

*Community Health  
Implementation Strategy  
For Fiscal Years Ending December  
31, 2020 - 2022*



## Introduction

Meade District Hospital is a 20-bed critical access hospital, located in Meade, Kansas. A five-member Board of Directors governs the Hospital and is responsible for compliance with legal requirements, maintenance of professional and ethical standards of healthcare and financial and operational management. Board meetings are held monthly.

In 2005, the Hospital assumed the operation of three Rural Health Clinics and also purchased the Lone Tree Retirement Center. These acquisitions led the Board of Directors and staff to explore a name change that reflects the wide array of services provided by the Hospital District. The Hospital District is now doing business as Artesian Valley Health System (AVHS).

## Identifying Health Needs

A community health needs assessment was conducted from January 2019 to December 2019. Community input was provided through sixteen key stakeholder surveys, including representatives from:

- ✓ Meade District Hospital
- ✓ Social service agencies
- ✓ Local school systems and educational organizations
- ✓ Public health agencies
- ✓ Other medical providers
- ✓ Local elected officials and governmental agencies
- ✓ Local businesses

Population demographics and socioeconomic characteristics of the community were also gathered and reported utilizing various third parties. The health status of the community was then reviewed. Information on the leading causes of death and morbidity information was analyzed in conjunction with health outcomes and factors reported for the community by CountyHealthrankings.org and other third parties.

This data was analyzed and reviewed to identify health issues of uninsured persons, low-income persons and minority groups, and the community as a whole. The Hospital engaged a leadership team to review the health needs and priority areas were determined based on assessment of the qualitative and quantitative data. Identified needs were prioritized based on the following criteria:

- 1) How many people are affected by the issue?
- 2) What are the consequences of not addressing this problem?
- 3) Prevalence of common themes
- 4) Alignment with Hospital's resources

As a result of the analysis described above, the following health needs were identified as the most significant health needs for the community:

- Mental Health Providers
- Physical Inactivity
- Lack of Health Knowledge/Education
- Adult Obesity

## **PRIORITY 1: Mental Health Providers**

***Goal 1: Artesian Valley Health System will increase awareness of mental health services provided through Southwest Guidance Center to members of the community by 2022.***

- Strategies:
- A. Providers will refer patients in need of mental health services to Southwest Guidance Center.
  - B. Collaborate with Southwest Guidance Center to host a vendor booth at the Annual Health Fair held at Meade District Hospital.
  - C. Providers will use screening tool kits in the Rural Health Clinic for adolescents/children, starting at age 11.

***Goal 2: Artesian Valley Health System will assist in raising awareness for suicide prevention in the community by 2022.***

- Strategies:
- A. Artesian Valley Health System will collaborate with area schools to host/sponsor a suicide prevention/awareness event.

## **PRIORITY 2: Physical Inactivity/Adult Obesity**

***Goal 1: Artesian Valley Health System will provide education regarding the importance of physical activity to decrease the risk of adult obesity by 2022.***

- Strategies:
- A. Artesian Valley Health System will host an annual 5K run/walk event to encourage community members to be active.
  - B. Artesian Valley Health System will collaborate with the City of Meade, Recreation Commission and Health Department to promote outdoor activities within the community, such as swimming, walking trail, frisbee golf, sand volleyball, basketball, etc.

- C. **Artesian Valley Health System will host an annual Health Fair, offering discounted labs to community members in and around the Meade area, allowing individuals to identify health risk and discuss strategies to improve health with their primary care provider.**

### **PRIORITY 3: Lack of Health Knowledge/Education**

***Goal 1: Artesian Valley Health System will increase knowledge and education to promote health and wellness to community members across the life span by 2022.***

- Strategies:**
- A. **Artesian Valley Health System will host community education classes, such as “Dining with Diabetes”, Breast Cancer Awareness Classes and stroke awareness.**
  - B. **Artesian Valley Health System will collaborate with the local health department to host a Youth Health and Safety Event, providing health checkups and early childhood development screenings.**
  - C. **Artesian Valley Health System will provide community members with free admission to the Meade High School football game for the annual “Lights Out for Stroke” event.**
  - D. **Artesian Valley Health System will host an annual Health Fair, offering discounted labs to community members in and around the Meade area, allowing individuals to identify health risk and discuss strategies to improve health with their primary care provider.**

### **Next Steps**

This Implementation Plan will be rolled out over the next three years, from FY 2020 through the end of FY 2022. The Hospital will work with community partners and health issue experts on the following for each of the approaches to addressing the identified health needs:

- Develop work plans to support effective implementation
- Create mechanisms to monitor and measure outcomes
- Provide on-going status and results of these efforts to improve community health

Meade District Hospital is committed to conducting another health needs assessment within three years.

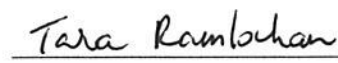
## Adoption/Approval

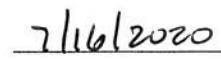
Meade District Hospital's Board of Directors approves the Implementation Strategy that has been developed to address the priorities of the Community Health Needs Assessment conducted in FY 2019.

The Hospital will utilize this Implementation Strategy as a roadmap to collaborate with their community to address the priorities, particularly for the most vulnerable.

  
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Chair, Meade District Hospital Board of Directors

  
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Date

  
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Administrator, Meade District Hospital

  
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Date