



2022 Community Health Needs Assessment

Mercy Health Toledo – Defiance Hospital

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Adopted by the Mercy Health Toledo Board of Trustees,
September 27, 2022

As a Ministry of which Mercy Health Defiance Hospital is a member, Bon Secours Mercy Health has been committed to the communities it serves for nearly two centuries. This longstanding commitment has evolved intentionally, based on our communities' most pressing health needs.

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

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

Mercy Health Defiance Hospital 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 Jessica Henry; Jessica.Henry@mercy.com.

Mercy Health Toledo Defiance Hospital

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Executive Summary

Overview

Mercy Health Defiance Hospital serves the Defiance County, Ohio population. Defiance County is a 414 square mile area in northwest Ohio. The Defiance Hospital service area is composed of the following zip codes: 43512, 43526, 43549, 43519, 43530, 43556, 43520 and 43536.

Through a series of four key informant interviews, a variety of perspectives were gathered to identify the greatest health challenges impacting the Mercy Health Defiance Hospital community. Key informants include a municipal leader, a community recreation center affiliate, Mercy Health Defiance Hospital leadership, and a local large employer.

Information collection and data aggregation was accomplished through multiple channels including both qualitative community inputs and quantitative market data collection. The four key informant interviews discussed above served as the community input. Market data was gathered through publicly available data sources including: Metopio, U.S. Census Bureau, and County Health Rankings. These sources combined provided a comprehensive view of the greatest health needs impacting the Defiance County population. The community inputs were the primary driver of the identified significant health needs while the market data was used to validate and supplement these findings. The local community insights are critically important to the identification of Defiance County's greatest health needs as they provide an "on the ground" perspective into the impact of challenges or barriers which may hinder the health of the community.

The significant community health needs were prioritized through a working session where an inclusive collection of stakeholders was present. Each significant community health need was objectively assessed by all stakeholders in the room through an evaluation of the health need's significance to the community and the hospital's ability to impact the need. The top five greatest health needs from this process were identified as the prioritized health needs while all others were recognized as significant and still impacting the surrounding community.

Significant Health Needs

1. Behavioral Health
2. Drug and Substance Abuse
3. Access to Healthcare
4. Financial Barriers and Insurance
5. Transportation
6. Weight Management and Obesity
7. Physical Health
8. Food Insecurity

9. Tobacco Use and Smoking
10. Education

Prioritized Health Needs

1. Behavioral Health
2. Drug and Substance Abuse
3. Financial Barriers and Insurance
4. Access to Healthcare
5. Weight Management and Obesity

Resources Available

The resources available today to address the prioritized health needs include:

Behavioral Health

1. Defiance Hospital inpatient and outpatient behavioral health services
2. ADAMhs Board
3. Maumee Valley Guidance Center
4. Suicide Prevention Coalition
5. Defiance County General Health District
6. ProMedica Defiance Regional Hospital

Drug and Substance Abuse

1. Defiance Hospital medical services
2. Local rehabilitation centers
3. ADAMhs Board
4. Defiance County General Health District
5. ProMedica Defiance Regional Hospital

Financial Barriers and Insurance

1. Financial and insurance information from caregivers
2. United Way of Defiance County
3. Northwestern Ohio Community Action Commission

Access to Healthcare

1. Defiance Hospital medical and behavioral health services
2. United Way of Defiance County
3. Defiance General Health District
4. Family and Child First Council
5. ProMedica Defiance Regional Hospital

Weight Management and Obesity

1. Defiance Hospital weight management programs
2. Public school system health education
3. Green spaces, parks, gyms, trails

Feedback

Written comments regarding the health needs that have been identified in the current CHNA should be directed to Jessica Henry; Jessica_Henry@mercy.com.

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

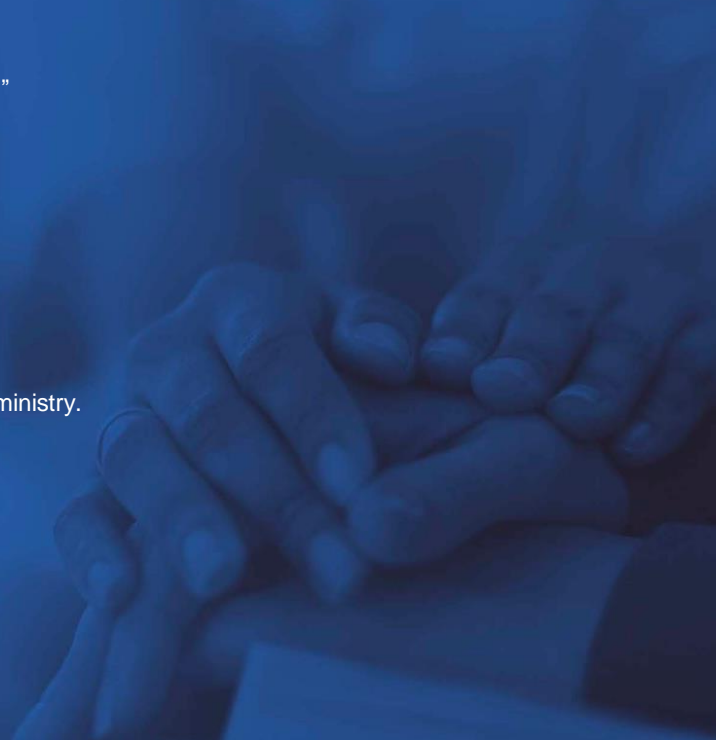
We commit to accompanying those we serve with mercy and tenderness, recognizing that "being with" is as important as "doing for."

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 Defiance Hospital features an eight-bed emergency center, 17 patient rooms/23 beds, two operating rooms and two procedure rooms. We are connected by walkway to Mercy Health Defiance Fauster Surgery Center and Mercy Defiance Clinic and have a Life Flight helipad for patient transport. We offer physical, occupational, speech therapy including pediatric, aquatic, dry needling, lymphadema therapy, cupping, cardiac rehabilitation and vestibular rehabilitation therapy.

In addition to therapy, Mercy Health Defiance Hospital offers:

- ADOS testing for autism
- Sleep center
- Congestive Heart Failure Clinic
- EKG, cardiac stress testing and echocardiography
- Neurologic testing
- Chemotherapy
- OP Infusion Services
- Laboratory and radiology services including MRI, Dexa, general and vascular ultrasound, nuclear med, CT, 3-D mammography (tomosynthesis), breast MRI, and interventional radiology procedures

Community Served by Hospital

Mercy Health Defiance Hospital serves a broad geographic area encompassing Defiance County and surrounding counties in northwest Ohio. Patient data indicates that the primary service area of persons served at Defiance Hospital reside in Defiance County, based upon the county of residence of discharged inpatients. The population of the primary service area is approximately 39,000 and is older, poorer and has worse health statistics than state and national averages. The demographic area served by the primary service area includes the following ethnic and cultural groups: Caucasian (91.8%), Hispanic (9.4%), African American (1.8%), Asian (0.3%), Two or more races (1.8%), American Indian (0.3%), and some other race (4.5%). 11.4% of residents are in households below the federal poverty guidelines. 21.9% of Defiance residents are enrolled in Medicaid.

Defiance County covers 412 square miles. It is bordered to the north by Williams County, to the north and east by Henry County, to the south by Putnam and Paulding counties and to the west by Indiana. ZIP codes included in the community served by the hospital include 43512, 43526, 43549, 43519, 43530, 43556, 43520 and 43536.

Process and Methods

Process and methods to conduct the community health needs assessment:

Mercy Health – Defiance Hospital is a key stakeholder and partner of the POWER Defiance, a collaborative strategic planning process involving many community agencies and coalitions from various sectors. The POWER Defiance developed a Community Health Needs Assessment (CHNA) for Defiance County to assess and identify the health needs of the community. The CHNA was conducted by various social service, business and government organizations in Defiance County to collect data that reports the health and health behaviors of Defiance County residents. Data was collected for this assessment with the assistance of the Hospital Council of Northwest Ohio in the spring of 2019. That CHNA Report can be found at: <https://www.hcno.org/wp-content/uploads/2022/01/2021-Defiance-County-CHA-with-CHIP-assessments.pdf>

Since the Defiance County CHNA Report data was collected prior to the COVID 19 pandemic, Mercy Health Defiance Hospital leveraged three external data sources to inform the development of the CHNA: Metopio, County Health Rankings, and U.S. Census Bureau data.

Metopio data was sourced in August of 2022. This data looks at the Defiance County community from a clinical needs and social determinants of health perspective. The metrics within Metopio are aggregated from publicly available data ranging in date from 2015 to 2021. The majority of this data is sourced from 2019 and afterwards.

Additionally, County Health Ranking (CHR) was used to supplement the data from Metopio. CHR is another repository of publicly available data sources aggregated and visualized to provide an evaluation of the community's public health status including Health Factors (determinants of health) and Health Outcomes (length and quality of life) in their analysis. County Health Rankings provides both county rankings as well as z-scores for each of the metrics analyzed. The rankings indicated how well each county performed in a particular metric as compared to the other 87 Ohio counties. The z-score measures the number's relationship with the mean, whether higher or lower than state average as a reference point. By analyzing the z-score, one can understand the magnitude of the health need whether that be a significant or less significant community health need. This data was also sourced in August of 2022 and includes data from 2010 to 2021. Similarly, the majority of that data is from 2019 and afterwards.

The third source of data leveraged was the U.S. Census Bureau. This data is sourced from July of 2021. The demographics data analyzed includes population, age, sex, race, and ethnicity.

External Sources

- Metopio
- County Health Ranking
- U.S. Census Bureau

Collaborating partners

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

Hospital Council of Northwest Ohio

POWER Defiance County Coalition which includes the following agencies and organizations: City of Defiance, Community Memorial Hospital, CPC Women's Health Resource, Defiance Area Foundation, Defiance Area YMCA, Defiance City Schools, Defiance County Commissioners, Defiance County Emergency Management Agency, Defiance County General Health District, Defiance County Help M Grow – Early Intervention, Defiance County Juvenile Court, Defiance County Ohio State University Extension Office, Defiance Development and Visitors Bureau, Defiance County Family and Children First Council, Four County ADAMhs Board, Four County Family Center, Hicksville Village, Mercy Health Defiance Hospital and Clinic, Northwestern Ohio Community Action Commission, ProMedica Defiance Regional Hospital, Recovery Services of Northwest Ohio, and United Way of Defiance County.

For supplemental data collection Mercy Health Defiance Hospital collaborated with FORVIS Healthcare Consultants to complete this assessment. FORVIS's role was to aggregate the quantitative market data, conduct stakeholder interviews, identify common health needs, and facilitate the prioritization session. Defiance Hospital leadership and community health leaders worked with the consultants throughout the months of August to October 2022.

Community Input

No written comments were received on the previously completed CHNA.

Mercy Health Defiance Hospital interviewed four key informants to produce the community input data. These interviews were conducted in September 2022. Key informants interviewed include: a municipal leader, a community recreation center affiliate, Mercy Health Defiance Hospital leadership, and a local large employer. These interviews were conducted virtually. The interviews explored topics such as major health issues, preventable health issues, and barriers to achieving greater health. Additional exploration was done to identify the health concerns impacting adolescents, adults, and the elderly populations specifically.

Significant health needs were identified based on common themes throughout key informant interviews and market data analysis. Where multiple stakeholders indicated there was significant need, that health concern was elevated. Once elevated, the need was validated through the quantitative data analysis. The community input drove the significant health needs and was supplemented by the quantitative market data.

Key themes from the informant interviews and market analysis centered around the top health concerns and barriers impacting the Defiance community. The top health concerns

included mental health and depression, drug and substance abuse, and access to healthcare services.

Each of the community members felt that these were problems Defiance Hospital could significantly impact, but there are multiple barriers hindering the hospital's ability to do so. The largest barriers identified were poor health behaviors, individual's aversion to change, limited transportation, and financial barriers such as insurance and unemployment.

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	Date of Data / Information
Defiance County General Health District	<p>July 2021</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • https://www.hcno.org/wp-content/uploads/2022/01/2021-Defiance-County-CHA-with-CHIP-assessments.pdf

Community and Stakeholder Input	Date of data/information
Chief Executive Officer Keller Logistics, Inc.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • September 15, 2022 – Key Informant Interview
YMCA	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • September 13, 2022 – Key Informant Interview
Defiance Mayor	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • September 13, 2022 – Key Informant Interview

Organization providing input	Nature and extent of input	Medically under-served, low-income or minority populations represented by organization
YMCA	Key Informant Interview	Low income
Defiance Local Government	Key Informant Interview	Low income, medically underserved, and minority populations
Keller Logistics, Inc.	Key Informant Interview	Low income
Mercy Health Defiance	Key Informant Interview	Low income, medically underserved

Significant Community Identified Health Needs

As part of the community identification process, various community health metrics were evaluated to identify the top community health needs. The top needs are listed below, and additional analysis of the market can be found in Appendix A that support the findings here and provide more perspective on the community.

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

Access to Healthcare

Capacity and adequacy of service levels

Due to the nature and demographics of the rural environment, the proximity of specialists and other healthcare providers is a barrier to the Defiance County residents. The provider ratio per 100,000 population for primary care providers, dentists, and mental health providers are all below the Ohio averages. Though there are many resources in the community that are seemingly accessible (i.e. YMCA, food banks, social services agencies, recreational facilities), there is still a need for access to dental services and public transportation mechanisms to receive care. Additionally, access points to urgent care may be compromised by the volume and overutilization of these services. There is

opportunity to increase resident's access to healthcare services through transportation assistance, increased provider capacity, and shifting patients to the right site of care.

Current service providers or resources

1. Defiance Hospital medical and behavioral health services
2. United Way of Defiance County
3. Defiance General Health District
4. Family and Child First Council
5. ProMedica Defiance Regional Hospital

Defiance Hospital offers medical services, mental health services, health screenings, and other valuable assets for people within the community. Primary care providers, specialists, dentists, and behavioral health providers are available to see patients, but the county could benefit from recruiting additional personnel.

Transportation

Capacity and adequacy of service levels

The rural nature of Defiance County has made public transportation a significant community need. Transportation refers to a wide variety of options that provide regular and continuing transportation to the public and may incorporate private sector services as well. Expanded public transportation options inherently improve access to both mental and physical healthcare services as well as healthy lifestyle building resources. There is a lack of public transportation options, which impacts one's ability to attend healthcare appointments, access healthy food options, and attain employment with fair wages. Additionally, the high percentage of individuals with long commutes (24.1%) and rural population (43.9%) makes a focus on transportation even more important.

Current service providers or resources

1. United Way of Defiance County
2. Partnerships with Henry and Fulton County

Food Insecurity

Capacity and adequacy of service levels

Food insecurity describes the lack of access to food that allows constituents to live an active, healthy lifestyle. It also displays where there may not be healthy food options accessible to the community. 16% of Defiance County population are considered to be food insecure, outlining the need in this community. Food insecurity is not reserved for only low-income individuals in the community; it affects elderly populations with limited mobility and inconsistent care givers. It also does not exist in isolation. Many people experiencing food insecurity are typically experiencing other significant social and health needs as well. While there are resources to help alleviate the burden of this problem, it still remains prominent within the community.

Current service providers or resources

1. Defiance Hospital food insecurity screening and referral
2. United Way of Defiance County
3. Defiance General Health District
4. WIC
5. Community Gardens
6. ProMedica Defiance Regional Hospital

Currently, Defiance County has a few programs to help those who are food insecure. Local food banks provide a large amount of food to the general public. After school programs, such as the Backpack Buddies Program, provide healthier food options to those children in need.

Education

Capacity and adequacy of service levels

Education is essential for Defiance residents to understand the importance of preventative health measures and healthy lifestyle choices. Currently only 60% of the population within Defiance County have some level of college education, which is slightly lower than the Ohio average at 65.9%. This measure is influential in the daily health decisions of persons across every age group. If individuals are well educated, they will be able apply health information to their lives in a positive, more valuable way. This also encompasses the need for broader financial literacy and a greater understanding of the financial implications of insurance policies, preventable hospitalizations, and the right site of care. Well educated individuals will have the ability to interpret, promote, and utilize the information and health resources that the county provides for the community.

Current service providers or resources

The local public school system currently provides education for adolescents, but these resources alone are not enough. The resources provided include health education and guidance on diet, exercise, and weight management practices.

Social Health Need – Individual Level Non-Clinical Needs

Behavioral Health

Capacity and adequacy of service levels

Behavioral health plays a critical impact on the lifestyle choices of people within Defiance county. Many poor health decisions stem from a cultural perspective and how one views and values health.

Depression can also play an influential role in making poor health decisions; 22.0% of Defiance's population reported feelings of depression in 2019. The community must achieve a greater understanding of how to manage their mental health; however, the county is severely lacking mental health resources across all age groups. People are making lifestyle choices based on convenience, which may not be the healthiest option. If Defiance hospital can become successful at influencing and encouraging members of the community to practice positive, safe health behaviors, their mental health may improve. The community could also benefit from additional mental health providers and facilities to serve the patients in need.

Current service providers or resources

1. Defiance Hospital inpatient and outpatient behavioral health services
2. ADAMhs Board
3. Maumee Valley Guidance Center
4. Suicide Prevention Coalition
5. Defiance County General Health District
6. ProMedica Defiance Regional Hospital

Behavioral health counseling services may be provided by Defiance Hospital providers. Individuals experiencing poor mental health are also encouraged to lean into their social support systems and practice healthy diet and exercise behaviors.

Drug and Substance Abuse

Capacity and adequacy of service levels

Drug and/or substance abuse has remained a top issue within the community. 19.5% of the Defiance County population is experiencing problems with excessive drinking, and 33.3% of driving deaths involved alcohol. The long-term effects of excessive alcohol use may pose significant risk for the development of other chronic conditions as well. Drug abuse has emerged as a pressing issue; reasons for the increasing prevalence may stem from mental health issues, individual decision-making, and the downstream effects of stressful family situations. People make individual lifestyle choices to cope with stress; these often lead to a lack of healthy social and spiritual connection. Around the county, there is a need for SUD treatment centers, behavioral health centers, and other rehabilitation services. Mental health has become an underlying theme for drug abuse decisions. Many individuals lack the care, resources, and counseling they need to preserve their mental health.

Current service providers or resources

1. Defiance Hospital medical services
2. Local rehabilitation centers
3. ADAMhs Board
4. Defiance County General Health District

5. ProMedica Defiance Regional Hospital

Defiance Hospital provides both inpatient and outpatient behavioral health services to serve the needs of SUD patients.

Financial Barriers and Insurance

Capacity and adequacy of service levels

The population of low-income individuals is significantly impacted by their ability to access and afford health services in the community. The unemployment rate (8.2%) in Defiance has had financial implications on the affordability of seeing a provider and access to health insurance frequently provided by the employer. Consequently, this has also impacted individual's ability to afford their prescribed medication. This is not only affecting adults; children are experiencing higher levels of uninsurance at 4.8%. Additionally, the elevated economic inflation rates have accentuated the financial burdens, causing competing priorities between preventive care, healthy lifestyle choices, and utilization of healthcare resources. Females may also be impacted at a greater rate due to the elevated gender pay gap at 0.77; this is the ratio of women's median earnings to men's. Financial barriers are widely prevalent due to the limited affordability of providers, lack of insurance, and disparity across certain demographic groups.

Current service providers or resources

1. Financial and insurance information from caregivers
2. United Way of Defiance County
3. Northwestern Ohio Community Action Commission

Tobacco Use and Smoking

Capacity and adequacy of service levels

Tobacco usage and smoking is prevalent in Defiance County. Commercial tobacco use causes many preventable diseases, disabilities, and deaths. Despite this, 21.4% of Defiance County residents still exhibit cigarette smoking behaviors. The social determinants of health play a major role on the course of this disparity including where people live, economic status, health insurance status, and access to cessation programs. Tobacco use is not only reserved for cigarette smoking, it also includes things like vaping or other tobacco-related products, which are unhealthy alternatives.

Current service providers or resources

1. Drug Free Coalition – Defiance County General Health District
2. United Way of Defiance County
3. Ohio Department of Health – Online Tobacco Use Cessation Program

4. ProMedica Defiance Regional Hospital

Significant Clinical Health Needs

Weight Management and Obesity

Capacity and adequacy of service levels

Obesity and weight management impact the everyday lives of individuals within Defiance County. Many people are lacking the proper diet and exercise to maintain a healthy lifestyle. 39.0% of adults in the community are struggling with obesity. Though there are several resources, recreation centers, parks and trails available throughout the county, individual behaviors play a role in how they are being utilized. 66.2% of individuals have access to exercise opportunities; however, 30.2% of residents spend no leisure time performing physical activity. This indicates an opportunity to focus education and encourage citizens to avoid sedentary lifestyles and make healthy eating and exercise. Both individual choices and community resources have a role in correcting this issue.

Current service providers or resources

1. Mercy Health – Weight Management Solutions
2. Defiance County General Health District
3. ProMedica – Scale Down Program

Resources available to address the growing weight management problem in the community may include green spaces, parks, gyms, and trails throughout the county. Additionally, healthy food options are available yet not plentiful enough.

Physical Health

Capacity and adequacy of service levels

Physical health issues remain prevalent in Defiance County including chronic disease and acute injury. Additionally, the community is experiencing vaccine hesitancy and concern with their subsequent effects. Only 49% of residents within Defiance County are vaccinated for the flu. This is an example of one preventative measures which contributes to the quality of care provided. There are various health initiatives ongoing within the county, but they could all benefit from increased outreach and promotion. Events such as health screenings may allow individuals to avoid preventable and catastrophic health challenges. Defiance County's preventable hospitalization rate is significantly higher than the Ohio average. Lifestyle choices that impact the development of major chronic diseases such as obesity or heart disease can be improved through proper health education, access to healthy food options, or exercise.

Current service providers or resources

Defiance hospital currently treats many of the chronic diseases and illnesses impacting the community. Patients are able to access the hospital's operating room, inpatient beds, therapy services, lab, etc. to treat a variety of conditions.

Prioritization of Health Needs

The significant community health needs were prioritized through a working session with community health leaders, hospital leadership, and local community organization leaders. Defiance Hospital leaders and stakeholders gathered in a working sessions to review community health findings and prioritize community health needs. The working session was conducted virtually on September 19, 2022 and lasted for one hour. Each significant community health need was objectively assessed by stakeholders through an evaluation of the need's significance to the community and the hospital's ability to impact the need. The two criteria, significance and ability to impact, were equally weighted in the prioritization process. Session participants responded to an anonymous poll where they ranked each significant need on a scale of 1 to 10. The two dimensions were added together to receive an overall ranking; the significant needs with the greatest combined ranking represent those which stakeholders felt posed the greatest health concern to the community and Defiance Hospital had the ability to impact. The top five greatest health needs from this process were identified as the prioritized health needs while all others were recognized as significant and still impacting the surrounding community.

Based on all of 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

Access to Healthcare Services

Access to healthcare services is a critical component to improving the quality of life in Defiance County. The availability and accessibility of resources for all individuals can have a significant impact on population health outcomes. Additionally, county and Defiance Hospital leadership have identified access to healthcare services as a need they can directly impact. The promotion and awareness of health education, better transportation, and more physical and mental health service providers will help community members to effectively access care.

Prioritized Social Health Needs

Behavioral Health

Behavioral health needs are prioritized because lifestyle choices and individual decisions meaningfully contribute to the course of one's overall health. Behavioral health takes on a wide breadth of services that ensure people are mentally, emotionally, and physically healthy.

As the community continues to expand the clinical and public health resources, behavioral health services is an integral part of the community's overall health and is a part of care management. These resources can help to identify behaviors that are compromising one's health, and replace those behaviors/mindsets with research-supported interventions. Community and hospital leadership recognize their ability to catalyze change and impact this health need.

Drug and Substance Abuse

This community health need is prioritized because illicit drug use and alcoholism remain prevalent in the community. There are heightened levels of drug overdose deaths and opioid use. The community is experiencing a shortage of SUD facilities, rehabilitation centers, and mental health counseling to combat the issue. This health concern remains steady in the community due to the lack of resources, behavioral changes, and the COVID-19 pandemic. Progress will require individual motivation and behavior and lifestyle changes. Resources that promote healthy lifestyle choices and educate people about the dangers of drug use are available in the county; however, low capacity of these resources remains a considerable barrier. As drug and substance abuse is discussed from a social health perspective, Defiance Hospital must consider options that impact individual behaviors, collective attitudes, and familial stress.

Financial Barriers and Insurance

Due to the economic stratification and rural nature of Defiance County, financial barriers play a major role in resident's ability to access healthcare. Although medical and mental health services may be available throughout the county, high unemployment, lower incomes, and a lack of insurance may prohibit people from accessing or using these resources. People who have a low or fixed-income are more vulnerable to competing financial priorities. Additionally, barriers related to health insurance may be related to employment status, insurance literacy, and unmanageable out of pocket costs. This barrier must be combatted as county and hospital resources are expanded to meet the community need.

Prioritized Clinical Health Needs

Weight Management and Obesity

Weight management and obesity is a prioritized clinical health need because it is critical to achieving better overall health and wellness. If unattended to, obesity can serve as either a precursor or cofactor to other serious health conditions. Chronic diseases and other physical health issues may be exacerbated by poor weight management, which makes clinical care more complicated. Additionally, this clinical health need can have a negative impact on the mental health of people within Defiance County. Proper dieting and exercise can help alleviate this conditions. Defiance County and Hospital have the resources and strategies to help mitigate this problem. These include parks, trails, food banks, recreation centers, and health education materials.

If the hospital and community members are able to combine efforts in promoting and influencing the community to make healthy lifestyle choices, it could lead to a minimized burden on clinical/medical resources and positive health outcomes.

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.

Prioritized Social Determinants of Health Needs

Access to Healthcare

1. Defiance Hospital medical and behavioral health services
2. United Way of Defiance County
3. Defiance General Health District
4. Family and Child First Council
5. ProMedica Defiance Regional Hospital

Prioritized Social Health Needs

Behavioral Health

1. Defiance Hospital inpatient and outpatient behavioral health services
2. ADAMhs Board
3. Maumee Valley Guidance Center
4. Suicide Prevention Coalition
5. Defiance County General Health District
6. ProMedica Defiance Regional Hospital

Drug and Substance Abuse

1. Defiance Hospital inpatient and outpatient behavioral health services
2. ADAMhs Board
3. Maumee Valley Guidance Center
4. Suicide Prevention Coalition

5. Defiance County General Health District
6. ProMedica Defiance Regional Hospital

Financial Barriers and Insurance

1. Financial and insurance information from caregivers
2. United Way of Defiance County
3. Northwestern Ohio Community Action Commission

Prioritized Clinical Health Needs

Weight Management and Obesity

1. Mercy Health – Weight Management Solutions
2. Defiance County General Health District
3. ProMedica – Scale Down Program

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

Mental Health

Initiative/Impact

Provide volunteers for Four County L.O.S.S. (Local Outreach to Suicide Survivors) program. Provide one volunteer to the Four County L.O.S.S. (Local Outreach to Suicide Survivors), which provides a team of three volunteers who respond to a call from law enforcement to support family and friends at the time of a death by suicide. Provided volunteers but did not track the number in 2021.

Provide depression screenings with patients starting at age 12 and provide a warm hand-off when needed. Due to COVID this was postponed.

Provide a drop off box for drugs in our emergency department. Box was provided in hospital emergency room.

Participate in the Defiance County Drug Free Coalition, a 501(c)(3) organization. Due to COVID this was postponed.

Remain active with the Four County ADAMhs Board in Defiance, Williams, Fulton, and Henry counties. Two staff members were active in 2021.

Continued community collaboration with POWER Defiance County Coalition and active participation in workgroups to address the community needs and strategies. Two staff members were active with POWER Defiance in 2021.

Chronic Disease

Initiative/Impact

Maintain the walking path on property owned by Defiance County and adjacent to Mercy property. In 2021 Mercy Health Defiance Hospital maintained community walking path adjacent to Mercy Health property.

Maintain improved vending with increased healthy choices that were installed at Defiance Hospital in late 2016. Due to COVID this was postponed.

Provide healthy choices at hospital meetings. Due to COVID this was postponed.

Injury Prevention

Initiative

Participate in the POWER Defiance County Coalition. Two staff members were active in 2021

Implement Matter of Balance program. Due to COVID this was postponed.

Increase the use of safe sleep practices. This is promoted in pediatric clinics however no numbers or data were tracked in 2021.

Appendix A

The appendix includes market data compiled and leveraged for the completion of this assessment.

Appendix

Metopio Market Data

Health Factors		
Metric	Defiance County	OH Benchmark
High Blood Pressure	31.9%	31.7%
Healthy Weight Status <small>(% of adults with Obesity)</small>	39.0%	36.5%
Depression	22.0%	21.7%
Cigarette Smoking	21.4%	22.1%

SDOH		
Metric	Defiance County	OH Benchmark
Below Federal Poverty Line	10.0%	13.7%
Non- Hispanic Black	30.7%	28.4%
Asian or Pacific Islander	12.8%	12.6%
ALICE Threshold <small>(minimum income needed for household survival)</small>	29.3%	39.0%
Violent Crime	101.9 <small>per 100,000</small>	300.8 <small>per 100,000</small>
Food Insecurity	16.0%	19.0%

County Health Rankings Market Data

Health Measure	Defiance County: Z-Score and Rank	
Health Outcomes	Z-Score	-0.60
	Rank	19
Health Factors	Z-Score	-0.18
	Rank	33
Length of Life	Z-Score	-0.30
	Rank	24
Quality of Life	Z-Score	-0.30
	Rank	19
Health Behaviors	Z-Score	-0.06
	Rank	29
Clinical Care	Z-Score	-0.02
	Rank	41
Social & Economic Factors	Z-Score	-0.11
	Rank	28
Physical Environment	Z-Score	0.02
	Rank	66

Z-score: The Z-score, or standard score, is the number of standard deviations a given data point lies above or below mean. The intention of the z-score is to help understand the relationship of the metric to the Ohio average.

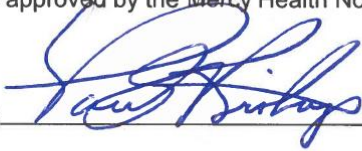
Rank: The position comparing Defiance county's performance in a metric relative to the performance of all 88 Ohio counties. The lower the rank, the better the county performed.

Metric Category	Metric	Defiance County	OH Average
Length of Life	Infant Mortality Rate	7.2	7.0
Quality of Life	% Fair or Poor Health	19.3	18.1
	Average Number of Physically Unhealthy Days	4.3	4.2
	% Frequent Physical Distress	13.2	13
	% Adults with Diabetes	10.6	10.3
Diet and Exercise	% Adults with Obesity	39	34.6
	% Physically Inactive	30.2	27.6
	% With Access to Exercise Opportunities	66.2	77.2
Alcohol and Drug Use	% Excessive Drinking	19.5	20.7
	% Driving Deaths with Alcohol Involvement	33.3	32.5
Sexual Activity	Teen Birth Rate	21.4	20.9
Access to Care	Primary Care Physicians Ratio	2,005:1	1,291:1
	Dentist Ratio	2,222:1	1,566:1
	Mental Health Provider Ratio	415:1	346:1
	% Uninsured (Children)	4.8	4.9
	Other Primary Care Provider Ratio	994:1	832:1
Quality of Care	Preventable Hospitalization Rate	5,468	4,338
	% Vaccinated	49	51
Education	% Some College	60.5	65.9
	School funding	\$3,219	927
Employment	% Unemployed	8.2	8.1
Family and Social Support	% Children in Single-Parent Households	27.9	26.9
Air and Water Quality	Average Daily PM2.5	9	9
Housing and Transit	% Drive Alone to Work	86.1	81.5
	Motor Vehicle Mortality Rate	18	10.4
	% Broadband Access	82.8	84.5
Income	Gender Pay Gap	0.77	0.79
	% Enrolled in Free or Reduced Lunch	51.1	35.8
Community Safety	Juvenile Arrest Rate	52.7	33.4

Board Approval

The Mercy Health Toledo Defiance Hospital 2022 Community Health Needs Assessment was approved by the Mercy Health North Board on September 27, 2022.

Board Signature: _____



Date: _____

Nov. 18, 2022

For further information or to obtain a hard copy of this Community Health Needs Assessment (CHNA) please contact: Jessica Henry; Jessica_Henry@mercy.com

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