

Introduction

A Community Health Needs Assessment is required to be conducted every 3 years by every non-profit hospital to comply with the U.S. Internal Revenue Service (IRS) guidelines. The Community Health Needs Assessment (CHNA) for Providence St. Mary Medical Center is a collaborative effort between the hospital and the existing organizations in the high desert region of California to better understand the populations they serve. CHNAs aim to further health equity and bridge the gap between population health and healthcare by identifying the disparities that vulnerable populations face and recognizing unmet needs. The Community Health Assessment toolkit below provides a framework for completing the CHNA and how to follow up with the implementation of a Community Health Improvement Plan (CHIP).



Methods

Description of the Community

- Demographics
 - Age, race, gender
 - Service Area
 - Zip-codes

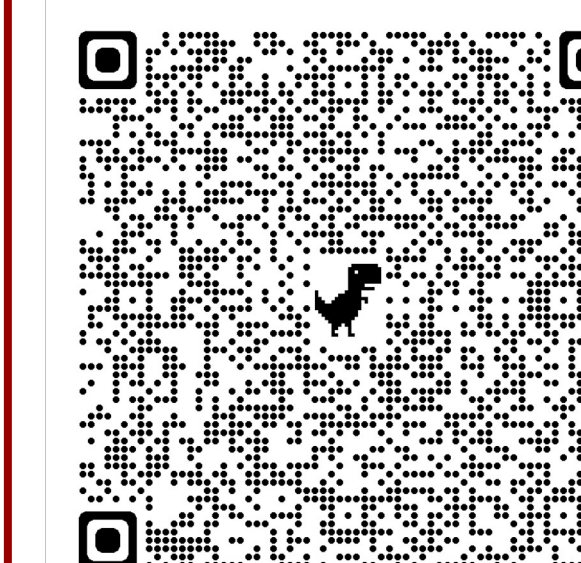
Social Determinants of Health

- Built Environment
- Socioeconomic factors
- Healthcare Access

Health Outcomes

- Premature death and Life expectancy
- Infant and Maternal Health
- Child and Adolescent Health
- Adult Chronic Conditions
- Behavioral Health
- Hospital-based quality indicators
- Readmission rates

Results



Scan to view 2021 CHNA

2021 CHNA had low visual representation of disparities. Health indicators were limited and did not always highlight outcomes for vulnerable populations.

2015-2019 Breast Cancer	US	128.1 (127.9, 128.3)
Age-Adjusted Incidence Rate, cases per 100,000 (95% Confidence Interval)	CA	123.1 (122.4, 123.8)
	San Bernardino	113.1 (110.3, 116.0)

County level data can obscure disparities that affect a specific population. Demographic variables such as race, gender, and age should not be considered mutually exclusive.

The depth of the CHNA is reflective of the strength of the existing hospital and community networks.

Health literacy and appropriate reading levels need to be considered when creating survey question and community outreach needs to be prioritized.

State Cancer Profiles > Incidence Rates Table. (n.d.). Retrieved March 21, 2023, from <https://statecancerprofiles.cancer.gov/incidencerates/index.php?stateFIPS=06&areatype=county&cancer=058&race=48&sex=2&age=001&stage=999&year=0&type=incd&sortVariableName=rate&sortOrder=default&output=0#results>

Conclusion

A community's health is determined by its needs, assets, and non-medical factors. Choosing appropriate indicators and data sources to include in a needs assessment is critical to highlighting outcomes that affect vulnerable populations as well as ensuring representation. The collaboration between existing networks and organizations is essential for a timely and comprehensive needs assessment.



Reviewed existing CHNAs to identify gaps and provided recommendations



identified indicators for inclusion



Drafted survey questions to be included in the Community Health Survey



Explored key secondary data sources