

2022 Community Health Needs Assessment

Mercy Health – Lorain

2022 Community Health Needs Assessment

Mercy Health Lorain Hospital and Mercy Health Allen Hospital Adopted by the Mercy Health Lorain Market - Board of Trustees, September 28, 2022

As a ministry of which Mercy Health Lorain is a member, Bon Secours Mercy Health has been committed to the communities it serves for nearly two centuries.

Every three years we evaluate those needs through a comprehensive Community Health Needs Assessment (CHNA) process. The most recent assessments, completed by Mercy Health Lorain and community partners, include quantitative and qualitative data that guide both our community investment, community benefit, and strategic planning. The following document is a CHNA for the Mercy Health Lorain Market.

Mercy Health Lorain is dedicated to our Mission of extending the compassionate ministry of Jesus by improving the health and well-being of the communities and by bringing good help to those in need, especially people who are poor, dying, and underserved.

Mercy Health Lorain has identified the greatest needs in our community by listening to the voices of the community. This ensures our resources for outreach, prevention, education, and wellness are directed towards opportunities where the greatest impact can be realized.

Written comments regarding the health needs that have been identified in the current CHNA should be directed to Catherine Woskobnick, Director of Community Health – 440-960-3204 or email: Catherine.woskobnick1@mercy.com.

Mercy Health Lorain Hospital
3700 Kolbe Rd
Lorain, OH 44053

Mercy Health Allen Hospital
200 W. Lorain St
Oberlin, OH 44074

Mercy.com



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Executive Summary

The Mercy Health Lorain Market has been honored to complete its 4th round of the Community Health Needs Assessment. This component of our work we do in the community is truly our teams taking the mission outside of the walls of the hospital – taking care of our community - throughout the community in their sacred spaces such as schools, churches, and resource centers. The Community Needs Assessment is our pause to listen and creates within us the passion to act. While certainly we listen throughout the years, this time allows us to ensure that that program we do and create and meeting the needs and cares for the true need as voiced by our patients and our community. The feedback then allows us to create a plan with focus, that can truly impact the needs out in the community.

A meaningful process was led by the Mercy Health Lorain Market coupled with the work of the Lorain County Public Health in the creation and development of our Lorain County Community Health Assessment. We combined efforts to complete stake holder meetings, community group discussion and leader support sessions. The listening sessions created the pause, as the same questions were asked of all groups of different nationalities, disparities, needs and ages throughout Lorain County. The information attained from these listening sessions was then paired with the correlating data for the county and the needs became evident.

Below you will find the leading causes of death comparing 2011 to 2020 in which heart disease and cancer continue to be the number one causes of death. Therefore, the focus we had on Chronic Disease has not been enough and more time and effort is needed.

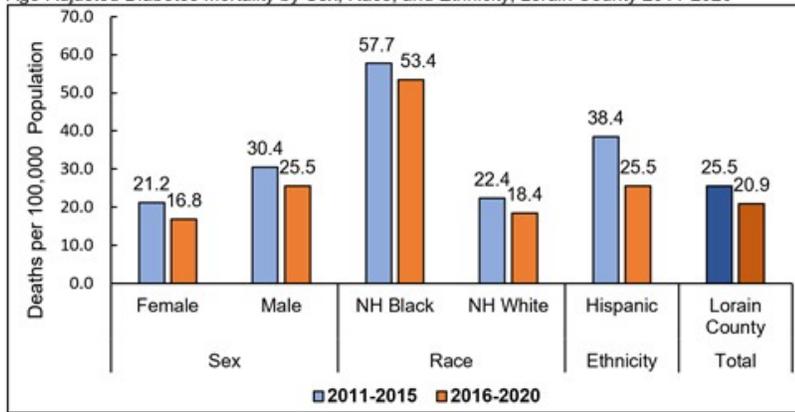
Leading Causes of Death, Lorain County 2011 and 2020¹

Leading Cause Category	2011		Leading Cause Category	2020	
	Deaths (N=2,892)	% of Total Deaths		Deaths (N=3,671)	% of Total Deaths
1. Heart Disease	667	23.1%	1. Heart Disease	709	19.3%
2. Cancer	647	22.4%	2. Cancer	662	18.0%
3. Chronic Lower Respiratory Diseases	240	8.3%	3. COVID-19	314	8.6%
4. Stroke	125	4.3%	4. Accidents (Unintentional Injuries)	255	6.9%
5. Alzheimer's Disease	111	3.8%	5. Stroke	188	5.1%
6. Diabetes	97	3.4%	6. Chronic Lower Respiratory Diseases	214	5.8%
7. Accidents (Unintentional Injuries)	89	3.1%	7. Alzheimer's Disease	114	3.1%
8. Essential Hypertension and Hypertensive Ren	62	2.1%	8. Diabetes	98	2.7%
9. Nephritis (Kidney Inflammation)	58	2.0%	9. Nephritis (Kidney Inflammation)	63	1.7%
10. Influenza and Pneumonia	46	1.6%	10. Septicemia	51	1.4%

Lorain County through its Community Health Assessment process of feedback and data has decided to keep the five recommended pillars described below of: Chronic Disease, Maternal and Child Health, Mental Health, Substance abuse and Cancer as this was the common theme from all meetings.

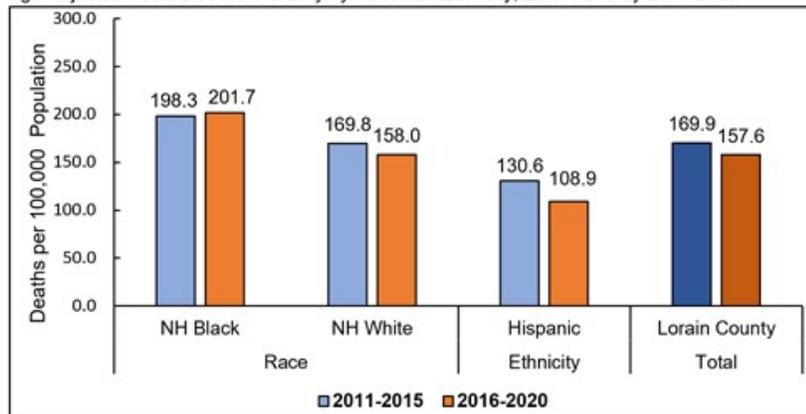
Under the umbrella of Chronic disease, you see: diabetes; heart disease and stroke as the main areas of concern. In which the death rate for Diabetes is the highest among men and people who are non-Hispanic Black as shown by the table below:

Age-Adjusted Diabetes Mortality by Sex, Race, and Ethnicity, Lorain County 2011-2020¹

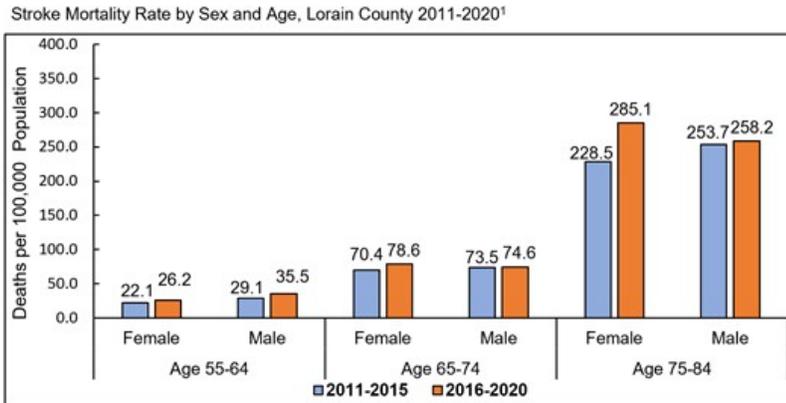


When we consider mortality for heart disease by race and ethnicity, shown by the chart below, death rates in the non-Hispanic Black population were higher when compared to other race and ethnicity categories.

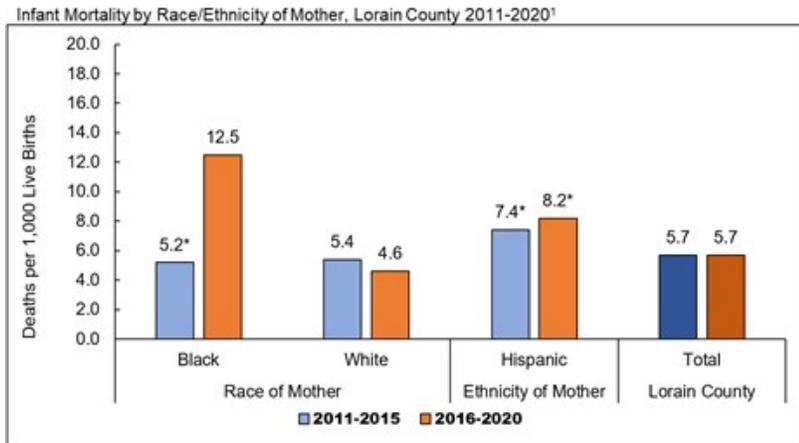
Age-Adjusted Heart Disease Mortality by Race and Ethnicity, Lorain County 2011-2020¹



Looking at Stroke death rates by sex and age, we see an increase since the last survey period:

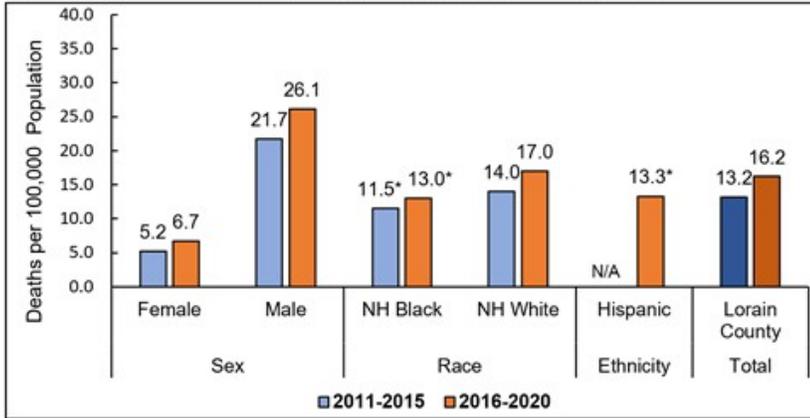


As we consider Infant Mortality, we find that the Infant Mortality Rate has worsened in Lorain County amongst Black and Hispanic Mothers.



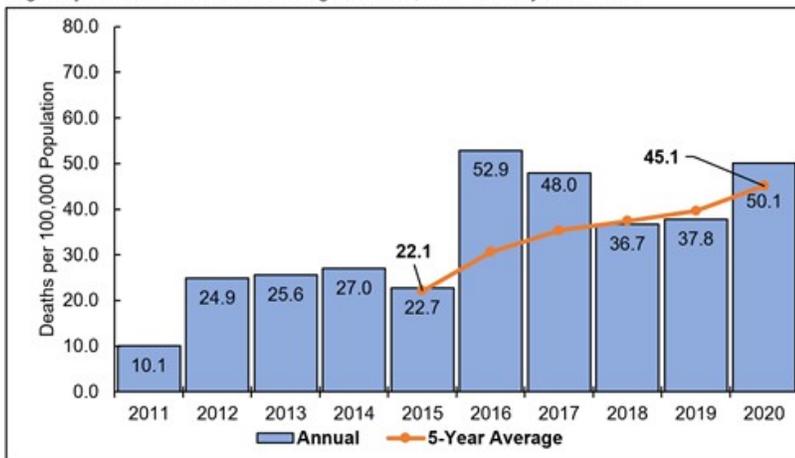
Mental Health has worsened throughout Lorain County during the pandemic demonstrating that men are more likely to die by suicide than women.

Age-Adjusted Suicide by Sex, Race, and Ethnicity, Lorain County 2011-2020¹



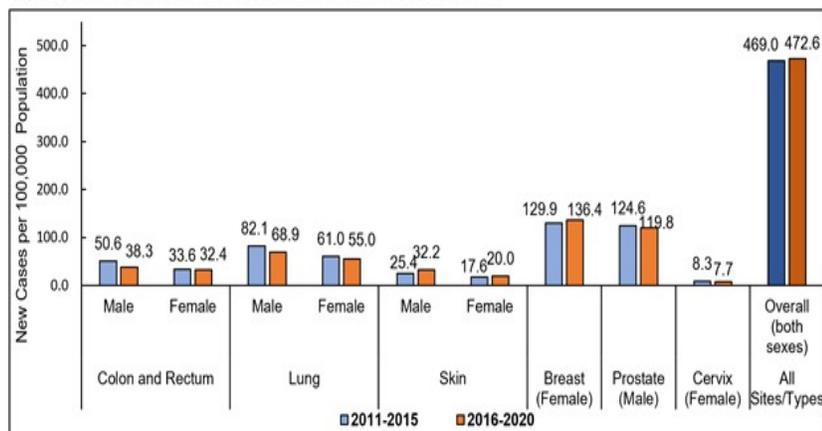
Substance abuse has worsened as drug overdose deaths have doubled since 2015.

Age-Adjusted Death Rate Due to Drug Overdose, Lorain County 2011-2020¹



Cancer has seen fewer diagnoses due to less testing throughout Lorain County when comparing cancer for Colon and Rectum; Lung; Skin; Breast (female); Prostate (male); Cervix (female) and overall:

Age-Adjusted Cancer Incidence^a by Type and Sex, Lorain County 2011-2020¹



The data above is a brief snapshot of the current state of our county. Making the case that we need to continue to focus on the current pillars in correlations with the Lorain County Community Health Assessment.

As the Mercy Health Lorain Market spoke to our communities, we heard that mental health, the topic of stress both every day and the impact from the pandemic is still affecting the lives of our community and needs to be addressed. In addition, since the last community health needs assessment, nationally and locally, there has been a greater calling to ensure we pause to ensure there is social integration of care – ensuring we are caring for the needs of all and removing any bias or stigma that may be in place. Therefore, the feedback of the community led us to see that we must address those concerns and create actionable items to support the needs of the community.

Enclosed, you will find the story (the why) and the data (the numbers) on why the community’s call directly aligns with the statistics on what the true need is. Now it will be our great honor to take what we have heard from the voice of the community to create a meaningful plan in which they (the community) see their voices were heard, they (the community) hear that their voices were heard and most importantly that they (the community) feel our compassion in our caring and in the meaningful programs that we bring from our own team along with a collaboration of other resources to help bridge the gap of care.

Overview of Significant Needs

1. Chronic Disease
2. Maternal and Child Health
3. Mental Health
4. Substance Abuse
5. Cancer

Prioritized Health Needs

1. Chronic Disease
2. Maternal and Child Health
3. Mental Health
4. Substance Abuse
5. Cancer
6. Social Intergration and Support

Resources Available

Resources available can be found in the appendix located on page 34.

Feedback

Feedback can be sent directly to Director of Community Health: Catherine Woskobnick

Email: Catherine.woskobnick1@mercy.com

Phone: 440-960-3204

Feedback can also be submitted via a survey link for Mercy Health Hospitals at:

<https://www.mercy.com/about-us/mission/giving-back/community-health-needs-assessment>

Our Mission

Our mission is to extend the compassionate ministry of Jesus by improving the health and well-being of our communities and bring good help to those in need, especially people who are poor, dying and underserved.

Our Vision

Inspired by God's hope for the world, we will be a ministry where associates want to work, clinicians want to practice, people seek wellness and communities thrive.

Our Values

Human Dignity

We commit to upholding the sacredness of life and being respectful and inclusive of everyone.

Integrity

We commit to acting ethically and modeling right relationships in all of our individual and organizational encounters.

Compassion

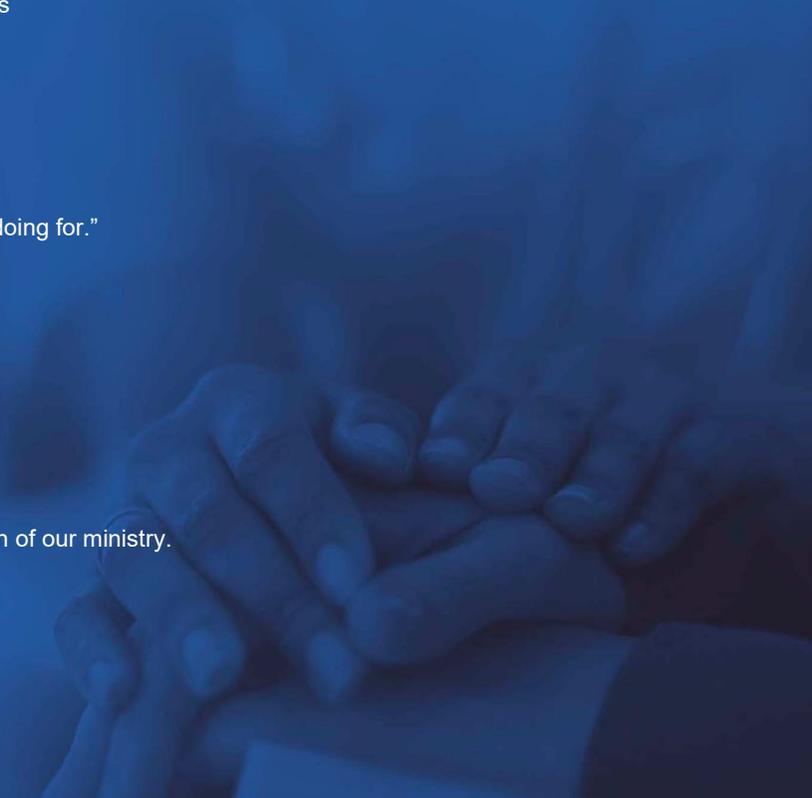
We commit to accompanying those we serve with mercy and tenderness, recognizing that "being with" is as important as "doing for."

Stewardship

We commit to promoting the responsible use of all human and financial resources, including Earth itself.

Service

We commit to providing the highest quality in every dimension of our ministry.



Facilities Description

Mercy Health Lorain is located in Lorain County, Ohio in which both the Mercy Health - Lorain Hospital and Mercy Health - Allen Hospital reside. Mercy Health - Lorain Hospital and Mercy Health - Allen Hospital are separately licensed. They are affiliated facilities with a common partners that jointly meet the needs of all Lorain County residents. The Community Health Needs Assessment was done in collaboration with the Lorain County Public Health district and nearly 20 organizations providing input on behalf of the residents of the entire county.

Mercy Health – Lorain Hospital (“Mercy” or “Hospital”) is a 338-bed, full-service hospital providing inpatient, outpatient, and ancillary health care services. Mercy Health – Allen Hospital (“Mercy” or “Mercy Allen”) is a 25-bed, critical access community hospital providing inpatient, outpatient, and ancillary healthcare services.



Community Served by the Hospital

According to the U.S. Census Bureau, Lorain County has over 309,134 residents, with 6% being youth aged four and under; 19% ages 5-19; 50% ages 20-59, and 25% over the age of 60. Throughout Lorain County, most of the population is Caucasian (84%), followed by Hispanic (10.2%), African American (8.0%), other race (3%), two or more races (5.0%). Within the more economically challenged cities in Lorain County of Lorain and Elyria proper, the percentage of minority residents is higher than the overall county numbers.

When reviewing education level, 10% have less than high school, 53.6% have a high school graduation and some college, 11% have an associate degree while 25% have a bachelor's degree or higher. The unemployment rate is 4.3%.

94.5% of the community have health insurance, which is slightly lower than in 2015, while 5.5% have no health insurance at all. The median household income in 2020 was \$58,798 while the mean household income was \$78,142 increasing by several thousand since the last survey.



JOINT CHNA

This is a “joint CHNA report,” within the meaning of Treas. Reg. §1.501(r)-3(b)(6)(v), by and for the Mercy Health Lorain Market including Mercy Health Lorain Hospital and Mercy Health Allen Hospital. This report reflects the hospitals’ collaborative efforts to conduct an assessment of the health needs of the community they serve. Each of the hospitals included in this joint CHNA report define its community to be the same as the other included hospitals. The assessment included is seeking and receiving input from that community.



Process and Methods

Process and methods to conduct the community health needs assessment:

In-depth Stakeholder interviews were conducted by Burges & Burges Strategists in order to gather open and honest perspectives on topics related to the Community Health Improvement Plan created by the County with this data and more being used to create the Community Health Needs Assessment for the Mercy Health Lorain Market. Stakeholders included a diverse set of leaders from across Lorain County, including leadership from health service providers, social service organizations, elected and appointed civic institutions, local and regional businesses, educational institutions, and faith communities. The primary intent of the interview process was to assist in the prioritization of the health-related needs for the county which mirror the Mercy Health Lorain market. Lorain County and the Mercy Health Lorain market partner with combatting: Chronic Disease, Maternal and Child Health, Mental Health, Substance Abuse, and Cancer with the additional topics of Health Disparity and Pandemic Impact rising to the top from our conversations.

Burgess & Burgess Strategists quantified the responses considering the overall severity, the size of the populations, and our community's ability to address the issues coupled with our ability to evaluate progress and improvements.

Telephone stakeholder interviews took place using a set of open-ended questions. There were 26 total interviews averaging 35-40 minutes in length held between January 22nd and February 11th, 2022.

Quantitative data from the previous full paper survey developed by the Public Services Institute that was sent out to the community was also utilized when comparing data.

Community conversations were held by Lorain County Public Health with seven different community-based resident groups in 2022. Conversations were conducted both in person and virtually via Zoom. The conversation format included semi-structured questions related to knowledge, attitudes and beliefs surrounding the status of community health in Lorain County. Each session with nine community groups were 30 to 60 minutes in length and were conducted between January 1 and May 30, 2022.

External sources

- Ohio Department of Health
 - Bureau of Vital statistics
 - Ohio Cancer Incidence Surveillance System
 - Compiled reports on data briefs
- Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC)
- United States Census Bureau
- Ohio Department of Education
- State of Ohio Board of Pharmacy
- 2021 Older Adults Needs Assessment
- Metopio - <https://metop.io/login/?next=/dashboard/>
- United States Census Bureau - <https://data.census.gov/cedsci/profile?g=0400000US39>
- Healthy Northeast Ohio - <https://www.healthyneo.org/tiles/index/display?id=185014783412253855>



Collaborating partners

The hospital collaborated with the following organizations as part of the process of conducting the needs assessment:

- Lorain County Public Health
- Cleveland Clinic Avon Hospital
- El-Centro
- Lorain County Health and Dentistry
- Lorain County Metroparks
- Lorain County Urban League
- MHARS Board – Mental health, Addiction and Recovery Services Board of Lorain County
- Mercy Health Allen Hospital
- Mercy Health Community Diversity and Inclusion Group
- Mercy Health Leadership Team
- Mercy Health Lorain Hospital
- University Hospitals Avon Rehabilitation Hospital
- University Hospitals Elyria Medical Center

Other sources

- Mercy Health Community Diversity and Inclusion Committee
- Mercy Health Parish Nursing Lorain County Black Pastors Group
- Mercy Health Resource Mothers' clients
- Mercy Health Parish Nursing Volunteers
- Mercy Health Parish Nursing – Chronic Disease Groups: United in Glory / THRIVE! / It's a Shore Thing Participants
- Mercy Health Pastors and Congregant Leaders

Community Input

Community survey - Identified health challenges and needs

When considering the prioritization of the health needs and concerns of the community, this round of the Community Health Needs Assessment was brazened with the COVID-19 pandemic fresh on minds.

The County realized and after the community conversations, the concern of the impact of the pandemic were validated and the decision was made that more time was needed with the five prioritized needs: Therefore, the five shared priorities for Lorain County and the Community Health Assessment needs were: Chronic Disease, Maternal and Child Health, Mental Health, Substance Use and Cancer.

For the Mercy Health Lorain Market, we took this insight and balanced it with the input from the community, to add two additional prioritized needs for a total of 7: Chronic Disease; Maternal and Child Health; Mental Health, Substance Abuse; Cancer and based on feedback: we heard that the pandemic impact was deeply rooted throughout all things.

No written comments were received on the most recently conducted CHNA or implementation strategy for Mercy Health Lorain.

Information and Data Considered in Identifying Potential Need

Information and data sources: federal, state or local health or other departments or agencies; community input

Public health departments (T.R. §1.501(r)-3(b)(5)(i)(a))	Date of data/information
Lorain County Public Health	January – May 30th 2022
Lorain County Health & Dentistry	June 6, 2022

At-risk populations	Date of data/information
Mercy Health Lorain Black Pastor's Health Coalition	March 14, 2022
Hispanic Fund	January 9 – May 30 th , 2022
Mercy Health Parish Nursing Volunteers	March 28 th , 2022
Mercy Health Family Outreach	March 29 th , 2022
Mercy Health Rising Stars (Youth)	March 13 th , 2022
Men of Courage	January 9 – May 30 th , 2022
Boy Scouts	January 9 – May 30 th , 2022
Lorain County Fair Board	January 9 – May 30 th , 2022

Community and Stakeholder Input	Date of data/information
Avon Local Schools	Conducted by Burges and Burges Strategists between January 22 nd and February 11, 2022, via phone.
Boy Scouts	
Child Care Resources Center	
Elyria City Schools	
Firelands Local Schools	
Full Gospel Ministries	
Keystone Local Schools	
Lorain City Schools	

Educational Service Center	
Lorain County Fair Board	
Lorain County Health & Dentistry	
Lorain County Community College	
Lorain County Free Clinic	
Lorain County Metro Parks	
Lorain County Urban League	

Community and Stakeholder Input	Date of data/information
Lorain El-Centro	Conducted by Burges and Burges Strategists between January 22 nd and February 11, 2022, via phone.
Lorain Public Library System	
Lorain / Medina Community Based Correctional Facility	
Riddell	
Sacred Heart	
Sprenger Healthcare	
The LCADA Way	
The Nord Center	
United Way of Lorain County	
YWCA Lorain	

Organizations providing input

Organization providing input	Nature and extent of input	Medically under-served, low-income or minority populations represented by organization
<p>Various Community Groups</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ensure the needs of the African American voice are heard. • Challenge ourselves to provide access to those that don't care for their health: men and elderly. • The providers need to look like our community looks. • Unbiased care needs to be provided as there are issues with perception of pain; blood pressure and cholesterol for people of color. • There continues to be an avoidance of numbers out of fear – health numbers. • Diabetes education and support is needed as many are in denial regarding the diagnosis. • Mental health and suicide continue to reside in the unspoken concerns. Providing safe conversations is necessary. • Access to healthy fruit and vegetables continues to be an issue for many. • Infant mortality for black moms and babies. Providing access to support and care is needed more than ever. • The volunteers care for the church community, and they see the disparity walking in the doors of their church. • Many don't go to the doctor consistently and Parish Nursing provides access to blood pressure and blood work. • The elderly continue to have safety issues and medication management issues. • Discussing substance abuse, mental health, addiction, and suicide continues to be a difficult conversations however educational access is needed. • Ensure the voice of the Hispanic and Latino community is heard and recognized. • Inclusion of the Hispanic and Latino community in communication. 	<p>Under-served and under-insured that go to their churches and congregations, focusing on the voice of the African American community; the Hispanic and Latino community; youth and elderly.</p>

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ensure that the interpretation of forms and documents are in the Lorain dialect. • Increase the Hispanic and Latinos that are hired to work to care for the Spanish speaking community. • Cultural beliefs impact education / chronic disease / suicide / substance abuse / mental health – how do we address the cultural differences 	
<p>Community Conversations</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Covid-19 pandemic has taken a toll on the community • Older adults are suffering – they are self-reliant and don't always seek help. • Our young people are not ok, they have many mental health needs. • Mental health and substance use is a big issue and locating health is challenging to find.. • Self-harm is up with youth and seniors experiencing isolation. • Everything has worsened with COVID-19 regarding healthcare. • There are not enough bilingual providers to support the substance abuse and addiction needs. • There is not enough talk around prevention or identifying needs early. 	<p>Under-served / under-insured / youth / people of color</p>
<p>Stake Holder Conversations</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 80% of the stake holders shared that chronic disease issues were serious or very serious. • 63% of stakeholders shared that maternal and child health was serious or very serious. • 72% of the stakeholders believe the community efforts are operating independently to address the needs of the community, however, they are uncoordinated. • 92% of stakeholders shared that mental health needs were serious or very serious. • 19% of stakeholders believed the community has a well-coordinated approach in place to support the substance abuse and addiction challenges. • 50% of the stakeholders believe that there are efforts there to care for the needs of the community, however, they are uncoordinated. • 46% of stakeholders shared that mental health staff capacity is lacking to care for the current need. 	<p>Service Providers / Main community Collaborative Partners</p>

<p>Mercy Health Community Diversity and Inclusion Committee</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Chronic Disease is the main driver that is bringing individuals into the hospital. There is a great fear around knowing your numbers in adults and youth. • Individuals are struggling with their Chronic Disease measurements and since the pandemic it has gotten worse. • Mental Health and anxiety have worsened over the pandemic. • The Pandemic seems to be an overarching theme impacting the health of many. • Suicides are up in our county. Men are being more impacted than other genders. The cultural divide in speaking about Suicide is a barrier when speaking openly and providing access to support and education. 	<p>Various leadership positions throughout Mercy Health representing all ethnicities</p>
<p>Mercy Health Community Diversity and Inclusion Committee</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Substance abuse and vaping has worsened. Restaurants providing full access to alcohol delivery has worsened the abuse of substances. Vaping and use of Marijuana has increased substantially. Overdoses in the past several months are up exponentially. Stigma continues to remain, creating barriers for the community to seek help. Many times the community shares that they don't know where to go for help and support. • Infant mortality for Black moms and babies and Hispanic moms and babies has worsened – access to care is necessary. Women do not feel heard, especially women of color. Empowering them and providing frequent access points will be necessary to support the needs of all and to ask the questions they need to get the unbiased care that they deserve. • Education on cultural bias is still necessary to ensure fair and just care to our patients. There is a still a disparity and this content needs to be revisited in many ways. • Adopting a block may be a test pilot of how, with focus, we can impact health – education – employment – mental health – food access and transportation. 	<p>Various leadership positions throughout Mercy Health representing all ethnicities</p>

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Transportation continues to be an issue, however Lorain County does not have an open solution. • Cancer diagnoses are down but only due to the pandemic and many not getting to the doctor. Access to screening is essential. How do we invite all to the screenings centers so that they can see the testing areas to eliminate fear? • Men need empowerment to be in control of their health – be fathers – be providers – one participant recommended Men of Courage as a community collaboration that could support our needs. 	
<p>Chronic Disease Program Participants</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Cholesterol understanding and control continues to be an issue. • Understanding prediabetes is needed. • Controlling Type I and Type II Diabetes is a great fear for many. • Mental Health impact, weight loss, and chronic disease control are their greatest worry. • Education is critically spoken to all in words they understand without judgement. • Access to free or low-cost exercise is needed. • Removing bias from care is needed to ensure equality for all. 	<p>Chronic Disease program participants</p>

Significant Community Identified Health Needs

Social Determinant of Health – Community Level Needs that Impact Health and Wellbeing – Mental Health and Stress

Capacity and adequacy of service levels

COVID-19 has taken a toll on our community, people are under immense stress, and they don't have the time or energy to take interest in or value their health. Suicide is a serious public health problem that has lasting effects on all family members and the community. The five-year suicide rate has increased by 23% since 2015, with males significantly more likely to die by suicide than females. 92% of the stakeholders indicated that mental health was a very serious (73%) or serious (19%) problem in Lorain County.

There continues to exist a stigma around mental health – suicide and dealing with stress. As our community groups discussed, the cultural impact on discussing the topics continues to grow and therefore the need to increase access points of care and education is required.

Current service providers or resources

- Mercy Health Physicians – Behavioral Health Clinicians
- The MHARS Board – Community Partner
- The Nord Center – Community Partner
- The LCADA Way – Community Partner

Health Equity - Social Integration and Support

Capacity and adequacy of service levels

60% of Stakeholders believe that there are a variety of community efforts addressing chronic disease, but that these efforts are uncoordinated. One quote said: “Our collaboration cringes when we hear “collaborations” because they haven't been done truly – if it was clear on what the programs are, if there was a navigator who can connect you to the services needed, things would be better.”

Social integration and support ensures that the needs of all are addressed. There is a ribbon of need to remove stigmas and biases that exist to lessen the gap.



Current service providers or resources

- Mercy Health Parish Nursing
- Mercy Health Family Outreach
- Men of Courage
- Lorain City Schools Adopt a Block Collaboration

Social Health Need – Individual Level Non-Clinical Needs

Substance Abuse

Capacity and adequacy of service levels

Drug overdose deaths are one of the leading contributors of lowering life expectancy in Lorain County as the 5-year average drug overdose death rate has doubled since 2015. Death rates have increased the most within the non-Hispanic black population—4 times higher from 2016-2020. Deaths from overdose for the Black Population went from 10.2 deaths per 100,000 to 40.9 deaths per 100,000, and the Hispanic population grew from 17.9 deaths per 100,000 to 30.3 deaths per 100,000.

Substance abuse and the issues surrounding it continue to be on the rise within Lorain County. Resources need to collaborate together to provide the access to education and resources.

Current service providers or resources

- Let's Get Real – Community Partner – Treatment Support
- Lorain County Public Health – Community Partner – Naloxone
- Certified Tobacco specialist on team for education
- Lorain County Overdose and Addiction Taskforce (LCOAT)
- Education and Prevention Pillar LCOAT Committee

Significant Clinical Health Needs

Chronic Disease

Capacity and adequacy of service levels

Chronic Disease is recognized as one of the defining community health challenges within Lorain County with 80% of the stakeholders interviewed indicated that Chronic Disease was very serious (57%) or serious (23%) problem in the community. Chronic diseases impact the community, with worsened impacts on people with lower incomes, people who are Black, and people with Hispanic or Latino ethnicity. Heart disease death among younger populations continues to increase. Deaths due to diabetes decreased among all demographics, the number of people diagnosed with diabetes continues to increase. Deaths are greatest among non-Hispanic Black men. Death rates due to stroke have increased by 16% since 2015. Stroke death rates are twice as high among the non-Hispanic Black population at 62.7 per 100,000 as when compared to the rest of Lorain County White population at 37.1 per 100,000 and the Hispanic population at 38.9 per 100,000.

Chronic Disease continues to be the foundational issue for many people. Providing access to programs – support and testing will allow us to make a difference on the numbers below. During the pandemic, chronic disease numbers plummeted and therefore programs and access are more needed than ever.I.

Current service providers or resources

- Mercy Health Parish Nursing – Screenings – Coaching - Education – Exercise
- Mercy Health Physicians and Providers
- Mercy Health Diabetic Education
- Mercy Health School Partnerships for Youth
- Lorain County Health and Dentistry

Maternal and Infant Child

Capacity and adequacy of service levels

Infant mortality and disparities among race prior to the COVID-19 pandemic was increasing and now continue to grow. The infant mortality rate for Black mothers was 12.5 deaths per 1,000 live births during 2016-2022. The infant mortality rate among White mothers during the same period was 4.6 per deaths per 1,000 live births.

Infant mortality has increased dramatically for women of color in Lorain County. The work of Community Health Workers in the community to support woman pre and post-partum connecting all to resources to be good parents is needed more than ever.



Current service providers or resources

- Lorain County Public Health
- Mercy Health Family Outreach Community Health Workers
- State of Ohio Moms and Babies First Collaboration
- Lorain County Community Action Agency
- Mercy Health Providers – OB/GYN's
- Mercy Health Labor and Delivery Department
- WIC
- Lorain County Health and Dentistry
- State of Ohio Hear Her Campaign

Cancer

Capacity and adequacy of service levels

Second to Heart Disease, Cancer continues to be a leading cause of death in Lorain County. From 2015-2019, there was an average of 1,936 new diagnosed cases of cancer within Lorain County. However, in 2020, newly diagnosed cases dropped 8% below the average, possibly demonstrating the effect of the COVID-19 pandemic on cancer screenings and comfort of healthcare access. There has been a decrease in Colon Cancer in men from 50.6 cases per 100,000 to 38.3 cases per 100,000. Breast cancer has seen an increase from 129.9 cases per 100,000 to 136.4 cases per 100,000. Prostate cancer amongst men decreased from 124.8 per 100,000 to 119.8 per 100,000. The greatest concern of the community is that the pandemic has kept the community away from getting the proactive tests such as colonoscopy's, mammograms, and PSA tests.

During the pandemic, cancer screenings took place at lowest rates in years. Re-educating the community on the cancer screenings need coupled with the access to the screenings is essential at this time.

Current service providers or resources

- Mercy Health Parish Nursing
- Mercy Health Physicians and Providers
- Mercy Health Cancer Center
- American Cancer Society
- Angels and Amigas
- Power4Pink



Prioritization of Health Needs

The Prioritization of the Health Needs took numerous meetings to process the voice of our stake holders, community and Community Diversity and Inclusion Committee. After six meetings of discussing the findings and what they know of in the community, the team came to consensus on the prioritization of the needs.

Based on all the above information and processes, the prioritized health needs of the community served by the hospital are listed below.

Prioritized Social Determinants of Health Needs

Mental Health and Stress

Mental Health and Stress has always been one of the top concerns of our community. However, the pandemic has taken mental health and stress and risen it to an unprecedented area. The community is calling for more access and support as it was one of their prevalent concerns. The impact of mental health on all ages continues to increase. When considering the number of men committing suicide between the ages of 35 and 45 in Lorain County all are gravely concerned. Reducing the cultural stigma on mental health and suicide is urgently needed throughout Lorain County.

Health Disparity – Social Integration and Support

The awareness of Health Disparities has risen to the top of all conversations. Providing fair – just and equitable care to all while being respectful of the needs of all is the foundation of our mission. The Social integration and support to our community can make a profound difference when coupled with the social determinants of health. This team believes that by piloting on a block within Lorain County, empowering all, and connecting all to employment, food, transportation, and healthcare will allow all to feel socially integrated and supported while impacting the health disparity that exists.

Prioritized Social Health Needs

Substance Abuse

Substance Abuse has increased substantially after many turned to substance to cope during the pandemic. The residual effects are still prevalent in our community. The number of youth vaping has increased dramatically. The number of overdoses in Lorain County over the past several weekends in June of 2022 has created an epidemic urgency. The community is need of access to education – naloxone kits and emotional support in coping with the stigma that resides when it comes to substance abuse and overdoses.



Prioritized Clinical Health Needs

Chronic Disease

Chronic Disease is one of the most prevalent factors that is impacting the health of our communities. However, this is controllable when individuals are not afraid of their numbers and are given steps and processes that can help them, such as healthy eating, exercise and positive self-talk. Chronic Disease is directly connected to death by Heart Attack, Diabetes and Stroke. This team believes that by focusing on quality indicators such as Blood Pressure, Glucose, Cholesterol, Triglycerides, HDL, LDL, HbA1c and TSH (Thyroid) and increasing access to testing while decreasing fear of those numbers, we will decrease the number of deaths related to Chronic Disease.

Maternal Infant and Child

Infant Mortality at a time in which all have access to care and support is a difficult reality to face. However, there is a disparity, especially with Black moms and Babies, in which more Black babies are dying than ever. Access to care and support in getting to the doctor during the pregnancy, coupled with post-natal care are critical for all, but especially for women of color. By empowering women that their voices are important with a State guided program called “Hear Her”, we believe that we will be able to support women – support the health of their pregnancy, their infants and children.

Cancer

Cancer is a leading cause of death. When considering from our data that 4 out of 10 Ohioans will be diagnosed with cancer at some point during their lifetime, a focus on Cancer is a necessity. The numbers show that while diagnoses are down, we believe that these numbers are a residual effect of the pandemic. Focusing on access to cancer screenings (Breast, Cancer and Colon) will impact the life expectancy of all men and women.

Resources Available to Meet Prioritized Needs

The existing healthcare facilities and other resources within the community that are available to meet the prioritized needs are listed below for each need

Prioritized Social Determinants of Health Needs

Mental Health and Stress

- Mercy Health Physicians – Behavioral Health Clinicians
- The MHARS Board – Community Partner
- The Nord Center – Community Partner
- The LCADA Way – Community Partner
- Mercy Health Parish Nursing

Health Disparity – Social Integration and Support

- Mercy Health Parish Nursing
- Mercy Health Family Outreach
- Men of Courage
- Lorain City Schools Adopt a Block Collaboration
- Lorain County Urban League
- El-Centro
- Second Harvest Food Bank
- United Way Live Health Lorain Collaboration
- Lorain County Metropolitan Housing Authority
- Boys and Girls Club
- Mercy Health Thrift Shop

Prioritized Social Health Needs

Substance Abuse

- Let's Get Real – Community Partner – Treatment Support
- Lorain County Public Health – Community Partner – Naloxone
- Certified Tobacco specialist on team for education
- Lorain County Overdose and Addiction Taskforce (LCOAT)
- Education and Prevention Pillar LCOAT Committee
- Ohio Guidestone
- Mercy Health Parish Nursing Educational Sessions

Prioritized Clinical Health Needs

Chronic Disease

- Mercy Health Parish Nursing – Screenings – Coaching - Education – Exercise
- Mercy Health Physicians and Providers
- Mercy Health Diabetic Education
- Mercy Health School Partnerships for Youth
- Lorain County Health and Dentistry
- United Way Live Health Lorain
- United Way Collaborative Live Health Oberlin
- United Way Collaborative THRIVE! – Wellington
- United Way Collaborative Heart and Sole – North Ridgeville
- United Way Collaborative Key – Keystone
- Oberlin Community Services Center
- Lorain County Metroparks

Maternal and Infant Health

- Lorain County Public Health
- Mercy Health Family Outreach Community Health Workers
- State of Ohio Moms and Babies First Collaboration
- Lorain County Community Action Agency
- Mercy Health Providers – OB/GYN's
- Mercy Health Labor and Delivery Department
- Lorain County Community Action Agency
- WIC
- Lorain County Health and Dentistry
- State of Ohio Hear Her Campaign
- United Way Collaborative Oberlin Kids
- Ohio Guidestone

Cancer

- Mercy Health Parish Nursing
- Mercy Health Physicians and Providers
- Mercy Health Cancer Center
- Mercy Health Lorain Hospital – Colonoscopy Center / Mammogram Area
- Mercy Health Allen Hospital – Mammogram Area
- American Cancer Society
- Angels and Amigas
- Power4Pink



Progress on Health Priorities Identified in the 2019-2021 Community Health Needs Assessment

Chronic Disease

Initiative	Impact
<p>Develop A Chronic Disease Program</p>	<p>Developed a brand new Chronic Disease Foundational program focusing on strengthening the foundation of health for people through education and coaching – focusing on: Blood Pressure / Weight / BMI Calculation / Glucose / Cholesterol / LDL / HDL / Triglycerides / HbA1c / TSH and PSA for men</p> <p>Group 1: Developed in 2021 - United in Glory – People of Color</p> <p>Group 2: Developed in 2021 - THRIVE! – Southern Portion of Lorain County</p> <p>Group 3: Developed in 2022 - It's A Shore Thing – Western Portion of Lorain and Erie County</p> <p>2020 – Creation of 2 Programs: United in Gory and THRIVE!</p> <p>2021 - 60 participants in new program</p> <p>2022 - Creation of a 3rd program: It's a Shore Thing - 60 participants in yeat two – total 120 participants</p>
<p>Exercise Prescription Program</p>	<p>Implemented an Exercise Prescription Program physician in partnership with Amherst Schools System.</p> <p>2020 – 20 exercise prescriptions distrubuted (due to pandemic)</p> <p>2021 – 45 exercise prescriptions distrubted</p> <p>2022 – 40 exercise prescriptions distributed YTD</p>
<p>Food Prescriptions</p>	<p>Food access through Second Harvest Food Bank allows all with food issues to get access to food and healthy options. The implementation of Food Prescriptions ran into barriers due to the pandemic.</p> <p>2020 – The pandemic made it a challenge to create a program therefore partnered with Second Harvest Food Bank and the local City Schools to deliver food to the homes of our clients</p> <p>2021 – Created a direct line of food delivery through Second Harvest with our clients</p> <p>2022 – Developeped an initial plan with Produce Perks with Lorain County Public Health</p>

Access to Care

Initiative	Impact
Provide Access to selecting a primary care physician	<p>We have connected our patients and clients to understand the benefit of a primary care physician. This collaboration in the ER took a hiatus with the pandemic but is now in beginning again.</p> <p>In Mercy Health Parish Nursing we have been referring our clients for a provider referral.</p> <p>2020- 50 Primary care referrals</p> <p>2021 – 55 Primary care referrals</p> <p>2022 – 45 Primary care referrals YTD</p>

Mental Health

Initiative	Impact
Create Mental Health Pipeline with LCCC	<p>Due to COVID-19 this process was slowed down dramatically when classes were turned to all virtual.</p> <p>This is an initiative that will continue to be monitored – due to the pandemic we are still working on this program.</p>
Increase Behavioral Health Visits to MHP Providers by 10%	<p>Behavioral Health Visits to Mercy Health Physicians are exceeding targets.</p> <p>2019 – 4,032 visits</p> <p>2020 – 6,501 visits</p> <p>2021 – 5,904 visits</p> <p>2022 – 4,954 visits YTD</p>
Provide access to 8 Suicide Awareness Educational Sessions	<p>Providing access to Suicide education has grown from zero to 5 with three more educations to come this year.</p> <p>2019 – 0 participants</p> <p>2020 – 1 participant</p> <p>2021 – 2 participants</p> <p>2022 – 2 participants YTD</p>

Substance Abuse

Initiative	Impact
<p>Provide Access to 6 Substance Abuse and Opioid Awareness Classes</p>	<p>Substance abuse courses focusing on the impact of tobacco and vaping has been the most wanted topic and below depicts the number of classes that we have provided.</p> <p>2019 – 1 class</p> <p>2020 – 1 class</p> <p>2021 – 2 classes</p> <p>2022 – 2 classes YTD</p>
<p>Let's Get Real Connections</p>	<p>Let's Get Real is a third party that is contacted once a patient of either the Mercy Health Lorain or Allen Hospitals request substance abuse therapy. Let's Get Reals arrives on sight within 45 minutes and provides access to therapy.</p> <p>2020-225 - individuals entered the Let's Get Real Path of receiving substance abuse support</p> <p>2021-425 - individuals entered the Let's Get Real Path of receiving substance abuse support</p> <p>2022 305 - individuals entered the Let's Get Real Path of receiving substance abuse support YTD</p>

Social Determinants of Health

Initiative	Impact
Leaders Attend Implicit Bias Training	All (100%) leaders for Mercy Health Lorain and Allen attended Implicit Bias Training.
Diversity and Inclusion Training for all new Hires	All (100%) of new hires attend a Diversity and Inclusion segment.
Support the National Census Lorain County amount to be greater than the past	The National 10-year census hit just as the pandemic was setting in. However, collaboratively with community partners, we increased from a 60% Lorain County participation rate 10 years ago to a 73% participation rate in 2020 as Mercy Health led the Healthcare pillar / Faith based community pillar.

Maternal and Infant Child

Initiative	Impact
Increase number of participants in Mercy Health Family Outreach by 10%	<p>Mercy Health Family Outreach has steadily increased the total number of clients from the pandemic effect. This year of 2022 we will exceed the total number of lives served meeting the target of 10% over 3 years.</p> <p>2019 – 325 clients</p> <p>2020 – 320 clients</p> <p>2021 – 325 clients</p> <p>2022 – 320 clients YTD</p>

Cancer

Initiative	Impact
Increase Mammograms by 15% for ages 50-75	Access to Mammograms has increased over the three-year period: 2020 – 5,980 Mammograms 2021 – 6,121 Mammograms 2022 – 5,950 Mammograms YTD
Increase colorectal Screenings by 15%	Access to colorectal screenings has exceeded goals: 2020 – 2,014 Colorectal screenings 2021 – 2,461 Colorectal screenings 2022 – 2,011 Colorectal screenings YTD
Increase PSA Screenings and education	PSA Screenings are up by 15% over the three-year period: 2020 – 150 PSA tests completed 2021 – 225 PSA tests completed 2022 – 150 PSA tests completed YTD

Appendix

Resources utilized for culmination of this report.

Appendix

Cancer

- Data provided by the Ohio Department of Health (Bureau of Vital Statistics). The Department specifically disclaims responsibility for analyses interpretations or conclusions.
- Ohio Department of Health. (2021). Lorain County Cancer Profile. Retrieved from: <https://odh.ohio.gov/know-our-programs/ohio-cancer-incidence-surveillance-system/countyprofiles/lorain-county>

Community Conditions

- U.S. Census Bureau. (2022). American Community Survey 5-year Estimates Data Profiles (2015 and 2020). Retrieved from <https://data.census.gov/cedsci/>
- Data provided by the Ohio Department of Health (Bureau of Vital Statistics). (2022) The Department specifically disclaims responsibility for analyses, interpretations or conclusions.
- National Association of Medical Examiners. (2022). A Guide for Manner of Death Classification: First Edition 2002. Retrieved from <https://name.memberclicks.net/assets/docs/MANNEROFDEATH.pdf>

Chronic Disease: Diabetes

- Data provided by the Ohio Department of Health (Bureau of Vital Statistics). The Department specifically disclaims responsibility for analyses, interpretations or conclusions.
- United States Diabetes Surveillance System, Division of Diabetes Translation. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC).
- Centers for Disease Control and Prevention. Diabetes Morality by State. Retrieved from: https://www.cdc.gov/nchs/pressroom/sosmap/diabetes_mortality/diabetes.htm

Chronic Disease: Stroke

- Data provided by the Ohio Department of Health (Bureau of Vital Statistics). The Department specifically disclaims responsibility for analyses interpretations or conclusions.

Chronic Disease: Heart Disease

- Data provided by the Ohio Department of Health (Bureau of Vital Statistics). The Department specifically disclaims responsibility for analyses interpretations or conclusions.

Cancer

- Cancer incidence data used in these analyses were obtained from the Ohio Cancer Incidence Surveillance System (OCISS), Ohio Department of Health (ODH), a cancer registry partially supported by the National Program of Cancer Registries and the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) through Cooperative Agreement Number NU58DP006284. Use of this data does not imply that ODH or CDC agrees or disagrees with the analyses, interpretations or conclusions in this report.

- Ohio Department of Health. (2021). Lorain County Cancer Profile. Retrieved from: <https://odh.ohio.gov/know-our-programs/ohio-cancer-incidence-surveillance-system/countyprofiles/lorain-county>

Emerging Concerns

- The 2021 Lorain County Older Adults Needs Assessment

Maternal and Child Health: Fetal Death

- Data provided by the Ohio Department of Health (Bureau of Vital Statistics). The Department specifically disclaims responsibility for analyses interpretations or conclusions.
- Maternal and Child Health: Infant Mortality
- Data provided by the Ohio Department of Health (Bureau of Vital Statistics). The Department specifically disclaims responsibility for analyses interpretations or conclusions.
- Ohio Department of Health. 2019 Infant Mortality Annual Report. Retrieved from https://odh.ohio.gov/wps/wcm/connect/gov/e30e2521-b6ae-4d75-a5fa-09c4241feb42/Infant+Mortality+Report+2019.pdf?MOD=AJPERES&CONVERT_TO=url&CACHEID=ROOTWORKSPACE.Z18_K9I401S01H7F40QBNJU3SO1F56-e30e2521-b6ae-4d75-a5fa-09c4241feb42-nq6i5Cy

Maternal and Child Health: Kindergarten readiness

- Ohio Department of Education. Ohio School Report Cards. Retrieved from: <https://reportcard.education.ohio.gov/download>
- Maternal and Child Health: Live Births
- Data provided by the Ohio Department of Health (Bureau of Vital Statistics). The Department specifically disclaims responsibility for analyses interpretations or conclusions.

Maternal and Child Health: Maternal Morbidity

- Data provided by the Ohio Department of Health (Bureau of Vital Statistics). The Department specifically disclaims responsibility for analyses interpretations or conclusions.
- Ohio Department of Health. (2016). Gestational Diabetes Mellitus (GDM). Retrieved from: https://odh.ohio.gov/wps/wcm/connect/gov/11c1d1e1-99e1-463f-ad9d-6d905507b94c/FINAL-GDM-fact-sheet.pdf?MOD=AJPERES&CONVERT_TO=url&CACHEID=ROOTWORKSPACE.Z18_K9I401S01H7F40QBNJU3SO1F56-11c1d1e1-99e1-463f-ad9d-6d905507b94c-mMGCrUg

Maternal and Child Health: Preterm Birth

- Data provided by the Ohio Department of Health (Bureau of Vital Statistics). The Department specifically disclaims responsibility for analyses interpretations or conclusions.
- Centers for Disease Control and Prevention. (2022). Preterm Birth. Retrieved from: <https://www.cdc.gov/reproductivehealth/maternalinfanthealth/pretermbirth.htm>

- Centers for Disease Control and Prevention. (2022). Percentage of Births Born Preterm by State. Retrieved from: https://www.cdc.gov/nchs/pressroom/sosmap/preterm_births/preterm.htm

Mental Health

- Data provided by the Ohio Department of Health (Bureau of Vital Statistics). The Department specifically disclaims responsibility for analyses interpretations or conclusions.
- Ohio Department of Health. Preliminary Data Summary: Ohio Suicide Deaths (2021). Retrieved from: https://odh.ohio.gov/wps/wcm/connect/gov/96a3cbea-7d56-4254-9cae-5f5fe4032d29/Ohio+Monthly+Suicide+Report_Preliminary+Data_Sept2021.pdf?MOD=AJPERES&CONVERT_TO=url&CACHEID=ROOTWORKSPACE.Z18_M1HG GIK0N0JO00QO9DDDDM3000-96a3cbea-7d56-4254-9cae-5f5fe4032d29-nNss3nC

Substance Use

- Data provided by the Ohio Department of Health (Bureau of Vital Statistics). The Department specifically disclaims responsibility for analyses interpretations or conclusions. (2022).
- Ohio Department of Health. 2020 Ohio Drug Overdose Data: General Findings. Accessed from: https://odh.ohio.gov/wps/wcm/connect/gov/6a94aabe-ea77-4c01-8fd8-2abdd83b4ff8/2020%2BUnintentional%2BDrug%2BOverdose%2BAnnual%2BReport.pdf?MOD=AJPERES&CONVERT_TO=url&CACHEID=ROOTWORKSPACE.Z18_M1HGGIK0N0JO00QO9DDDDM3000-6a94aabe-ea77-4c01-8fd8-2abdd83b4ff8-o2GcAmy
- Ohio Automated RS Reporting System (OARRS), State of Ohio Board of Pharmacy (2022).

Maternal and Child Health: Preterm birth

- Data provided by the Ohio Department of Health (Bureau of Vital Statistics). The Department specifically disclaims responsibility for analyses interpretations or conclusions.

Social Determinants of Health

- 2-1-1 Counts Data Dashboard, United Way of Greater Lorain County. Retrieved from <https://lorain.211counts.org/> on June 1, 2022.

Board Approval

The Mercy Health Lorain Market 2022 Community Health Needs Assessment was approved by the Mercy Health Lorain Market Board on September 28, 2022.

Board Signature: *Gemeli H. Andrews.*

Date: October 5, 2022

For further information or to obtain a hard copy of this Community Health Needs Assessment (CHNA) please contact: Catherine Woskobnick, Director of Community Health – 440-960-3204 or email: Catherine.woskobnick1@mercy.com.

Mercy Health CHNA Website: <https://www.mercy.com/about-us/mission/giving-back/community-health-needs-assessment>