

2019 - 2021

Oak Valley Hospital Implementation Strategy



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Implementation Strategy

Introduction

In 1968, voters in eastern Stanislaus County formed the Oak Valley Hospital District to serve residents of Oakdale, Knights Ferry, Valley Home, Waterford, Riverbank and the surrounding areas. As part of the Oak Valley Hospital District, Oak Valley Hospital is a 29-bed, full service, nonprofit public hospital created to provide residents of Oakdale and the neighboring rural communities with access to superior quality medical information, treatment and care. Oak Valley Hospital has evolved to meet the changing medical needs of the local community. Once viewed solely as an inpatient treatment facility, Oak Valley now offers a broad network of full service medical services.

In 2018, Oak Valley Hospital completed the federally-mandated Community Health Needs Assessment (CHNA). The CHNA incorporated demographic and health data for the communities served by the hospital. Targeted interviews were conducted with stakeholders who represented the broad interests of the community, representatives of medically underserved, low-income and minority populations. As well, input was obtained from the Stanislaus County Public Health Department.

Significant health needs were identified from issues supported by primary and secondary data sources gathered for the CHNA. The health needs were based on the size of the problem (relative portion of population afflicted by the problem); or the seriousness of the problem (impact at individual, family, and community levels). To determine size or seriousness of a problem, the health needs identified in the secondary data were measured against benchmark data, specifically county and state rates, and Healthy People 2020 objectives. Indicators related to the health needs that performed poorly against these benchmarks were considered to have met the size or seriousness criteria. Additionally, primary data sources were asked to identify and validate community and health issues based on the perceived size or seriousness of a problem. The following significant health needs were identified:

- Access to care
- Birth Indicators
- Chronic Diseases
- Dental Care
- Injury Prevention
- Mental Health
- Overweight and Obesity
- Preventive Practices
- Substance Abuse

Priority Health Needs

The identified significant health needs were prioritized with input from the community using the following criteria:

- The perceived severity of a health issue or health factor/driver as it affects the health and lives of those in the community;
- The level of importance the hospital should place on addressing the issue.

Input from community stakeholders resulted in the following prioritization of the significant health needs:

1. Access to health care
2. Chronic diseases
3. Mental health
4. Substance abuse
5. Dental care
6. Preventive practices
7. Birth indicators
8. Overweight and obesity
9. Injury prevention

Addressing the Health Needs

From the prioritized health needs, Oak Valley Hospital chose health needs that took into account Oak Valley's capacity to address community needs, the strength of community partnerships, and those needs that correspond with the hospital's organizational priorities. As a result, Oak Valley Hospital will address the following health needs through a commitment of community benefit programs and charitable resources.

- Access to care, including dental care
- Chronic diseases
- Mental health

Goals have been established that indicate the anticipated impact on these health needs as a result of the resources the hospital will commit to meeting the health needs. Strategies to address the priority health needs are identified and impact measures will be tracked.

Access to Care

Goal

Increase access to primary health care and dental care for the medically underserved and improve community health.

Strategies

The hospital intends to address access to health care and dental care by taking the following actions:

- Provide financial assistance through free and discounted care for health care services, consistent with Oak Valley Hospital's financial assistance policy.
- Oak Valley Hospital District owns and operates four primary care clinics, which will provide preventive and chronic care services.
- Provide dental care services for the uninsured and Medi-Cal patients at the Oakdale Health Center.
- Conduct outreach to persons in need of preventive health services.
- Offer a 24-hour Nurse Call line to improve access to the most appropriate level of care.

Impact

The anticipated impact of these actions will be to:

- Increase availability and access to primary health care and dental care services.
- Provide financial assistance to qualified patients.
- Reduce the percentage of residents who delay obtaining needed medical care.
- Increase individuals' compliance with preventive care recommendations.

Chronic Diseases

Goal

Reduce impact of chronic diseases on health and increase focus on prevention, treatment and support.

Strategies

The hospital intends to address chronic conditions by taking the following actions:

- Offer screenings for identified at-risk populations.
- Provide community CPR classes.
- Provide education in English and Spanish on disease prevention, treatment and self-management.
- Screen for tobacco use at the community primary care clinics.

Impact

The anticipated impact of these actions will be to:

- Increase the identification and treatment of chronic diseases.
- Increase public awareness of disease prevention.
- Increase individuals' compliance with preventive care recommendations.

Mental Health

Goal

Increase access to mental health care resources and services.

Strategies

The hospital intends to address mental health needs by taking the following actions:

- Provide community health education in English and Spanish on mental health topics.
- Offer screening for depression and other mental health disorders.
- Implement processes for timely referral to mental health services.
- Provide support groups in English and Spanish.
- Continue with community engagement groups to identify individuals with mental illness.
- Engage promotoras to host community mental health outreach events.

Impact

The anticipated impact of these actions will be to:

- Increase access to mental health resources.
- Increase awareness and treatment of mental health issues.

Collaboration

Oak Valley Hospital is committed to fostering partnerships with community-based organizations. To address the selected health needs, the hospital plans to collaborate with:

- CASA Del Rio Family Resource Center
- Center for Human Services, Oakdale Resource and Counseling Center
- Escalon Health Center
- Family Support Network
- Oakdale Health Center
- Riverbank Health Center
- School districts
- Stanislaus County Children & Family Commission
- Stanislaus County Public Health
- Waterford Community Health Center

Evaluation of Impact

Oak Valley Hospital will monitor and evaluate the programs and activities outlined above. Our reporting process includes the collection and documentation of tracking measures, such as the number of people reached/served, changes in health behaviors, and efforts to address health needs. An evaluation of the impact of the hospital's actions to address these significant health needs will be presented in the next scheduled Community Health Needs Assessment.

Health Needs the Hospital will Not Address

Taking existing hospital and community resources into consideration, Oak Valley Hospital will not address the remaining health needs identified in the CHNA including: birth indicators, injury prevention, overweight/obesity and substance abuse. Oak Valley Hospital will concentrate on those health needs that we can most effectively address given our areas of focus and available resources.