



2021 Community Health Needs Assessment Implementation Strategy

Ellinwood District Hospital (EDH) completed a comprehensive Community Health Needs Assessment (CHNA) in March 2021. EDH performed the CHNA in adherence with certain federal requirements for not-for-profit hospitals set forth in the Affordable Care Act and by the Internal Revenue Service. The assessment took into account input from representatives of the community, community members, and various community organizations. The complete CHNA report is available electronically at www.ellinwooddistricthospital.org, under the About tab.

This portion of the CHNA, the Implementation Strategy, will explain how EDH will address health needs identified by continuing existing programs and services and by implementing new strategies. It will also explain if and why the hospital cannot address all the needs identified in the CHNA.

Health Needs Identified for Ellinwood District Hospital and its service area

1. Improved Facilities.

EDH intends to meet this health need by performing periodic assessments of its current facility and upgrade accordingly. The development process for a new facility has been started. Funding options are being explored and a needs assessment performed. It is anticipated that construction of a new facility will be started in 2022.

2. Affordable Healthcare

EDH is constantly evaluating its pricing within the state, national, and local market. EDH also provides a comprehensive financial assistance program.

3. Additional Healthcare Providers

EDH is in the process of physician and provider recruitment and retention. Succession planning and monitoring for growth is a critical part of our practice and we continuously evaluate these needs.

4. Aging in Place Facilities

EDH does not intend on meeting this need because it is not within our capabilities or scope of practice.

5. Awareness of Services Offered

EDH has implemented a more aggressive advertising and public relations strategy over the last few years. However, with COVID preventing in-person events over the last year, this has become increasingly difficult. Once restrictions allow, we will return to providing informational opportunities to the area. Information will be shared through the normal advertising routes (newspaper, radio, social media).

6. Access to Mental Health Care

EDH continues to strengthen referral patterns with local mental health providers (Center for Counselling and/or Heart of Kansas Family Health, both located in Great Bend, KS)

7. Broader Selection of Healthcare Specialists

EDH has recently started the total remodel of a four-room outreach clinic to provide space for specialists to provide care in Ellinwood. We are stepping up efforts to recruit specialists (based on the requested specialties from our 2021 CHNA) to our community now that it is nearing completion.