

Implementation Plan for Needs Identified in the Community Health Needs Assessment for The Linton Hospital

FY 2017-2019

Covered Facilities: The Linton Hospital, Linton Medical Center, Hazelton Clinic, Herreid Clinic, Emmons County Public Health

Community Health Needs Assessment: A Community Health Needs Assessment (“CHNA”) was performed in Winter 2016/2017 in collaboration with public health to determine the most pressing health needs of the Linton area.

Implementation Plan Goals: The Board of The Linton Hospital has determined that the following health needs identified in the CHNA should be addressed through the implementation strategy noted for each such need:

1. Jobs with livable wages –

- ❖ *Specific Needs Identified in CHNA:*
 - Jobs with livable wages is the highest ranked community health concern (page 34, 89 votes)
- ❖ *Goal*
 - Increase the organizations’ involvement in community economic development efforts
- ❖ *Current Activities*
 - Continually striving to offer life sustaining wages to staff
 - Attend Linton Industrial Development Corporation and Linton Chamber of Commerce meetings
- ❖ *Proposed Activities*
 - Pursue having someone from the hospital’s administration be on the board of the LIDC by the next annual meeting
- ❖ *Resources/Partnerships*
 - Linton Industrial Development Corporation, Linton Chamber of Commerce, USDA Rural Development

2. Having enough child daycare services–

- ❖ *Specific Needs Identified in CHNA:*
 - Adequate childcare services was the third ranked community health concern (page 34, 50 votes)
 - Having enough child daycare services was the most cited concern among the Community Group (page 49, 11 votes)
- ❖ *Goal-*
 - More daycare openings/daycare providers in the area by 2019
- ❖ *Current Activities*
 - Actively supporting the Rural Childcare Innovation Project to provide daycare services to families in the area.
 - The Linton Hospital has a staffmember on the ‘core team’ for the project.
- ❖ *Proposed Activities*
 - Continue to support the project
 - Hospital staff and administrators participate in focus groups for the project over the next couple months
- ❖ *Resources/Partnerships*
 - NDSU Extension Service, Emmons County Social Services, licensed childcare providers, First Children’s Finance, ND Child Care Aware

3. Cancer

- ❖ *Specific Needs Identified in CHNA*
 - Cancer was the highest ranked Physical Health Concern (page 36, 95 votes)
- ❖ *Goal*
 - Prevent an increase in cancer and chronic diseases in Emmons County
- ❖ *Current Activities*
 - Utilizing the Linton Hospital's Facebook page for preventative screenings available and for health safety reminders
 - Sent reminder letters to mammogram eligible population containing list of other preventative screenings available.
 - Partnered with Public Health, tobacco prevention.
- ❖ *Proposed Activities*
 - Use educational programs to provide community members with skills to make healthier lifestyle changes.
- ❖ *Resources/Partnerships*
 - Linton Hospital, NDSU Extension Service, Emmons County Public Health

4. Ability to recruit and retain primary care providers

- ❖ *Specific Needs Identified in CHNA*
 - Ability to recruit and retain doctors and nurses in the area was the highest ranked Delivery of Health Services Concern (page 35, 83 votes)
 - Other 'Availability of Health Concerns' primarily focused on getting a pediatrician, mental health provider and an OB/GYN; attracting and retaining healthcare professional that are the right fit for the community (page 34)
- ❖ *Goal*
 - Keep our clinics, hospital, and ER fully and appropriately staffed
- ❖ *Current Activities*
 - The most recently hired providers have local ties to the community
 - Recently hired an OB/GYN and increased services
 - Recently hired a Pediatrician and increased services
 - Recently hired a second general surgeon and increased services
 - Have successfully been able to recruit and retain adequate nursing staff in hospital and clinics.
 - Residency program for PA's and NP's, nursing clinical/internships
 - Strive to be competitive in wages and benefits
 - Morale boosting and employee satisfaction activities
- ❖ *Proposed Activities*
 - Recruit as needed
- ❖ *Resources/Partnerships*
 - University of Mary (Bismarck, ND), CHI St. Alexius Provider Recruitment Program, North Dakota Center for Rural Health, UND School of Medicine and Health Sciences, Linton Hospital's Employee Enhancement Group

5. Youth drug use and abuse

- ❖ *Specific Needs Identified in CHNA*
 - Youth alcohol use and abuse (including binge drinking) was the highest ranked mental health and substance abuse concern (page 37, 57 votes)
 - Youth drug use and abuse (including prescription drug abuse) was the 3rd ranked mental health and substance abuse concern (page 37, 43 votes)
- ❖ *Goal*
 - Decrease youth drug use and abuse

- Increase community awareness
- ❖ Current Activities
 - Providers are discussing drug and alcohol use and abuse during their sport's physicals and educating patients on the risk (many times parents attend these physicals)
 - Emmons County Safe Night (annual night of fun activities and dance, includes youth education)
 - NDSU Extension Programs are in the schools
 - Emmons County Sheriff's Department provides education at the schools
 - Published the CHNA report on the Linton Hospital website
 - Utilizing the Linton Hospital's Facebook page to highlight awareness and for health safety reminders
- ❖ Proposed Activities
 - Further media outreach regarding the CHNA assessment and findings over the next couple months
 - Provide/facilitate access to resources such as the Drug Take Back program
- ❖ Resources/Partnerships
 - Emmons County Sheriff's Department, NDSU Extension Service, Emmons County Public Health, Emmons County Social Services, Linton Hospital, Emmons County schools and youth leadership programs (FCCLA, 4-H)