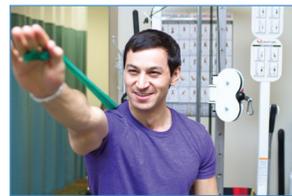




2013 COMMUNITY HEALTH NEEDS ASSESSMENT

SUMMARY



HEALTHY 
+ LAKE CHELAN VALLEY



LAKE CHELAN
COMMUNITY
HOSPITAL

Caring for the people in the
Lake Chelan Valley for over 65 years.

The Process

In 2013, Lake Chelan Community Hospital (LCCH) partnered with Community Choice, a regional healthcare collaborative including Confluence Health, Cascade Medical Center and others, to conduct a comprehensive Community Health Needs Assessment (CHNA). An internal hospital committee reviewed essential data, including U.S. Census, Centers for Disease Control and Prevention reports, 2012 Healthy Youth Survey, county health rankings and the Chelan / Douglas county trends website. The committee presented findings to an external steering committee comprised of representatives from local schools, government, healthcare, religious and social organizations. The two groups met to review and discuss data and share findings and perceptions. Their collaboration helped identify the most pressing needs specific to the greater Lake Chelan Valley.

Our Community

For the purpose of the CHNA, LCCH defined its primary service area as a portion of northern Chelan County and a portion of Douglas County. This was determined by the physical proximity and healthcare referral patterns of its cities, villages and townships, including Chelan, Mansfield, Manson, Chelan Falls, Stehekin, Lucerne and Holden Village.

Key Findings

Statistics and research revealed:

- Despite a high rate of primary care providers in Chelan County, only a few of those providers are located in the Lake Chelan Valley. A shortage of health professionals directly contributes to access and health status issues.
- About 15% of adults in Chelan County report that six or more of their permanent teeth have been removed due to tooth decay, gum disease or infection. This indicates a lack of access to dental care. Most dentists in the Lake Chelan Valley generally do not accept Medicaid coverage for adult dental care because of low reimbursement rates.
- Chelan County's number of adults who self report they receive insufficient social and emotional support all or most of the time is higher than the state average.

- In 2012, Chelan County experienced a drastic increase in the number of suicides, with 26 in the county. Several of those occurred in the Lake Chelan Valley.
- Members of the CHNA steering committee shared concerns and experiences demonstrating the lack of mental and behavioral healthcare available to children and teens in our community.
- According to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, almost a quarter of the population in Chelan County is obese. This indicates an unhealthy lifestyle and puts individuals at risk for further health issues, including diabetes, stroke and heart disease.
- An internal study conducted in a NCW school district of grade K-5 students identified at least 28% of the students were overweight or obese at all grade levels. Forty-seven percent of students at the fifth grade level were overweight or obese.
- The number of teen births in Chelan County is higher than both the state and national averages.

Prioritizing our Needs

Assessment results validated our existing work and helped us prioritize where and how to focus our new work. However, given the complexity of community needs and the finite resources available to meet them, we have difficult choices. We believe that by working in partnership with others, our efforts will have ripple effects throughout the community.

For LCCH's Community Health Needs Implementation Plan, we identified four priority areas:

- Access to Healthcare
- Mental and Behavioral Health
- Chronic Disease Prevention
- Pre-conceptual and Perinatal Health

Our priorities have been approved by the LCCH Board of Commissioners (the ultimate governing board of the organization) and will be incorporated into the hospital's operating, community outreach and strategic initiatives.

