

2012

Community Health Needs Assessment



**ASSUMPTION
COMMUNITY
HOSPITAL**

An Affiliate of Our Lady of the Lake

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Assessing community health needs and developing the appropriate plans to address these needs are essential to improving and sustaining the health of our communities. To do so, we must understand our community, the needs identified, and the process for moving forward to improve the health of Assumption Parish. Both a primary and shared focus among health care organizations is responding to the health needs of our communities. More recently, we are encouraged to develop initiatives that incorporate multiple healthcare organizations to collaborate with available and upcoming resources to offer effective and positive impacts on the community. And more specifically, the concept of a Community Health Needs Assessment is now reinforced by the Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act, which contains new requirements for tax-exempt hospitals to conduct community health needs assessments and to adopt implementation strategies to meet the health needs identified through the assessments. The 2012 Community Health Needs Assessment was conducted to determine the needs of the Assumption Parish Community of 23,000 residents.

About Assumption Community Hospital

Assumption Community Hospital began operations in April of 1972 as a parish owned Hospital Service District facility to provide for the medical needs of the community. In December of 1996 the facility was purchased by Our Lady of the Lake Regional Medical Center of Baton Rouge, Louisiana as an extension of the Franciscan Missionaries of Our Lady Health System's (FMOLHS) commitment of providing for those most in need. The majority of services provided by Assumption Community Hospital, a federally designated 15 bed Critical Access Hospital and its Provider Based Rural Health Clinic are to Assumption Parish residents. As the only Hospital located in Assumption Parish, it was determined that the service area used for this assessment would be within the Assumption Parish boundaries.

Assumption Community Hospital and its provider based Rural Health Clinic provide important and needed services such as inpatient hospitalization, outpatient laboratory services, radiology imaging services, respiratory therapy services, and the vital provision of 24/7 emergency room services. The Provider Based Rural Health Clinic provides a significant amount of primary care services to the Indigent and Medicaid patient population of the parish. Other important community outreach programs provided by the Hospital and Rural Health Clinic include an annual Health Fair, periodic Smoking Cessation classes, and periodic Diabetes Education.

Through the commitment to our healing ministry and the values of our Catholic heritage, we continually strive to identify and meet the needs of the poor and underserved of our community. Our commitment to human dignity compels us to provide a common good.

Who Was Involved in the Assessment

The assessment process was conducted in three stages over the past year in an effort to identify specific needs unique to the different geographical areas of the parish. As the only Hospital located in Assumption Parish, there was no collaboration with any other Hospital Facility, only other Healthcare Providers and participants with the knowledge of the specific needs of their respective communities. The three collaborations with Assumption Community Hospital and Assumption Rural Health Clinic included the Pierre Part Medical Development Board, the Assumption Rural Health Clinic Community Advisory Board, and the Assumption Parish Council on Aging.

Members of the three assessments participated equally to discuss and identify specific weaknesses and areas for improvement including health provider needs, services, and transportation.

Community Needs and Demographic Analysis

Assumption Community Hospital and Assumption Rural Health Clinic

Assumption Parish is a very rural area with only one incorporated community of approximately 700 residents known as the Village of Napoleonville. Assumption Parish is a community heavily dependent on agriculture (primarily sugar cane production) and has only a few large employers such as the Assumption Parish School system and a local marine shipyard. The median income for the parish over the past 12 months is \$20,603. Other small communities located in the parish include, Labadieville, Paincourtville, Plattenville, Bertrandville, Belle Rose, Pierre Part and Bayou L'Ourse. Assumption Community Hospital is the only hospital located in Assumption Parish. It is centrally located in the parish and serves a more restricted population of approximately 10,000 residents as other communities are located closer to larger urban healthcare facilities. Also, Assumption Parish is designated as a Health Professional Shortage Area (HPSA) and is challenged with the provision of healthcare providers as a ration of population. Nearly 100% of Assumption Community Hospital's patient admissions are individuals who reside in Assumption Parish. Healthcare resources in Assumption Parish are very limited, but include an FQHC and two other Rural Health Clinics as well as two private practice physician offices which serve a very small percentage of the underserved population.

The assessment included three different collaborative round table discussions that were held to gain community specific input from the participants to identify the challenges of each area and to focus on the issues with the greatest potential for success while considering the limited resources available at present. With the needs that were identified through this community input, a list of priorities was further validated by the collection of statistical data through various web based resources such as the 2010 County Health Rankings and the data provided by Thompson Reuters Community Needs Index. Qualitative and Quantitative data was used to develop the priorities identified and to determine if there were any information gaps. The committee felt the data was sufficient and that there were no information gaps that could be identified during this process. The first collaborative meeting was held in the Pierre Part community with the Pierre Part Medical Development Board during April 2011, the second collaborative meeting was held with the Assumption Rural Health Clinic Community Advisory Board in November 2011,

and the third collaborative meeting was held with the Assumption Council on Aging in December 2011. Input from the Louisiana Office of Public Health and the DHH Bureau of Primary Care and Rural Health was also obtained to assist with the validation of the findings.

Pierre Part Community Focus

(April 2011 & May 2, 2011)

While the Pierre Part community has a Rural Health Clinic and an FQHC, the main focus of the Pierre Part Medical Development Board members present was to improve access to the uninsured as well as the insured by providing an additional family practice clinic. Timely access issues to quality healthcare services was identified as the major issue to be addressed during the assessment of the Pierre Part community. In many cases, residents currently have to seek healthcare services outside their own community. Transportation for medical services of local residents was also identified as a need during this process.

Participants:

Logi Guillot — *President of the Pierre Part Medical Development Board*

John Lefleur — *Pierre Part Medical Development Board, Community Member*

Daryl Rivere — *Pierre Part Medical Development Board, Community Member*

Frannie Mabile — *Pierre Part Medical Development Board, Licensed Practical Nurse*

Ed and Pat Mayeaux — *Pierre Part Medical Development Board, Community Members*

T.J. Blanchard — *Pierre Part Medical Development Board, Community Member*

Wayne Arboneaux — *Assumption Community Hospital, CEO*

Kelly Simoneaux — *OLOL Physician Group Business Development Specialist*

The Pierre Part Medical Development Board has been addressing the medical needs of their community for over a decade working with the Louisiana Department of Health and Hospitals Bureau of Primary Care and Rural Health to maintain and recruit the necessary medical services for the Pierre Part Community of Assumption Parish. This focus group was made-up of community members and business individuals led by Mr. Logi Guillot, President of the Pierre Part Medical Development Board. He is a well-respected community leader as well as a successful business man who has been instrumental in leading the attempts to recruit and maintain adequate medical resources for the community. Also noted as an integral part of this committee is Ms. Frannie Mabile, LPN, who has worked in the community as a Home Health nurse and as a nurse in the Federally Qualified Health Center located in the community for a number of years.

Assumption Rural Health Clinic Community Advisory Board

(November 1, 2011)

Administrative and Clinical Staff of the Rural Health Clinic meet with members of the Assumption Rural Health Clinic Community Advisory Board on an annual basis to review and evaluate services currently being provided and to identify specific areas for future resources to be allocated. After a thorough discussion, the specific areas identified as areas to be addressed through this assessment were childhood obesity and diabetes education. Public transportation was again identified as a parish wide issue that would require substantial resources that are not currently available at this time.

Participants of the Rural Health Clinic Community Advisory Board included leaders, patient providers and advocates of the organizations representing and serving the, low income, minority populations, and underserved populations with chronic disease needs.

Participants:

Wayne Arboneaux, CEO — *Assumption Rural Health Clinic*

Tina Landry, Business Office Manager — *Assumption Rural Health Clinic*

Hollie Ortis, FNP — *Family Nurse Practitioner, Assumption Rural Health Clinic Healthcare Provider*

Erica Guillermo, FNP — *Family Nurse Practitioner, Assumption Rural Health Clinic Healthcare Provider*

Debra Coupel, CMA — *Certified Medical Assistant - Assumption Rural Health Clinic Staff*

Joanne Watson, LPN — *Assumption Rural Health Clinic*

Gina Arboneaux, PSR — *Assumption Rural Health Clinic*

Julie Marines, PSR — *Assumption Rural Health Clinic*

Dianne Cheavious — *Assumption Parish Head Start Family & Community Services Coordinator*

Theresa Milton — *Assumption Council on Aging, Patient Advocate*

The Assumption Rural Health Clinic has been serving the underserved population of the community for nearly 15 years through the services of its Family Nurse Practitioners with oversight from a licensed physician who serves as its Medical Director. In coordination with the input and advice of Ms. Dianne Cheavious, Family & Community Services Coordinator of the Assumption Parish Head Start Program, Ms. Theresa Milton, Advocate of the Assumption Parish Council on Aging, programs and services are targeted to improve health outcomes to the young and aging populations of the community.

Assumption Parish Council on Aging

(December 6, 2011)

A small focus group was convened to identify and address specific needs related to the senior population of Assumption Parish. Specific needs identified for the senior population of Assumption Parish included in-services and educational programs on Diabetes, proper nutrition and exercise, as well as education on Medication Management. Public transportation was again identified as a parish wide issue that would require substantial resources that are not currently available at this time.

Participants:

Wayne Arboneaux, CEO — *Assumption Community Hospital*

Rosa Lou Molaison — *Executive Director of Assumption Council on Aging*

Ms. Rosa Lou Molaison has served as the Executive Director of the Assumption Council on Aging for the past 38 years and supervises a support staff of over 40 employees. She is keenly aware of the needs of the Assumption Parish senior citizens and has represented the community well over her career. She is currently serving as a member of the Capital Area Agency on Aging, Inc. which composes 10 parishes as well the LAT Board of the Workforce Commission. She is also a member of the Louisiana Council on Aging Directors Association and the Louisiana Association of Non-Profits. Through her vast array of experience and regional involvement with policies regarding the senior citizens of Assumption Parish, Ms. Molaison is uniquely qualified to address the needs of the underserved aging population of the Assumption Parish community.

Louisiana Office of Public Health and DHH Bureau of Primary Care and Rural Health

(July 13, 2012)

Input from state and local health departments with current data and information was obtained through consultation and review. Representatives from the Louisiana Office of Public Health and the Louisiana Bureau of Primary Care and Rural Health were also involved for review and assessment of the multi-stage process via consultation for validation of the information and data obtained through this process.

Participants:

Ms. Kayla Guerrero, LMSW, MPH — *DHH Region 3 Coordinator, Louisiana Office of Public Health*

Ms. Beth Millet — *Program Manager 2 / Director of Health Systems Development, Louisiana Bureau of Primary Care and Rural Health*

Ms. Guerrero in her role as the DHH Region 3 Coordinator for the Louisiana Office of Public Health and as a practicing licensed social worker is continuously involved with assessing the needs of Region 3 and specifically Assumption Parish as part of that region. She works with various agencies regarding the needs of the various communities and uses her personal career experience in dealing with social/economic problems to advance the public health needs of those in need.

Ms. Beth Millet in her role as the Program Manager and Director of Health Systems Development for the Louisiana Bureau of Primary Care and Rural Health has over 20 years working with the state of Louisiana and over 15 years working with Bureau of Primary Care and Rural Health. She is responsible for the Rural Hospital Medicare Flexibility Program, the Small Rural Hospital Improvement Program, the designation of Louisiana's Health Professional Shortage Areas, and works with Community-based and Rural Health Network and Community Development for possible grant funding. Ms. Millet has extensive knowledge and a diverse background in services related to rural hospitals, rural health clinics and federally qualified health centers, all of which focus on the specific needs of the underserved in their respective communities.

Validation of the results obtained through this assessment process was used to assist with the recommendations for further planning and to address the identified needs through the implementation process.

Assessment Tools

Community Needs Index

With a community best defined by zip-code, this tool demonstrates a clear need in specific areas of our city. Utilizing data sources provided by Thompson Reuters, the CNI identifies the severity of health disparity for every zip code in the United States and demonstrates the link between community need, access to care, and preventable hospitalizations. The ability to pinpoint neighborhoods with significant barriers to health care access is an important advancement for public health advocates and care providers.

Based on an array of demographic and economic statistics, the CNI provides a score for every populated zip code in the United States on a scale of 1.0 to 5.0. A score of 1.0 indicates a zip code with the least need, while a score of 5.0 represents a zip code with the highest, most immediate needs. The CNI score is an average of five barrier scores that measure socioeconomic indicators of each community: income, cultural, education, insurance, and housing barriers.

Those zip codes highlighted in red in the given Parish are facing barriers related to income, education, and insurance which have a negative effect on the overall health of the population.

Zip	CNI Score	Poverty 65+	Poverty Children	Poverty Single w/kids	No High School Diploma	Minority	Unemployed	Uninsured	2010 Population
70339	3.4	26%	17%	61%	31%	5%	5%	17%	6099
70341	4.4	34%	27%	64%	28%	54%	8%	25%	3916
70372	4.2	22%	25%	67%	33%	34%	4%	21%	2846
70390	4.6	18%	32%	67%	31%	53%	7%	25%	7329

County Health Rankings

“We measure two types of health outcomes to represent how healthy each county is: how long people live (mortality) and how healthy people feel (morbidity). These outcomes are the result of a collection of health factors and are influenced by programs and policies at the local, state, and federal levels.” The Robert Wood Johnson Foundation is collaborating with the University of Wisconsin Population Health Institute to develop these Rankings for each state’s counties. <http://www.countyhealthrankings.org/>

Assumption ranks 31 out of 64 parishes, with Louisiana ranking 49th in the nation. According to the County Healthy Rankings, Assumption is more than double the national benchmark in rates of low birth weight and nearly double the uninsured population rate. Although Assumption Parish ranks 17th out of the 64 Parishes overall in Louisiana in Clinical Care, there is a severe shortage of Primary Care Physicians. The data below displays Assumption Parish’s rankings.

County Health Rankings

	Assumption	Louisiana	National Benchmark*
Health Outcomes - Rank 31			
Mortality- Rank 11			
Premature death	9,282	10,654	5,564
Morbidity - Rank 59			
Poor or fair health	24%	19%	10%
Poor physical health days	4.4	3.7	2.6
Poor mental health days	3.6	3.1	2.3
Low birthweight	12.30%	10.90%	6.00%
Health Factors - 32			
Health Behaviors - 30			
Adult smoking	24%	23%	15%
Adult obesity	33%	32%	25%
Excessive drinking	13%	16%	8%
Motor vehicle crash death rate	31	23	12
Sexually transmitted infections	520	528	83
Teen birth rate	51	55	22
Clinical Care – Rank 17			
Uninsured adults	24%	26%	13%
Primary care physicians	2,093:1	863:01:00	631:01:00
Preventable hospital stays	99	98	52
Diabetic screening	88%	77%	89%
Mammography screening	58%	60%	74%
Social & Economic Factors – Rank 44			
High school graduation	55%	61%	92%
Some college	31%	51%	68%
Unemployment	8.00%	6.80%	5.30%
Children in poverty	27%	25%	11%
Inadequate social support	25%	23%	14%
Children in single-parent households	42%	41%	20%
Homicide rate		13	1
Physical Environment – Rank 57			
Air pollution-particulate matter days	16	4	0
Air pollution-ozone days	3	7	0
Access to healthy foods	80%	62%	92%
Access to recreational facilities	9	9	17

Assumption Community Top Health Priorities

The Assumption Community Health Needs Assessment identifies five health priorities that require a continuum of services including awareness, education, and prevention methods for the following:

- 1. Timely access to care for all populations**
- 2. Childhood obesity**
- 3. Diabetes**
- 4. Public Transportation**
- 5. Health education for seniors**

Qualitative and Quantitative data was used in the development of the top health priorities stated above. In referencing the data with the specific issues identified during the community needs assessment process, it was determined that no information gaps were identified that would affect the ability to assess the health needs of the community.

With consultation from all parties and validation of the data obtained, the five health priorities above were ranked as indicated above. The health priorities above were ranked considering financial resources, the greatest impact and whether other organizations are already addressing certain needs. The implementation plan will further define those that will be addressed by Assumption Community Hospital with consideration of financial resources, greatest impact, and whether or not other organizations are addressing certain needs.

Next Steps

Areas identified in the Assumption Parish Community Needs Assessment will continue to be addressed through continued dialogue and collaboration with the specific groups identified in this process. Future meetings will be needed to work with the specific implementation work plans developed to identify resources and specific methodologies for meeting those needs identified.





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