

**COLORADO COUNTY
COMMUNITY NEEDS ASSESSMENTS
IMPLEMENTATION REPORT
February, 2020**

In order to understand the health needs of Columbus County (Columbus), the Columbus Community Hospital (CCH) contacted Dr. Tina Fields and Dr. Jeff Hatala to perform a **Community Health Needs Assessment in 2019**. The consultants gathered existing data and information of the county from numerous secondary sources and worked with CCH to establish focus groups to learn the community's perception of the county's health status.

Based on the statistical data and feedback from the focus groups, the following is the implementation report:

1. **Recommendation:** Mentoring program with the youth.

Plan: *The Boys and Girls Club of Champion Valley have a program called **POWER HOUR**. This program provides volunteers who come from 4:00 p.m. - 4:45 p.m. and help the children with their reading and homework in all grade levels. They also help with Arts and Crafts.*

2. **Recommendation:** Develop a repository for new information about events and resources in the community.

Plan: *The Columbus Chamber of Commerce has partnered with Colorado County Businesses to put their events on the Chamber website and on the Chamber LED sign on Walnut Street/Hwy 90. This way there is a universal repository for all events.*

CCH has a website with a current calendar for all events at the hospital. There is also a LED sign in front of the hospital for displaying information and events provided by the hospital. The local radio station, KULM, also provides a resource for advertising health events and community events. The radio features a physician on their weekly health segment.

Facebook is an excellent tool to post the events. The Cholesterol Screening reached 4,408 and 193 engagements.

3. **Reccomendatoin:** Treatment for mental health issues needs to be more accessible to members of the community.

Plan: *Columbus Community Hospital developed a strategic plan committee to address the needs of Behavioral Health. Through this committee information was gathered in one packet that showed the resources for individuals needing couseling and for providers to know where to send their mental health patients. The local counselor has added two more counselors to her group which will make a positive impact on the community.*

CCH is collaborating with TEXANA, Youth and Family Services, Village Counseling, Turtle Wings Foundation and the Family Stanzel Foundation to discuss the mental health issues in our community.

4. **Reccommendation:** Provide more Diabetes education once the wellness center is completed.

Plan: *Columbus Community Hospital continues to offer Diabetes Classes to the public once a month. The classes are 4 hours and cover the basics of diabetes including monitoring, meal selections, compliance with medications and complications will be covered. This program is being offered as a community service at no charge for the patients and physician referral is not needed.*

Columbus Community Hospital has plans to begin a Wellness Center Summer 2020. There will also be an addition that we provide meeting space for the community. The space can be used for education classes and community health events.

The FREE A1C testing that is done in February also benefits the public. The screening can identify prediabetes, which raises your risk for diabetes. It can be used to diagnose diabetes.

OTHER ACCOMPLISHMENTS:

CCH continues to sponsor free prostate screenings during National Men's Health Week each year from Monday thru Friday in the Hospital Lab. In 2019, **150 men** received the free prostate screening.

The Circus of Health is an annual event and is held the third week in July. The sponsors include: CCH, TX Ag Extension Agent, Wesley Nurse and the Dept. State Health Services. Columbus Medical Clinic gives **free** backpacks to the elementary students. The backpacks are filled with school supplies, which are donated by the community. CCH employees volunteer their time to the event. Approximately **170 children and parents** participated in the event.

During February, which is American Heart Month, CCH offers **free** Coronary Risk Panel and A1C testing to the community. This event is another opportunity for the employees to volunteer and give back to the community. There were **over 300 people** tested in 2020.

CCH continues to offer free Thyroid Screening to the community. Approximately **380 people** were screened.

The Physicians from CCH give **free** physical examinations in May to CISD and St. Anthony's athletic departments.

CCH continues to participate in the Safe Riders Traffic Safety Program, along with the Texas Department of State Health Services and the Texas Department of Transportation. Car seats were checked and when needed the participants were given a new car seat.

Robert Katz, M.D. and Rhonda Huskey, Respiratory Therapist spoke to the Columbus High School students on the danger of vaping. The students were very receptive. The speakers plan to present the same program at other schools.

The Community Relations person assisted the Medicare population with Open Enrollment from October to December. Over 60 people signed up to evaluate their Part D coverage.

The Community Relations person along with the Steering Committee has been meeting with Texas A&M University Students, The Texas Target Communities Team, highlighting their assessment/proposals of Columbus Corridor Revitalization Project.