Advocate Good Samaritan Hospital Community Health Implementation Strategy

January 1, 2026 - December 31, 2028

Community health improvement is an effective tool for creating a shared vision and supporting a planned and integrated approach to improving health outcomes. The basic premise of community health improvement is that entities identify community health issues, prioritize those that can be addressed, and then develop, implement, and evaluate strategies to address those issues. Tax-exempt hospitals are required to conduct a community health needs assessment (CHNA) and develop an implementation strategy to document how the hospital will address prioritized community health needs. The following outlines a summary of the CHNA process and provides details on how Advocate Good Samaritan Hospital plans to address their prioritized community health needs.

SUMMARY OF CHNA PROCESS

In 2025, Advocate Good Samaritan Hospital (Advocate Good Samaritan) participated with a collaborative in DuPage County to conduct a Community Health Needs Assessment (CHNA), which consisted of a comprehensive presentation and analysis of both qualitative and quantitative data.

Advocate Good Samaritan Hospital's CHNA used existing primary data for prioritization, adding more data throughout the year due to different timelines with the Impact DuPage Committee. Impact DuPage is a multisector partnership focused on identifying and addressing community needs in DuPage County. Primary data was later collected through this partnership:

Forces of Change Assessment: In late 2025, the DuPage County Health Department and Impact DuPage leaders collected qualitative data from 11+ county groups to identify top concerns, which were included in the community health needs assessment.

Healthy Illinois Survey: The Healthy Illinois Survey provides detailed, ZIP-code–level public health data across Illinois, including DuPage County, covering topics such as healthcare access, chronic conditions, and social determinants of health. Led by the Illinois Department of Public Health and NORC, the survey collects thousands of responses statewide each year to help local health departments like DuPage identify needs, address disparities, and guide resource planning. This information was not available at the time of our Community Health Needs Assessment.

Other Local Community Assessments: The community health team at Advocate Good Samaritan Hospital also drew from previous qualitative evaluations, including the 2025 Affordable Housing assessment conducted by the DuPage Federation.

Additionally, Advocate Health Care analyzes secondary data, or existing information gathered from various sources, to provide valuable insights and context from the following sources:

Metopio: Advocate Health Care has a contract with Metopio to provide an internet-based data resource for their hospitals. This robust platform offers curated data from public and proprietary sources for information on health behaviors and health risks, health outcomes, health care utilization, demographic, and community-level drivers of health like economic, housing, employment, and environmental conditions. Data for each indicator is presented by race, ethnicity, and gender when the data is available. All data collected through Metopio was quantitative and included data comparisons between county, state and United States data.

County Health Rankings & Roadmaps – DuPage County: A program of the University of Wisconsin Population Health Institute and supported by the Robert Wood Johnson Foundation, the County Health Rankings & Roadmaps (CHR&R) provides a snapshot of health for nearly every county in the nation, based on a variety of public health data. CHR&R advocates for an understanding of data and evidence to develop methods to improve health and equity.

The top health issues identified in the Advocate Good Samaritan Community Health Needs Assessment were:

- Cardiovascular Disease
- Diabetes
- Respiratory Disease (Asthma & COPD)
- Mental Health
- Substance Use
- Obesity
- Food Insecurity & Access to Healthy Food
- Access to Health Care

Needs Acknowledged (Not Included in the Voting):

- Maternal, Child & Reproductive Health
- Housing
- Cancer

The top health issues identified were presented to the Advocate Good Samaritan Hospital community health council, and members were asked to rank the issues based on the following criteria: size and seriousness of the problem; effectiveness of available interventions; available resources to address the health issue; whether the health care system is adequately positioned to address the issue; alignment with a defined community need identified through data; potential for the issue to impact other health and social issues; and the ability to effectively address or impact the issue through collaboration.

Using these criteria, Advocate Good Samaritan Hospital has prioritized the significant health needs to address in 2026-2028:

Significant Need	Implementation Strategy Selection Reasoning
Access to Health Care	Despite DuPage's reputation as an affluent county, many residents face significant barriers to health care. Challenges include lack of insurance, high costs, transportation difficulties, and a shortage of behavioral health providers. Immigrant communities, older adults, and families with low incomes are especially impacted, leading to delayed or forgone care. Political decisions at the federal, state and local levels can significantly influence available resources and shape residents' access to health care. Improving access ensures that all residents can receive the right care at the right time, reducing health disparities and preventing costly emergencies. The council would like to explore initiatives to improve care coordination, support access to health care and align with the county's needs.
Mental Health	Mental health is a growing concern in DuPage County, with rising rates of depression, anxiety, and stress across all age groups. Youth and young adults are particularly vulnerable, as emergency visits for self-harm and behavioral health issues have increased in recent years. Stigma and lack of awareness often delay people from seeking care until they are in crisis. Expanding access to timely, affordable, and preventive mental health services is critical to protecting long-term community well-being.
Substance Use	Substance use continues to pose serious risks in DuPage County, with opioid overdoses remaining a leading public health challenge. Alcohol misuse and youth vaping are also concerning trends, impacting both immediate health and long-term outcomes. Many individuals with substance use disorders also face co-occurring mental health conditions, which increases the complexity of care needed. By focusing on prevention, treatment, and recovery support, the community can save lives and reduce the burden on families, schools, and healthcare systems.

For each prioritized health need, the hospital plans to commit resources, which may include staff time, information technology systems, outreach, promotions and educational materials, funding, medical supplies, and other resources as available.

PRIORITY: Access to Health Care

IMPACT:
Expand access to ensure people receive preventive, primary, and timely care, reducing the prevalence and severity of chronic and acute conditions.

DESCRIPTION OF HEALTH NEED DATA:

- Among racial and ethnic groups, Hispanic/Latino adults (80.1%) and children (92.6%) have the lowest insurance coverage.
- Bolingbrook, Romeoville, and Lombard experience the highest rates of preventable chronic emergency department visits and face higher levels of hardship.

ALIGNMENT WITH EXISTING STRATEGIES

LOCAL: DuPage County Health Department

- Access to Care was a selected priority for the 2026-2030 Community Health Improvement Plan (CHIP). At this point in time, strategies have not been outlined. ***Source:*** *Impact DuPage*

DuPage Health Coalition:

- Expand Access to Care for Uninsured & Underinsured Residents.
- Strengthen Partnerships Across the Healthcare Ecosystem. ***Source:*** *Access DuPage - DuPage Health Coalition*

STATE: State Health Improvement Plan (SHIP)

Healthy Illinois 2028 Priorities:

- (Chronic Disease) Strategy 4: Increase community-clinical linkages to reduce the incidence and burden of chronic diseases.
- (COVID-19 and Emerging Diseases) Strategy 3: Strengthen public health system infrastructure and coordination to prepare for and respond to communicable disease threats, improving equitable access to needed services. ***Source:*** *Healthy Illinois 2028*

NATIONAL: Healthy People 2030

- Strategy AHS 04: Reduce the proportion of people who can't get medical care when they need it. ***Source:*** *HP 2030*

STRATEGY #1: Enhance internal care coordination and strengthen connections to community resources in Findhelp to advance enterprise goals related to social drivers of health

Planned Interventions	Collaborative Partners	Intended Outcomes
• Expand Advocate Health's Findhelp Trusted Partnership • Improve internal and external coordination of care for patients with an increased risk for poor health outcomes by expanding Epic Care Link	• DuPage Health Coalition • Community-based organizations (CBOs) • Advocate's Social Health department • Advocate Good Samaritan Hospital Care Managers, Department leaders and patient facing teammates	• Increased number of trusted partners within Advocate Health's trusted partnership network to support trusted referrals • Increased number of closed loop referrals to community-based organizations

Measures

- Number of active community-based organizations (CBOs) in Findhelp
- Number of newly enrolled trusted partners in Findhelp
- Number of internal and external training courses offered to support Findhelp expansion
- Percentage of referrals that resolve or partly resolve social needs

**Impact measures are subject to change depending on the direction of each intervention.*

PRIORITY: Access to Health Care (CONTINUED)

STRATEGY #2: Enhance access to resources that support social drivers of health and individual care for community members

Planned Interventions	Collaborative Partners	Intended Outcomes
• Coordinate and strengthen DuPage Access Rides and Community Transportation • Reduce barriers to care for residents by improving access to insurance enrollment, food resources and key community services in the county • Leverage mobile health units staffed with healthcare professionals to provide screenings, care navigation and referrals, and health education to increase access to timely and appropriate healthcare services within the community	• DuPage Health Coalition • DuPage County Health Department • Community Based Organizations (CBOs) • Advocate Good Samaritan's Care Management team • Northern Illinois Food Bank (NIFB) • Advocate Health Mobile Health team	• Improved care access and continuity • Increased number of underinsured residents who successfully attend medical appointments through reliable transportation support • Decreased missed and delayed care • Reduced transportation-related no-show rates among underinsured residents through targeted transportation assistance • Strengthened food security and health outcomes • Expanded onsite food pantry to consistently support food-insecure patients • Improved stability and care navigation • Expanded internal and external services that address social determinants of health (SDOH) needs, including food, insurance, housing, and financial assistance

Measures

- Number of riders enrolled
- Number of rides provided
- Increased appointment attendance rates among underinsured residents
- Percentage of food-insecure patients served through the onsite food pantry program
- Year over year 20% increase in pantry utilization
- Number of people served through mobile health units
- Number of partner sites
- Number of screenings provided

**Impact measures are subject to change depending on the direction of each intervention.*

PRIORITY: Mental Health

IMPACT:

Promote early intervention and treatment to prevent worsening symptoms and improve daily functioning. Reduce stigma and increase awareness to help communities provide better support for those affected.

DESCRIPTION OF HEALTH NEED DATA:

- In the county, 17.1% of adults report a depression diagnosis, with notable variation in self-reported poor mental health, highest in Romeoville and Bolingbrook.
- Youth aged 5–17 and Non-Hispanic Black residents face the highest suicide and self-injury emergency department (ED) visit rates, and females have higher rates than males.

ALIGNMENT WITH EXISTING STRATEGIES

LOCAL: DuPage County Health Department

- Mental Health was a selected priority for the 2026-2030 Community Health Improvement Plan (CHIP). Currently, no strategies have been defined. ***Source:*** *Impact DuPage*

STATE: State Health Improvement Plan (SHIP)

Healthy Illinois 2028 Priorities:

- (Mental Health and Substance Use Disorder) Strategy 1: Improve the mental health and substance use disorder (SUD) system's infrastructure to support and strengthen prevention and treatment.
- (Mental Health and Substance Use Disorder) Strategy 4: Improve the resilience and recovery capital of communities experiencing violence

NATIONAL: Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) Mental Health Strategy

- Strategy 1: Promote Well-being
- Strategy 2: Improve Access to Supports and Opportunities. ***Source:*** Protecting the Nation's Mental Health | Mental Health | CDC

STRATEGY #1: Advance community partnerships to enhance the co-delivery of adult and youth mental health education and support programs

Planned Interventions	Collaborative Partners	Intended Outcomes
• Implement Mindful Messages Program, a local text message support program that grew out of the Behavioral Health Collaborative's Youth Mental Health subcommittee in DuPage County to provide resources on mental health for families • Launch Basics Engagement Stations in child-focused settings within the hospitals primary service area (PSA) to promote early childhood development through five evidence-based principles embedded in daily family engagement • Coordinate with partners to organize Adult and Youth Mental Health First Aid trainings in the community. • Partner on community-centered programming, to include Mental Health First Aid (MHFA), Advocate Health's Mental Health Companionship Program in the Community, and others	• DuPage County Health Department Behavioral Health Collaborative (BHC) • NAMI Mental Health • Sertoma Star Services • Local Libraries • Community Based Organizations • Advocate Health's Faith & Health Partnerships Network	• Strengthened ability for parents to support youth mental health through accessible, evidence-informed tools • Improved awareness and understanding of youth mental health and local resources throughout the county • Increased number of Basics Engagement Stations in DuPage County • Reduced stigma on discussing mental health

PRIORITY: Mental Health (CONTINUED)

Measures

- Number of parents enrolled in the text support program
- Percent of parents reporting increased confidence (count from pulse survey)
- Percent of parents reporting at least one action taken (count from pulse survey)
- Number of Basics Engagement stations placed in the county

Impact measures are subject to change depending on the direction of each intervention.

STRATEGY #2: Broaden access to high-quality mental health resources to support the ongoing learning and resilience of health professionals

Planned Interventions	Collaborative Partners	Intended Outcomes
• Offer and expand Advocate Health's Mental Health Companionship Program in the Community • Strengthen community partnerships to Expand Mental Health training for professionals, including MHFA, Motivational Interviewing, Trauma Informed Care, and other best practices	• Advocate Health's Faith and Health Partnership • Community Based Organizations (CBOs)	• Reduced isolation and suffering through meaningful relationships and shared connection • Increased understanding of the intersection between trauma, faith, and healing to support emotional and spiritual wellbeing • Increased number of participants with accessible resources and tools to nurture care for themselves and others

Measures

- Number of training sessions organized
- Number of newly trained participants
- Number of workshops offered

**Impact measures are subject to change depending on the direction of each intervention.*

PRIORITY: Substance Use

IMPACT:

Reduce the impact that substance use has on public health, mental well-being and community stability through prevention tactics and accessible treatment and resources.

DESCRIPTION OF HEALTH NEED DATA:

- Elmhurst, Glen Ellyn, and Villa Park exceed 19% binge drinking; Oakbrook/Oakbrook Terrace reports alcohol-related ED visits to over 760 ED visits per 100,000 residents.
- Oakbrook/Oakbrook Terrace and Villa Park show the highest opioid-related ED visits and hospitalizations in the PSA.
- Overdose deaths and treatment access gaps persist in the service area. DuPage County recorded 114 overdose deaths in 2023; efforts to increase NARCAN access continue to save lives, but more work needs to be done.

ALIGNMENT WITH EXISTING STRATEGIES

LOCAL: DuPage County Health Department

- Substance Use was a selected priority for the 2026-2030 Community Health Improvement Plan (CHIP). Currently, no strategies have been defined.
  Source: *Impact DuPage*

STATE: Illinois State Health Improvement Plan (SHIP)

Mental Health and Substance Use Disorder:

- Strategy 1: Improve the mental health and substance use disorder (SUD) system's infrastructure to support and strengthen prevention and treatment.
- Strategy 2: Reduce mortality due to mental health conditions and substance use disorders through harm reduction and preventative care strategies.
  Source: *Healthy Illinois 2028*

NATIONAL: Healthy People 2030

- Strategy 1: Reduce the proportion of adults who used drugs in the past month
- Strategy 2: Reduce drug overdose deaths
- Strategy 3: Reduce overdose deaths involving opioids
- ***Source***: *Drug and Alcohol Use - Healthy People 2030 | odphp.health.gov*

STRATEGY #1: Deepen partnerships with local organizations to expand substance use education and support resources for internal and external professionals

Planned Interventions	Collaborative Partners	Intended Outcomes
• Expand access to substance use training for both health professionals and non-health professionals • Expand Screening, Brief Intervention and Referral Training (SBIRT) for professionals	• DuPage County Health Department • Gateway Foundation • Advocate Good Samaritan's Care Management • Community Based Organizations	• Reduced substance related harm and emergency events • Increased provider competency and confidence in addressing substance use • Strengthened workforce capacity across care settings • Improved early screening, referral, and harm reduction • Expanded overdose prevention and response capacity • Increased number of college and university counselors equipped with skills to identify risky substance use early

PRIORITY: Substance Use (CONTINUED)

Measures

- Percentage increase in self-reported knowledge from pre to post surveys
- Percentage of participants reporting increased preparedness
- Number of SBIRT courses delivered
- Number of counselors & professionals trained
- Pre/Post surveys to measure the effectiveness of the training
- Number of screenings and referrals made throughout the year following the training

**Impact measures are subject to change depending on the direction of each intervention.*

STRATEGY #2: Strengthen and expand community-based substance use education and support resources to improve awareness, early intervention and support

Planned Interventions	Collaborative Partners	Intended Outcomes
• Align with DuPage County's Prevention Leadership Team (PLT) to support access to substance misuse services • Support harm reduction programs in the community such as SBIRT Program, Narcan education, alcohol support, and prevention • Expand the number of Advocate trusted substance use partners in Findhelp to strengthen community referrals	• DuPage County Health Department • Community Based Organizations (CBOs) • Advocate Good Samaritan's Behavioral Health Team	• Increased access to equitable harm reduction and overdose prevention resources in the community • Improved alignment with community-led efforts to strengthen local capacity and impact • Improved linkage to treatment and recovery support post-hospital discharge • Reduced overdose deaths

Measures

- Number of harm reduction and overdose prevention programs offered
- Number of Substance Use agencies enrolled as trusted partners in Find Help
- Percentage increase in self-reported knowledge from pre to post
- Percentage of participants reporting increased preparedness

**Impact measures are subject to change depending on the direction of each intervention.*

Note: Plans to address selected CHNA priorities are dependent upon resources and may be adjusted on an annual basis to best address the health needs of our community.

Needs Not Addressed

This Community Health Implementation Strategy focuses on the above priority health needs selected by the hospital based on community input, available resources, and alignment with organizational and community partner capacity. The Community Health Needs Assessment (CHNA) also identified additional significant health needs, including cardiovascular disease, diabetes, respiratory disease, obesity, food insecurity, maternal, child and reproductive health, housing, and cancer. These needs, while also important, are not addressed in this CHIS due to factors such as limited hospital resources, the presence of existing initiatives led by other organizations, or a determination that the hospital is not best positioned to lead efforts in these areas at this time. Advocate Health will continue to collaborate with community partners and share resources, when appropriate, to support progress on these needs within the community.

Adoption of the Implementation Strategy

The Community Health Implementation Strategy report was adopted by the governing council on April 16, 2026, and additionally approved by the Advocate Health Care Network Board on May 5, 2026.