



Hoopeston Regional Health Center

COMMUNITY BENEFIT IMPLEMENTATION PLAN

CARLE HOOPESTON REGIONAL HEALTH CENTER COMMUNITY BENEFIT IMPLEMENTATION PLAN

Community Health Needs Assessment and Significant Priorities

The Vermilion County Executive Assessment Committee, formed in 2014 and including a group of representatives from Carle Hoopston Regional Health Center (CHRHC), Carle health system, Presence United Samaritans Medical Center, United Way, I Sing the Body Electric, and the Vermilion County Health Department, came together to conduct a Community Health Needs Assessment and determine the most significant community health needs. Using both quantitative and qualitative research, the Committee chose the following three areas as the top health priorities for Vermilion County:

- **Teen Pregnancy**
- **Substance and Alcohol Abuse**
- **Obesity**

While there are a number of additional concerns identified by the data that are worse than state and national benchmarks, including smoking rates, diabetes, motor vehicle crash deaths and violence, CHRHC will not focus on addressing those challenges at this time. The hospital and committee determined the committee does not have the ability to make a measurable impact in those areas, since there are no current services within the county, requiring implementation from the ground up.

As a Critical Access Hospital, Carle Hoopston Regional Health Center will continue its work to improve the overall health of the community through service to its patients, including emphasis on Access to Health Services, and other specialties and services the hospital or Carle health system provides. The Carle Foundation is diligently working to improving access and services throughout the east central Illinois region, not just for this geographic area. Many of the other concerns are also addressed through services provided for Carle patients, but these areas are not the primary emphasis of the Community Benefit Implementation Plan which targets more specific low income populations in Vermilion County.

Regional Executive Committee and Work Groups

Expanding into the region, the Executive Committee joined with counterparts in nearby Champaign County to become the Regional Champaign-Vermilion County Executive Committee in 2016, involving Champaign County in an effort to make the best use of resources and staff. This transition also included hiring and helping to cover the salary of a full-time staff member, responsible for overseeing both Champaign and Vermilion County health plans as an employee of both Champaign and Vermilion County public health departments.

In addition to the Committee, three work groups were formed – one for each priority – in order to determine how to implement programs and tackle these significant health needs. Work groups are comprised of representatives from various health facilities and agencies in town, and meet at least once monthly.

This plan includes Carle Hoopston Regional Health Center's intent to address and measure outcomes from 2015-2018.

Priority #1: Teen Pregnancy

Teen and adolescent health has been a concern in Vermilion County for many years. In the previous implementation plan, Carle Hoopston Regional Health Center addressed this significant need by implementing a number of safe-sex and Sexually Transmitted Disease (STD) prevention programs in the region, and through appropriate testing, treatment and care in outpatient facilities.

In 2013, CHRHC started a school-based education program in Hoopston, offered every other year per written agreement with the Hoopston Board of Education. This program is ongoing and emphasizes safe sex and STD-prevention through education, tailored to each school's needs. Per request from school administration in Milford, this curriculum was presented to Milford High School in 2015, with many other districts in the area considering it for the future. CHRHC is available to the Vermilion County Health Department or other schools if requests for this type of school-based education are needed.

In 2015, CHRHC hired an OB/GYN provider specifically for the Hoopston region. This improved access for all women in Vermilion County who needed this service, and included birth control, STD testing and treatment, and prenatal care. Though this need was met last year, the provider left CHRHC after 1.5 years for personal reasons, demonstrating the challenge it is to recruit providers to this rural setting. A newly-hired pediatrician in Hoopston and a nurse practitioner in Milford also educate about safe-sex, but the need to hire a new OB/GYN dedicated to Hoopston is once again very prevalent.

Carle Hoopston Regional Health Center will pursue these initiatives to address teen pregnancy and improve teen and adolescent health in the community:

1. Expand the school-based education program to more schools and districts in Vermilion County, with an emphasis on safe-sex and STD education. This will also include providing patient education materials to local health classes.
2. Add an additional OB/GYN provider in Hoopston to provide support to teens and adolescents in northern Vermilion and southern Iroquois counties. This care would include birth control, STD testing and treatment and prenatal care. Continue offering a visiting OB/GYN to the Hoopston clinic to expand access to care for women and teens in Vermilion County.
3. Assist the Vermilion County Health Department in hiring and training a new health resource nurse, and provide any necessary materials to him or her.
4. Continue training and education for Danville and Hoopston nurses and radiology techs to perform OB ultrasounds and prenatal testing.

Measures of success:

- Increase number of impressions to educational messages annually among people aged 13-18



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- Increase number of pregnancy and STD tests administered at Carle Hoopeston Regional Health Center locations
- Increase number of STD tests among people aged 13-18

Priority #2: Substance and Alcohol Abuse

Though substance abuse was identified as a lower priority in the previous CHNA conducted in 2013, Carle Hoopeston Regional Health Center has seen an increased need for services and has been addressing this issue over the past year by expanding access to behavioral health services in the region and providing financial support to other agencies.

To improve access, CHRHC has partnered with Iroquois Mental Health to offer general counseling at Hoopeston's outpatient clinic to anyone with behavioral health concerns. In addition, the overall Carle system has recently hired several Psychology providers and social workers to see patients at Carle Danville locations, and also offers an Employee Assistance Program which provides support service for substance and alcohol abuse for employees in Danville.

To support agencies that provide behavioral health services, CHRHC has provided in-kind support to multiple service agencies in Vermilion County who offer counseling or support services to those with alcohol or substance abuse problems, which has included Aunt Martha's Youth Service Center and Crosspoint Human Services; both in Danville.

Another avenue that CHRHC is pursuing for 2017 is supporting the Vermilion County Sheriff's Office in providing Narcan in the community. Narcan, a medication used to stop the effects of an active drug overdose caused by opioids, was donated to all Champaign County Sheriff's deputies in 2015 to combat the rising heroin problem. Getting this medication into the hands of those who are on the front lines was proven to be effective in stopping overdoses and saving lives. CHRHC intends to provide in-kind support to the Vermilion County Sheriff's Office, as Carle has done in Champaign County, by covering costs associated with the drug, as well as helping with any necessary training. Our providers in the county already have a well-established relationship with the Sheriff's Office – including monitoring the most predominant types of drug use and trends in the county – so this will be a natural and logical fit.

Carle Hoopeston Regional Health Center will pursue these initiatives to improve substance and alcohol abuse in the community:

1. Continue partnering with Iroquois Mental Health to offer mental and behavioral health programs in Hoopeston at our outpatient facility.
2. Partner with Vermilion County Sheriff's Office to cover the costs and training of Vermilion County deputies carrying Narcan in the field.
3. Support the work group by offering medical providers with in-depth knowledge of local substance abuse, and assist with writing the SAMHSA Drug Free Communities grant in the spring of 2017.

Measures of success:

- Number of additional appointments available for patients seeking assistance with behavioral health needs
- Number of deputies receiving proper education to carry Narcan in their vehicles
- Completion of the SAMHSA grant

Priority #3: Obesity

With the connection to many health problems facing those struggling with obesity, including heart disease, stroke and diabetes, Carle Hoopeston Regional Health Center will work to educate patients and the community about resources available, including nutrition and diabetes counselors in Danville, and continue to support activities aimed at improving the health of children and addressing obesity throughout the community. This includes funding initiatives like the Maple and Honeywell grade schools' Jump Rope for Heart programs, Hoopeston Sweetcorn Festival 5K, Fellowship of Christian Athletes, Healthy Kids Day at the Danville YMCA, and more.

CHRHC will also pursue establishing school-based education by offering incentives and in-kind support for health-related programming and fundraisers in area schools. Working with the established Vermilion County work group, CHRHC will pursue the program "Prescription to Play" that was started in Champaign-Urbana; a program that provides free access to fitness and recreational facilities in Vermilion County to anyone who meets certain criteria. Part of these criteria include utilizing community health programming already available, including those programs at the Danville YMCA, Danville Park District, Hoopeston swimming pool and more. This is still in the initial stages, but the work group hopes to make agreements with all local health and fitness organizations within the parameters of this implementation plan.

In addition, supporting the work group and Healthy Vermilion County, CHRHC has supported the current "Rethink Your Drink" campaign, providing in-kind support and funding for the materials and booklets that are handed out to help adults make better drink choices.

Carle Hoopeston Regional Health Center will pursue these initiatives to improve obesity rates in the community:

1. Continue to offer nutritional and diabetic counseling in Danville, including a charged service for patients and a free diabetes support group for patients and others in the community.
2. Pursue the addition of school-based education programs in Vermilion County, including Prescription to Play, with the goal of helping children make better choices about nutrition and play-based exercise.
3. Educate the community about heart disease, stroke, and diabetes risk through educational materials, health fairs, speaking engagements and other available means.



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Measures of success:

- Number of additional patients receiving diabetes or nutritional counseling at Danville and CHRHC locations
- Number of children enrolled in Prescription to Play
- Increase number of impressions to educational messages about risk as well as services in Vermilion County, with emphasis on Northern Vermilion County zip codes

Through these efforts Carle Hoopeston Regional Health Center intends to help improve the overall health of the community addressing the most significant needs facing the population with emphasis on those in greatest need.