

# Report to the Community

## January-March 2022



### PROGRAM SPOTLIGHT: CENTER FOR ARTS IN HEALTH

About 80% of a person's health depends on factors beyond the hospital walls. Here's how the Institute for H.O.P.E.™ is embracing the arts to heal a community.

Like many hospital systems, MetroHealth incorporates the arts into its medical treatment and therapy programs. The health system provides these powerful therapies to thousands of patients each year.

But the arts can mean so much more – to a hospital, its patients and the broader community.



That's where Linda Jackson comes in. For the last seven years, Jackson has reframed the conversation around the arts at MetroHealth. The arts, she says, must go beyond medicine. They should focus on promoting health and preventing disease – a view supported by a widely cited 2019 report from the World Health Organization.

"The arts can have a profound impact on a community," says Jackson, Director, Center for Arts in Health, part of the Institute for H.O.P.E.™ "The arts can help people engage with one another and with their health."

MetroHealth, of course, is building capacity within its traditional creative arts therapies and expanding those valuable interventions to new locations. But so much of Jackson and her team's work goes beyond traditional clinical settings.

That work includes working with seniors at Scranton Castle, a Cuyahoga Metropolitan Housing Authority housing complex near MetroHealth's Main Campus, on a mural – a project designed to combat the social isolation many of the residents experience.

**"We want to create opportunities across the spectrum of health to address mental, physical and social well-being."**

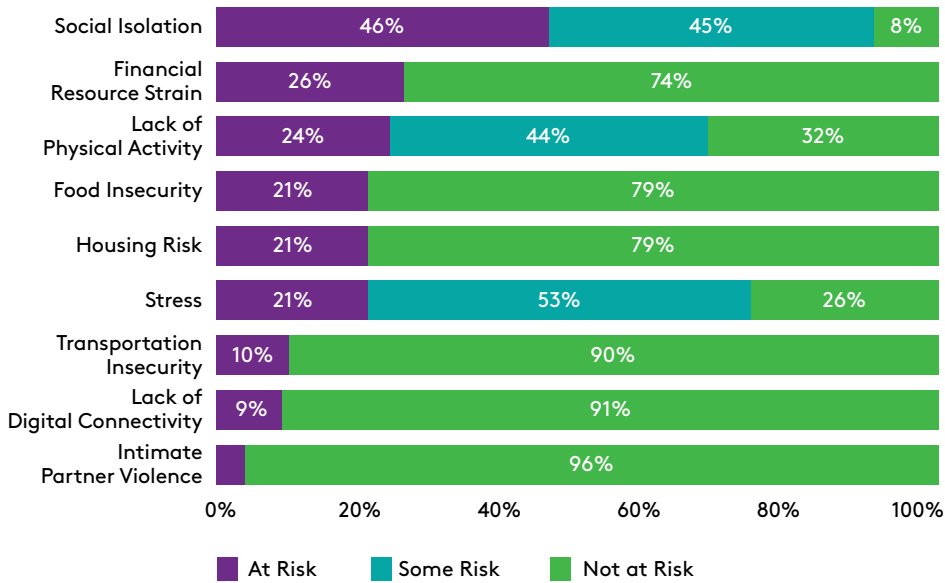
It also includes the innovative SAFE (Students are Free to Express) Project, which brings professional teaching artists into Cleveland classrooms to connect with students who have been exposed to trauma and toxic stress. That project was recently recognized with an \$85,000 research grant from the National Endowment for the Arts – the largest such award in the state of Ohio.

The Arts in Health team is also coordinating the visual art program for The Glick Center, MetroHealth's new main campus medical center that will open in October. That work extends well beyond the new hospital's walls. Jackson's team, for example, is working with artists and other organizations to develop a suite of arts programming for a new park MetroHealth plans to build outside The Glick Center in Cleveland's Clark-Fulton neighborhood.

"The arts can remind us of our humanity," Jackson says. "We want to create opportunities across the spectrum of health to address mental, physical and social well-being."

## BY THE NUMBERS

From January 1, 2022 – March 31, 2022, we screened 6,923 patients for social determinants of health, bringing the total number screened to 72,148. With these responses, we're able to better assess the needs of our patients and connect them with the services they need to improve their overall health.



## UNITE OHIO SPOTLIGHT

In 2020, MetroHealth partnered with Unite Us to build Unite Ohio – a coordinated care network of health and social care providers designed to link individuals with resources they need to live healthier lives. Today, the network has expanded beyond Northeast Ohio to throughout the state. To learn more, visit [ohio.uniteus.com](http://ohio.uniteus.com).



\*Q1 of 2022

## WHAT OUR UNITE OHIO PARTNERS ARE SAYING:

"Art Therapy Studio was eager to join Unite Ohio as we saw the potential benefit to our clients. As the network grows, we will be able to make referrals to other service providers on behalf of our clients who may need resources beyond what we are able to support. It also allows other agencies to refer potential new clients to us. We are particularly excited about the ability to refer some of our clients for transportation needs, senior services and other community resources. Some of our clients have social workers, but many are unfamiliar with the many programs available to them, and this allows us to share that with them."

– Michelle Epps, Executive Director, Art Therapy Studio



## INSTITUTE FOR H.O.P.E.™ PROGRAM UPDATES

The School Health Program will be able to increase its comprehensive school-based health services with two school district partners, expand health clinics in Cleveland schools and begin to offer dental care in some schools thanks to a grant of nearly \$4.5 million awarded by the state of Ohio in March. MetroHealth's program is the largest single recipient of the \$25.9 million awarded by the state. [CLICK HERE](#) to read the program's 2021 annual report.

The Center for Health Resilience launched the National Multidisciplinary Partnership Pilot in January and has trained 104 people in its trauma-informed care model, including representatives from the Cuyahoga County Court of Common Pleas. Additionally, the team's "SDOH & Justice Systems: A Pilot to Develop Trauma-Informed Courts" presentation was accepted at VITAL2022, America's Essential Hospitals' annual conference slated for late June 2022. [CLICK HERE](#) to learn more.