

The University of Tennessee Medical Center  
Community Health Needs Assessment  
Implementation Strategy 2022

Approved by UHS Finance Committee on 04.23.2023

In 2022, The University of Tennessee Medical Center (UTMC) conducted its Community Health Needs Assessment, which included market data analysis, a community-wide survey, and stakeholder interviews. This process resulted in identifying four community priorities that will guide the planning and implementation of strategies intended to improve our community’s health.

Once the community health priorities were determined, leadership identified the Centers of Excellence and hospital programs suited to be the lead implementors of these initiatives. Due to the COVID-19 pandemic impact in our organization and community, additional analysis was given to the feasibility, operationality, and hospital capacity regarding program implementation.

<b>Priority 1: Mental Health (Behavioral Health)</b>	
<p>Mental Health has been identified as a health priority by a significant number of counties included in the UTMC's service area. To address our community's inpatient and outpatient mental health, UTMC partnered with National Healthcare Corporation (“NHC”), Tennova Healthcare, on a sixty-four-bed psychiatric hospital in Knoxville, Tennessee. Knoxville Center for Behavioral Medicine (KCBM) is providing psychiatric services to both adult and geriatric patients as well as adults with co-occurring mental health and substance use conditions.</p> <p>UTMC, via the University Health Network (UHN), is collaborating with The McNabb Center to increase outpatient mental health service access to UT Primary Care offices through the BHN-McNabb Outpatient Program under the Behavioral Health Network.</p>	
<b>Anticipated Impact:</b>	
<p>The community will have access to up to 64 additional beds for behavioral medicine services. Increase access to outpatient mental health services to Knoxville-based UHS PCP (Primary Care Providers) practices (total of 9).</p>	
<b>Existing Programs</b>	<b>Collaborators</b>
<p>Behavioral Health Network (BHN) BHN-McNabb Outpatient Program</p>	<p>National Healthcare Corporation Tennova Healthcare The McNabb Center</p>
<b>Priority 2: Substance Misuse</b>	
<p>UTMC is implementing a comprehensive strategy to address the needs of the substance misuse population. The emergency department (ED) is deploying peer navigators and health-related social needs screenings to address this population's health and social needs. <b>Peer navigators</b> conduct, among other tasks, health-related social needs (HRSN) screenings for all substance misuse patients seen through the ED. The screening provides a better picture of the main barriers related to substance use recovery. Additionally, UTMC is implementing <b>the Bridge to Recovery program</b>, allowing UT-ED Physicians to initiate suboxone-based Medication Assisted Treatment (MAT) with same-day, direct transport via Peer Navigators to their first outpatient provider appointment in partnership with The McNabb Center.</p>	
<b>Anticipated Impact:</b>	
<p>Increase timely access to substance use treatment and resources</p>	
<b>Existing Programs</b>	<b>Collaborators</b>
<p>Behavioral Health Network Case Management Peer Navigation Team</p>	<p>The McNabb Center Cherokee Health Systems KAPA</p>

TNCRN	
<b>Priority 3: Obesity</b>	
Due to the impact of COVID-19 in UTMC’s service area and resource constraints, our organization opted to delay our planning and implementation efforts related to addressing obesity. This community health priority will be addressed during our upcoming planning cycle.	
<b>Anticipated Impact</b>	
<b>Existing Programs</b>	<b>Collaborators</b>
Bariatric Program	Including but not limited to:
<b>Priority 4: Cancer</b>	
The Cancer Institute's (CI) Mobile Mammography Unit (MMU) increases access to breast cancer screening in underserved and minority populations. CI's MMU staff uses Community Needs Index (CNI) data and population data to determine areas with the greatest needs and partners with local community-based organizations to increase breast cancer screening in identified geographic areas.	
<b>Anticipated Impact:</b> Increase the number of minority women screened for breast cancer by 15%.	
<b>Existing Programs</b>	<b>Collaborators</b>
Breast Health Outreach Program (BHOP)	Including but not limited to: Cansler YMCA Carter Senior Center Community Evangelical Church Centro Hispano at UT BC Cherokee Health Systems-Maynardville Cherokee-Blaine Clinica Latinos Unidos Emerald Youth Lonsdale Exedy The Kim Health Center Greater Warner Tabernacle Lennon-Seney UMC Free Medical Clinic-Oak Ridge Morristown Senior Center Knox Area Urban League Grow Partnership Tennessee New Directions Health Care Solutions ST. Mary's Legacy Clinic