

## Meadville Medical Center 2019 Community Health Needs Assessment Implementation Plan

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The 2019 Community Health Needs Assessment (CHNA) conducted in collaboration between Meadville Medical Center, Titusville Area Hospital and Allegheny College looked at data collected from more than 1,100 adult participants from across Crawford County. Online and in-person surveys focused on cancer prevention, which showed to be the primary healthcare issue in the 2015 CHNA.

The 2019 CHNA showed that the rate of cancer incidence in Crawford County was higher than both the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania and the United States, at rates of 494.4 in Crawford County, 481.7 in Pennsylvania and 441.2 nationwide per 100,000 people. Lung cancer is 48% higher than the national rate, colon cancer is 28% higher, and cervical cancer is 20% higher.

The mortality rate from cancer is also higher in Crawford County at 183.5 per 100,000, as compared to Pennsylvania which is 171.6 per 100,000 and nationwide at 163.5 per 100,000.

The leading risk factors for the increased rate of cancer in the county is a result of smoking, understanding Human Papillomavirus (HPV) and preventative screenings. 35% of all respondents reported being a current or former smoker, with 70% of them being between the ages of 18-54. Typically, these respondents were associated with a lower level of education, lower rates of screening and/or did not have a primary care physician. Between 2015 and 2018 the CHNA results showed a 14% decrease in the number of residents reporting they have a primary care physician.

The Meadville Medical Center Health System is committed to decreasing the rate of cancer among the residents of Crawford County by decreasing tobacco use, increasing HPV vaccinations and connecting residents with primary care physicians.

### Reduce Tobacco Use

- MMC has Respiratory Therapists and Registered Nurses who are Certified Tobacco Treatment Specialists (CTTS) at inpatient facility and the Yolanda G. Barco Oncology Institute (YGBOI). A process was put in place in 2020 for a consult to be made via the hospital's electronic medical record system, Meditech, for any inpatient smoker to be seen by at CTTS. At YGBOI, staff can request a CTTS counsel patients who desire smoking cessation.
- The PA Quitline is utilized for all patients who consent.
- Coordinate with County Health Improvement Coalition (CHIC) and NWPA Tobacco Control Program to provide community classes for smoking cessation.
- Due to COVID-19 social distancing requirements, virtual cessation classes are being offered by NWPA Tobacco Coalition.

- Patients are given smoking cessation materials at low-dose CT lung cancer screening appointments.
- Partner with local school districts to decrease the use of vaping and e-cigarettes.

#### Increase HPV vaccinations

- YGBOI has partnered with CHIC to hold a community HPV event with Allegheny College. A panel of experts including OB/GYN's, pediatricians, oncologists, and pulmonologists along with patients in the community diagnosed with HPV related cancers will speak at the event. The film "Someone You Love" will be viewed. Due to COVID-19 restrictions, a virtual event is being planned.
- Use social media and marketing to encourage Gardasil vaccination.
- Collaborate with CHIC and local school districts to discuss the potential to provide HPV vaccination at the school by a third party.

#### Cancer Screening

- Continue to provide LDCT Lung Cancer Screening at MMC. Increase number of eligible patients screened by promoting to Primary Care Physicians (PCP), social media, and newspaper/radio.
- Adapt LDCT screening practice at MMC based on changing societal guidelines.
- Provide monthly newsletter on MMC's website focusing on a different cancer each month and best screening practices.
- Continue to offer free mammograms in an October Breast Cancer Awareness event at Vernon Place.
- Continue to offer free Skin Cancer Screening event at Meadville Dermatology Institute.
- Consider more virtual methods to promote various cancer screening to the community, i.e podcasts, webinars, etc.

#### Primary Care Physicians

- Continue promoting all PCPs who are accepting new patients
- Promote the Rural Health Clinics in the more rural areas of Crawford County
- Develop a referral process through the health system to connect individuals who are identified to not have a PCP to a practice that is accepting patients.