



Saint Joseph's Hospital

**Community Health Needs Assessment
Implementation Strategy Plan
July 2013**

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In continuation of our commitment to the health and well-being of our community members, Emory Healthcare and Saint Joseph's Hospital conducted a Community Health Needs Assessment. The report assessed the needs of the community served by Saint Joseph's Hospital using quantitative data and input from individuals representing the broad interest of the community. Using this report, Saint Joseph's Hospital identified three primary health needs of our community:

- Improve access to care in the community and collaborate with community partners to lessen the barriers to obtaining care including the shortage of health professionals, costs of care to the patient, transportation, insurance, health disparities, and other factors
- Expand community awareness of healthy behaviors and available resources/care settings through education and community based programs
- Increase the focus on preventative care and disease management for chronic conditions in the community to reduce health disparities and improve the health of the community

Saint Joseph's Hospital developed the strategies below to outline how we plan to address the identified health needs of the community we serve. Through these strategies, Saint Joseph's Hospital strives to improve the overall health of our community, while delivering the best possible care to our patients.

Priority	Access to Care & Community Collaboration
Strategy Statement:	Improve access to care in the community and collaborate with community partners to lessen the barriers to obtaining care including the shortage of health professionals, costs of care to the patient, transportation, insurance, health disparities, and other factors
Major Actions	Sub-Action
Address Shortage of Healthcare Professionals	Expand training for new nurses and health professionals through additional collaborations with training programs and schools throughout Georgia and the southeast.
	Focus on mid-level training and utilization through collaboration with other Emory Healthcare operating units.
	Continue to offer volunteer programs and opportunities for teens and students.

Collaboration with Community Partners	Enhance collaboration across the continuum of care by establishing new partnerships with local organizations such as rehabilitation services, long-term care and home health to promote continuity of care, reduce readmissions, and ensure services are provided in the most appropriate settings.
	Continue and expand the partnership with Mercy Care Services to extend resources and education to those that are homeless or poverty stricken in the Atlanta Metro Area.
Access to Care	Recruit and partner with new primary care physicians to expand care options to a greater number of Georgia residents.
	Continue to provide financial assistance for health care services to applicable individuals through various charity funds available for those without insurance coverage.
	Increase communication to referral sources of services offered at SJH that can improve the health of their patients.

Priority	Community Awareness & Education of Healthy Behaviors
Strategy Statement:	Expand community awareness of healthy behaviors and available resources/care settings through education and community based programs
Major Actions	Sub-Actions
Community Collaboration	Continue annual partnerships with local Georgia not-for-profit organizations to raise funds, awareness and contribute volunteer hours.
	Collaborate and engage the Catholic community throughout Georgia by forming partnerships with local parishes, and providing education about healthy behaviors.
	Partner and sponsor education classes for health initiatives at Saint Joseph's Hospital for staff members and community members.
	Partner with local organizations to establish wellness initiative programs.

Priority	Preventative Disease Management
Strategy Statement:	Increase the focus on preventative care and disease management for chronic conditions in the community to reduce health disparities and improve the health of the community
Major Actions	Sub-Actions
Preventive Care	Enhance internal and external communication of resources and programs available for preventative disease management for staff members and patients.
Targeted Disease Management: Diabetes	Provide diabetes education and programs to at risk patients and those that currently suffer from diabetes.
Targeted Disease Management: Cardiovascular Disease and Stroke	Provide education to community EMS providers to enhance pre-hospital care for stroke and chest pain patients.
	Continue heart outreach and screening programs to create awareness in the community of healthy behaviors and risk factors.
Targeted Disease Management: Tobacco Prevention	Continue to deliver tobacco cessation support and encourage tobacco cessation. SJH will continue to provide a tobacco free campus to employees and implement the EHC plan to no longer hire individuals who use tobacco products.
Targeted Disease Management: Cancer Care	Continue to expand partnerships with organizations to provide onsite cancer screening and prevention education.
	Continue to provide hospital-based community health and cancer screenings.
	Continue to provide education through the Cancer Survivors Network through on-going education and support programs.