

Anderson County Hospital Community Health Needs Assessment Implementation Plan

2022

◆ Anderson County Hospital



Anderson County Hospital CHNA Implementation Strategy

Adopted by the Anderson County Hospital Board of Directors on December 20, 2021.

This implementation strategy describes how Anderson County Hospital (ACH or the hospital) plans to address significant needs described in the Community Health Needs Assessment (CHNA) published by the hospital on December 20, 2021. See the CHNA report at <https://www.saintlukeskc.org/community-health-needs-assessments-implementation-plans>. ACH plans to implement the initiatives described herein during calendar years 2022 through 2024.

Conducting the CHNA and developing this implementation strategy were undertaken by the hospital to assess and address significant health needs in the community served by ACH, and in accordance with Internal Revenue Service regulations in Section 501(r) of the Internal Revenue Code.

This implementation strategy addresses the significant community health needs described in the CHNA report. This document identifies the significant needs the hospital plans to address through various strategic initiatives and also explains why the hospital does not intend to address certain other significant needs identified in the CHNA report.

This document contains the following information:

1. About ACH
2. Definition of the Community Assessed by ACH
3. Summary of Significant Community Health Needs
4. Implementation Strategy to Address Significant Health Needs
5. Significant Community Health Needs ACH Will Not Address
6. Adoption of the Implementation Strategy by ACH's Authorized Body

1. About ACH

Anderson County Hospital is a critical access hospital located in Garnett, Kansas. As a part of Saint Luke's Health System, Anderson County Hospital provides access to leading medical and surgical protocols. The facility includes a 24/7 Level IV Trauma Center with on-site transport and helipad, inpatient care, outpatient surgery and rehabilitation, laboratory and imaging services (including 3-D mammography), highly trained physicians and specialists at Anderson County Specialty Clinic, and the Residential Living Center. Additional information about ACH is available at: <https://www.saintlukeskc.org/locations/anderson-county-hospital>.

Saint Luke's Health System ("SLHS") is a faith-based, not-for-profit health system committed to the highest levels of excellence in providing health care and health-related services in a caring environment. The system is dedicated to enhancing the physical, mental, and spiritual health of the diverse communities it serves. Saint Luke's Health System operates 18 hospitals and

campuses across the Kansas City region, home care and hospice services, behavioral health care, dozens of physician practices, a life care senior living community, and additional facilities and services. Additional information regarding SLHS is available at:

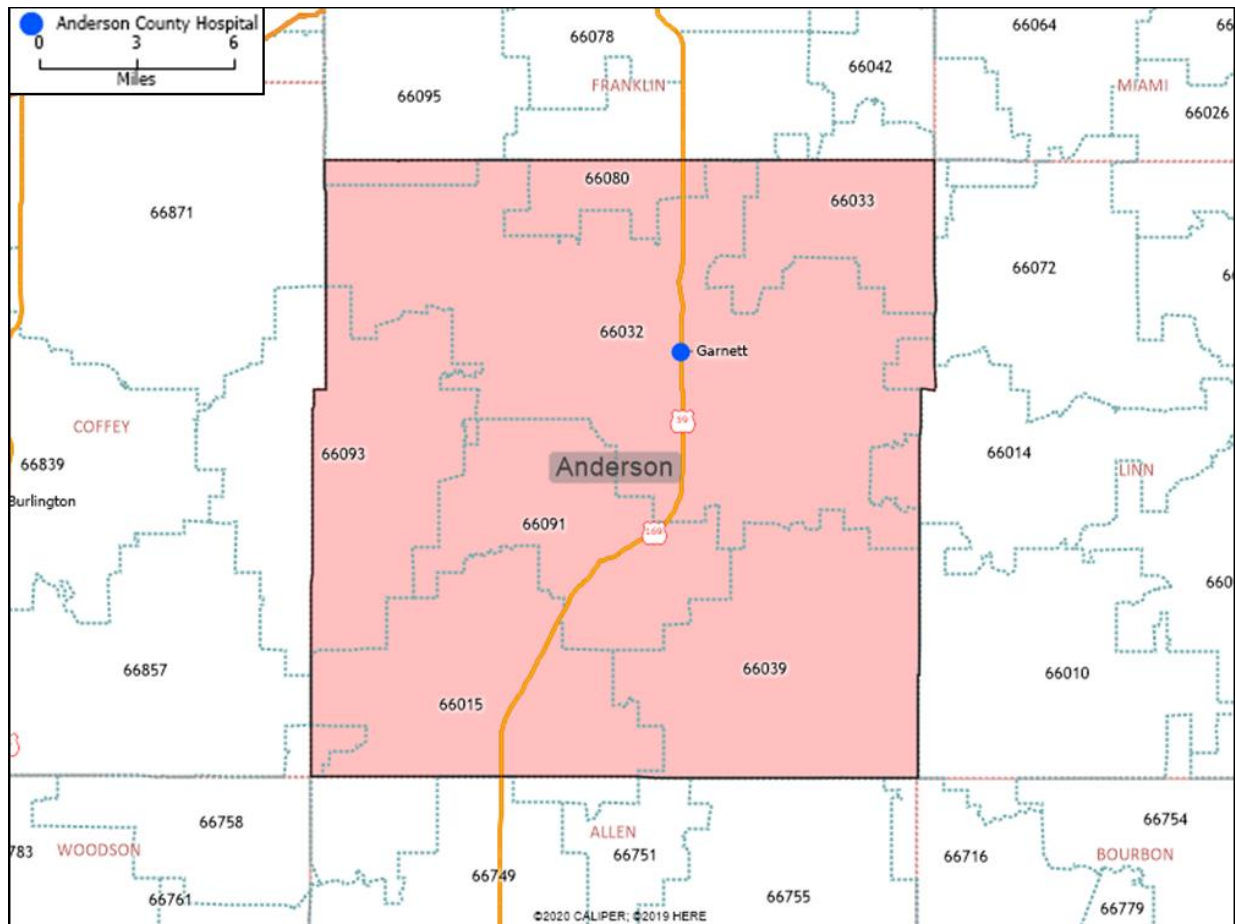
<https://www.saintlukeskc.org/about-saint-lukes>.

2. Definition of the Community Assessed by ACH

For purposes of this CHNA, ACH’s community is defined as Anderson County, Kansas. The community was defined by considering the geographic origins of the hospital’s inpatient discharges and emergency room visits in calendar year 2020. Anderson County accounted for approximately 78 percent of the hospital’s 2020 inpatient discharges and 76 percent of emergency room cases.

The total population of Anderson County in 2019 was 7,835.

The following map portrays the community assessed by ACH and the hospital’s location within Anderson County.



Source: Caliper Maptitude, 2020.

3. Summary of Significant Community Health Needs

As determined by analyses of quantitative and qualitative data, the significant health needs in the community served by Anderson County Hospital are:

- Access to Care
- Aging Population Needs
- COVID-19 Pandemic and Effects
- Health Education and Preventive Health
- Mental Health and Access to Mental Health Services
- Obesity and Physical Inactivity
- Poverty
- Substance Use Disorders

The CHNA report for ACH describes each of the above community health needs and why they were determined to be significant.

4. Implementation Strategy to Address Significant Health Needs

This implementation strategy describes how ACH plans to address the significant community health needs identified in the 2021 CHNA report. A committee comprised of ACH staff, ACH board members, and community representatives who are unaffiliated with ACH or SLHS reviewed findings in that report and identified significant community health needs that the hospital intends and does not intend to address during calendar years 2022 through 2024.

As part of that decision-making process, the committee considered criteria such as:

- Whether the need is being addressed by other organizations;
- The extent to which the hospital has expertise or competencies to address the need;
- The availability of resources and evidence-based interventions needed to address the need effectively;
- The frequency with which stakeholders identified the need as a significant priority; and
- The potential for collaborations with other community organizations to help address the issue.

By applying these criteria, ACH determined that it will implement initiatives to address the following three significant health needs:

- Access to Care (Including Access to COVID-19 Treatment and Testing Services)
- Mental Health and Access to Mental Health Services
- Obesity and Physical Inactivity

The following pages describe the actions ACH intends to implement to address each of the above needs, including planned collaborations between the hospital and other organizations.

Access to Care (Including Access to COVID-19 Treatment and Testing Services)

To address this need, ACH will implement the following initiatives:

1. Support SLHS advocacy efforts to expand Medicaid eligibility in Kansas.
2. Provide assistance to patients with the Medicaid application process.
3. Help patients enroll in general insurance programs including Medicare.
4. Expand virtual visit options for all community members including low-income communities.
5. Support SLHS efforts to update the Financial Assistance Policy and include coverage for Telehealth (virtual visit) services.
6. Enhance the existing pool of funds set aside to help patients pay for transportation after discharge.
7. Continue providing access to Wellness Clinic services for members of the Unified School District (USD-365 Garnett).
8. Continue providing vaccine and immunization services for adults and children and support providing flu vaccines in area schools.
9. Continue providing (and expanding access to) physicals for students in K-12 schools.
10. Conduct community blood drives.
11. Continue helping patients apply for Medication Assistance Access Programs offered by pharmaceutical companies.
12. Develop and implement a medication history program (with medication history technicians) to provide accurate information across SLHS.
13. Continue screening patients for transportation needs and making referrals for those in need to appropriate community resources.
14. Continue providing staff to address COVID-19 vaccine safety and benefits, social distancing strategies, masking and PPE, and patient education during discharge planning.
15. Continue providing access to COVID-19 vaccines at primary care clinics.
16. Continue providing pandemic-related community health education through social media and marketing initiatives.
17. Provide community health education for prevention and recognition of cardiac illness.

18. Provide CPR training in off-site settings.

Principal Collaborators. In implementing the above Access to Care initiatives, ACH intends to collaborate with other SLHS entities (including Allen County Regional Hospital), the Kansas Hospital Association, area school districts, and area community health centers (FQHCs).

Mental Health and Access to Mental Health Services

To address this need, ACH will implement the following initiatives:

1. Continue connecting patients with Senior Life Solutions, a group counseling (mental health services) program for seniors.
2. Actively recruit mental health providers to serve diverse populations.
3. Support expansion of Crittenton Children’s Center Trauma Smart program into area schools.
4. Explore partnership opportunities with the Southeast Kansas Mental Health Center:
 - a. Social workers
 - b. Therapists placed in schools
 - c. Mental health first aid training
 - d. Advocacy for state support of mental health services
 - e. Other services
5. Screen students for mental health issues and risks when conducting physicals.
6. Collect unused medications through community-based drop boxes and a collections service.

Principal Collaborators. In implementing the above Mental Health and Access to Mental Health Services initiatives, ACH intends to collaborate with other SLHS entities (including Crittenton Children’s Center and Allen County Regional Hospital), the Southeast Kansas Mental Health Center, Senior Life Solutions, and area school districts.

Obesity and Physical Inactivity

To address this need, ACH will implement the following initiatives:

1. Continue screening patients for food insecurity and providing referrals to appropriate community resources.
2. Continue participating in health fairs that help identify and manage risks associated with obesity and associated chronic conditions.

3. Continue providing support for on-site community outdoor fitness area.
4. Provide Eating Healthy During Pregnancy nutrition education.
5. Expand access to (and better promote) SLHS online support groups, including Gilda's Club.
6. Begin offering free or sliding fee scale group exercise ("Stay in Shape") programs for children and teens.

Principal Collaborators. In implementing the above Obesity and Physical Inactivity initiatives, ACH intends to collaborate with other SLHS entities (including Allen County Regional Hospital), and community agencies focused on access to healthy food.

5. Needs ACH Will Not Address

No hospital organization can address all of the health needs present in its community. ACH is committed to serving the community by adhering to its mission, using its skills and capabilities, and remaining a strong organization so that it can continue to provide a wide range of community benefits.

ACH plans to address the following significant community health needs as part the above strategic initiatives that focus on access to care, mental health, and obesity and physical inactivity:

- Health Education and Preventive Health
- Substance Use Disorders

ACH does not intend to address two of the eight significant community health needs identified through its 2021 CHNA, namely:

- Aging Population Needs
- Poverty

Needs of Growing Senior Population. ACH and SLHS recognize that significant growth is projected for the population aged 65 years and older. The committee charged with developing this implementation strategy concluded that based on the criteria described above, the hospital's implementation strategy should focus on other, higher priority types of community health needs.

Poverty. While the hospital's 2021 CHNA identified poverty and affordable housing as significant community health needs, the committee charged with developing this implementation strategy identified other needs as higher priorities for the 2022-2024 implementation strategy. The hospital's Financial Assistance Policy provides discounts for eligible, low-income households and for those with catastrophic medical bills. The hospital also is a major employer and recognizes its role in enhancing the area's economy. This implementation strategy includes several initiatives designed to ensure that community members living in poverty have access to

preventive services and efforts to collaborate with community organizations that assist low-income residents.

6. Implementation Strategy Adoption

The Board of Directors for ACH reviewed and adopted this implementation strategy at its December 20, 2021 board meeting.

> **Contact us**

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