



**Jasper Memorial Hospital  
Community Health Needs Implementation Plan  
2013**

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## **JMH Community Health Needs Assessment Implementation Plan 2013**

The 2013 Community Health Needs Assessment gathered overall health information about the community of Jasper County, Georgia. Analysis of the community needs assessment data provided a means to evaluate and prioritize areas of greatest need. To facilitate prioritization of identified health needs, a ranking process was used. Health needs were chosen because they meet the following criteria:

- Were identified as top-opportunities through the CHNA
- Allowed for definition of clear action planning
- Represent priorities that the hospital can address
- Ability to measure the effectiveness and outcome of the strategy
- Community and system resources available

This portion of the CHNA, the Implementation Strategy, will explain how JMH will address health needs identified in the CHNA by continuing existing programs and services, and by implementing new strategies, alliances, services and programs. It will also explain why the hospital cannot address all the needs identified in the CHNA, and if applicable, how JMH will support other organizations in doing so. After reviewing current community collaborations and partnerships, and internal resources, JMH identified its strengths and weakness as prioritized by the CHNA for the five health needs listed below. By stewarding existing resources, strengthening partnerships, and creating innovative programs both on hospital campus and within the community, JMH hopes to make a positive impact on these identified needs.

- Access to Care
- Obesity/Nutrition
- Health Education
- Prevention and Screenings
- Physical Activity/Wellness

### **Plan to Evaluate**

In accordance with section 6033(b)(15)(A) of the IRS proposed regulations, JMH will provide annually on the form 990, a description of the actions taken during the taxable year to address the significant health issues identified through its most recent CHNA. If no actions were taken with respect to one or more of these needs, the reason or reasons why no actions were taken will be given.

## Goals

The following goals will underlie each objective to address the priority areas. The goals are:

- Increase health knowledge within the community
- Collaborate to improve access to care
- Promote patient and community education to improve self-management of chronic disease
- Encourage healthy behaviors to improve overall wellness
- Provide better access to preventative measures

### **Priority #1: Access to Care**

**Objective: Collaborate with other community partners to better coordinate patient care.**

Strategies

- A. Collaboration effort with outside providers to coordinate patient care. Post-acute services through Home Health, Hospice, and Local Health Department.
- B. Leverage membership in the Stratus Healthcare Alliance, a collaboration of hospitals, healthcare systems and physicians, to improve alignment for seamless, coordinated care for patients in our community.
- C. Continue to improve patient quality of care by emulating nation-wide best practices.

**Objective: Grow physician and mid-level practitioner services and involvement in community health.**

Strategies

- A. Expand Primary Care Center to include an additional full-time physician and mid-level practitioner.
- B. Continue to grow physician services in the community to provide specialty services to the community.

### **Priority #2: Obesity & Nutrition**

**Objective: Increase availability of nutritional information and education.**

Strategies

- A. Partner with local grocery store to provide nutrition education on site by the hospital's dietician.
- B. Provide healthy cooking demonstrations throughout the community.
- C. Expand participation in health fairs and school programs emphasizing the importance of proper diet and nutrition.

- D. Partner with Jasper County School Summer Nutrition Program to expand the current program.
- E. Develop a referral program from physician offices for nutritional counseling by hospital's dietician.
- F. Partner with Health Dept., Senior Center, Local Food Bank, Schools, Daycare Centers, and other non-profit organizations to identify opportunities to educate children and parents on the benefits of healthy eating.

### **Priority #3: Prevention and Screenings**

#### **Objective: Enhance the health screenings offered by hospital**

Strategies:

- A. Explore opportunities to provide mobile screenings to the community such as breast exams/mammograms, PSA, skin cancer and cardiovascular screenings.
- B. Assist local businesses with designing wellness programs or enhancing already established programs with their employees.
- C. Expand program for offering flu vaccines throughout the community.

#### **Objective: Focus on various prevention strategies within the hospital and throughout the community**

Strategies:

- A. Expand the program of patient follow-up calls after discharge by nursing to assist with issues, questions and care coordination for physician visits, pharmacy and specialty needs.
- B. Create and promote preventive educational programs local community sites/groups, with an emphasis on addressing heart disease, diabetes and cancer.
- C. Provide employee and patient educational opportunities emphasizing the importance of preventive care screenings and regular physician checkups.

### **Priority #4: Health Education and Health Literacy**

#### **Objective: Provide patient and community education to increase awareness and understanding of health behaviors and outcomes**

Strategies:

- A. Collaborate with community health partners to develop disease specific community educational programs.
- B. Expand smoking cessation classes provided by hospital to community.
- C. Prepare and distribute health care specific educational materials throughout the community.
- D. Partner with Hospice provider to provide community education on palliative care end of life care.

- E. Assist people in the community on how to navigate through the various programs of the healthcare system.

## **Priority #5: Wellness & Physical Activity**

**Objective: Promote wellness and exercise through community-based programs and events.**

Strategies:

- A. Work in collaboration with Thomas Persons Hall organization to offer exercise classes and the benefits of exercise.
- B. Develop education program for community on fitness education.
- C. Provide educational reference materials on hospital website and general distribution.

## **Health Needs Not Addressed**

There are needs that JMH will not address with this implementation strategy that are identified as important to improving the health of the community. However, they are considered to have less immediate impact and could be addressed in a future plan, or if the opportunity arises, could be incorporated within a current strategy of this plan. In addition, consideration was given to the fact that some of these needs are, or could be, being met by another community organization and in some instances JMH doesn't have the proper resources to address the need. JMH will continue to explore potential partnerships and internal strategies to find a way to provide these essential services to our patients.

**Sexual Health (STDs)** – This need is an identified issue that JMH desires to address and believes a positive impact can be made in this area. However, it is an area of concern that requires additional study and exploration as to the underlying population and causes. JMH will research this issue further in coming years and will consider incorporating this subject later in the current plan or as a future implementation strategy.

**Mental Health-** This need is an identified issue that JMH desires to address. A new resource, Oconee Mental Health Center, based in Milledgeville, Georgia is expanding the availability of mental health clinicians with the establishment of clinic services in Jasper County. Oconee Mental Health will serve high risk adult and youth populations in providing complex behavioral health services for emergency department and physician office referrals. They will also provide access regardless of insurance or ability to pay for behavioral health treatment.

**Teen Pregnancy and Pre-Natal Care-** This need is an identified issue that JMH desires to address and believes a positive impact can be made in this area. However, it is an area of concern that requires additional study and exploration as to the underlying population and causes. JMH will research this issue further in coming years and will consider incorporating this subject later in the current plan or as a future implementation strategy.

## **Board Approval**

This Community Health Needs Assessment Implementation Plan for fiscal year end September 30, 2013 was approved by the Jasper Health Services, Inc., Board of Directors at its meeting held on September 17, 2013.

*Alison Hildebrant*

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Alison Hildebrant, Chairman, JHS, Inc. Board