



# 2022 Community Health Needs Assessment

Mercy Health Toledo – Tiffin Hospital

# 2022 Community Health Needs Assessment

Bon Secours Mercy Health Toledo Tiffin Hospital

Adopted by the Mercy Health Toledo Board of Trustees,  
September 27, 2022

As a Ministry of which Mercy Health Tiffin Hospital is a member, Bon Secours Mercy Health has been committed to the communities it serves for nearly two centuries. This longstanding commitment has evolved intentionally, based on our communities' most pressing health needs.

Every three years, we evaluate those needs through a comprehensive Community Health Needs Assessment (CHNA) process. The most recent assessments, completed by Mercy Health Tiffin Hospital and community partners, include quantitative and qualitative data that guide both our community investment, community benefit, and strategic planning. The following document is a detailed CHNA for Mercy Health Tiffin Hospital.

Mercy Health Tiffin Hospital is dedicated to our Mission of extending the compassionate ministry of Jesus by improving the health and well-being of our communities and by bringing good help to those in need, especially people who are poor, dying, and underserved.

Mercy Health Tiffin Hospital has identified the greatest needs in our community by listening to the voices of the community. This ensures our resources for outreach, prevention, education, and wellness are directed towards opportunities where the greatest impact can be realized.

Written comments regarding the health needs that have been identified in the current CHNA should be directed to Jessica Henry; [Jessica\\_Henry@mercy.com](mailto:Jessica_Henry@mercy.com).

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# Executive Summary

## Overview

Mercy Health Tiffin Hospital serves the Seneca County, Ohio population. Seneca County is a 553 square mile area in northwest Ohio. The Tiffin Hospital service area is composed of the following zip codes: 44802, 44807, 44809, 44815, 44818, 44828, 44830, 44836, 4841, 44845, 44853, 44831, 44867, and 44883.

Through a series of five key informant interviews, a variety of perspectives were gathered to identify the greatest health challenges impacting the Mercy Health Tiffin Hospital community. Key informants include a former municipal leader, a religious organization affiliate, Mercy Health Tiffin Hospital leadership, and a local community health center representative. These stakeholders represented a variety of generations and sexes.

Information collection and data aggregation was accomplished through multiple channels including both qualitative community inputs and quantitative market data collection. The five key informant interviews discussed above served as the community input. Market data was gathered through publicly available data sources including: Metopio, U.S. Census Bureau, and County Health Rankings. These sources combined provided a comprehensive view of the greatest health needs impacting the Seneca County population. The community inputs were the primary driver of the identified significant health needs while the market data was used to validate and supplement these findings. The local community insights are critically important to the identification of Seneca County's greatest health needs as they provide an "on the ground" perspective into the impact of challenges or barriers which may hinder the health of the community.

The significant community health needs were prioritized through a working session where an inclusive collection of stakeholders was present. Each significant community health need was objectively assessed by all stakeholders in the room through an evaluation of the health need's significance to the community and the hospital's ability to impact the need. The top five greatest health needs from this process were identified as the prioritized health needs while all others were recognized as significant and still impacting the surrounding community.

## Significant Health Needs

1. Mental Health and Wellness
2. Financial Barriers and Unemployment
3. Health Education and Literacy
4. Drug and Substance Abuse
5. Housing Insecurity
6. Social Health and Connection

7. Access to Healthcare Services
8. Chronic Disease
9. Domestic and Family Stability
10. Food Insecurity

## Prioritized Health Needs

1. Access to Healthcare Services
2. Health Education and Literacy
3. Mental Health and Wellness
4. Drug and Substance Abuse
5. Chronic Disease

## Resources Available

The resources available today to address the prioritized health needs include:

### Access to Healthcare Services

1. Tiffin Hospital medical and behavioral health services
2. Seneca County Health Department
3. Seneca-Crawford Area Transportation (SCAT)
4. Health screening events

### Health Education and Literacy

1. Tiffin Hospital health education resources
2. Public Health Department resources
3. *Please add additional resources*

### Mental Health and Wellness

1. Tiffin Hospital behavioral health
2. Mental health counseling services
3. *Please add additional resources*

### Drug and Substance Abuse

1. Mercy Health – Tiffin Hospital
2. Local rehabilitation centers
3. Social supports

#### Chronic Disease

1. Care management programs
2. Green spaces for physical exercise
3. Health screening events

## Feedback

Written comments regarding the health needs that have been identified in the current CHNA should be directed to Jessica Henry; [Jessica\\_Henry@mercy.com](mailto:Jessica_Henry@mercy.com)

Feedback can also be submitted via a survey link for Mercy Health Hospitals at: <https://www.mercy.com/about-us/mission/giving-back/community-health-needs-assessment>

# Our Mission

Our mission is to extend the compassionate ministry of Jesus by improving the health and well-being of our communities and bring good help to those in need, especially people who are poor, dying and underserved.

# Our Vision

Inspired by God's hope for the world, we will be a ministry where associates want to work, clinicians want to practice, people seek wellness and communities thrive.

# Our Values

## Human Dignity

We commit to upholding the sacredness of life and being respectful and inclusive of everyone.

## Integrity

We commit to acting ethically and modeling right relationships in all of our individual and organizational encounters.

## Compassion

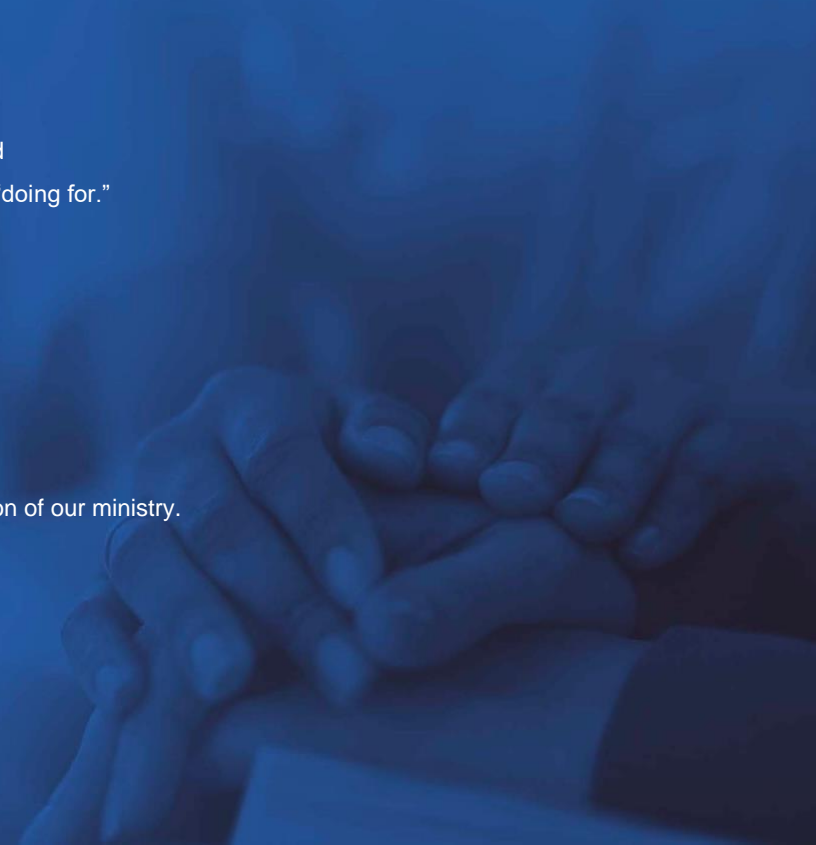
We commit to accompanying those we serve with mercy and tenderness, recognizing that "being with" is as important as "doing for."

## Stewardship

We commit to promoting the responsible use of all human and financial resources, including Earth itself.

## Service

We commit to providing the highest quality in every dimension of our ministry.



## Facilities Description

Mercy Health Tiffin Hospital is a 35-bed acute care facility, offering family-centered health care with compassion. Our expert doctors, nurses and caregivers are committed to helping you be well in mind, body, and spirit.

Through advanced treatments and state-of-the-art technology, we've been meeting the health care needs of our community since we were founded by the Sisters of Mercy in 1913.

### **Hospital Services**

At Mercy Health Tiffin Hospital, we offer services in the areas of cardiology, general surgery, neurology, oncology, and orthopedics, among others.

Throughout the year, Mercy Health Tiffin Hospital houses an imaging center and laboratory that is used for health screenings for the community. They also provide occupational health services, rehabilitation and physical therapy, and operate with a full, in-house pharmacy.

## Community Served by Hospital

Mercy Health Tiffin Hospital serves a geographic area encompassing Seneca County including cities of Alvada, Attica, Bascom, Bettsville, Bloomville, Flat Rock, Fostoria, Green Springs, Kansas, Melmore, New Reigel, Old Fort, Republic and Tiffin. Patient data indicates that the primary service area of persons served at Tiffin Hospital reside in Seneca County, based upon the county of residence of discharged patients.

The demographic area served by the primary service area includes the following ethnic groups: Caucasian (94.6%) Black (2.6%) Hispanic (5%), Asian (0.8%), American Indian (0.3%) and some other race (1.8%). 17.5% of residents are in households below the federal poverty guidelines. 9.2% of persons under age 65 are without health insurance.

Seneca County has a total area of 553 square miles, of which 551 square miles is land. Adjacent counties include Sandusky, Huron, Crawford, Wyandot, Hancock and Wood. Contiguous ZIP codes included in the community served by Tiffin Hospital include 44802, 44807, 44809, 44815, 44818, 44828, 44830, 44836, 4841, 44845, 44853, 44831, 44867, and 44883.



# Process and Methods

## Process and methods to conduct the community health needs assessment:

Mercy Health – Tiffin Hospital is a key stakeholder and partner of the Seneca County Health Alliance, a collaborative strategic planning process involving many community agencies and coalitions from various sectors. The Seneca County Health Alliance developed a Community Health Needs Assessment (CHNA) for Seneca County to assess and identify the health needs of the community. The CHNA was conducted by various social service, business and government organizations in Seneca County to collect data that reports the health and health behaviors of Seneca County residents. Data was collected for this assessment with the assistance of the Hospital Council of Northwest Ohio in the spring of 2019. That CHNA Report can be found at: <https://www.hcno.org/wp-content/uploads/2019/10/Final-Seneca-County-CHA-with-participant-feedback-10-17-19.pdf>

Since the Seneca County Health Alliance CHNA Report data was collected prior to the COVID 19 Pandemic, Mercy Health Tiffin Hospital leveraged three external data sources to inform the development of the CHNA: Metopio, County Health Rankings, and U.S. Census Bureau data.

Metopio data was sourced in August of 2022. This data looks at the Seneca County community from a clinical needs and social determinants of health perspective. The metrics within Metopio are aggregated from publicly available data ranging in date from 2015 to 2021. The majority of this data is sourced from 2019 and afterwards.

Additionally, County Health Ranking (CHR) was used to supplement the data from Metopio. CHR is another repository of publicly available data sources aggregated and visualized to provide an evaluation of the community's public health status by including Health Factors (determinants of health) and Health Outcomes (length and quality of life) in their analysis. County Health Rankings provides both county rankings as well as z-scores for each of the metrics analyzed. The rankings indicated how well each county performed in a particular metric as compared to the other 87 Ohio counties. The z-score measures the number's relationship with the mean, whether higher or lower than state average as a reference point. By analyzing the z-score, one can understand the magnitude of the health need whether that be a significant or less significant community health need. This data was also sourced in August of 2022 and includes data from 2010 to 2021. Similarly, the majority of that data is from 2019 and afterwards.

The third source of data leveraged was the U.S. Census Bureau. This data is sourced from July of 2021. The demographics data analyzed includes population, age, sex, race, and ethnicity.

## External Sources

- Metopio
- County Health Ranking
- U.S. Census Bureau
- Seneca County Health Alliance – 2019 Community Health Needs Assessment

## Collaborating partners

The hospital collaborated with the following organizations as part of the process of conducting the needs assessment:

- Firelands Counseling and Recovery Services
- Fostoria Community Schools
  
- Fostoria United Way
- Hospital Council of Northwest Ohio
- Mental Health and Recovery Services Board of Seneca, Sandusky and Wyandot Counties
- Seneca County Health Alliance
- Seneca County Health Department
- Tiffin City Schools

For supplemental data collection Mercy Health Tiffin Hospital collaborated with FORVIS Healthcare Consultants to help complete this assessment. FORVIS's role was to aggregate the quantitative market data, conduct stakeholder interviews, identify common health needs, and facilitate the prioritization session. Tiffin Hospital leadership and community health leaders worked with the consultants throughout the months of August to October 2022.

## Community Input

No written comments were received on the previously completed CHNA.

Mercy Health Tiffin Hospital interviewed five key informants to produce the community input data. These interviews were conducted in September 2022. Key informants interviewed include: a former municipal leader, a religious organization affiliate, Mercy Health Tiffin Hospital leadership, and a local community health center representative. These interviews were conducted virtually. The interviews explored topics such as major health issues, preventable health issues, and barriers to achieving greater health. Additional exploration was done to identify the health concerns impacting adolescents, adults, and the elderly populations specifically.

Significant health needs were identified based on common themes throughout key informant interviews and market data analysis. Where multiple stakeholders indicated there was significant need, that health concern was elevated. Once elevated, the need was validated through the quantitative data analysis. The community input drove the significant health needs and was supplemented by the quantitative market data.

Key themes from the informant interviews and market analysis centered around the top health concerns and barriers impacting the Tiffin community. The top health concerns included mental health, lack of personal ownership for lifestyle choices, drug and substance abuse, and weight management. Each of the community members felt that these were problems Mercy Health Tiffin Hospital could significantly impact, but there are multiple barriers hindering the hospital's ability to do so. The largest barriers sighted were fragmentation of the healthcare system, individual's aversion to change, limited health education and literacy, and financial barriers.

## Information and Data Considered in Identifying Potential Need

Information and data sources: federal, state or local health or other departments or agencies; community input

Public Health Departments	Date of Data / Information
Seneca County Health Commissioner	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>September 14, 2022 – Key Informant Interview</li> </ul>
President and Chief Executive Officer Tiffin Seneca Economic Partnership	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>September 15, 2022 – Key Informant Interview</li> </ul>

Community and Stakeholder Input	Date of Data / Information
Community Director, Mercy Health Tiffin and Willard Hospital	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>September 14, 2022 – Key Informant interview</li> </ul>
Learning Facilitator, Old Trinity Episcopal Church	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>September 15, 2022 – Key Informant Interview</li> </ul>
Interim Hospital President / CFO Toledo Rural Market at Bon Secours Mercy Health	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>September 15, 2022 – Key Informant Interview</li> </ul>

Organization providing input	Nature and extent of input	Medically under-served, low-income or minority populations represented by organization
Seneca County General Health District	Key Informant Interview	Low income, medically underserved
Tiffin Seneca Economic Partnership	Key Informant Interview	Low income, medically underserved
Old Trinity Episcopal Church	Key Informant Interview	Low income
Mercy Health Tiffin	Key Informant Interview	Low income, medically underserved

## Significant Community Identified Health Needs

As part of the community identification process, various community health metrics were evaluated to identify the top community health needs. The top needs are listed below and additional analysis of the market can be found in Appendix A that support the findings here and provide more perspective on the community.

### Social Determinant of Health – Community Level Needs that Impact Health and Wellbeing

#### Access to Healthcare Services

##### *Capacity and adequacy of service levels*

Due to the nature and demographics of the rural environment, the lack of proximity to specialists and other healthcare providers is a barrier to the constituents within the county. Based on data and community feedback, there is also a sizable low-income population that struggles with appropriate access to healthcare services due to a lack of reliable transportation. Additionally, there is a deficit of primary care and specialist providers to serve the community. Within Seneca County, the ratios of primary care, dental, and mental health providers compared to the population are all below the Ohio state average. The county has a ratio of 2,904 residents per 1 primary care physician, whereas the Ohio state average is 1,291:1.

*Current service providers or resources*

- Mercy Health Tiffin Hospital
- Seneca County General Health District
- Seneca County Agency Transportation (SCAT)
- ProMedica Fostoria Community Hospital

Mercy Health Tiffin Hospital and the Seneca County Health Department serve as major players providing healthcare and medical services for the community. There are EAPs available through some employers in the county that provide support for caregivers and employees. Local transportation services such as the Seneca-Crawford Area Transportation (SCAT) are available, however there are limitations regarding non-local transportation.

**Health Education and Literacy**

*Capacity and adequacy of service levels*

Health education and literacy is essential for the county constituents to understand the importance of preventative health measures and healthy lifestyle choices. This also encompasses the need for broader financial literacy and a greater understanding of the financial implications of insurance policies, preventable hospitalizations, and the right site of care.

This knowledge is influential in the daily social and health decisions of persons across every age group. With over 14% of Seneca County residents reporting frequent physical distress, there is a strong opportunity to advocate for a healthier community. The promotion of health literacy may allow residents to prevent health problems or better manage their health problems when they arise. Although Mercy Health

Mercy Health Tiffin Hospital already does so much to support the health of the community, there is an opportunity to teach more residents about making healthy lifestyle choices by providing the information and resources to do so.

*Current service providers or resources*

- Mercy Health Tiffin Hospital
- Seneca County General Health District
- ProMedica Fostoria Community Hospital

**Food Insecurity**

*Capacity and adequacy of service levels*

Food insecurity describes the lack of access to food that allows constituents to live an active and healthy lifestyle. It also displays where there may not be healthy food options accessible to the community. 13.0% of residents in Seneca County are considered food insecure. Additionally, 8.4% of residents have limited access to healthy foods. Food insecurity is not reserved for only low-income individuals in the community; it also affects elderly populations with limited mobility and inconsistent care givers. It also does not exist in isolation. One limitation to these resources is the isolated nature and lower population

of rural communities. Often, food banks will be located in more populated areas. The residents in rural areas are more prone to limited healthy food options and do not always have the transportation available to access these resources. Many people experiencing food insecurity are typically experiencing other significant social health needs as well.

*Current service providers or resources*

- Mercy Health Tiffin Hospital
- OSU Extension Seneca County
- Seneca County United Way
- Seneca County General Health District
- Local Food Banks

Seneca County is home to many public food banks which provide food for those individuals or families who lack stable access to food. Public schools and nearby universities also provide food pantries for those children/adolescents that are in need.

### **Housing Insecurity**

*Capacity and adequacy of service levels*

Housing Insecurity in Seneca County is a significant health need as there is a notable homeless population, low incomes, and a lack of affordable options. This community health need encompasses several dimensions of housing problems, which in turn impacts individuals ranging from children to the elderly population. Much like other significant health needs, those experiencing housing insecurity are often in need of other community health services as well. Some contributing factors which may lead to elevated levels of housing insecurity include: low median household income (\$58,129), average levels of unemployment (8.1%), and some severe housing problems (10.7%). These factors and more may be leading to increased housing insecurity.

*Current service providers or resources*

- Seneca County Council on Homelessness

## **Social Health Need – Individual Level Non-Clinical Needs**

### **Mental Health and Wellness**

*Capacity and adequacy of service levels*

Mental Health and wellness is a large community and individual health need impacting other social, emotional, and physical health needs. Poor mental health impacts lifestyle choices and plays an important role in the challenges associated with personal motivation and individual health ownership many Seneca County residents are experiencing. Following the COVID-19 pandemic, mental health has risen as a top health concern as many people began to feel more isolated. Often, isolation can lead to worsening depression. 22.0% of Seneca County residents reported being depressed in 2019, which has increased over the course of the pandemic. Subsequently, 17.4% of Seneca County residents reported frequent mental distress. This may contribute to the elevated suicide rates in the community. Seneca County experiences 20.1 suicides per 100,000 people, whereas the Ohio average is 14.6. Seneca County does not have the appropriate access

to mental health resources and mental health providers in the county to combat this issue due to long wait times, lack of outpatient services, and full patient panels.

*Current service providers or resources*

- Mercy Health Tiffin
- CARSA Coalition
- Firelands Counseling and Recovery Services Seneca County
- Mental Health and Recovery Services of Seneca, Sandusky and Wyandot Counties
- NAMI

Mental health counseling services are sometimes provided through EAPs offered in the different businesses of Seneca County. Mercy Health Tiffin Hospital also provides acute mental health services. Most providers are either constrained by space, staff, or beds and consequently, they operate at capacity with excess demand. There are a variety of county parks and trails available to allow members of the community to release anxiety and meditate.

## **Drug and Substance Abuse**

*Capacity and adequacy of service levels*

Drug and/or substance abuse has remained a top community issue within Seneca County for some time. The rates of drug overdose and suicide have both increased significantly. The drug overdose rate in Seneca County is 31 overdose deaths per 100,000 people. Additional substance use challenges are also prevalent including excessive drinking and cigarette smoking. Many of these abuse challenges can be attributed to other health needs such as poor mental health, family instability, lack of health literacy, or behavioral health decisions. The adequacy of SUD facilities to address the drug and substance use challenges is insufficient; many are at capacity or do not have the providers to address the crisis.

*Current service providers or resources*

- Mercy Health Tiffin
- CARSA Coalition
- Firelands Counseling and Recovery Services Seneca County
- Mental Health and Recovery Services of Seneca, Sandusky and Wyandot Counties
- NAMI

Local rehabilitation centers as well as medical services in the hospital are available within the county.

## **Financial Barriers and Insurance**

*Capacity and adequacy of service levels*

The population of low-income individuals is impacted by their ability to access and afford health services in the community. Many people are unemployed (8.1%), lack insurance

(7.2%), or lack financial literacy. Others are discouraged to use readily available healthcare resources based on the presumption that these services come with a heavy financial burden. Due to the socioeconomic status of many Seneca County residents, competing financial priorities also serve as a barrier to preventive care, healthy lifestyle choices, and utilization of healthcare resources. The lower than average median household income indicates a larger population vulnerable to financial instability resulting in difficult financial decisions of priorities basic needs over needed healthcare services or medication.

*Current service providers or resources*

Ohio Means Jobs is a community resource helping individuals to establish positive financial practices, including finding jobs. They also assist with components of personal finance and financial literacy.

### **Domestic and Family Stability**

*Capacity and adequacy of service levels*

Domestic and family stability is impacted gravely by social determinants of health. The lack of access to medical services, limited healthy foods options, low-income households, financial and social issues, and children forced to parent themselves all have negative consequences on family stability. 23% of children in Seneca County live in single parent households, and they are faced with the pressures of adulthood. This can negatively impact one's mental, physical, and emotional health. Many families and individuals are experiencing the downstream health effects of an unstable family environment.

*Current service providers or resources*

- Seneca County Family & Children First Council
- North Central Ohio Educational Service Center
- Seneca County Job and Family Services

### **Social Health and Connection**

*Capacity and adequacy of service levels*

Social health is also a major factor that impacts the behavioral health of people within Seneca County. Social isolation and mental health found its way to the forefront of health concerns following the COVID-19 pandemic. 17.4% of people are experiencing frequent mental distress, and social isolation may have contributed to this. Additionally, social media has also become extremely influential in the daily lives of the average person and present new challenges of online bullying. Many people, ranging from children to the elderly population, are experiencing a weakened social support network due to both physical and locational isolation exacerbated by the pandemic.



### *Current service providers or resources*

Resources such as Between the Parks aim to make social and physical community activities fun; the program encourages individuals to engage in healthy outdoor activity and remove themselves from social isolation.

## Significant Clinical Health Needs

### **Chronic Disease**

#### *Capacity and adequacy of service levels*

Chronic diseases include conditions such as asthma, diabetes, heart disease, and more. Coupled with other social determinants of health, chronic diseases emerge as a result of other issues stemming from mental, social, and physical health issues. The elderly population of Seneca County are more at-risk for chronic diseases and other physical health issues. A few contributing factors to the rise of chronic conditions may include the prevalence of obesity (38.7%), high blood pressure (32.5%), and depression (22.0%). There are not enough resources to address these issues and individuals don't always know what resources are available. Increased health education could allow the community to make healthier and informed decisions.

#### *Current service providers or resources*

- Mercy Health Tiffin Hospital
- Seneca County General Health District
- Health Partners of Western Ohio, Tiffin Community Center
- ProMedica Fostoria Community Hospital

## Prioritization of Health Needs

The significant community health needs were prioritized through a working session where a collection of Mercy Health Tiffin Hospital leaders and stakeholders was present including community health leaders, hospital leadership, local community organization leaders, and external consultants. Mercy Health Tiffin Hospital leaders and stakeholders gathered in working sessions to review community health findings and prioritize community health needs. The working session was conducted virtually on September 16, 2022 and lasted for one hour. Each significant community health need was objectively assessed by stakeholders through an evaluation of the need's significance to the community and the hospital's ability to impact the need. The two criteria, significance and ability to impact, were equally weighted in the prioritization process. Session participants responded to an anonymous poll where they ranked each significant need on a scale of 1 to 10. The two dimensions were added together to receive an overall ranking; the significant needs with the greatest combined ranking represent those which stakeholders felt posed the greatest health concern to the community and Tiffin Hospital had the ability to meaningfully impact. The top five greatest health needs from this process were identified as the prioritized

health needs while all others were recognized as significant and still impacting the surrounding community.

Based on all of the above information and processes, the prioritized health needs of the community served by the hospital are listed below.

## Prioritized Social Determinants of Health Needs

### **Access to Healthcare Services**

Providing better access points to healthcare in this community is vital to enhancing the quality of life for everyone. The resources that the community and Mercy HealthTiffin hospital provide can have a significant impact on population health outcomes. If more resources are available in the community, the social and physical environments within the community will help to promote good health for all. For Seneca County, access to health education, transportation, and the availability of medical and mental health service providers will help improve the community's health.

### **Health Education and Literacy**

The importance of health education and literacy stems from a preventative health lens. Health literacy influences how people receive, interpret, or act on health information. Promoting health education and providing health literacy opportunities will garner a more knowledgeable community that is able to successfully find and access care, prevent certain health conditions, make informed decisions, and effectively manage the health issues that arise. Additionally, financial literacy and understanding insurance can also complement this resource.

## Prioritized Social Health Needs

### **Mental Health and Wellness**

Mental health and wellness impacts the daily lifestyle choices of the people within Seneca County. The COVID-19 pandemic revealed how the emotional, psychological, and social well-being of each individual impacts their physical health. It also became an integral part of population health measurements, as many community health issues stem from poor mental health. This community health need was prioritized throughout all age groups, as it poses a significant influence on many individual health behaviors. When thinking about healthy behaviors and mental health, community leaders shared that many residents of Seneca County exhibit a lack personal motivation and ownership of their health and lifestyle decision, which has trickled down into health and lifestyle practices with negative consequences.

## **Drug and Substance Abuse**

Drug and substance abuse is prioritized because illicit drug and tobacco usage continues to be a prevalent challenge in the community. There is a lack of sufficient rehabilitation centers and mental health providers and resources to sufficiently meeting the heightened levels of drug overdose and substance use. This health concern remains steady in the community and progress will require individual motivation and behavior and lifestyle changes. Resources that promote healthy lifestyle choices and educate people about the dangers of drug usage are available in the county; however, many are unable or unwilling to take advantage of these resources.

## Prioritized Clinical Health Needs

### **Chronic Disease**

Chronic disease plays a substantial role in the overall physical health of the population. Conditions impacting the population include obesity, high blood pressure, diabetes, and depression. Many individuals who are managing chronic diseases also experience challenges with mental health and the downstream effects of long term disease and medication use. This is a culmination of factors including poor lifestyle choices, mental health, and the lack of healthy food options. These issues are compounded due to individual's poor diet and lack of exercise.

There are parks, trails, and food banks within the community to help mitigate this issue, but health education and mental health still remain as a barrier to improving overall health and chronic disease management. A lack of proper weight management and increased psychological distress often lead to other chronic and severe conditions that also must be addressed.

## Resources Available to Meet Prioritized Needs

The existing healthcare facilities and other resources within the community that are available to meet the prioritized needs are listed below.

## Prioritized Social Determinants of Health Needs

### **Access to Healthcare Services**

Mercy Health Tiffin Hospital serves as a community resource for healthcare services. They offer extensive medical services, mental health services, health screenings, and other valuable assets for people within the community. Seneca County Health Department provides resources to help prevent the spread of diseases, promote wellness, advocate for healthy lifestyle choices, and protect the environment. Additionally, the Seneca-Crawford Area Transportation (SCAT) aids constituents by providing local bus rides to the public, including to nearby hospitals and clinics.

### **Health Education and Literacy**

Mercy Health Tiffin Hospital care providers offer health information to patients as a part of their care routine. They also provide clarity on the financial aspects of hospitalizations when necessary. Further guidance and education on health services, locations of specialist care, preventative care measures, healthy eating habits, and exercise programs are also available to patients throughout the hospital. Locally, the Public Health Department advocates for better lifestyle choices and promotes overall wellness for individuals and families.

## **Prioritized Social Health Needs**

### **Mental Health and Wellness**

Mercy Health Tiffin Hospital provides healthcare services for patients suffering from mental health and depression. Service providers offer treatment across the care continuum, including outpatient counseling, inpatient care for acute mental health symptoms, evaluations and assessments, family therapy, etc. Mental health counseling services are also available to help patients identify and manage everyday life and relationships.

### **Drug and Substance Abuse**

Mercy Health Tiffin Hospital offers medical services for those patients and community members who suffer from illnesses related to drug and substance abuse. Necessary and efficient referrals to local counseling and rehabilitation centers are also factored into treatment plans. Additionally, Seneca County houses local rehabilitation centers that focus on holistic treatment plans and behavioral health changes for those patients in need of social support networks.

## **Prioritized Clinical Health Needs**

### **Chronic Disease**

Mercy Health Tiffin Hospital provides healthcare services specifically for chronic disease management. Qualified caregivers affiliated with affected patients provide treatment plans, recommended medications, detailed health information, and guidance on where to pursue other local resources. Seneca County also has many green spaces available to the community for individuals to participate in physical exercise. Local health screening events hosted by community organizations also contribute to the preventative health measures.

# Progress on Health Priorities Identified in the 2019-2021 Community Health Needs Assessment

## Mental Health and Substance Abuse

### Initiative/Impact

Firelands/Mercy Health Tiffin Hospital implemented with ER personnel a program called Screening, Brief Intervention and Referral to Treatment program (SBIRT). Screening is taking place in Mercy Health Tiffin Hospital, however, numbers were not tracked.

Providers at Mercy Health Tiffin Hospital are alert to problems and provide referrals when appropriate. Emergency room providers screen for mental health concerns. Referrals continue to take place at Mercy Health Tiffin hospital and screening is provided.

Counseling services are available through Firelands Counseling and Recovery services. Tiffin Hospital provides a safe site for after hours. Services are still available through Firelands Counseling and Recovery Services for after hours.

Firelands Counseling and Recovery provides ongoing education and training for all emergency department personnel through the program Mental Health First Aid for Healthcare Workers. This was paused in 2021 due to focus on COVID.

Mercy Health Tiffin Mental Health and Addiction Workgroup provides educational materials and training to physicians, staff and community to enhance awareness of mental health and addiction issues. This was paused in 2021 due to focus on COVID.

## Preventative Health

### Initiative/Impact

Mercy Health Tiffin Hospital offers the Complete Health Improvement Program (CHIP) twice a year. Program was paused in 2021 due to COVID

Mercy Health Tiffin Hospital provides a community screening event five times a year at minimal cost. Program was paused in 2021 due to COVID

Mercy Health Tiffin Hospital offers a free Diabetic Support Group monthly providing educational speakers and materials to those in attendance. Program was paused in 2021 due to COVID

# Appendix A

The appendix includes market data compiled and leveraged for the completion of this assessment.

# Appendix

## Metopio Market Data

Health Factors		
Metric	Seneca County	OH Benchmark
High Blood Pressure	<b>32.5%</b>	<b>31.7%</b>
Healthy Weight Status <small>(% of adults with Obesity)</small>	<b>38.7%</b>	<b>36.5%</b>
Depression	<b>22.0%</b>	<b>21.7%</b>
Cigarette Smoking	<b>23.3%</b>	<b>22.1%</b>

SDOH		
Metric	Seneca County	OH Benchmark
Below Federal Poverty Line	<b>12.7%</b>	<b>13.7%</b>
Non- Hispanic Black	40.8%	28.4%
Asian or Pacific Islander	24.3%	12.6%
ALICE Threshold <small>(minimum income needed for household survival)</small>	<b>37.5%</b>	<b>39.0%</b>
Violent Crime	<b>68.3</b> <small>per 100,000</small>	<b>300.8</b> <small>per 100,000</small>
SNAP Benefits	<b>12.6%</b>	<b>12.6%</b>

## County Health Rankings Market Data

Health Measure	Seneca County: Z-Score and Rank	
Health Outcomes	Z-Score	0.06
	Rank	51
Health Factors	Z-Score	-0.07
	Rank	38
Length of Life	Z-Score	-0.13
	Rank	37
Quality of Life	Z-Score	0.19
	Rank	61
Health Behaviors	Z-Score	0.02
	Rank	51
Clinical Care	Z-Score	-0.03
	Rank	35
Social & Economic Factors	Z-Score	-0.09
	Rank	35
Physical Environment	Z-Score	0.03
	Rank	71



**Z-score:** The Z-score, or standard score, is the number of standard deviations a given data point lies above or below mean. The intention of the z-score is to help understand the relationship of the metric to the Ohio average.

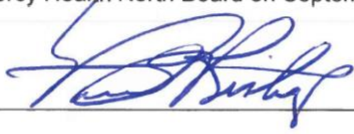
**Rank:** The position comparing Seneca County’s performance in a metric relative to the performance of all 88 Ohio counties. The lower the rank, the better the county performed.

Metric Category	Metric	Seneca County	Ohio Average
<b>Sexual Activity</b>	Chlamydia Rate	442.2	559.4
<b>Community Safety</b>	Suicide Rate (Age-Adjusted)	20.1	14.6
	Motor Vehicle Mortality Rate	11.1	10.4
	Juvenile Arrest Rate	44	33.4
<b>Healthcare Access</b>	Primary Care Physicians Ratio	2,904:1	1,291:1
	Dentist Ratio	2,389:1	1,566:1
	Mental Health Provider Ratio	678:1	346:1
	Other Primary Care Provider Ratio	1,772:1	832:1
	% With Annual Mammogram	42	45
<b>Education</b>	% Some College	57.7	65.9
	School Spending per Pupil	\$11,256	\$12,576
<b>Diet &amp; Exercise</b>	% Limited Access to Healthy Foods	8.4	6.9
	% Physically Inactive	30	27.6
	% Food Insecure	13	13.2
	% Adults with Obesity	38.7	34.6
<b>Physical Environment</b>	% Broadband Access	82	84.5
<b>Income</b>	Median Household Income	\$58,129	\$60,360
	% Children Enrolled in Free or Reduced Lunch	38.9	35.8
	Gender Pay Gap	0.75	0.79
<b>Employment</b>	% Unemployed	8.1	8.1
<b>Quality of Life</b>	% Low Birth Rate	8.8	6.6
	% Frequent Physical Distress	14.2	13
	% Frequent Mental Distress	17.4	17.1
	% Adults with Diabetes	10.9	10.3

# Board Approval

The Mercy Health – Willard Hospital 2022 Community Health Needs Assessment was approved by the Mercy Health North Board on September 27, 2022.

Board Signature: \_\_\_\_\_



Date: \_\_\_\_\_

*Nov. 18, 2022*

For further information or to obtain a hard copy of this Community Health Needs Assessment (CHNA) please contact: Jessica Henry; [Jessica\\_Henry@mercy.com](mailto:Jessica_Henry@mercy.com)

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