

HOWARD BROWN HEALTH IN 2020: MEETING THE PANDEMIC HEAD-ON



An unprecedented pandemic in 2020 brought Howard Brown Health's mission into focus. Amidst a backdrop of uncertainty, COVID-19 created an immediate crisis requiring a coordinated response in the service of public health and for the safety of historically under-resourced communities. With a bench of experts in community health, infectious disease, epidemiology, and contact tracing, Howard Brown quickly responded with testing stations, innovative partnerships, and revised protocols to keep patients and staff safe from a previously unknown virus. Using experience in crisis HIV response, social service support, and wraparound medical care, Howard Brown is uniquely positioned to adapt to urgent needs during an unpredictable time.

5

Community Care Stations in:

- Lakeview
- Uptown
- Rogers Park
- Englewood
- Hyde Park

3

Community Care Stations in Partnership with:

- Project Vida in Little Village
- TaskForce Prevention and Services in Austin
- Mobile Care Chicago Across the South and West Sides

COVID-19 DATA

(MARCH 12 - DECEMBER 31, 2020)

64,320 SCREENINGS

14.1%

positive results (9,062
total positive tests)

Howard Brown Health
performed **2.6%** of all
tests across the city
of Chicago

76%

of all tests were performed
on new patients

HIGHEST % POSITIVE RATES CONDUCTED IN SOUTH AND WEST SIDE NEIGHBORHOODS

LITTLE VILLAGE

34.72%

ENGLEWOOD

18.46%

AUSTIN

12.22%

HYDE PARK

10.4%

SOCIAL SERVICES

IN POWER: THE SEXUAL HARM RESPONSE PROGRAM

Since March, In Power has continued to offer telehealth and in-person services to survivors of sexual violence.

803

Case management and medical visits

364

Survivors served

(CALENDAR YEAR 2020)

\$2.2 MILLION

Total financial assistance for rent and utility payments, groceries, and other basic needs provided to Social Services Clients

955

Food box deliveries to people living with multiple chronic conditions and people who have contracted COVID-19

294

Phone calls made by our Intensive Community Care team to patients aged 65+, many of whom live with HIV, diabetes, and/or COPD to check on their health and wellness and fill in gaps including food access and telemedicine appointments

PREVENTION SUPPLY

≈1,750

safer sex kits and at home HIV test kits mailed through Prevention Supply, including:



7,000 condoms,
7,650 containers of lubricant, and
120 safer injection kits

TELEHEALTH

(DATA COLLECTED 3/13 - 12/31)

Telehealth visits have provided an accessible way for patients to see their providers without traveling outside of the home. With appointments conducted through video or by phone, patients are better able to follow physical distancing guidelines by reducing the number of people in clinic waiting areas.

22,603 Medical telehealth visits including primary care, PrEP navigation, and sexual health

14,306 Behavioral health telehealth appointments completed including individual therapy and substance use

1,087 Teledental calls completed by dental staff (MARCH - JULY 2020)

BROADWAY YOUTH CENTER

The drop-in space at Broadway Youth Center (BYC), usually busy with clients and staff on-site, quickly implemented new protocols for the delivery of basic-needs services. BYC expanded additional emergency support to include low-barrier, emergency financial assistance, meal and food delivery, financial assistance, and grocery store gift cards to LGBTQ youth and youth experiencing homelessness.

\$690,000

total financial assistance

695 clients are receiving financial assistance

\$546,135 for groceries, bills, etc.

\$113,200 in rental assistance

215 phones and **50** tablets distributed to BYC clients to support telehealth appointments and safer GED tutoring

CONTACT TRACING

Using experience in STI prevention and care, Howard Brown quickly pivoted to contact tracing for COVID-19 exposures. Patients with positive screening results are contacted via telephone and interviewed to identify other people in their lives who may have been exposed.

17 contact tracers hired since March 2020 (currently hiring 2 more)

29 Outside organizations trained to conduct contact tracing programs

4 Contact tracing training sessions conducted for outside organizations



COVID-19 POSITIVE PATIENTS INTERVIEWED BY CONTACT TRACERS



POSITIVE INTERVIEWS RESULTING IN COLLECTION OF CONTACTS