

Community Health Needs Assessment

Implementation Plan

Key Recommendations

Establish Labette County Community Health Improvement Coalition

As noted in the narrative section of this report, the desire to build upon the work of the Community Health Needs Assessment process suggested **launch of a formal coalition**. The purpose of this new team would be collaboration and coordination among the many agencies in Labette County all working to improve the health of the community. At a time when all organizations are working with tighter budgets and fewer resources, this coalition would encourage joint efforts and coordinated schedules. And allow the team to identify new funding sources, particularly grant opportunities, which now often encourage or require community-wide collaboration.

To provide the foundational support to maintain this work, Labette Health's Assistant Administrator would be responsible for coordinating the meeting schedule, location, etc. And as head of the hospital's grant committee, he and the hospital's contracted grant writer would offer assistance with future funding opportunities. Recognizing increasingly busy schedules, regular quarterly meetings are proposed. Initial participants would include the core group represented in this CHNA process, supplemented by additional membership as the organization identifies new or expanded health improvement efforts.

Additionally, representatives from the boards of participating agencies would be encouraged to attend an **annual planning meeting**, seeking to build common community health initiatives into the strategic plans of their organizations. In a time when most agencies are required to do more with less, this added level of coordination assure the most effective use of resources while avoiding duplication.

Timeline:

Inaugural Meeting of Community Health Coalition	January, 2015
Quarterly Meeting Schedule	April & July, 2015
Annual Board Joint Planning Session	October, 2015
Review and Adjustment of Schedule	January, 2016

Development of County-Wide After-School Programs

Addressing one of the most significant gaps identified through the Community Health Needs Assessment process, this multi-year initiative to **re-establish after school programs** represents a major undertaking and would require participation from a broad group of volunteers and funding sources. More than replacing those historic programs lost due to funding cuts, this effort involves a targeted set of goals:

- ensuring student safety through supervised programs
- providing regular physical activity in a fun atmosphere
- exposing students to healthy, tasty after school snacks
- structuring/limiting fees to allow all students to participate
- creating dedicated programming for separate age ranges
- engaging volunteers throughout the community to assist with the effort
- developing a sense of pride in this investment in our children

Borrowing the concept of a Laser Tag venue, and building upon it with other electronic games that **build stamina and conditioning** through physical participation, the project can be broken down into multiple stages. Key steps required would include:

- identifying a location, considering zoning and other regulations
- secure local funding for the space, utilities and overhead expenses
- recruit local civic and church organizations to assist in building and painting plywood “walls” for laser tag courses for each age group (i.e. 6-9, 10-14, 15-18)
- secure outside funding for electronic equipment
- identify options for after-school supervision (Americorps volunteers through LCC, weekly volunteers from civic organizations, grandparents of students, etc.)

A core group of leaders are required to complete such a wide-ranging project. The Labette County EMS team, and their counterparts who coordinate the annual summer children’s safety camp each year, were recommended given their experience in working together to continually grow and expand their event. Additionally, Labette Health’s Rector Center and C.O.R.E. team can provide additional expertise in healthy activities and snacks.

Volunteers from the school districts, public health department, mental health center and other agencies specializing in children’s services would be recruited to assure the efforts are educationally appropriate. **Expansion into weekend programming** could also be explored, to assist law enforcement by providing students with a safe place to gather, under supervision.

Timeline:

Initial Planning Process	January – June 2015
Funding Requests	March – June 2015
Construction of Initial Laser Tag Course	June – August 2015
First After-School Program	Aug. 2015 – May 2016
Review Initial Quarter Results	Nov. 2015 – Jan. 2016
Plan Expansion of Locations/Age Groups	January – June 2016
Construction of Expansion	June – August 2016
Implement Expansion Plan	Aug. 2016 – May 2017

Other Implementation Plan Strategies, Categorized by Identified Need/Gap

Access for the Uninsured and Underinsured

- Seek expansion of KDHE Bureau of Primary Care Grant to extend Community Clinic Hours
- Expand Community Clinic primary care provider referral program for uninsured with identified chronic illness including diabetes, heart failure, COPD, asthma and arthritis
- Marketing sliding-fee-scale access to county-wide primary care clinics participating in the Community Clinic referral program
- Promote Labette Health Foundation's grant funding for mammograms
- Utilize Community Clinic staff as care coordinators for uninsured population, comparable to state program for Medicaid patients

Dental Shortage Area Designation

- Provide Labette County residents with transportation to annual Kansas Dental Society Mission of Mercy through hospital foundation shuttles
- Submit Delta Dental Foundation grant application, seeking to replicate the successful primary care clinic referral program, utilizing local dentists reimbursed at standard rates for providing the uninsured care within their existing clinics

Engaging Community Members in Management of their own Care

- Promote use of audio recording, via personal cell phones, of health care instructions i.e. hospital discharge instructions, physician clinic visit care plan, home health nurse medication instructions, etc. to measurably improve patient compliance
- Expand blood pressure check sites and frequency, reaching out into the community through new sites and events
- Establish Healthcare Hotline to match individual care needs with local resources, utilizing experience of current Medication Assistance staff
- Implement Medicare Care Transitions program to assist elderly after hospitalization
- Explore Community Paramedic Program, as state law allows
- Establish Men's University, building upon Dr. Pai's existing screening program and reaching out through locations and drawings tailored to male interests

Heart Disease Screening and Early Detection

- Establish quarterly, hospital-based screenings and comprehensive, coordinated results follow-up, including marketing of sliding-fee-scale for uninsured/underinsured
- Re-establish Cardiac Rehabilitation Program, assisting patients in recovery and on-going management of heart disease
- Launch marketing campaign to educate community on the warning signs and symptoms of cardiac disease and stroke

Infant and Maternal Health

- Actively support Labette County Public Health Department as lead agency for the March of Dimes' prenatal incentive program pilot through OB clinic and department coordination and professional expertise
- Build upon current Certified Breastfeeding Educator's programming through KDHE's breastfeeding education and encouragement training, providing guidance and resources for all OB department nurses
- Seek to engage Kansas' private Medicaid Managed Care Organization's in proposed pilot project to expand current prenatal programming into outcomes-based model for improving first trimester care rates and reducing complications

Mental/Behavioral Health Partnerships

- 'Embed' behavioral health providers in existing Rural Health Clinics throughout the county, in partnership with Labette County Mental Health Center, and financially supported through outside grants
- Establish linkage with local post-acute/hospice providers for establishment of Palliative Care program and staff training opportunities
- Explore substance abuse partnership options with local law enforcement agencies

Opportunities to Improve Health through Environmental Factors

- Emergency Room staff-led programs to reduce mortality due to traffic and unintentional injury through in-person "scared straight" presentations and mock accident scenarios
- KAMP (Kid Asthma Management Program) including screening for asthma and establishment of summer camp comparable to Rector Center diabetes program

Opportunities to Improve Health through Financial Assistance Expansion

- Patient navigator assistance for those seeking coverage through the health insurance marketplace or caught in the gap between Medicaid and marketplace coverage i.e. funding for premium support
- Work to expand ACT Certification program, expanding educational partnership to promote matching student skills and job skills to reduce unemployment and underemployment

Provider Access Recommendations to Improve Community Health

Additionally, the physician-to-population ratios identified the following recommendations for consideration by the Labette Health Board of Trustees in establishing future physician and mid-level provider recruitment priorities:

Primary Service Area Needs Addressed Through Outreach Clinics

- Allergy/immunology
- Gastroenterology
- Nephrology
- Rheumatology

Primary Service Area Needs Addressed Through Recruitment

- Internal medicine
- Pediatrics

Secondary Service Area Needs Addressed Through Partnership with Regional Providers

- Anesthesiology
- Cardiology
- Dermatology
- Emergency Medicine
- ENT
- Infectious Disease
- Neurology
- Ophthalmology
- Psychiatry
- Radiology

Conclusion

The following Implementation Plan strategies address each of the Community Health Improvement Opportunities and Gaps identified through analysis of the data and input of representatives throughout the community. Yet the plan places emphasis on two new, priority projects identified by the CHNA participants as having the greatest impact on the future health of Labette County residents.