

Community Health Needs Implementation Plan

2021



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 2021 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 2021

- Mental Health
- Poverty/Financial Stability
- Childcare



HEALTH ISSUE / NEED	STRATEGY	ACTION PLAN
<p>Increased Access to Mental Healthcare Services</p> <p>Per 2021 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 56% The percent of youth that need treatment and are not receiving it in Vernon County is 55%”.</p> <p>In addition, 5% of Random Household Survey (RHS) respondents and 12% of Convenience Survey (CS) respondents reported their access to mental health care as "poor".</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 plans to increase 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>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>Poverty/Financial Stability</p> <p>Per 2021 Community Healthcare Needs Assessment, the following factors indicate poverty and/or financial stability of Vernon County residents:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">- 11% of survey respondents from Vernon County report they are uninsured.- 46% of survey respondents from Vernon County report a household income of less than \$50,000 per year (23% report a household income of less than \$25,000 per year).	<p>Inform patients of financial assistance and/or charity care when they receive healthcare at Vernon Memorial Healthcare.</p> <p>Inform the public of community resources, such as food banks, that could be useful to families struggling with financial stability.</p>	<p>Information about financial assistance is available at patient registration desks and on the Vernon Memorial Healthcare website. Patients are also verbally informed of financial assistance options.</p> <p>In addition, Vernon Memorial Healthcare will collaborate with area organizations in providing education on resources and programs available to patients needing financial assistance.</p> <p>Vernon Memorial Healthcare will implement the following strategies to inform the public of resources:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">- Facebook posts- Printed material- Website links- Social worker interaction
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<p>Childcare</p> <p>Per the 2021 Community Healthcare Needs Assessment, 10% of RHS respondents and 22% of CS respondents report they are either "moderately concerned" or "very concerned" about access to childcare.</p>	<p>Vernon Memorial Healthcare will work with economic, school and civic leaders to address the need for childcare and lend support.</p>	<p>Through partnerships with chambers of commerce, school districts, and other groups, Vernon Memorial Healthcare will support efforts to bring additional childcare options to the area.</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.