

CHNA Conclusions and Prioritized Health Needs

The consortium partners involved in this Community Health Needs Assessment process share a common vision of improving health in their communities, and beyond. Each participating organization has different resources, work with a different set of specific community attributes, and each will ultimately address community health needs in somewhat different ways. Nevertheless, the partners agree on the following, identified health needs listed below:

1. Empowering people
 - Reducing/eliminating barriers to access
 - Creating opportunities for screenings/early intervention
 - Alzheimer's/ Dementia
 - Cardiovascular disease/ Stroke
 - Diabetes
 - Mental Health
 - Cancer
 - Improving health literacy
 - Providing health and wellness education
 - Eliminating the stigma of mental health

2. Connecting people to services and resources
 - Improving patient advocacy
 - Raising awareness of existing clinical services
 - Mental health
 - Preventive services
 - Family medical care
 - First-trimester care
 - Alzheimer's care
 - Diabetes care
 - Offering important community services
 - Smoking cessation
 - Pregnancy, labor and delivery classes
 - Free or low-cost health and wellness classes
 - Senior specific programs
 - Increasing cancer screening and prevention awareness
 - Improve access to mental health services
 - Recruiting and retaining dental providers/improving access to dentistry

3. Creating a healthy environment and a culture of wellness
 - Promoting healthy eating and active living and support healthy choices
 - Promoting access to healthy foods and activities
 - Engaging in injury awareness activities
 - Supporting prevention of drug and excessive alcohol use
 - Focusing education and change on underlying causes of chronic illnesses

Gundersen Boscobel Area Hospital and Clinics

Community Health Needs Assessment Implementation Plan

2016-2018

Need	Issue	Strategy	Actions
Improve mental health support in community	<p>Lack of access to mental health providers and facilities</p> <p>Stereotypes and lack of education hold back patients from seeking out the help they need</p>	<p>Partner with local agencies and facilities to improve access to mental health services</p> <p>Educate the community and our patients on mental health</p>	<p>Work closely with SWCAP on their developing mental health grant and initiative</p> <p>Initiate a “Change Direction” campaign in the Boscobel area, partnering with local organizations to help lead the initiative</p> <p>Improve internal education on mental health services available in the region</p>
Support drug abuse and excessive alcohol use prevention efforts	<p>Culture of binge drinking and smoking</p> <p>Prescription pain medication abuse and addiction</p>	<p>Partner with local organizations on strategies and programs</p> <p>Create processes and programs to educate and appropriately restrict abuse</p>	<p>Institute pain contracts within our primary care clinics</p> <p>Host educational seminars on dealing with substance abuse addictions</p> <p>Promote a medication waste program, partnering with the local Pharmacy and law enforcement</p>
<p>Support for individuals and families with Alzheimer’s and Dementia</p> <p>Support for individuals with aging challenges</p>	<p>Lack of resources and support in the rural area</p>	<p>Work with local organizations to improve resources for individuals and families with Alzheimer’s and Dementia</p>	<p>Develop a resource guide of local available resources and services for aging individuals and their families</p> <p>Offer education opportunities for individuals and families with aging challenges, Alzheimer’s and Dementia</p>
Improve socioeconomic factors	<p>The Boscobel area has socioeconomic factors that have an impact on health like: poverty, poor housing, education, etc</p>	<p>Work with local organizations to improve socioeconomic factors</p>	<p>Collaborate with local schools, civic organizations, businesses, SWTC, and SWCAP on programs and initiatives that seek to improve socioeconomic factors in the Boscobel area</p>
Improve Patient Advocacy	<p>Healthcare is tough to navigate with health insurance and system complexities</p>	<p>Create and develop positions that offer increased support for patients having difficulty navigating the healthcare system and health insurance issues</p>	<p>Rollout the Patient Access Specialist position that will support patients in navigating the healthcare system</p> <p>Promote this and other support positions internally and in the community for patient’s awareness of the available resources</p>

Need	Issue	Strategy	Actions
Increase cancer screening and service access	Rural areas provide limited access to cancer services	Grow cancer program in Boscobel, through increased services and screening opportunities	Partner with Gundersen Cancer Outreach to grow program in Boscobel Offer cancer screening programs and educational events
Connect People to Services and Resources Raise awareness of existing clinical services Reduce and Eliminate barriers to access	Rural communities are underserved in specialty services with lengthy travel restricting access	Partner with Gundersen Health System to grow and mature outreach specialty programs Use innovation and technology to expand capabilities and service offerings	Develop and promote new outreach programs utilizing partnership with Gundersen Health System Expand and mature Telemedicine programs to improve stroke and other care offerings
Promote access to healthy foods and activities Provide health and wellness education Engage in injury awareness activities Create Opportunities for screenings/early intervention Offering Important Community Services	Lack of information, direction, and skills limit community members in their ability to improve their lifestyle and behavior choices	Offer education opportunities within the community to improve awareness and grow skill sets Partner with community organizations to meet their education needs	Promote and grow Diabetic Education Program, along with offer diabetic educational seminars Offer educational seminars at hospital to meet recognized community needs, such as medication reconciliation Work with local community center to offer trainings and screenings Partner with school district to assist with need health awareness areas, such as concussion prevention.