

This year, the Institute for H.O.P.E. shared its work nationally through presentations at the American Hospital Association **Healthier Together** conference and America's Essential Hospitals **VITAL 2026** conference. The projects highlighted below from our conference sessions demonstrate how partnerships, data, and community-centered solutions improve health outcomes and strengthen the communities we serve.



Supporting Safe Aging at Home

In partnership with Community Housing Solutions, our Aging in Place program helps older adults remain safe and independent through occupational therapy

assessments and home modifications such as handrails, grab bars, and porch repairs. The program reduces fall risk and supports healthy aging at home.



Embedding Community Health Workers in Care Delivery

Our Community Health Worker (CHW) model addresses social needs, improves care coordination, and advances

health equity. Standardized roles and referral pathways support integration into primary care. In the first year, CHWs assisted 4,503 patients, completed more than 5,400 outreaches, and successfully connected with 80% of referred patients.



Food Prescriptions

Our Food as Medicine Clinics support patients with food insecurity and chronic conditions through healthy groceries, nutrition education, and social needs assistance. Since 2018, nearly 1,000 patients have enrolled,

receiving almost 13,000 food packages and more than 288,000 nutritious meals, improving food security and healthy eating behaviors.



From Data to Impact

Neighborhood fact sheets that combine patient social needs data, public health information, and resident input were developed to understand local needs and identify community priorities.

The Clark-Fulton neighborhood fact sheet incorporated nearly 2,900 patient screenings and community feedback to guide resource allocation, strengthen partnerships, and inform health initiatives.



Bridging Health Care Digital Divides

We are advancing digital health equity by addressing internet access, digital literacy, and patient engagement barriers. Through a partnership with Digital C and a Digital Health Navigator model, patients receiving one-on-one support achieved MyChart activation rates up to 21%, more than double that of text outreach alone.

The Institute for H.O.P.E. partners with the Greater Cleveland Food Bank to ensure fresh produce is available at no cost to patients and community members in need. We host 3 monthly mobile pantries; no registration required. Food is handed out on a first come, first served basis, while supplies last.

Buckeye Health Center

First Monday of every month
Noon – 4 p.m.

Main Campus, C Pavilion

Third Tuesday of every month
9:30 – 11:30 a.m.

Parma Medical Center, rear parking lot

Second Friday of every month
9 – 11 a.m.

Interested in volunteering with us at these mobile pantries? Contact us at KMatlack@metrohealth.org or 440-592-1201.



The MetroHealth Opportunity Center

at Vía Sana provides designated spaces that are available for use by community organizations or groups for education, training, community meetings, or cultural events.

To learn more, visit our website at

<https://www.metrohealth.org/en/community/institute-for-hope/opportunity-centers/> to view events and book space or contact us at mhopportunitycenter@metrohealth.org or 216-957-4214.



Our Opportunity Center at Buckeye Health Center

is dedicated to improving health and well-being. We offer services directly and through our on-site community partners including financial coaching, employment assistance, benefits navigation, food, legal support, hygiene kits, and more. Services are available to patients and community members. We're located at 2816 East 116th Street, Cleveland, OH 44120. To learn more, visit our website at <https://www.metrohealth.org/en/community/institute-for-hope/opportunity-centers/>

Please check out the following links to learn more about our work and its impact:

The Opportunity Centers:

<https://www.metrohealth.org/en/foundation/your-gifts-at-work/pathways-to-opportunity/>

Food as Medicine:

<https://www.metrohealth.org/en/foundation/your-gifts-at-work/food-as-medicine-turning-access-into-lasting-change/>

<https://www.metrohealth.org/en/foundation/your-gifts-at-work/one-household-at-a-time/>

Community Advocacy Program:

<https://www.metrohealth.org/en/foundation/your-gifts-at-work/where-health-meets-justice-cook-harper-plummer-cap/>

<https://www.metrohealth.org/en/foundation/your-gifts-at-work/jessica-baaklini-and-the-community-advocacy-program/>

<https://www.metrohealth.org/en/foundation/your-gifts-at-work/katie-laskey-donovan-and-the-power-of-advocacy-as-medicine/>

Aging in Place:

<https://www.metrohealth.org/en/foundation/your-gifts-at-work/the-gift-of-aging-in-place/>

Find us online: <https://www.metrohealth.org/en/community/institute-for-hope/>