Aurora Lakeland Medical Center Community Health Implementation Strategy

January 1, 2024 – December 31, 2026

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 Aurora Lakeland Medical Center's plans to address their prioritized community health needs.

SUMMARY OF AURORA LAKELAND MEDICAL CENTER COMMUNITY HEALTH NEEDS ASSESSMENT PROCESS

In 2023, Aurora Lakeland Medical Center (Aurora Lakeland) completed the Community Health Needs Assessment (CHNA) in collaboration with Mercy Health System and the Walworth County Division of Public Health, which consisted of a comprehensive presentation and analysis of both qualitative and quantitative data.

Aurora Lakeland CHNA relies on three sources of information:

- **Community Health Survey (primary data):** online surveys conducted November 2022 – January 2023, with 555 Walworth County residents completing questions related to the top health needs in the community, individuals' perception of their overall health, access to health services, and social drivers of health, including racism and health equity.
- **Stakeholder Interviews (primary data):** conducted by health system community benefit leaders with 19 individuals to identify the community's most pressing health issues and effective health improvement strategies.
- **Metopio (secondary data) was a key source of data for the 2023 Aurora Lakeland CHNA.** The data platform is an internet-based resource which includes data for demographics, health, emergency department (ED) visits, hospitalization rates, and more. This secondary data was crucial in analyzing the hospital's health needs. All data collected through Metopio was quantitative and included Wisconsin data comparisons between county, state and national data.

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As part of the CHNA process, Community Heath teammates presented extensive community data to the Aurora Burlington/Walworth County Steering Council, which is comprised of hospital and community representatives. The Steering Council provided oversight of the 2023 CHNA process through a series of meetings by reviewing and analyzing data. The top eight health issues identified in the Aurora Lakeland Community Health Needs Assessment were:

- Mental Health, Suicide and Self-Injury
- Alcohol and Substance Use
- Housing and Transportation
- Accessible and Affordable Health Care
- Chronic Diseases (Diabetes, Stroke, Heart Failure)
- Nutrition, Physical Activity and Obesity
- Food Insecurity
- Maternal and Infant Health

The Steering Council prioritized the significant health needs using criteria including severity of the health issues, effectiveness of available interventions, available resources, and ability to effectively address or impact health issues through collaboration. Council members selected the top three health issues of mental health, suicide and self-injury, alcohol and substance use, and chronic diseases (diabetes, stroke, and heart failure), as the priority needs to address in the 2024-2026.

SIGNIFICANT HEALTH NEEDS IDENTIFIED AND SELECTED FOR IMPLEMENTATION STRATEGY AND WHY

Mental Health, Suicide and Self-Injury

Mental health, suicide and self-injury was selected as the first health priority for the CHNA based on the data presented at the Steering Council meetings. The rates of mental health, suicide and self-injury continues to increase over time in Walworth County indicating that more work needs to be done to address the ever-growing need for additional services, access to programs and support services in our communities. The Walworth County Public Health Department has also identified mental health as a health priority in their community health improvement plan and Aurora Lakeland will continue to collaborate on interventions.

Alcohol and Substance Use

Alcohol and substance use was selected as the second health priority for the CHNA based on the data presented to the Steering Council. Rates continue to increase over time indicating the need for expansion of services.

Chronic Diseases (Diabetes, Stroke, Heart Failure)

The Steering Council selected chronic diseases as the third health priority for the CHNA based on the data presented. The focus will be specifically on diabetes, stroke and heart failure by investigating opportunities to develop strategies to address these chronic diseases in Walworth County.

PRIORITY: Mental Health, Suicide and Self-Injury

IMPACT:

Reduce mental health, suicide, and self-injury rates in Walworth County

DESCRIPTION OF HEALTH NEED DATA:

- A total of 53 percent of Walworth County online survey respondents reported that mental health, mental health conditions and suicide are the most important health conditions or behavior to be addressed to improve the health of Walworth County residents.

Source: Walworth County Online Community Health Survey, 2023

- Emergency Department (ED) rates due to mental health in Walworth County are highest among the Non-Hispanic Black population, Females and Young Adults (18-39 years) and hospitalization rates are highest among Juveniles (5-17 years).

Source: Metopio, Wisconsin Health Association Information Center, 2018-2022

- Non-Hispanic Black population, Females, Juveniles (5-17 years) and Young Adults (18-39 years) have the highest ED and hospitalization rates due to suicide and self-injury in Walworth County.

Source: Metopio, Wisconsin Health Association Information Center, 2018-2022

- Suicide mortality rates are highest in Walworth County among males and Young Adults (18-39 years).

Source: Metopio, National Vital Statistics System-Mortality, 2016-2020

ALIGNMENT WITH EXISTING STRATEGIES

LOCAL: **Aurora Lakeland Medical Center Strategy**
- Access to Behavioral Health Services (Advocate Health)
- Walworth County Community Health Improvement Plan (Walworth County Public Health)

STATE: **Wisconsin State Health Plan Priority Areas**
- Mental and emotional health and well-being

NATIONAL: **HEALTHY PEOPLE 2030**
- Improve mental health

HEALTH PRIORITY: Mental Health, Suicide and Self-Injury cont.

STRATEGY #1: Implement Zero Suicide Initiative to decrease suicide rates

SPECIFIC INTERVENTIONS	COLLABORATIVE PARTNERS	OBJECTIVES
• Implement the Zero Suicide Initiative in the Aurora Lakeland Medical Center Emergency Department	• Aurora Lakeland Medical Center Emergency Department • Walworth County Public Health • Local community organizations	• Decrease suicide rates in Walworth County • Increase awareness and access to mental health services in community

MEASURING OUR IMPACT

- Number of patients screened in the emergency department
- Number of patients who screen positive on the Zero Suicide screen who are referred to mental health services
- Percentage change in Aurora Lakeland Medical Center emergency department and hospitalization rates due to suicide and self-injury

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

STRATEGY #2: Improve mental health through community collaborations and services

SPECIFIC INTERVENTIONS	COLLABORATIVE PARTNERS	OBJECTIVES
• Implement youth mental health initiatives in Walworth County • Support local coalitions and community organizations that address mental health • Explore interventions that address mental health among high need populations	• Walworth County area school districts • Local community organizations focused on mental health • Walworth County Public Health	• Collaborate with community partners to increase awareness of mental health services available to youth • Increase coordination to and awareness of local community organizations for high need populations

MEASURING OUR IMPACT

- Number of individuals served
- Number of referrals made to community-based organizations for support programs
- Percentage change in Aurora Lakeland Medical Center emergency department and hospitalization rates due to mental health among youth population

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

PRIORITY: Alcohol and Substance Use

IMPACT:

Reduce alcohol and substance use rates in Walworth County

DESCRIPTION OF HEALTH NEED DATA:

- A total of 57 percent of Walworth County online survey respondents reported alcohol and substance use were the most important health condition or behavior to be addressed to improve the health of Walworth County residents.

Source: Walworth County Online Community Health Survey, 2023

- ED rates due to alcohol use are highest in Walworth County among the Hispanic or Latino population, Males and Middle-aged Adults (40-64 years). Hospitalization rates due to alcohol use are highest among the Non-Hispanic White population, Males and Young Adults (18-39 years).

Source: Metopio, Wisconsin Health Association Information Center, 2018-2022

- ED and hospitalization rates due to opioid use are highest among the Non-Hispanic Black population and Young Adults (18-39 years) in Walworth County.

Source: Metopio, Wisconsin Health Association Information Center, 2018-2022

- Drug overdose mortality rates are significantly increasing over time, with the highest death rates in Walworth County among Males and Young Adults (18-39 years).

Source: Metopio, National Vital Statistics System-Mortality, CDC Wonder, 2016-2020

ALIGNMENT WITH EXISTING STRATEGIES

LOCAL: **Aurora Lakeland Medical Center Strategy**

- Access to behavioral health services (Advocate Health)
- Walworth County Community Health Improvement Plan (Walworth County Public Health)

STATE: **Wisconsin State Health Plan Priority Areas**

- Mental and emotional health and well-being

NATIONAL: **HEALTHY PEOPLE 2030**

- Reduce misuse of drugs and alcohol

HEALTH PRIORITY: Alcohol and Substance Use cont.

STRATEGY #1: Improve awareness of alcohol and substance use services through community collaborations

SPECIFIC INTERVENTIONS	COLLABORATIVE PARTNERS	OBJECTIVES
• Increase Narcan training in community • Increase access to Narcan in the community through collaborations • Implement First Breath program for new moms at Aurora Lakeland Medical Center	• Aurora Lakeland Medical Center Emergency Department • Walworth County Public Health • Local community-based organizations focused on alcohol and substance use	• Collaborate with community partners to implement Narcan training • Collaborate with community partners to make Narcan available for distribution • Increase awareness and enrollment in First Breath program for moms concerned with tobacco, alcohol and/or substance use

MEASURING OUR IMPACT

- Number of Narcan trainings completed in community
- Number of Narcan distribution locations in community
- Number of new moms enrolled in First Breath program
- Percentage change in Aurora Lakeland Medical Center emergency department and hospitalization rates due to substance use and opioid use

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

HEALTH PRIORITY: Chronic Diseases (Diabetes, Stroke, Heart Failure)

IMPACT:

Reduce chronic disease rates among adults in Walworth County

DESCRIPTION OF HEALTH NEED DATA:

- ED and hospitalization rates due to heart failure are highest in Walworth County among the Non-Hispanic Black population, Males and Seniors (ages 65 and older).

Source: Metopio, Wisconsin Health Association Information Center, 2018-2022

- ED and hospitalization rates due to stroke are steadily increasing in Walworth County, with the highest rates being among the Non-Hispanic White population.

Source: Metopio, Wisconsin Health Association Information Center, 2018-2022

- In Walworth County, the ED and hospitalization rates due to diabetes are highest among the Non-Hispanic Black population, Males and Seniors (ages 65 and older).

Source: Metopio, Wisconsin Health Association Information Center, 2018-2022

- Obesity rates among adults and youth are steadily increasing over time. In Walworth County, 36.9 percent of adults ages 18 and older are obese which is higher than the Wisconsin rate.

Source: Metopio, BRFSS, Diabetes Atlas, PLACES, 2021

- In Walworth County, 9.4 percent of residents are living in food deserts, which is higher than Wisconsin at 4.3 percent.

Source: Metopio, USDA, 2019

ALIGNMENT WITH EXISTING STRATEGIES

LOCAL: **Aurora Lakeland Medical Center Strategy**

- Food security (Advocate Health)

STATE: **Wisconsin State Health Plan Priority Areas**

- Physical, mental and systemic safety
- Person and community centered health care

NATIONAL: **HEALTHY PEOPLE 2030**

- Reduce overweight and obesity by helping people eat healthy and get physical activity

HEALTH PRIORITY: Chronic Diseases (Diabetes, Stroke, Heart Failure) cont.

STRATEGY #1: Build community awareness and education of chronic disease management programs and services

SPECIFIC INTERVENTIONS	COLLABORATIVE PARTNERS	OBJECTIVES
• Support awareness in the community of the Advocate Aurora Advanced Care at Home (ACAH) program in Walworth County • Align with local organizations and support community driven efforts that address health education, prevention and management of chronic diseases	• Aurora Lakeland Medical Center • Advocate Health Continuing Health – Health at Home • Free health clinic • Federally Qualified Health Centers (FQHCs) • Walworth County Public Health	• Increase awareness of programs in the community for patients will chronic diseases • Improve health outcomes and metrics for chronic diseases such as diabetes, heart disease and stroke • Improve chronic disease self-management for patients enrolled in programs

MEASURING OUR IMPACT

- Number of patients enrolled in ACAH program from Aurora Lakeland Medical Center – Walworth County
- Percentage change in Aurora Lakeland Medical Center emergency department and hospitalization rates due to diabetes, stroke and heart disease

**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.