

2013 Community Health Needs Assessment

Catholic Health Partners' (CHP) long-standing commitment to the community covers more than 150 years. This commitment has expanded and evolved through considerable thought and care in considering our communities' most pressing health needs. One avenue for examining these needs is through a periodic, comprehensive Community Health Needs Assessment (CHNA) for each CHP hospital. The most recent assessments were completed by teams comprised of CHP and community leaders. They include quantitative and qualitative data that guide both our community benefit and strategic planning.

Through our CHNA, CHP has identified the greatest needs among each of our hospital's communities. This enables CHP to ensure our resources are directed appropriately toward outreach, prevention, education and wellness opportunities where the greatest impact can be realized.

The following document is a detailed CHNA for Mercy Allen Hospital (Mercy Allen). Mercy Allen has provided healthcare to the Oberlin community and beyond since 1907. Mercy Allen is a 25-bed critical access hospital offering inpatient and sub-acute care, surgical, rehabilitation and diagnostic services and state-of-the-art emergency services. Mercy Allen has been named by the National Rural Health Association (NRHA) as one of the nation's Top 100 Critical Access Hospitals and is accredited by the Joint Commission.

CHP has responded to community health needs as part of a five-year strategic plan that concludes in 2013. Planning also has begun on a five-year plan that will guide CHP through 2018. Recently, CHP has built new hospitals in Cincinnati, Springfield and Willard, all in Ohio, and renovated and expanded facilities in Toledo, Youngstown, Lima and other communities served by CHP. CHP is investing more than \$300 million in an electronic health system as we build integrated networks of care designed to improve the health of communities. We operate health and fitness centers, hospice facilities, outpatient clinics and senior living facilities.

CHP contributes more than \$1 million per day in community benefit services as we carry out our long-standing mission of extending care to the poor and under-served.

Mercy Allen strives to meet the health needs of its community. Please read the document's introduction below to better understand the health needs that have been identified.

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Introduction

Community Served by Hospital

For the purposes of the health assessment, Mercy Allen Hospital (Mercy Allen) considers southern Lorain County and the city of Wakeman in Huron County in Ohio as its primary service area (PSA), specifically the cities of Wellington (44090), Oberlin (44074), Elyria (44035), and Wakeman (44889). Patient discharge data for 2011 from the Ohio Hospital Association indicates that nearly 73% of inpatients served by Mercy Allen were residents of the PSA. However, during the assessment, agencies serving secondary areas served by Mercy Allen, including the remainder of Lorain County, as well as both Erie and Huron Counties were consulted. Patient discharge data for 2011 from the Ohio Hospital Association indicates that over 85% of inpatients served by Mercy Allen were residents of Lorain County.

According to Census 2010 data, the PSA had 94,149 residents, with nearly 74% being adults over the age of 19, 14% being youths between 10 and 19 and the remaining 12% being adolescents under the age of 9. The majority of residents were Caucasian (83.4%), followed by African-Americans (10.9%). However, the city of Elyria accounted for 85% of the total African-American residents in the PSA, as the remaining area is mostly rural and predominantly Caucasians. The mean household (HH) income in the PSA was \$57,192. Again, this is due to the city of Elyria (where the mean HH income is \$52,793) comprising 71% of the total HHs in the PSA. The mean HH income for the remaining portion of the PSA is \$67,999.

Process

Mercy Allen Hospital, as a critical access hospital, determined that, in anticipation of preparing this assessment, it would be efficient and effective to participate in the Ohio Department of Health's Regional Health Assessment project for Critical Access Hospitals conducted by Ohio University's Voinovich School of Leadership and Public Affairs. Additionally, Mercy, along with the three general health districts and other leading health and social service agencies in Lorain County, participated in the 2011 Lorain County, OhioHealth Assessment Project, which

looked at health needs across Lorain County with a specific breakout for rural Lorain County. Mercy Allen is continuing to work with the health districts and other agencies in Lorain County to develop a county-wide community health improvement plan.

Information and Data Considered in Identifying Potential Need

Information and Data Sources: Federal, State or Local Health or Other Departments or Agencies; Community Input

Source #1: Ohio Department of Health Regional Health Assessment Project for Critical Access Hospitals – North Central Ohio
Ohio University's Voinovich School of Leadership & Public Affairs, 2012

To assist critical access hospitals with addressing and implementing a health needs assessment, the Ohio Department of Health selected Ohio University's Voinovich School of Leadership and Public Affairs along with their project partner, the University of Toledo Area Health Education Center program office, to conduct a regional community needs assessment in four regions across the state. Mercy Allen fell within the North Central Region, which included the following 14 counties: Champaign, Harding, Marion, Morrow, Wyandot, Seneca, Crawford, Richland, Wayne, Medina, Huron, Lorain, Lake and Ashtabula. Within the North Central Region, there are 11 critical access hospitals.

With funding provided by the Ohio Department of Health's Flex Program, critical access hospitals along with local community representatives (including, but not limited to physicians and nursing home administrators) who had a broad knowledge of the health care needs within their community met a total of five times to discuss and prioritize the health care needs of the region. The representatives from the critical access hospitals and their communities worked collaboratively to analyze the current health care needs in the region. The committee reviewed health data on the incidence and prevalence of leading causes of death,

chronic diseases, mental health, substance abuse and other health risk factors. Additionally, the committee considered the region's demographic composition and socioeconomic factors such as educational attainment, poverty status and insurance coverage.

The committee's analysis also included reviewing results from a survey of critical access hospitals that identified available and needed inpatient, outpatient and community-based services within their service areas. As part of the survey, each critical access hospital was charged with submitting data from their respective facility, which included major diagnoses for inpatient admissions, inpatient and outpatient procedures, and emergency department visits along with volume indicators. The committee analyzed the data from each facility to identify common utilization trends in the populations served.

The process relied on a data-driven, facilitated planning approach, and occurred between November 2011 and May 2012 and included much data analysis and in-depth round-table discussions to discover the needs of the populations served. Once the needs of the represented communities were identified, the entire group prioritized the needs based on the greatest impact to the community as well as which ones the hospitals could impact the most. As part of the Community Needs Assessment, a profile of the region was developed, which included the following highlights:

North Central Ohio Profile — January 2012

The Regional CAN defined the North Central Region as including the following 14 counties: Champaign, Harding, Marion, Morrow, Wyandot, Seneca, Crawford, Richland, Wayne, Medina, Huron, Lorain, Lake and Ashtabula. There are 11 Critical Access Hospitals located in those counties.

Demographics

- The total population of the 14 county region in 2010 was 1,400,474 with 91.7% being white, 4.3% black only and the remaining 4% split among American Indian, Asian, Native Hawaiian/Pacific Islander, One Other Race or Two or More Races. Under ethnicity, 3.7%, or 52,470 identified themselves as Hispanic or Latino (Source - Population by race and ethnicity; U.S. Census Bureau, 2010 Census).
- More than 370,000 residents, or almost 27% are 19 years of age or under (Source - Population by age and gender; U.S. Census Bureau, 2010 Census) and may require pediatric care and adolescents may need prevention and treatment of injuries from athletics or risky behaviors.

- Almost 160,000 women in the region are between the ages of 20 and 39 (Source - Population by age and gender; U.S. Census Bureau, 2010 Census) and may require women's health care including prenatal care.
- More than 400,000 residents are between the ages of 40 and 59 (Source - Population by age and gender; U.S. Census Bureau, 2010 Census) and need routine screenings for leading causes of death such as cancer and symptoms for chronic diseases such as hypertension and high cholesterol.
- Almost 300,000 residents are age 60 and older (Source - Population by age and gender; U.S. Census Bureau, 2010 Census) which typically have chronic conditions and need access to services at a much higher rate.

Education

- 40% of the residents in the North Central Region graduated from high school (or equivalency), while just over 20% held an Associate's or Bachelor's degree (Source - Educational attainment of the population age 25 and older; U.S. Census Bureau, 2006 to 2010 American Community Survey).

Income/Insurance

- More than 40% of the residents have incomes below 200% of the poverty threshold (Source - Income and poverty; U.S. Census Bureau, 2006 to 2010 American Community Survey).
- 26% of residents are uninsured or covered through Medicaid and 17% of the residents are covered by Medicare (Source - Income and poverty; U.S. Census Bureau, 2006 to 2010 American Community Survey). Low-income households might not seek preventative care or treatment due to the lack of insurance or co-pay requirements, and this often results in residents going to hospital emergency departments for care when they are very sick.

Leading Causes of Death

- (Source - Leading causes of mortality; Ohio Department of Health's Data Warehouse, 2006 to 2008).
- Heart Disease (229.3 deaths per 100,000) is the leading cause of death, but the rate is below the overall state rate (238.1 per 100,000).
 - Cancer is the second leading cause of death (223.3 deaths per 100,000) and has a higher rate than the overall state rate (217.9 per 100,000).
 - Chronic Lower Respiratory Diseases is the third leading cause of death (58.9 deaths per 100,000) and also has a higher (albeit slightly) rate than the overall state rate (56.3 per 100,000).

▤ *Health Risk Factors*

Data from Ohio Behavioral Risk Factor Surveillance System and the Ohio Health Family Survey were used to generate estimates for the region by applying age-, gender-, and/or race-specific Ohio rates to the region's 2010 population

- In the region, 26% of children and 66% of adults are estimated to be overweight or obese (Source - Ohio Family Health Survey, 2010).
- Over 236,000 adults (22.2%) in the region currently smoke and almost 16% (168,521) reported their Health Status as fair or poor (Source - 2010 Ohio Behavioral Risk Factor Surveillance System).
- Of adults tested, the percent of those in the region that were told they have high cholesterol and those told they have high blood pressure were both higher than national averages (Source - 2010 Ohio Behavioral Risk Factor Surveillance System). Both of these symptoms can lead to heart disease or stroke, the #1 and #4 leading causes of death in the region.
- The region had higher percentages of women 18+ with no pap test in the past 3 years, women 40+ with no mammogram in the past 2 years and women 50+ with no mammogram in the past 2 years and adults 50+ who have never had a colonoscopy than the country (Source - 2010 Ohio Behavioral Risk Factor Surveillance System). All four of the above screenings have proved effective at identifying cancer at an earlier stage and thus increasing the likelihood of a successful recovery.
- The region had a higher rate than the nation for adults 65+ who did not receive a flu shot in the past year (33.9% compared to 32.5%).
- Diabetes has increased over the past decades and is now the 7th leading cause of death in the region (Source - Leading causes of mortality; Ohio Department of Health's Data Warehouse, 2006 to 2008). The percent of adults ever diagnosed with diabetes (10%) is higher than the U.S. average (8.7%) country (Source - 2010 Ohio Behavioral Risk Factor Surveillance System).
- Prenatal and child health is a major concern nationwide, but the region's rates for infant mortality, low-weight births, and teenage births are all below state rates (Source - Ohio Department of Health's Data Warehouse, 2006 to 2008).

▤ *Mental Health/Substance Abuse*

- In the region, it is estimated that almost 20,000 individuals (17,286 adults) have a primary diagnosis of major affective disorder and have received treatment through Medicaid or other public funds (Source - Ohio

Department of Mental Health's MACSIS datamart, 2010).

- It is also estimated that almost 10,000 individuals (8,990 adults) have a primary diagnosis of substance abuse and have received treatment through Medicaid or other public funds (Source - Ohio Department of Mental Health's MACSIS datamart, 2010).

Source #2: Lorain County, Ohio Health Assessment Project, 2011, supplemented by Public Service Institute Report

This project, undertaken by Lorain County, resulted in production of a health needs assessment of the county at large. The project was coordinated and managed by the Hospital Council of Northwest Ohio, a nonprofit hospital association located in Toledo, Ohio, under contract with Lorain County. The Hospital Council has experience completing comprehensive health assessments since 1998, and the Project Coordinator holds a Master's degree in Public Health.

The assessment process included two cross-sectional surveys conducted in 2011 as the main source of primary data for the county-wide health assessment. Local agencies, especially those which serve the underserved, low-income, minority or chronic disease populations were invited to participate in the health assessment process, which included choosing questions to be used on the surveys. During these series of meetings, potential survey questions from the Behavioral Risk Factor surveillance, Youth Risk Behavior Surveillance and National Survey of Children's Health Surveys were reviewed and discussed. Based on input, the Project Coordinator composed drafts of adult and youth surveys which contained 116 items for the adult survey and 78 for the youth survey. Both surveys were reviewed and approved by health researchers at the University of Toledo (Ohio).

Lorain County, Ohio Health Assessment Project Use and Results

The needs of the entire population, especially those critical populations listed above were taken into account through the sample methodology that ensured these populations were surveyed and in the case of minority populations were over-sampled.

- ▤ **Adult Survey** – Adults ages 19 and over living in Lorain County were eligible to be included in the adult survey. At the time of the survey, there were 224,935 persons living in Lorain County who fit that demographic.

Researchers concluded that in order to achieve a 95% confidence level that a sample of the true population was achieved, 384 surveys needed to be completed. American Clearinghouse in Louisville, KY provided a random sampling of mailing addresses for Lorain County adults. The process involved mailing 3200 pre-survey letters (which were signed by the Health Commissioners of the 3 districts serving Lorain County and by the President of the Center for Health Affairs — which represented the hospitals in Lorain County) explaining the survey and was followed-up with a three-wave mailing procedure that began two weeks later. The total number of completed and returned surveys was 1,465. Surveys returned as undeliverable were not replaced with another potential candidate. The response rates were as follows — rural Lorain County was 51% (n=394; CI = 4.91%), suburban Lorain County was 36% (n = 376; CI = 5.05%), Elyria City was 36% (n=344; CI = 5.27%) and Lorain City was 35% (n= 351; CI = 5.22%). To be representative of Lorain County, the collected data was weighted by age, race and gender and income level using 2010 census data.

📌 **Youth Survey** – Youths ages 12 to 18 living in Lorain County were eligible to be included in the youth survey. Researchers concluded that to achieve a 95% confidence level that a sample of the true population was achieved, that 380 surveys needed to be completed. The project coordinator met with all school district superintendents and obtained approval. Schools and grades were randomly selected and each student in that grade had to have an equal chance of getting selected, so general classes such as English or Health were used. Individual classrooms were chosen by the school's principal and permission slips were mailed to the home of parents of any students whose class was selected to participate. The response rate was 85%, with 593 completed surveys. The survey consisted of 78 questions and was included a multiple choice format.

The results of both surveys were compared with and against historical data and similar metrics from various sources of comparable information to determine the real needs of Lorain County.

The initial results of the survey were presented to leaders of key health agencies in the community in February of 2012. The purposes of this Draft Results Meeting were to present initial findings and solicit feedback regarding next steps. In attendance were representatives of the three Health Districts (Elyria City, Lorain City and Lorain

County General Health), the Alcohol and Drug Addiction Services of Lorain County, the Lorain County Board of Developmental Disabilities, the Public Services Institute of Lorain County Community College, the Children and Families Council for Lorain County, the Oberlin Police Department, Mercy Regional Medical Center (an affiliate of Mercy Allen) and Lorain County Health & Dentistry (a FQHC that serves the poor and underserved in downtown Lorain City).

The data revealed that the health needs of Lorain County included, but were not limited to health status, health care coverage, access to health care, cardiovascular health, cancer, diabetes, obesity for both adults and youth, tobacco use among both adults and youth, alcohol use among both adults and youth, preventative health and screenings for both men and women, pregnancy outcomes for both adults and teens, mental health and suicide prevention, safety and violence issues among youth, oral health, and sexual behavior among both adults and youth.

The data was aggregated to also look specifically at the rural, suburban and urban (Lorain and Elyria) areas of Lorain County and identify the needs which were indicated to be more urgent in each area. Results were also able to be segmented by race and income, thus providing insight into key health needs among the uninsured, low-income persons and minority groups. The results showed that lack of health care coverage, tobacco use, drug use, binge drinking, lack of preventive health and screenings and lack of routine dental care were all prevalent among those Lorain County adults with incomes less than \$25,000.

Public Services Institute of Lorain County Community College Integrated Assessment Report

The consensus was that the Lorain County, Ohio Health Assessment Project provided a lot of good data, but that for completion of a true community health needs assessment, a detailed, comprehensive summary report which would include comparing the results of the Ohio Health Assessment Project with and against historical data and similar metrics from external sources to determine the real needs of Lorain County was needed. The Public Services Institute of Lorain County Community College (“PSI”) was engaged to perform this task. PSI is a division of Lorain County Community College intended to serve as a link between higher education and governments, non-profit organizations, and civic leadership through education,

training and expert facilitation of group and community processes; through research to address issues of importance in Lorain County, Northeast Ohio, and the entire state by using data and information as a part of planning, problem-solving and decision making. PSI has performed previous county assessments using data sources and has as intimate working knowledge of Lorain County and the health of the residents.

Source #3: NEORIO Indicator Report: Health Conditions in NEO, 2011

Source #4: Lorain County Health and Well-Being Fact Book, 2010

Source #5: Ohio Family Health Surveys – Department of Jobs and Family Services, 2008, 2009

Source #6: Our Youth, Our Community, Our Future: Community that Care, 2010

Source #7: Childhood Overweight in Ohio – Ohio Department of Health 3rd Grade BMI Report, 2009

Source #8: Ohio Department of Health Information Warehouse, 2004 thru 2008 data

Source #9: Ohio Department of Health Vital Statistics, 2006

Source #10: Bureau of the Census, Decennial Census, Estimates and American Community Surveys 2010-2015 Estimates and Projections, 2010

Source #11: Ohio Department of Mental Health MACSIS Data Mart Cognos System, 2009

The following additional sources were used by Mercy to assist in better understanding the community:

Source #12: Ohio Hospital Association Insight Discharge Planning Tool, 2010, 2011, 2012 data

Source #13: Community Health Needs Analysis & Assessment – Commissioned by The center for Health Affairs Cleveland, OH, 2007

Source #14: Ohio County Health Rankings and Roadmaps, 2012

Source #15: US Census Bureau, American Fact Finder Reports S1703, S1702, DP-1 and DP03, 2010

Source #16: Behavior Risk Factor Surveillance System, an adult survey conducted by the CDC

Executive Summary

Community Health Summit # 1

A Community Summit was held by the Lorain County General Health District in August of 2012. Attendees included over 100 key leaders from the community representing public health, law enforcement, schools, churches, public officials, social service agencies and the general public. The results of the Lorain County, Ohio Health Assessment Project prepared by the Hospital Council of Northwest Ohio and the Lorain County Health Status Report (“Status Report”) prepared by PSI, which analyzed the survey results against historical data and comparative benchmarks were shared with attendees.

The purposes of this summit were to:

- Develop a shared understanding of the results
- Identify the greatest issues facing Lorain County and the challenges that might prevent success
- Envision and share ideas for a desirable future.

The Lorain County, Ohio Health Assessment Project results, integrated with historical and comparative results by means of the Status Report, indicated the major health needs in Lorain County included, but were not limited to the following:

Health Insurance Coverage

According to the results from the Lorain County, Ohio Health Assessment Project, 1 in every 10 did not have health insurance compared to 13% of Ohio adults and 15% of US adults. However, the problem was more prevalent among those in the Cities of Elyria (16%) and Lorain (14%) (Source 2).

Preventive Health Care

According to the results from the Lorain County, Ohio Health Assessment Project, there is a need for further preventive health measures in Lorain County (Source 2), for example:

1. Only 55% of adults visited a doctor in the past year for a routine check-up
2. 1 in every 5 adults (21%) engaged in no physical activity the past week prior to being surveyed

3. Only 60% of adults had visited a dentist in the past year compared to 72% of Ohio adults and 70% of US adults
4. Only 45% of adults had received a flu shot in the past year
5. 42% of youths spent 3 or more hours per day watching television compared to 32% in Ohio (2007) and 33% nationally (2009)
6. Just 53% of women over 40 in Lorain County and only 42% in the City of Lorain reported having a mammogram in the past year
7. Less than 60% of males over 50 reported having a Prostate-Specific Antigen (PSA) test in the past year and only 31% for the City of Lorain

The results for many of the key indicators are less desirable in the City of Lorain, where the African American community represents almost 18% of the total population compared to the entire community where it is only 8%. The unemployment rate was estimated to be 9.7% for the City of Lorain compared to 6.4% for Lorain County and the mean HH income is only \$34,769 compared to the mean of \$65,553 for Lorain County. It was also estimated that almost 38% of Households in the City of Lorain had 2011 Inflation Adjusted Dollars of Income and Benefits less than \$25,000 compared to the overall county estimate of 22.3% (Source 15).

Access to Health Care

According to the results from the Lorain County, Ohio Health Assessment Project, 1 in every 5 adults could not see a doctor when needed at some time in the past year due to cost. This was most prevalent among those adults with incomes below \$25,000. Additionally, 13% of adults in the City of Lorain did not have health care coverage as opposed to 7% of all rural and suburban adults (Source 2). The Poverty Status Reports from American Fact Finder shows that almost 11% of the 80,715 families in Lorain County live below the Poverty Level and when you look at Families with children under 18 years, the number jumps to 18% of the 38,305 families. This is a larger problem for the African American community (37% of the 5,739 families with an African American householder), of which there is a larger community of within the City of Lorain (Source 15).

Maternal and Child Health

Lorain County saw the percent of mothers who had no first-trimester prenatal care rise from 29.6% in 2006 to 33.2% in 2008, with African American, Hispanic and women under 25 comprising those most likely to miss prenatal care early during pregnancy (Source 4). During 1996-2005, for births to females with no prenatal care, the City of Lorain was 23.1% and Lorain County was 11.9% (Source 3). The percent of low birth rates in Lorain County rose from 6% in 1990 to 7.5% in 2008, with African American mothers having the largest percentage (Source 4). In 2009, the percentage of Lorain County mothers who continued to use tobacco products during pregnancy was at 29%, 10 points higher than Ohio mothers — the county rates have continued to worsen, from 16% in 2005, to 21% in 2008 to the current result of 29%. (Source 2, Source 4).

Women of Lorain County increasingly are choosing Cuyahoga County hospitals / birthing services for their deliveries, with almost 43% heading east for deliveries. Additionally, more than two-thirds of mothers over 30 are leaving Lorain County for Cuyahoga County (Source 4).

While infant mortality actually dropped in Lorain County from 13 per 1000 in 1990 to 6.8 in 2008, the rate among African American infants is alarmingly high at 24.1 per 1000 compared to 4.2 for Caucasian infants (Source 4).

Alcohol, Tobacco, and Other Drug Use

Alcohol — In Lorain County, 22,843 individuals are in need of AOD services for alcohol or other drug disorders, with just over 10%, 2,349 being served by the County Board (Source 3). Binge drinking in Lorain County (five or more drinks on one occasion in the past month) was at 23% compared to 17% for Ohio and 15% nationally (Source 2) and has risen from 13% in 2002 and 18.5% in 2008-09 (Source 5). In 2011, 53% of youth had tried a drink of alcohol at some point in the lifetime, with 12.6 years being the average age of onset (Source 2).

Tobacco — Adult smoking has decreased from 28% in 2002 to 22% in 2011 (Source 5, Source 2), but is still much higher than the national rate of 17%. The City of Lorain has a much higher rate of incidence at 25% (Source 2). The rate of smoking has increased for youths also, as 14% had smoked in the past 30 days in 2011 compared to 10.8% in 2009 and 31% had tried a cigarette in their lifetime in 2011 compared to 26.1% in 2009 (Source 2, Source 6). The average age of onset for smoking was 12.3 (Source 2).

Other Drug Use — In 2011, 14% of youths in Lorain County had used medications that were not prescribed for them or took more than prescribed to feel good or get high. This rate increased to 31% for those over the age of 17, which was higher than tobacco and marijuana use for 17-18 year olds (Source 2).

Weight Status

Two-thirds of adults in Lorain County were overweight (35%) or obese (32%) in 2011 according to their Body Mass Index (BMI), with the obesity rate being higher than both the 30% rate for Ohio and the 28% national rate. Over 20% of adults were not participating in any physical activity in the past week (Source 2).

For youths, 14% were considered obese, which is slightly higher than the national rate of 13%. 15% of youths did not participate in any physical activity during the past week (Source 2).

Mental Health and Suicide

The percent of Lorain County persons with mental health needs served by the County Board of Mental Health for 2007-2009 was over 23% for persons of all incomes, which was higher than the state rate of 18.9%. Additionally, the rate for persons under 200% of the federal poverty line jumped to 78.5%, which was much higher than the state rate of 63% and was the 4th highest rate among the 16 counties in the Northeast Ohio Region (Source 3). In 2011, 1 of every 5 Lorain County adults rated their mental health as not good on four days or more in the previous month and 4% considered attempting suicide. For youths, 6% had attempted suicide in the past year, with 3% making more than 1 attempt (Source 2) which is well above the HP 2020 Objective of 1.7% for suicide attempts by adolescents.

Teen Births

From 2001-2007, the percent of teen births in Lorain County was 37.5 per 1,000 teens, which was lower than the state of Ohio (40.5 per 1,000) and the national rate (50.3 per 1,000). However, this issue was much more significant for the City of Lorain, where the rate was 63.5 births per 1,000 teens (Source 3).

Leading Causes of Death / Chronic Disease Management

Cardiovascular Diseases — In Lorain County, Heart Disease and Stroke accounted for 28% of all adult deaths from 2006 to 2008 (Source 8, Source 4) and Cardiology, Cardiovascular / Thoracic Surgery, Stroke and Transient Ischemia Attacks accounted for over 20% of all Lorain County inpatient primary diagnoses in 2011 (Source 12). The percent of Lorain County adults in 2011 that reported having chest pain was 6% compared to 4% for Ohioans and nationally and 6% reported having a heart attack as compared to 4% state-wide and nationally (Source 2). Over 1/3 (35%) were diagnosed with high blood pressure compared to 32% state-wide and 29% nationally (Source 2). 36% of Lorain County adults reported high cholesterol (Source 1), well above the HP 2020 target of 14%. High Blood Pressure and High Cholesterol were also higher among residents of the City of Lorain than the rural and suburban adults (Source 2). The % of Lorain County Adults exhibiting one or more of the risk factors for Cardiovascular/Heart Disease were:

Females:

- 31% had high blood pressure compared to 28% nationally and 30% state-wide
- 35% had high cholesterol
- 60% were obese or overweight compared to 57% nationally and 59% in Ohio
- 22% were smokers compared to 16% nationally
- 47% were exercising less than 3 days per week (includes 2% who were unable to exercise)

Males:

- 40% had high blood pressure compared to 30% nationally and 33% in Ohio
- 37% had high cholesterol
- 74% were obese or overweight compared to 71% nationally and 73% in Ohio
- 22% were smokers compared to 19% nationally
- 41% were exercising less than 3 days per week (includes 2% who were unable to exercise)

Cancer — 23% of all deaths in Lorain County between 2000 and 2008 were attributed to cancer, with the top causes being lung and bronchus cancer, prostate cancer, breast cancer, colon cancer and melanoma. Lorain County also had a higher rate of cancer mortality than the state and the nation (Source 4, Source 8). In 2011, 13% of Lorain County adults had been diagnosed with cancer at some point, with

skin (5%), breast (5%) and prostate (3%) accounting for the top three types (Source 2). Just slightly more than half of women age 40 and older (53%) reported having a mammogram in the past year, while just 56% had a clinical breast exam and only 46% had a Pap Smear to detect cancer. About 60% of Lorain County men over the age of 50 had a Prostate-Specific Antigen (PSA) in the past year. Skin Cancer Screenings and Pap Smears were less likely to have occurred with residents in the City of Lorain (Source 2).

Diabetes — In 2011, 13% of all Lorain County adults had been diagnosed with diabetes, compared to 11% for Ohio and 10% nationally (Source 2). Those adults diagnosed with diabetes also had one or more of the following health risks: high blood pressure (72%); high cholesterol (71%); overweight/obesity (50%) (Source 2). Diabetes was the 7th leading cause of death in Lorain County from 2006-2008, but the age-adjusted diabetes mortality rate decreased from 2000-2008 (Source 4, Source 8).

Scribes at each table were present to solicit feedback from attendees on the following questions:

1. Think about the kind of healthy community you would like — what kind of community is that?
2. In what areas is our county making progress that we should build upon?
3. What are some areas needing improvement, that if addressed, would impact a large number of people
4. What are some areas needing improvement that would help address disparities between groups of people (like disparities based on income, race, ethnicity, age or sub-groups like pregnant mothers, teens, etc.)
5. What kinds of action should be taken to address the issues we have been talking about?
6. Think ahead to 2025, if we build upon our health related strengths to address our areas of concern, what will be different about the health status of Lorain County?

Community Input

The following people / organizations were in attendance and their feedback was solicited:

Abbewood Senior Living Community

Provides assisted and independent living in Elyria

Alcohol & Drug Addiction Services of Lorain County

Government agency responsible for the delivery of alcohol and other drug addiction education, prevention and treatment for Lorain County residents

Alzheimer's Association

Provides education and support to those individuals diagnosed, as well as their families, caregivers, professionals and the community

Avon Oaks Caring Community

Skilled Nursing Facility that provides short and long-term rehabilitation and SNF services

Center for Health Affairs
Leading advocate for Northeast Ohio Hospitals (City of Avon Lake, City of Elyria, City of North Ridgeville, City of Oberlin)

Communities that Care of Lorain County

Community-based prevention operation that works to prevent youth problem behaviors (alcohol, tobacco, violence, etc.)

Community Foundation of Lorain County

Public charity whose mission is connecting people who care to causes that matter and provided almost \$9M in gifts and grants in 2012

Educational Services Center of Lorain County

State Support Team for Lorain, Erie and Huron Counties that advances the essential initiatives of the regional school districts

Elmcroft Senior Living Communities

Provides senior living community, including independent living in Lorain

Elyria City Health District

Responsible for promoting good health for all residents of the City of Elyria

EMH Healthcare

Integrated healthcare network that includes full-service hospital in Elyria and OP satellite offices throughout Lorain County

Erie County Health Department

Dedicated to preventing illness, promoting health and improving the health status for all within the health district

Goodwill Industries of Lorain County

Provides education, job-training, and employment services to residents of Lorain County and eastern parts of Erie and Huron Counties

Home Instead Senior Care

Provides home healthcare, elderly home care and elderly companionship to allow seniors to live productive lives independently

Homewatch Caregivers

Provides senior care at home for the elderly

Hospice of the Western Reserve

Hospice which serves patients and their families throughout Northeast Ohio

Lorain City Health Department

Responsible for preventing disease, promoting healthy living and protecting the environment for the Cities of Lorain and Avon Lake

Lorain County Board of Mental Health

Mental Health Services Provider

Lorain County Children and Families Council

Promotes the well-being of children and families in Lorain County

Lorain County General Health District

Responsible for preventing disease and promoting health in Lorain County outside the Cities of Lorain, Elyria and Avon Lake

Lorain County Health and Dentistry

Federally funded community health center that serves the underserved in Lorain and surrounding communities

Lorain County MetroParks

Organization which oversees the park system in Lorain County

Lorain County Pride Initiative

An offshoot of the Alcohol & Drug Addiction Services of Lorain County that provides resources to residents of the City of Lorain experiencing anxiety, depression and problematic substance abuse issues due to recent economic downturn

Lorain County Prosecutor's Office

Comprised of eight divisions, including children services and child support enforcement

Lorain Free Clinic

Coordinates community resources for low-income and uninsured residents of Lorain County, providing comprehensive healthcare at minimal or no cost

Mercy

Integrated healthcare network that includes full-service hospital in Lorain, a Critical-Access hospital in Oberlin and OP satellite and physician offices throughout Lorain County

Neighborhood Alliance

Addresses basic needs, enhances individual | family life and improves the neighborhoods and communities across Lorain County

Nord Center

Provides behavioral health services for Lorain County

Nord Family Foundation

Foundation that distributes over \$4M annually to qualified charitable organizations in Lorain and Cuyahoga Counties

Public Services Institute at Lorain County

Community College

Department of Lorain County Community College that collaborates with governments, non-profit organizations and schools to address issues in Lorain County and Northeast Ohio through research and data

St. Mary Hot Meals

Parish in Elyria which provides needs to less fortunate

St. Mary of the Woods

Senior Living Community in Avon

The Oberlin Project

A joint effort between City of Oberlin, Oberlin College and private and institutional parties to improve the resilience, prosperity and sustainability of the community

United Way of Greater Lorain County

Improves the lives of Lorain county residents by discovering needs and creating solutions around education, income and health

Village of South Amherst

Volunteer Guardianship Program of Lorain County

Organization that enhances quality of life for indigent, incompetent older adults by securing volunteers to become legal guardians

Wesleyan Senior Living

Provides senior independent living and assisted living in cities of Sheffield and Elyria

The Lorain County, Ohio Health Assessment Project survey results, integrated with historical and comparative results indicated the major health needs in Lorain County which closely aligned with the five major needs from the Ohio Department of Health Regional Health Assessment Project for critical access hospitals — North Central Ohio.

With these similarities, Mercy Allen solicited further community input to verify the Ohio Department of Health Regional Assessment Project results and prioritize the following five identified needs:

1. Increase preventative health education
2. Help patients with chronic disease / navigation of services
3. Increase immunizations and screenings
4. Improve medication management and reconciliation
5. Reduce falls and fractures of the elderly.

Key Stakeholder Interviews

In order to develop a 3-year plan to address community health needs beginning in 2014, Mercy Allen took the results of the Ohio Department of Health Regional Assessment Project and engaged key stakeholders in the community to verify the identified needs and then prioritize the key needs of Lorain County. In October and November of 2012, the Public Services Institute (PSI) of Lorain County Community College was commissioned by Mercy Regional Health Center and Elyria Memorial Hospital (EMH) to conduct and analyze the results of key community stakeholders.

The intent of the stakeholder interviews was to prioritize the health needs, taking into account the severity of the problem size of populations affected, community capacity to address and availability of data to track and monitor outcomes. Those organizations with knowledge of southern Lorain County were asked to prioritize the needs from the Ohio Department of Health Regional Assessment Project.

In-depth interviews were conducted with key individuals who represented a cross section of community leaders including health care providers, funding entities, not-for-profit health and social service providers, schools, faith-based organizations, philanthropy and others. While about half of the organizations served all of Lorain County, the others served smaller areas within the county such as an individual city, a portion of the county or a specific school district within the county. Additionally, many of those interviewed also provide services into areas surrounding Lorain County, including western Cuyahoga County, Huron County and Erie County. A number of organizations represented in the stakeholder interviews serve low income residents exclusively, but other segments of the population were represented, including seniors, minority populations, single parents, pregnant females, youth, mental illness, immigrant laborers, families who have experienced domestic violence, chronic disease needs, religious congregations and the general public.

When asked to describe the cause of issues facing the clients they served, numerous economic, social, mental/emotional, cultural and environmental factors were mentioned. The lack of education, the economy (access to employment) and high rates of poverty were common responses. However, other issues such as access to affordable health insurance, poor / limited transportation system in Lorain County, a lack of affordable / accessible venues for physical activity, and cultural — acceptance

within certain populations to have multiple partners and children out of wedlock were mentioned.

The following organizations were interviewed as part of the key stakeholder interviews (population served and geographic scope are shown in parenthesis):

American Red Cross, Lorain County

Provides relief to victims of disasters and helps people prevent, prepare for and respond to emergencies (General population, Lorain County)

Board of Mental Health

Mental Health Services Provider (Adults with severe or moderate mental illness; children with emotional disturbances) Lorain County)

Child Care Resource Center

A child care and early education resource and referral agency that serves families, professionals and local communities (Low Income) Lorain, Erie, Huron, Seneca and Sandusky Counties)

Church of the Open Door

Campuses in Elyria and Avon Lake whose weekly attendance averages over 1,500 people (Elderly adults and young families) Lorain County, but primarily northern portion)

Cornerstone Among Women

Provides free help, information and support to women dealing with unplanned pregnancies, post-abortion syndrome and lifestyle distress at locations in Lorain and Elyria (Low Income Women) Lorain County and western Cuyahoga County)

Elyria City Health Department

Responsible for promoting good health for all residents of the City of Elyria (Low income, single parents, pregnant females, general population) City of Elyria)

Genesis House

Battered women's shelter (People experiencing domestic violence) Primarily Lorain County)

Haven House

Provides emergency housing, meals, support and crisis-counseling to families with children (Mostly Individuals in poverty) Primarily Lorain County)

LaGrange United Methodist Church

Located in southern part of Lorain County (Aging population; families) Parts of southern Lorain County)

Lorain City Health Department

Responsible for preventing disease, promoting healthy living and protecting the environment (Entire community) City of Lorain and under contract to the City of Avon Lake)

Lorain County Board of Developmental Disabilities
Assists those with developmental disabilities through early intervention programs, supported employment and adult opportunity and vocational centers (Over 2000 residents with developmental disabilities) Lorain County)

Lorain County Catholic Charities

Center in Lorain offers assistance in meeting basic needs such as food, clothing and shelter; Center in Elyria offers social services to individuals and families (Everyone, including pregnant women and elderly) Lorain County)

Lorain County Community Action Agency

Established to help with America's war of Poverty, residents in need are provided help via Head Start, home weatherization and energy assistance programs (Low and moderate income up to 200% of Poverty Level) Lorain County)

Lorain County Free Clinic

Coordinates community resources for low-income and uninsured residents of Lorain County, providing comprehensive healthcare at minimal or no cost (Adults 19-65 - 20% African American; 18% Hispanic) Lorain County and eastern Erie County)

Lorain County General Health District

Responsible for preventing disease and promoting health in Lorain County outside the Cities of Lorain, Elyria and Avon Lake (School age and pre-school children; adult population; general population) All townships and villages in Lorain County and cities of Amherst, Avon, North Ridgeville, Oberlin and Sheffield Lake)

Lorain County Health and Dentistry

Federally funded community health center that serves the underserved in Lorain and surrounding communities; a site in Elyria is scheduled to open in 2013 (Low-income; uninsured, including Medicare) Historically has been city of Lorain – mainly 44052 and 44055 – but also getting more residents from City of Elyria)

Migrant and Immigration Services

(Rural immigrants and farm workers) Statewide and rural)

Mt. Olivet CMA Church

Parish located in Elyria (350 church members monthly) Lorain County)

Oberlin Community Services

Community organization that provides direct assistance, referrals, outreach and educational support to those needing help to meet basic needs (Low Income) Southern Lorain County, including Oberlin and Wellington)

Pathways Counseling & Growth Center

Non-profit that provides mental health counseling services (Medicaid-related clients; the lower middle class) Lorain County)

Pastor at Oberlin House of the Lord Fellowship
(Pentecostal Church)

*Chair of Religion Department and Associate Professor of Religion
and African-American Studies at Oberlin College (Predominantly
African-American with Caucasian and Latino membership/
Congregation includes Lorain County and outside areas)*

Sacred Heart Chapel

*Oldest and largest Hispanic Catholic parish in Ohio; founded in
1952 (Elderly and youth of Puerto Rican and Mexican decent/
Lorain County)*

The Alcohol & Drug Addiction Services Board of Lorain
County (ADAS)

*Government agency responsible for the delivery of alcohol and
other drug addiction education, prevention and treatment for
Lorain County residents (Families; individuals; adolescents and
school-aged youth/Lorain County)*

The Nord Center

*Provides behavioral health services for Lorain County (Severely
emotionally disabled children and severely mentally disabled
adults/Primarily Lorain County)*

The Nord Family Foundation

*Foundation that distributes over \$4M annually to qualified
charitable organizations in Lorain and Cuyahoga Counties
(General public; Low and moderate income residents and
economically disadvantaged, indirectly/60% to Lorain County;
remaining 40% to other communities across the country)*

The Urban Minority Alcoholism and Drug Abuse
Outreach Program

*Serves one of Ohio's largest Hispanic communities as well as large
African-American population by ensuring they have affordable
access to programs that treat alcohol, tobacco and drug abuse
(Primarily African-American & Hispanic/Lorain County)*

United Way of Greater Lorain County

*Improves the lives of Lorain County residents by discovering
needs and creating solutions around education, income and health
(Middle school students and low wage workers with families
at the 200% poverty levels/Lorain County and Vermilion in
Erie County)*

Wellington Office on Aging

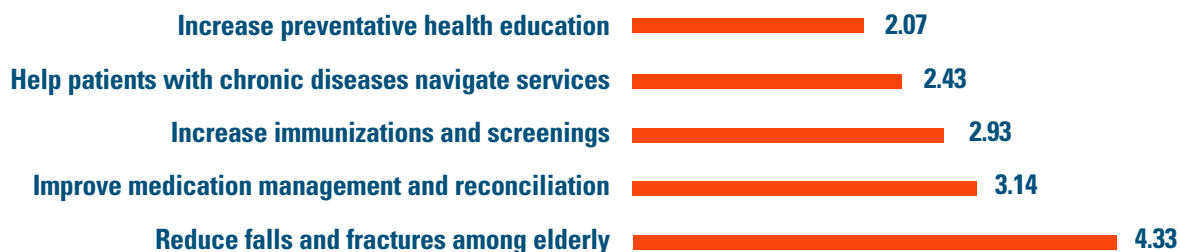
*Provides service to adults aged 60+ which promote dignity
and quality of life (Older adults aged 60+|Primarily residents
of Wellington)*

From Needs Assessment to Priorities

The interview team shared the identified needs from the *Ohio Department of Health Regional Health Assessment Project for critical access hospitals — North Central Ohio* and asked the stakeholders to rank order public health strategies developed from 1-5 where 1 is most important and 5 is least important for Lorain County.

Increasing preventative health education ranked first, while helping patients with chronic diseases navigate health services ranked second and increasing immunizations and health screenings ranked third.

Public Health Priorities



Description of Needs

Increase Preventative Health Education

According to the Ohio Department of Health Regional Health Assessment Project's North Central Ohio Profile (Source 1), roughly two-thirds of adults in the region are overweight or obese and one in five adults are current smokers. These and other risk factors are linked to higher rates of diabetes, heart disease, stroke, certain cancers and chronic respiratory conditions. Addressing these risk factors could significantly improve health outcomes for area residents.

According to the results of the Lorain County, Ohio Health Assessment Project (Source 2) there is a need for further preventative health measures in Lorain County:

- ▣ Only 55% of adults visited a doctor in the past year for a routine check-up
- ▣ 1 in every 5 adults (21%) engaged in no physical activity the past week prior to being surveyed
- ▣ Only 60% of adults had visited a dentist in the past year compared to 72% of Ohio adults and 70% of US adults

The five public health priorities identified from the *Ohio Department of Health Regional Health Assessment Project for critical access hospitals — North Central Ohio*, were also taken to a community-wide public forum in Oberlin in August 2012. Several community agencies were represented, including Oberlin Community Services, Zion Community Development Corporation, Welcome Nursing Home, Lorain County Metro Parks, Oberlin Farmer's Market, as well as Mercy Allen Hospital and a primary care physician from Oberlin. In addition to the community agencies, members of the community were also in attendance. The community provided input which validated the five priorities as well as specific action items for Mercy Allen and the community to consider.

- ▣ Only 45% of adults had received a flu shot in the past year
- ▣ 42% of youths spent 3 or more hours per day watching television compared to 32% in Ohio (2007) and 33% nationally (2009)
- ▣ Just 53% of women over 40 in Lorain County and only 42% in the City of Lorain reported having a mammogram in the past year
- ▣ Less than 60% of males over 50 reported having a Prostate-Specific Antigen (PSA) test in the past year and only 31% for the City of Lorain

Current Service Providers

- ▣ 3 hospitals and multiple physician offices located throughout the county
- ▣ Mercy's Parish Nursing Program reaches out to the community through participation in 90 parishes throughout the county
- ▣ Health Districts for County — currently 3 in place

Help Patients with Chronic Disease

According to the Ohio Department of Health Regional Health Assessment Project's North Central Ohio Profile (Source 1), a significant number of area residents have been told they have high blood pressure, diabetes or coronary heart disease. Patients with these and other chronic conditions often have complex treatment plans and experience difficulty navigating health care services and managing their conditions.

Additionally, the Ohio Department of Health Regional Health Assessment Project (Source 1) reported that heart disease was the number one cause of death in the region, with just under 10,000 deaths as a result of heart disease between 2006 and 2009. An additional 2,003 residents died from a stroke during this time period, making it the number four cause of death in the region. Cancer was the second most common cause of death in the region.

Respiratory disease - Cancer of the lungs, trachea, and bronchus accounted for 2,756 deaths and chronic lower respiratory disease (emphysema, asthma, and chronic bronchitis) accounted for an additional 2,474 deaths in the region. During the same time period — 646 deaths were attributed to influenza and pneumonia, making them the eighth leading cause of death in the region.

Other causes of death such as heart disease and stroke are preventable or postpone-able with improved chronic condition management and reduced risk factors. Three of every 10 individuals in the region are estimated to have been told by a health professional that they have high blood pressure, while almost four of every 10 tested adults have been told they have high cholesterol.

As a group, respiratory conditions leading to death may be acute or chronic. The chronic conditions may be caused by high risk behaviors (e.g. tobacco use), inherited traits (e.g. some asthma) or environmental exposure to toxic substances. More acute causes (influenza and pneumonia) derive from infectious sources.

Diabetes has been increasing as a cause of death over recent decades, becoming the seventh leading cause of death in the region. Diabetes also is often a contributing or underlying cause of death from heart and kidney disease.

The results of the region are also shared by Lorain County overall, as Heart Disease and Stroke accounted for 28% of all adult deaths from 2006 to 2008 and Cardiology, Cardiovascular / Thoracic Surgery, Stroke and Transient Ischemia Attacks accounted for over 20% of all Lorain

County inpatient primary diagnoses in 2011 (Source 11). The percent of Lorain County adults in 2011 that reported having chest pain was 6% compared to 4% for Ohioans and nationally and 6% reported having a heart attack as compared to 4% state-wide and nationally (Source 2). Over one-third (35%) were diagnosed with high blood pressure compared to 32% state-wide and 29% nationally (Source 2). 36% of Lorain County adults reported high cholesterol (Source 1), well above the HP 2020 target of 14%. In 2011, 13% of all Lorain County adults had been diagnosed with diabetes, as compared to 11% for Ohio and 10% nationally (Source #2).

A need that was identified during the Lorain County, Ohio Health Assessment Project (Source 2) that aligns closely with Chronic Disease Management is Access to Health Care. According to the results from the Lorain County, Ohio Health Assessment Project, 1 in every 5 adults could not see a doctor when needed at some time in the past year due to cost. This was most prevalent among those adults with incomes below \$25,000. Additionally, 7% of all rural adults did not have health care coverage (Source 2). The Poverty Status Reports from American Fact Finder shows that almost 11% of the 80,715 families in Lorain County live below the Poverty Level and when you look at Families with children under 18 years, the number jumps to 18% of the 38,305 families.

Current Service Providers

- 3 hospitals and multiple physician offices located throughout the county
- Mercy's Parish Nursing Program reaches out to the community through participation in 90 parishes throughout the county
- Lorain County Health & Dentistry – federally funded community health center that serves the underserved in Lorain and surrounding communities
- Lorain Free Clinic – Coordinates community resources for low-income and uninsured residents of Lorain County, providing comprehensive healthcare at minimal or no cost
- Other agencies such as Cornerstone Among Women and Haven House assist low-income women with pregnancy
- Other organizations such as Oberlin Community Services, Lorain County Community Action Agency, Lorain Catholic Charities and Neighborhood Alliance help struggling individuals meet basic needs
- Mercy's Cancer Center is located in Elyria, and allows for residents to be treated on an OP basis close to home

Increase Immunization and Screenings

According to the Ohio Department of Health Regional Health Assessment Project's North Central Ohio Profile (Source 1), in 2010, 34% of area residents age 65 and older had not had a flu shot in the past year, 31% never had a pneumonia vaccine and more than 180,000 area residents report never having their cholesterol checked. Additionally, screening rates for breast, cervical and colorectal cancer are below the national rates. Service coordination, low participation rates among sub-populations and issues with information sharing across organizations can be barriers to increased participation.

In addition to healthy lifestyle choices including diet, exercise, not smoking, and limited alcohol consumption, early detection is the key to preventing deaths from some of the leading forms of cancer (Source 1).

Current Service Providers

- 3 hospitals and multiple physician offices located throughout the county
- Mercy's Parish Nursing Program reaches out to the community through participation in 90 parishes throughout the county
- Lorain County Health & Dentistry – federally funded community health center that serves the underserved in Lorain and surrounding communities
- Lorain Free Clinic – Coordinates community resources for low-income and uninsured residents of Lorain County, providing comprehensive healthcare at minimal or no cost
- Health Districts for County – currently 3 in place
- Other organizations such as drugstores and other retail locations offer immunizations against shingles, flu, etc.

Improve Medication Management and Reconciliation

According to the Ohio Department of Health Regional Health Assessment Project's North Central Ohio Profile (Source 1), more than 300,000 individuals in the region have been told they have high blood pressure, while more than 100,000 report having diabetes. Additionally, nearly 50,000 residents report having been diagnosed with angina or coronary heart disease. Individuals with chronic conditions or those in poor health may have multiple prescribing providers and are often unable to accurately communicate all the prescriptions they are taking or have prescribed. The lack of a common electronic medical record system among pharmacies, hospitals and doctor's offices further complicates medication management efforts.

Major concerns with medication management and reconciliation include:

- Patients do not know what medications they are on and what they are for
- Patients presenting to their physicians do not know what they are taking or have been prescribed
- Polypharmacy — obtaining many different prescriptions from many different physicians. When this occurs, physicians are not told what drugs the patient is already taking and may prescribe a drug intervention that the patient may already be taking and not know it.

Current Service Providers

- 3 hospitals and multiple physician offices located throughout the county
- Lorain County Health & Dentistry - federally funded community health center that serves the underserved in Lorain and surrounding communities
- Lorain Free Clinic – Coordinates community resources for low-income and uninsured residents of Lorain County, providing comprehensive healthcare at minimal or no cost
- Health Districts for County – currently 3 in place
- Other organizations such as drugstores and retail pharmacies

Prevention of Falls and Fractures in the Elderly

Falls can cause moderate to severe injuries among the elderly, such as hip fractures and head traumas, and can increase the risk of early death. The falls and related injuries affect quality of life and increase health care costs. Almost 21% of the region's population is over the age of 60 (Source 1).

Falls and health care resources associated with treating falls among older adults is a significant public health issue in Ohio. Nearly 300,000 or 17% of adults 65 or older reported a fall in the last 3 months in 2010. The percentage of adults aged 65 or older who reported a fall in the last 3 months has not changed since 2006.

Current Service Providers

- ▣ 3 hospitals and multiple physician offices located throughout the county
- ▣ Wellington Office on Aging is located in Wellington and offers services and assistance to the elderly
- ▣ Health Districts for County – currently 3 in place
- ▣ Some Church parishes throughout Lorain County are specifically targeted to the elderly population