



Carson Health's

Community Health Needs Assessment
Board Approved Implementation Plan



Implementation Plan for Needs Identified in Community Health Needs Assessment for Carson Health

FY 2013-2015

Covered Facilities: Carson Health (Hospital), and Carson Health Primary Care Offices (Carson City, Ashley, Fowler, Lyons, Greenville, Stanton, and Ithaca)

Community Health Needs Assessment: A Community Health Needs Assessment (CHNA) was performed in Fall 2011 in collaboration with Healthy Montcalm (Mid-Michigan Health Department, Montcalm Community College, Sheridan Community Hospital, United Lifestyles-Spectrum Health, Carson Health, Cherry Street Health Services, Evaluation Consultant, Montcalm Center for Behavioral Health, United Way, Great Start, Department of Human Services, the seven Montcalm County School Districts, MSU Extension, Faith-based Community and Commission on Aging) to determine the most pressing need of the communities served by Carson Health.

Implementation Plan Goals: The Board of Directors of the Hospital has determined and approved the following health needs identified in the CHNA should be addressed through the implementation strategy noted for each of the five health priorities listed below.

1. Improve Access to Health Care

Specific Needs Identified in CHNA

- Recruitment and retention of qualified professionals – Community Health Assessment, Montcalm County Profile 2011, p. 47.
- Mid-Michigan’s Health Community Needs Assessment Plan 2011, p. 48.

Key Objectives:

- Increase the number of service hours and the number of practicing primary care providers, especially accepting Medicare and Medicaid patients.
- Implementation Strategies:
 - Conduct primary care provider needs analysis (FY11)
 - Develop recruitment strategy for primary service area, such as, Ithaca, Carson City, Fowler and Lyons.
- Implement recruitment strategy for specific disciplines and locations to increase providers
 - Evaluate current hours, locations, accessibility and productivity (FY11- 12)
- Based on evaluation, implement expansion needs in terms of hours and accessibility.
- With the additional capacity, address issues related to increasing Medicare and Medicaid and other insurers with new providers.
- Reevaluate primary care provider need and access issues for the entire Hospital service area. (FY14-15)



2. Increase Awareness of Existing Community Resources

Specific Needs Identified in CHNA

- Promote Importance of Education as it Relates to Health Status/Outcomes – Community Health Assessment, Montcalm County Profile 2011, p.46.
- Mid-Michigan’s Community Health Community Needs Assessment Plan 2011, p.50.

Key Objectives:

- Increase the proportion of the county’s elementary, middle and senior high schools that provide school health and wellness in the following area: education on the importance of health screenings and check-ups.
 - Develop, implement and support wellness committees within the county’s following districts: Carson City-Crystal Schools.
 - Work with the existing wellness committees, staff/administration from targeted school districts, parent teacher organizations, school nurses, health care providers, Montcalm Area health Center, Mid-Michigan health Department, Montcalm Human Services Coalition, Montcalm Center for Behavioral Health, 2-1-1 and interested community members to implement the objectives and strategies.
- Implementation Strategies
 1. Evaluate effectiveness of current wellness programs in targeted schools. (FY13)
 2. Determine support for wellness committee at Carson City-Crystal School; Student Choices Committee.
 3. Evaluate community resources and coordinate with community partners to provide education on screenings/checkups. (FY13-14)
 4. Evaluate current screenings/checkups provided to schools. Recommend screenings include dental, depression, vision, hearing, skin, tobacco, substance use and physical. (FY13-14)
 5. Establish and/or join the Student Choices Committee.
 6. Evaluate effectiveness of wellness committees and the education of health screenings/checkups. (FY14-15)

Other Needs Identified in the CHNA but Not Addressed in the Plan – Each of the health needs listed below are important, however Carson Health will not be specifically addressing each and every one due to limited resources and the need to allocate significant resources on the two priority health needs identified above. Some of these health needs will be indirectly impacted by focusing on the two priority health needs identified above.

All priority issues identified by the Community Health Needs Assessment listed below can be found in the Community Health Assessment, Montcalm County Profile 2011, and p.48.

1. Reduce the Prevalence of Obesity – Currently being address by the Great Start Collaborative of Montcalm County. These programs address the overweight children issues identified in the needs assessment.
2. Reduce Substance Abuse – Currently being addressed by the Montcalm County Substance Abuse Advisory Council, Tobacco Free Montcalm, and Drug Free Montcalm.



3. Address Mental Health – Currently being addresses by Montcalm Center for Behavioral Health and Montcalm Human Services Coalition. These programs address the mental health and suicide issues identified in the needs assessment.

The following issues were identified in the Community Health Needs Assessment, Montcalm County Profile, 2011, pgs. 43-47, but determined to be not as high of a priority as the above mentioned issues.

4. These issues can be best addressed through government councils or departments. The local health care organization does not have the resources to address these issues effectively.
 - a. Jobs (availability)
 - b. Crime
 - c. Traffic Crashes (alcohol/drug related)
 - d. Teen Pregnancy
 - e. Child Abuse – Carson Health upholds its responsibility to report to report child abuse or neglect to the appropriate authorities.
 - f. Domestic Violence
 - g. Gambling
 - h. Contaminated Sites (landfills, structures)
 - i. Ambulance response time
 - j. Service response time
 - k. Recreational opportunities
 - l. Transportation (public/personal)
 - m. Housing (affordable/available)
 - n. Drinking water (quality)
 - o. Watershed quality (streams, rivers. Lakes)
 - p. Health foods (availability)
5. The remaining issues will be addressed by the following:
 - a. Dental care – Montcalm Area Health Center is expanding access to dental care
 - b. Sexually transmitted diseases – incorporated in the education provided to schools in our second priority (Health Literacy, Awareness and Education)
 - c. Stroke – Carson Health to increase awareness of Stroke symptoms and the facilities capabilities in caring for stroke victims.
 - d. Nursing home care (access) – provide recourses when needed of facilities.
 - e. Alzheimer disease/dementia – Carson Health hosts a series of open forum community sessions. MSW hosts the sessions.
 - f. Diabetes – Carson Health continues to address the educational needs of diabetic patients in the county.
 - g. Heart disease – Carson Health will continue to recruit for a part-time cardiologist, to see patients in Carson City.