



Hampton Regional

MEDICAL CENTER

Community Health Needs Assessment Implementation Strategy Fiscal years 2017-2018

Evaluating Our Community's Needs

Hampton Regional Medical Center routinely conducts Community Health Needs Assessment (CHNA) research to expand and improve upon the services we offer and to better meet the health needs of the community in which we serve.

In response to our CHNA, an implementation plan was created to identify specific activities and services which could potentially positively impact our community

Throughout the year, we gain insight into the county's unmet health needs by being involved in community boards, partnerships and advisory groups. Furthermore, HRMC gathers data that includes population demographics, socio-economic factors and the use of health services. Our implementation plan was created by studying the health needs identified through our CHNA and took into account HRMC's overall strategic plan and the availability of resources within and outside the community.

In our 2016 needs assessment, Hampton Regional Medical Center identified the following target areas in need:

- Diabetes
- Babies, children and adolescents
- Health education
- Access to care
- Substance abuse

The implementation plan below identifies the activities and services created to address the health concerns identified in the CHNA.

PRIORITY: Diabetes

Diabetes is not only a national health concern, but also a major health concern within Hampton County. The county has a high population of obesity; complications stemming from diabetes are common. Education plays a major role in reducing diabetic related health complications.

- HRMC's Dietician has implemented a series of diabetic awareness classes, which are offered free-of-cost to the general public. The classes have been advertised via social media, as well as local news media. Primary care physicians routinely refer patients to our skilled dietician.
- HRMC offers one-on-one outpatient diabetic counseling services.
- HRMC's cafeteria has introduced a new Wellness menu that offers patrons/patients a broad variety of health conscious foods. We think promoting healthy eating within the hospital not only benefits our employees and guests, but also gives them ideas to share at home.
- Continue to develop patient education resources on these topics.
- Our Coastal Plains Primary care facility now offers diabetic A1C testing to patients. On-site results are available, allowing for care plans to be initiated without delay.

PRIORITY: Babies, children and adolescents

One of the most critical priorities identified under this category was the lower than average birth weight's of newborns in our community. In an attempt to increase the health and wellness of babies, children and adolescents in our community, our hospital will research the following measures.

- Advertise HRMC's recent partnership with MUSC to offer telepediatric critical care services at our facility.
- Partner offering prenatal educational classes/seminars on campus in an attempt to increase the birth weight of area infants. We will seek to partner with
- Research and implement evening hours of operation at Coastal Plains Primary Care.
- Continue to participate in career days/job fairs at local schools. HRMC has had a long-term relationship with area school districts and has allowed for the mentoring of students here at the hospital throughout the years.
- Research the ability to provide adolescent vaccination services at Coastal Plains Primary Care. We think offering this service will help HRMC improve family/physician relationships.

PRIORITY: Health Education

Health education is vital to the health and wellbeing of community members. HRMC offers several informational health classes and will continue to partner with local organizations to provide additional community outreach and education.

- HRMC staff has attended local church meetings and health fairs to provide community members information on topics to include; stroke information and the warning signs of a stroke, heart health, diabetic health and classes regarding general wellness to combat obesity. Classes will continue to be offered.
- Continue to host an annual Health Fair; this year's event will be held on campus and will offer community members an opportunity to meet with physicians and receive additional health related information.
- HRMC continues to partner with the Technical College of the Lowcountry and the University of South Carolina, Salkehatchie to offer enrolled college students an opportunity to train in a real-world hospital setting.
- The hospital often participates in area school's Job Shadow days. Children enjoy learning about the medical profession.
- Develop a health themed radio program in Allendale County to directly reach a larger population of our service area.

PRIORITY: Access to Care

Data has shown a lack of local transportation options contributes to the lack of access to healthcare. The lack of access to quality medical care is a serious health related issue for community members.

- HRMC has recently hired multiple primary care physicians to provide additional scheduling opportunities for community members. HRMC is also working towards expanding clinic hours to provide patients access to primary care for non-emergency visits.
- Unfortunately, a lack of access due to transportation is not easily remedied. High transportation costs limit the possibility of hospital shuttle service and/or other means of hospital provided transportation.
- HRMC partners with several medical transport companies who work to bring community members struggling to find transportation to medical care facilities.
- HRMC will continue to speak with local leaders and research various ways in which residents may be accommodated.
- Marketing will create content informing residents about the importance of regular primary health care checkups.

PRIORITY: Substance abuse

Unfortunately, substance abuse has long been a negative influencing factor on the health and wellbeing of those living rural areas. HRMC identified from data collected in our most recent Health Needs Assessment that combating substance abuse is a major priority within our community.

- Partner with local community groups and provide a resource list of AA and NA meeting dates/times/locations as a service for those struggling with substance abuse.
- Research providing drug awareness classes within the community.
- Provide a community drug take-back box on campus (offer incentives for participation). Provide smoking cessation classes free of charge. Classes will be conducted by HRMC's cardiopulmonary staff.

Unaddressed Healthcare Issues

Some healthcare issues identified in the study could not be addressed with the limited resources available in this small rural area. Limited financial access and the lack of transportation are two impediments which continue to be difficult areas to address. Also, efforts to partner with an OBGYN have not been successful due, in part, to HRMC's rural setting. Therefore, the hospital cannot address every need outlined in the annual Health Needs Assessment.

HRMC recognizes the importance of these needs, but feels it is important to the effectiveness of the priorities listed that we align our resources with the intention of making the most positive impact we can in our community.