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MERCYHEALTH



2026–2028 Community Health Implementation Plan

Mercy Health Rehabilitation Hospital

YOUNGSTOWN, OH

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2026–2028 Community Health Implementation Plan

Mercy Health Rehabilitation Hospital

Approved by the Mercy Health Rehabilitation Hospital Board of Managers May 28, 2026.

As part of Bon Secours Mercy Health, Mercy Health Rehabilitation Hospital is honored to uphold nearly two centuries of dedication to the communities we serve. This commitment continues to evolve to address the most pressing needs in each community, based on input from residents, businesses and other community members.

Guided by our Mission to extend the compassionate ministry of Jesus, Mercy Health continuously works to improve the health and well-being of our communities and bring good help to those in need — especially people who are poor, underserved and dying.

Listening to community voices from our partners and neighbors, Mercy Health Rehabilitation Hospital has identified the greatest needs in our community. The Community Health Implementation Plan (CHIP) helps ensure that our resources and strategies for outreach, prevention, education and wellness are directed where they can make the greatest impact.

We welcome written comments regarding the health needs identified in this CHIP. Please direct your feedback to Melessa Scattino, CEO, IRF, Mercy Health Rehabilitation Hospital at Melessa.Scattino@Mercyhrh.com.

Mercy Health Rehabilitation Hospital

3180 Belmont Ave.
Youngstown, OH
44505

234-264-8500
mercyhealth rehabhospital.com

Mercy Health CHIP Short Link:
Mercy Health CHIPs

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Introduction

This Community Health Implementation Plan will address the prioritized significant community health needs listed through the CHNA. The Implementation Plan indicates which prioritized needs Mercy Health Rehabilitation Hospital will address and how, as well as which prioritized needs will not be addressed and why.

Beyond the programs and strategies outlined in this plan, Mercy Health Rehabilitation Hospital will continue to address the needs of the community by operating in accordance with its mission to extend the compassionate ministry of Jesus by improving the health of its communities with an emphasis on the poor and underserved. This includes providing care for all individuals regardless of their ability to pay.

The strategies in the Implementation Plan will provide the foundation for addressing the community's significant needs between 2026–2028. However, Mercy Health Rehabilitation Hospital anticipates that some strategies and even the needs identified, may evolve over that period. Mercy Health Rehabilitation Hospital plans a flexible approach to addressing the significant community-identified needs that will allow for the adaptation of potential changes and collaboration with other community agencies and partners.

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Executive Summary

Background and Process

From August 2024 through March 2025, Mercy Health — Youngstown, which includes Mercy Health Rehabilitation Hospital conducted a Community Health Needs Assessment (CHNA) that utilized a comprehensive, mixed-methods approach to identify priority community health needs. The process combines secondary (existing) data collection, community engagement to collect primary (new) data, quantitative and qualitative data analysis and stakeholder input to ensure a well-rounded understanding of local health challenges. The needs assessment was conducted in consultation with Moxley Public Health, LLC.

The process combined secondary data collection from sources such as the U.S. Census, Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC), Ohio Department of Health and previous CHNA reports with primary data collection. This included a community survey (**1,284** responses). Survey topics included ranking health needs, health status, access to care, chronic diseases, mental health and social determinants of health (e.g., housing, transportation, food security). Focus groups (**10** groups with **127** participants) from priority populations such as seniors, African Americans, Latinx/Hispanic, rural communities, LGBTQIA+ and the homeless population were also conducted. **Twenty-five** key informant interviews with community leaders were completed, representing sectors such as public health, healthcare, housing, mental health, education, local government and local businesses. Key informant interviews identified emerging health issues, sub-populations most affected, existing resources and ideas for community health improvement.

The Mercy Health — Youngstown, including Mercy Health Rehabilitation Hospital, service area includes Mahoning County (population: 225,786), Trumbull County (population: 200,300), Columbiana County (population: 99,823) and surrounding areas.[1] All ZIP Codes within these counties are served. This process ensured a well-rounded understanding of local health challenges, social determinants of health and healthcare access barriers. Upon completion, CHNA was posted to the public to elicit comments and feedback.

External Sources:

- Behavioral Risk Factor Surveillance System (BRFSS)
- Centers for Disease Control (CDC)
- Coalition on Homelessness and Housing in Ohio
- County Health Rankings
- Federal Bureau of Investigation, Crime Data Explorer
- Groundwork Ohio
- Healthy People 2030
- Metopio
- Ohio Department of Health
- Ohio Department of Jobs & Family Services
- Ohio Healthy Youth Environment Survey – OHYES!
- State of Ohio Integrated Behavioral Health Dashboard
- State of Ohio Integrated Behavioral Health Dashboard
- U.S. Census Data
- Walkscore.com

[1] *U.S. Census Bureau. (2024). Census Quick Facts. Retrieved from https://www.census.gov/quickfacts/*

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Identifying Significant Needs

The significant health needs identified in the CHNA were developed through a comprehensive analysis of community input, health data and stakeholder engagement (including secondary data, surveys, interviews and focus groups). Health concerns were assessed across three categories: Social Determinants of Health (SDOH), Social Health Needs and Clinical Health Needs. The CHNA's comprehensive data collection and prioritization process ensured that the final health priorities reflected both statistical evidence and real-life community experiences, forming the foundation for the next Implementation Strategy.

Initially, health needs were assessed through a review of the secondary (existing) health data collected and analyzed prior to conducting interviews, focus groups and surveys (primary data collection). Significant health needs were identified using the following criteria.

1. The size of the problem (relative proportion of the population afflicted by the problem).
2. The ranking of the problem is using data from community surveys, focus groups and interviews with residents.

To determine the size or seriousness of the problem, the health need indicators of the Mercy Health — Youngstown, including Mercy Health Rehabilitation Hospital, service area identified in the secondary data were measured against benchmark data, specifically county rates, state rates, national rates and/or Healthy People 2030 objectives. The health needs were further assessed through the primary data collection — key informant interviews, focus groups and a community member survey. The information from the secondary and primary data collection informs this CHNA report and the health needs decisions the community will address in its Implementation Strategy. The data collection process was designed to comprehensively identify the priority issues in the community that affect health, solicit information on disparities among subpopulations, ascertain community assets to address needs and uncover gaps in resources.

A virtual prioritization meeting with key stakeholders, including healthcare providers, public health officials, hospital leadership and community organizations, was held on Tuesday, March 11, 2025, to develop a draft list of prioritized health needs. During this meeting, key decision-makers reviewed data and selected priority health needs to address in the next Implementation Strategy. The priorities were validated to create a final list and will serve as the foundation for the 2026–2028 Implementation Strategy. To prioritize these needs, Mercy Health — Youngstown, including Mercy Health Rehabilitation Hospital, used the MAPP 2.0 (Mobilizing for Action through Planning and Partnerships) framework, applying criteria such as relevance to the community, severity, health disparities, feasibility of solutions and availability of resources. This structured, community-driven, equity-focused approach ensured that the most pressing health concerns were selected for action in the next Implementation Strategy for Mercy Health Rehabilitation Hospital.

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Implementation Plan

Mercy Health Rehabilitation Hospital is committed to addressing the prioritized significant health needs of the community through the strategies described in this Implementation Plan.

Prioritized Significant Health Needs

The table below lists the prioritized significant health needs that were identified through the CHNA and specifies which needs Mercy Health Rehabilitation Hospital will address.

Prioritized Significant Health Needs	Hospital Addressing Need (Y/N)
	Mercy Health Rehabilitation Hospital
Access to Health Care	No
Community Safety	No
Behavioral Health	No
Chronic Disease	Yes
Maternal, Infant and Child Health	No

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Implementation Strategies to Address Clinical Health Needs

Chronic Diseases

Description

"Chronic diseases were selected as a priority health need due to being ranked highly in the community member survey, a major theme in the key informant interviews and focus groups and being deemed a priority by key stakeholders during the health need prioritization meeting. This priority of health need includes addressing the chronic diseases ranked most highly in the assessment (i.e., cancer, diabetes, hypertension and heart disease. A recommendation was made to include a strategy that addresses health disparities as well as healthy food access to combat chronic disease in the implementation strategy."

Goal

Decrease the prevalence of stroke patient's readmission to MHRH because of another stroke occurrence by providing education on prevention and management.

Strategy 1

- Increase education and awareness of disease processes that contribute to stroke reoccurrence. Initiate a 3-discipline approach to educate stroke victims on disease processes that contribute to stroke occurrence. Disciplines include Pharmacist, Dietician and Nurse Educator. The interdisciplinary team will begin to provide education to the patient while they are currently admitted and receiving care within the MHRH. Once discharged the team then will continue to offer support through ongoing group meetings to reinforce education.
- **Strategic Measures**
  - Pre and post education test scores – looking to increase average result scores by 5%
- **Accountable Partners**
  - Mercy Health Rehabilitation Hospital will work in partnership with the following accountable partners on the above-listed strategy to address chronic disease.
  - Mercy Health Youngstown
- **Expected Impact of the Strategy**
  - Decreased occurrence of patients being readmitted for recovery from a new diagnosis of stroke
- **Targeted Populations**
  - Elderly stroke victims

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Prioritized Needs Not Being Addressed

Taking existing organization and community resources into consideration, Mercy Health Rehabilitation Hospital will not directly address the remaining significant health needs identified in the 2025 CHNA that were not prioritized, including but not limited to:

Access to Care

Access to Care, which includes addressing the social determinants of health (transportation, housing, homelessness, income/poverty and employment) is not directly being addressed by Mercy Health Rehabilitation Hospital due to the nature of the facility and its focus on providing rehabilitation services for those recovering from injury. Access to Care is being addressed as a priority by Mercy Health Youngstown. Mercy Health Rehabilitation Hospital is a joint venture and works closely with Mercy Health Youngstown in providing care to the community and is identified as a resource to those seeking care.

Community Safety

Since Mercy Health Rehabilitation Hospital cannot directly address all the significant health needs present in the community, community safety will not be prioritized. As such, Mahoning and Trumbull County Community Health Partners are addressing community safety in their Community Health Improvement Plan. Mercy Health Rehabilitation Hospital will support but will not directly address community safety. They will concentrate their resources on those health needs where they can effectively impact their region, given the areas of focus and expertise.

Behavioral Health

Behavioral Health is not being addressed in this CHIP by the hospital listed. Mercy Health has recently opened a Behavioral Health Hospital that will directly address the identified priority of Behavioral Health. At the time of the CHNA, the hospital had not opened and could not be included in this current CHIP. The hospital will be conducting their own CHNA as well as implementing their own CHIP to address any priorities identified in the CHNA related to behavioral health. Mercy Health Rehabilitation Hospital will support and alien closely with the work of the newly opened Behavioral Health Hospital and act as a referral and resource partner. The Behavioral Health Hospital will be included in the Mercy Health Youngstown Market CHNA in 2028.

Maternal, Infant and Child Health

This priority will not be addressed by the Mercy Health Rehabilitation Hospital. The MHRH focus is on the recovery of individuals that have experienced trauma and restoring them to maximum level of function only by addressing physical rehabilitation. MHRH does not have the resources or ability to address this need due to the nature of the facility. Maternal, Infant and Child Health is being addressed by Mercy Health Youngstown.

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Resources Available

Due to the considerable and complex nature of the prioritized needs, several organizations within the community may be available to address one or more of the needs listed in this implementation plan:

Health Care Facilities & Services

- Akron Children's Hospital
  - Access to healthcare, maternal, infant and child health
- Mahoning Valley Pathways HUB
  - Maternal and child health
- Mercy Health Youngstown
  - Access to healthcare, chronic diseases, maternal, infant and child health, mental health, preventive care and practices, substance misuse
- Midlothian Free Clinic
  - Access to healthcare, preventative care and practices, chronic diseases, dental care, women's health

Health Departments

- Mahoning County Public Health
  - Access to childcare, access to healthcare, Adverse Childhood Experiences (ACEs), chronic diseases, education, environmental conditions, food insecurity, HIV/AIDS and Sexually Transmitted Infections (STIs), income/poverty & employment, injuries, maternal, infant and child health, mental health, nutrition and physical health, preventive care and practices, substance misuse, tobacco and nicotine use, transportation
- Trumbull County Combined Health District
  - Access to childcare, access to healthcare, Adverse Childhood Experiences (ACEs), chronic diseases, education, environmental conditions, food insecurity, HIV/AIDS and Sexually Transmitted Infections (STIs), income/poverty & employment, injuries, maternal, infant and child health, mental health, nutrition and physical health, preventive care and practices, substance misuse, tobacco and nicotine use, transportation

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- Warren City Health District
  - Access to childcare, access to healthcare, Adverse Childhood Experiences (ACEs), chronic diseases, education, environmental conditions, food insecurity, HIV/AIDS and Sexually Transmitted Infections (STIs), income/poverty & employment, injuries, maternal, infant and child health, mental health, nutrition and physical health, preventive care and practices, substance misuse, tobacco and nicotine use, transportation
- Youngstown City Health District
  - Access to childcare, access to healthcare, Adverse Childhood Experiences (ACEs), chronic diseases, education, environmental conditions, food insecurity, HIV/AIDS and Sexually Transmitted Infections (STIs), income/poverty & employment, injuries, maternal, infant and child health, mental health, nutrition and physical health, preventive care and practices, substance misuse, tobacco and nicotine use, transportation

Other Local and National Resources

- Alta Head Start
  - Access to childcare
- Direction Home
  - All significant health needs
- Mahoning County Job and Family Services
  - Access to childcare, Adverse Childhood Experiences (ACEs), Food insecurity, income/poverty & employment
- Mahoning Youngstown Community Action Partnership
  - Early childhood education, emergency assistance, financial empowerment, health and nutrition programs, housing services, homelessness support, weatherization and home repair
- SCOPE Senior Center
  - Services and programs for seniors, including meals, social activities and health resources
- Second Harvest Food Bank of the Mahoning Valley
  - Food insecurity
- The Ohio Farm Bureau
  - Access to healthcare for members of the agricultural community
- The Ohio State University Extension
  - Education and community outreach involving nutrition

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- The Sacred Commons Church
  - Food insecurity, housing and education
- United Returning Citizens
  - All significant health needs in previously incarcerated individuals
- Western Reserve Transit Authority (WRTA)
  - Transportation
- Youngstown City Schools
  - Education, food insecurity, Adverse Childhood Experiences (ACEs)
- Youngstown State University
  - Education, food insecurity and access to health care
- Youngstown Neighborhood Development Corporation
  - Housing, poverty and employment, Glenwood Fresh Market
- Youngstown Parks and Recreation Department
  - Environmental conditions, nutrition and physical health
- YMCA of Youngstown
  - All significant health needs

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Board Approval

The Mercy Health Rehabilitation Hospital 2026–2028 Community Health Implementation Plan was approved by the Mercy Health Rehabilitation Hospital Board of Managers on May 28, 2026.

Board Chair Signature: Signed by: D984DF515D3B4B0...

Date: July 8, 2026

For further information or to obtain a hard copy of this Community Health Implementation Plan, please contact Melessa Scattino, CEO IRF, Mercy Health Rehabilitation Hospital at Melessa.Scattino@mercyhrh.com

Mercy Health Rehabilitation Hospital Website: https://www.mercyhealthrehabhospital.com

Mercy Health CHIP Website: https://www.mercy.com/about-us/mission/giving-back/community-health-needs-assessment

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