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.

The following document is a detailed CHNA for Mercy Health – West Hospital. Opening in Fall of 2013, Mercy Health – West Hospital offers a comprehensive heart center with open heart surgery, a cancer center, a family birth center, women’s health center and orthopedic services. Additionally, the hospital campus will be designed in harmony with the surrounding community and will feature plenty of green space, walking/biking trails and buffers designed to reduce any noise. The new hospital combines and expands the service areas of two hospitals that will close in 2013: Mercy Health – Mt. Airy Hospital and Mercy Health – Western Hills Hospital.

Since 1971, Mercy Health – Mt. Airy Hospital has provided the community with award-winning clinical care coupled with compassion. The hospital has been recognized nationally for its orthopedic program and emergency care. Mt. Airy Hospital was recently named one of the top five orthopedic programs in the state of Ohio and one of the top performing hospitals in the nation by The Joint Commission. Built in 1982, Mercy Health – Western Hills Hospital offered an array of services, including emergency and critical care, cardiac care, surgical services, vascular services, imaging and a Women’s Health Center. Also located on the hospital’s campus are doctors’ offices and the Western Hills HealthPlex, a full-service health and fitness facility. These hospitals are part of Catholic Health Partners (CHP).

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 Health – West Hospital 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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Community Served by Hospital

Mercy Hospitals West currently comprises two hospitals in two different ZIP codes: Mercy Health – Mt. Airy Hospital is located at 2446 Kipling Avenue in ZIP 45239, and Mercy Health – Western Hills Hospital is located at 3131 Queen City Avenue in ZIP 45238. In the Fall of 2013, these two facilities will close and be replaced by a single hospital facility known as Mercy Health – West Hospital. Its ZIP will be 45211. The communities served by the two existing facilities are contiguous. The ZIPs for the persons served by them are:

*Mt. Airy ZIP codes:* 45002, 45030, 45041, 45223, 45224, 45231, 45232, 45239, 45247, 45251, and 45252

*Western Hills ZIP codes:* 45001, 45002, 45030, 45033, 45041, 45052, 45204, 45205, 45211, 45214, 45233, 45238, 45247, 45248, and 45258

The service area of the new facility will be a combination of the ZIP codes.

*West ZIP codes:* (combined Mt. Airy and Western Hills service areas): 45001, 45002, 45030, 45033, 45041, 45052, 45204, 45205, 45211, 45214, 45223, 45224, 45231, 45232, 45233, 45238, 45239, 45247, 45248, 45251, 45252, and 45258

These contiguous ZIP codes represent the hospital’s primary service area, and they are all contained within Hamilton County, Ohio.

Accordingly, this CHNA report represents an assessment of the needs of all the communities served by all facilities. Because going forward there will be only one hospital facility serving this community, it made the most sense to adopt this CHNA as the report of each of the facilities.

Information and Data Considered in Identifying Potential Need

*Information and Data Sources: Federal, State or Local Health or Other Departments or Agencies*

Mercy Health – West Hospital participated in a regional Community Health Needs Assessment process coordinated by the Greater Cincinnati Health Council. It contracted with a local nonprofit organization, Health Care Access Now (HCAN), to prepare *A Community Health Needs Assessment for Southwest Ohio and Southeast Indiana*. HCAN is dedicated to helping establish a high performing, integrated, health care delivery network able to provide access to care for all residents of nine (9) counties of Greater Cincinnati, including Hamilton, Butler, Clermont, Adams, Brown, and Warren in Southwest Ohio. As part of its preparation HCAN performed the following activities:

1. **Primary Data Collection Sources:**
   - **Stakeholder Interviews:** The stakeholders selected in each county consisted of one person in the following categories: county health commissioner, county mental health board, United Way, Community Action Agency, community foundation, and colleges/universities. Stakeholders chosen to represent each of the categories were determined through a combination of personal references and online search. A few stakeholders had some overlap in that they represented multiple counties included in the study. Refer to the Community Input section of this report for individuals who participated and the date of the interview.
   - **Direct Service Provider Focus Groups using Group Level Assessment (GLA) method:** Invitations were distributed to target direct service providers/advocacy groups from the county in the following categories: non-English speaking, Federally Qualified Health Center (FQHC)/free clinics, Visiting Nurses Associations, ex-offenders, seniors, transportation, Chambers of Commerce, schools system, inter-faith, legal aid, area planning, county extension, behavioral health, developmental disabilities, dental care, and primary care.
End-User Surveys: The University of Cincinnati Action Research Center surveyed populations in the greater Cincinnati region who are more often underserved with a particular focus on health care consumers who are uninsured, underinsured, low socioeconomic status, minority, 65+, or who experience mental health issues. Surveys were administered to more than 1,000 community residents across the nine counties with oversampling of vulnerable groups such as persons over 18 years of age who have a behavioral health disorder; seniors; Hispanic/Latinos; and African immigrants, particularly West African immigrants.

2. Secondary Data Collection Sources:
A Data Committee led by HCAN’s partner, Health Landscape, collected the data from local, state and national sources, for the years of 2005-2011, via online search in order to compile the Community Health Needs Assessment database.

- Local: Hamilton County Public Health and Jobs/Family Services, Greater Cincinnati Community Health Status Survey, Greater Cincinnati Health Council
- State: Ohio Department of Health, Ohio Family Health Survey
Process for Gathering and Analyzing Data/Information
(IRS Notice 2011-52 Section 3.03 (2))

1. Primary Data Collection and Analysis Process:

- **Stakeholder Interviews:** Letters were mailed to 50 stakeholder interview candidates inviting them to participate in a 45-60 minute face-to-face interview. Thirty-two interviews were conducted in-person by the Community Health Needs Assessment Project Manager, Stephanie Marshall. Three out of six requests to complete an available online *Survey Monkey* version were fulfilled. Three individuals declined, and eight individuals were unable to be scheduled due to lack of response. The interview questions were drafted with input from the Community Health Needs Assessment Leadership Team and the University of Cincinnati Action Research Center. They were subsequently narrowed down to a total of 17 questions in five different categories. The interviews were tape recorded with consent and the interviewer took high level notes for each question during the interview process. The invitations, question design, and interviews occurred from July-December 2011.

- **Direct Service Provider Focus Group Level Assessments:** The University of Cincinnati Action Research Center team conducted one Group Level Assessment (GLA) in each of the nine counties. Group Level Assessment is a participatory large group approach in which qualitative data is generated about an issue of importance through an interactive and collaborative process (Vaughn et al., 1998). The GLA allows for the identification of needs and priorities within a large group setting where the participants have the knowledge and expertise to inform the research. Approximately 30 pieces of flip chart paper hung on the walls. Each flip chart contained one or more prompts/questions. Sample prompts included:
  - “The most pressing health care need in our county is…”
  - “If you could change one thing about the health care system in our county….”
  - “Health care would be more accessible in our county if…”

As a large group, service providers were instructed to provide responses to each prompt in any order they preferred. After recording their responses, participants were instructed to walk around the room and look at other written responses. Participants then divided into smaller groups and were each given 5-7 flip chart pages. Small groups were instructed to discuss the responses on the charts and to identify 3-5 common themes across the charts. After each small group identified salient themes from their flip charts, the larger group reconvened and each small group reported their findings in a “round-robin” fashion with each group presenting one theme at a time. The primary facilitator recorded the major themes on a flip chart for the larger group to see. Then, participants as a large group discussed overall themes, distilled themes through consensus, and chose the most important priorities regarding health and healthcare in their county. If time permitted, the larger group discussed possible next steps for their county. Meetings lasted approximately 90 minutes to two hours. GLA planning, designing and hosting occurred between September – November 2011.

- **End-User Surveys:** The University of Cincinnati Action Research Center developed a seven page survey instrument using convenience and purposive sampling techniques. The sample size was based on 2010 Census data. Thus, counties with a population up to 50,000 people received 60 surveys. Other counties received a greater number of surveys in relation to increments of ~200,000 people. Most questions tested between a 4th and 6th grade reading level. Pre-testing was conducted with the target population and revealed that there were no significant readability issues. The survey took between 11 and 22 minutes to complete with most completing in less than 15 minutes. A $5 gift card incentive was provided. This survey was designed to answer questions focused on barriers to care. The survey instrument was a slightly modified Barriers to Care Questionnaire (developed by Michael Seid, 2009) that was originally designed to measure patient reports of difficulties with accessing or using healthcare. The Barriers to Care Questionnaire has a total scale and five subscales: 1) pragmatics — logistical and cost barriers that might prevent or delay appropriate utilization; 2) skills — acquired or learned strategies to navigate
through, manipulate, or function competently within the health care system; 3) expectations of receiving poor quality care; 4) marginalization — the internalization and personalization of negative experiences within the health care system; 5) knowledge and beliefs — lay or popular ideas about the nature and treatment of illness, which may differ from those of mainstream allopathic medicine. The survey includes validated measures including the initial barriers question. Surveys were administered between August 2011 – November 2011.

Data analysis of primary sources was conducted by the Action Research Center and by Stephanie Marshall, HCAN’s Project Manager. The analysis occurred in November and December 2011 and included the following processes and methods:

- **Quantitative Analyses.** Team members from the Action Research Center entered and checked survey data in Excel. To analyze and summarize the survey data, they used SPSS statistical software for descriptive statistics such as percentages and averages. Quantitative survey results are presented in a variety of formats including written summary, pie charts, bar charts, and tables.

- **Qualitative Analyses.** Individual-level qualitative data were generated by each service provider in response to the different prompts during each county GLA. Because the GLA is a participatory process, the participants distilled and summarized themes from the flip charts and prioritized needs for their county during the actual GLA. In the Community Health Needs Assessment report, GLA data is presented both by the individual county and as an aggregate across all nine counties to detect similarities and overlap of priorities.

- **As part of the GLA summary, the Action Research Center presented a ROWS analysis.** ROWS analysis has been used within the organizational counseling, community consulting, and health promotion and education fields to describe Risks and Opportunities as they pertain to the environment and Weaknesses and Strengths as they pertain to the person (Prilleltensky & Prilleltensky, 2006). ROWS is very similar to SWOT analyses typically used in business to evaluate strengths, weaknesses, opportunities, and threats to a project. The Action Research Center used a modification of ROWS in this project to describe the Risks, Opportunities, Weaknesses, and Strengths as they pertain to health and healthcare in each of the nine counties.

- **For the key informant stakeholder interviews, Stephanie Marshall, HCAN’s Project Manager, recorded each stakeholder’s comments in an Excel spreadsheet.** Salient themes were summarized for each question within counties and across all nine counties. The stakeholder interview data was used to support quantitative data findings and assist in the definition of gaps and trends in healthcare in each county and for the region.

- A “Triangulation Summary and Recommendations” report was presented for each of the nine counties, which incorporates and “triangulates” results from both the GLAs and the surveys. Triangulation is an approach that ensures that results are consistent across the GLAs and surveys and allows for identification of areas in which there are differences. The Action Research Center also presented “Overall Recommendations” which combines recommendations across GLAs, surveys, and vulnerable populations.

### 2. Secondary Data Collection and Analysis Process:

HCAN convened a Data Committee with volunteer representatives from the United Way of Greater Cincinnati, Cincinnati Children’s Hospital Medical Center, Hamilton County Public Health Department, Mental Health Board, Health Care Access Now, Greater Cincinnati Health Council, and the Butler County Educational Service Center. The committee included people with database management and survey experience, planning experience, and knowledge of special population groups. It was chaired by Jene Grandmont of HealthLandscape, one of the Community Health Needs Assessment partners. The Data Committee collected over 300 health-related indicators from secondary data sources via online search and exported available data into one spreadsheet. The secondary data collection occurred over a nine-month period. The Data Committee met monthly from March 2011 – November 2011, when they had finished collecting data for the initial list of indicators. Jene Grandmont continued collecting data when new indicators were requested by HCAN.

The following informational gaps have been identified:

- Indiana county and state-level data
- Rural Ohio counties (Highland and Adams in particular)
- Some state-level benchmark data for Indiana and Ohio
- ZIP-code or neighborhood level data at the county level except for selected indicators as noted in the Assessment report

HCAN was the primary source of information for The Mercy Health – West Hospital’s Community Health Needs Assessment. The county level results of HCAN’s A Community Health Needs Assessment for Southwest
Ohio and Southeast Indiana were supplemented by the hospital with additional data from the following sources:

- “By the Numbers,” Mental Health Advocacy Coalition, 2011.
- Cancer Incidence and Mortality; Ohio Cancer Incidence Surveillance System, 2008; current data available online as of 6/21/2012.
- Chronic Disease Indicators; State/Area Profile; CDC’s National Center for Chronic Disease Prevention and Health Promotion; http://apps.nccd.cdc.gov accessed September 4, 2012.
- Clermont County Vital Statistics; Clermont County General Health District; 2007-2011.
- 2009 Health Assessments, Clermont County Health District.
- Diagnoses for All Hospital Admissions per Service Area (by ZIP code); Ohio Hospital Association, 2011.
- Policy Brief: Mental Health in Ohio; Health Policy Institute of Ohio, September 2009.

These sources provided supplemental references and data to inform the ad hoc committee, convened by the hospital and including community leaders, that performed the scoring and prioritizing of community health needs. Local and regional data to determine the severity of a disease or health need was not uniformly available. The county level summary, below, was prepared by HCAN.

Hamilton County Summary

Summary from HCAN’s A Community Health Needs Assessment for Southwest Ohio and Southeast Indiana

CHNA Community Health Surveys were completed by 334 residents, and 21 service providers participated in a CHNA Group Level Assessment. Survey respondents were ethnically diverse (57 percent African American, 21 percent Latino, 21 percent white, 2 percent Asian, and 2 percent African immigrants). Most survey respondents were female (72 percent), reported English as their primary language (73 percent), and were not employed full time (64 percent). More than 80 percent reported incomes below $40,000 per year, which is lower than the US Census Bureau’ report of median income in the county ($46,359 annually).

Health Care Utilization

When asked where they most often went for health care for themselves, 44 percent of survey respondents reported going to private doctors, and 27 percent to community health centers. Similarly, 43 percent reported going to private dentists, and 36 percent said they go to dental clinics. These frequencies are somewhat lower than the overall CHNA survey sample, in which 62 percent reported going to private doctors and 56 percent to private dentists. Sixty-one percent of Hamilton County respondents said they had received a routine check-up in the last year. The average number of physician visits annually among respondents was 3.8. Survey responses about primary care were similar to feedback from service providers, who generally believed Hamilton County does a “decent job with primary care,” except in the case of vulnerable and uninsured populations.

Health Behaviors and Beliefs

Although about 22 percent of respondents have used natural products, and 14 percent reported using massage to treat medical conditions, most Hamilton County survey respondents were not regular users of complementary and alternative medicine practices. Like the overall survey sample, respondents believed health professionals, prayer and/or God, and medication were the most important factors in good health. Service providers discussed cultural factors that contribute to health behaviors in Hamilton County, specifically a “sickness mindset” that does not place enough emphasis on wellness and prevention. Hamilton County service providers also cited the health beliefs of health professionals as an important factor in health. Service providers felt that health professionals tend not to treat the “whole person” and instead rely on a professional care model that does not recognize the importance of community, family and peer support.

Sources of Health-Related Information

Survey respondents reported most often turning to health care providers and television to find information about staying healthy. They turn to their health care provider, insurance companies, and family members for information about health care and health insurance. Of all hospital-sponsored events, participants most often reported taking advantage of health fairs (21 percent) and flu shots (19 percent), but less than 10 percent reported using any other hospital-sponsored service. Service providers noted the wealth of resources available for health care information in Hamilton County, including The Health Foundation of Greater Cincinnati, Health Care Access Now, the Health
Barriers to Care
Survey respondents were mostly likely to cite logistical and cost barriers to care. Seventy-eight percent of respondents reported that transportation did not prevent them from seeing a health care professional, and the majority did not have to travel more than 10 miles to reach the various health care services they might need. The most common response for distance traveled to mental health services was “don’t know,” suggesting respondents were not familiar with mental health resources. In general, survey results were similar to reports from service providers, who described cost and insurance issues as the primary barriers to care in Hamilton County, followed by the complex system.

Conclusions
Both survey results and service provider perspectives suggest that Hamilton County has adequate access to health care providers, but cost and insurance issues make it difficult for vulnerable populations like the underinsured and uninsured to use these services. Service providers believe that improvement in prevention services in all areas (medical, dental, and mental health as well as healthy lifestyle support) is critical for improving the health of Hamilton County residents; however, a change in mindset from “culture of sick care” to “culture of wellness” is also necessary to make significant changes in health.

Recommendations
Hamilton County is fortunate to have a wealth of service providers committed to improving the health of residents. During the CHNA Group Level Assessment, many of these service providers prioritized the need for increased collaboration across health systems and greater information exchange among providers. Although a number of collaboratives exist, no centralized system serves as the “one” key champion for health in the county. Service providers suggested that shared electronic health records or other non-clinical care coordination software could offer a strategic solution to improve inter-agency service collaboration. Additionally, Hamilton County would benefit from a funded collaborative body with representatives from the various health-related organizations and agencies within Hamilton County. This body would set shared goals and facilitate communication and the development of a system of coordinated care. The collaborative body should include various levels of public, nonprofit and corporate leaders, as well as direct service providers and consumers.

Hamilton County has high rates of poverty (18.5 percent) and unemployment (9.4 percent); service providers describe significant difficulty serving poor and low-income families. The greatest barrier to care reported by survey respondents and perhaps the most pervasive theme of the CHNA Group Level Assessment was the cost of health care services for low-income and vulnerable populations. As such, the poor and low-income families are identified as significant vulnerable populations in Hamilton County and are a prioritized target for future resource development.

Because Hamilton County does have several health-related agencies, there is potential to mobilize around prevention efforts. Service providers were particularly enthusiastic about a more proactive approach to health care, including general promotion of healthy lifestyles. Future efforts should build on the existing programming within the county to make the services more widely available to consumers.

Seniors in Hamilton County were identified as a particularly vulnerable group that is often ignored. Older adults who are not yet eligible for Medicare and do not qualify for Medicaid are part of this vulnerable group. Attention should be given to specific services and resources that low-income and chronically ill seniors may need. For instance, increasing the capacity of adult protective services and safe havens for seniors are two options. Hamilton County service providers should collaborate with other agencies whose primary emphasis population of focus is seniors (e.g., Pro Seniors, Inc., Council on Aging of Southwestern Ohio) to develop targeted programs for the most vulnerable among seniors within the county. Engaging the various sections of the faith community and improving interagency care coordination services are other options.

Although primary care services appear to be accessible to residents of Hamilton County, service providers report that dental health, mental health, and substance abuse services are all perceived to be lacking. For vulnerable populations, these services can be almost impossible to reach. The collaborative body proposed in recommendation #1 might consider making accessibility to non-primary care prevention and treatment services a primary action item.
Community Input

(IRS Notice 2011-52 Section 3.06)

All of the individuals listed below were identified for participation because they possessed current data or information relevant to the health needs of the community served by the hospital. The staff and officials who, by virtue of their office or position, are considered to have expertise in public health are indicated by an asterisk (*) after their name.

Individuals contacted:

Judy Bennington*, Administrator
Adams County Health Department, 9/14/2011

Mary Ann Miars-Peercy, Executive Director
United Way of Scioto County, 10/4/2011

Alvin Norris, Executive Director, Adams-Brown Counties Economic Opportunities Inc., 8/29/2011

Harold Vermillion*, Health Commissioner
Brown County Health Department, 8/29/2011

Colleen Chamberlain, Associate Director
Brown County Alcohol, Drug Addiction, Mental Health Services Board, 9/7/2011

Debra Gordon, Area Director
United Way of Greater Cincinnati, 9/19/2011

Jackie Phillips*, Health Commissioner
Middletown City Health Department, 9/23/2011

Mike Sanders, Executive Director
Middletown Area United Way, 9/7/2011

Jeffery Diver, Executive Director, Butler County Supports to Encourage Low-Income Families, 9/13/2011

John Guidugli, President and Chief Executive Officer
Hamilton Community Foundation, 9/13/2011

Duane Gordon, Executive Director
Middletown Community Foundation, 10/10/2011

Karen Scherra, Chief Operating Officer, Clermont County Mental Health and Recovery Board, 9/27/2011

Billie Kuntz, Executive Director
Clermont County Community Services, 9/19/2011

Lisa Jackson, VP Marketing, Development
HealthSource of Ohio, 12/5/2011

Tim Ingram*, Health Commissioner
Hamilton County Public Health, 9/29/2011

Erik Stewart, Vice President of System Performance
Hamilton County Mental Health and Recovery Services Board, 9/19/2011

Barbara Terry, Vice President Community Impact
Community/Charity United Way of Greater Cincinnati, 9/8/2011

Will Parr, Agency Director
Cincinnati/Hamilton Community Action, 10/3/2011

Shiloh Turner, Vice President of Programs
Greater Cincinnati Foundation, 9/15/2011

H.A. Musser, President and Chief Executive Officer
Santa Maria Community Services, 12/6/2011

Dr. Jim Vanzant*, Health Commissioner
Highland County Health Department, 9/12/2011

Juni Frey, Executive Director, Paint Valley Alcohol, Drug Addiction, Mental Health Services Board, 9/22/2011

Duane Stansbury*, Health Commissioner
Warren County Combined Health District, 9/12/2011

Brent Lawyer, Executive Director
Mental Health and Retardation Services of Warren and Clinton Counties, 9/7/2011

Karen Hill, Director, Aging Services
Warren County Community Services Inc., 9/13/2011

Julia Rupp, Chief Operating Officer
Community Mental Health Center, 8/30/2011

Karen Snyder, Director
Dearborn County United Way, 9/6/2011

Mark Neff, Coordinator
Dearborn County Community Foundation, 9/9/2011

David Welsh, M.D.*, County Health Officer
Ripley County Health Department, 9/27/2011

Sally Morris, Executive Director
Ripley County Community Foundation, 8/30/2011

John Joy, Dean
Southern State Community College, 9/22/2011

Eric Rademacher, PhD, Co-Director University of Cincinnati, Institute for Policy Research, 10/20/2011

John Tafaro, President Chatfield College, 8/29/2011
Direct Service Provider Group Level Assessments:

Becky Basford, Certified Nurse Practitioner, Adams County Regional Medical Center (ACRMC), 10/26/2011

Krys Hess, Food Service Supervisor, Adams County Ohio Valley School District (ACOVSD), 10/26/2011

Carol Motza*, Board Member
Health Department, 10/26/2011

Brian McCord, Sports Medicine Manager, Adams County Regional Medical Center (ACRMC), 10/26/2011

Will West, Wal-Mart, 10/26/2011

Farrah Jaquez, Assistant Professor
University of Cincinnati (UC), 10/26/2011

Shay Beighle, Teacher
North Adams High School, 10/26/2011

Holly Johnson, Director, Adams County Economic Development Council (ACEDC), 10/26/2011

Mike Clinton, 10/26/2011
Karen Ballengee, Treasurer
Manchester Local School District (MLSD), 10/26/2011

Alvis George, Manchester Local School District (MLSD), 10/26/2011

Dane Clark, Assembly and Test Manager/Board of Trustees General Electric (GE)/Adams County Regional Medical Center, 10/26/2011

Joyce Porter, Director of Human Resources and Risk Management, Adams County Regional Medical Center (ACRMC), 10/26/2011

Charlie Bess, Volun“teen” Coordinator/Board Member
Adams County Regional Medical Center (ACRMC)/Adams County/Ohio Valley School District (ACOVSD), 10/26/2011

Delora Blymail, Workforce Connections of Adams and Brown Counties, 10/25/2011

Steve Dunkin, Executive Director, Brown County Alcohol, Drug Addiction, Mental Health Board, 10/25/2011

Mary Francis, Director, Assistance for Substance Abuse Prevention Center, 10/25/2011

Erin Holsted, MSW, Licensed Social Worker
Western Brown School Based Health Center, 10/25/2011

Joan Phillips, Chief Executive Officer
Brown County Hospital, 10/25/2011

Venita Milburn, Brown County Hospital, 10/25/2011

Sue Basta, PhD, RN; Continuing Education Health Promotion Programs, HEALTH-UC/University of Cincinnati Area Health Education Center, 10/25/2011


Joan Garrett, Pre-K Director, Board Member
Brown County Educational Service Center, 10/25/2011

Dayne Michael, Supervisor
Brown County Educational Service Center, 10/25/2011

Margaret Clark, Judge Probate Juvenile Court, 10/25/2011

Randy Allman, Director Regional Services, Brown County Recovery Services (Talbert House), 10/25/2011

David Sharp, Director of Job/Family Services
Brown County Recovery Services, 10/25/2011

Tammie Keller, Business Manager, Brown County Board of Developmental Disabilities, 10/25/2011

Linda Ondre, Coordinator
Family Children First Council, 10/25/2011

Angie Devilbliss, Faculty Secretary
Southern State Community College, 10/25/2011

Heather Wells, MSW, Licensed Social Worker/Coordinator
Butler County Family Children First Council, 10/21/2011

Bill Staler, Chief Executive Officer Lifespan, 10/21/2011

Marc Bellijario, Chief Executive Officer
Primary Health Solutions, 10/21/2011

Yvette Dorsey-Benson*, Director
Middletown Health Department Project, 10/21/2011

Carrie Coreen, Butler 211, 10/21/2011

Angie Duncan, Director Butler County Success, 10/21/2011

David Foster, Support Services Director
Fairfield City Schools, 10/21/2011

Nina Rose, Senior High Students Against Drunk Driving Sponsor, Fairfield City Schools, 10/21/2011

Susie Sheridan, Practice Manager
Primary Health Solutions, 10/21/2011
Stephanie Johnson, School Nurse, Talawanda School District, Board, Butler County Health Department and Oxford College Corner Free Clinic, 10/21/2011
Linda Kimble, Executive Director, Serve City, 10/21/2011
Cari Wynne, Supervisor Educational Service Center – Success, 10/21/2011
Billie Elliot, LifePoint Solutions, 11/3/2011
Deb Spradlin, Director of Behavioral Health Services Sisters of Mercy Clermont, 11/3/2011
Julianne Nesbit*, Assistant Health Commissioner Clermont County Health District, 11/3/2011
Karen Balon, LPN; Health Manager Child Focus, Inc., 11/3/2011
Peggy Haley, Director Mercy Clermont Outreach, 11/3/2011
Laura Metzler, Director of Community/Volunteer Improvement, American Cancer Society, 11/3/2011
Marty Grove, Director of Nursing Clinical Services – Education, Mercy Clermont, 11/3/2011
Charlotte Goering, Mercy Clermont, 11/3/2011
Ann Lane, Office Manager Emergency Room Mercy Clermont, 11/3/2011
Irene Behling, Director of Mission Integration Mercy Clermont, 11/3/2011
Carol Muhlenkamp, Director of Patient Care Services Nursing – Dearborn County Hospital (DCH), 11/2/2011
Stephanie Craig, Director of Education and Risk Management, Education/Risk Assessment Dearborn County Hospital, 11/2/2011
Mayor Donnie Hastings, Mayor, City of Aurora, 11/2/2011
Tom Talbot, Chief Executive Office Community Mental Health Center, Inc., 11/2/2011
Bill Cunningham, Mayor of Lawrenceburg, 11/2/2011
Karl Galey, Superintendent Lawrenceburg Schools, 11/2/2011
Cecelia Scudder, Nursing Administration Dearborn County Hospital, 11/2/2011
Arn Edwards, Lifetime Resources, 11/2/2011
Lois Franklin*, Public Health Nurse Dearborn County Health Department (DCHD), 11/2/2011
Debbie Fehling*, RN, Health Educator Dearborn County Health Department (DCHD), 11/2/2011
Brenda Coleman, Vice Chairperson on Board Health Care Access Now, 11/14/2011
Nancy Carter*, RDH, MPH Assistant Dental Director Cincinnati Health Department, 11/14/2011
Sally Stewart, Chief Executive Officer Crossroad Health Center, 11/14/2011
Bill Ebelhar, Director of Outpatient Counseling Centerpoint Health, 11/14/2011
Randy Allman, Program Director, Talbert House, 11/14/2011
Sean Kelley, Director of External Relations The Health Collaborative, 11/14/2011
Mary Day, Managing LTC Ombudsman Pro Seniors, Inc., 11/14/2011
Shana Trent, Practice Manager The Healthcare Connection, 11/14/2011
Saundra Regan, PhD, Research Scientist University of Cincinnati Family Residency, 11/14/2011
Judith Warren, Executive Director Health Care Access Now, 11/14/2011
Ann Barnum, Officer – Substance Use Disorders Health Foundation of Greater Cincinnati Senior Program, 11/14/2011
Stephanie Marshall, Project Manager Health Care Access Now, 11/14/2011
Tim Ingram*, Health Commissioner Hamilton County Public Health, 11/14/2011
Teresa Adams, Community Specialist Cincinnati Children’s Hospital Medical Center, 11/14/2011
Dolores Lindsay, Chief Executive Officer The Healthcare Connection Lincoln Heights, 11/14/2011
Abda Tall, Interpreter/Patient Advocate The Healthcare Connection Lincoln Heights, 11/14/2011
Yolanda Mayweather, Interpreter/Patient Advocate The Healthcare Connection, 11/14/2011
Joe Curry, Executive Director Everybody Rides Metro, 11/14/2011
Sue Miller, Family Services Director
Warren County Community Services, 11/2/2011

Sharon Moeller, School Nurse/Safety Officer
Warren County Career Center, 11/2/2011

Marilyn Singleton, Site Manager, TriHealth, 11/2/2011

Sandy Smoot, Coordinator
Family & Children First Council, 11/2/2011

Duane Stansbury*, Health Commissioner
Health District (Health Department), 11/2/2011

Judy Webb, Director, Elderly Services Program
Warren County Community Services, 11/2/2011

The focus group participants, listed above, included representatives of community, consumer, and educational organizations as well as service and health providers. The stakeholder interviews and the focus group participants identified community needs. For the prioritizing of community health needs, the hospital convened a one-time committee and invited community leaders from the hospital’s service area to participate in discussing, evaluating, scoring, and prioritizing the health needs identified through both the HCAN report and the supplemental data provided by the hospital.

The following community forums were open to the general public. They were also promoted to interviewees and focus group participants and their organizations, including representatives who work daily with low-income residents, people with chronic diseases, the elderly, young people, disabled populations, people with mental health and/or substance abuse, and minority populations. At each forum, CDs containing HCAN's report were given away for public dissemination. The forums were organized by HCAN and the Action Research Center, and the hospital was not privy to their communications plan. Not all participants in community forums provided their titles and affiliations.

Community Forums

In order to disseminate results of the community health needs assessment (CHNA) and begin the conversation about next steps, five community forums were organized by HCAN and the University of Cincinnati Action Research Center. The forums were held at accessible sites across the nine county region:

- **Forum 1**: Adams, Brown, and Highland Counties, June 11, 2012. Location: Brown County Fairgrounds in Georgetown, OH. 16 Attendees: Jim Settles, Ripley; Rose Merkowitz, Wilmington; Jim Merkowitz, Washington Court House; Steve Dunkin, Georgetown; Denise Neu, Georgetown; Sharon Ashley, Blue Creek; Saundra Stevens, West Union; Sherry Stout, Winchester; Elizabeth Pendell, Peebles; Nancy Darby, West Union; Kathy Jelley, Georgetown; Penny Condo, Georgetown; Amy Habig, Hillsboro; Cheryl Williams, Georgetown; Brian Peck, Georgetown; and Mary Bailey, Georgetown.

- **Forum 2**: Dearborn and Ripley Counties, June 12, 2012
  Location: Southeast Indiana YMCA in Batesville, IN
  24 Attendees: Vicky Powell, Batesville; Tom Talbot, Greendale; Kim Inscho, MMCH; Frank Goodpaster, Osgood; Paula Goodpaster, Versailles; Kim Linkel, Batesville; Luree Ketcham, Lawrenceburg; Ruth Wright, Lawrenceburg; Jennifer Mehlon, Batesville; Diane Raver, Batesville; Ashley Morris, Batesville; Geralyn Litzinger, Batesville; Stephanie Craig, Lawrenceburg; Angie Johnson, Batesville; Connie DeBurger, Versailles; Rae Lynn DeAngelis, Lawrenceburg; Paula Bruner, Lawrenceburg; Jane Yorn, Batesville; Lisa Werner, Batesville; Laura Rolf, Lawrenceburg; Kathy Newell, Batesville; Rick Fledderman, Ripley; Kathy Cooley, Ripley; and Rhonda Savage, Batesville.

- **Forum 3**: Butler and Warren Counties, June 25, 2012
  Location: Miami University Voice of America Learning Center in West Chester, OH. 18 Attendees: Jennifer Kruger, City of Hamilton; Terry Purdue, Hamilton; Joyce Kachelries, Hamilton; Jane Barnes, Hamilton; Mike Oberdoesek, Cincinnati; Sherry Schilling, Oxford; Dawn Fahner, Oxford; Susan Lipnickey, Oxford; Marc Bellisaro, Hamilton; Heather Wells, Hamilton; Karen Hill, Lebanon; Judy Webb, Lebanon; Sandy Smoot, Lebanon; Sharon Klein, Oxford; Pat Van Offen, Fairfield; Lynn Oswald, Mason; Brad Farr, West Chester; and Brent Lawyer, Lebanon.
Forum 4: Clermont and Hamilton Counties, June 26, 2012. Location: Union Township Civic Center in Eastgate area. 7 Attendees: Sue Motz, Mercy Health; Heidi Nykolayko Woods, Recovery Center; Gwen Finegan, Mercy Health; Wendy Hess, TriHealth; Irene Behling, Mercy Health; Gyasi C. Chisley, Mercy Health; and Ruchi Bawa, UC-Clermont.

Forum 5: Hamilton County, June 28, 2012
Location: Health Foundation in Cincinnati, OH. 20 Attendees: Col Owens, Legal Aid Society; Donna Marsh, Marsh Media Group; Ashaki Warren; Monica Roberts, Healing Center Cincinnati; Tony Savicki; Melissa May; Josh Kaufmann, Project Access; Tonda Francis, Greater Cincinnati Health Council; Lee Ann Liska, Mercy Health; Rick Stumpf, University of Cincinnati; Don Rohling, Mercy Health; Mary Beth Meyer, Center for Respite Care; Jeff Armada, Mercy Health; Kathy Lordo, Hamilton County Public Health; Tim Ingram, Hamilton County Health Commissioner; Yousuf Ahmad, Mercy Health; Jill Gorley, Alzheimer’s Association; LiAnne Howard, City of Cincinnati; Tori Ames, Cincinnati Children’s Hospital Medical Center; Leslie Applegate, University of Cincinnati.

Although these forums were initially designed to include community residents, service providers, and hospital representatives, the majority of attendees were service providers and hospital representatives. Each forum was held for 1.5 hours. At each forum, the same agenda was followed.

- Welcome and Introduction
- Key CHNA Findings and Recommendations (Across Nine Counties and County Specific)
- “Imagining the Future” Exercise (small group county-specific discussions about report recommendations)
- Wrap Up and Next Steps

Overall, the attendees were interested in hearing the results — both nine-county and county-specific. They were engaged in discussing next steps. Attendees offered specific suggestions about how best to move forward.

Based on the discussions and interest expressed by attendees, there appears to be a high level of willingness among attendees to partner with hospitals and other county stakeholders for the development of practical community health improvement initiatives. The attendees were rather passionate and ready to mobilize for action planning and execution. Attendees were invited to indicate if they would be interested in follow-up for future meetings, action planning and information. The majority of attendees did consent for future follow-up. Therefore, the hospitals would have a core group of county residents and providers to work with in developing their respective community health improvement plans.

**General Overall Themes from the Group Discussions**

All counties agreed with and identified the need to establish a collaborative health advisory board that includes consumers. Adams County was the only county who felt they already had such a board with their Health and Wellness Coalition. Some of the counties described coalitions and boards already in existence that could be examined and possibly condensed or expanded to better meet communication and resource needs. All counties identified the need to make sure that county and community resources are not only identified, but shared widely so community members know what is available.

Coordination of services (beyond medical health services) was stressed in all forums. Several GLAs and forums were venues of discovery, as participants became aware of services in their county. All county groups noted the importance of assessing the resources available (and whom they serve), as well as collaborating in spreading awareness of those resources. The groups also agreed that it made sense to coordinate efforts to ensure that the people of their counties would have access to needed services. Participants at the community forums were anxious to network and work collaboratively. They often represented the service providers that are already stretched thin in their respective roles. As the Warren County group put it, “Who will take the lead in coordinating these efforts?”

In terms of next steps, several county groups felt that further assessment of needs of vulnerable populations was warranted. For example, Adams County attendees identified that more information on children and the elderly was needed. Other county groups also voiced that continued in-depth needs assessments were important to determine needs and prioritization. One group, however, said that it’s time to take action, rather than continuing to conduct more assessments.

Access to care discussions raised issues of transportation with some suggestions for mobile health care (Ripley), access to transportation (Dearborn) and revised hours or walk in clinics. In the Warren County small group discussion, attendees reiterated that transportation is a challenge within their county. They stated that they must take action to address transportation since they have known it’s a problem
and continues to be a problem according to the results of this CHNA.

The lack of specific types of providers was noted in many counties, especially outside the I-275 loop. Primary care, dental, mental health and substance abuse practitioners are lacking in several of the counties. Some suggestions were made for incentivizing practitioners to not only work in outlying areas (Clermont), but to agree to care for the underinsured and uninsured (Hamilton). Participants were aware that funding is part of the equation. Some suggested that loan forgiveness and internships might be incentives for recruitment.

Partnering with business and community leaders was brought up both in direct collaboration and in grants/funding for needed programs.

**Community Health Needs**

Priorities were established among identified health needs using a multi-level process incorporating the perspective of major stakeholders in the local community as defined in the IRS Notice and are relevant to the hospital’s defined service area. Local community leaders were invited to join hospital leaders and regional representatives for one scoring session. They were provided a list of health conditions or issues with data from HCAN’s report and the sources above, as relevant, and asked to identify the health needs from the list of health conditions or issues. They prioritized the needs that were identified. The following worksheet was prepared and distributed in advance of the scoring session. Participants added their suggestions to the community capacity column, and they have been incorporated below. The group discussed the conditions and issues for which there was not a lot of data available to measure the degree of severity at the county- or ZIP code-level. In some cases, indicators were included to reflect the dimensions of a condition when prevalence, morbidity, and mortality data, for example, was not available. It was helpful to have hospital personnel and community leaders at the table together to share their experiences and perspectives about how health conditions and issues are demonstrated in the community area served by the hospital.

Based on all of the above information and processes, the prioritized health needs of the community served by the Mercy Health – West Hospital are listed below.

### Access to Care

**Size of Population**

- 148,439 live in poverty (18.5%); 29% of the children in Hamilton County live in poverty.
- 17% of the adult population is uninsured (2012 Ohio County Health Rankings, OCHR).

**Severity/Significance**

9.4% of the population in Hamilton County is unemployed (2012 OCHR). In Hamilton County, adults who are poor, less educated, African American or young (ages 18-29) are least likely to be insured. African-Americans are much more likely to use the Emergency Department (ED) or Urgent Care than to have a medical home. There is a lack of coordinated and integrated care across primary care, preventive services, mental health, dental and substance abuse treatment for Hamilton County residents. The Mental Health Provider ratio is 1329:1. The Primary Care Physician ratio is 589:1. The Dentist ratio is 1626:1. The West side EDs saw 26.46% self-pay or charity patients in 2011.

### Outcomes to Evaluate Progress

The metric is the percentage of people with a medical home. United Way’s Bold Goal is to reach 95%. As a benchmark, currently 84% in the region have a medical home, per the 2010 Greater Cincinnati Behavioral Health Status Survey (which is repeated every few years).

### Community Capacity

Resources include: Health Care Access Now; Health Partnership; Crossroad Health Center; Good Sam Clinic; Santa Maria. The City of Cincinnati has made access to care a priority in its new Master Plan.

### Cancer

**Size of Population**

The leading cause of cancer death in Hamilton County is lung cancer with 706 cases, followed by female breast cancer (638 cases), prostate (586 cases) and then colon/rectum (475 cases) in terms of incidence. (Ohio Cancer Incidence Surveillance System, OCISS, 2001-2005).

**Severity/Significance**

Cancer is the #2 cause of death in Cincinnati at 230.8 per 100,000 and in Hamilton County at 183.5 per 100,000. Ohio’s rate is 224.8 cancer deaths per 100,000 and the national rate is 186.6. (Centers for Disease Control, CDC) The lung cancer mortality rate is 63.7 per 100,000 (compared to national rate of 54.1 and Ohio rate of 60.3).
The next highest mortality rates, after lung cancer, are: colon/rectum (rate of 20.4 per 100,000 compared to 18.8 nationally and 20.6 in the state); breast cancer (rate of 29.7 per 100,000 compared to 25 nationally and 27.5 in the state); and prostate cancer (rate of 28.3 per 100,000 compared to 26.7 nationally and 27.8 in the state). For all cancer sites/types combined, black males have a higher incidence rate and a higher mortality rate. (OCISS, 2001-2005) prostate cancer (rate of 28.3 per 100,000 compared to 26.7 nationally and 27.8 in the state. In the City of Cincinnati, some neighborhoods had mortality rates for cancer above the City’s rate: e.g., College Hill was nearly 20% higher. (CHD)

Outcomes to Evaluate Progress
Colon cancer screening was added to measures tracked and publicly report by local physicians at YourHealthMatters.org (through Aligning Forces For Quality, AF4Q). For patient ages 50-75: Colonoscopy within the past 10 years; Sigmoidoscopy within the last 5 years; Stool Test within the last year.

Community Capacity
Cancer screening, including mammograms and Pap smears, is offered by hospitals, doctors, and clinics. Colon cancer screening added to YourHealthMatters.org

Dental Health
Size of Population
Uninsured people and Medicaid recipients are most affected. 30.4% of adults do not have dental coverage (Ohio Family Health Survey 2008).

Severity/Significance
The poor and uninsured do not have access to dental care. Dentist ratio is 1626:1 (compared to Ohio’s ratio of 2435:1).

Outcomes to Evaluate Progress
TBD

Community Capacity
There are not enough dentists who accept Medicaid or self-pay patients.

Diabetes
Size of Population
About 10%, or more than 80,000 people, have diabetes in Hamilton County.

Severity/Significance
Diabetes is # 5 cause of death in Cincinnati with 44.8 per 100,000 rate locally, 32.7 rate statewide, and 23.7 rate nationally. (CDC) The communities with the highest rates of hospital admissions for diabetes are: Addyston*, Harrison, Price Hill, Cheviot, Finneytown, Mt. Healthy, and Monfort Heights, compared to the southwest Ohio overall rate. Cincinnati Health Department reports it as one of its top diagnoses for ages 20-65+.

Outcomes to Evaluate Progress
AF4Q Public Composite Measures and Goals: A1c<8.0; LDL < 100; BP < 140/90; Non-Smoker; Additional Measures Submitted for Bridges to Excellence (BTE) and National Committee for Quality Assurance (NCQA) Recognition-Ophthalmologic Exam, Nephropathy Assessment

Community Capacity
Diabetes management is tracked on YourHealthMatters.org (AF4Q).

Heart Disease
Size of Population
Death rates for heart disease:
City of Cincinnati: 265.2 per 100,000
Hamilton County: 1811.6 per 100,000

Severity/Significance
Heart disease is the #1 cause of death in Cincinnati (265.2 per 100,000) and Hamilton County (181.6 per 100,000), consistent with the Ohio rate (265.9). (CDC) It is higher than the national rate of 204.3 per 100,000. (CDC) The communities with the highest rates of hospital admissions for heart disease are: Addyston*, Harrison, Riverside (45204), Price Hill, Cheviot, Over-the-Rhine, Finneytown, Mt. Healthy, Delhi, Monfort Heights, compared to the southwest Ohio overall rate (Ohio Hospital Association, OHA). In the City of Cincinnati, College Hill’s mortality rate for heart disease was 30% higher than the City’s rate. Sedamsville-Riverside was more than 20% higher. Cincinnati Health Department reports hyperlipidemia as one of its top diagnoses for ages 35-65+.

Outcomes to Evaluate Progress
AF4Q Public Composite Measures and Goals: LDL < 100; BP < 140/90; Non-Smoker; Daily Aspirin/Anti-Thrombolytic; Additional Measures Submitted for
BTE and NCQA Recognition-Completed Lipid Profile; Smoking Cessation Advice and Treatment

**Community Capacity**
Cardiovascular health is tracked on YourHealthMatters.org (AF4Q)

**Infant Mortality**

**Size of Population**
10% of all births in Hamilton County are within the low birth weight range. 10% of all births in Hamilton County are within the low birth weight range

**Severity/Significance**
Hamilton County has an infant mortality rate of 11.5 per 1,000 live births, compared to Healthy People (HP) goal of 6.0 and Ohio average of 7.8. Twenty-nine out of 48 jurisdictions in Hamilton County do not meet the Healthy People 2020 goal for infant mortality; 14 jurisdictions have rates more than double this goal. Cheviot was one of the communities with the highest maternal health risks in 2006-2008, but Cleves was one of the communities with the highest maternal health risks in 2009.

**Outcomes to Evaluate Progress**
Healthy People goal of 6.0

**Community Capacity**
Every Child Succeeds; Healthy Moms and Babes

**Vulnerable Seniors**

**Size of Population**
11.5% (about 22,697) people are aged 65 or older.

**Severity/Significance**
Seniors are vulnerable, especially those who are not yet eligible for Medicare and who do not qualify for Medicaid. They reported higher rates of high blood pressure and diabetes than other vulnerable groups.

**Outcomes to Evaluate Progress**
TBD

**Community Capacity**
Clermont Senior Services; Council on Aging

**Other Chronic Disease**

**Asthma**

**Size of Population**
Not available

**Severity/Significance**
The communities with the highest rates of hospital admissions for asthma include: Price Hill, Camp Washington, Over-the-Rhine, Addyston*, Riverside (45204), and Northside, compared to the southwest Ohio overall rate (OHA). Cincinnati Health Department reports it as one of its top diagnoses for ages 0-34.

**Outcomes to Evaluate Progress**
TBD — No Healthy People goal.

**Community Capacity**
TBD

**Cerebrovascular Disease**

**Size of Population**
Cerebrovascular disease rate of death in Cincinnati is 71.1 per 100,000.

**Severity/Significance**
Cerebrovascular disease is the #3 cause of death in Cincinnati at 71.1 per 100,000, with the Ohio rate at...
58.4 and the national rate at 45.1 (CDC). Some City of Cincinnati neighborhoods had higher mortality rates for stroke than the City’s rate: College Hill was nearly 100% higher.

**Outcomes to Evaluate Progress**

TBD — No Healthy People goal.

**Community Capacity**

TBD

**Chronic Heart Failure**

**Size of Population**

Not available

**Severity/Significance**

The communities with the highest rates of hospital admissions for chronic heart failure are: Addyston*, Finneytown, and Mt. Healthy, compared to the southwest Ohio overall rate.

**Outcomes to Evaluate Progress**

TBD — No Healthy People goal.

**Community Capacity**

Mercy West

**COPD**

**Size of Population**

Not available

**Severity/Significance**

The communities with the highest rates of hospital admissions for Chronic Obstructive Pulmonary Disease are: Addyston*, Harrison, Riverside (45204), and Price Hill, compared to the southwest Ohio overall rate. Cincinnati Health Department reports it as one of its top diagnoses for ages 65+.

**Outcomes to Evaluate Progress**

TBD — No Healthy People goal.

**Community Capacity**

Mercy West

**Kidney Disease**

**Size of Population**

Cincinnati kidney disease’s mortality rate: 23.2 per 100,000.

**Severity/Significance**

Kidney disease (8th cause of death) is higher in Cincinnati than the state and national rates. (CDC) In Cincinnati, kidney disease’s mortality rate is 23.2 per 100,000, compared to 16.4 for the state and 15.4 nationally. (CDC)

**Outcomes to Evaluate Progress**

Healthy People goal of 13.6 mortality rate per 100,000.

**Community Capacity**

Healthy People Goal 2020

**Mental Health Including Substance Abuse**

**Size of Population**

25% of American adults suffer from a diagnosable mental disorder in a year. Serious mental illness affects ~6% of American adults (Health Policy Institute of Ohio, HPIO). 7% of Americans have a substance dependence or abuse disorder (Mental Health Advocacy Coalition, MHAC).

**Severity/Significance**

Service providers perceive mental services to be lacking. The Mental Health Provider ratio is 1329:1 in Hamilton County. The communities with the highest rates of hospital admissions for bipolar disorder are: Addyston*, Price Hill, and Over-the-Rhine, compared to SW Ohio overall rate. The community with the highest rate of hospital admissions for major depression was Addyston*, compared to SW Ohio overall rate. The community with the highest rate of hospital admissions for schizophrenia is Over-the-Rhine, compared to SW Ohio overall rate. In the region, 19% of adults reported binge drinking in prior 30 days, compared to national rate of 15%. 20% reported to Excessive Drinking (2012 OCHR). Service providers perceive substance abuse services to be lacking. In Ohio, unintentional drug poisoning is the leading cause of accidental death, surpassing car accidents and suicides. From 1999 to 2007, Ohio’s death rates due to unintentional drug poisonings increased more than 300%, due largely to prescription drug overdoses (Ohio Department of Health, ODH). More than 3.6 people die each day in Ohio due to drug-related poisoning (OHA).

**Outcomes to Evaluate Progress**

Reduce the proportion of adults who experience major depressive episodes (MDE) to 6.1%. Increase the proportion of adults with mental disorders, or serious mental illness, who receive treatment to 64.6%. Increase the proportion of persons with co-occurring substance abuse and mental
disorders who receive treatment for both disorders to 3.3%. Increase the proportion of primary care physician office visits that screen adults aged 19 years and older for depression to 2.4%. (Healthy People Goal 2020)

**Community Capacity**
Greater Cincinnati Behavioral Health Services; Central Clinic; The Crossroads Center; Mercy Hospitals Clermont, Mt. Airy, and Western Hills; UC Health; Linder Center of Hope; Centerpoint Health; Health Resource Center of Cincinnati, Inc. There are only two residential drug detox centers for the uninsured and those covered by Medicaid: the Center for Chemical Addictions Treatment (6 beds) in downtown Cincinnati and the VA Hospital.

**STDs**

**Size of Population**
Sexually Transmitted Infections: 658 per 100,000

**Severity/Significance**
The high incidence of syphilis, chlamydia and gonorrhea provide evidence of a significant problem in Hamilton County. Hamilton County consistently has among the highest rates of these infections among all counties, urban and rural, in the state of Ohio. The City of Cincinnati suffers from the highest STD morbidity in Hamilton County. Nearly 75% of all chlamydia, gonorrhea and syphilis cases reported in Hamilton County in 2010 were among Cincinnati residents. In Hamilton County, African-Americans and Hispanics have higher rates of STDs than whites. Hamilton County ranks 85th out of 88 counties in sexual activity (2010 OCHR).

**Outcomes to Evaluate Progress**
Reduce the proportion of adolescents and young adults with Chlamydia trachomatis infections by 10% using 2008 data of various demographic groups. Reduce gonorrhea rates for females 15-44 to 257 new cases per 100,000 population and males 15-44 to 198 new cases per 100,000 population. This would equate to a 10% improvement. Reduce sustained domestic transmission of primary and secondary syphilis for females to 1.4 new cases per population of 100,000 and males to 6.8 new cases per 100,000. This represents another 10% improvement from 2008 baseline data. (Healthy People Goal 2020)

**Community Capacity**
Public Health Departments, clinics, and hospital EDs

**Tuberculosis**

**Size of Population**
Hamilton County 2011: 10 cases per 100,000
Hamilton County 2010: 27 cases per 100,000
Hamilton County 2009: 21 cases per 100,000 (ODH)

**Severity/Significance**
The rate of tuberculosis is high in Hamilton County.

**Outcomes to Evaluate Progress**
Reduce the number of new cases of TB to 1.0 per 100,000 (HP 2020).

**Community Capacity**
Hamilton County Tuberculosis Control Clinic

* There may be data anomalies in results for Addyston. ZIP codes may not have been assigned properly.

The following methodology was used to prioritize the health care needs identified in the assessment. This approach provides a bridge from the assessment findings to the development of the implementation plan.
From Needs Assessment To Priorities

This process involves the scoring of each identified health need based on selected key criteria. Each criterion will also be assigned a weight based on its relative importance in relation to the other key criteria. This scoring method creates a rank order among the identified health needs. The key criteria and scoring method are outlined below.

1. Key Criteria and Scoring Definitions

Key criteria are those measures that best assess the breadth and depth of the impact of the identified health need on the community. These should be limited to the vital few (3 or 4). Key criteria would be scored on a scale of 1 to 5. Key criteria and scoring definitions are as follows:

- **Size of population affected**
  Based on the total population and/or that of an identified cohort in the defined service area for the health needs survey, assess what percent of the community is affected by the identified need.
  - 5 = ≥ 20% of the population is affected
  - 4 = 15% to 19%
  - 3 = 10% to 14%
  - 2 = 5% to 9%
  - 1 = < 5%

- **Severity of the health need identified**
  Degree to which the need causes long-term illness; produces an above average mortality rate; an above average hospitalization rate; has public health implications (These are the ideal measures of severity, but comparable data was not available for all conditions.)
  - 5 = Very serious — direct connection to long-term illness and/or other co-morbidity; high mortality; presents a public health issue
  - 4 = Serious — indirect link to serious conditions
  - 3 = Somewhat serious — can become widespread if not arrested, e.g., lack of vaccinations among children
  - 2 = Not very serious — causes illness but no long-term or widespread impact
  - 1 = Not a serious health condition

- **Ability to evaluate outcomes**
  For any intervention appropriate to the health need, what is the ability to evaluate outcomes? Data availability, benchmarks, tracking of trends, service counts, etc., would be part of the appraisal.
  - 5 = Excellent ability
  - 4 = Good ability — baseline available with some on-going evaluations
  - 3 = Some ability — baseline available
  - 2 = Little ability — mostly qualitative/primarily perceptions/anecdotal
  - 1 = No ability

2. Weights

Although all the criteria are important, not all criteria are of equal importance, e.g., size of the population affected is more important than ability to evaluate outcomes. Assigning weights to each criterion in the evaluative set allows for a more meaningful ranking among the health needs. The Catholic Health Partners’ CHNA Collaborative assigned weights for each of the selected key criteria. Weights are determined by a forced ranking based on the number of items in the data set.

- Size of population weight = 4
- Severity of health need = 3
- Outcomes data = 2
- Community capacity = 1

3. Priority Scores

There was one meeting of an ad hoc committee that included hospital representatives and community leaders. They rated each health need based on the key criteria. Health needs were listed in alphabetical order on the initial worksheet provided to this committee. The chart below illustrates how a single member’s evaluation would be computed.
For each of the needs ranked, the scores assigned by each individual will be aggregated into a composite score on each criterion. All scores from the taskforce would be computed before the weights are applied. The chart provides an example of how the final priority score would be calculated based on 10 evaluations with mixed scores (Assumes half the group scored the variable like the above illustration and the other half was one rating lower):

### Example

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Health Need</th>
<th>Size of Population Affected</th>
<th>Severity of Problem</th>
<th>Ability to Evaluate Outcomes</th>
<th>Community Capacity to Address</th>
<th>TOTAL SCORE</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Access to Care</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>15</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Obesity</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>16</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

4. **Scoring Participants:**

Members of Western Hills Hospital’s community council: Mike Wilson, Branch Manager/Loan Officer, Cheviot Savings and Loan; Cathy Carnessali, RelaDyne Oil Distributing; Mike Battoclette, Principal, Champlin-Haupt Architecture; John Linnenberg, Attorney and former Mercy Foundation Officer; Peg Roudebush, retired owner of Harrison Concrete; and Ann Volz, Volunteer, Western Hills Auxiliary; Michael Stephens, President and Market Leader; Joyce Keegan, Chief Nursing Officer; Pat Kowalski, Chief Operating Officer; Michael Kramer, Vice President, Planning; Richard Perry, Regional Director Business Intelligence and Analytics; Jeffry Armada, Administrative Fellow, Catholic Health Partners-Mercy Health. The scoring session was facilitated by Gwen Finegan, Regional Director, Community Outreach. None of the people scoring were previously interviewed as key stakeholders, and none had participated in a focus group.

5. **Duration and number of meetings:**

Duration and number of meetings: One (1) meeting on October 12, 2012 from 8:00 am to 9:30 am.

6. **Time period for prioritization process:**

Time period for prioritization process: The additional data was compiled into worksheets in July, August, and September. Scoring occurred in October, and reports to board committees occurred on March 28, 2013. The final assessment report will be completed and published in 2013.
Based on all of the above information and processes considered, below is the complete list of the health needs identified in the community, and the top priorities were identified as: Cancer, Mental Health including Substance Abuse; Dental Health; Heart Disease; Access to Care; and Diabetes.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Health Need</th>
<th>Size of Population Affected</th>
<th>Wgt. Score</th>
<th>Severity of Problem Wgt. Score</th>
<th>Ability to Evaluate Outcomes Wgt. Score</th>
<th>Community Capacity to Address Wgt. Score</th>
<th>Priority Score</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Cancer</td>
<td>47</td>
<td>188</td>
<td>56</td>
<td>168</td>
<td>35</td>
<td>469</td>
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<tr>
<td>Mental Health including Substance Abuse</td>
<td>57</td>
<td>228</td>
<td>45</td>
<td>135</td>
<td>32</td>
<td>465</td>
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<tr>
<td>Dental Health</td>
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<td>228</td>
<td>41</td>
<td>123</td>
<td>40</td>
<td>453</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Heart Disease</td>
<td>46</td>
<td>184</td>
<td>53</td>
<td>159</td>
<td>28</td>
<td>447</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Access to Care</td>
<td>50</td>
<td>200</td>
<td>41</td>
<td>123</td>
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<td>443</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Diabetes</td>
<td>38</td>
<td>152</td>
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<td>COPD</td>
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</table>

The hospital’s Implementation Plan will detail the specific responses, resources, partners, and timetable (starting 1/1/2014) to address the prioritized needs. The desired outcomes and benchmarks for success will be consistent with external references such as the United Way “Bold Goal” for health, Aligning Forces For Quality targets, and Healthy People goals.
Collaborating Partners

(IRS Notice 2011-52 Section 3.03 (2))

The Hospital collaborated with the following partners/funders as part of the process of conducting the needs assessment:
*Non-funding partners identified with an asterisk

Greater Cincinnati Health Council
# 100 2100 Sherman Ave, Cincinnati, OH 45212-2775

United Way of Greater Cincinnati
2400 Reading Road, Cincinnati, OH 45202-1478

Greater Cincinnati Foundation
200 West Fourth Street, Cincinnati, OH 45202-2775

Hamilton County Public Health
250 William Howard Taft, 2nd Floor, Cincinnati, OH 45219

Middletown Health Department
One Donham Plaza, Middletown, OH 45042-1901

Highland County Health Department
1487 North High Street # 400, Hillsboro, OH 45133-8496

Adams County Regional Medical Center
19262 Ohio 136, Winchester, OH 45697

Atrium Medical Center
One Medical Center Drive, Middletown, OH 45005

Cincinnati Children’s Hospital Medical Center Innovations*
629 Oak Street, Suite 200, MLC 8700
Cincinnati, OH 45206

Dearborn County Hospital
600 Wilson Creek Road, Lawrenceburg, IN 47025

Fort Hamilton Hospital
630 Eaton Avenue, Hamilton, OH 45013

The Cincinnati USA Regional Chamber*
441 Vine Street, Suite 300, Carew Tower
Cincinnati, OH 45202

Health Foundation of Greater Cincinnati*
3805 Edwards Road, Suite 500, Cincinnati, OH 45209-1948

HealthLandscape*
3805 Edwards Road, Suite 500, Cincinnati, OH 45209

Lindner Center of HOPE
4075 Old Western Row Road, Mason, OH 45040

Margaret Mary Community Hospital
206 State Road 129 South, Batesville, IN 47006-7694

McCullough-Hyde Memorial Hospital
110 North Poplar Street, Oxford, OH 45056

Mercy Health
4600 McAuley Place, Cincinnati, OH 45242

TriHealth
619 Oak Street, Cincinnati, OH 45206

UC Health
3200 Burnet Avenue, Cincinnati, OH 45229

United Way of Northern Kentucky*
11 Shelby Street, Florence, KY 41042

University of Cincinnati Action Research Center*
College of Education, Criminal Justice, and Human Services, 51 Goodman Drive, Suite 530
Cincinnati, OH 45221

Health Care Access Now
7162 Reading Road, Suite 1120, Cincinnati, OH 45237

A nonprofit organization formed in 2008 to build partnerships among the Greater Cincinnati health care and social service providers that will increase access to care and improve the overall health status of area residents in a cost-effective way.