

Community Health Needs Implementation Plan

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Vernon Memorial Healthcare



Vernon Memorial Healthcare (VMH) will engage key community partners in implementing evidence-based strategies across our service area to address needs identified in the Community Health Needs Assessment (CHNA). Acknowledging the many organizations and resources in place to address the health needs of our communities, VMH has strategically reviewed both internal and external resources. This portion of the CHNA, the Implementation Plan, will explain how VMH will address health needs identified in the CHNA by continuing existing programs and services and by implementing new strategies. It will also explain why VMH cannot address all of the needs identified in the CHNA, and if applicable, how VMH will support other organizations in doing so.

The 2018 Compass Now report is an assessment of needs in the five county Great Rivers Region. Vernon Memorial Healthcare partnered with other area health care organizations, county health departments and United Way in the gathering of information via random household surveys, focus group discussions and an analysis of key socio-economic indicators. The implementation plan outlines the problems, strategies, activities, and outcomes for each of the three priority health needs identified in the CHNA.

Many of the strategies and activities outlined address risk factors associated with multiple health problems. For example, strategies to promote healthy eating and physical activity will affect obesity as well as heart disease. These strategies also might have a positive impact on mental health, as will strategies to reduce substance abuse.

The strategies and activities outlined here will be implemented in coordination with county health departments, local school districts and other local agencies and organizations.

Key Health Issues/Needs Identified in CHNA 2018

- Increased Access to Mental Healthcare Services
- Reduce Drug and Alcohol Abuse
- Increased Access to Affordable Healthcare Services



HEALTH ISSUE / NEED	STRATEGY	ACTION PLAN
<p style="text-align: center;">Increased Access to Mental Healthcare Services</p> <p>Per 2018 Community Healthcare Needs Assessment “there are access issues for these services in Vernon county. The percent of adults that need treatment and are not receiving it in Vernon county is 58% The percent of youth that need treatment and are not receiving it in Vernon county is 53%”.</p>	<p>Expand behavioral health services at VMH along with identifying area organizations that VMH can collaborate with in expanding access to patients in the VMH service area.</p>	<p>Vernon Memorial Healthcare has increased behavioral health staff. Current employed providers include: Psychiatrist, General Psychiatry, including Child and Adolescent (1), Psychiatric Mental Health Nurse Practitioner (1), Licensed Clinical Social Workers (3). VMH will actively recruit additional staff.</p> <p>Evaluate expanding patient schedule to early morning and evenings and weekends to accommodate patient needs.</p> <p>Evaluate the possibility of providing services in local schools.</p> <p>Vernon Memorial Healthcare will work with other area healthcare organizations to build a collaborative in pooling of resources to provide improved access and collaboratively publicize access opportunities in these communities to heighten awareness.</p>



<p>Reduced Drug and Alcohol misuse and abuse</p> <p>Per 2018 Community Healthcare Needs Assessment, “42% of all driving deaths in Vernon county had alcohol involvement. About 9% of people in Western Wisconsin have used illegal drugs in past month, Death rate due to opioid overdose in Vernon county was higher than Western region.”</p>	<p>Expand collaboration with area organizations by providing a variety of resources to address drug and alcohol abuse and misuse.</p> <p>Review and revise as needed internal processes and protocols at VMH as they relate to the dispensing of controlled substances.</p>	<p>In collaboration with area law enforcement, VMH donated prescription drug drop-off boxes to provide safe and secure disposal of prescription medication.</p> <p>In collaboration with area law enforcement VMH provides donations to assist in the purchase of Narcan kits, a drug that blocks the effects of opioids. These kits are now in every patrol car in the county.</p> <p>Provide educational seminars/sessions related to Drug and Alcohol Misuse quarterly for community members in our service area</p> <p>Implemented Controlled Substance agreements between Primary Care Provider and patient.</p> <p>Develop an Opioid Stewardship Task Force, with purpose of identifying best practices for prescribers.</p> <p>Implemented Emergency Services Policy that strictly limits dispensing of controlled substances in the Emergency department.</p> <p>Implement EPCS (e prescribing of controlled substances)</p>
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<p>Increased access to affordable healthcare services</p> <p>Per 2018 Community Healthcare Needs Assessment “access to comprehensive, quality healthcare services are important in promoting and maintaining health, preventing and managing diseases and reducing premature death.”</p> <p>The cost of healthcare and/or the adequacy of health insurance directly effects patients accessing care that is available.</p>	<p>Continue to build upon collaboration with area partners to improve access to healthcare by community education, hence a better understanding by community members of healthcare services available in area. As well as increasing patient awareness of internal and external financial assistance programs available</p> <p>Evaluate other models of care delivery in a low-cost setting.</p>	<p>Conduct annually a Community Health Fair where community health education occurs. Participants include: EMS Services; Fire/Police Service; Assisted Living Facility Opportunities; Home Health Services; Nutrition and Diabetic education and access opportunities; Antimicrobial Stewardship education; Pharmaceutical Questions and Answer Sessions; Mini exercise sessions; Physical Therapy activities; mindfulness/meditation sessions; Blood pressure/cholesterol checks/breastfeeding support, eye tests.</p> <p>Develop Chronic Care Management Program in our Rural Health Clinics</p> <p>Collaborate with area organizations in providing education on resources and programs available to patients needing financial assistance.</p> <p>Analyze the development of a cash only urgent care clinic utilizing Advanced Practice Practitioners</p>





Needs VMH Will Not Directly Address

Vernon Memorial Healthcare recognizes the importance of all needs that have been identified by the partners in the Community Health Needs Assessment. Vernon Memorial Healthcare is primarily focusing its energies on the healthcare related issues identified. VMH has not designed new strategies to address other areas of need directly but is supportive of the community groups that are addressing those other areas of need identified.