

2022-2024



Implementation Strategy

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Introduction

This Valley is not just an area of operation. It's our home. And its people are not just patients. They are our friends, our partners, our community. We are a 350-bed community hospital located in Van Nuys and dedicated to the health of the San Fernando Valley. So we build the facilities and services specifically focused on meeting the needs of our community. We help patients manage and improve their health by providing access to a wide array of health care services and encourage a culture that listens intently to care more effectively.

At Valley Presbyterian Hospital we are proud to be, vital for access, vital for growth and vital for life.

2021 Community Health Needs Assessment

In 2021, Valley Presbyterian Hospital conducted a Community Health Needs Assessment (CHNA) to comply with federal and state regulations guiding tax-exempt hospitals. The CHNA and Implementation Strategy are posted on the hospital website and can be accessed at <https://www.valleypres.org/community/community-benefit/>. Public comment on the CHNA and Implementation Strategy are encouraged, and community input informed this work.

The CHNA incorporated demographic and health data for the communities served by the hospital. Significant health needs were identified from secondary data sources and key informant interviews. Health indicators were considered high-risk health needs when they exceeded benchmark data, specifically county or state rates or Healthy People 2030 objectives.

The following significant needs were identified:

- Access to health care
- Alzheimer's disease
- Birth indicators
- Chronic diseases
- COVID-19
- Dental care
- Economic insecurity
- Housing and homelessness
- Mental health
- Overweight and obesity
- Preventive practices
- Substance use

A complete description of these health needs can be found in the 2021 CHNA report.

Significant Health Needs the Hospital will Address

To obtain input on the priority needs the hospital will address, VPH conducted stakeholder interviews, community resident surveys, met with internal stakeholders, and discussed partnership opportunities with collaborative partners.

VPH will address the following health needs through a commitment of community benefit programs and charitable resources.

- Access to care (includes preventive practices and transportation)
- Housing and homelessness
- Chronic disease (with an emphasis on diabetes)
- Overweight and obesity
- Mental health

This Implementation Strategy describes how VPH plans to address significant health needs identified in the 2021 Community Health Needs Assessment. For each significant health need that the hospital plans to address, the strategy describes: actions the hospital intends to take, including programs and resources it plans to commit; anticipated impacts of these actions; and planned collaboration between the hospital and other organizations.

Goals have been established that indicate the anticipated impact on these health needs as a result of the resources the hospital will commit to meeting the health needs. Strategies to address the priority health needs are identified and impact measures will be tracked.

ACCESS TO CARE (Includes preventive practices and transportation)

Goal

Increase access to health care and improve community health through preventive practices.

Strategies

The hospital intends to address access to health care by taking the following actions:

1. Provide financial assistance for health care services consistent with VPH's financial assistance policy. In addition to offering financial assistance, the hospital will host enrollment campaigns and assist patients in determining eligibility and enrolling in low or no cost insurance programs, including Covered CA, the state insurance marketplace.
2. Provide transportation to health care services at the hospital and local community health centers to support area residents who experience lack of transportation as a barrier to access health care services.

3. Administer the VPH community grants program in partnership with established community organizations to implement programs that increase access to care for underserved populations.
4. Facilitate access to free health screenings and assist with community resources.
5. Provide or facilitate access to COVID-19 testing and vaccines, pneumonia vaccines and flu vaccines to the medically underserved.
6. Offer culturally competent prenatal care free of charge to community residents.
7. Host several community health symposiums.

Impact

The anticipated impact of these actions will be to:

- Increase availability and access to health care and preventive care services.
- Provide financial assistance to qualified patients.
- Reduce the percentage of residents who delay obtaining needed preventive screenings and vaccines.
- Aid access to health care services by providing transportation assistance.
- Increase knowledge of childbirth and parenting.

Collaboration

To address access to care, VPH plans to collaborate with several community health clinics and nonprofit organizations that serve residents within VPH's service area. VPH will collaborate with:

- ButterFLi (on-demand assisted transportation)
- Community-based organizations
- Family Management Organizations (FMO)
- Federally Qualified Health Centers
- Local Health Plans
- San Fernando Valley Breast Care Foundation

CHRONIC DISEASES (with an emphasis on diabetes)

Goal

Reduce the impact of chronic diseases on health and increase focus on prevention, education and treatment.

Strategies

The hospital intends to address chronic diseases by taking the following actions:

1. Provide screenings for chronic diseases.

2. Provide education on diabetes prevention and treatment, including a focus on healthy eating and physical activity.
3. Establish partnerships and programs with local schools and community clinics to focus on diabetes prevention.
4. Continue the VPH community grants program in partnership with established community organizations to implement programs that focus on chronic disease interventions.

Impact

The anticipated impact of these actions will be to:

- Increase the early diagnosis of pre-diabetes and diabetes.
- Improve linkages with services for treatment of chronic diseases.
- Increase public awareness of diabetes prevention.

Collaboration

To address chronic diseases, including diabetes, VPH will collaborate with:

- American Diabetes Association
- Federally Qualified Health Centers
- Local schools
- Community Based Organizations

HOUSING AND HOMELESSNESS

Goal

Increase access to housing and homelessness resources and services.

Strategies

The hospital intends to address housing and homelessness by taking the following actions:

1. Collaboratively address housing and homelessness issues through shared resources.
2. Continue the VPH community grants program in partnership with established community organizations to implement programs that focus on housing and homelessness interventions.
3. Assist with linking homeless patients to external community resources

Impact

The anticipated impact of these actions will be to:

- Increase partnerships to address housing and homelessness issues.
- Facilitate transportation to local community homeless service centers
- Improve linkages with services for housing and homelessness.

Collaboration

To address housing and homelessness, VPH will collaborate with:

- Community-based organizations
- San Fernando Valley/Santa Clarita Coalition
- Transitional Housing
- Recuperative Care
- Local shelters

MENTAL HEALTH

Goal

Increase access to mental health resources and services.

Strategies

The hospital intends to address mental health by taking the following actions:

1. Provide community health education on mental health topics, including meditation and wellness.
2. Continue the VPH community grants program in partnership with established community organizations to implement programs that increase access to mental health care services for underserved populations.
3. Provide access to mental health care services through telemedicine services that reduce geographic barriers to care.

Impact

The anticipated impact of these actions will be to:

- Increase access to mental health resources.
- Increase public awareness of mental health resources.
- Build community capacity to address mental health issues.

Collaboration

To address mental health, VPH will collaborate with:

- Community-based organizations
- Federally Qualified Health Centers

OVERWEIGHT AND OBESITY

Goal

Reduce overweight and obesity through a focus on healthy eating and physical activity.

Strategies

The hospital intends to address overweight and obesity by taking the following actions:

1. Provide community exercise programs.
2. Continue the VPH community grants program in partnership with established community organizations to implement programs that address overweight and obesity in the community.

Impact

The anticipated impact of these actions will be to:

- Increase access to healthy eating and physical activity opportunities.
- Increase public awareness of the benefit of healthy weight and physical activity.

Collaboration

To address overweight and obesity, VPH will collaborate with:

- Youth Programs
- Community Based Organizations
- Federally Qualified Health Centers
- Senior Centers

Evaluation of Impact

VPH will monitor and evaluate the programs and activities outlined above. The hospital has implemented a system that tracks the implementation of the strategies and documents the anticipated impact. The VPH 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 community programs, 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

Taking existing hospital and community resources into consideration, VPH will not directly address the remaining health needs identified in the CHNA including: Alzheimer's disease, birth indicators, dental care, economic insecurity, and substance use. Since VPH cannot address all the health needs present in the community, it will concentrate on those health needs that it can most effectively address given areas of focus and expertise. These other health needs will be addressed through referrals to community-based organizations.



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