

IMPLEMENTATION PLAN

Addressing Community Health Needs

St. Luke Community Healthcare ~ Ronan, Montana

Table of Contents

The Implementation Planning Process 3

Prioritizing the Community Health Needs 5

St. Luke Community Healthcare’s Existing Presence in the Community 5

List of Available Community Partnerships and Facility Resources to Address Needs 7

Lake and Sander’s Counties Indicators 9

Public Health and Underserved Populations Consultation Summaries.....**Error! Bookmark not defined.**

The Implementation Planning Process

The implementation planning committee – comprised of St. Luke Community Healthcare’s leadership team– participated in an implementation planning process to systematically and thoughtfully respond to all issues and opportunities identified through the Community Health Services Development (CHSD) needs assessment process. The facility conducted the CHSD process in conjunction with the Montana Office of Rural Health (MORH).

The CHSD community health needs assessment was performed in 2020 to determine the most important health needs and opportunities for Lake and Sanders Counties, Montana. “Needs” were identified as the top issues or opportunities rated by respondents during the CHSD survey process or during focus groups. For more information regarding the needs identified, as well as the assessment process/approach/methodology, please refer to the facility’s assessment report, which is posted on the facility’s website.

The implementation planning committee identified the most important health needs to be addressed by reviewing the CHNA, secondary data, community demographics, and input from stakeholders representing the broad interest of the community, including those with public health expertise.

The implementation planning committee determined which needs or opportunities could be addressed considering St. Luke Community Healthcare’s parameters of resources and limitations. The committee then prioritized the needs/opportunities using the additional parameters of the organizational vision, mission, and values, as well as existing and potential community partners. Participants then created a goal to achieve through strategies and activities, as well as the general approach to meeting the stated goal (i.e. staff member responsibilities, timeline, potential community partners, anticipated impact(s), and performance/evaluation measures).

The prioritized health needs as determined through the assessment process and which the facility will be addressing relates to the following healthcare issues:

1. Mental and behavioral health
2. Alcohol and substance abuse
3. Access to healthcare services
4. Health and wellness

In addressing the aforementioned issues, St. Luke Community Healthcare seeks to:

- a) Improve access to healthcare services;
- b) Enhance the health of the community;
- c) Advance medical or health knowledge;
- d) Relieve or reduce the burden of government or other community efforts

St. Luke Community Healthcare's Mission:

The mission of St. Luke Community Healthcare is to be an integral component of the communities of the Mission Valley through the delivery of personal, compassionate, quality healthcare in a dignified manner that values our patients, clients and residents who are the very reason for our existence.

St. Luke Community Healthcare's Vision:

Be THE pre-eminent healthcare provider in the Mission Valley Delivering:

- Excellent Quality Care
- Exceptional Customer Service
- A patient centered approach to health care
- Leadership in rural clinical education
- A safe, positive work environment
- Growth through innovation and investment in state of the art technology
- Striving to listen and respond to the needs expressed by the community ensuring true community ownership.

St. Luke Community Healthcare epitomizes what a community healthcare organization symbolizes by listening to and responding to what the community wants. By doing this it gives the community true ownership.

Implementation Planning Committee Members:

- Steve Todd – CEO
- Sarah Teaff – COO
- Paul Soukup – CFO
- Edred Vizcarra, M.D. - Chief of Staff-Physician
- Abigail Byers, RN – ACF DON
- Whitney Liegakos – CE/PR/Marketing
- Liane Clairmont – Executive Assistant

Prioritizing the Community Health Needs

The implementation planning committee completed the following to prioritize the community health needs:

- Reviewed the facility's presence in the community (i.e. activities already being done to address community need)
- Considered organizations outside of the facility which may serve as collaborators in executing the facility's implementation plan
- Assessed the health indicators of the community through available secondary data
- Evaluated the feedback received from consultations with those representing the community's interests, including public health

St. Luke Community Healthcare's Existing Presence in the Community

- St. Luke Community Healthcare offers childbirth classes throughout the year.
- Diabetes education classes are provided at the St. Luke Community Healthcare Clinic.
- St. Luke helps coordinate and actively participates in County Emergency Preparedness.
- St. Luke provides CNA classes where students earn an income while learning in the classroom as well as real-life settings.
- The St. Luke Community Healthcare Foundation through the Employee Giving Program provides free screening mammograms for uninsured women as well as free newborn hearing screening for uninsured newborns.
- St. Luke Community Healthcare contracts with Montana Breast and Cervical Program to provide women's health services to uninsured and underinsured women.
- St. Luke Community Healthcare provides health and wellness screenings at numerous community events including but not limited to: The February Ag-Expo in Ronan, The April Spring Trade Show in Polson, The Women 4 Wellness Expo, The Lake County Employee Health Fair, The Ronan Schools Kindergarten Round-up, Ronan Schools Sports Physicals (proceeds benefit the schools' athletic booster club), and Tribal Early Childhood Services Baby Fair. In 2020 the COVID-19 pandemic has curtailed/impacted these activities.
- St. Luke Community Healthcare provides First-aid stations for community events such as The Pioneer Days 3-on-3 JAM-Boree in Ronan and The Mission Valley Cruizers Car Show in Polson. In 2020 the COVID-19 pandemic has curtailed/impacted these activities.
- Free CPR/First-Aid classes are open to the public on a regular basis.
- St. Luke provides tobacco education including displays during the Great American Smoke-out.
- St. Luke provides nurse on-call phone services.
- St. Luke is involved with the Friends of Regional Parks and Trails (FORPAT). FORPAT assists with trails and other outdoor activities in the Community. Signage is placed on the trails with wellness tips for the users.

- St. Luke has a public safety contract with the Ronan Police Department.
- St. Luke provides financial support for the Flathead Reservation Boys and Girls Club, alcohol-free senior nights for local schools, as well as Safe Harbor domestic violence agency.
- St. Luke participates with local schools by talking about healthcare careers, providing a job shadow program, and encouraging middle school and high school students to consider health related careers with R.E.A.C.H. (Research and Explore Awesome Careers in Healthcare), a program of the Western Montana Area Health Education Center.
- St. Luke in partnership with Ronan High School has a yearlong internship program. The interns rotate through all departments of the facility. Interns receive school credits for this class.
- St. Luke collaborates with the Salish Kootenai College nursing program to provide clinical rotations in addition to a unique Dedicated Education Unit where students are paired with an RN for an entire semester.
- St. Luke collaborates with Montana State University nursing program to provide rotations to their students.
- St. Luke participates in the Western Regional Trauma Advisory Council.
- St. Luke offers active internship programs in pharmacy, occupational therapy, speech therapy, medical assistants, certified nursing assistants, business office, lab, physical therapy, respiratory therapy, imaging, and clinical rotations for residency medical students.
- St. Luke provides dietary education and cooking classes to the Boys and Girls Club.
- St. Luke has a Memorandum of Understanding and is actively involved with the local Drug Endangered Children Task Force.
- St. Luke is involved with the Polson school district's wellness program including the end of year end Sizzling Summer Send Off celebration that includes wellness information for children to use over the summer months.
- St. Luke LCSWs provide education on secondary trauma in children and how to recognize it.
- St. Luke has members on the Cheerful Heart Board, a cancer support organization serving patients in Lake County.
- St. Luke publishes an informational Heart to Heart newsletter four times per year. This publication is sent to all addresses in the Community. St. Luke also uses social media on a weekly basis to keep the community informed of health issues etc.
- St. Luke has provided COVID-19 infection prevention and testing to the Community including testing in homes of patients that are otherwise unable to get to the hospital.
- St. Luke assisted the Tribal Health Department in a COVID-19 mass testing event.
- St. Luke offers curbside COVID-19 testing to the community.
- St. Luke participates in the annual Job Service sponsored career fair as well as Polson, Ronan, and St. Ignatius' Chambers of Commerce.
- St. Luke sponsors many events, including: The Annual St. Ignatius Good Old Days Buffalo Run, American Cancer Society Relay for Life, Polson Triathlon, Mission Valley Aquatics Water Daze swimming event, and various Polson Running Club events.

- St. Luke provides meeting space for Alcoholics Anonymous (AA) and Al Anon. Safe Harbor is also provided meeting space for their abuse support group.
- St. Luke provides Health Screening Certificates as silent auction items for many non-profit fundraisers.

List of Available Community Partnerships and Facility Resources to Address Needs

- Boys and Girls Club of the Flathead Reservation and Lake County
- Montana DPHHS
- Lake House
- Western Montana Mental Health
- Sun Burst Mental Health
- Wrapped in HOPE/Meadowlark Initiative project.
- Confederated Salish & Kootenai Tribes (CSKT) - has various programs related to suicide, alcohol and substance abuse awareness and prevention.
- AA, ALANON, NA
- Local Police Department
- Local Schools
- Local Pharmacy
- Lake County Drug Task Force
- Montana AHEC program
- HOSA- Health Occupation Students of America
- Post-secondary educational institutions- various academic programs with students seeking clinical rotations (Medical, PA, RT, OT, Lab, Nursing, etc.).
- Ronan Food Bank
- Polson Fishes and Loaves Food Bank
- Mission Valley Food Pantry
- 4H
- Senior Center
- Food Corps
- 3RNet is the National Rural Recruitment and Retention Network.
- Al-Anon are weekly group meetings for family and friends of alcoholics.
- Alcoholics Anonymous (AA) is a group meeting that provides support and focuses on awareness for community members affected by alcohol abuse.

- Bountiful Baskets and Community Sustained Agriculture (CSA) provides community members with access to fresh fruits and vegetables.
- Care Coordinator and Care Navigator positions offer education, case management, and post-discharge follow-up to improve health outcomes for community members with chronic diseases.
- The Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services (CMS) administers Medicare, Medicaid, and Healthy Montana Kids.
- Community Medical Center and St. Patrick Hospital in Missoula along with Logan Health Care in Kalispell provide health care specialty services to the region.
- Department of Health and Human Services Telestroke Program links Critical Access Hospitals to stroke specialists via a 2-way audio/video connection. TeleNICU and TeleCardiology services are also offered at St. Luke through collaboration with other providers and facilities in Kalispell and Missoula.
- Safe Harbor is a domestic violence prevention agency and safe home location.
- Family Medicine Residency of Western Montana is a three-year family medicine program sponsored by The University of Montana and affiliated with the University of Washington Family Medicine Residency Network.
- Fetal, Infant and Child Mortality Review (FICMR) is a statewide effort to reduce preventable fetal, infant and child deaths.
- The Health Information Exchange of Montana (HIEM) supports secure exchange of health information in Montana.
- Indian Health Services (IHS) and Tribal Health provide health services to tribal and native populations.
- Logan Health in Kalispell, St. Patrick Hospital in Missoula and Community Medical Center in Missoula provide healthcare resources and support.
- Lake County Council on Aging and Area VI Agency on Aging provides geriatric care management services for seniors.
- Lake County Child and Family Services provides services to families in need.
- Lake County Public Health is located in Polson, MT and provides services to protect and improve the community's health.
- Lake County Sheriff's Department, Tribal Police and local city police departments enforce the law and promote safety to the people of Lake County.
- Monida Healthcare Network connects healthcare providers.
- Montana Office of Rural Health & Area Health Education Center (MORH/AHEC) provides technical assistance to rural health systems and organizations.
- Montana State University Lake County Extension provides educational outreach to Lake County residents in Montana.
- Pacific Northwest University for Health Sciences is a medical school in Yakima, WA that provides medical education to students from rural or underserved areas throughout the United States.
- A partnership with the University of Washington School of Medicine and the states of Washington, Wyoming, Alaska, Montana, and Idaho (WWAMI). Forty-four years of collaboration and innovation, all in the service of educating the future physician workforce. The Performance Improvement Network (PIN) assists member facilities in their efforts to achieve

compliance with the Medicare Critical Access Hospital (CAH) Conditions of Participation quality assurance regulations and also supports a multitude of other CAH quality improvement efforts.

- The Quality Improvement Organization of the Mountain Pacific Quality Health Organization works to improve the quality of health care and assures the most appropriate utilization of health care services.
- Ronan School District is available to provide opportunities to students interested in pursuing health careers.
- The Senior Center bus provides transportation for senior citizens.
- VA [Veteran's Affairs] contract with St. Luke Extended Care.
- The VA bus provides transportation for veterans.
- Western Montana Mental Health Center (WMMHC) provides mental health services and resources to fifteen western and south western counties in Montana. Lake County hosts the Lake House in Polson.
- Western Regional Trauma Advisory Committee- resource related to trauma care.

Lake & Sanders Counties Indicators

Low Income Persons

- Lake: 17.2% of persons are below the federal poverty level
Sanders: 16.7% of persons are below the federal poverty level

Uninsured Persons

- Lake: 16.1% of adults less than age 65 are uninsured
Sanders: 15.9% of adults less than age 65 are uninsured
- Data is not available by county for uninsured children less than age 18

Leading Causes of Death: Primary and Chronic Diseases (Both Counties)

- Heart Disease
- Cancer
- Unintentional Injuries

* Note: Other primary and chronic disease data is by region and thus difficult to decipher community need.

Elderly Populations

- 22% of Lake County's Population is 65 years and older
- 20% of Sanders County's Population is 65 years and older

Size of County and Remoteness

- 30,696 people in Lake County; 20.6 people per square mile
- 11,844 people in Sanders County; 4.3 people per square mile

Nearest Major Hospital

- St. Patrick Hospital in Missoula, MT is 56.8 miles from St. Luke Community Healthcare