

IMPACT Over the Three Year Plan

- An average of **91%** of the indicators set for the three years of our CHNA Implementation Plan were achieved. THANK YOU to our CHNA Task Forces, Community Health Team and community partners for making this happen.
- **40** Community Relations grants valued at **\$150,000** were awarded to address our priorities.
- About **89,000** community members were reached by a variety of **behavioral health** programs including mental health training, drug take back initiatives, Narcan education and distribution, mandated reporter training, and community based trauma-informed care (TIC) training sessions. Survey findings from the TIC trainings demonstrated that attendees had a better understanding of TIC and sensory needs in children after participating.
- **94,000** people participated in **physical activity** programming.
- **115,000** community members attended sessions to learn how to prevent and **manage disease**.
- Over **152,000** people benefited from Penn State Health nutrition and food outreach services at over **40** community locations.
- According to County Health Rankings (countyhealthrankings.org), the percent of persons who lack adequate access to food improved over the three years of this plan. **All five of our counties** (Berks, Cumberland, Dauphin, Lancaster and Lebanon) are performing better than the rest of PA. **Three** of these counties (Berks, Cumberland and Dauphin) have scores better than top performers in the USA.

Community Health – FY 2022

- Community Health includes: all community health improvement projects offered (not only those prioritized by our CHNA process), cash and in-kind contributions, community building activities and community benefit operations.
- Overall in **FY 2022** Penn State Health served **875,682 community members** with **131,858 employee hours** and **83,216 volunteer hours**, resulting in **\$6,309,659 in Community Health** services provided to our community.

Community Benefit – FY 2021

- Community Benefit is the total value of quantifiable benefits provided to our community and reported to the IRS. This total includes Community Health, Health Professions Education, Subsidized Health Services, Financial Assistance and Medicaid. It does not include Research, Bad Debt or Medicare.
- In **FY 2021**, Penn State Health provided **\$110,411,380 in Community Benefit**.



2022

Third Year Report Card

Community Health Needs Assessment (CHNA) Implementation Plan

www.pennstatehealth.org/community



Five Pennsylvania Counties

Berks • Cumberland • Dauphin • Lancaster • Lebanon



PennState Health

PENN STATE HEALTH MILTON S. HERSHEY MEDICAL CENTER
PENN STATE HEALTH HOLY SPIRIT MEDICAL CENTER
PENN STATE HEALTH ST. JOSEPH MEDICAL CENTER
PENNSYLVANIA PSYCHIATRIC INSTITUTE

PRIORITY SPOTLIGHT Nutrition and Food Access

Penn State Health (PSH) has a long commitment to improving the health and wellness of our community, but it is impossible to be truly healthy if our community is not able to access food. It is well known that food insecurity is linked to toxic stress and poor health outcomes. PSH has partnered closely with community organizations to address food access needs through a variety of programs that have evolved over the years, including adapting during the COVID-19 pandemic. Programs focus on not only improving food access but offering more healthy food options and education.



PennState Health

St. Joseph Medical Center in Berks County offers a weekly Farm Stand at the Downtown Campus. The Farm Stand brings fresh produce into an area with low food access and is a redemption spot for Farmers Market Nutrition Program Vouchers. It moved outside to continue during the pandemic. Health education and community nursing is also offered on location, and the stand has served over **9,200** visitors in three years. The Veggie RX program emerged to compliment the Farm Stand. Participants with a diagnosis of diabetes receive in depth education and Farm Bucks redeemable at the stand with an almost **80%** redemption rate. Both of these programs have been so successful that they are being replicated in additional counties.

Initially, the Farmers Market in Hershey and Community Garden were developed on our Hershey campus. These initiatives have expanded to take fresh fruits and vegetables, flowers and honey to hard to reach locations in our community. In 2015, PSH initiated Pantries and Wellness Support (PaWS) in partnership with two community based food pantries. PaWS community health nurses now provide health education, cardiovascular screening and supplemental produce at **12 different locations**. These community access points are so important since many participants face barriers to seeking preventive health screenings elsewhere. This initiative has proven incredibly successful in many ways including reducing blood pressures at multiple locations.



PSH offers an Emergency Food Box program at multiple clinic sites. Patients are screened for food insecurity at their visit, and if they are food insecure, they are offered food boxes that include nutritionally dense shelf stable products to provide for their family for three days. Families are then connected with a social worker who will connect them to a long-term, sustainable food source. This program has pivoted to also offer food coupons redeemable at local grocery stores, produce distribution and community refrigerators at community centers and free clinics, including our Holy Spirit Medical Center Outreach Clinic in Allison Hill, Harrisburg.

PSH is also finding ways to grow food directly in **seven** communities most in need. In April of 2022, PSH partnered with Rite Aid Healthy Futures to construct their first community garden in Lebanon County. Located at the Chestnut Street Community Center, this garden is across the street from Harding Elementary school. Near a school and community center is critical since our CHNA identified that just over **14% of children** in Lebanon County worried about running out of food. The garden is a place where families can harvest radishes, kale, lettuce, cucumbers, onions and other produce. Additionally, it is a place to bring the community together.



PSH is committed to further expanding programs to meet our community's food access and nutrition needs. Thank you to all community organizations who partner to make this possible together, and ultimately reach the larger goal of eliminating hunger.

