

Cheyenne County Hospital 2023 Community Health Needs Assessment Action Plan/Implementation Strategy

Information that was collected through the 2023 Community Health Needs Assessment (CHNA) has been used to guide Cheyenne County Hospital's Leadership Team and Board of Directors as they have adopted the following action plan and implementation strategy for the top priorities that were determined through the 2023 CHNA.

1) Mental Health Services (Local Availability, Cost, Substance Recovery Services)

One of the top priorities identified in the 2020 as well as the 2023 CHNA was access and local availability to behavioral and mental health services. In efforts to meet this need, Cheyenne County Hospital (CCH) obtained the necessary funding for High Plains Mental Health to provide on site services at CCH for the 2021 calendar year. Due to the COVID restrictions, High Plains Mental Health <http://hpmhc.com/> provided remote services via the Zoom platform through the months of January and February 2021. Afterwards, High Plains was able to retain an onsite therapist until December 2022 at which point the therapist relocated out of state. Since that point, High Plains has once again reverted to remote services and will continue that platform until another local therapist is hired.

CCH is also aligned with and supporting the mental health services being provided throughout the county and region by LiveWell Northwest Kansas <https://www.livewellnwk.org/>.

CCH will also continue to support and provide the on-site services of Senior Life Solutions https://www.cheyennecountyhospital.com/services/senior_life_solutions.aspx which is in the lower level of Cheyenne County Clinic.

Timeframe: This priority is ongoing with collaboration and oversight by the CCH executive committee.

2) Substance Abuse

As substance abuse continues to rise, CCH believes that education is one of the most important and effective strategies to combat against it and if we can partner with local programs to educate our children at a young age, we can get ahead and reach our kids before substance abuse has a chance to catch up to them. We want to come to them from many different angles including, teachers, officers, parents, youth groups, and the local ministerial alliance just to name a few. We will also actively engage in the "prescription takeback program" https://www.deadiversion.usdoj.gov/drug_disposal/takeback/ in our community to assist in removal of outdated or unused prescriptions to prevent drugs getting into the wrong hands.

Timeframe: Although this project will be ongoing, we feel that CCH can begin implementing these programs and partnerships as early as the first quarter 2024.

3) Workforce Shortage, Retaining / Recruiting Jobs in Cheyenne County (Attract Youth, Economic Development)

CCH has held job fairs, provided job shadowing opportunities for students from local schools, and offered student scholarships for graduating Seniors who are pursuing a career in the medical field. Additionally, CCH has recently engaged Cheyenne county schools to consider chartering a new HOSA chapter to help local students interested in medical careers. CCH has also partnered with Nex-Generation <https://www.nex-generation.org/> to provide high school and college students with internship opportunities at the hospital, health department, and clinic. Through this internship program, students will gain valuable insight into local career opportunities in the healthcare field and potentially encourage them to return home following college to pursue that career.

Timeframe: This priority is ongoing with active efforts by CCH Leadership and Human Resources department.

4) Personal Health Responsibilities/Healthcare Knowledge

Over the past three years we have all found new ways to learn and communicate. We are ready to take advantage of those platforms and combine them with in person education classes to get back in front of our community and help each other thrive. Whether it be a cooking class or diabetes education, we want to help our community with their healthcare needs and wants. Our local health department does a great job with our semi-annual health fairs that help keep costs extremely low for our patients and community. We'd like to take it a step further by partnering with our schools and local extension agencies to bring current education in a way that best suites our patients' needs. <https://www.sunflower.k-state.edu/>

Timeframe: This is an ongoing project but would like to consider starting education programs by the second quarter of 2024.

5) Reimbursement to Cover Expenses

In an era where insurance companies literally litigate for loopholes to prevent payment to healthcare providers and individuals struggle to pay for deductibles in which they are responsible, the "affordable healthcare" has been a far cry from that leaving healthcare providers holding the empty bag. We continue working with the Kansas Hospital Association to help guide us and our state legislators in making rules and regulations that prevent the 800 lb gorillas in the insurance industry from taking advantage of the rural healthcare providers. One recent contract is being used call the "All Payor Scorecard" which will establish a comparison between insurance contracts and actual timeliness of payments to providers to hold them accountable to what they say they will do. Additionally, we will continue working on grants to help us bridge the gap for uncompensated care given. One such grant CCH has had recent success with is the PCC grant through Kansas Department of Health and Environment.

Timeframe: We know that this will be an ongoing battle but we have already contracted with KHA for the All Payor Scorecard and will continue fighting to hold the insurance companies accountable and responsible for that in which is owed.

6) Local Access to Health Care Specialists

The 2020 and 2023 CHNA also identified the need for local access to Health Care Specialists. CCH has already moved toward increased local access to specialty services and opportunities. Currently CCH offers Obstetric Services with both Dr. Heather Licke, MD and Dr. Benjamin Bosen, DO providing those services locally. CCH also offers an on-site cardiology clinic with Cardiologist Dr. Sean Denney, MD including on-site stress tests and cardiac rehab. Dr. Matthew Uyemura provides on-site Ophthalmology services, including cataract surgeries on a monthly basis. Laparoscopic, Colorectal, and General surgery is offered twice a month with Dr. Charles Frankum, MD. We're excited to announce that with the recent addition of a new Hyperbaric Oxygen Chamber, HBO, we will now have Podiatry specialist Parichart Vaikayee, MD visiting once a month.

https://www.cheyennecountyhospital.com/services/outpatient_surgery.aspx

<https://www.cheyennecountyhospital.com/services/cardiology.aspx>

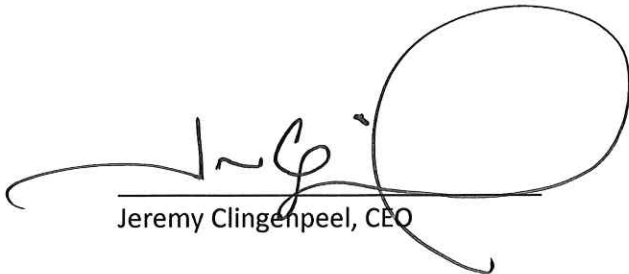
<https://www.cheyennecountyhospital.com/services/ophthalmology.aspx>

Timeframe: This priority is ongoing with active efforts of CCH Leadership to identify and secure other viable Health Care Specialists that can offer local services.

We believe that by utilizing already developed marketing resources, low-cost social media platforms, and many local, state and national grant funds, CCH along with its local partners can establish new or support existing programs for less than \$3,000/year. The items listed above are recommendation from the CCH Executive Leadership for year one of three of the Community Health Needs Assessment Implementation Plan.

Approved and adopted by motion, September 20, 2023, by the Cheyenne County Hospital Board of Directors.


Ryan Murray, Board Chairman


Jeremy Clingenpeel, CEO

