Vanderbilt University Medical Center

Vanderbilt University Medical Center (VUMC) serves patients in Middle Tennessee, the mid-South, and beyond. VUMC is home to Vanderbilt University Hospital (adult care), Monroe Carell Jr. Children’s Hospital at Vanderbilt, Vanderbilt Psychiatric Hospital, Vanderbilt Stallworth Rehabilitation Hospital, Vanderbilt-Ingram Cancer Center, The Vanderbilt Clinic, Vanderbilt Health One Hundred Oaks, and many other patient care settings. VUMC and health affiliate partners span 172 counties, 8 hospital systems, and 48 hospital locations in Tennessee, Arkansas, Kentucky, Mississippi, Missouri, North Carolina, and Virginia.

Vanderbilt University Hospitals—comprising the adult, children’s, and psychiatric hospitals—have more than 1,100 licensed beds and see more than 1.85 million outpatient visits and more than 118,000 emergency room visits annually. In 2013, VUMC provided approximately $525 million in charity care and community benefits. It is also noteworthy that VUMC has the only Level 1 trauma center, Level 4 neonatal intensive care unit, National Cancer Institute-designated Comprehensive Cancer Center for adults and children, dedicated burn-center, and comprehensive transplant center offering all types of solid organ transplants in the area. Extraordinary patient care is only one part of the VUMC mission. The clinical enterprise is inseparably linked to the education of the next generation of leaders in health care and biomedical science and cutting edge discovery research with real-time translation to improvements in human health.

* Includes data for Cheatham, Davidson, and Dickson Counties

** The Pathfinder Hotline is a statewide multi-language help line that connects the Tennessee disability community with service providers and information.
Partnering with Nashville Schools

In 2013, the National Center for Special Education Research awarded a team of Vanderbilt University professors $10 million to develop new math and reading programs aimed at improving student performance. The five-year grant, which established an Accelerated Academic Achievement (A3) Research Center, enables Vanderbilt researchers to develop very intensive instructional programs for students with the most severe learning disabilities in grades 3 to 5. The new math program emphasizes algebraic thinking, decimals, and fractions. The reading program focuses on comprehension of informational text. The two programs also aim to strengthen students’ self-regulation and important executive functions such as working memory, which are necessary for successful academic performance. Over its five-year span, the Vanderbilt A3 Center will involve 2,000 to 3,000 students from the Nashville schools.

The School for Science and Math at Vanderbilt (SSMV) is an interdisciplinary research-centered program designed to foster critical thinking skills in Nashville high school students by immersing them in the research culture. The program, which has been running for eight years, is taught by four Vanderbilt doctoral scientists from various scientific disciplines. Each year, the SSMV admits 26 incoming students into the four-year program, for a total capacity of 104 students representing a majority of Nashville high schools. The SSMV has graduated 106 students, nearly all of whom are either currently enrolled in or have graduated from a four-year college, with 73 percent of them pursuing science, technology, engineering, and math (STEM) fields of study. The program began in 2007 with funding from a National Institutes of Health Science Education Partnership Award. It is currently funded in part by Metropolitan Nashville Public Schools and housed in Vanderbilt’s Peabody College of education and human development. Additional support is provided through foundation and private donor contributions.

TSU, Vanderbilt win nearly $1 million to increase minority STEM Ph.D.’s

Tennessee State University (TSU) and Vanderbilt are partnering to lead a new “bridge to doctorate” program to increase the number of minority students who earn Ph.D.s in science, technology, engineering, and math. The National Science Foundation (NSF) awarded $987,000 to TSU to launch the program as an expansion of the Tennessee Louis Stokes Alliance for Minority Participation, or TLSAMP. TLSAMP is an NSF-funded collaborative effort by ten Tennessee colleges and universities to increase and improve the retention of underrepresented minority students in STEM fields statewide. TLSAMP is led by TSU and includes Vanderbilt, Fisk University, LeMoyne-Owen College, Middle Tennessee State University, Nashville State Community College, Southwest Tennessee Community College, Tennessee Technological University, University of Memphis, and University of Tennessee–Knoxville.

Vanderbilt is the inaugural host of the new program, which will fund twelve students. The program will build upon the success and lessons learned from the Fisk–Vanderbilt Masters-to-Ph.D. Program. Launched in 2004, the Fisk–Vanderbilt two-year program has built a detailed, research-based toolkit to support underrepresented minority students on their path to earning Ph.D.s, and has made Vanderbilt the leading producer of underrepresented minority Ph.D.s in astronomy, materials science, and physics.

VUMC, Meharry, and State Health Department receive NIH grant to establish AIDS research center

In 2015, Vanderbilt received a five-year grant from the National Institutes of Health (NIH) to establish the Tennessee Center for AIDS Research with Meharry Medical College and the Tennessee Department of Health. The new center expands the previously existing Vanderbilt–Meharry Center for AIDS Research to include the state health department. The new center’s aims are twofold: to improve the continuum of HIV/AIDS care in Tennessee and beyond, and to advance personalized care in the treatment of HIV. First-year funding in the 2016 fiscal year totals $937,000. The new center also will draw from the Vanderbilt Institute of Global Health, which has helped to pioneer the continuum of HIV care in countries such as Mozambique.