



Southwest General

Partnering with



University Hospitals



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2023-2025

**Community Health Needs Assessment
Implementation Strategy Report**

Southwest General Health Center
Middleburg Heights, OH

Introduction

In 2022, Southwest General collaborated with Cleveland Clinic, Cleveland Department of Public Health, Cuyahoga County Board of Health, The MetroHealth System, St. Vincent Charity Medical Center and University Hospitals to conduct a joint community health needs assessment: the 2022 Cuyahoga County Community Health Needs Assessment.

Southwest General also conducted an independent survey of more than 90,000 of their patients and their families to glean what their health needs and concerns are after coming through the pandemic.

Definition and Purpose

A community health needs assessment (CHNA) is a comprehensive approach to collecting qualitative and quantitative data about a geographic area to determine health status, identify and prioritize significant health needs and highlight demographic and social issues contributing to health concerns. The 2022 Cuyahoga County CHNA examined a variety of metrics including, but not limited to, health behaviors, chronic disease, access to healthcare and social determinants of health. The CHNA also studied perceptions from community members and local stakeholders from a wide variety of sectors.

The 2022 Cuyahoga County CHNA served as a foundation for development of the 2023-2025 Cuyahoga County Community Health Improvement Plan (CHIP) and Implementation Strategy (IS). Additionally, it provided the basis for each participating hospital to develop an IS to address the needs that (a) the hospitals determine they are able to meet in whole or in part; (b) are otherwise part of their mission; and (c) are not met (or are not adequately met) by other programs and services in the hospitals' service area.

Federal and State Requirements

Completion of a CHNA every three years and development of an IS to address the community health needs identified in the assessment is a requirement of the 2010 Affordable Care Act and part of the IRS 990 requirement for not-for-profit health systems to retain their 501(c)(3) status.

Ohio law mandates that tax-exempt hospitals and their local health departments collaborate to complete a community health assessment (CHA) and develop a community health improvement plan (CHIP) to reduce duplication of resources and provide a comprehensive approach to addressing health improvement. Assessments and plans must be completed at three-year intervals and submitted to the Ohio Department of Health (ODH). Local hospitals also are required to align with the Ohio State Health Assessment (SHA) and State Health Improvement Plan (SHIP).

The 2022 Cuyahoga County CHNA, which serves the above regulatory needs of the participating non-profit hospital and health department partners, aligns with the 2019 Ohio SHA, the most currently available assessment.

Steering Committee

Southwest General is part of the Cuyahoga County CHNA Steering Committee, which guided the CHNA process, identification of priority health needs and development of the 2023-2025 Cuyahoga County CHIP and IS. Participating Steering Committee organizations include:

- A Vision of Change
- Better Health Partnership
- Case Western Reserve University
- Case Western Reserve University School of Medicine
- Cleveland Clinic
- Cleveland Department of Public Health
- Cuyahoga County Board of Health
- Cuyahoga County Clerk of Courts
- Cuyahoga County Department of Health and Human Services
- The MetroHealth System
- Neighborhood Family Practice
- PolicyBridge
- Southwest General
- St. Vincent Charity Medical Center
- The Center for Health Affairs
- United Way
- University Hospitals

The Steering Committee members will continue to work together as opportunities are identified to expand upon existing initiatives and implement programming in new areas to improve the health of the people in Cuyahoga County.

2022 Cuyahoga County CHNA Identified Priorities

The 2022 Cuyahoga County CHNA identified three health need priorities:

- **Behavioral Health (Mental Health and Drug Use/Misuse)**
- **Accessible and Affordable Health Care**
- **Community Conditions (Access to Healthy Food and Community Safety).**

Eliminating structural racism and enhancing trust across sectors, people, and communities will continue to be two overarching areas of focus for work in Cuyahoga County.

These priorities from the 2022 Cuyahoga County CHNA served as the basis for developing Southwest General's 2023-2025 Community Health Needs Assessment Implementation Strategy Report.

Southwest General's IS Report shares the Health Center's goals, strategies and anticipated outcomes focused on improving the overall health and well-being of community residents. It reflects the Health Center's commitment to providing quality clinical care and community benefit services that help build healthier communities, and it is consistent with our Mission statement: "Health is our Passion. Quality is our Focus. Compassion is our Way."

Adoption by the Board

Southwest General Health Center's Board of Trustees adopted the 2022 Cuyahoga County CHNA in October 2022 and the Health Center's 2023-2025 Community Health Needs Assessment Implementation Strategy in February 2023.

Availability of Community Health Needs Implementation Strategy

Southwest General's 2023-2025 Community Health Needs Assessment Implementation Strategy Report is available on the Health Center's website at www.swgeneral.com.

Written Comments

Individuals are encouraged to submit written comments, questions or other feedback about Southwest General's Implementation Strategy to klinson@swgeneral.com.

Strategies to Address Identified Health Needs

The following strategies delineate Southwest General's plan to address the three health need priorities and overarching areas of focus identified in the 2022 Cuyahoga County CHNA. Additionally, they align with the 2019 Ohio SHA and SHIP and reflect the aligned health priorities of the 2023-2025 Cuyahoga County CHIP and IS. In implementing these strategies, Southwest General will leverage its strengths, resources, community outreach programs and collaboration with community organizations to help achieve the desired outcomes in the communities it serves.

Aligned Health Priority: Community Conditions Access to Healthy Foods

Goals:

Ensure everyone has access to healthy and nutritious foods

Aligned Strategies:

- Improve health by the continued promotion of healthy eating and increase making nutritious foods
 - Educational offerings provided by diatition and nurse educator around healthy choices
 - Provide information on local transportation to area food pantries using www.findhelp.org
 - Provide information on local food pantries using www.findhelp.org
 - Expanding organizational capacity to support regional local food systems efforts, partnership and planning
 - Provide information regarding the SWGH bariatric program
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Anticipated Outcomes:

- Decrease SDOH screening positive for food insecurities
 - Increase capacity of local food pantries and churches
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Aligned Partners:

A Vision of Change, Better Health Partnership, Case Western Reserve University, Case Western Reserve University School of Medicine, Cleveland Clinic, Cleveland Department of Public Health, Cuyahoga County Board of Health, Cuyahoga County Clerk of Courts, Cuyahoga County Department of Health and Human Services, The MetroHealth System, Neighborhood Family Practice, PolicyBridge, Southwest General Health Center, St. Vincent Charity Medical Center, The Center for Health Affairs, United Way, University Hospitals

Aligned Health Priority: Accessible and Affordable Healthcare

Goals:

Incease equitable access and affordable helath care services (including specialists)

Aligned Strategies:

- Increase system investment in primary care and safety net specialty care to support a person and relationship- focus for health care
- Enhance the value of community-based primary care team approach to avoid inappropriate use of ER, readmission and institutional care (hospital, nursing home, etc.) with focus on preventive approach, care management and home health care, throught educational opportunities

- Standardize Social Determinants of Health assessment and implement appropriate timely and adequate intervention
 - Integrated health and social care to serve the whole person at the right place, at the right time by the right people with the right resources
 - Improve community-based preventive care- through education
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Anticipated Outcomes:

- Increase SWGH Van utilization
 - Increase usage of SWGH Medication Assistance Program
 - Increase SDOH screening of MS discharges
 - Expand UniteUs CBO Network with local area social services providers
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Aligned Partners:

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Aligned Health Priority: Behavioral Health (Mental Health and Drug Use/Misuse)

Goals:

Mental/behavioral health is accessible and integrated with primary care

Aligned Strategies:

- Coordinated care for behavioral health
- Alcohol and other drug use screening
- Suicide awareness, prevention and peer norm programs
- Comparable insurance coverage for mental health
- Improve mental health and decrease substance misuse
- Housing programs for people with behavioral health conditions
- Increase access to harm reduction (naloxone, fentanyl test strips, safe use supplies, etc.)
- Identify disparate populations and create linkages to care for at-risk populations
- Mental/behavioral health accessible and integrated with primary care (Accessible Substance Use Disorder treatment)

Anticipated Outcomes:

- An increase in outreach programs regarding mental health and substance abuse
 - An Increase in education and support for students within the local school district
 - An increase in collaborating with local –community-based mental health agencies
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Aligned Partners:

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Aligned Health Priority: Structural and Institutional Racism and Trust

Goals:

Increase employment opportunities to diverse populations

Aligned Strategies:

- Increased awareness of structural racism at SWGH
 - Work with area schools to attract a diverse population of potential employees
 - Expand DE & I group to include community members
 - Create a patient & family advisory board
 - Allyship training by team members
 - Bias training and other educational offerings
 - Participate in Cleveland Racism as Public Health Crisis
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Anticipated Outcomes:

- Decrease health inequities
 - Identify potential system solutions and build trust
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Aligned Partners:

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