

2024 CHNA Implementation Plan - Thomas (KS)

Wave #5 CHNA Health Needs Tactics Year 1 of 3 starting 1/1/25 through 12/31/25

	CHNA Health Areas of Need	T	"Specific Actions" to Address Community Health Need or "Reasons Why Hospital Will Not"	Identified "Lead"	Identified Partners	Timeframe	(Hours)	\$\$\$
1	Childcare (Available and Affordable)	a	Assist with the recruitment of childcare firms to Thomas County. Continue to evaluate access to child care needs and confirm number of child care providers needed.	Livewell / CH	City, Clubs, Colleges, County, Ec Dev, Schools	ongoing		\$1
		b	Support Child Care Support education i.e., teen babysitting classes etc. Continue to provide support for licensure i.e., CPR classes.			ongoing		\$1
		c	Investigate grant writing for seed money to fund child care and to help existing businesses.			ongoing		
		d	Encourage large (top 5) businesses to offer on site child care services. Explore Thomas County COOP Childcare share services.			ongoing		
		e	Educate young families on child care community options / resources. Investigate adding autistic/special needs child care services. Utilize advertising and media outlets to keep the community aware of childcare available.			ongoing		
		f	Collaborate with local schools, churches, fitness centers etc. to consider / provide child care services for community residents. Focus service delivery on ages 0-5 years old. Include area communities.			ongoing		
		g	Continue to lobby KS State lawmakers to address child care regulations to encourage more supply options. Work with KDHE.			ongoing		\$1
		h	Continue to support business / local schools in providing after hours programing / child care services for community.			ongoing		
2	Housing (Affordable and Available)	a	Support Colby Estate Residential Rural housing Incentive initiative.	City / Economic Development	County, State	ongoing		\$1
		b	Explore / research "Habitat for Humanity" program. Teach technical skills (weekend workshops) to rehab houses for resell. Promote program.			ongoing		\$1
		c	Continue expansion to build Countywide Housing Development Plan that would address affordable / safe housing for residents.			ongoing		
		d	Investigate grant writing to fund public / safe housing. If available, designate community lead to work to attain the necessary grant.			ongoing		\$1
		e	Offer rental tenant support resources such as a unique payment plans. Evaluate county income to assist in accurate rent collection in the area to expand housing options for individuals. Increase inventory of income-based housing.			ongoing		
		f	Encourage banks to offer mortgage loans to first time home buyers and/or allow loans which aid in improvement of existing housing.			ongoing		

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	g	Recruit Builders to County. Research options for housing estates new building development. Explore potential new apartment complex development for young families and elderly.			ongoing			
	h	Research possible housing options for vacant buildings to turn into affordable & safe housing. Ask County to share in development.			ongoing			
	i	Explore housing options with local Homeless agency programs. Explore agencies in area.			ongoing			
3	Mental Health (Diag, Treatment, Aftercare, Provider Access)							
	a	Conduct a physician manpower assessment to identify number of Mental Health providers needed. Recruit Mental Health providers to meet specific mental inventory needs as identified. Consider recruitment of locum or visiting provider or telehealth options.	HPMH / CH	Hosp, Law, Schools, Seniors, SS, Teen	ongoing		\$1	
	This health need is a community Social determinant, thus not part Hospital's Mission or Critical operations. Will partner with others as appropriate.		b	Enhance a 24-hour 988 crisis hotline and High Plains crisis line / screenings. Promote mobile HPMHC mobile crisis team.		ongoing		
	c	Continue to enhance Mental Health clinic care support. Increase depression screenings by PCPs. Identify what screenings are currently taking place in all domains to know where enhancement or improvement is needed for screenings.			ongoing		\$1	
	d	Continue to investigate grant writing to fund mental health and depression. Use grant funding to support mental health care and mental health prevention.			ongoing			
	e	Collaborate with community elementary, middle, and high schools to educate students on mental health (de-stigmatize mental health conditions, suicide prevention and social media bullying).			ongoing			
	f	Complete a New Community Inventory Survey to document specific Mental Health service offerings and availability of services by hours & insurance. Educate community about available services. Work with HPMHC.			ongoing		\$1	
	g	Continue to build and expand Tele Psych service offerings that are approved by area providers. Explore reimbursement options.			ongoing		\$1	
	h	Continue Suicide Prevention Public service announcements, literature, resources to contact (Availability), and HPMHC mobile crisis. Providers identifying and promoting services, education, etc.			ongoing			
	i	Continue to develop MH referral relationships with key community partners for collective impact. Continue to explore potential office sites for additional mental health services, including primary care (satellite) clinics.			ongoing		\$1	
j	Engage well known Guest Speakers to come to community to share on de-stigmatize mental health treatment. (Secure a speaker and continue it) Utilize local HPMHC resources for best practice education.			ongoing				

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	k	Continue to support area local transport for Mental Health patients.			ongoing		
	l	Continue to educate all medical staff including EMS and Police officers regarding mental health delivery issues and how to address them. Provide Continuing ED to staff using lunch and learn presentations, etc. to keep them current in treating mental health issues.			ongoing		\$1
4	Medicaid Expansion (with a focus on Foster Access)						
	a	Complete annual hospital filing for Exception status for participating in the Medicaid PE program	CH	City, Clinics, County, State	yearly		\$1
	b	Continue to educate public on payment options at the hospital and how to properly navigate the using your health insurance coverage properly. Continue to enhance CMS Transparency web reporting and price transparency. (Hope Fund / Patient Financial Asst.)			ongoing		\$1
	c	Continue to partner with KHA to advocate for Medicaid Expansion. Serve on lobby state committees and engage with local legislators with special attention to newly elected local politicians.			ongoing		\$1
	d	Encourage local providers to accept Medicaid and possible have a FREE day of care per QQ.			ongoing		\$1
	e	Explore debt relief program to assist uninsured patients.			ongoing		
	f	Monitor changes to Federal health insurance policies for rural health organizations.			ongoing		\$1
5	Health Education (starting with youth)						
	a	Explore a back to school Carnival. Partner with Parks and Rec to promote these activities. Continue Health Fair activities with fair booths (& topics) etc.	CH / Health Department	Clinics, Drugs/Alc, EMS, Fire, Fit, Law, MH, P&R, Schools, Teen	ongoing		\$1
	b	Continue maintaining community Facebook page. Provide web links to area providers, schools, churches, community programs, and others.			ongoing		\$1
	c	Provide health education materials focusing on "Owning your Health" to schools, libraries and 4-H FFA clubs. Find ways to distribute.			ongoing		
	d	Continue "Walk With a Doc / Provider" outreach program to help enhance healthy behaviors in the community.			ongoing		\$1
	e	Host community education events in order to promote local healthcare / self service programs and the importance of preventative care. Promote and continue health fairs for both women and men.			ongoing		\$1
	f	Partner with PSA Fitness & Wellness Centers to promote community wellness. Provide complimentary introductory classes to get people motivated and involved.			ongoing		\$1

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6	Visiting Specialists (ENT, DERM, Oral Surgery, RHE, PEDS, GER)	a	Conduct additional research (PSA focus group) to further determine ideas to recruit qualified providers to Thomas Co. Discuss and recruit qualified foreign physician candidates.	CH	Clinics, Colleges, County, State	ongoing		\$1
		b	Develop a community recruitment steering committee. Develop partner relationships with area providers for collectively recruiting. Identify/contact key collaborative partners to possibly share office space, workforce & equipment.			ongoing		\$1
		c	Recruit individuals within an organization to become providers (i.e. Further workforce development). Explore/create a community message to convince younger people to stay / work in the county as HC providers			ongoing		\$1
		d	Retain existing Thomas Co providers. Conduct a physician manpower assessment to identify number of providers needed per specialty for PH primary service area draw.			ongoing		\$1
		e	Launch a region-wide "Come to Thomas County" Specialist Recruitment Program to encourage specialists to set up local practice. Use both traditional and social media tools.			ongoing		\$1
7	Dialysis Services	a	Assist Hospital leaders to recruit NEW Dialysis firm to come to county to offer services.	Great Plains Health North Platte	Clinics, Hosp, State	ongoing		\$1
		b	Explore offering voluntary transportation services (at cost) to other outside area Dialysis providers.			ongoing		\$1
		c	Offer hospital clinical office space at reduced cost to encourage outside area providers to come to area.			ongoing		\$1
		d	Seek additional Federal, and State grant funding to support additional dialysis clinic access.			ongoing		
8	Address Community Vaccination Hesitation (through Edcation & Access to Community Vaccinations)	a	Assist with patient vaccination reminders upon patient registration. Recommend vaccination options. Further Edcation & Access to Community Vaccinations.	CH / Health Department	Childcare, City, Clinics, County, Hosp, Schools, State	ongoing		
		b	Continue to use health fairs to promote/provide immunizations. Expand hours of operations (DOH) for walk-in vaccinations.			ongoing		
		c	Explore a campaign by Citizen's Health and local Pharmacy to relieve myths and educate the community on vaccinations benefits.			ongoing		
		d	Create culturally appropriate strategies and materials for vaccination education.			ongoing		
		e	Encourage providers to provide effective vaccine delivery. Increase vaccination coverage in practices			ongoing		

