



COMMUNITY HEALTH NEEDS ASSESSMENT

Executive Summary Document

Sussex County is Our Specialty



JUNE 2022





TABLE OF CONTENTS

Mission	4
Vision	4
Introduction	5
Community at-a-Glance	7
The Community Health Needs Assessment Process Overview	10
CHNA Kick-Off Meeting	11
Evaluation of 2019 Implementation Strategy Plan	11
Community Stakeholder Interviews	18
Public Commentary	19
Community Health Data Profile (Secondary Data)	20
Community Health Survey	22
Focus Groups	23
Prioritization Planning Session	26
Community Resource Inventory	27
Final CHNA Report	28
Next Steps	29
Data Gaps	29

MISSION

Beebe Healthcare's charitable mission is to encourage healthy living, prevent illness, and restore optimal health with the people residing, working, or visiting the communities we serve.

VISION

Our vision is that Beebe Healthcare will be the health system of choice for all people in Sussex County.





INTRODUCTION



Beebe Healthcare, founded in 1916, is a not-for-profit community health system with services offered throughout Sussex County, Delaware. Beebe has become the premier healthcare facility in the County, serving thriving coastal towns, vacation resort areas, a desired retirement destination as well as farming and rural communities. Beebe provides comprehensive inpatient, outpatient, and emergency services. Current structure includes the Margaret H. Rollins Lewes Campus and its 210-bed medical center, the Rehoboth Health Campus, South Coastal Health Campus, as well as primary and specialty care practices throughout southern Delaware. Outpatient services include Home Care, an Outpatient Surgical Center, Diagnostic Imaging, Physical Rehabilitation, four Walk-In Care Centers and three High School Based – Wellness Centers. In addition, the Margaret H. Rollins School of Nursing at Beebe Healthcare is the only hospital-based nursing school in Delaware.

Over the last five years, Beebe Healthcare has continued to expand and improve access to health care in Sussex County with its South Coastal Health Campus near Millville that includes a free-standing Emergency Department and Cancer Center. In addition, the expansion includes a brand-new Specialty Surgical Hospital on the Rehoboth Campus as well as an extension of its Center for Heart and Vascular Services at the Lewes Campus. Beebe was also the first hospital in the state to launch a Hospital at Home Program which allows qualifying patients to be treated for their medical condition in the comfort of their own home as a substitute for traditional inpatient, in-the-hospital care.

The mission of Beebe Healthcare is rooted in three actions: encouraging healthy living, preventing illness and restoring optimal health within our community. To optimize the health of people in our community, Beebe supports the provision of a community health needs assessment (CHNA) so that Beebe may identify the community needs and adapt services to create a healthier community and bring services to where people live and work. The health care, education, and services provided today are key to healthy communities of tomorrow.

The Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act (PPACA), which went into effect on March 23, 2010, requires tax-exempt hospitals to conduct a community health needs assessments and implementation strategy plan to improve the health and well-being of residents within the communities served by the hospitals. These strategies created by hospitals and institutions consist of programs, activities, and plans that are specifically targeted toward populations within the community. The execution of the implementation strategy plan is designed to increase and track the impact of each hospital's efforts.

The requirements imposed by the IRS for tax-exempt hospitals and health systems must include the following:

- Conduct a CHNA every three years.
- Adopt an implementation strategy to meet the community health needs identified through the assessment.
- Report how the strategy is addressing the needs identified in the CHNA and a description of needs that are not being addressed with the reasons why.

Health care providers in Sussex County are committed to understanding, assessing, and addressing the health care needs of their communities. In order to maintain the alignment of Beebe Healthcare with the health needs of the community, a CHNA was once again initiated. In January 2022, Beebe Healthcare formed an internal working group and a larger Steering Committee to help identify the needs of those living in Sussex County. With a mutual interest in the health and well-being of residents in the region served by Beebe Healthcare, a comprehensive CHNA was conducted to evaluate and understand the region's health needs. This study, conducted by Tripp Umbach,¹ identifies specific community health needs and evaluates how those needs are being met to better connect health and human services with the needs of residents within the region.

The community health needs assessment represented a comprehensive community-wide process where Beebe Healthcare connected with a wide range of public and private organizations, such as health-related professionals, local government officials, and human service organizations, to evaluate the community's health and social needs. Tripp Umbach's independent review of existing data, in-depth interviews with local stakeholders, and detailed findings from a community health survey resulted in the identification and confirmation of key community health needs served by Beebe Healthcare. The following community health needs will be further addressed in an implementation strategy phase that will further explore ways Beebe Healthcare can assist in meeting the needs of the communities they serve. The identified needs below are in no particular order.

This executive summary report documents how Beebe Healthcare's CHNA was conducted and describes the related findings.

Figure 1: 2022 Final CHNA Needs

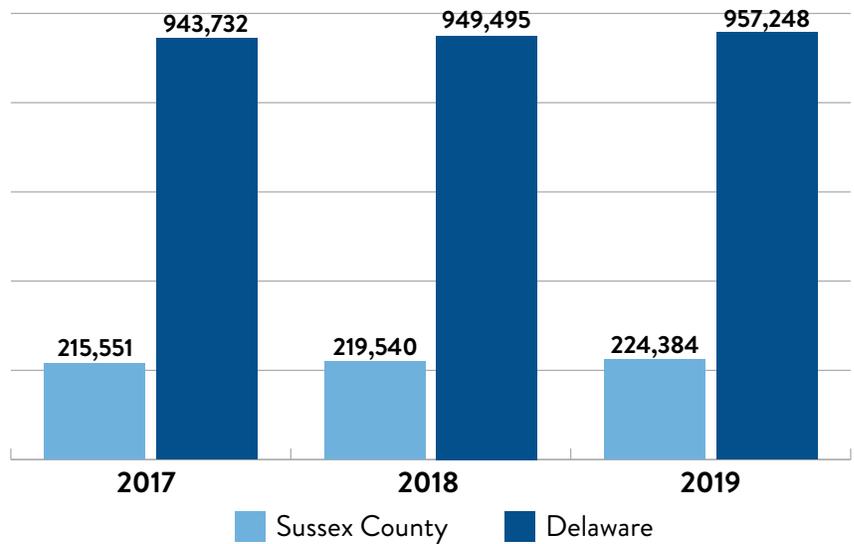


¹ Tripp Umbach is a nationally recognized consulting firm that empowers clients to transform and grow in an ever-changing world. Tripp Umbach has completed thousands of assignments globally, providing the essential blueprint, through market research, strategic planning, and economic impact for clients and their communities to generate billions of dollars through new initiatives.

COMMUNITY AT-A-GLANCE

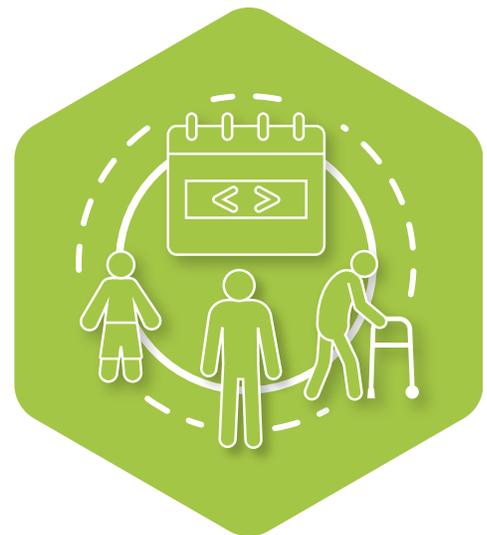
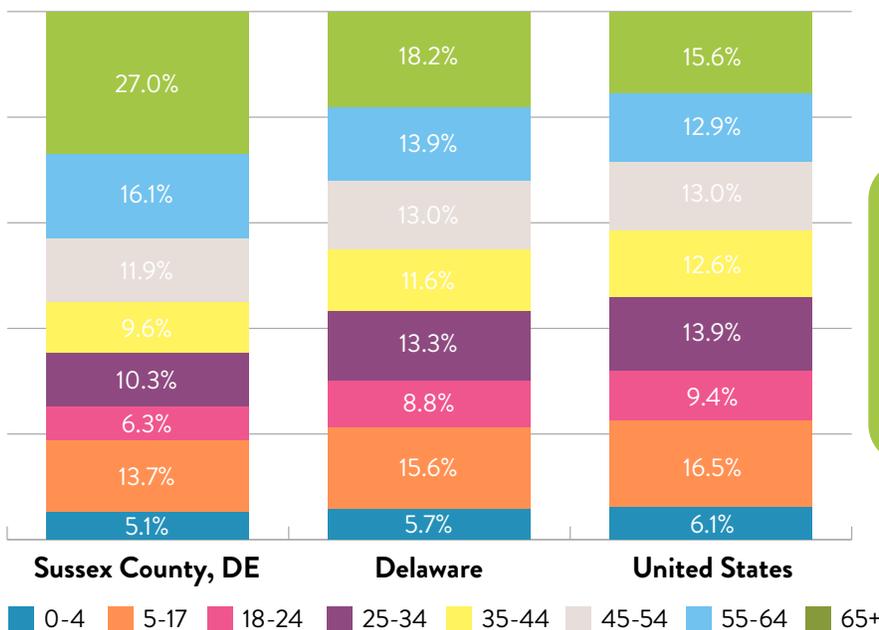
Beebe Healthcare’s community is defined as southern Delaware. Besides its primary location in Lewes, Beebe Healthcare operates outpatient facilities in Rehoboth Beach, Milton, Georgetown, Long Neck, Millsboro, and Millville. The health care institution’s primary service area is ZIP codes in Sussex County. With a 106-year presence in the same neighborhood, Beebe Healthcare has long served its mission and vision and will continue to provide high-quality patient services to its community.

Figure 2: Total Population (Estimate 2017-2019)



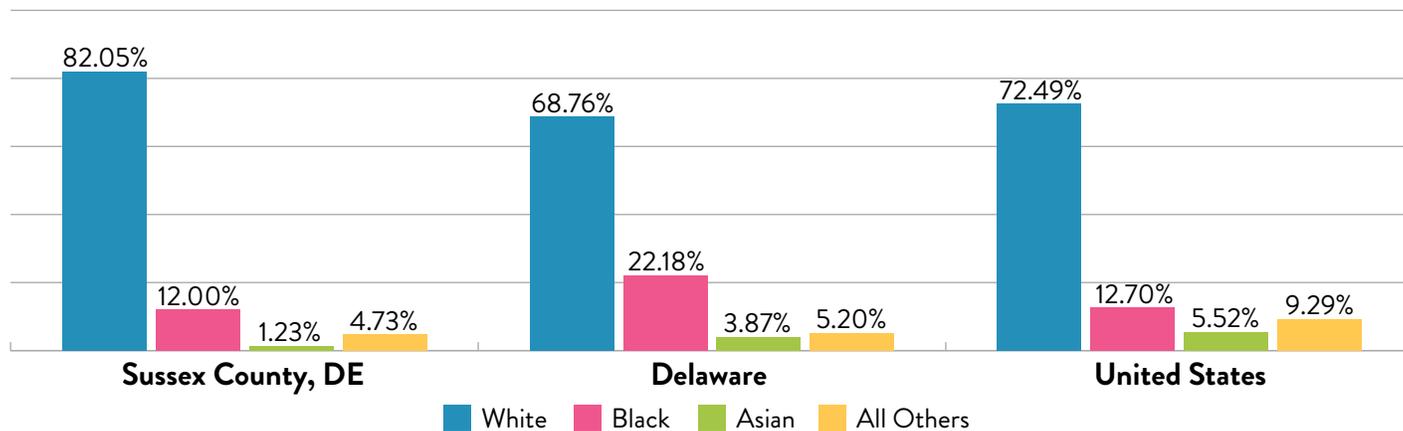
Source: U.S. Census Bureau

Figure 3: Age Distribution (five-year estimate 2015-2019)



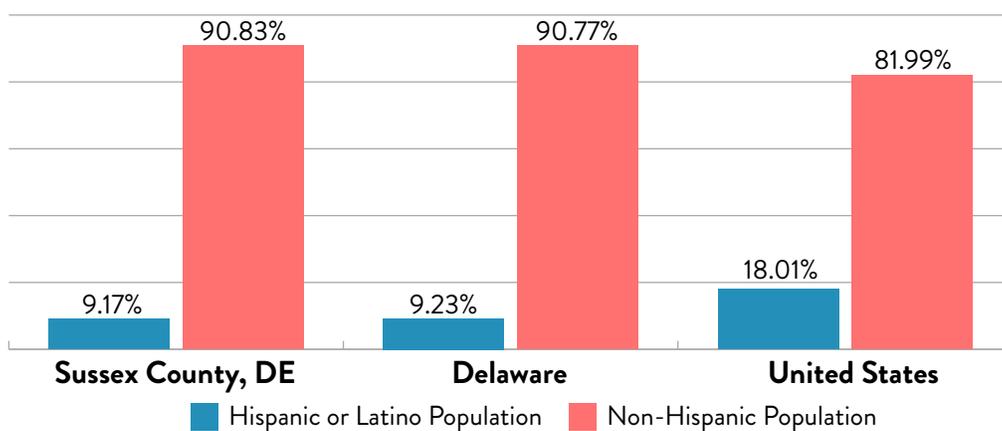
Source: U.S. Census Bureau

Figure 4: Total Population by Race Alone (Estimate)



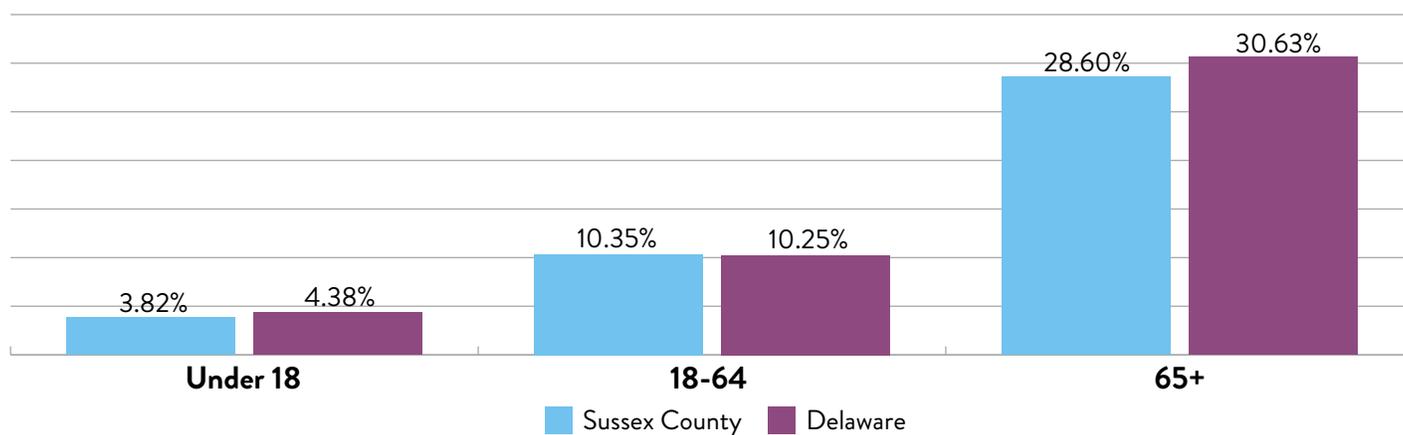
Source: U.S. Census Bureau

Figure 5: Total Population by Ethnicity Alone (Estimate)



Source: U.S. Census Bureau

Figure 6: Population with Any Disability by Age



Source: U.S. Census Bureau

Figure 7: Education Level



■ No High School Diploma
 ■ High School Only
 ■ Some College
 ■ Associate's Degree
 ■ Bachelor's Degree
 ■ Graduate or Professional Degree

Source: U.S. Census Bureau

Figure 8: Median Household Income



■ 2017
 ■ 2018
 ■ 2019

Source: U.S. Census Bureau

THE COMMUNITY HEALTH NEEDS ASSESSMENT PROCESS OVERVIEW

Tripp Umbach directed and managed a comprehensive community health needs assessment for Beebe Healthcare, resulting in the identification and prioritization of community health needs at the regional level. The diagram below outlines the process and depicts each project component piece within the CHNA. Each project component is further described in following the graphic.

Figure 9: Process Chart of Community Health Needs Assessment (CHNA) 2022²



² Specific report findings from certain project pieces can be obtained from the Population Health Department.



CHNA KICK-OFF MEETING

The CHNA began in January 2022. Members of the internal working group (i.e., working group) met with the project team at Tripp Umbach to determine an overall project scope, which included a timeline for project completion, roles, and expectations of the working group.

The working group formed to tackle and manage the work behind each project component piece. The internal team included members from Beebe Healthcare whose expertise helped guide the CHNA process.

EVALUATION OF 2019 IMPLEMENTATION STRATEGY PLAN

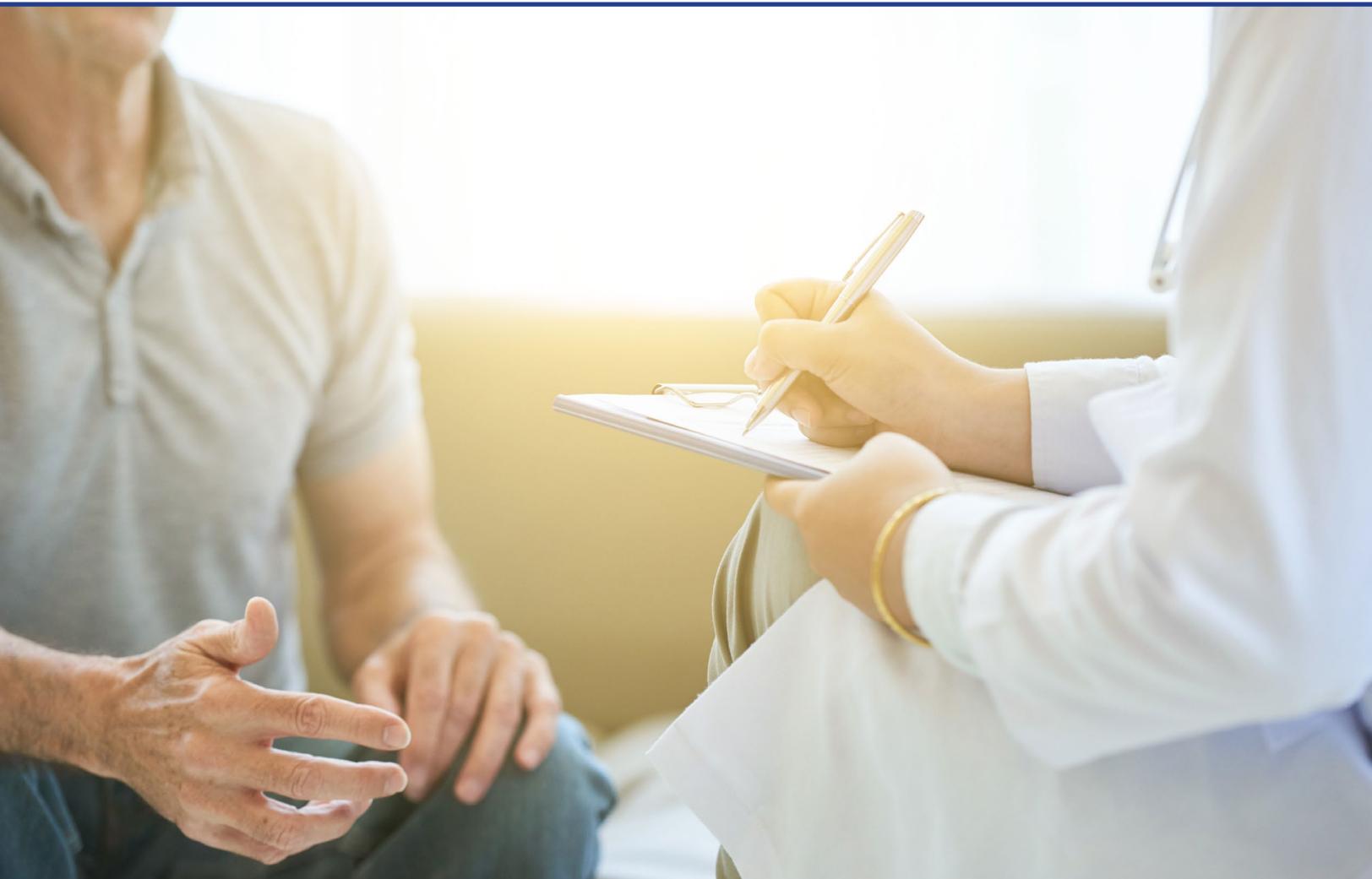
Representatives from Beebe Healthcare have worked over the last three years to develop and implement strategies to address the health needs and issues in the study area and evaluate the effectiveness of the strategies created in terms of meeting goals and combating health problems in the community.

Tripp Umbach received the 2019 CHNA implementation plan status and outcome summary assessments provided by the working group charged with assisting Tripp Umbach in completing the CHNA. Tripp Umbach provided the Beebe Healthcare working group with an implementation strategy planning evaluation matrix to evaluate the 2019 implementation strategy plan. The purpose of the evaluation process is to determine the effectiveness of the 2019 strategies, including each of the identified priorities: Behavioral Health and Mental Health; Cancer/Prevention & Screening; and Obesity/Nutrition/Chronic Disease.

The working group tackled the goals for each past priority and strategy and developed ways to address its effectiveness. The self-assessments on each of the strategies are internal markers to denote how to improve and track each of the strategies and action steps within the next three years. The following tables reflect highlights and accomplishments from Beebe Healthcare. Specific metric information/measurable indicators can be obtained from the hospital's administrative department.

HEALTH PRIORITY:

BEHAVIORAL HEALTH AND MENTAL HEALTH



GOAL(S):

1. Identify patients more quickly by implementing expanded screening methods in the inpatient, outpatient, and emergency department environments.
2. Intervene in the patient stage and refer them to quality, targeted services available in the community that are equipped and focused on supporting their specific substance use disorder treatment needs and mental health needs.
3. Ensure alignment of clinical providers prescribing behaviors as well as state and federal regulations surrounding pain medication management.
4. Evaluate compliance, current interventions, and alignment with the Behavioral Health Consortium's three-year action plan and the Delaware State Health Improvement Plan.
5. Assess and address educational deficits.

Table 10: Behavioral Health and Mental Health

OBJECTIVES	STRATEGIES	2019	2020	2021
<p>Improve behavioral and mental health by ensuring access to appropriate, quality behavioral and mental health services.</p>	<p>Screened for behavioral, mental, and emotional health indicators in both inpatient and outpatient settings.</p>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
	<p>Connected clients/patients to effective community resources aimed at providing mental health care and substance abuse treatment programs and/or facilities.</p>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
<p>Increase education and awareness in the community at large about mental and behavioral health needs, as well as substance abuse prevention, addiction and recovery, addressing existing stigma.</p>	<p>Supported education of area providers regarding current evidence-based opioid prescribing standards.</p>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
<p>Establish more partnerships with local community organizations to augment connections to resources.</p>		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>

HEALTH PRIORITY:

CANCER, PREVENTION, AND SCREENING



GOAL(S):

1. Improve early detection through early detection cancer screening, risk reduction education, and navigation services
2. Expand reach on awareness, screenings, and education
3. Expand whole person care through the cancer journey
4. Expand Survivorship Programs

Table 11: Cancer, Prevention, and Screening

OBJECTIVES	STRATEGIES	2019	2020	2021
Improve early detection through early detection cancer screening, risk reduction education, and navigation services	<p>Provided outreach education and presentations to various community venues including churches, civic associations, schools, community health fairs, and events.</p> <p>Timeliness of care for patients with LDCT positive findings.</p>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/> *	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Expand reach on awareness, screenings, and education	Nurse Navigator continued to provide resources for screenings and connect clients to specialists and education when necessary.	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Expand whole person care through the cancer journey		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Expand Survivorship Programs		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>

Note: * Due to the impact and priorities of COVID-19, there is a paucity of state data and benchmarks available.

HEALTH PRIORITY:

OBESITY, NUTRITION, AND CHRONIC DISEASE



GOAL(S):

1. Increase the percentage of Sussex County residents reporting targeted health behaviors including healthy eating and an active lifestyle.
2. Increase the percentage of Sussex County residents with a healthy weight range.
3. Increase education and awareness around targeted health behaviors that positively impact the resident's lifestyle choices, improving their overall health and weight.

Table 12: Obesity, Nutrition, and Chronic Disease

OBJECTIVES	STRATEGIES	2019	2020	2021
Increase the percentage of Sussex County residents reporting targeted health behaviors including healthy eating, and an active lifestyle.	<p>Refined, build, and expanded Beebe programs that target individuals who are living with chronic health conditions or are overweight/obese.</p> <p>Leveraged community partnerships for more efficient and effective implementation of programs, improving reach and outcomes.</p>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/> *	<input type="checkbox"/> *
Increase the percentage of Sussex County residents with a healthy weight range.		<input type="checkbox"/> *	<input type="checkbox"/> *	<input type="checkbox"/> *
Increase education and awareness around targeted health behaviors that positively impact the resident’s lifestyle choices, improving their overall health and weight.	Integrated education and skills approach to address specific screening results and connect them to resources that implement and support patient-centered lifestyle changes.	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/> *	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>

Note: * Due to the impact and priorities of COVID-19, there is a paucity of state data and benchmarks available.

COMMUNITY STAKEHOLDER INTERVIEWS

Interviews with community stakeholders throughout the region were conducted to gain an understanding of the community’s health needs from organizations and agencies that have a deep understanding of the populations in the greatest need. Beebe Healthcare provided Tripp Umbach with a list of community leaders to interview. Interviews were conducted with a public health expert, professionals with access to community health-related data, social service representatives, representatives of underserved populations, and government leaders. The information collected provided knowledge about the community’s health status, risk factors, service utilization, and community resource needs, as well as gaps and service suggestions.

An introduction email from Tripp Umbach announced the health assessment and the collaborative efforts at the sponsoring health system. Twenty interviews were completed in March and April 2022.

Within the interview and discussion process, overall health needs, themes, and concerns were presented. Within each of the overarching themes, additional topics fell under each category. Below are key themes community stakeholders communicated from the interviews.

Table 13: Overall Community Stakeholder Interview Results

Overall	Contributors to Transportation Issues (Top Three)
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 70.0% – Health/human services in the community are very good/good. • 94.7% – Beebe Healthcare offers high-quality health care for the community. • 84.2% – Beebe Healthcare addresses the needs of diverse and disparate populations. • 88.9% – Beebe Healthcare ensures access to care for everyone regardless of race, gender, education, and economic status. • 94.8% – Beebe Healthcare is actively working to identify and address health inequities that impact its patients. 	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Limited services 2. Location of bus stops 3. Cost of services is too high
Health/Social Concerns in the Community (Top Five)	Persistent High-Risk Behaviors (Top Five)
<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Behavioral health 2. Homelessness 3. Unemployment/underemployment 4. Aging problems 5. Care for mothers/babies 	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Substance abuse 2. Poor eating habits/unhealthy eating habits 3. Lack of education 4. Lack of exercise/inadequate physical activity 5. Social injustice
Largest Barriers for People not Receiving Care/ Services (Top Five)	Would Improve Quality of Life for Residents (Top Five)
<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Availability/lack of transportation 2. Availability of services (i.e., lack of providers such as PCP, dentist, and therapists/services) 3. Cultural barriers 4. Economic disparities 5. Health literacy 	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Housing 2. Access to behavioral health services 3. Mental health services 4. Strategic focus on specific SDOH issues 5. Substance abuse support
	Vulnerable Populations (Top Five)
	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Low-income 2. Homeless 3. Minorities 4. Mentally ill 5. Children/adolescents

PUBLIC COMMENTARY

As part of the CHNA, Tripp Umbach solicited comments related to the previous 2019 CHNA and Implementation Strategy Plan (ISP) on behalf of Beebe Healthcare. The solicitation of feedback was obtained from community stakeholders identified by the working group. Observations offered community representatives the opportunity to react to the methods, findings, and subsequent actions taken as a result of the previous CHNA and implementation planning process. Feedback was collected from the community stakeholders related to the public commentary survey. The public comments below are a summary of the community stakeholders' feedback regarding the former documents. The collection period took place in March and April 2022.

- 61.1% of community stakeholders reported that the assessment include input from community members and organizations in the 2019 CHNA.
- 44.4% of community stakeholders reported community health needs that were not present in the 2019 CHNA. The needs/barriers to health that were not covered included dental, gender affirming care, domestic violence, the growing senior population, and lack of clinical staff.
- 62.5% of community stakeholders reported that the implementation strategies were directly related to the needs identified in the CHNA.

According to respondents, the CHNA and the ISP benefited them and their community in the following manner (in no specific order):

- It had member advocates, community events, and cultural community events and touched the community.
- Affirmed what we know as a community leader.
- Beebe Healthcare is a partner and reached out as educational partners.
- Beebe Healthcare is a community hospital; it wants to expand and be involved in the region.
- The hospital is a huge asset and has insight into the community. It also helped develop more strategies to help the community.
- Partnerships with Beebe Healthcare have grown significantly, working with low-income and including nutrition/food programs.
- More preventive services, education, or resources were provided.
- Benefited by driving programming in community to improve access to care – immunization clinics.

Additional feedback on the CHNA/ISP included:

- Take a strategic assessment of the response to lessons learned from COVID-19 and move it forward.
- Implementation for community health workers in alignment with the challenges identified in the CHNA could strengthen the health care system's response.
- The need for more experienced specialists (neurology).
- Need to break down silos to access to care and transportation services.
- Excited to partner with Beebe Healthcare moving forward.
- Implementation plans for Sussex County health care systems should be developed collaboratively for greater impact. Work with the state plan to align efforts, data, and outcomes specifically tied to plans, such as in a dashboard. Community efforts should be better-supported. Systems need to partner with organizations that are representative. Identify and address.
- Finding ways to go to people, providing primary care and preventative care services. This helps remove the burdens of the ED.
- More integrated efforts for seniors.



COMMUNITY HEALTH DATA PROFILE (SECONDARY DATA)

Tripp Umbach completed a comprehensive analysis of health status and socioeconomic environmental factors related to the health and well-being of residents in the community from existing data sources, such as state and county public health agencies, America’s Health Rankings, Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, Community Commons Data, County Health Rankings, America’s Health Rankings, FBI Crime Report, Feeding America, Kaiser Family Foundation, National Center for Education Statistics, and the U.S. Census Bureau. Tripp Umbach benchmarked data against state and national trends where applicable.

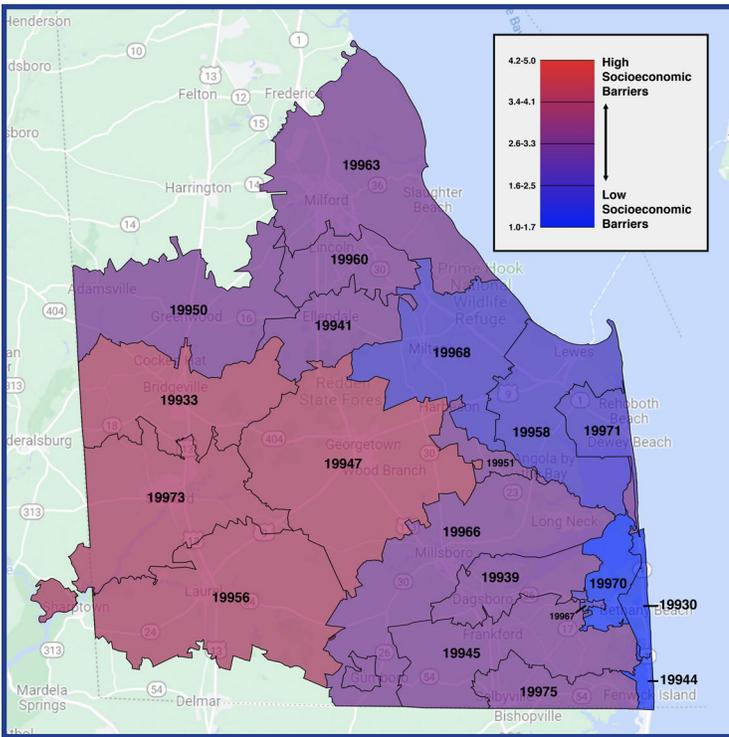
The secondary data profile includes information from multiple health, social, and demographic resources. A robust secondary data report was provided to the working group and the Beebe Healthcare steering group to review and evaluate the region’s needs. (For the full PowerPoint data results, please obtain a copy from the Population Health Department at Beebe Healthcare.)

Tripp Umbach also obtained Community Need Index (CNI) data from Dignity Health and Truven Health Analytics to quantify the severity of health disparities at the ZIP code level. Truven Health Analytics provides data and analytics to hospitals, health systems, and health-supported agencies. CNI considers multiple factors that are known to limit healthcare access; the tool is useful in identifying and addressing the disproportionate and unmet health-related needs of neighborhoods. The five prominent socioeconomic barriers to community health quantified in the CNI are income, cultural/language, educational, insurance, and housing.

The project study area comprised 20 populated ZIP codes, considered Beebe Healthcare’s primary service area. Based on data obtained from Truven Health Analytics, Tripp Umbach created a geographic representation of the ZIP codes that have barriers accessing health care. A score of 5.0 represents a ZIP code with the most socioeconomic barriers (high need), while a score of 1.0 indicates a ZIP code area with the lowest socioeconomic barriers (low need). A low score is the ultimate goal; however, ZIP codes with a low score should not be overlooked. Rather, communities should identify what specific entities are succeeding, which ensures a low score.

The CNI scores within each of the ZIP codes will assist Beebe Healthcare in implementing programs effectively as the planning strategies will require efforts in specific geographic locations.

Map 14: CNI Data – Primary Service Area/Study Area Map



Reviewing information related to Beebe Healthcare’s primary service area, ZIP code 19947 (Georgetown) and 19933 (Bridgeville) tied with a score of 3.8 and 19973 (Seaford) had a score of 3.6 (greater socioeconomic needs).

On the opposite end, ZIP codes 19944 (Fenwick Island), 19930 (Bethany Beach), and 19970 (Ocean View) had CNI scores of 1.4, 1.6, and 1.6, respectively (fewer socioeconomic needs).

Table 15: CNI Data of Primary Service Area ZIP Codes ZIP

Zip Code	CNI Score	Population	City
19944	1.4	779	Fenwick Island
19930	1.6	3,584	Bethany Beach
19970	1.6	7,930	Ocean View
19971	1.8	16,508	Rehoboth Beach
19958	2.0	24,834	Lewes
19967	2.0	1,988	Millville
19968	2.4	13,683	Milton
19939	2.6	7,500	Dagsboro
19960	2.6	7,674	Lincoln
19975	2.6	10,281	Selbyville
19945	2.8	8,465	Frankford
19951	2.8	1,682	Harbeson
19966	2.8	32,035	Millsboro
19963	3.0	21,090	Milford
19941	3.2	3032	Ellendale
19950	3.2	7,815	Greenville/Greenwood
19956	3.4	16,801	Laurel
19973	3.6	26,509	Seaford
19933	3.8	10,332	Bridgeville
19947	3.8	21,436	Georgetown

COMMUNITY HEALTH SURVEY

Tripp Umbach employed an online community health survey via Survey Monkey. The community health survey collected input, in particular, from the overall population but also from members of the underserved community. The survey was designed to capture and identify the health risk factors and health needs of those within the study area.

The community survey was promoted internally, on social media platforms, and with relationships with a community-based organization by the working group from Beebe Healthcare. Community residents submitted hundreds of surveys.

The survey was accessible electronically on Survey Monkey and was available in English, Spanish, and Haitian Creole. In total, 1,991 surveys were used for analysis. Survey hand copies were distributed to participants at health fairs sponsored by Beebe Healthcare. The survey collection process occurred in March and April 2022.

Table 16: Overall Community Health Survey Results

<p style="text-align: center;">Overall</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 92.2% – Satisfied with their quality of life in their community. • 62.5% – Satisfied with the health care system in their community. • 61.4% – Agree individuals and groups have equal access to contributing and participating in community’s quality of life. • 47.6% – Satisfied with amount of health and social services in their community. • 78.3% – Satisfied with the diversity of the health care providers. 	<p style="text-align: center;">Ways to Receive General Health Information (Top Five)</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Doctor/health care provider 2. Internet 3. Hospital 4. Newspaper/magazines 5. Health department
<p style="text-align: center;">Most Significant Health Problems (Top Five)</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Aging problems 2. Lack of health care providers 3. Cancers 4. Heart disease 5. High blood pressure 	<p style="text-align: center;">Health Challenges Individuals Currently Face (Top Three)</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Joint or back pain 2. Arthritis 3. High blood pressure
<p style="text-align: center;">Needs to Improve Quality of Life/Health (Top Five)</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. More health care providers/specialty physicians 2. Elder care options 3. Affordable health care services 4. Dental care access 5. Affordable, quality housing 	<p style="text-align: center;">Preventive Procedures Undergone in the Last 12 Months (Top Five)</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Blood pressure check 2. Flu shot 3. Cholesterol screening 4. Dental cleaning/X-rays 5. Blood sugar check
<p style="text-align: center;">Health Behaviors Communities Need More Information About (Top Five)</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Chronic disease prevention/management 2. Eldercare 3. Managing weight 4. Caring for family members with special needs/disabilities 5. Eating well/nutrition 	<p style="text-align: center;">Reasons Residents Did Not Receive Preventive Care</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Long time to secure an appointment 2. Lack of usual/available physician/provider 3. Long wait times in clinic/doctor’s offices 4. High out-of-pocket-costs 5. Forget to schedule routine check-ups
	<p style="text-align: center;">Issues Preventing Access to Care (Top Five)</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Lack of availability of doctors 2. Time (e.g., cannot take time off work for an appointment) 3. Fear (not ready to face/discuss health problems) 4. Unable to pay for the care 5. Transportation
	<p style="text-align: center;">Statements That Apply to Residents (Top Five)</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Received COVID-19 shot 2. Received flu shot annually 3. Use sunscreen/protective clothing when in the sun 4. Exercise three times a week 5. Eat five servings of fruits/vegetables daily

FOCUS GROUPS

KEY INFORMANT FOCUS GROUP

Qualitative data was gathered during an online focus group conducted with key informants from the Lewes community on May 3, 2022. The Beebe Healthcare working group defined the target population. Feedback from key informants provided information through the lens of representatives who provide and have direct interaction with community residents.

The discussion group was conducted using a guide provided to the working group. The focus group's purpose was to identify health issues, needs, and concerns affecting residents in the community and ways to address those concerns. Thirteen key informants participated in the 1.5-hour event.

Key highlights from the discussion group are below. Overall, they included:

1. Lack of physicians (e.g., primary, specialists, etc.)
2. Lack of transportation
3. Growing elderly and minority population
4. Housing challenges

Thirteen key informants, listed to the right, attended the focus group representing a cross-section of organizations with direct interaction with community residents.

Table 17: Key Informant Participants

Organization
Alternative Solutions Consulting Group, LLC
Beebe Healthcare Home Care
Brain Injury Association of Delaware
Chief of Police, Millsboro
Wilmington University College of Behavioral Sciences
CTU Consulting
Sussex County Libraries
First State Community Action Agency
Milestones Consultants
Project The Way Home
Property Development/Management
United Way of Delaware
Wilmington VA Hospital





LOW-INCOME FOCUS GROUP

A low-income focus group was conducted with community members in Sussex County on May 4, 2022. The Beebe Healthcare working group defined the target population as the low-income group that is readily affected by access, health care issues, and the everchanging health care landscape. ACE Peer Resource Center and First State Community Action Agency Inc. assisted Beebe Healthcare with the recruitment of attendees, who received a \$20 gift card, food, and refreshments. Forty-three participants attended the 1.5-hour event at First State Community Action Agency.

Tripp Umbach facilitated through a virtual platform. The discussion group was conducted using a guide provided to the working group of Beebe Healthcare. The purpose of this focus group was to identify health issues, needs, and concerns affecting residents in the community and to address those concerns through the lens of low-income community members who seek care and services.

Key highlights from the discussion group are listed below. During the discussion group, low-income community members discussed health issues and concerns in their community. Overall, they included:

1. Lack of transportation
2. Lack of access to mental health/behavioral health services
3. Housing challenges
4. Negative perceptions and stigma against low-income/homeless population

DEMOGRAPHICS

The information below is demographic data related to the low-income participants. Two participants did not fill out the information sheet.

What is your age?		(n)
25 or younger	0.00%	0
26-39	19.51%	8
40-54	46.34%	19
55-64	9.76%	4
65 or older	21.95%	9
Prefer not to answer	2.44%	1
What is your gender?		(n)
Male	55.00%	22
Female	45.00%	18
Non-binary	0.00%	0
Prefer not to answer	0.00%	0
What is your marital status?		(n)
Not married	21.95%	9
Married	26.83%	11
Divorced	24.39%	10
Separated	2.44%	1
Widowed	12.20%	5
Prefer not to answer	12.20%	5
What is your race or origin? (Check all that apply)		(n)
American Indian or Alaska Native	2.44%	1
Asian	0.00%	0
Black or African American	58.54%	24
Native Hawaiian or Other Pacific Islander	0.00%	0
White or Caucasian	31.71%	13
Prefer not to answer	0.00%	0
Other	7.32%	3
What is your ethnicity?		(n)
Hispanic, Latino, or Spanish origin	5.13%	2
Not Hispanic, Latino, or Spanish origin	53.85%	21
Prefer not to answer	41.03%	16

Are you currently employed?		(n)
Yes	19.51%	8
No	78.05%	32
Prefer not to answer	2.44%	1
What is your highest level of education?		(n)
Some school, no diploma	26.83%	11
High school graduate (GED or equivalent)	46.34%	19
Some college	14.63%	6
Associate degree	2.44%	1
Bachelor's degree	0.00%	0
Master's degree or more	0.00%	0
Prefer not to answer	9.76%	4
What is your annual household income?		(n)
Less than \$5,000	60.98%	25
\$5,000 to \$24,999	14.63%	6
\$25,000 to \$49,999	2.44%	1
\$50,000 to \$99,999	0.00%	0
More than \$100,000	2.44%	1
Prefer not to answer	19.51%	8





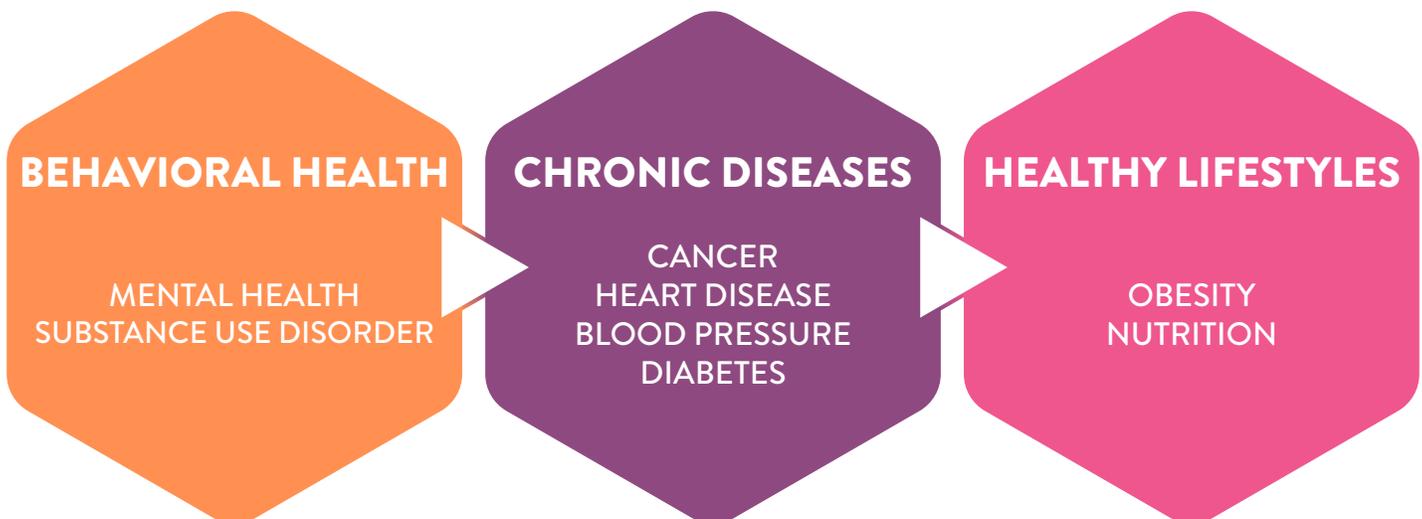
PRIORITIZATION PLANNING SESSION

On May 26, 2022, Tripp Umbach facilitated an internal hospital prioritization session with members of the working group and the steering group who represented the hospital. The purpose of the prioritization session was to present the CHNA findings, which included existing data, in-depth community stakeholder interview results, and hand-distributed survey findings, and to obtain input regarding the needs and concerns of the community overall. The group discussed all primary and secondary data, shared their visions and plans for community health improvement in their communities, and prioritized the top community health needs in their region.

As part of the prioritization session there was group consensus to streamline the previous 2019 needs into broader categories for behavioral health and mental health, cancer/prevention screening, and obesity/nutrition/chronic disease.

With final input and feedback from the steering committee the 2022 CHNA needs for Beebe Healthcare are: Behavioral Health, Chronic Diseases, and Healthy Lifestyles. Each of the prioritized areas has subcategories, which further illustrate the identified need.

Figure 18: Final 2022 CHNA Needs



COMMUNITY RESOURCE INVENTORY

An inventory of programs and services available in the region was developed by Tripp Umbach. This inventory highlights available programs and services within the service areas that fall under each of the priority need areas.

The inventory identifies the range of organizations and agencies in the community that are serving the target populations within each of the priority needs. It provides program descriptions and collects information about the potential for coordinating community activities and creating linkages among agencies.





FINAL CHNA REPORT

A final comprehensive CHNA report summarized key findings from the assessment process, including the final prioritized community needs. Top community health needs were identified by analyzing secondary data, primary data collected from key stakeholder interviews, community health surveys, community forums, and feedback from an internal prioritization meeting. Tripp Umbach provided support to the prioritized needs with secondary data (where available), consensus with community stakeholders results, and data from the community health surveys.

NEXT STEPS

With the completion of the CHNA, Beebe Healthcare will develop goals and strategies for the CHNA implementation phase. In this phase, Beebe Healthcare will leverage its strengths, resources, and outreach to help community partners best identify ways to address their communities' health needs, thus improving overall health and addressing the critical health needs and well-being of residents in their communities. The prioritization of the identified needs will guide the community health improvement efforts for residents served by Beebe Healthcare.

DATA GAPS

The most current and up-to-date data was used to determine the community needs for Beebe Healthcare's community. Beebe Healthcare acknowledges that not all aspects of health can be measured, nor can it adequately represent all populations. For example, certain population groups (such as residents who are institutionalized, etc.) are not represented in the survey data. Beebe Healthcare attempted to collect data from residents whose primary language is not English; however, the analysis of specific populations in the community survey might not be represented due to insufficient numbers for analyses. While data was extensive, data gaps may exist.

Overall, the assessment was designed to provide a comprehensive and broad picture of the health of the overall community. It must be recognized that information gaps can limit the ability to assess all of the community's health needs.



FAST FACTS:

A comprehensive community health needs assessment was conducted in Sussex County for Beebe Healthcare.

The 2022 CHNA needs are Behavioral Health, Chronic Diseases, and Healthy Lifestyle.

The 2022 full CHNA report will be available for review on Beebe Healthcare's website.

The IRS requirement for nonprofit hospitals to conduct a CHNA under the Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act was fulfilled for Beebe Healthcare.

For more information on the assessment, please contact the Population Health Department at Beebe Healthcare.



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