

Wright Memorial Hospital Community Benefit Implementation Plan 2014



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Wright Memorial Hospital

Community Benefit Implementation Plan 2014

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I. Introduction

Wright Memorial Hospital is a critical access hospital providing Trenton, Mo. and surrounding communities with essential health care services and local access to Saint Luke's Hospital of Kansas City. Founded in 1903, Wright opened a new, state-of-the-art facility in 2011.

The 25-bed full-service hospital features 24-hour emergency services, a maternity center with private labor/delivery/recovery rooms, surgical services, and outpatient imaging services such as MRI, CT, and digital mammography. Additionally, an outpatient Specialty Clinic welcomes many specialists including cardiology, ENT, GI, oncology, orthopedics, and podiatry.

Mission: Wright Memorial Hospital is a faith-based, not-for-profit community hospital committed to the highest levels of excellence in providing health care and health related services in a caring environment. As a member of Saint Luke's Health System we are dedicated to enhancing the physical, mental, and spiritual health of the diverse communities we serve.

Vision: The best place to get care. The best place to give care.

II. Purpose of Implementation Plan

This Implementation Plan addresses the community health needs identified in the 2012 Community Health Needs Assessment (CHNA) prepared for Wright Memorial Hospital. This Plan serves as Wright Memorial Hospital's implementation strategy for meeting those needs including setting the goals and objectives for providing community benefits. The Plan also meets the requirements for community benefit planning as set forth in federal law, including but not limited to: *The Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act of 2010*.

III. How the Implementation Plan Was Developed

This Implementation Plan was developed based on the findings established in the Community Health Needs Assessment (CHNA) prepared for Wright Memorial Hospital, as well as through a review of existing community benefit activities.

IV. Community Health Needs

Wright Memorial Hospital undertook a structured approach to determine health needs including analysis of public health data, interviews with health care professionals, and input from community members. The Community Health Needs Assessment identified six major health needs:

- Adult Obesity
- Adult Smoking
- Lack of Access to Mental Health Providers and Services
- Lack of Primary Care Access and Physicians
- Preventable Hospitalizations
- Children in Poverty

V. How Priorities Were Determined

Priority needs were identified based on input and analysis from several groups including hospital representatives and outside agencies providing services in the community. The process recognized all six

needs identified in the CHNA as primary community health needs which should be addressed by Wright Memorial Hospital.

Priority Needs:

1. Adult Obesity
2. Adult Smoking
3. Lack of Access to Mental Health Providers and Services
4. Lack of Primary Care Access and Physicians
5. Preventable Hospitalizations
6. Children in Poverty

VI. What Wright Memorial Hospital Will Do to Address Priority Needs

The following section outlines how Wright Memorial Hospital plans to address priority needs. Along with the specific programs detailed below, Wright Memorial Hospital will continue to meet community needs by providing Trenton, Mo. and surrounding communities with a broad range of essential health care services.

1. Adult Obesity

Adult obesity is becoming an epidemic in the U.S. and increases the risk for countless health conditions. Obesity is an energy imbalance due to a lack of physical activity combined with a poor diet. Obesity can ultimately lead to the following: coronary heart disease, Type 2 diabetes, cancer, hypertension, stroke, gall bladder disorders, respiratory problems, and osteoarthritis.

Wright Memorial Hospital employs a registered dietician to provide services for patients including education on nutritional services. The dietician provides patients with educational material and helps connect them with additional resources provided by the Grundy County Health Department.

Implementation Strategies–Adult Obesity

Wright Memorial Hospital will continue to address adult obesity through a number of healthy lifestyle programs and ongoing community outreach. In 2014, Wright Memorial Hospital will complete a half mile walking trail on campus to improve public access to recreation as well as promote healthy lifestyles within the community. Wright Memorial Hospital also supports Wright Memorial Foundation in their annual 5K and Foundation Golf Tournament, both of which encourage exercise and healthy lifestyles.

2. Adult Smoking

Each year thousands of premature deaths occur primarily due to smoking and it is identified as a contributing factor to multiple diseases such as cancer, cardiovascular disease, and respiratory conditions, to name a few. Alerting communities to the adverse effects of tobacco use can be valuable in assessing the needs for cessation programs or the effectiveness of existing ones.

Tele-health equipment was recently purchased and pulmonology services are being provided to patients at Wright Memorial Hospital. Through the innovative use of Tele-medicine, patients in Grundy County are seen by the same specialty pulmonologist group that works at Saint Luke’s Hospital of Kansas City.

Implementation Strategies–Adult Smoking

Going forward, Wright Memorial Hospital will continue to offer education and assistance to promote smoking cessation in the community. Specifically, Wright Memorial Hospital will refer patients receiving prenatal care to a smoking cessation program at the County Health Department. The program will focus

on the risks of smoking to both mother and child, and provide information about additional resources available in the community. Wright Memorial Hospital will also continue to provide access to pulmonology services to community members through Tele-medicine.

3. Lack of Access to Mental Health Providers and Services

Grundy County continues to be above the Missouri benchmark and well above the national benchmark in regard to the number of poor mental health days reported. Mental health providers include psychiatrists, clinical psychologists, clinical social workers, psychiatric nurse specialists, and marriage/family therapists who meet certain qualifications and certifications. Grundy County is significantly lacking in mental health providers for their community compared to the state of Missouri.

Wright Memorial Hospital currently employs a Psychiatric Mental Health Clinical Nurse Specialist (PMHCNS) who comes to Wright via Tele-health program once a month to treat patients with mental health needs. In addition to the monthly visits, the specialist is also creating specific days to see new patients. In emergency situations, Wright Memorial Hospital has the ability to provide patients with emergent Tele-physic and placement services.

In partnership with Missouri Community Mental Health Liaisons, Wright Memorial Hospital works to assure continuity of care for persons with mental illness. This involves coordination between mental health providers and existing community resources, resulting in a reduced need for emergency department services.

Implementation Strategies–Lack of Access to Mental Health Providers and Services

Wright Memorial Hospital will continue to offer a range of mental health services, including specialist and Tele-health services. Wright Memorial Hospital will also continue to utilize Missouri Community Mental Health Liaisons to coordinate care among mental health patients.

4. Lack of Primary Care Access and Physicians

Grundy County is facing a shortage in primary care services. Primary care shortages are usually seen in Missouri's less populated counties where doctors, dentists, and other providers are likely to be few and far between. Since primary care providers often act as the first point of consultation for patients, primary care often plays a central role in the local community. Without any other resources, patients within the community often seek services from the hospital as a main source of primary care.

A shortage of primary care physicians is always an issue in rural America and Wright Memorial Hospital is striving to improve access for county residents. One such way that Wright is achieving this is by increasing the Tele-health services offered as well as the capacity of certain specialties in the specialty clinic. The other is by continually recruiting family practice physicians and nurse practitioners.

Implementation Strategies–Lack of Primary Care Access and Physicians

Wright Memorial Hospital has developed a provider recruitment plan to meet the anticipated service area needs.

5. Preventable Hospitalizations

County Health Rankings identified preventable hospitalizations as a health vulnerability for Grundy County. One key component in this ranking was the overuse of Wright Memorial as a main source of care by community members.

Wright Memorial Hospital considers health education a critical component in decreasing the amount of preventable hospitalizations. In an effort to decrease the amount of preventable hospitalizations in Grundy County, Wright Memorial Hospital has engaged with several community partners who work to educate at risk populations. The hospital has also increased engagement and sponsorship of community education events. One such event involves Cardiovascular Consultants providing instruction on cardiac disease and prevention techniques.

Implementation Strategies–Preventable Hospitalizations

Wright Memorial Hospital is in the process of developing an inpatient tele-health program for consults to improve access to specialty care and ensure a better continuum of care which will result in reduced readmissions. Increased access to primary care will be realized through extended clinic hours.

6. Children in Poverty

The health of the youth population is vital to the future health of the overall population. Studies have shown that there exists a strong correlation between childhood obesity and adult obesity. There are also key indications that obesity is more prevalent among the lower socioeconomic population. Grundy County has a higher percentage of families living at or below the federal poverty level.

Aside from providing medical care to indigent populations in Grundy County, Wright Memorial Hospital also provides community health improvement services, financial and in-kind contributions, and community benefit operations. One such contribution was towards the Backpack Buddies program with Wright contributing items for the backpack. In addition, Wright sponsors a raffle to help support the Backpack Buddies program and participates in item collection for the local food pantry.

Implementation Strategies–Children in Poverty

Wright Memorial Hospital will continue to support community programs aimed at reducing the percentage of families living in poverty. Wright Memorial Hospital will also continue to provide vital services to children living in poverty while supporting existing community programs through financial and in-kind contributions.

VII. Approval

The Wright Memorial Hospital Board of Directors approved this Community Benefit Implementation Plan on November 26, 2012. This implementation plan specifies community health needs that Wright Memorial Hospital has determined to meet in whole or in part and that are consistent with its mission. The Wright Memorial Hospital Board of Directors reviews the Community Benefit Implementation Plan on an annual basis, and reserves the right to amend it as circumstances warrant.