



MONROE COUNTY
HOSPITAL
NAVICENT HEALTH PARTNER

2019

Implementation
Strategy

Monroe County Hospital

Implementation Strategy

For FY 2020-2022 Summary

Monroe County Hospital is a 25-bed not-for-profit critical access hospital located in Forsyth, Georgia. In 2019, the hospital conducted a Community Health Needs Assessment (CHNA) to identify the health needs of Monroe County. The Implementation Strategy for Monroe County Hospital was developed based on findings and priorities established in the CHNA and a review of the hospital's existing community benefit activities.

This report summarizes the plans for Monroe County Hospital to sustain and develop community benefit programs that 1) address prioritized needs from the 2019 Monroe County Hospital CHNA and 2) respond to other identified community health needs.

The following prioritized needs were identified by the community and the CHNA steering committee. Particular focus was placed upon these needs in developing the implementation strategy.

- Lifestyle/Prevention and Health Promotion
- Mental/Behavioral Health and Substance Abuse
- Seniors
- Access to Care

Monroe County Hospital has addressed each of the health needs identified in the CHNA. Monroe County Hospital developed implementation strategies to address each of the health issues identified over the next three years.

Specific implementation strategies for each of the CHNA identified health needs are addressed in the following appendices to this report.

The Monroe County Hospital Board approved this Implementation Strategy through a board vote on January 28, 2020.

The following issues were identified as “priority” needs by the community participants. The findings are listed in the order of priority determined by the hospital -

1. Lifestyle/Prevention and Health Promotion
 - a. There is a need for education, screenings, and outreach on the understanding of the risk factors associated with obesity, unhealthy lifestyles, and other prevention activities such as accident prevention.
 - b. There is a lack of resources for physical activity.
 - c. There is a lack of affordable diabetes supplies and medication. There is a need to communicate available resources that offer lower cost options.

2. Mental/Behavioral Health and Substance Abuse
 - a. There is a lack of knowledge and awareness of when to get help for mental illness. A lot of individuals self-medicate with illegal drugs.
 - b. There is a need for education and awareness on the signs and symptoms of mental illness to reduce the mental health stigma.
 - c. There are a lack of addiction services and facilities in the community.

3. Seniors
 - a. The senior population is in need for more support in the form of caregivers to assist in everyday tasks and doctor’s appointments.
 - b. There is a lack of Alzheimer’s care and support groups.
 - c. There is a need for low cost nursing homes and adult day care facilities.

4. Access to Care
 - a. There are many uninsured individuals in the county. There is a need for low-cost medical care and guidance for individuals on how to apply for Medicaid if eligible.
 - b. There is a lack of transportation. The community reported a lot of individuals miss appointments or are not able to see specialists due to lack of transportation.
 - c. There is a lack of low-cost dental services.
 - d. There is lack of communication, knowledge, and collaboration of available community resources.
 - e. There is a lot of food insecurity among the underserved populations.

Appendix 1

Community Work Plan for Lifestyle/Prevention and Health Promotion CHNA Page Reference 30 - 34, 52 - 59, 71 - 78	
Health Problem	Outcome Objective (Anticipated Impact)
<p>a. There is a need for education, screenings, and outreach on the understanding of the risk factors associated with obesity, unhealthy lifestyles, and other prevention activities such as accident prevention.</p> <p>b. There is a lack of resources for physical activity.</p> <p>c. There is a lack of affordable diabetes supplies and medication. There is a need to communicate available resources that offer lower cost options.</p>	<p>a. Increase community education and outreach efforts.</p> <p>b. Identify existing community resources to ensure the community is aware of available resources.</p> <p>c. Improve low cost medication availability to low income individuals.</p>
<p>Background:</p> <p>The CHNA process identified a need for more community education and outreach on the importance of nutrition, exercise and self-accountability for lifestyle choices. The prevalence of physical inactivity was higher in the county than for Georgia or the U.S.</p>	
<p>Implementation Strategy:</p> <p>a. Provide social media posts on our website and hospital's Face Book page. Promote specific months such as mammogram specials in October, and other health related subjects throughout the year.</p> <p>b. Post information on an electronic sign in front of the hospital to advertise community events. Monroe County Extension Office provides resources for the community.</p> <p>c. Provide prescription cards to patients who come through the ER without insurance for purchase of medication at a reduced cost.</p>	
<p>Possible Collaborations:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Rock Springs Clinic • Monroe County Health Department 	

Appendix 2

Community Work Plan for Mental/Behavioral Health and Substance Abuse CHNA Page Reference 71 - 78, 94, 103 - 104	
Health Problem	Outcome Objective (Anticipated Impact)
<p>a. There is a lack of knowledge and awareness of when to get help for mental illness. A lot of individuals self-medicate with illegal drugs.</p> <p>b. There is a need for education and awareness on the signs and symptoms of mental illness to reduce the mental health stigma.</p> <p>c. There are a lack of addiction services and facilities in the community.</p>	<p>a. Increase community outreach on the relationship between substance abuse and mental health.</p> <p>b. Increase community education to identify the signs and symptoms of mental illness.</p> <p>c. Increase access to mental health treatment.</p>
<p>Background:</p> <p>The CHNA identified a lack of resources for the treatment of mental illness. Alcohol use, particularly binge drinking, was higher in the county for both adolescents and adults than for the state.</p>	
<p>Implementation Strategy:</p> <p>a. Post information on social media.</p> <p>b. Post information on social media.</p> <p>c. Post information on social media</p>	
<p>Possible Collaborations:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • River Edge Behavioral Health • Navicent 	

Appendix 3

Community Work Plan for Seniors CHNA Page Reference 101 - 102	
Health Problem	Outcome Objective (Anticipated Impact)
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> a. The senior population is in need for more support in the form of caregivers to assist in everyday tasks and doctor’s appointments. b. There is a lack of Alzheimer’s care and support groups. c. There is a need for low cost nursing homes and adult day care facilities. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> a. Increase access to personal care. b. Update and distribute community resource guide to identify known community resources. c. Increase nursing home availability.
<p>Background:</p> <p>Almost one-third of the total population of Monroe County is age 55 or older which is 33 percent higher than for the state as a whole.</p>	
<p>Implementation Strategy:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a. Partner with Your Home Senior Care, a private duty home care company which is a lower cost alternative to traditional long term care. They help seniors stay independent at home. b. Partner with Family connection and provide the Community Resource Guide in our waiting areas. d. Partner with Pruitt Health Nursing Home 	
<p>Possible Collaborations:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Older American Council 	

Appendix 4

Community Work Plan for Access to Care CHNA Page Reference 52 - 59, 86 - 99	
Health Problem	Outcome Objective (Anticipated Impact)
<p>a. There are many uninsured individuals in the county. There is a need for low-cost medical care and guidance for individuals on how to apply for Medicaid if eligible.</p> <p>b. There is a lack of transportation. The community reported a lot of individuals miss appointments or are not able to see specialists due to lack of transportation.</p> <p>c. There is a lack of low-cost dental services.</p> <p>d. There is lack of communication, knowledge, and collaboration of available community resources.</p> <p>e. There is a lot of food insecurity among the underserved populations.</p>	<p>a. Increase access to low-cost medical care and increase Medicaid eligibility assistance.</p> <p>b. Update community resource directory to identify known community resources and increase access to transportation.</p> <p>c. Increase dental providers for low-income individuals.</p> <p>d. Update and distribute community resource directory.</p> <p>e. Increase community education on nutrition.</p>
<p>Background:</p> <p>Monroe County is growing and has a lower unemployment rate than the state. The community indicated there is a physician shortage in the county. The prevalence of physical inactivity is higher than for the state or the U.S.</p>	
<p>Implementation Strategy:</p> <p>a. Partner with Rock Springs and the Monroe County Health Department.</p> <p>b. Community Resource Guide will be distributed throughout the hospital waiting areas.</p> <p>c. Refer patients to Rock Springs Clinic for low income individuals.</p> <p>d.- Promote nutrition on social media and hospital website.</p>	
<p>Possible Collaborations:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Navicent 	

- <Insert local organization>