

Community Benefit Implementation Strategy

2020-2022

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V St. Francis Medical Center
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Introduction

St. Francis Medical Center (SFMC) is a comprehensive, nonprofit health care institution that serves the residents of Southeast Los Angeles. SFMC is a 384-bed facility that offers a full range of diagnostic and treatment services. The hospital's Heart and Vascular Center, Maternal-Child Health Program, Orthopedics/Joint Replacement Program, Surgical Services, Imaging Services, Behavioral Health and Wound Care facilities offer comprehensive services to the community. SFMC is a Primary Stroke Care Center and STEMI Receiving Center, both approved by the Los Angeles County Emergency Medical Services Agency.

In 2019, St. Francis Medical Center conducted a Community Health Needs Assessment (CHNA) to assess the significant health needs for the hospital service area. The CHNA and the resulting Implementation Strategy identify and address significant community health needs. These reports help guide the hospital's community health improvement programs and community benefit activities, as well as its collaborative efforts with other organizations that share a mission to improve health. This Implementation Strategy explains how St. Francis Medical Center plans to address the significant health needs identified by the CHNA.

Report Adoption, Availability and Comments

This Implementation Strategy was adopted by the St. Francis Board of Directors on October 15, 2019. This report is available to the public on the hospital's web site, <https://stfrancis.verity.org/SFMC/about.php#about-panel2>. Written comments on this report can be submitted to LindaWoo@verity.org.

Definition of the Community Service Area

St. Francis Medical Center is located at 3630 East Imperial Highway, Lynwood, California 90262. The service area is located in Los Angeles County and is comprised of portions of Service Planning Areas (SPAs) 6 and 7 and includes 17 ZIP Codes in 11 cities/communities.

St. Francis Medical Center Service Area

| Geographic Area | ZIP Code | SPA |
|--------------------------|-----------------------------------|-----|
| Bell/Bell Gardens/Cudahy | 90201 | 7 |
| Compton | 90220, 90221, 90222 | 6 |
| Downey | 90240, 90241, 90242 | 7 |
| Huntington Park | 90255 | 7 |
| Los Angeles | 90001, 90002, 90003, 90044, 90059 | 6 |
| Lynwood | 90262 | 6 |
| Maywood | 90270 | 7 |
| Paramount | 90723 | 6 |
| South Gate | 90280 | 7 |

The population in the St. Francis Medical Center service area is approximately 994,257 persons. Children and youth (ages 0-17) make up 30.0% of the population and seniors (65 years and older) account for 7.8% of the population. In the service area, more than three quarters of the population (80.9%) is Hispanic/Latino and 13.4% of the population is Black/African-American. 3.4% of the population is White, 1.4% is Asian, and the remaining 0.9% of the service area population is American Indian/Alaskan Native, Native Hawaiian/Pacific Islander, and other or multiple races. In terms of educational attainment, 44.3% of service area residents, who are 25 years old and older, have less than a high school diploma. 26.6% of the population live in poverty. In SPA 6, 70% of the children are categorized as poverty-level or low-income ($\leq 200\%$ FPL); 54.6% of children in SPA 7 are poverty-level or low-income.

2019 Community Health Needs Assessment Summary

St. Francis Medical Center conducted a Community Health Needs Assessment (CHNA) to comply with state and federal regulations guiding tax-exempt hospitals. The CHNA incorporated demographic and health data for the communities served by the hospital. Significant health needs were identified from secondary data sources, focus groups and community stakeholder interviews. Health indicators were considered significant health needs when they exceeded benchmark data, specifically county or state rates or Healthy People 2020 objectives.

A brief description of the significant health needs listed in alphabetical order follows:

1. Access to health care – Among service area children, ages 0 to 17, 96.9% have health insurance. 85.2% of area adults have health insurance. 95.8% of children and 72.9% of adults in the service area have a regular source of health care. Stakeholders noted there are long waits for medical appointments and a lack of transportation is a barrier to accessing care.
2. Birth indicators – The rate of premature births (occurring before the start of the 37th week of gestation) in the service area, is 5.9%. This rate of premature births is higher than the county and state rate (5.3%) of premature births. Teen births occurred at a rate of 95.8 (9.6%) per 1,000 live births in the service area. This rate is higher than the teen birth rate in the county (5.6%) and the state (5.5%).
3. Chronic diseases – Heart disease, cancer, and stroke are the top three causes of death in the service area. Diabetes is the fourth leading cause of death and lung disease is the fifth leading cause of death. In the hospital service area 12.2% of adults have been diagnosed with diabetes, which is higher than the county rate (9.8%). In the service area, 9.3% of children have been diagnosed with asthma. This is higher than the county rate of asthma among children (7.4%).
4. Dental care – 55.3% of adults in the service area did not visit a dentist in the past year. 10.3% of children in the service area did not obtain dental care in the past year because they could not afford it. Stakeholders commented on the high cost of dental care and a lack of low-cost services.
5. Economic insecurity – Among the residents represented in the hospital service area, 26.6% of individuals live in households that have incomes <100% of the Federal Poverty Level. In SPA 6, 70% of children are categorized as poverty-level or low-income (\leq 200% FPL); 54.6% of children in SPA 7 are poverty-level or low-income. The unemployment rate in the service area ranges from 3.5% in Downey to 7.5% in Compton.
6. Food insecurity – 36.5% of households in the hospital service area, with incomes less than 300% of the Federal Poverty Level, are food insecure. This rate of food insecurity is higher than that found in the county (29.2%). Community

- stakeholders identified students and seniors as being impacted by food insecurity.
7. Housing and homelessness – In the service area, 8.6% of adults reported being homeless or not having their own place to live or sleep. This is higher than the county rate of homelessness (4.8%). From 2015 to 2018, there has been an increase in the homeless population with chronic illness in SPAs 6 and 7. A stakeholder noted, “Two or three families commonly share one apartment. Transients live in their cars and young adults still live with their parents because they cannot afford to move out.”
 8. Mental health – In the hospital service area, 6% of adults in SPA 6 and 9.1% of adults in SPA 7 have seriously thought about committing suicide. 9.5% of SPA 6 adults and 10.8% of adults in SPA 7 had experienced serious psychological distress in the past year. Stakeholders noted there is a stigma associated with mental health. Many people do not want to talk about their mental health issues. There is shame associated with it that prevents people from getting services.
 9. Overweight and obesity – 31.6% of adults in the service area are obese with a Body Mass Index of 30.0 or above. This is higher than the rate of obesity in the county (23.5%). The Healthy People 2020 objective for adult obesity is 30.5%. The Healthy People 2020 objective for teen obesity is 16.1%. 22.8% of teens in SPA 6 and 9.3% of teens in SPA 7 are obese. Stakeholders spoke about community members eating junk food and not getting enough exercise.
 10. Preventive practices – In the service area, 55.7% of children, 6 months to 17 years, and 31.6% of adults have been vaccinated for influenza. The Healthy People 2020 objective is to have 70% of the population receive a flu shot. The Healthy People 2020 objective for Pap smears is 93% of women, ages 21-65 years, be screened in the past three years. In the service area, 83.2% of women had a Pap smear.
 11. Pneumonia and influenza – In the service area, the pneumonia and influenza death rate was 25.7 per 100,000 persons, which was higher than county (22.7 per 100,000 persons) and state rates (16.8 per 100,000 persons).
 12. Sexually transmitted infections (STIs) – In the service area, the death rate from HIV was 3.2 per 100,000 persons. This rate was higher than the county HIV death rate (2.4 per 100,000 persons) and the state HIV death rate (1.9 per 100,000 persons). The rate of new cases of sexually transmitted infections (STIs) was higher in the service area for chlamydia and gonorrhea than in the county.
 13. Substance use and misuse – The Healthy People 2020 objective for cigarette smoking among adults is 12%. 12.5% of adults in the service area smoke cigarettes. In SPA 6, 47% of the population had tried marijuana and in SPA 7, 41% of the population had tried marijuana. For those who had misused prescription drugs, sedatives were the most likely to be misused in SPA 7 (52%),

and Vicodin was the most likely to be misused in SPA 6 (44%). Community stakeholders noted an increased incidence in substance use and insufficient resources to address the issue.

14. Violence and injury – 58.3% of adults in the service area perceived their neighborhoods to be safe from crime. In the service area, the age-adjusted death rate from homicides was 11.6 per 100,000 persons. This rate was more than double the county and state rates for homicides. The Healthy People 2020 objective for homicide is 5.5 per 100,000 persons. Stakeholders noted that people are afraid to go out in the neighborhoods as they don't feel safe.

Significant Health Needs the Hospital Will Address

This Implementation Strategy details how St. Francis Medical Center plans to address the significant health needs identified in the 2019 CHNA. The hospital plans to build on previous CHNA efforts and existing initiatives, while also considering new strategies and efforts to improve health. The hospital used the following criteria to determine the significant health needs that St. Francis Medical Center will address in the Implementation Strategy:

- Existing Infrastructure: There are programs, systems, staff and support resources in place to address the issue.
- Established Relationships: There are established relationships with community partners to address the issue.
- Ongoing Investment: Existing resources are committed to the issue. Staff time and financial resources for this issue are counted as part of the hospital's community benefit effort.
- Focus Area: SFMC has acknowledged competencies and expertise to address the issue, and the issue is in alignment with the organizational mission.

For the Implementation Strategy, St. Francis Medical Center will address: access to health care, birth indicators, chronic diseases, and violence and injury prevention through a commitment of community benefit programs and charitable resources. For each health need the hospital plans to address, the Implementation Strategy describes actions the hospital intends to take, including programs and resources it plans to commit, and anticipated impacts of these actions.

Access to Care

St. Francis Medical Center will address access to care by taking the following actions:

- Provide free and discounted care for health care services, consistent with the hospital's financial assistance policy.
- Provide education and health insurance enrollment assistance through the Health Benefits Resource Center. Offer support for families who may have experienced difficulty with enrollment, utilization, retention and/or access to their health benefits.
- Provide transportation support to increase access to health care services.

Anticipated Impact

St. Francis Medical Center will conduct these strategies with the overarching goal of increasing access to health care for the medically underserved.

St. Francis Medical Center anticipates the following impact from these efforts:

- Increase enrollment in health care insurance and access to health care services.
- Provide financial assistance to qualified patients.
- Support access to health care services by providing transportation assistance.

Collaborative Partners

- Cal MediConnect
- CalFresh
- Consulado Sobre Ruedas Outreach
- Covered California
- Health Care Options
- Kaiser Child Health Program
- L.A. Care
- LA County Department of Public Social Services
- Los Angeles County Department of Public Health
- Medi-Cal Access Program
- School districts and schools

Birth Indicators

St. Francis Medical Center will address birth indicators by taking the following actions:

- For families residing within a Best Start community, the Welcome Baby program will provide two prenatal visits, a hospital visit, and five postpartum visits.
- For families residing outside a Best Start community, the Welcome Baby program will provide a hospital visit and three postpartum visits.
- Using universal risk screening during the Welcome Baby hospital visit, the families who need additional support will be identified.
- Families will receive information and support during each Welcome Baby visit on topics that may include: breastfeeding, home safety, the importance of a medical home, well-child visits and immunizations, smoking cessation, crying patterns, parent-to-child temperament, and post-partum depression.
- Increase breastfeeding through the Baby Friendly Hospital Initiative.

Anticipated Impact

St. Francis Medical Center will conduct the above referenced strategies with the overarching goal of improving maternal and infant health.

St. Francis Medical Center anticipates the following impact from these efforts:

- Provide resources to families with children who need additional support.
- Improve the health, safety and security of the baby.

- Increase awareness of well-child visits, immunizations and support for post-partum depression.
- Increase compliance with Welcome Baby program recommendations.
- Increase breastfeeding rates.

Collaborative Partners

- Breastfeed LA
- Broadway/Manchester Best Start Partnership
- The Children’s Institute
- City of Lynwood
- Compton/East Compton Best Start Partnership
- El Nido Community Center, Compton
- First 5 LA
- Human Services Association
- LA Care Community Center, Lynwood
- Lynwood Unified School District
- Plaza Community Services
- Regional Hospital Breastfeeding Consortium (RHBC)
- Richstone Family Center
- Service Planning Area 6
- SFMC Family Life Center team
- SHIELDS for Families
- South LA Health Projects
- Southeast Los Angeles Best Start Partnership
- Watts/Willowbrook Best Start Partnership
- Wellnest
- West Athens Best Start Partnership
- The Whole Child
- Women, Infant and Children (WIC)

Chronic Diseases

St. Francis Medical Center will address chronic diseases by taking the following actions:

- Offer community health education, health screenings, and immunizations through Healthy Community Initiatives and through the Living Well, Healthy Future Educational Series.
- Support senior wellness through the Senior Circle outreach program.
- Provide health education to students, parents, faculty and staff, and vision and hearing screenings at elementary schools.

- Engage in advocacy to promote policies that address healthy eating and physical activity in the community.

Anticipated Impact

St. Francis Medical Center will conduct the above referenced strategies with the overarching goal of reducing the impact of chronic diseases on health and increase the focus on chronic disease prevention, treatment and self-management.

St. Francis Medical Center anticipates the following impact from these efforts:

- Increase the identification and treatment of chronic diseases.
- Increase individuals' compliance with chronic disease prevention and management recommendations.
- Increase physical activity and improve nutrition.
- Advocate for policies to improve healthy eating and increased physical activity.

Collaborative Partners

- American Heart Association
- American Lung Association
- Area grocery stores and restaurants
- CalFresh
- Chambers of Commerce
- City of Lynwood
- Compton Best Start
- LA County Department of Public Health
- LA County Immunization Program
- Local city government
- Schools and school districts
- Senior Centers
- Volunteers of America Head Start
- Women, Infant and Children (WIC)

Violence and Injury Prevention

St. Francis Medical Center will address violence and injury prevention by taking the following actions:

- Conduct an injury prevention program in partnership with Southern California Crossroads and the South Los Angeles Trauma Recovery Center.
- Provide injury prevention education at local schools and at community outreach events through SFMC's Trauma Services.

Anticipated Impact

St. Francis Medical Center will conduct the above referenced strategies with the overarching goal of reducing the impact of violence and injury in the community.

St. Francis Medical Center anticipates the following impact from these efforts:

- Increase availability of violence and injury prevention services in community settings.
- Improve screening and identification of risk factors.
- Offer victim and family counseling and case management.
- Provide crime victim compensation application assistance.
- Improve coordination of services among health care providers and community-based resources.

Collaborative Partners

- California Victim Compensation Board
- City of Los Angeles – Gang Reduction and Youth Development
- City of Lynwood
- HAVEN
- Journey Out
- Los Angeles County Department of Children and Family Services
- Los Angeles County Department of Public Health, Injury and Violence Prevention
- Los Angeles County Probation Department
- Los Angeles Sheriff's Department
- Pepperdine University Graduate School of Education and Psychology
- Rancho Los Amigos National Rehabilitation Center
- Schools and school districts
- Southern California Crossroads
- University of Southern California

Evaluation of Impact

St. Francis Medical Center will monitor and evaluate the programs and activities outlined above. The hospital anticipates that the actions taken to address significant health needs will improve health knowledge, behaviors, and status, increase access to care, and help support good health. The hospital is committed to monitoring key initiatives to assess impact and has implemented a system to track the implementation of the activities and documents the anticipated impact. Our reporting process includes the collection and documentation of tracking measures, such as the number of people reached/served, increases in knowledge or changes in behavior as a result of planned strategies, and collaborative efforts to address health needs. An evaluation of the impact of the hospital's actions to address these significant health needs will be reported in the next scheduled Community Health Needs Assessment.

Needs the Hospital Will Not Address

St. Francis Medical Center has chosen to concentrate on those health needs that can most effectively be addressed given the organization's areas of focus and expertise. Taking existing hospital and community resources into consideration, St. Francis Medical Center will not directly address the remaining health needs identified in the CHNA: dental care, economic insecurity, food insecurity, housing and homelessness, mental health, overweight and obesity, pneumonia and influenza, preventive practices, sexually transmitted infections, and substance use and misuse.

St. Francis Medical Center does indirectly address a number of these health needs; however, these needs will not be directly targeted through the Implementation Strategy:

- Substance Use and Misuse: Southern California Crossroads has a substance abuse component.
- Economic Insecurity: Southern California Crossroads has GED preparation and a work skills component.
- Food Insecurity: Health Benefits Resource Center has a CalFresh Eligibility Worker on site to assist with enrollment in the state food and nutrition program.
- Overweight and Obesity: Healthy Community Initiatives provides BMI health screenings at various hospital and community-based events along with nutrition education to promote a balanced diet and a healthy weight.
- Preventive Practices: Healthy Community Initiatives will offer flu vaccines for seniors.
- Mental Health: St. Francis Medical Center has a Behavioral Health Unit, which is at capacity year-round and reflects the great need for mental health services in the hospital's service area.