

2018 COMMUNITY
HEALTH NEEDS
ASSESSMENT:
**IMPLEMENTATION
PLAN**

October 1, 2018



Excellence Every Day.

2018 Community Health Needs Assessment: Implementation Plan

Plan dates: November 1, 2018-June 30, 2021

Introduction

Evangelical Community Hospital (Evangelical or ECH) is an independent, non-profit organization that employs over 1800 individuals and has more than 341 employed and non-employed physicians on staff. The Hospital serves residents throughout the Central Susquehanna Valley, including those living in Snyder, Union, Northumberland and Lycoming Counties. With the addition of a Mobile Medical Unit, the service area is expanding to include secondary service areas of Juniata, Centre, Clinton and Montour Counties. Beginning in 1926 as the vision of three local physicians, Evangelical has been providing for the healthcare needs of area residents for more than 90 years and remains a vital asset to the community. In Fiscal Year 2016-2017, the Hospital:

- Received 230,315 outpatient visits
- Received 6,896 inpatients
- Provided 2,011 patient observation stays
- Delivered 901 babies
- Received more than 31,000 emergency department visits

Evangelical is one of 26 independent hospitals out of Pennsylvania's 156 hospitals and is thriving in a very competitive market. Our patients and the community are at the heart of Evangelical's mission of "providing exceptional healthcare, accessible to all, in the safest and most compassionate atmosphere possible to build a healthy community". This is accomplished by maintaining a challenging, energized work environment for our valued employees who exemplify our Core Values of:

- Quality Service
- Compassion
- Respect
- Professionalism
- Integrity
- Cooperation
- And Creativity

Our vision is to be the community's healthcare provider of choice for patients, clinicians, and employees.

2018 Community Health Needs Assessment Planning

The 2018 Community Health Needs Assessment (CHNA) was conducted in partnership with Allied Services Integrated Health System and Geisinger. The study area included 19 counties across Central, Northeastern, and South Central Pennsylvania which represents the collective services of collaborating organizations. Evangelical Community Hospital is located in the Central Region, which is comprised of the following counties:

- Clinton
- Columbia
- Lycoming
- Montour
- Northumberland
- Schuylkill
- Snyder
- Sullivan
- Union

CHNA Methodology

The 2018 CHNA was conducted using both primary and secondary research to illustrate and compare health trends and disparities across the region.

Specific research methods include:

- An analysis of statistical health and socioeconomic indicators from across the region
- An analysis and comparison of acute hospital utilization data
- A key informant survey with 113 community leaders and representatives
- Six regional partner forums with community-based organizations to identify community health priorities and facilitate collaboration toward community health improvement
- Twelve focus groups with seniors to examine preference, challenges, and opportunities to accessing and receiving healthcare
- Prioritization of community health needs to determine the most pressing health issues on which to focus community health improvement efforts.

The 2018 Community Health Needs Assessment built upon the Hospitals' previous CHNAs and subsequent Implementation Plans. The CHNA was conducted in a timeline to comply with IRS Tax Code 501(r) requirements to conduct a CHNA every three years as set forth by the Affordable Care Act (ACA). The research findings will be used to guide community benefit initiatives for the hospitals and engage local partners to collectively address identified health needs.

Key Community Health Needs and Implementation Plan Strategies

From the review and analysis of key data sources, the following health needs were identified as top priorities:

- Access to Care
- Behavioral Healthcare
- Chronic Disease Prevention and Management

Access to Care – through several programs and resources Evangelical will continue to focus on vulnerable areas of need for improvement to access to care.

- Free or reduced fee health screenings
- Free or reduce fee preventative programs such as Freedom from Smoking, skin cancer screenings, blood sugar testing, blood pressure checks, comprehensive blood screenings, etc.
- Continue to collaborate with external community organizations to increase awareness of resources available, i.e. transportation options, preventative/healthy lifestyle educational programs etc.
- Utilize Mobile Health of Evangelical to reach populations that are in areas lacking primary care and health screening options locally.
- Provide free food boxes to inpatients and outpatients who are identified as food insecure with the assistance of care management and Hospital to Home.
- Evangelical is participating in the Nurse-Family Partnership Program, for at-risk young expectant women. This collaborative program involves a nurse making home visits over 30 months from before birth until the baby is age two. More than 30 years of randomized, controlled trials show that families who participate in the Nurse-family Partnership model fare better than those not in the program. The goals include:
 - Improvement in pregnancy outcomes
 - Improvement in child health and development
 - Improvement in the economic self-sufficiency of the family

Behavioral Health – specifically targeting mental and behavioral health as it relates to substance abuse and addiction. Evangelical will focus its efforts to reduce the number of prescribe opioids, seek alternative methods for pain management and continue to educate providers on appropriate prescribing practices

- Provide Naloxone reversal kits to community organizations as directed through a grant from the Pennsylvania Commission on Crime and Juvenile Delinquency
- Serve on Northumberland and Snyder/Union Opioid Coalitions
- Continue to evaluate Tele Psych program (Insights)
- Through a CVS grant, obtain a drug take back box and offer two annual drug take back programs in collaboration with Mobile Health of Evangelical and Union County police department.
- Develop a sustainability plan for Recovery Specialists and provider education.

Chronic Disease Prevention and Management – continue to focus on education, healthy lifestyle programming and prevention screenings.

- Continue to offer comprehensive blood screenings throughout our service area and remote areas utilizing Mobile Health of Evangelical.
- Promote and offer a wide variety of healthy lifestyle programming in schools
- Offer free Diabetes education and a support group to the community
- Offer healthy lifestyle programming to the adult and senior population both in community and worksite settings
- Promote our Freedom From Smoking tobacco cessation program
- Continue to promote and educate about various screenings offered at Evangelical, i.e. low dose CT scan, mammograms, colon cancer screening kits
- Collaborate with community agencies to promote healthy lifestyle events and programs

Evangelical's efforts to improve the health and wellbeing of our community are not limited to the previously mentioned action items. We are committed to focusing our expertise and resources in areas of greatest need and where we see we can make the greatest impact. Along with our internal providers and educators we will look to community agencies for collaboration to move the needle on our key identified needs.

Evangelical will focus on the following identified needs. Below are our main goals and how we will work to meet these needs objective:

1. Evangelical aims to improve access to and compliance with Diabetes preventative care at all entry points within the ECH system by June 30, 2021.
 - Establish a baseline of ECH adult population with type I and II diabetes. Completion date: June 30, 2020
 - Identify and develop preventative bundle in accordance with current ACO measures. Completion date: June 30, 2020
 - Develop mechanism for monitoring and addressing non-compliance. Completion date: June 30, 2020
 - Research and/or develop programming to assist with compliance and education. Completion date: June 30, 2021
 - Track and monitor A1c over time for trends. Completion date: June 30, 2021
 - Monitor diabetic population for identified process measures for the end stage organ damage such as Retinopathy and Nephropathy. Completion date: June 30, 2021

The identified population at risk will be adults with diagnosed diabetes. Focusing ECH efforts and resources to address these needs will help address Access to Care issues and Chronic disease prevention and

management. Some of the root causes that may prove to be barriers will be Socio-economic factors such as: lack of education, financial burdens, access to resources and transportation.

2. Evangelical will provide our community and patients with opioid and substance abuse support, education, and resources to assist with addiction identification and opportunities for recovery.
 - Community Health and Wellness will develop an Opioid training and offer free Naloxone reversal kits throughout our service area. Completion date: June 30, 2020
 - Educate ECH staff on Incumbent Worker training. Completion date: June 30, 2020
 - Recovery Specialists will be embedded in key location throughout the organization. Completion date: June 30, 2021
 - In collaboration with ECH Emergency Department and other defined locations monitoring of the following will occur:
 - Educational opportunities
 - Naloxone kit distribution
 - Referral to rehabilitation facilities
 - Refusals for assistanceCompletion date: June 30, 2021
 - Educational opportunities: Staff, community and workplace and compare number of referrals and reversal kit distribution. Completion date: June 30, 2021

The identified population at risk is patients, community members and family members affected by the opioid epidemic. Focusing ECH efforts and resources to address these needs will help address Access to Care issues and Behavioral Health. Some of the root causes that may present as barriers are external factors such as: financial burden, stress, work, mental health and behavioral health issues. Access to prescription medications can also affect our ability to address this need.