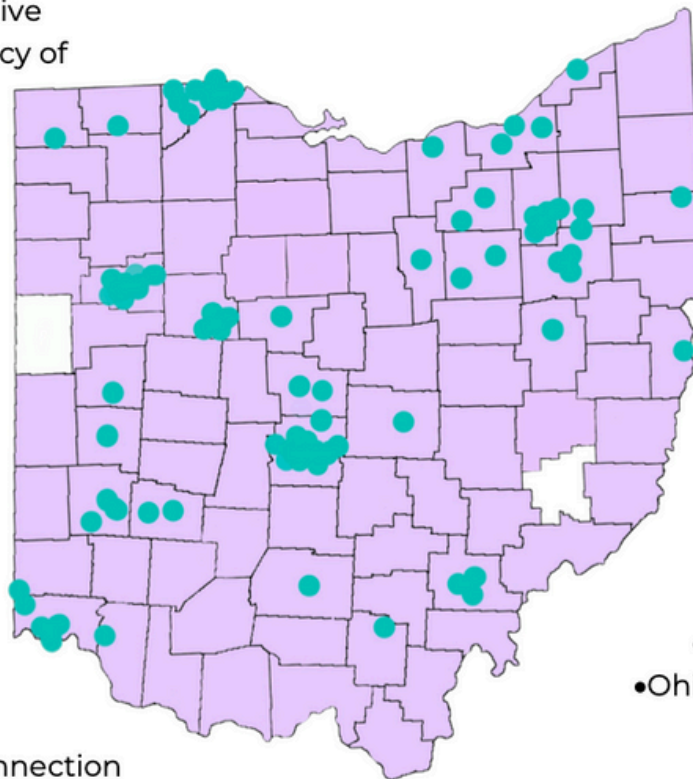
- Health Partners Free Clinic
- Living Well Clinic
- Open Arms Health Clinic
- Oxford Free Clinic
- Reach Out Montgomery Co.
- St. Mary's Connect
- SVDP Cincinnati Charitable Pharmacy

## NORTHEAST OHIO:

- Ashland Christian Health Center
- Beacon Charitable Pharmacy
- Cleveland Ibn Sina Clinic
- Eva Women's Clinic
- Faithful Servants Care Center
- Free Clinic of Medina Co.
- Hartville Migrant Ministry
- Lake Co. Free Clinic
- Lorain Co. Free Clinic
- Medwish Medworks
- Midlothian Free Clinic
- Ohio Valley Health Center
- OPEN M Free Clinic
- Salaam Clinic
- SOAR Student-Run Free Clinic
- Tuscarawas Clinic for the Working Uninsured
- Viola Startzman Clinic

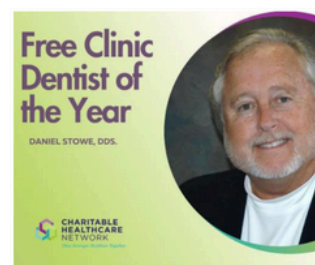
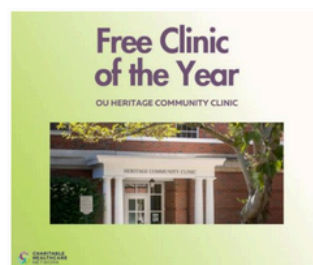
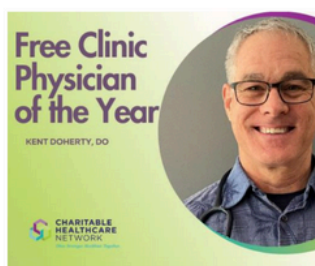
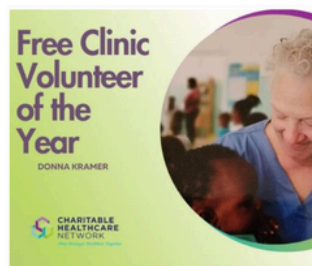
## SOUTHEAST OHIO:

- Hope Clinic of Ross Co.
- OU Heritage Community Clinic
- OU George Hill Counseling
- Rising Suns Non-Profit Pharmacy



# Free Clinic Appreciation Month Awards

Congratulations to our 2024 Free Clinic Appreciation Month Winners!



Physician of the Year: **Kent Doherty, DO** (Grace Clinics)

Dentist of the Year: **Daniel Stowe, DDS** (Stowe Mission)

Volunteer of the Year: **Donna Kramer** (MedWish Medworks)

Nurse of the Year: **Courtney Gravens, CNP** (Lake Co. Free Clinic)

Pharmacist of the Year: **Melanie Loftus, PharmD, R.Ph** (Hope Clinic of Ross Co.)

Free Clinic Staff of the Year: **Lois Wiggin** (Health Partners Free Clinic)

Community Partner of the Year: **Cardinal Health Foundation** (St. Vincent de Paul)

Free Clinic of the Year: **OU Heritage Community Clinic**

**Thank you for all the wonderful work you do!**  
**You are truly appreciated.**

# Strengthening Awareness, Securing Support

## *CHN's Statewide Awareness Campaign*

In 2024 thanks to the transformational gift from the estate of Warren H. Wefler, CHN, in partnership with Geben Communication, launched a strategic, data-driven Statewide Awareness Campaign to elevate the visibility of Ohio's free clinics, engage key decision-makers, and reinforce the importance of continued funding. Through a multi-channel approach—including digital advertising, earned media, and direct outreach—CHN ensured that both policymakers and the public understood the vital role free clinics play in Ohio's healthcare system.

# 2.2M+

digital ad  
impressions

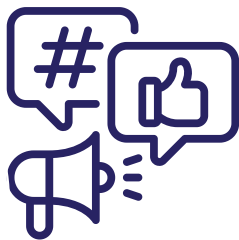


# 162%

increase in website  
traffic

# 3.45M

reached through  
earned media



# 34%

year-over-year  
increase in social  
interactions

### Key Strategies

- **Targeted Digital Advertising** – Reached legislators & the public through LinkedIn, Meta, X, and YouTube
- **Earned Media Coverage** – Featured in statewide publications and local news outlets
- **High-Quality Visual Storytelling** – Engaging video and photography showcased the impact of free clinics

### Funded by a Transformational Gift

CHN continues to be grateful to the family of Mr. Warren H. Wefler of Stark County for the transformational estate gift given in 2022. To leverage this legacy of support, in 2023, the CHN Board established the Warren H. Wefler Emergency Operations Fund to support clinics facing financial hardship. In 2024, CHN utilized this gift to help raise awareness about the essential care delivered by free and charitable providers in Ohio. Moving forward, thanks to the generosity of the Wefler family, CHN will have the ability to work directly with our network to promote each institution's services within individual communities in Ohio. This charitable gift equips CHN to expand its impact and support for healthcare providers across Ohio, ensuring continued access to essential care for those in need.



# 2025 Strategic Direction

## Roadmap and Goals

### Grow the Network

Expand access to care by identifying service delivery gaps and growing the Charitable Healthcare Network.

### Support the Network

Strengthen the capacity of network institutions to deliver high-quality healthcare.

### Promote the Network

Grow visibility and appreciation for the value proposition of CHN and the network's essential role in the healthcare system.

### Sustain the Network

Grow financial resources and support for CHN and network institutions, driving an investment call-to-action.

## Values and Guiding Principles

### Access

We work to ensure high-quality healthcare for all.

### Quality

We establish standards and provide access to educational opportunities to ensure high-quality care.

### Collaboration

We build the charitable healthcare network and encourage peer engagement.

### Community

We work with and through network institutions to achieve positive health outcomes together.

### Equity

We go above and beyond to prioritize care for hard to reach populations.



# *Stronger* because of:



Department of  
Health



geben  
communication



Prevent  
Blindness



CardinalHealth™  
FOUNDATION



Humana  
Healthy Horizons®  
in Ohio



buckeye  
health plan.  
*Your Guide to Better Health...*



PhRMA  
RESEARCH • PROGRESS • HOPE







**CHARITABLE  
HEALTHCARE  
NETWORK**

*Ohio: Stronger. Healthier. Together.*

**CONNECT WITH US!**

