

Titusville Area Hospital 2022 Community Health Needs Assessment Implementation Plan

The 2022 Community Health Needs Assessment (CHNA) was conducted in collaboration between Meadville Medical Center (MMC), Titusville Area Hospital (TAH), Allegheny College and various local community partners. Data was collected via internal data, publicly assessable health information, and more than 1,100 surveys.

An analysis of the data showed a need to support community members in leading a healthier lifestyle. Specifically, substance abuse, obesity, poor eating habits, a lack of access to healthy foods, and sedentary lifestyles were the main reasons why respondents believed individuals in Crawford County were struggling to lead healthy lifestyles.

Survey data identified longer than acceptable wait times for certain healthcare services across the county. 7.1% of respondents stated they did not access medical care when they needed it because wait times were too long, making this a priority focus. While the survey data represents the county as a whole, at TAH, dental service is the primary service that is identified as experiencing long wait times to be seen by provider.

Cost of healthcare, along with nationwide economic conditions, is a concern. TAH and MMC remain a low-cost healthcare provider in the region, according to the Pennsylvania Health Care Cost Containment Council, however with rising insurance deductibles, co-pays and increasing labor and supply cost managing operational expenses is a priority.

In the 2016 CHNA, 73% of all respondents said they had an annual checkup in the prior year while in 2022 80% have received a check-up in the prior year. During the 2019 CHNA there was a decrease of 14% among respondents who stated they had a primary care physician. The goal is to connect individuals with a consistent care provider, but our hope is the most recent data shows there has been a positive improvement in individuals getting routine screenings.

In the 2016 CHNA 14% of respondents said they used tobacco, in 2019 35% reported smoking (current and former) and in 2022 9.2% reported using tobacco. This decrease reflects positive outcomes from prior strategies which will continue into the future.

The most important health issue in our community, selected by 63% of respondents, is mental health. Increasing access to behavioral health services by adding additional providers and connecting with individuals in remote areas of the County is critical. Pediatric counselors and support services across the County and in the schools needs to become a community-wide priority.

Priority Focus

- 1) Cost of Healthcare
 - a) Negotiate with insurance providers to maintain fair and affordable rates
 - b) Limit the number of contracted employees in order to mitigate excessively higher labor costs
 - c) Monitor pharmaceutical costs in order to identify most affordable options
 - d) Continue promoting and operating five Rural Health Centers while expanding capacity
 - e) Expand price transparency for options and comprehensive price calculators for patients

- 2) Behavioral Health Services
 - a) MMC currently employees five psychiatrists which is more than ever in the past, however additional counselors are needed
 - b) Pediatric behavior health services are a priority but have been incredibly challenging to find
 - c) Work with local school districts and youth service agencies to provide the most effective level of support with current resources
 - d) Encourage and work with government agencies to commit more resources to these incredibly important needs

- 3) Access to Care
 - a) Expand primary care and specialty services at the RHC locations including services at the TAH dental clinic

- 4) Healthy Lifestyle Support
 - a) Expand nutrition education opportunities
 - b) Increase fitness and activity options to decrease sedentary lifestyles
 - c) Participate in the Health Equity Initiative that will be established by MMC which will include multiple disciplines and agencies in the community to reduce the current health disparities in the community

Community Health Needs Assessment Survey Data

Source For Information (Choose two)

| | |
|--------------------------|-----------|
| News: | 75% (846) |
| Government: | 54% (613) |
| Friends: | 24% (269) |
| Social Media: | 23% (259) |
| Community Organizations: | 15% (174) |
| Doctors: | 9% (105) |
| Internet: | 2% (17) |

Age

| | |
|---------|-----------|
| 90+ | 1% (9) |
| 80-89 | 4% (50) |
| 70-79 | 13% (144) |
| 60-69 | 19% (220) |
| 50-59 | 20% (231) |
| 40-49 | 16% (177) |
| 30-39 | 12% (140) |
| 20-29 | 9% (97) |
| 14-19 | 2% (21) |
| Unknown | 4% (40) |

Highest Level of Education

| | |
|---|-----------|
| I did not graduate from high school | 3% (30) |
| I graduated high school or equivalent (for example, GED) | 41% (458) |
| Bachelor's degree (for example, BA or BS) | 30% (340) |
| Graduate degree (for example, master or doctorate degree) | 25% (278) |
| Did Not Answer | 2% (22) |

Time Since Last Check Up

| | |
|--|-----------|
| I have never been to a healthcare provider for a checkup or wellness visit | 1% (10) |
| Within the last year | 80% (908) |
| 1-2 years ago | 10% (118) |
| 3-5 years ago | 5% (56) |
| More than 5 years ago | 3% (31) |
| Did Not Answer | 0.4% (5) |

% of people who received COVID vaccine: 84.7% (955)

% of people who use tobacco: 9.2% (104)

Were you unable to get medical care when you needed it?

| | | |
|--|-----|-------|
| Yes | 149 | 13.2% |
| I couldn't afford to pay my co-pay or deductible | 51 | 4.5% |
| I didn't have any way to get to the doctor | 24 | 2.1% |
| I was afraid | 17 | 1.5% |
| The doctor or clinic refused to take my insurance (including Medicaid) | 15 | 1.3% |
| The wait for an appointment was too long | 80 | 7.1% |

Were you unable to get dental care when you needed it?

| | | |
|---|-----|-------|
| Yes | 149 | 13.2% |
| I could not afford to pay my co-pay or deductible | 34 | 3.0% |
| I don't have any way to get to the dentist | 15 | 1.3% |
| I was afraid | 17 | 1.5% |
| The dentist refused to take my insurance (including Medicaid) | 30 | 2.7% |
| The wait for an appointment was too long | 65 | 5.8% |

Was there a time you were unable to get mental health services when you needed it?

| | | |
|---|-----|-------|
| Yes | 116 | 10.3% |
| I could not afford to pay my co-pay or deductible | 39 | 3.5% |
| I didn't know how to find a provider or counselor | 31 | 2.7% |
| The wait for an appointment was too long | 59 | 5.2% |
| The provider or counselor refused to take my insurance (including Medicaid) | 21 | 1.9% |
| I was afraid | 18 | 1.6% |

Were you unable to get substance abuse services when you needed it?

Yes: 0.9% (10)

Was there a time when these children tried to access healthcare services but not get them?

Yes: 2.3% (26)

What do you think are the most important health issues in our community?
Choose up to THREE.

| | |
|--|-----------|
| Mental health | 63% (496) |
| Obesity | 56% (442) |
| Aging issues, such as Alzheimer's disease, hearing loss, memory loss, or arthritis | 36% (285) |
| Cancer | 32% (251) |
| Chronic Pain | 16% (130) |
| Diabetes | 16% (125) |
| Heart Disease | 13% (105) |
| Dental Health | 13% (100) |
| infectious (contagious) diseases, such as influenza or pneumonia | 11% (84) |
| Early sexual activity/teen pregnancy | 10% (81) |
| Other | 8% (66) |
| Lung disease | 5% (38) |
| infectious (contagious) diseases, such as influenza or pneumonia | 4% (34) |
| Stroke | 2% (17) |
| STDs | 1% (8) |
| HIV/AIDS | 0% (3) |

What do you think are the most important unhealthy behaviors impacting our community's health? Choose up to THREE.

| | |
|--|-----------|
| Drug Abuse | 74% (582) |
| Poor Eating | 41% (327) |
| Alcohol Abuse | 40% 314 |
| Poverty | 39% (304) |
| Lack of Exercise | 32% (253) |
| Smoking | 19% (149) |
| Not able to access Healthcare Services | 16% (130) |
| Poor Health Education | 14% (111) |
| Unsafe Housing | 8% (61) |
| Risky Sexual Behavior | 4% (28) |
| Elderly Abuse | 2% (18) |
| Reckless Driving | 2% (18) |
| Other | 2% (15) |

