

ALLEGHANY MEMORIAL HOSPITAL
HEALTH IMPROVEMENT IMPLEMENTATION STRATEGY
2018-2021

SUMMARY

The purpose of this implementation strategy is to describe what Alleghany Memorial Hospital (AMH) plans to do to address the community health needs identified in the 2017 Alleghany County Community Health Report. This report is a result of a collaborative effort within Alleghany County. Many individuals and organizations played an integral role in the development and implementation of the community health assessment plans, particularly:

Appalachian District Board of Health

Alleghany Economic Development Committee for Health

Alleghany Memorial Hospital

IMPLEMENTATION STRATEGY PROCESS

The first phase of the process includes the collection and analysis of community input through an opinion survey and community secondary data review. A Community Health Assessment Planning Committee comprised of multidisciplinary stakeholders and community leaders met in June 2017 to guide implementation of the community health assessment timeline and ensure the process engaged the community in an inclusive and respectful manner.

The second phase was conducted between March-August 2018 through the development of the Community Health Action Plans. This is a systematic process involving the community to identify and analyze community health needs and then implement a plan to address significant unmet needs. Upon completing the assessment, implementation strategies are developed to address the needs identified in the community health assessment.

PRIORITIZED LIST OF SIGNIFICANT HEALTH NEEDS IDENTIFIED IN THE 2017 CHA

- **Mental/behavioral health.** Depression, anxiety, emotional wellbeing, suicide prevention, and support/intervention for those with mental illness
- **Health equity for a vibrant economy.** Addressing health equity through strategic partnerships to promote economic development
- **Substance use and misuse prevention.** Drugs, alcohol, and tobacco; including misuse or abuse of prescription drugs and use of e-cigarettes or other devices for nicotine delivery

SIGNIFICANT HEALTH PRIORITIES TO BE ADDRESSED

AMH will be a lead agency in the creation of an Alleghany Wellness Coalition (AWC), an organization designed to bring together a group of public, private and service agencies who deal with various aspects of health and/or wellness. This would include information sharing, collaboration, and events/activities to increase educational efforts for area citizens. Participants will include, but not limited to: Health Department, Council on Aging, Wellness Center, Senior Center, Partnership for Children, Pregnancy Center, Chamber of Commerce, County/Town Law Enforcement, Daymark Recovery Services, Cooperative Extension Office, Town and County Managers.

Mental/Behavioral Health and Substance Abuse/Misuse Prevention

To address health behavior related priorities, AMH will provide a variety of health education and screenings in community settings. Education will also be provided through health fairs and community events.

AMH will coordinate with Daymark Recovery Services to provide support services through the emergency department. The intent of the program is to link patients with recovery resources available through this comprehensive community provider of healthcare professionals skilled at addressing mental health and substance abuse services.

AMH will collaborate with the Health Department to increase number of health professionals trained in evidence-based interventions for mental health and tobacco cessation.

Health Equity For A Vibrant Economy

In addition to community education and events described above, AMH works to encourage healthy behaviors through health improvement opportunities for its own employees. Since AMH is a large employer in the region, it is imperative that we engage employees and their families in health improvement opportunities, such as discounts on health insurance premiums for smoking cessation and completion of annual wellness physical and health risk assessments.

AMH will develop a corporate membership program agreement with Alleghany Wellness Center to encourage hospital employees to enroll in fitness/wellness activities.

AMH will participate in a workforce development initiative with other community employers to focus on recruitment/retention strategies, including: (1) access to care, (2) workplace wellness programs, and (3) increased access to childcare.

