

# 2022 COMMUNITY HEALTH NEEDS ASSESSMENT IMPLEMENTATION PLAN



**Osceola**

REGIONAL HEALTH CENTER

AN AVERA PARTNER

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# 2022 Osceola Regional Health Center Implementation Plan

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## Introduction

During fiscal year 2022 a Community Health Needs Assessment (CHNA) was conducted by Osceola Community Hospital d/b/a Osceola Regional Health Center for the approximately 12,000 people residing in the hospital's primary service area. In defining community, Osceola Regional Health Center has taken in to consideration all members of Osceola County and our larger service area (Lyon, O'Brien, Dickinson and Nobles, MN Counties), regardless of socio-economic status. Osceola Regional Health Center is committed to meeting the needs of all who need care regardless of their ability to pay. The communities located in this geographic area include but are not limited to: Ashton, Boyden, George, Harris, Lake Park, Little Rock, Melvin, Ocheyedan, Sheldon, and Sibley in Iowa, and Bigelow, Rushmore, and Worthington in Minnesota.

This Implementation Strategy report summarizes Osceola Regional Health Center's plans to address the prioritized needs from the 2022 Community Health Needs Assessment. The hospital recognizes that the implementation strategies in this report are to be used as a guide and will serve as a framework in addressing the identified needs. As the hospital moves forward, many resources, on-going commitments and partnerships will be necessary to effectively assist in creating healthier communities in Osceola County and the surrounding area.

In order to comply with the established regulations Osceola Regional Health Center completed the following:

- CHNA report, compliant with IRS – Treasury;
- Gathered information needed to complete the IRS – 990h schedule; and
- Developed an implementation strategy to address the community health needs identified during the assessment process.

During the Community Health Needs Assessment the following health need priorities were identified:

- Access to Care (Dental Care, Pediatric Care, Specialty Care)
- Access to Behavioral and Mental Health Services
- Community Wellness/Prevention
- Emergency Medical Services (EMS)
- Non-Healthcare - Housing

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## Implementation Plan

### Access to Care (Dental Care, Pediatric Care, Specialty Care)

Access to health care services is a key component to every community. Access to dental care has been a challenge in the area for over three years. Osceola County is considered a dental desert due to the lack of care available. The community surveys and focus groups also identify pediatric care as an area where care is needed. Finally, specialty care in oncology, dermatology, gynecology, and pulmonology were identified as areas of access to care.

There is an ongoing shortage of dentists as well as specialty care physicians in the United States. In order to meet the needs Osceola Regional Health Center must partner with Osceola County and the City of Sibley to attract a dentist to the area. Specialty care in rural America has been an issue for decades. Partnerships with area health systems must be a top priority.

- Current activities
  - Dental Care: In partnership with the Osceola County Economic Development, a recruitment strategy has been developed to attract a dental provider to Osceola County. Recruitment efforts have and will continue to be a main priority.
  - Specialty Care: Area specialists have been identified and contacted.
- Proposed activities
  - Dental Care: Identify an office building for dental care services.
  - Specialty Care: Partner with health systems that have access to specialty care physicians/providers.
  - Pediatric Care: Work with local healthcare providers to ensure access to quality pediatric care.
  - Collaborate with medical schools and Avera Medical Group Sibley.

### Access to Behavioral and Mental Health Services

There is an ongoing shortage of mental health providers in northwest Iowa however we have seen an increase in services over the past three years. Osceola Regional Health Center has been and will continue to be committed to providing behavioral and mental health services.

- Current activities
  - Osceola Regional Health Center has partnered with Interconnections Therapy to have a full time mental health counselor who provides individual, family, and couples counseling.
  - In July 2022, Osceola Regional Health Center hired a psychiatric mental health nurse practitioner (PMHNP) to meet the ongoing needs of the community.
  - The psychiatric mental health nurse practitioner held community education events at a local business to educate the public on the importance of mental health in our community.
  - In October 2022, Osceola Regional Health Center partnered with the school district and Care Connections of Northern Iowa to promote the 988 Suicide and Crisis Lifeline.

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### ➤ Action Plan

- Partner with Care Connections of Northern Iowa to identify resources for behavioral and mental health services.
- Partner with Senior Life Solutions for mental health services for those over the age of 65.
  - Senior Life Solutions who serves individuals over age 65 aims to provide assistance to people who are dealing with emotional or behavioral issues often related to aging. Some of these issues are loss of loved ones, stresses of age, related to health concerns and diminished self-esteem.
- Partner with Integrated Telehealth Partners to provide telepsychiatry services in the emergency department.
- Partner with other mental healthcare organizations
  - Avera Behavioral Health in Sioux Falls, SD; Seasons Community Mental Health; Spencer Hospital Mental Health Unit; Mercy Behavioral Health, Sioux City; Creative Living Center, Rock Valley to promote mental health services and counseling in the rural setting.
  - The anticipated impact of the program will ensure patients receive care in a timely manner and are able to access these services.

### **Community Wellness/Prevention**

Osceola Regional Health Center will continue to engage community members in activities that are healthy. The hospital has partnered with community groups to promote health, reduce obesity and prevent disease in our service area.

### ➤ Current activities

- Due to the COVID-19 pandemic diabetes education classes were suspended. In September 2022, the program resumed. The diabetic education program at Osceola Regional Health Center has a Registered Nurse (RN) and a Registered Dietician (RD) that provide counseling services to diabetic patients regarding knowledge of nutrition, exercise, monitoring and medication.
- The Osceola Regional Health Center Wellness Center partnered with Live Healthy Iowa to promote physical fitness.
- The Osceola County Public Health Office which is located on the Osceola Regional Health Center campus provides immunizations, Best Care for Better Babies Program, foot care and the homemaker program, which all support community health and prevention.

### ➤ Action Plan

- Identify opportunities to work with the local school district to promote wellness within the student body.
- Provide additional training and educational programs for community members to include physical trainer.
- Identify individuals who need resources in order to access educational or wellness programs.
- The goal of this program is to support health and well-being of community members.

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### **Emergency Management Services (EMS)**

Emergency medical services (EMS) provide care for individuals who have had a sudden or serious injury, illness, or suffered a major trauma. Access to EMS is critical for rural citizens, but providing services is often challenging in rural areas. Our rural area relies on volunteers to staff the ambulance. Osceola Regional Health Center is committed to helping our local EMS recruit and retain the paramedics, EMTs and first responders. The medical director of the Osceola County Emergency Medical Services is now a local provider who is a great supporter of EMS services.

- Current activities
  - Support the need for additional funding for emergency medical services.
    - Osceola County owns and operates the EMS services in the county.
    - Osceola County has been committed to ensuring the long-term viability of the EMS services and has provided funding for educational opportunities.
  
- Action Plan
  - Provide staff for the EMS service by allowing Osceola Regional Staff to go on EMS calls during work hours.
  - Invest in education for staff to complete required training for EMS service.
  - Build an ambulance garage on the Osceola Regional Health Center campus.
  - Work with the Osceola Board of Supervisors as well as support from community members is required.

### **Non-Healthcare – Housing**

Although housing is not directly related to the services provided at Osceola Regional Health Center, it is central to population health. In partnership with Iowa Economic Development a Rural Housing Readiness Action Plan was completed to identify housing opportunities. A group of community members reviewed the information and set out to grow the amount of housing in the area. Four areas of growth were identified: New lots/housing, New Multi-Family Housing, Property Standards, and Senior Living/Affordable Housing.

- Current activities
  - Osceola Regional Health Center is actively engaged in the Sibley Housing Development committee and is identifying opportunities for additional housing.
  
- Action Plan
  - Assist in community housing initiative.
  - Identify opportunities for current land owned by hospital.

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### Needs not being addressed and why

While all identified needs are important, Osceola Regional Health Center will not address the following needs as part of its implementation plan: transportation and childcare.

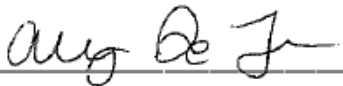
These needs will be communicated to local government and economic organizations. Osceola Regional Health Center will participate in addressing the needs, however due to resources available the outlined initiatives will be the main focus.

### Board Approval

The 2022 Osceola Regional Health Center Community Health Needs Assessment Implementation Plans was presented to the Osceola Regional Health Center Board of Trustees on October 24, 2022 for discussion and consideration. The Board of Trustees approved the 2022 Osceola Regional Health Center Community Health Needs Assessment Implementation Plan at that meeting.

The Community Health Needs Assessment report and implementation plan will be available on the Osceola Regional Health Center website. A copy can also be obtained by contacting the administrative offices at Osceola Regional Health Center.

Osceola Regional Health Center Board of Directors Approval:

Board President:                                         

Date:                     10-24-2022