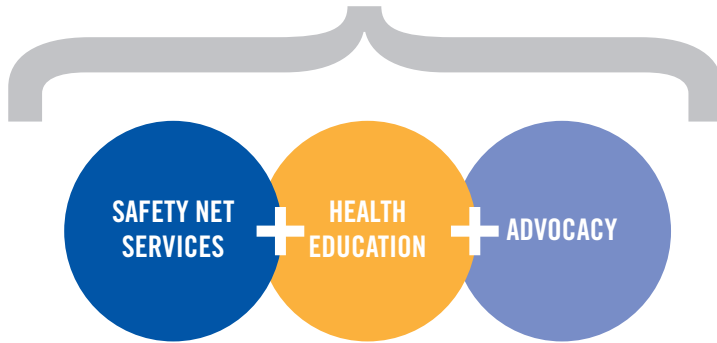
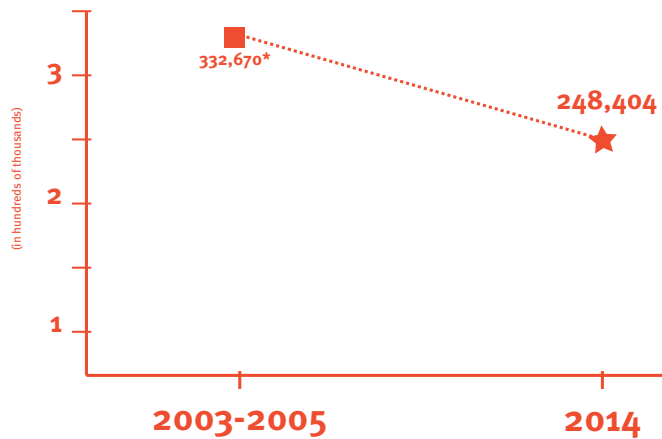


COMMUNITY ACTION PLAN OVERVIEW: HEALTH

PEOPLE HAVE ACCESS TO PRIMARY HEALTH CARE



Number of preventable ER visits in metro Atlanta



* Data for preventable emergency room visits is not currently collected on a regular basis. The 2003-2005 data point was researched and provided by the Georgia Health Equity Initiative Health Disparities Report 2008.

5-YEAR GOAL: By 2014, we will reduce the number of preventable emergency room visits in metro Atlanta by 25%, or about 84,000 visits. Now, there are 332,676 preventable visits.

Pace of change:

2008 - 10:	2010 - 12:	2012 - 14:
<p>Anticipate that preventable ER visits will get worse before they get better, primarily due to the increased number of uninsured and unemployed in Georgia.</p> <p>Estimated range of preventable ER visits: 332,676 - 450,000</p>	<p>Anticipate that the numbers will plateau at 2008 levels and then will begin slight decrease in 2012.</p> <p>Estimated range of preventable ER visits: 300,000-332,676</p>	<p>Anticipate that the preventable ER numbers will begin their decline to a net reduction of 84,000 visits.</p> <p>Estimated range of preventable ER visits: 248,676-300,000</p>

SAFETY NET SERVICES

Primary Health – physical health and dental services for the uninsured and underinsured. Expanding facilities to be holistic health centers (medical home).

Mental Health – outreach and counseling for those most at risk for mental health problems or emotional disturbances.

Care Coordination – ensure better health by helping families coordinate services, access specialists and follow through on treatment.

HEALTH EDUCATION

Prevention Education – empower families through health education and coaching to develop healthy habits. Proactively help individuals to understand and manage health issues (such as high blood pressure, diabetes, substance abuse).

Benefits Enrollment – ensure eligible uninsured and underinsured individuals and families are enrolled in available benefits, through outreach and education.

ADVOCACY

Health Professional Recruitment – building and recruiting health professionals for underserved geographic areas.

Community Resources Needed:

Health Safety Net: \$5 million
 Health Education: \$2 million
 Advocacy: \$150,000

Early wins:

Atlanta Safety Net Initiative: In 2008, the Philanthropic Collaborative for a Healthy Georgia launched a two-year learning agenda that focused on the health system in Atlanta. Because of United Way's new strategic direction, and specifically our focus on improving access to primary care, UWMA was asked to join the Philanthropic Collaborative. Led by Kaiser Permanente and the Tull Foundation, this group is engaging core providers to build a robust and sustainable safety net system for the underserved in Fulton and DeKalb counties. UWMA has been asked to be the convener and fiscal agent of this initiative. This partnership, the Atlanta Safety Net Initiative, will offer extensive opportunity for collaboration and leveraging of resources. Additionally, this project will have a significant impact on health outcomes, including the tracking of preventable ER visits.

Butts County – Southside Medical Center: In 2009, thanks to a \$20,000 investment from Kaiser Permanente, the Butts County Health Council began to build a system of care for the uninsured. The Health Council, convened by United Way, made significant progress in identifying the need in their community in a short period of time. This need did not go unrecognized. Southside Medical Center was invited to a Health Council meeting in February of 2010 and was astounded at the need and lack of services in the community. That \$20,000 investment and its results began a conversation with Southside about how we might be able to partner to decrease the burden on the local ER. A funding notice was released this summer and Southside immediately came to Butts County to talk with the community about how, together, we can bring services to the community. Southside and Butts County Health Council are currently working in partnership to write a grant worth \$1.2 million over two years that would provide consistent care to the uninsured. Additionally, UWMA has negotiated with Southside to bring its mobile unit to Butts County in the interim to begin to deliver services. These resources will have a significant impact on the health outcomes, bringing women's health and mental health services to the county.

Challenges/Concerns:

- *Our community lacks the capacity to aggregate and report on data related to the Health Access Partnership target. Partnerships will need to be forged to ensure accurate data collection from all 13 counties against this target.*
- *To see a steady decrease in the number of preventable ER visits, there will have to be a marked increase in capacity and investment in health clinics and centers to meet the rising demand.*
- *The Network will have to respond quickly to changes in health policy.*

This work is successful only by partnering with many people and organizations. We are fortunate to partner with excellent nonprofits, government entities, foundations and other funders, corporate supporters and local residents.