

2024 CHNA Implementation Plan

Community Health Needs Assessment

Decatur Health’s (DH) 2024 Community Health Needs Assessment (CHNA) was completed in June of 2024 with the assistance of the VVV Consultants LLC located in Olathe, Kansas. This CHNA utilizes relevant Health data and stakeholder input to identify the significant community health needs in Decatur County, Kansas.

The CHNA Team consisting of leadership from DH reviewed a summary of the research findings created by VVV Consulting. Five significant community health needs were identified by assessing the prevalence of issues identified from the health data findings. The CHNA Team and stakeholders participated in a prioritization ballot to rank the top five areas on concern that will be address in the upcoming years.

The list of prioritized needs is listed below.

1. **Mental Health (Diagnosis, Placement, Aftercare, Access to Providers**
2. **EMS Staffing and EMS Services**
3. **Improve access to Specialists and Specialized Care and Dental Care**
4. **Improve access, recruitment, and retention of family medicine physicians and providers**
5. **Economic Development**

Hospital leadership has developed the following implementation plan to identify specific stakeholders/activities and services which will directly address these priorities. The objectives were identified by collection of data and survey of the community and stakeholders. This study and selection of the prioritized health needs are within the context of the hospitals overall strategic plan. The availability of resources and funding are factors for success in the implementation plan.

The DH Board reviewed and adopted the 2024 Community Health Needs Assessment and Implementation Plan.

The plan includes the hospital/community initiatives, primary objective of such initiatives, performance metrics/outcomes, key partners and evaluation dates. The hospital leadership is committed to fulfill the initiatives and meet the goals of the CHNA by increasing collaboration and securing funding opportunities. The hospital will continue to work towards financial stability in the ever-changing reimbursement challenges to continue to provide quality health care, emergency care and offer employment opportunities and retention of skilled professionals.

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| **Identified****Community Health Need** | **Hospital Initiative** | **Primary Objective of the Initiative** | **Key Performance Metrics and Outcomes** | **Key Partners, Stakeholders, and Resources** | **Evaluation Dates** | **Comments** |
| **Mental Health (Diagnosis, Placement, Aftercare, Access to Providers**  | Collaborate with schools to educate students on mental healthComplete/maintain a community inventory Survey to document specific Mental Health services that are established.Support New 988 24- hour Crisis line Social Worker – increase coverage  | Implement and offer programs that aim to address access to mental and behavior health care services in the community through recruitment of services and increase utilization of current resources. Do education on New 988 and collaborate with High Plains Mental health Continue Decatur Health social worker services and look at ways to increase these  | Decrease time to access Mental health services, access to inpatient care as evidenced by Decatur Health “holds” to less than 48 hours. Work with High Plains to stay abreast of the new facility that is planned in Hays. A 24 bed – 72 hour – involuntary care with detox capabilities to be completed in 2025 Look at the possibility of hiring or doing increased Telehealth with a social worker or licensed Mental health  | Schools Outpatient and telehealth High Plains Mental HealthClinicLaw Enforcement Health Department EMS High PlainsEmployee Health/Schools Work with schools and recruitment fairs and or “grow our own” social worker – School P | Each Calendar Year  |  |

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| **EMS Staffing** **EMS Services**  | Create open communication and collaboration with EMSCreate High School EMS Shadow Program Explore partnerships with surrounding communities to share EMS staff and ambulances to reduce shortages Explore grants/funding for EMS education Mentor program for students to assist with passing license testing.  | Create a working partnership to have improved coverage for EMS Creating a pipeline of EMS students to continue to establish a solid crewImprove ground coverage for NW Kansas to include Oberlin, Norton, Atwood and HoxieFunding to offset working hours and allow for education of EMS classes to adult learners Hospital to partner with EMS for ER shadowing and additional training  | Provide Joint education opportunities for EMS/Law enforcement and hospital staff. EMS Shadowing program will be in place in 2025 Roster sharing for coverage. Hospital staff assisting with ground transports. Award of grant or county funding to increase enrollment and retention of students in the programs Increase pass rate of exam by 25% | EMSLaw Enforcement EM (Emergency Management)School Providers EMSLook at hospital staffing and cross trainingGrant writers SAM.gov site GROW grants Patterson Hansen Education with McCook EMS and or Norton for opportunities to improve critical thinking skill/knowledge  | Each calendar year | Joint education provided on Trauma for EMS/Law enforcement, nursing and providers. 12/4/2024 – Mock school shooting drill – mutual aid and hospital participation for victims.  |

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| **Improve access to Specialists and Specialized Care****Dentist**  | To request Specialty Physician visits on a periodic basis to provide specialty care in the communityProvide and continually expand telemedicine services for specialty care | To facilitate programs that will recruit/retain Specialty Physicians to the community for services currently unavailable or underserved in the community’s service areaExplore the needs for Oncology, Urology, Nephrology, Pulmonology, Dermatology, and  | Expected outcome will be to retain and increase access to Specialists and Specialized Care to the community’s health needs in our rural environment.Key Metrics:Network with regional HCO’s administratorsInterview specialty physiciansCollaborate with regional HCOsHPM Pain management continues to provide specialty care  | McCook Community HospitalGreat Plains Regional Health CenterGood Samaritan Kearney, NEKearney RegionalHays Medical CenterHolistic Pain Management KU Rural Health Education and Retention CenterOther area hospitals, independent practices, and health service centers providing specialty care. | Each calendar year |  |

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| **Improve access, recruitment, and retention of family medicine physicians and providers** | Identify new opportunities to recruitment and retention: Continue developing relationships with KU Medical School, WSU, and Union College, LMEP, UNMC Develop relationships with external stakeholders for networking and recruitmentJoin HHA (Heartland Health Alliance) residency placement program Secure funding opportunities /grants/loans to assist with cost of recruitment and retention  | To improve access to primary care providers within our communityAttend Career Fairs to increase awareness of Oberlin Provider housing for students Facilitate a collaboration between the physician’s recruitment committee, community, and other organizations to aid in the recruitment processSecure funding  | KUMC and HHA gives direct access to medical students and physicians.WSU & Union College gives direct access to PA students.Key Metrics:Opportunity to recruit full-time practitionersIncrease visibility, market and foster relationships with KUMC and healthcare organizationsAttend career fairs; network with KUMC affiliatesGROW Grant Hansen Grant Patterson Family Grant  | The University of Kansas Medical Center/ Dr. Craig BartruffWSU PA ProgramUnion College PA ProgramKU Rural Health Education and Recruitment & Retention CenterEconomic Development CommitteeGrow CommitteeGrant writers Students  | Each calendar year | Students from WSU, KU, Wichita (APP and MD residents) are requesting rotations at Decatur Health Application on 12.4.2024 for $130K grant funding for recruitment of a FP |

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| **Economic Development**  | Promote and advertise to surrounding colleges – job fairs and mentorships Collaborate with other entities to look at cross training and sharing Review Chamber Plan and engagement in Chamber and EconomicDevelopment Rotary attendance Facebook and Website development  | Continue to be one of the largest employers and promote growth of the community and job opportunities by increase of outpatient servicesEMS/hospital cross training Funding/Grants  Participation in strategic planning for Oberlin and surrounding areas - Extension Community involvement Assist with online presence to promote Decatur Health and Oberlin  | Retention rate at or below 18% Recruit skilled candidates to fill positionsAssist /participate with High School mentorships Create a culture of collaboration within the community Grant Awards Decatur Health represented at Chamber Decatur Health represented at Rotary Creation and updating FB and Website  | School Economic Development Chamber of Commerce County Grow Grants Hansen Patterson Chamber, economic development Grow foundation Hire web developer – Marketing Team  | Each calendar year |  |