



DEFIANCE REGIONAL HOSPITAL

2022 COMMUNITY HEALTH NEEDS ASSESSMENT

**Approved and Adopted by the ProMedica Defiance Regional Hospital Board of Trustees
November 8, 2022**

PROMEDICA DEFIANCE REGIONAL HOSPITAL
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I. INTRODUCTION

ProMedica Defiance Regional Hospital, a member of ProMedica health system, is a committed healthcare resource in northwest Ohio and provides acute emergency and trauma, medical and surgical inpatient and outpatient services, as well as mental health and emergency air transport services on its campus. ProMedica's mission is to improve the health and well-being of communities we serve. As a not-for-profit hospital, all patients are treated regardless of their ability to pay.

ProMedica Defiance Regional Hospital conducted and adopted this community health needs assessment (CHNA) in 2022 and will implement the associated three-year, strategic plan in 2023. The hospital participated in the Defiance County Health Assessment (CHA) conducted in 2021. (Note: The original 2018 Defiance County Community Health Assessment was modified to summarize primary data collected in 2018. Following the inclusion of this primary data, secondary data was incorporated surrounding topics included in the 2019-2021 Defiance County Community Health Improvement Plan.) Active engagement of community members throughout the planning process is regarded as an important step in completing a valid needs assessment. In order to maintain objectivity throughout the county CHA survey process, the network engaged the expert services of the Hospital Council of Northwest Ohio to administer the survey and compile the results. One area of weakness was the relative age of available secondary and public health data. Following the formal county assessment survey process, ProMedica Defiance Regional Hospital staff joined POWER Defiance, comprised of multiple community organizations, to collaborate, develop and implement a community health improvement plan (CHIP) for Defiance County. A gap analysis and resource assessment were conducted as part of this process.

In 2022, ProMedica Defiance Regional Hospital convened a CHNA committee to review the most recent Defiance County CHA and CHIP, with gap and resource assessments. The committee then selected and prioritized key indicators for the defined community and developed an implementation plan to address these priority health needs in the community over the next three years, taking into account the needs of minority and/or underserved populations. The hospital received feedback on the CHNA plan from the Defiance County Health District, to confirm these needs from a public health expert perspective.

ProMedica Defiance Regional Hospital will specifically implement programs to address the following health needs, prioritized by ranking methodology, and listed in order of priority:

1. Chronic Conditions – Respiratory Health
2. Behavioral Health
3. Healthy Aging – Fall and Injury Prevention
4. Social Determinants of Health – Food Insecurity
5. Healthy Behaviors – Women's and Infant Health

ProMedica Defiance Regional Hospital will also collaborate with Power Defiance County to support its strategic initiatives. ProMedica health system community health programs and initiatives are developed and implemented with Social Determinants of Health, healthy aging, infant mortality and Diversity,

Equity and Inclusion as core strategic priorities addressing health disparities and inequities across the communities ProMedica serves.

The ProMedica Defiance Regional Hospital CHNA may be accessed at <https://www.promedica.org/Pages/about-us/default.aspx>.

II. PROMEDICA DEFIANCE REGIONAL HOSPITAL COMMUNITY SERVICE AREA

The definition of the primary community served by ProMedica Defiance Regional Hospital for this assessment is Defiance County, Ohio, located in northwest Ohio. Data indicates that 54.43% of inpatients and 66.67% of emergency patients reside in Defiance County. The secondary service areas served by the hospital includes Paulding, Henry, Fulton and Williams Counties, located in the northwestern region of Ohio. ProMedica Defiance Regional Hospital is one of eight acute care hospitals serving these five counties, and one of three hospitals serving Defiance County. For the purpose of this plan, health statistics and factors for Defiance County were reviewed and used in completing this community health needs assessment. (Note: Statistics in parentheses refer to data from previous health assessments, where available, to be used for comparison.)

Demographic review of Defiance County, Ohio, shows that it is home to 38,144 (39,037) residents. Approximately 5.5% (5.7%) of residents are under 5 years of age, 22.8% (23.3%) of residents were youth under 18 years of age, and 19.5% (17.2%) were age 65 or older. The majority 95.0% (95.5%) of the population is White alone, 2.3% (2.2%) are African American, 10.8% (9.8%) are Hispanic, 0.5% (.5%) are Asian and .5% (1.5%) are two or more races. The median household income in Defiance County was \$55,295 (\$48,853) with 8.5% (11.7%) of all Defiance County individual residents had an income below the poverty level. (Source: https://www.census.gov/quickfacts/_V2021). The unemployment rate was 4.1%, with 13% of Defiance County residents uninsured according to the 2018 Defiance County Health Assessment. (Source: <http://www.hcno.org/>).

Demographics for the secondary service area counties may be found at <https://www.census.gov/quickfacts/>. County health assessments for the contiguous counties may be found at: <http://www.hcno.org/community-services/community-health-assessments/>

Existing health care facilities and resources within the community that are available to respond to the health needs of the community are listed in Table 1 below, as well as many outpatient facilities, rehabilitation facilities and other programs that are not listed. Due to the presence of two other hospitals in Defiance County and other hospital entities in each of the four contiguous counties, ProMedica Defiance Regional Hospital focuses most of its community health efforts within the eastern Defiance County area – leaving the individual community efforts within the other four counties to the hospitals located in each.

Table 1 - Hospitals Serving the Service Area (Five County Secondary Service Area)	
ProMedica Defiance Regional Hospital	Defiance, OH (Defiance)
Mercy Defiance Hospital	Defiance, OH (Defiance)
Hicksville Community Memorial Hospital	Hicksville, OH (Defiance)
Henry County Hospital	Napoleon, OH (Henry)
Community Hospitals and Wellness	Bryan, Montpelier & Archbold, OH (Williams)
Fulton County Health Center	Wauseon, OH (Fulton)
Paulding County Hospital	Paulding, OH (Paulding)

ProMedica Defiance Regional Hospital also collaborates with other entities to address issues in our service area. Community organizations who participated in the health assessment and strategic planning process are listed on page 14.

III. IMPACT OF PREVIOUS COMMUNITY HEALTH NEEDS ASSESSMENT PLAN

The ProMedica Defiance Regional Hospital 2019 Community Health Needs Assessment was posted online inviting feedback from the community, with no inquiries over the past three years.

The 2019 Community Health Needs Assessment identified several significant health needs. Beginning in 2020, ProMedica Defiance Regional Hospital implemented CHNA plans in Defiance County to address the following health needs, listed in order of priority, with the following impact demonstrated in 2020 and 2021 (Note: 2022 actions taken were not complete at the time of this publication and will not be included in this summary):

1. Health Priority: Chronic Disease: Physical Activity and Nutrition

Strategies – Physical Activity: 1.) Organize an executive committee of POWER Defiance County and discuss ways to improve and promote physical activity opportunities. Determine goals of the committee. Complete a gap analysis of current physical activity offerings within the county and determine potential action steps focused on collaboration. Create branding for partnering organizations to share unified messaging regarding physical activity. 2.) Update current physical activity guides and calendars. Maintain guides and develop a plan to update and sustain guides on a quarterly basis. Partner with local businesses, churches, and schools to support efforts (i.e. shared use agreements). Disseminate unified information and messaging throughout Defiance County.

Actions taken in 2020 and 2021:

- The Power Defiance County executive committee formed, goals were determined, and gap analysis of current physical activity offerings was conducted. Group created physical activity branding for partner organizations.
- The wellness committee held a six (6) week walking challenge with a total of 57 participants.
- A second six (6) week community walking challenge was held with a total of 45 participants. The hospital also raised \$225 during the challenge which was donated to the United Way of Defiance County COVID fund.

- Distributed 21 county walking trail guides in hospital waiting rooms (paper materials were then prohibited in waiting rooms during first two quarters of 2021 due to Covid restrictions).
- Staff attended Power Defiance County health coalition meetings, post Covid restrictions, to continue to address physical activity needs in the community.

Strategies - Nutrition: 1.) Research the 2-item Food Insecurity (FI) Screening Tool, or a similar screening tool, and determine the feasibility of implementing a food insecurity screening to additional clinic sites or primary care offices. Educate healthcare organizations on food insecurity, its impact on health, and the importance of screening and referral. Expand awareness of food insecurity as part of routine medical visits on an individual and systems-based level. Implement the screening model in two additional locations with accompanying evaluation measures. Continue to increase the number of locations offering food insecurity screening and referrals and continue to educate participating locations on existing community resources. 2) Educate participating locations on existing community resources such as WIC, SNAP, school nutrition programs, food pantries, and other resources.

Actions Taken in 2020 and 2021:

- Hospital sponsored the downtown farmers market on Thursday evenings, and hosted a healthy cooking table which distributed healthy recipes using ingredients from the farmer’s market. Number of participants unknown.
- Hospital utilizes a two-question food insecurity screening tool for all inpatients and all emergency center (EC) patients. In 2021, 11,427 patients were screened for food insecurity, with food at discharge offered, with community food resource listings, for inpatients screening positive for food insecurity. Inpatients could also opt into a food delivery program if they do not have the means to get to a food pantry after discharge and the food is delivered to them by community partners, monthly (this delivery program was discontinued due to COVID). Emergency center patients who screened food insecure are offered a listing of local food resources to utilize to obtain food after discharge from the ER.
- 25 food insecure patients accepted food at discharge in 2020, and fifteen (15) patients accepted food at discharge in 2021. Beginning in 2021, a new process was developed to increase utilization of this program based on the patient’s food insecurity risk and acceptance of food at discharge.

2. Health Priority: Injury Prevention – Safe Sleep and Fall Prevention

Strategies – 1) Safe Sleep - Work with hospitals and other local organizations to integrate safe sleep practices into the community. Improve media campaigns for awareness and continue to provide safe sleep tools to hospitals and new families. Develop partnerships with local organizations to build referrals for those who are not receiving prenatal care. Seek funding opportunities to create community packets regarding safe sleep practices. Ensure consistent safe sleep education messaging. Continue to work with hospitals and other local organizations to integrate safe sleep practices into the community. Improve media campaigns for awareness and continue to provide safe sleep tools to hospitals and new families. Develop partnerships with local organizations to build referrals for those who are not receiving prenatal care. 2.) Fall Prevention - Continue to work with POWER Defiance to implement the Matter of Balance

fall prevention program within Defiance County. Determine need within specific geographic areas (i.e. Defiance city). Help recruit and train additional “lay” volunteers to implement the Matter of Balance program within Defiance County. Partner with additional organizations to build referrals to county Matter of Balance programs (i.e. EMS, paramedics, hospitals). Implement fall risk assessments in the emergency center if the patient is over 65 and, either on 12 or more medications, or has had a fall in the last three (3) months. If patient screens positive, they are given a written brochure on fall prevention techniques.

Actions Taken in 2020 and 2021:

- All parents who deliver babies at the hospital are educated on safe sleep practices including location and position of infant during sleep. In 2020, 376 parents were educated on safe sleep practices. In 2021, 358 parents were educated on safe sleep practices.
- Hospital continues to fund educational packets for all safe sleep education.
- In 2021, 1,633 fall risk assessments were conducted in the emergency center for patients that were over 65 and, either on 12 or more medications or had fallen in the last three (3) months. If they screen positive for fall risk, they are given a written brochure on fall prevention techniques.
- In 2020, hospital helped POWER Defiance recruit individuals to become Matter of Balance trainers. In 2021, 75 fall prevention educational brochures were distributed in various hospital waiting rooms to increase knowledge of fall prevention.

3. Health Priority: Cross Cutting Factor: Healthcare System Access

Strategies – 1.) Research community paramedicine programs and community health workers and determine interest within Defiance County. Identify and assemble agencies interested in a paramedicine program and/or community health workers. Conduct a needs assessment and gap analysis. Research funding opportunities (hospitals, grants, insurance plans) and determine feasibility. 2.) Continue to seek funding opportunities to produce packets for community regarding safe sleep practices. Ensure consistent safe sleep education messaging in county.

Actions Taken in 2020 and 2021:

- In lieu of a paramedicine program or community health workers, Defiance Regional Hospital staff and POWER Defiance health coalition have refocused on planning home visiting programs for children in partnership with community organizations, to increase healthcare access.
- Defiance Regional Hospital continues to fund safe sleep education packets for community education.

The information above reflects activities that were implemented to address 2019 CHNA hospital priority issues in 2020 and 2021 – 2022 statistics were not complete at the time of this document. Additional measure of impact may be reflected in future Defiance County Health Assessments. The 2019 Community Health Needs Assessment for ProMedica Defiance Regional Hospital was posted online inviting feedback from the community, with no inquiries over the past three years.

IV. COMMUNITY HEALTH NEEDS ASSESSMENT

The ProMedica Defiance Regional Hospital **process for identifying and prioritizing community health needs and services included:**

- Review and discussion the Defiance County Health Assessment, including primary and secondary data, and the county health improvement plan (CHIP), including gaps and resources
- Discussion, selection and prioritization of priority health needs to address over the next three years, using a ranking methodology to prioritize needs
- Identification of evidence-based programs to improve these health needs, when available
- Development of final hospital CHNA and three-year implementation plan to present to the hospital board for approval prior to posting online

The health areas that were examined by the formal county needs assessment survey include, but are not limited to: health care coverage, access and utilization, preventive medicine, women's health, men's health, oral health, health status perceptions, weight status, tobacco use, alcohol consumption, drug use, sexual behavior, mental health, cardiovascular health, cancer, asthma diabetes, quality of life, social determinants of health, environmental conditions, parenting, youth weight status, youth tobacco use, youth alcohol consumption, youth drug use, youth sexual behavior, youth mental health, youth social determinants of health, youth violence, child health and functional status, child health care access, early childhood health (0-5 years), middle childhood health (6-11 years), family and community characteristics, and parent health.

DEFIANCE COUNTY HEALTH ASSESSMENT PROCESS

ProMedica Defiance Regional Hospital utilized the data provided in the 2021 Defiance County Health Status Assessment (primary data from 2018) as the basis for their community health needs assessment. To begin the formal county assessment process, the Hospital Council of Northwest Ohio Data Division, in conjunction with the University of Toledo Health and Human Services Department, conducted the formal county health assessment utilizing the following methodology. (Refer to page 14 for a list of collaborating organizations).

PRIMARY DATA COLLECTION METHODS

DESIGN

This community health assessment was cross-sectional in nature and included a written survey of adults, adolescents, and parents within Defiance County. From the beginning, community leaders were actively engaged in the planning process and helped define the content, scope, and sequence of the study. Active engagement of community members throughout the planning process is regarded as an important step in completing a valid needs assessment

INSTRUMENT DEVELOPMENT

Three survey instruments were designed and pilot tested for this study: one for adults, one for adolescents in grades 6 through 12, and one for parents of children ages 0 through 11. As a first step in the design process, health education researchers from the University of Toledo and staff members from HCNO met to discuss potential sources of valid and reliable survey items that would be appropriate for assessing the health status and health needs of adults, adolescents, and children. The investigators decided to derive the majority of the adult survey items from the BRFSS, the majority of the adolescent survey items from the YRBSS, and the majority of the survey items for the parents of children 0 through 11 from the NSCH. This decision was based on being able to compare local data with state and national data. The project coordinator from the Hospital Council of Northwest Ohio conducted a series of meetings with POWER Defiance County. During these meetings, HCNO and the planning committee reviewed and discussed banks of potential survey questions from the BRFSS, YRBSS, and NSCH surveys. Based on input from POWER Defiance County, the project coordinator composed drafts of surveys containing 113 items for the adult survey, 76 items for the adolescent survey, and 83 items for the 0 through 11 survey. Health education researchers from the University of Toledo reviewed and approved the drafts.

SAMPLING | Adult Survey

The sampling frame for the adult survey consisted of adults ages 19 and over living in Defiance County. There were 28,852 persons ages 19 and over living in Defiance County. The investigators conducted a power analysis to determine what sample size was needed to ensure a 95% confidence level with a corresponding margin of error of 5% (i.e., we can be 95% sure that the “true” population responses are within a 5% margin of error of the survey findings). A sample size of at least 379 adults was needed to ensure this level of confidence. The random sample of mailing addresses of adults from Defiance County was obtained from Melissa Data Corporation in Rancho Santa Margarita, California.

SAMPLING | Adolescent Survey

The sampling frame for the adolescent survey consisted of youth in grades 6 through 12 in Defiance County public school districts. For more information on participating districts and schools, see Appendix IV. Using the U.S. Census Bureau data, it was determined that approximately 3,845 youth ages 12 through 18 years old lived in Defiance County. A sample size of 349 adolescents was needed to ensure a 95% confidence interval with a corresponding 5% margin of error. Students were randomly selected and surveyed in the schools. SAMPLING | Child Survey The sampling frame for the child survey consisted of children ages 0 through 11 residing in Defiance County. Using U.S. Census Bureau data, it was determined that 6,340 children ages 0 through 11 resided in Defiance County. The investigators conducted a power analysis to determine what sample size was needed to ensure a 95% confidence level with corresponding confidence interval of 5% (i.e., we can be 95% sure that the “true” population responses are within a 5% margin of error). The sample size required to generalize to children aged 0 through 11 was 362. The random sample of mailing addresses of parents from Defiance County was obtained from Melissa Data Corporation in Rancho Santa Margarita, California.

PROCEDURE | Adult Survey

Prior to mailing the survey to adults, the project team mailed an advance letter to 1,200 adults in Defiance County. This advance letter was personalized; printed on POWER Defiance County stationery; and signed by Jamie Gerken, Defiance County Health Commissioner. The letter introduced the county health assessment project and informed the readers that they may be randomly selected to receive the survey. The letter also explained that the respondents' confidentiality would be protected and encouraged the readers to complete and return the survey promptly if they were selected. Three weeks following the advance letter, a three-wave mailing procedure was implemented to maximize the survey return rate. The initial mailing included a personalized hand signed cover letter (on POWER Defiance County stationery) describing the purpose of the study, a questionnaire printed on white paper, a self-addressed stamped return envelope, and a \$2 incentive. Approximately three weeks after the first mailing, a second wave mailing included another personalized cover letter encouraging the recipient to reply, another copy of the questionnaire on white paper, and another reply envelope. A third wave postcard was sent three weeks after the second wave mailing. Surveys returned as undeliverable were not replaced with another potential respondent. The response rate for the mailing was 40% (n=430: CI=± 4.68). This return rate and sample size means that the responses in the health assessment should be representative of the entire county.

PROCEDURE | Adolescent Survey

The survey was approved by all participating superintendents. Schools and grades were randomly selected. To ensure that students in a particular grade had an equal chance of being selected, the research team used "general" school classes like English or Health to distribute surveys. Classrooms were chosen by the school principal. Passive permission slips were mailed home to parents of any student whose class was selected to participate. The response rate was 93% (n= 467: CI=± 4.25). PROCEDURE | Child Survey Prior to mailing the survey to parents of 0 through 11-year-olds, the project team mailed an advance letter to 2,400 parents in Defiance County. This advance letter was personalized; printed on POWER Defiance County stationery; and signed by Jamie Gerken, Defiance County Health Commissioner. The letter introduced the county health assessment project and informed the readers that they may be randomly selected to receive the survey. The letter also explained that the respondents' confidentiality would be protected and encouraged the readers to complete and return the survey promptly if they were selected.

Three weeks following the advance letter, a three-wave mailing procedure was implemented to maximize the survey return rate. The initial mailing included a personalized hand signed cover letter (on POWER Defiance County stationery) describing the purpose of the study, a questionnaire printed on white paper, a self-addressed stamped return envelope, and a \$2 incentive. Approximately three weeks after the first mailing, a second wave mailing included another personalized cover letter encouraging the recipient to reply, another copy of the questionnaire on white paper, and another reply envelope. A third wave postcard was sent three weeks after the second wave mailing. Surveys returned as undeliverable were not replaced with another potential respondent. The response rate was 16% (n=281: CI=± 5.72).

DATA ANALYSIS

Individual responses were anonymous. Only group data was available. All data was analyzed by health education researchers at the University of Toledo using SPSS 23.0. Crosstabs were used to calculate descriptive statistics for the data presented in this report. To be representative of Defiance County, the adult data collected was weighted by age, gender, race, and income using 2016 Census data. Multiple weightings were created based on this information to account for different types of analyses. For more information on how the weightings were created and applied, see Appendix III (located on hcno.org).

LIMITATIONS

As with all county assessments, it is important to consider the findings in light of all possible limitations. First, the Defiance County adult assessment had a high response rate. However, if any important differences existed between the respondents and the non-respondents regarding the questions asked, this would represent a threat to the external validity of the results (the generalizability of the results to the population of Defiance County). If there were little to no differences between respondents and non-respondents, then this would not be a limitation. It is important to note that although several questions were asked using the same wording as the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) questionnaires and the NSCH questionnaire, the adult and parent data collection method differed. The CDC adult data and NSCH child data were collected using a set of questions from the total question bank, and adults were asked the questions over the telephone rather than via mail survey. The youth CDC survey was administered in schools in a similar fashion as this county health assessment. This survey asked parents questions regarding their young children. Should enough parents have felt compelled to respond in a socially desirable manner which is inconsistent with reality, this would represent a threat to the internal validity of the results. Lastly, caution should be used when interpreting subgroup results, as the margin of error for any subgroup is higher than that of the overall survey.

SECONDARY DATA COLLECTION METHODS

HCNO collected secondary data from over 50 sites, including county-level data, wherever possible. HCNO utilized sites, such as the Ohio Department of Health database, Behavioral Risk Factor Surveillance System (BRFSS), Youth Risk Behavior Surveillance System (YRBSS), National Survey of Children's Health (NSCH), numerous CDC sites, Census, American Community Survey, American Cancer Society, American Diabetes Association, Healthy People 2030, County Health Rankings, Job & Family Services (Individual & Family Services), etc. Most secondary data is from 2017-2019. However, trend data has been included starting from 2011 for some indicators. All of the data is included in the section of the report it corresponds with. All primary data collected in this report is from the 2018 Defiance County Community Health Assessment. All other data is cited accordingly. Additionally, secondary data was also collected by local community partners and agencies for this report.

This survey asked parents questions regarding their young children. Should enough parents have felt compelled to respond in a socially desirable manner which is inconsistent with reality, this would represent a threat to the internal validity of the results.

Lastly, caution should be used when interpreting subgroup results, as the margin of error for any subgroup is higher than that of the overall survey.

HCNO collected secondary data from multiple sites, including county-level data, whenever possible. HCNO utilized sites such as the Behavioral Risk Factor Surveillance System (BRFSS), numerous CDC sites, U.S. Census data, Healthy People 2030, among other national and local sources. All primary data collected in this report is from the 2018 Defiance County Health Assessment (CHA). All other data is cited accordingly.

CONSULTING PERSONS AND ORGANIZATIONS

The process for consulting with persons representing the community’s interests and public health expertise began when local community agencies, known collectively as POWER Defiance County, were invited to participate in the county wide health assessment process, including choosing questions for the surveys, providing local data, reviewing draft reports and planning the community event, release of the data and setting priorities through the Community Health Improvement Planning (CHIP) process. The needs of the population, especially those who are medically underserved, low-income populations with chronic disease needs were taken into account – with a relatively low percentage of minorities present in the Defiance County population, focus was set on low income and underserved populations.

This community health assessment was cross-sectional in nature and included a written survey of adults, youth/adolescents, and child (parents) within Defiance County. From the beginning, community leaders were actively engaged in the planning process and helped define the content, scope, and sequence of the study. Active engagement of community members throughout the planning process is regarded as an important step in completing a valid needs assessment.

As evidenced by the list of participating organizations below (page 14), **the hospital facility took into account input from persons who represent the community** by participating with other organizations in Defiance County who contracted with the Hospital Council of Northwest Ohio, a non-profit hospital association, located in Toledo, Ohio, to coordinate and manage the county health assessment and strategic planning process. The Hospital Council has been completing comprehensive health assessments since 1999. The Project Coordinator from the Hospital Council of Northwest Ohio holds a master’s degree in public health and conducted a series of meetings with POWER Defiance County to conduct the county CHA and CHIP Plan.

During these meeting, banks of potential survey questions from the Behavioral Risk Factor Surveillance and Youth Risk Behavior Surveillance surveys were reviewed and discussed. The drafts were reviewed and approved by health education researchers at the University of Toledo. In addition, the Defiance General Health District provided feedback on this CHNA implementation plan to confirm these needs from a public health expert perspective.

The needs of the population, especially medically underserved, low-income, minority populations, and populations with chronic disease needs, were taken into account through the sample methodology that

surveyed these populations. In addition, the organizations that serve these populations participated in the health assessment and community health improvement planning process, such as POWER Defiance.

ProMedica Defiance Regional Hospital conducted the Defiance County Health Assessment and planning process with the following hospitals:

- Mercy Defiance Hospital
- Community Memorial Hospital (Hicksville)

The results of the Defiance County Health Assessment were presented at a county data release event. There were key leaders from the community that represented public health, law enforcement, schools, churches, local officials, social service agencies and other various community members in attendance at the public release of the community health assessment. Community participants were invited to join the POWER Defiance County community health improvement planning (CHIP) process to complete the strategic plan for the county.

DEFIANCE COUNTY STRATEGIC PLANNING PROCESS

Following the community assessment data release, the POWER Defiance coalition, including Defiance County Health District along with the local hospitals and key community leaders, participated in an organized process of community health improvement planning (CHIP) to create a three year plan to improve the health of residents of the county. The National Association of City County Health Officer's (NACCHO) strategic planning tool, Mobilizing for Action through Planning and Partnerships (MAPP), was used throughout this process.

The MAPP Framework includes six phases which are listed below:

- Organizing for success and partnership development
- Visioning
- Conducting the MAPP assessments
- Identifying strategic issues
- Formulating goals and strategies
- Taking action: planning, implementing, and evaluation

The MAPP process includes four assessments: Community Themes & Strengths, Forces of Change, the Local Public Health System Assessment and the Community Health Status Assessment. These four assessments were used by the POWER Defiance County coalition to prioritize specific health issues and population groups that were the foundation of this plan.

2021 CHIP priority health issues for Defiance County were:

- Community Conditions
- Health Behaviors

- Access to Care
- Mental Health & Addiction
- Chronic Disease
- Injury Prevention

*Details of this CHIP may be found in Table 2.

The POWER Defiance County Strategic CHIP process included input from organizations and persons who represent the community. Collaborating organizations included:

Ayersville Local Schools
 City of Defiance
 Community Memorial Hospital
 Credit Adjustments Inc.
 Defiance Area Foundation
 Defiance Area YMCA
 Defiance City Schools
 Defiance County Commissioners
 Defiance County Drug Free Coalition
 Defiance County General Health District
 Defiance County Juvenile Court
 Defiance County Ohio State University Extension Office
 Defiance County Public Library System
 Defiance Development and Visitors Bureau
 Defiance 2100
 Fairview School District
 Family and Children First Council
 Four County ADAMhs Board
 Hicksville Schools
 Hicksville Village
 Maumee Valley Guidance Center
 Mercy Health
 Defiance Ministerial Association
 Northeastern Local Schools
 Northwestern Ohio Community Action Commission
 ProMedica Defiance Regional Hospital
 Recovery Services of Northwest Ohio
 United Way of Defiance County

Many of the above organizations have staff with expertise in public health. In addition, this county assessment and strategic planning process was facilitated by staff employed by the Hospital Council of Northwest Ohio, who hold Master's Degrees in Public Health. ProMedica Defiance Regional Hospital staff participated in the development of the county health assessment survey and CHIP plan for POWER Defiance County. The Defiance County CHIP was written based on the conclusions and recommendations of all participating organizations.

V. DEFIANCE COUNTY COMMUNITY HEALTH NEEDS & PRIORITIES

Key findings that were identified in the 2021 Defiance County Health Assessment, that included primary data from 2018, include the following (Note: percentages in parentheses below are data from the previous county surveys which may be used for comparison to current data):

- Health Care Access
 - 12% (6%, 10%) of adults were without health care coverage
 - The top reason adults gave for being without health care coverage was that they could not afford to pay the insurance premiums (44%).
- Cardiovascular Health
 - 5% (5%, 5%) of adults had a heart attack
 - 3% (3%, 2%) of adults had a stroke.
 - 36% (32%, 34%) of adults had high blood pressure.
 - 27% (27%, 24%) of adults had been diagnosed with high blood cholesterol
 - From 2017 to 2019, heart disease was the leading cause of death for Defiance County males and females.
- Cancer
 - 9% of Defiance County adults had been diagnosed with cancer at some time in their life.
 - Of those diagnosed with cancer, they reported the following types: other skin cancer (31%), breast (29%), prostate (26%), melanoma (3%), rectal (3%), colon (3%), Non-Hodgkin's lymphoma (3%), endometrial (3%), leukemia (3%), and other types of cancer (8%). One percent (1%) of adults reported multiple types of cancer.
- Diabetes
 - Diabetes has been diagnosed in 13% (9%, 12%) of adults
- Asthma
 - 14% (9%, 12%) of adults had been diagnosed with asthma
- Obesity
 - 40% (36%, 35%) of adults were obese based on BMI.
- Tobacco Use
 - 19% (15%, 18%) of adults were current smokers.
- Alcohol and Drug Use
 - 25% (23%, 20%) of adults were binge drinkers.
- Adult Marijuana and Other Drug Use
 - 4% (4%, 4%) of adults had used marijuana during the past 6 months
 - 6% (3%, 7%) of adults misused prescription medication in the past 6 months
- Sexual Health
 - 1% (4%, 4%) of adults had more than one sexual partner in past year
- Women's Health
 - 62% (80%, 67%) of Defiance County women over the age of 40 reported having a mammogram in the past two years

- 56% (73%, 66%) of Defiance County women ages 40 and over have had a clinical breast exam in the past two years
- 57% (73%, 74%) of Defiance County women have had a Pap smear to detect cancer of the cervix in the past year. Note: new cancer screening guidelines now indicate a pap smear is needed only every 3 years following a normal pap smear.
- Men's Health
 - 10% (15%, 22%) of Defiance County males had a digital rectal exam in the past year
- Preventive Medicine
 - 52% (51%) of adults ages 50 or over have had a colonoscopy or sigmoidoscopy in the past 5 years
- Quality of Life
 - 47% (39%, 37%) of adults were limited in some way because of a physical, mental or emotional problem
- Mental Health
 - 2% (4%, 2%) of Defiance County adults considered attempting suicide in the past year
 - 11% (16%, 13%) of adults felt sad or hopeless almost every day for two or more weeks in a row that they stopped doing usual activities
- Oral Health
 - 63% (65%, 65%) of Defiance County adults had visited the dentist in the past year vs. 68% of Ohio and 66% in the U.S.

Youth Health (Note: Youth is defined here as 6th-12th graders unless indicated)

- Youth Weight
 - 19% (18%, 15%) of youth were obese, according to BMI, vs 20% of 9th-12th graders in Defiance County
- Youth Tobacco Use
 - 6% (8%, 11%) of 6th-12th graders were current smokers, vs. 10% of 9th-12th graders in Defiance County
- Youth Alcohol and Drug Use
 - 16% (20%, 24%) of youth had at least one drink in the past 30 days, vs. 27% of 9th-12th graders in Defiance County
 - 7% (10%, 14%) of youth reported binge drinking (5 or more drinks in a couple of hours on at least 1 day in the past 30 days), vs. 13% of 9th-12th graders in Defiance County
 - 3% (2%, 3%) of youth drivers had driven a car in the past month after they had been drinking alcohol, vs. 6% of 9th-12th graders in Defiance County
 - 7% (9%, 8%) of youth had used marijuana at least once in the past 30 days, vs. 12% of 9th-12th graders in Defiance County
 - 5% (9%, 12%) of youth misused prescription medications in their lifetime, vs. 7% of 9th-12th graders in Defiance County
- Youth Sexual Behavior

- 20% (23%, 28%) of youth have ever had sexual intercourse, vs. 32% of 9th-12th graders in Defiance County
- 10% (13%, 13%) of youth did not use any method to prevent pregnancy during their last sexual intercourse, vs. 11% of 9th-12th graders in Defiance County
- Youth Mental Health
 - 14% (15%, 15%) of youth had seriously considered attempting suicide in the past 12 months, vs. 14% of 9th-12th graders in Defiance County
 - 7% (5%, 5%) of youth attempted suicide in the past year, vs. 6% of 9th-12th graders in Defiance County
- Youth Violence
 - 36% (49%, 51%) of youth had been bullied in the past year vs. 31% of 9th-12th graders in Defiance County
 - The following types of bullying were reported:
 - 28% were verbally bullied (teased, taunted or called harmful names)
 - 22% were indirectly bullied (spread mean rumors about them or kept them out of a “group”)
 - 10% were cyber bullied (teased, taunted or threatened by e-mail or cell phone) (YRBS reported 15% for the U.S. in 2017)
 - 7% were physically bullied (were hit, kicked, punched or people took their belongings)
 - 5% were bullied on the school bus
 - 1% were sexually bullied (used nude or semi-nude pictures to pressure someone to have sex that did not want to, blackmail, intimidate, or exploit another person)

Child Health (0-11 years of age, unless otherwise indicated)

- Child Health and Functional Status
 - 40% (23%) of children were classified as obese by Body Mass Index (BMI) calculations, and 29% were classified as overweight
 - 82% (53%) of Defiance County parents had taken their child ages 0-5 to a dental care visit in the past year
 - 82% (78%) of Defiance County parents had taken their child to a dental care visit in the past year; decreasing to 55% of those with incomes less than \$25,000
 - 11% (7%) of Defiance County parents reported their child ages 0-11 had been diagnosed with asthma
 - 7% (6%) of parents reported their child had been diagnosed with ADD/ADHD.
- Child Health Insurance, Access and Utilization
 - 5% (1%) of Defiance County parents reported their child did not have health insurance
 - 78% (72%) of parents had taken their child to the doctor for preventive care in the past year.
- Early Childhood (0-5 years old) – The following information was reported by parents of 0-5 year olds
 - 88% (90%) of mothers got prenatal care within the first three months during their last pregnancy
 - 5% (6%) of mothers smoked during their last pregnancy

- 81% (61%) of parents put their child to sleep on his/her back (a basic Safe Sleep recommendation)
- 19% (25%) of mothers never breastfed their child
- Middle Childhood (6-11 years old) – The following information was reported by Defiance County parents of 6-11 year olds.
 - 62% (67%) of Defiance County parents reported their child is safe at school
 - 45% (44%) of parents reported their child was bullied at some time in the past year
 - 86% (85%) of parents reported their child participated in extracurricular activities
 - 17% (23%) of parents reported their child had an email or a social network account
- Family and Community Characteristics
 - 13% of parents reported that they had at least on food insecurity issue in the past year
 - 51% of parents reported their child was always safe in their neighborhood or community
 - 53% of parents reported they had a firearm around their home and 1% (1%) of parents reported there was an unlocked and loaded firearm in their home
- Parent Health
 - 14% (10%) of parents were reported not having any kind of health care coverage
 - 67% of parents rated their health as excellent or very good, decreasing to 46% of parents with incomes less than \$25,000.
 - In the past year, 50% of parents missed work due to their child’s illnesses or injuries.

Note: Many identified health needs are addressed by physicians at the time of related patient visits.

The POWER Defiance CHIP Committee, using the Defiance County Health Assessment, prioritized the following health issues, as indicated in Table 2 below, determining that if these issues are addressed by multiple agencies and organizations over the next three years, they could promote healthier lifestyles for all ages, reduce chronic health diseases, and improve several socioeconomic determinants of health for Defiance County residents. In some areas of identified need, ProMedica is already taking a system approach and collaborates with organizations to address some community health needs, to most efficiently use resources and to prevent duplication of services.

Table 2 - Defiance County CHIP Strategic Plan Priorities and Strategies	Lead Agencies
Priority #1: Community Conditions	
● Health in all policies	Defiance County General Health District
● Affordable housing development and preservation	Maumee Valley Planning Organization Defiance County General Health District Rita Kissner
● Early childhood home visiting programs	NOCAC Defiance County Family and Children First Council
Priority #2: Health Behaviors	
● Healthy food initiative in food banks	Defiance County General Health District Defiance Visitors Bureau
● Food insecurity and screening referral	Mercy Health Defiance ProMedica Defiance Regional Hospital

	Community Memorial Hospital
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Community-wide physical activity campaigns 	Defiance Area YMCA Defiance County General Health District
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Complete Streets and streetscape design initiatives 	Defiance County General Health District City of Defiance
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Mass media campaigns against tobacco use 	Defiance County General Health District Drug Free Coalition ProMedica Defiance Regional Hospital
Priority #3: Access to Care	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Health literacy interventions 	Defiance Public Library System Defiance County General Health District
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Guides for family services and support 	ADAMhs Board Family and Children First Council Defiance County General Health District
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Dental awareness 	Defiance County General Health District ProMedica Defiance Regional Hospital
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Public transportation systems 	United Way of Defiance County
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Workforce shortages 	Defiance County General Health District Defiance County Economic Development
Priority #4: Mental Health and Addiction	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Develop a unified approach to youth prevention programming 	ADAMhs Board Defiance County General Health District
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Universal school-based suicide awareness and education programs 	Maumee Valley Guidance Center
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> School-based social and emotional instruction 	Maumee Valley Guidance Center
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Mass media campaigns to support positive mental health 	Defiance County General Health District ADAMhs Board Maumee Valley Guidance Center Recovery Services of Northwest Ohio A Renewed Mind
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Community based mental health education 	Maumee Valley Guidance Center
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Mass media campaigns against risky behaviors and substance abuse 	Defiance County General Health District Defiance County Drug Free Coalition
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> School-based alcohol/other drug prevention programs 	Recovery Services of Northwest Ohio
Priority #5: Chronic Disease	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Blood pressure screening for adults aged 18 and older, including obtaining measurements outside of the clinical setting 	Defiance County General Health District Mercy Health Defiance ProMedica Defiance Regional Hospital
Priority #6: Injury Prevention	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Increase the use of safe sleep practices 	Defiance County General Health District Mercy Health Defiance ProMedica Defiance Regional Hospital Community Memorial Hospital
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Activity programs for older adults 	Defiance County General Health District Mercy Health Defiance Community Memorial Hospital
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Increase awareness of child passenger safety best practices 	Defiance Police Department Defiance County General Health District Ohio State Highway Patrol
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Increase community awareness and education of risky driving behaviors 	Safe Community Coalition Defiance County General Health District

Defiance Regional Hospital’s participation with community organizations to address many of these county health priority issues may also include financial support. The hospital, along with many social agencies, schools, faith-based organizations and law enforcement may also be addressing some of these issues that may not be specifically included in these collaborative priority actions. ProMedica is taking a lead in some of our communities with programs focused on the social determinants of health, including a focus on food access and financial strain.

DEFIANCE COUNTY – HEALTH ISSUES FOR UNINSURED, LOW INCOME AND MINORITY GROUPS

Defiance County has a relatively low percentage of minorities (95% are Caucasian - see Section I in Defiance County CHA for a breakdown of race/ethnicity in the county) and due to the small number of minorities responding to the surveys this did not allow for specific generalizations for minority populations. Continued focus will be placed on low income, uninsured and underinsured populations for planning purposes, to include the highest at-risk populations.

Some of the primary and chronic disease needs and other prevalent health issues of persons with incomes of less than \$25,000 per year include: rate health as fair/poor, reported feeling sad or hopeless for two or more weeks in a row, current smoker, obese by BMI, diagnosed with diabetes, diagnosed with asthma, and visited a dentist in past year. Twelve percent of Defiance County adults were uninsured at the time of the survey with 21% of adults under 30 years of age uninsured, which has increased since the previous Defiance County CHA. Defiance County adults who were uninsured reported that the reason they were without health care coverage was that they could not afford to pay the out-of- pocket expenses or pay the insurance premiums (44%).

Table 3 below shows some county health comparisons for low-income persons with an annual income less than \$25,000 compared to all adults in Defiance County.

Table 3 – Health Issue	2018 Low Income (<\$25,000)	Defiance County 2018
Rate health as fair/poor	24%	15%
Uninsured	9%	12%
Reported feeling sad or hopeless for 2 or more weeks in a row	23%	11%
Current Smoker	20%	19%
Used marijuana in the past 6 months	3%	4%
Overweight by BMI	20%	32%
Obese by BMI	45%	40%
Limited in Some Way	61%	47%
Diagnosed with High Blood Pressure	33%	34%
Diagnosed with Diabetes	16%	13%
Diagnosed with Asthma	24%	14%
Visited a dentist in the past year	54%	63%
Mammogram in past 2 years	25%	35%
Pap smear in past 3 years	29%	29%

*Most recent primary data is from the 2018 Defiance County CHA

The POWER Defiance County CHIP committee concluded that if key leadership in the county are made aware of the links between economic stability and health status. Most county groups feel progress toward decreasing the rates of the leading chronic health conditions and persistent health disparities can be made by addressing the economic status of residents. ProMedica is taking a lead in Lucas County, and other communities, with programs focused on the social determinants of health, including food access and financial strain.

DEFIANCE COUNTY - INFORMATION GAPS

The formal Defiance County health assessment, historical trend data and statewide databases provided sufficient primary data, although some data is relatively outdated (2018-2020) and therefore leaves gaps in measurement about key indicators during the following time period. Data is not available for all areas of health to evaluate the health needs of some minority and non-English speaking residents.

Through the formal county process, gaps were identified for each CHIP initiative, and a resource assessment was developed, but it is impossible to know all programs and services provided in a county due to some programming being provided by private organizations, not offered to the public, or unaffordable for low-income individuals.

It should be noted that one gap includes statistical generalizations for minority populations due, in part, to the relatively low number of minorities in the county and the low number of minority responses to the survey (n=43). Each action plan will consider the impact on low income and underserved populations. While local experts and experience supplement statistical data, underlying health beliefs that are at the core of individual health outcomes are thinly identified.

VI. PROMEDICA DEFIANCE REGIONAL HOSPITAL COMMUNITY HEALTH NEEDS ASSESSMENT PROCESS

ProMedica Defiance Regional Hospital leadership convened a CHNA committee to conduct their community health needs assessment and develop implementation plans to address the specific needs of the population.

Prioritization of health needs in its community was accomplished by the ProMedica Defiance Regional Hospital CHNA committee that included staff from administration and various areas involved in patient care. The hospital CHNA committee developed the CHNA and implementation plan, using the most recent Defiance County CHA data and CHIP plan, through the following steps:

- Review of existing Defiance County primary and secondary data sources
- Review of POWER Defiance Community Health Improvement Plan (CHIP), including gaps and resources
- Discussion, selection and ranking of priority health issues, prioritized through ranking methodology
- Discussion of effective programs, policies, and strategies to recommend for implementation

- Identification of specific implementation actions steps, and outcome measures, for the next three years (2023-2025)
- Board of Trustee review and approval of the hospital Community Health Needs Assessment (CHNA) and three-year plan

Along with state and U.S. data comparisons, key secondary health data considered for the hospital CHNA include the leading causes of death:

Table 4 Defiance County Leading Causes of Death 2018-2020	
	Rate
1. Heart Disease	260.5
2. Cancer	230.6
3. Chronic Lower Respiratory Diseases	81.6
4. Stroke	65.8
5. COVID	61.4
(Source: CDC Wonder 2018-2020)	

Although some areas of the Defiance County CHIP were not identified as part of the ProMedica Defiance Regional Hospital CHNA plan, the hospital participates in many areas of the county plan through various community health coalitions and initiatives, and the hospital will focus on the priority areas of need discussed below.

VII. PROMEDICA DEFIANCE REGIONAL HOSPITAL COMMUNITY HEALTH NEEDS & PRIORITIES

Defiance Regional Hospital is actively involved in many priority health areas identified through the county CHIP process. ProMedica hospitals in Ohio also participate in the Ohio BCCP to provide no women’s health screenings to adults that do not have public or private healthcare coverage thereby increasing access to health care for this population.

Following a review and discussion of health data and county health priorities, as well as organizational and community programs to address these health priorities, ProMedica Defiance Regional Hospital identified the following health needs, listed in order of priority, prioritized through ranking methodology. with supporting statistics from the county CHA, as follows:

1. Chronic Conditions – Respiratory Health

Specific Needs Identified in CHNA:

- The 2021 Defiance County Health Assessment identified that, 19% of Defiance County adults were current smokers, and 21% were considered former smokers. Six percent (6%) of adults used vaping products in the past year. Over half (52%) of Defiance County adults did not know if e-cigarette vapor was harmful to themselves or others.
- Six percent (6%) of Defiance County youth were current smokers, increasing to 11% of those ages 17 and older. The average age of onset for smoking was 13.3 years old. Nine percent (9%) of youth used e-cigarettes in the past month.

2. Behavioral Health

Specific Needs Identified in CHNA:

- The 2021 Defiance County Health Assessment identified that 2% of Defiance County adults considered attempting suicide. Eleven percent (11%) of adults felt so sad or hopeless almost every day for two weeks or more in a row that they stopped doing usual activities.
- Fourteen percent (14%) of Defiance County youth had seriously considered attempting suicide in the past year, and 7% attempted suicide in the past year. Two-fifths (40%) of Defiance County youth reported academic success caused them anxiety, stress, or depression. More than one-fourth (27%) of youth had three or more adverse childhood experiences (ACEs).

3. Healthy Aging – Falls and Injury Prevention

Specific Needs Identified in CHNA:

- Among those ages 65 and older, there were an average of 6 deaths per year due to falls in Defiance County (from 2016 to 2020*).
- The three leading reasons for senior falls in 2020 were: Weakness (39%), Slips (32%), and Trips (29%).
- In 2020, Defiance County 911 Center received 446 fall calls and 118 lift assist calls related to a fall.

4. Social Determinants of Health – Food Insecurity

Specific Needs Identified in CHNA:

- 2018 Feeding America Data shows the overall food insecurity rate in Defiance County (overall) is 11.0%, and the food insecurity rate for children is 16.8%. The number of food insecure children in Defiance County is 1500, and the total number of food insecure people in Defiance County is 4,210. The annual food budget shortfall in Defiance County is 1,856,000

5. Healthy Behaviors – Women’s and Infant Health

Specific Needs Identified in CHNA:

- The 2018 Defiance County Health Assessment showed children who were born premature (more than 3 weeks before their due date) was 9% for children ages 0-5, and 7% for children 6-11.

The above priorities not only address some leading causes of death in the county, but also align with initiatives prioritized in both the Ohio State Health Improvement Plan and Healthy People 2030.

ProMedica Defiance Regional Hospital is **participating in the execution of the community-wide community benefit plan** by working with POWER Defiance County, and organizations and coalitions in the community who are addressing prioritized health issues, as well as implementing hospital plans to support these initiatives. Defiance County Health District staff provided feedback for the hospital's CHNA plan, to confirm these plans from a public health expert perspective.

VIII. COMMUNITY UNMET NEEDS, GAPS AND RESOURCE ASSESSMENT

ProMedica Defiance Regional Hospital did not **address all the needs identified in the most recently conducted Defiance County Health Needs Assessment** as these areas either go beyond the scope of the hospital or are being addressed by, or with, other organizations in the community. To some extent, resource restrictions do not allow the hospital to address all of the needs identified through the health assessment, but most importantly to prevent duplication of efforts and inefficient use of resources as many of these issues are addressed in collaboration with other community organizations and coalitions.

The POWER Defiance County CHIP process included a resource assessment and gap analysis of the priority health needs. Table 2 indicates the community wide organizations and coalitions addressing the prioritized POWER Defiance County CHIP Strategic Plan health priorities. Defiance Regional Hospital and many other community organizations and coalitions participate in aspects of this plan, either through programming, coalition work, and/or funding.

Although community organizations, schools and faith-based organizations may have internal programs that are not known widely, the following areas of the CHNA do not have specific programs identified to address some issues, but these health issues are often addressed at physician visits, or by schools, law enforcement and other agencies in the community: underage drinking, binge drinking, youth carrying weapons, youth who purposefully hurt themselves, youth violence at school, youth violence in neighborhoods, youth marijuana use, and delaying first sexual intercourse. Due to the size of the community, it is difficult to inventory all resources and gaps, even with the input of multiple organization and individuals.

ProMedica Defiance Regional Hospital maintains awareness of the primary health issues identified for the county and demonstrates a willingness to partner as needed on these endeavors. While many of these issues are best handled by organizations specifically targeted to the problem area, the hospital participates with many of these coalitions through representation, funding, or a combination of both. Table 2 lists the community wide organizations and coalitions taking lead in addressing the prioritized Defiance County strategic plan health needs.

IX. PROMEDICA DEFIANCE REGIONAL HOSPITAL CHNA IMPLEMENTATION STRATEGY SUMMARY

In 2022, ProMedica Defiance Regional Hospital commenced with their CHNA strategic planning process, whereby they analyzed and discussed data, reviewed the Defiance County CHIP including resources and gaps in resources, selected and prioritized community health needs for the hospital-based CHNA implementation plan, and developed hospital-based strategic action plans. The hospital took into consideration Defiance County CHIP strategic plan priorities, as well as alignment with the Ohio State Health Improvement Plan (OSHIP) and Healthy People 2030. Following this process, ProMedica Defiance Regional Hospital identified the following health priorities, listed in order of priority:

1. Chronic Conditions – Respiratory Health
2. Behavioral Health
3. Healthy Aging – Fall and Injury Prevention
4. Social Determinants of Health – Food Insecurity
5. Healthy Behaviors – Women’s and Infant Health

As part of the related three-year plan, specific actions and measures will be implemented to maximize impact of these plans. In addition to the above hospital specific strategies, ProMedica Defiance Regional Hospital will continue to collaborate with the POWER Defiance Coalition to support strategic initiatives surrounding those identified needs. Feedback to these priorities was provided by Defiance County Health Department.

To achieve maximum impact, ProMedica Defiance Regional Hospital will continue to collaborate with community organizations that share commitments to a healthier region. Collaborations include participation, gifts, in kind support, and coordinated interventions. The hospital provides charitable funding for various community programs and help organize volunteers and fund raising for community charities.

Following adoption and approval of ProMedica Defiance Regional Hospital 2022 Community Health Needs Assessment (CHNA) and three-year implementation plan by the hospital board of trustees, the execution of the CHNA plan will be initiated in 2023, with updates of these plans provided to hospital leadership, as well as the hospital board of trustees.

Annual inclusion of a community benefit section in operational plans is reflected in the ProMedica strategic plan that is approved by the board of trustees and monitored by hospital leadership. Top hospital administrators are part of each hospital’s CHNA planning and reporting cycles, and assure the plans are operationalized and reported to the board annually.

As part of the annual strategic planning and budgeting process, the adoption of a budget for provision of services that address the needs identified in this needs assessment is inherent in the hospital budget, that is approved by the hospital board of trustees. The 2022 ProMedica Defiance Regional Hospital

Community Health Needs Assessment and 2023-2025 Implementation Plan was adopted and approved by the hospital Board of Trustees on November 8, 2022.

X. ACCESS TO PROMEDICA DEFIANCE REGIONAL HOSPITAL CHNA AND OTHER RESOURCES

The ProMedica Defiance Regional Hospital community health needs assessment is widely available in printable (pdf) form to the public on the ProMedica website:

<https://www.promedica.org/Pages/about-us/default.aspx>

The Defiance County Health Assessment and Health Improvement Plan, as well as other regional county health assessments, may be found on the Hospital Council of Northwest Ohio website:

<http://hcno.org/community/reports.html>

To provide feedback or for any questions related to the 2022 ProMedica Defiance Regional Hospital community health needs assessment and strategic plan, or to request a free, printed copy of the assessment, please email: gayemartin@promedica.org or call hospital administration at 419-783-4493.