



Carle Eureka Hospital

2026-2028 Implementation Strategy



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Introduction

The Carle Health shared Mission Statement was adopted by Carle's Board of Trustees on March 12, 2021.

To be your trusted partner in all healthcare decisions.

Our mission statement defines who we are, what we stand for, and the importance of our relationship with our patients, staff and community. As a locally based private, not-for-profit organization, we take seriously our obligation to treat and provide high quality care to everyone, regardless of their ability to pay. As the region's trusted healthcare provider, we are also called to be the region's trusted community partner – providing assistance, programs and resources when and where our communities need them

Executive Summary

Carle Eureka Hospital is a 25-bed facility that has served and cared for the people of Woodford County and the surrounding area since 1901. Carle Eureka is the only hospital in Woodford County and is a critical access hospital as certified by the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services. By functioning in this capacity, Carle Eureka plays a vital role in serving the health needs of a primarily rural area. Carle Eureka is a part of Carle Health, an integrated system of healthcare services based in Urbana, Illinois, which includes eight hospitals, multi-specialty physician group practices with more than 1,500 doctors and advanced practice providers, Carle Illinois College of Medicine, Methodist College, Stephens Family Clinical Research Institute, and other associated healthcare businesses – all working together to get patients the care they need at the right time and at every point in their healthcare journey.

Implementation Strategy

2025 Community Health Needs Assessment Summary

Carle Eureka Hospital participated in the Tri-County Community Health Needs Assessment (CHNA), a collaborative undertaking spearheaded by the Partnership for a Healthy Community (PFHC). The PFHC is a multi-sector community partnership working to improve population health in Woodford, Peoria and Tazewell Counties. An ad hoc committee within the PFHC facilitated the Tri-County PFHC CHNA. This collaborative team included members from Carle Eureka Hospital, Carle Health Methodist Hospital, Carle Health Pekin Hospital, Carle Health Proctor Hospital, Bradley University, Heart of Illinois United Way, Heartland Health Services, OSF Saint Francis Medical Center, Peoria City/County Health Department, Tazewell County Health Department and Woodford County Health Department. The goal of the PFHC ad hoc CHNA collaborative was to highlight the health needs of residents in the Tri-County region and effectively utilize resources and establish partnerships from the three counties to improve the health of the communities. Carle Eureka used the Tri-County CHNA to prepare its 2025 CHNA report with a focus on Woodford County.

For the 2025 CHNA, Carle Eureka participated in the priority setting process with the PFHC. The PFHC utilized the MAPP 2.0 (Mobilizing for Action through Planning and Partnerships) framework to guide its community health needs assessment and prioritization process. The PFHC Board led the process of identifying issue statements through a series of structured sessions. These sessions involved reviewing raw data and summarizing key health issues affecting the Tri-County region. The Hanlon Method for Prioritizing Health Problems was used to guide this process. The PFHC narrowed the comprehensive list to a final set of 10 issue statements. See Appendices 8 and 9 in the 2025 PFHC CHNA for a detailed description of the prioritization process [Partnership for a Healthy Community - 1/1/2026-12/31/2028](#).

Following the identification of 10 issue statements, seven key entities facilitated a series of meetings for key internal and external stakeholders to review, provide feedback and score and rate the 10 issue statements using the Hanlon Method. The following table describes the voting entities and meeting dates for this voting process.

Following the meetings above, the PFHC collaborative team identified and prioritized the most important health-related issues in the Tri-County region. They considered health needs based on: (1) magnitude of the issue (i.e., what percentage of the population was impacted by the issue); (2) severity of the issue in terms of its relationship with morbidities and mortalities; and (3) potential impact through collaboration. Using a modified version of the Hanlon Method, three significant health needs were identified and determined to have equal priority: 1) food insecurity among youth, 2) access to mental health, 3) suicidal thoughts and behaviors.

Following this selection, the CHNA team from Carle Eureka combined the two PFHC mental health-related priorities (access to mental health and suicidal thoughts and behaviors) and selected mental health as a priority for the 2025 Carle Eureka CHNA. Additionally, the Carle Eureka team reviewed all 10 of the Tri-County issue statements, analyzed additional data for Woodford County and took into consideration available resources to determine how the hospital can make the most impact. In looking at the three priorities, and 10 issue statements for prioritization by the Tri-County PFHC, Carle Eureka determined that access to care would be its second health priority. This broader priority encompasses issue statements six through 10; 6) access to behavioral health resources among youth and those with low-income 7) early and adequate prenatal care 8) emergency department use for medical care that is non-emergent 9) engagement with primary care providers for routine visits and 10) navigating healthcare system and resources specifically among individuals who are AA/Black, males, rural residents, and/or individuals 65+ years old. For a list of the 10 issue statements see Appendix 9 in the 2025 PFHC CHNA at [Partnership for a Healthy Community - 1/1/2026-12/31/2028](#). Access to care is a critical issue in rural counties and the hospital continually strives to improve the availability of health services to Woodford County residents.

Although Carle Eureka will focus a majority of its community health efforts on mental health and access to care, it will also support the PFHC's efforts related to food insecurity among youth. As mentioned above, a Carle Health leader is a member of the PFHC Board that supports the three Tri-County health priorities.

Community Health Implementation Strategy

Based upon the 2025 Carle Eureka Hospital Community Health Needs Assessment, Carle Eureka Hospital prioritized the significant community health needs of Woodford County considering several criteria including: alignment with the hospital's mission, existing programs, the ability to make an impact within a reasonable time frame, the financial and human resources required, and whether there would be a measurable outcome to gauge improvement. The following two health areas were selected as the top priorities:

1. Mental Health
2. Access to Care

Following is a detailed description of actions the hospital intends to take in response to the prioritized health needs, data and indicators supporting each as a priority, anticipated Impact of these actions, programs and resources the hospital plans to commit to address the health needs, and planned collaboration between the hospital and other facilities or organizations.

While there were other health needs identified through the course of the CHNA process, the two needs listed above were prioritized as significant health needs. Carle Eureka Hospital has committed a plan and resources below to each of the significant health need prioritized by the community.

Carle Eureka Hospital will evaluate the impact of these efforts through annual review, compilation, and annual reporting to the IRS through the 990 Schedule H and the Illinois Community Benefit Report.

This plan includes Carle Eureka Hospital's intent to address and measure outcomes from 2026-2028.

Goals and Actions:

Carle Eureka Hospital and Carle Health plans to address prioritized health needs with the following strategies and actions:

Priority 1: Mental Health

Actions the hospital intends to take to address the health need:

- Continue to partner with Trillium Place, an affiliate of Carle Health to offer on-site counseling services for Woodford County residents at Carle Eureka Hospital.
- Partner with Trillium Place, an affiliate of Carle Health, to increase community members knowledge of behavioral health resources offered at Carle Eureka Hospital.
- Carle Eureka Hospital Rural Health Clinics will offer virtual counseling services on-site at the clinics in collaboration with Carle Bloomington Behavioral Health. These services will reach those who face barriers like transportation to Bloomington, lack of personal devices, and internet access in their homes.
- Collaborate with Trillium Place, an affiliate of Carle Health, to offer Mental Health First Aid trainings in Peoria, Tazewell and Woodford County.
- Provide Carle Eureka Hospital and/or Trillium Place, an affiliate of Carle Health, representation on the Partnership for a Healthy Community's Access to Behavioral Health and Suicidal Ideation and Self-Harm Behaviors in Young People action teams.
- Carle Health will continue to collaborate with community stakeholders—including health departments, hospital system partners, schools, and community organizations—to promote evidence-based behavioral health best practices that align with organizational values and support positive trends in suicide prevention and access to care.

Indicators that support this as a priority:

- As reported in the 2025 Partnership for a Healthy Community CHNA, the number of suicides in Woodford County indicates a higher incidence compared to the state of Illinois incidence rate between 2017 and 2021 (Illinois Department of Public Health, 2017 – 2021).

- The age-adjusted emergency room rates due to suicide and self-inflicted injury for both adults and adolescents in Woodford County are trending unfavorably in a statistically significant direction (Conduent Healthy Communities Institute Illinois Hospital Association 2022 – 2024).
- Eureka ZIP code 61530 had higher values in comparison to other ZIP codes in Illinois for the age-adjusted emergency room rate due to mental health and pediatric mental health (Conduent Healthy Communities Institute, Illinois Hospital Association 2022 – 2024).
- The percentage of adults in Woodford County who reported they have been diagnosed with depression is in the worst 50 – 75th percentile range (yellow indicator) compared to other counties in Illinois and in the worst 25th percentile range (red indicator) for Washburn ZIP code 61570 in comparison to other ZIP codes in Illinois. Several additional ZIP codes in Woodford County have rates in in the worst 50 – 75th percentile range (yellow indicator) compared to other ZIP codes in Illinois; Benson ZIP code 61516, Eureka ZIP code 61530 and Minonk ZIP code 61760 (Conduent Healthy Communities Institute, CDC – Places, 2022).
- The mental health provider rate in Woodford County is 44 providers per 100,000 population. This is in the worst 25th percentile range (red indicator) compared to other counties in Illinois (Conduent Healthy Communities Institute, County Health Rankings, 2024).

From 2024 Tri-County Community Health Survey:

- Mental Health
 - Of Woodford County respondents, mental health was perceived as the most important health issue in the community.
 - Of Woodford County respondents, 13 percent reported that they did not have access to counseling in the last year when they needed it.

Anticipated impacts of these actions:

- People residing in the service area will have a greater understanding and recognition of behavioral health needs, the available resources, and opportunities to access care.
- The utilization of available mental health services will increase.

Programs and resources the hospital plans to commit to address the health need:

- Carle Eureka Hospital leadership
- Carle Eureka Hospital Rural Health Clinic clinicians
- Carle Bloomington Behavioral Health
- Carle Health Behavioral Health leadership

Planned collaboration between the hospital and other facilities or other organizations:

- Woodford County Public Health Department
- Partnership for a Healthy Community Mental Health First Aid Cadre
- Trillium Place, an affiliate of Carle Health

Measuring Our Impact:

- Number of Mental Health First Aid (MHFA) trainings offered by Trillium Place, an affiliate of Carle Health, in collaboration with Carle Eureka Hospital and/or Carle Health.
- Number of Woodford County residents accessing counseling and psychiatric services provided by Trillium Place, an affiliate of Carle Health, at Carle Eureka Hospital.
- Number of hours per week counseling services are offered at Carle Eureka Hospital by Trillium Place, an affiliate of Carle Health.
- Number of Carle Eureka Hospital Rural Health Clinics patients receiving virtual counseling and psychiatric visits provided by Carle Bloomington Behavioral Health.
- Number of visits provided by Carle Behavioral Health Bloomington for Carle Eureka Hospital Rural Health Clinic patients.

Priority 2: Access to Care

Actions the hospital intends to take to address the health need:

- Explore adding specialty clinics and/or surgeries that are not currently offered at Carle Eureka Hospital.
- Continue to offer and support a walk-in care clinic so residents do not need to go outside of the county for care that is appropriate for a convenient care setting.
- Continue providing patients with options for virtual visits to support community members in accessing care.
- Recruit healthcare workers into positions across the health system, increasing access and lowering wait times for healthcare services.
- Operate Graduate Medical Education and continuing education programs to train the next generation of healthcare providers.
- Offer a charity care program, and communicate the availability of the charity care program.
- Promote prescription affordability as a 340B provider.

Indicators that support this as a priority:

- The percentage of adults that report having visited a doctor for a routine checkup within the past year is in the worst 25th percentile range (red indicator) compared to other counties in Illinois (Conduent Healthy Communities Institute, CDC – Places, 2022).
- The percentage of women aged 50 – 74 in Woodford County who have had a mammogram in the last two years does not meet the Healthy People 2030 target and Lowpoint ZIP code 61545 and Minonk ZIP code 61760 are in the worst 50 – 75th percentile range (yellow indicator) compared to other ZIP codes in Illinois (Conduent Healthy Communities Institute, CDC – Places, 2022).
- The lowest percentages for cervical cancer screenings for ages 21 – 64 years in Woodford County occur in Washburn ZIP code 61570, Eureka ZIP code 61530 and Lowpoint ZIP code 61545 (Conduent Healthy Communities Institute, CDC – Places, 2020).
- The primary care provider rate in Woodford County is trending unfavorably in a statistically significant direction (Conduent Healthy Communities Institute, County Health Rankings, 2010 - 2021).
- The mental health provider rate in Woodford County is 44 providers per 100,000 population. This is in the worst 25th percentile range (red indicator) compared to other counties in Illinois (Conduent Healthy Communities Institute, County Health Rankings, 2024).
- As reported in the 2025 Partnership for a Healthy Community CHNA, Woodford County reported higher rates of lung and breast cancer compared to the state of Illinois rates (Illinois Department of Public Health, 2017 – 2021).

From the 2024 Tri-County Community Health Survey:

- Of Woodford County respondents, 19 percent perceived access to healthcare as the most important health that impacts well-being.
- Of Woodford County respondents, 14 percent reported that they were unable to access care in the past year when they needed it.
- From the 2021 and 2024 Tri-County Community Health Survey results, there was a nine percent decrease in the percentage of Woodford County respondents (over the age of 50) who indicated that they have had a colon cancer screening within the last five years.

Anticipated impacts of these actions

- People residing in the service area will have:
 - Increased access to specialty care and/or surgeries.
 - Increased utilization of convenient care.
 - Increased access to primary care.
 - Increased healthcare affordability.

Programs and resources the hospital plans to commit to address the health need

- Carle Eureka Hospital and Carle Health senior leadership
- Carle Eureka Hospital Rural Health Clinic clinicians
- Carle Health Charitable Assistance teams
- Carle Health Pharmacy, 340B teams
- Carle Health Human Resources, Workforce Recruitment
- Carle Health Graduate Medical Education, Continuing Education leadership

Planned collaboration between the hospital and other facilities or other organizations

- In addition to Carle employed specialists, Carle Eureka Hospital partners with regional gastroenterology, oncology, dermatology and urology specialists.

Measuring Our Impact:

- The total dollar amount of financial assistance provided by Carle Eureka Hospital annually based on actual cost of care.
- Continued participation in the 340B program.
- Number of new providers brought on by Carle Eureka Hospital and Carle Health's Central Region.
- Number of specialty care clinics and/or surgeries added at Carle Eureka Hospital.
- Number of virtual visits for Carle Eureka Hospital's rural health clinics.

Appendix:

Populations and Communities Served:

Carle Eureka Hospital's primary service area is Woodford County which consists of the following towns: . Bay View Gardens, Benson, Congerville, El Paso, Eureka, Germantown Hills, Goodfield, Kappa, Lowpoint, Metamora, Minonk, Panola, Roanoke, Secor, Spring Bay and Washburn.

Carle Eureka Hospital is the only hospital in Woodford County, which is located in rural central Illinois and is a critical access hospital as certified by the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services. By functioning in this capacity, Carle Eureka Hospital plays a vital role in serving the health needs of a primarily rural area.

Dates Adopted/Approved:

Carle Eureka Hospital's 2025 Community Health Needs Assessment was adopted and approved by the Carle Health Central Region Board on December 16, 2025. Carle Eureka Hospital's 2026-2028 Community Health Implementation Strategy was adopted and approved by the Carle Health Central Region Board on March 17, 2026.