

2022

# COMMUNITY

HEALTH NEEDS  
ASSESSMENT

Lima Memorial Health System (LMHS), an affiliate of ProMedica, has been dedicated to providing quality care and serving the community for more than 100 years. Since opening our doors in 1899, our vision for health care has remained the same – to provide quality care in a family atmosphere. Our mission to improve the quality of life in our communities extends beyond the walls of our facilities. We believe that providing high-quality health care starts by offering prevention programs, education, free screenings and charity care to the people in the 10-county region we serve.

We partnered with multiple organizations to identify the key healthcare needs in our community and completed a Community Health Needs Assessment (CHNA). This comprehensive assessment includes quantitative and qualitative data that influences our community benefit activities and strategic plan. Focusing on prevention, education, outreach and wellness opportunities, our CHNA is a three-year strategic effort. The plan will be revised annually based upon the changing needs in our community.

Lima Memorial Health System offers comprehensive health services, including heart and vascular, surgical, cancer, women's health, pediatric and home health services. In addition we offer an extended network of primary care, pediatric and specialty physicians in the Lima Memorial Physician group. LMHS expands its community of care by supporting health education and other community-minded initiatives throughout the region. Lima Memorial contributes more than \$25 million each year in community benefit services.



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# INTRODUCTION

## Lima Memorial Health System | Caring for Our Community

For more than 100 years, Lima Memorial Health System has provided quality health care to the community. With board-certified physicians, advanced practice providers, experienced nurses & caregivers and some of the most advanced medical technologies in the region, we have developed areas of special expertise that rank among Ohio's leading health systems. Lima Memorial gives our community access to an extended network of primary care providers and specialists in the Lima Memorial Physician group. We offer the high level of quality care and specialty services that can be found at larger hospitals outside of our region, but in a compassionate, family atmosphere that is close to home.

### LIMA MEMORIAL HAS THE CAPABILITIES EXPECTED FROM A LEADING HEALTH SYSTEM:

Emergency Center with  
Fast Track Care and Level II Trauma Center

Heart & Vascular Institute

Chest Pain Center with Dual Accreditation

Cancer Institute

Family Birth Center

Level II Neonatal Nursery with access to  
ProMedica Toledo Children's Hospital

Women's Health Center

Wellness Center

Timmermeister Family Surgery Center

Pediatrics

Home Health Care

Outpatient Treatment

Walk-In Care

Robotic Surgery

Rehabilitation Services

And more

We are focused on supporting the communities we serve through health education efforts, including health fairs, clinics & classes, community wellness days and partnerships with other community-minded organizations. Each year, Lima Memorial devotes approximately \$25 million to these services. The value is not the dollar amount, but the commitment of the staff members, physicians, volunteers, board members and other community leaders who work on behalf of Lima Memorial Health System. We are grateful for what their contributions have brought to our community.

Lima Memorial Health System serves communities throughout northwest Ohio with high-quality, innovative health care in a family-centered environment. Our 10-county service area includes: Allen, Auglaize, Hancock, Hardin, Logan, Mercer, Paulding, Putnam, Shelby and Van Wert counties. Patient data, based upon the county of residence of discharged inpatients, indicates that 80 percent of patients served at Lima Memorial Health System reside in the primary service area.

# Information and Data Considered in Identifying Potential Needs

## INFORMATION AND DATA SOURCES: FEDERAL, STATE AND LOCAL HEALTH AGENCIES / ORGANIZATIONS AND COMMUNITY FEEDBACK

SOURCE OF DATA / INFORMATION	DATE OF DATA / INFORMATION
<b>Public Health Departments</b>	
Allen County Health Department	2021
Auglaize County Health Department	2017
Hardin County Health Department	2018
Putnam County Health Department	2021
<b>At-Risk Populations</b>	
Health Partners of Western Ohio	2021
Heartbeat of Lima	2021
Lima/Allen Council on Community Affairs	2021
Mental Health and Recovery Services Board	2021
United Way of Allen County	2021
<b>Additional Sources of Input</b>	
Activate Allen County	2014 - 2021
Allen County Health Risk and Community Needs Assessment	2021
Allen County Job and Family Services	2014 - 2021
American Cancer Society, Cancer Facts and Figures	2020
Auglaize County Health Risk and Community Needs Assessment	2017
Coleman Professional Services	2014 - 2021
Centers for Disease Control, National Program for Cancer Registries, Cancer Surveillance System, State Cancer Profiles	2013 - 2019
Hardin County Community Health Needs Assessment	2018
Lima City Schools	2014 - 2021
Lima Allen County Regional Planning Commission	2014 - 2021
Mental Health and Recovery Services Board	2014 - 2021
Ohio County Health Rankings and Roadmaps	2012
Ohio Department of Health Vital Statistics	2011 - 2021
Ohio Family Health Survey (Department of Job and Family Services)	2008 - 2009
Ohio Department of Health, Third Grade BMI Report	2009 - 2010
Ohio Department of Health, STD Surveillance Program	2007 - 2014
Putnam County Community Health Assessment and Secondary Data	2021
St. Rita's Health Partners	2014 - 2021
The Ohio State University at Lima	2014 - 2021
US Census Bureau, American Community Survey	2010 - 2020
US Census Bureau, American Fact Finder, Report S1810	2008 - 2020
US Department of Agriculture, Preschool Obesity Data	2014
West Central Ohio Health Ministries	2014 - 2021
YMCA	2014 - 2021

# EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

## Cancer

The Cancer Resource Center and community support groups provide much-needed resources, information, guidance and support to cancer patients.

At Lima Memorial, the board-certified specialists, experienced oncology-trained nurses, radiation technologists, patient navigators and other caregivers collaborate to develop individual treatment plans for specific patient needs. They combine diagnosis, treatment and education with counseling and support from diagnosis through treatment to recovery. The Lima Memorial Cancer Institute provides support services through patient navigators. Patient navigators provide information, support and personal guidance to cancer patients to help them through the course of their diagnosis, treatment and recovery. And for those seeking resources and compassionate care for life after cancer, the oncology rehab program provides physical and psychological rehabilitation to survivors to improve recovery. Lima Memorial offers inpatient hospice and palliative care and refers services for outpatient hospice to community agencies.

Lima Memorial Cancer Institute also is a leader in cancer prevention programs throughout the community. Early detection services include mammograms, colonoscopies, lung cancer screenings and biopsies. Our physician offices provide cancer screening questions and referrals to specialists as needed. Treatment for cancer includes surgery, radiation and chemotherapy, along with the newest technologies in medicine. Access to clinical trials is available if needed.

### CAPACITY AND ADEQUACY OF SERVICE LEVELS

- Most recent data shows that cancer is the second leading cause of death in Allen County.
- Trends indicate preventative services, such as colon cancer screenings, mammograms and pap tests at or below the state and national averages for Allen County.
- In Allen County, 9% of adults had been diagnosed with cancer at some point in their life.
- Age adjusted death rates due to cancer are 167 in Allen County; 173 in Auglaize county and 194.8 in Hardin County.
- The incidence rates and age-adjusted death rates for cancer in Allen County are higher than the Ohio and US averages as well as the Health People 2030 target.

## RESOURCES

The Cancer Resource Center is accessible to community members at no charge. We encourage our patients and families to take the materials at any time during their treatment. We offer support groups or individual support based on patient and family needs. Screenings are accessible by referral from a physician or from a federally qualified health clinic.

## CURRENT SERVICE PROVIDERS

Lima Memorial Health System provides services for the prevention, early detection and treatment of cancer. Other cancer service providers in the community include: St. Rita's Medical Center, Bluffton Hospital, Hardin Memorial Hospital, Health Partners of Western Ohio, primary care providers, specialty care providers and The American Cancer Society.

## Diabetes

Diabetes and wound care clinic services are available to patients of Lima Memorial Health System.

## CAPACITY AND ADEQUACY OF SERVICE LEVELS

- The percentage of adults living with diabetes in Allen County is 12%; Auglaize County is 11%; Hardin County is 13%; and Putnam County is 18%
- The percentage of adults living with diabetes is at or above the state average of 12% in Allen, Hardin, and Putnam counties.
- The age-adjusted death rate due to diabetes per 100,000 people is higher in the community when compared to the state average.
- Within the Medicare population, the diagnosis rate of diabetes in the community is as high as 29%.
- Within the population of Allen county adults diagnosed with diabetes, 82% are also categorized as obese or overweight.

## CURRENT SERVICE PROVIDERS

Lima Memorial Health System focuses on early diagnosis of diabetes, treatment and coordination of care. Other service providers include: St. Rita's Medical Center, Bluffton Hospital, Hardin Memorial Hospital, Health Partners of Western Ohio, primary care providers, specialty care providers and the American Diabetes Association.

## Disabilities

Rehabilitation services are available for patients with disabilities whose condition can be improved by physical, occupational or speech therapy.

Developmental therapy is available for pediatric patients with disabilities. The Children's Developmental Center, located at Lima Memorial, offers developmental screenings by certified professionals for the children of concerned parents.

Patients who require extended inpatient services can be served by the inpatient rehabilitation unit.

Home Care services are available for patients who need assistance in performing activities of daily living in their home.

Specialty clinics provide access to pediatric specialists for a specific problem or condition, such as pulmonology, cardiology and endocrinology. Patients are referred to other area pediatric clinics as appropriate. Types of disabilities include independent living (encounter challenges performing instrumental activities of daily living due to a physical, mental or emotional condition); cognitive (experience serious difficulty concentrating, remembering or making decisions due to a physical, mental or emotional condition); self-care (encounter challenges in performing activities of daily living) and ambulatory difficulty (experience serious difficulty walking or climbing stairs).

The percentage of the population reporting being limited in some way  
**Allen County: 22%,**  
**Auglaize County: 11.2%**  
**Hardin County: 10.3%**

### CAPACITY AND ADEQUACY OF SERVICE LEVELS

Rehabilitation, home health care, specialty clinics and developmental therapy services are available by physician referral. Developmental screenings are available at no cost for children when provided through the Help Me Grow program. The number of persons living with disabilities is not measured on the same quartile scale because having more or less disabled persons than other counties is not necessarily a good or bad indicator.

### CURRENT SERVICE PROVIDERS

Lima Memorial Health System offers a variety of services to address the needs of disabled persons. Other service providers include: St. Rita's Medical Center, Bluffton Hospital, Hardin Memorial Hospital, Health Partners of Western Ohio, primary care providers, specialty care providers, The ARC of Allen County, Goodwill Easter Seals, Mobility Foundation, Help Me Grow and County Boards of Developmental Disabilities.

## Exercise, Nutrition and Weight

The needs for exercise, nutrition and weight management are served by providing education and programs that promote positive health behaviors for community members.

### CAPACITY AND ADEQUACY OF SERVICE LEVELS

- The percentage of adults engaging in 30 minutes of physical activity three times, or more, per week in Allen County: 51% and Auglaize County: 49%.
- Within the community the percentage of adults who do not participate in physical activity is greater than the state average of 26%.
- The percentage of adults who are obese or overweight in Allen County: 73%; Auglaize County: 78% and Hardin County: 70%, the state average is 70%
- The community continues to see increases in obesity and being overweight among the youth population
- The percentages of adults engaged in physical activity for Allen, Auglaize and Hardin counties indicate a trend of increasing activity.

### CURRENT SERVICE PROVIDERS

Service providers include: Lima Memorial Health System, St. Rita's Medical Center, Hardin Memorial Hospital, Bluffton Hospital, Health Partners of Western Ohio, YMCA, primary care providers, specialty care providers, Bradfield Community Association, Mobility Foundation, The Salvation Army and The West Ohio Food Bank.

## Heart Disease and Stroke

Lima Memorial Heart and Vascular Institute provides world-class cardiac care for heart patients in our region. The institute provides specialized medical services, with board-certified physicians and a highly trained staff using the latest technology and procedures in cardiovascular care. The institute offers a comprehensive program of patient care, from prevention to treatment to recovery, as well as heart education programs and free public heart screenings throughout the community.

The Lima Memorial Cardiac Interventional Unit and Cardiac Catheterization Lab provide advanced technology, coupled with highly trained and certified professionals. Lima Memorial has a dually accredited Chest Pain Center. Information and screenings at health fairs are available to community members at no cost.

At the Heart and Vascular Institute, we offer patients general cardiology clinics and specialized clinics devoted to congestive heart failure, implantable cardiac defibrillator (ICD), pacemaker management, smoking cessation, prevention, and cardiac rehabilitation services.

### CAPACITY AND ADEQUACY OF SERVICE LEVELS

- The prevalence of high blood pressure in Allen County: 34%; Auglaize County: 36% and Hardin County: 28%.
- The age-adjusted death rate due to stroke in Allen County: 43; Auglaize County: 40 and Hardin County: 68 per 100,000 people.
- The age-adjusted death rate due to stroke for Allen, Auglaize and Hardin counties is worse than the U.S. average.
- The age-adjusted death rate due to heart disease in Allen County is 205; Auglaize County: 191 and Hardin County is 270 per 100,000 people.
- The total Allen County age-adjusted heart disease mortality rate increased from the previous assessment.
- Heart Disease is the leading cause of death in Allen, Auglaize, Hardin, and Putnam counties for both males and females.

### CURRENT SERVICE PROVIDERS

Lima Memorial Health System offers cardiac services, treatment and education. Other service providers include: St. Rita's Medical Center, Bluffton Hospital, Hardin Memorial Hospital, Health Partners of Western Ohio, primary care providers, specialty care providers and American Heart Association.

## Immunization and Infectious Disease

Lima Memorial Health System contributes data to EpiCenter, Ohio's statewide syndromic surveillance system used by state and local public health agencies to detect, track and characterize health events such as pandemic influenza, outbreaks, environmental exposures and potential bioterrorism in real-time. The system gathers de-identified information on patient symptoms and automatically alerts public health when an unusual pattern or trend is occurring.

Lima Memorial has a dedicated department to address infection control concerns and offers immunization opportunities for community members through primary care providers, Health Partners of Western Ohio and the Allen County Health Department. Physicians and first responders in the community are trained to respond to the infectious disease concerns.

### CAPACITY AND ADEQUACY OF SERVICE LEVELS

- The immunization rate in the population that is 65 years and older for the flu in Allen County: 77%; Auglaize County: 67% and Hardin County: 63%.
- The age-adjusted death rate due to influenza and pneumonia in Allen is 9.8; Auglaize is 20.8 and Hardin is 18.6 per 100,000 people.
- The chlamydia and gonorrhea incidence rates were above the state incidence rate per 100,000 people for Auglaize and Hardin counties.
- The chlamydia incidence rates in Allen County was above the state incidence rate per 100,000 people.
- The gonorrhea incidence rate in Allen County has doubled over the last four years to 211 per 100,000 people.
- The HIV / AIDS prevalence rate in Allen County: 159; Auglaize County: 52.3 and Hardin County: 63.5. Ohio's statewide rate is 199.5

Patients are screened for certain infectious diseases to improve treatment and report cases. Lima Memorial conducts education to keep physicians and first responders updated. Trends indicate a slight increase in the flu immunization rate for residents older than 65 years of age.

### CURRENT SERVICE PROVIDERS

The following providers address immunization and infectious disease needs of the community: Allen County Health Department, primary care providers and specialty care providers.

## Maternal, Fetal and Infant Health

The Lima Memorial Family Birth Center embraces the concept of family-centered maternity care. We were the first facility in the area to provide labor, delivery, recovery and postpartum birthing suites. The Level II neonatal nursery services are right next door, ready to provide advanced neonatal care for premature babies or babies that need special attention.

### CAPACITY AND ADEQUACY OF SERVICE LEVELS

- The percentage of mothers who receive early prenatal care in Allen County: 79.1%; Auglaize County: 85.9% and Hardin County: 64.4%.
- The percentage of babies with low birth weight (less than 5 lbs. 8 oz.) in Allen County: 9%; Auglaize County: 5.1% and Hardin County: 9.7%.
- The percentage of babies born preterm (less than 37 weeks) in Allen County: 14.9%; Auglaize County: 10.8%; Hardin County: 10.1% and Putnam County: 9.5%

- The teen pregnancy rate per 1,000 females 15 – 19 years old in Allen County: 52.2; Auglaize County: 44 and Hardin County: 42.4.
- The infant mortality rate per live births in Allen County: 7.3%; Auglaize County: 5.0%; Hardin County: 11.33% and Putnam County: 5.0%.

### CURRENT SERVICE PROVIDERS

Lima Memorial Health System provides maternal, fetal and infant health through The Family Birth Center and the Level II Special Care Nursery. Other providers include: primary care providers, specialty care providers, Allen County Health Department, St. Rita's Medical Center, Help Me Grow, WIC and Women's Preventative Healthcare.

Pediatric specialty clinic services are available by physician referral.

## Mental Health

Mental health services are available by referral. Assessments are provided to children, adolescents, adult and seniors presenting with mental health concerns in the Lima Memorial Health System's Emergency Center. Information, referral and crisis intervention services are available.

### CAPACITY AND ADEQUACY OF SERVICE LEVELS

- Adults in Allen County rated their stress level between moderate to very high 48% and in Auglaize County that rate increased to 51%.
- Suicide was considered by 1% of adults in Allen County; 2% of adults in Auglaize County and 6% of adults in Hardin County.
- The ratio of population to mental health providers is 885:1 in Allen County; 1,639:1 in Auglaize County and 5,299:1 in Hardin County.
- From 2013-2019, 20% of suicide deaths in Allen county were citizens between the age of 45-54, and in Auglaize county 34% of deaths were among the same age range.

Emergency Center assessments are confidential. Lima Memorial works with St. Rita's Medical Center to refer patients who need inpatient care or other agencies as appropriate.

### CURRENT SERVICE PROVIDERS

St. Rita's Medical Center provides comprehensive mental health and chemical dependency services. Other service providers include: Mental Health and Recovery Services Board, Coleman Professional Services and Family Resource Center of Northwest Ohio.

## Oral Health

Oral health needs in the community are served by providing access to dental providers for services and enrollment for dental insurance coverage.

### CAPACITY AND ADEQUACY OF SERVICE LEVELS

- The percentage of adults who could not receive needed dental care due to insurance in Allen County: 8%; Auglaize County: 10% and Hardin County: 22%.
- The percentage of adults who visited a dentist in the past year in Allen County: 60%; Auglaize County: 63% and Hardin County: 53%. Ohio average is 65%.
- The percentage of youth, 12 – 18 years old, who visited a dentist in the past year in Allen County: 68%; Auglaize County: 75% and Putnam County: 87%. Note: Hardin County data is unavailable.

Health Partners of Western Ohio offers oral health dental services on a sliding fee scale.

### CURRENT SERVICE PROVIDERS

Oral healthcare providers include: Health Partners of Western Ohio, area dentists and Rhodes Dental Hygiene Clinic.

## Respiratory Disease

Respiratory disease needs are served by providing care and support for patients diagnosed with respiratory-related diseases. Needs are also served by providing education and encouraging facilities to establish smoke-related policies to enable healthy behaviors.

### CAPACITY AND ADEQUACY OF SERVICE LEVELS

Asthma care is available by physician referral. Care is closely coordinated among providers. Trends indicate fewer people have been told by a care provider that they currently have asthma.

- The percentage of children (17 years old and younger) who have ever been diagnosed with asthma in Allen County: 7.5%; Auglaize County: 10.6% and Hardin County: 11.6%.
- The percentage of adults who have ever been diagnosed with asthma in Allen County: 13%; Auglaize County: 10% and Hardin County: 16%.

Patients are referred for services by a healthcare provider.

### CURRENT SERVICE PROVIDERS

Lima Memorial provides services for the early diagnosis, proper treatment and education for respiratory diseases. The health system has enacted smoke-free policies and promotes healthy habits in the workplace. Other service providers include: St. Rita's Medical Center, Health Partners of Western Ohio, Activate Allen County, Allen County Tobacco Free Coalition, primary care providers, specialty care providers and the American Lung Association.

## Substance Abuse

Lima Memorial works with St. Rita's Medical Center that offers partial hospitalization, intensive outpatient treatment, outpatient counseling and relapse prevention groups.

### CAPACITY AND ADEQUACY OF SERVICE LEVELS

- Binge drinking (within the last 30 days) is reported by 27% of adults in Allen County; 28% of adults in Auglaize County and 17% in Hardin County. The Ohio average is 17%.
- Smoking is reported by 18% of adults in Allen County; 17% of adults in Auglaize County and 18% of adults in Hardin County.
- Misuse of prescription drugs was reported by 5% of adults in Allen County.

Inpatient care is referred to St. Rita's Medical Center or other regional clinics as required.

### CURRENT SERVICE PROVIDERS

Services are provided by referral. St. Rita's Medical Center provides care through their Behavioral Health Services. Other providers include: Mental Health and Recovery Services Board, Lutheran Social Services, Coleman Professional Services, Allen County Health Department, Salvation Army, Lima Urban Minority Alcoholism and Drug Abuse Outreach Program, Alcoholics Anonymous / AL-ANON and Narcotics Anonymous.

# PROCESS AND METHODS

## Process for Gathering and Analyzing Data / Information

*IRS Notice 2011-52 Section 3.03 (2)*

### PROCESS TO IDENTIFY SOURCES OF DATA / INFORMATION AND THE TIME PERIOD OVER WHICH THIS OCCURRED.

In 2011, The Community Sustainability Advisory Committee was formed by the Lima-Allen County Regional Planning Commission with the mission to utilize available resources in an efficient way to improve the quality of life for residents of Allen County through comprehensive community collaboration. The Committee is responsible for reviewing and developing initiatives that target opportunities to improve the quality of life of Allen County residents through the creation of a sustainable environment. The Community Sustainability Advisory Committee consists of representatives from, but not limited to, the following groups, organizations and sectors: academics and education experts; business groups; civic leaders; community development professionals; economic development executives; elected officials; environmental advocates; faith-based organizations; health care; manufacturers and major employers; public health organizations; non-profit organizations; natural resource authorities; media, information & public relations and transportation system managers.

Per the bylaws of the Community Sustainability Advisory Committee, meetings of the committee shall be held quarterly. The bylaws were effective January 1, 2011. Under the Community Sustainability Advisory Committee, subcommittees were formed. The Health Subcommittee was created to focus on health-related topics. Subsequently, this subcommittee is now known as the Community Health Needs Assessment and Community Health Improvement Planning Committee (CHIP/CHA committee).

The Community Sustainability Advisory Committee implemented the Healthy Communities Institute software to track numerous health indicators in Allen County. In 2021 this software was replaced with a new platform call the Community Health Atlas. The Health Atlas still tracks the key indicators initially selected by the the members of the Community Sustainability Advisory Committee. The Community Health Atlas software provides summarized data from secondary data sources. This non-biased information is publicly available for review. Each indicator has a detail page which provided an explanation and the significance of the indicator. Allen County information was available via the Health Atlas. Data for Auglaize County, Hardin County, and Putnam County was retrieved from the original data source and measured on the same color-coded, quartile-based scale that was used by Healthy Communities Initiative.

The Community Sustainability Initiatives Committee identified the following areas of community need: Access to Health Services; Cancer; Diabetes; Disabilities; Exercise, Nutrition & Weight; Family Planning; Heart Disease & Stroke; Immunizations & Infectious Diseases; Maternal, Fetal & Infant Health; Mental Health & Mental Disorders; Oral Health; Prevention & Safety; Respiratory Diseases; Substance Abuse and Wellness & Lifestyle. To create a narrower scope, some topics were combined or eliminated in the CHNA data.

# PROCESS AND METHODS

## PROCESS TO ANALYZE DATA / INFORMATION AND THE TIME PERIOD OVER WHICH THIS OCCURRED.

To obtain Allen County data, Lima Memorial Health System participated in a collaborative community needs assessment project. The study was conducted by the Hospital Council of Northwest Ohio in 2020. The assessment was designed to identify the community issues, behavioral health issues and physical health issues those residents within the county face. The assessment is meant to be conducted routinely to track progress from previous assessments, where applicable. The project provided an overview of health-related data for Allen County adults and youth. The data reported was based on self-administered surveys using a structured questionnaire. The questions were modeled after the survey instruments used by the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention for their national and state Behavioral Risk Factor Surveillance System and Youth Risk Behavior Surveillance System. The Hospital Council of Northwest Ohio collected all data, guided the assessment process and integrated sources of primary and secondary data where applicable.

Auglaize, Hardin, and Putnam County data was retrieved from the community needs assessment projects conducted by third party consultants. The Auglaize County project was conducted in 2016, the Hardin County project was done in 2018 and the Putnam County project was done in 2021. The project provided an overview of health-related data for Auglaize County and Hardin County adults and youth who participated in a county-wide assessment survey. Findings were based on self-administered questionnaires. The questions were modeled after the survey instruments used by the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention for its national and state Behavioral Risk Factor Surveillance System and Youth Risk Behavior Surveillance System. The Hospital Council of Northwest Ohio collected all data, guided the assessment process and integrated sources of primary and secondary data where applicable.

Information gaps learned through the process (which impact the hospital's ability to assess needs): Statistical information gathered by county-wide needs assessment included a selection of indicators that were not consistent between Allen, Auglaize and Hardin counties. The year that county-wide needs assessments were conducted was not consistent among Allen, Auglaize and Hardin counties. Consistency between data with regard to selection of indicators and time period would improve the quality of the comparisons.

## Community Input

### IRS Notice 2011-52 Section 3.06

Resources used to gather community input: must include 1) federal, regional, state or local health officials, departments or agencies, including individuals with current data or information relevant to the health needs of the community served by the hospital and 2) individuals with “special knowledge of or expertise in public health, including the individuals’ affiliation and description of their expertise):

Organization providing input	Nature and extent of input	Medically underserved, low-income or minority populations represented by organization
Allen County Health Department	Member of the Allen County 2014 - 2021 Community Health Improvement Plan Committee focus group	Many populations
Allen County Job and Family Services	Member of the Allen County 2014 - 2021 Community Health Improvement Plan Committee focus and survey group	Low-income
Area Agency on Aging	Member of the Allen County 2014 - 2021 Community Health Improvement Plan Committee focus and survey group	Elderly
Auglaize County Health Department	Member of the Allen County 2014 - 2021 Community Health Improvement Plan Committee focus group	Many populations
Auglaize County Strategic Planning Committee	Community leaders; members part of survey group	Community at large
Coleman Professional Services	Member of the Allen County 2014 - 2021 Community Health Improvement Plan Committee focus and survey groups	Mentally ill
Council on Aging	Member of the Allen County 2014 - 2021 Community Health Improvement Plan Committee focus and survey groups	Elderly
Family and Child First Council	Member of the Allen County 2014 - 2021 Community Health Improvement Plan Committee focus and survey groups	Children and families
Lima Allen County Regional Planning Commission	Member of the Allen County 2014 - 2021 Community Health Improvement Plan Committee focus groups	Community at large
Lima City Schools	Member of the Allen County 2014 - 2021 Community Health Improvement Plan Committee focus group	Children and families

## Community Input | Continued

Organization providing input	Nature and extent of input	Medically underserved, low-income or minority populations represented by organization
Mental Health and Recovery Services Board	Member of the Allen County 2014 - 2021 Community Health Improvement Plan Committee focus group	Mentally ill and addicts
Partnership for Violence Free Families	Member of the Allen County 2014 - 2021 Community Health Improvement Plan Committee focus and survey groups	Victims of abuse
Putnam County Health Department	Member of the Allen County 2014 - 2021 Community Health Improvement Plan Committee focus and survey groups	Many populations
St. Rita's Medical Center	Member of the Allen County 2014 - 2021 Community Health Improvement Plan Committee focus group	Many populations
The Ohio State University Lima Campus	Member of the Allen County 2014 - 2021 Community Health Improvement Plan Committee focus and survey groups	Young adults
West Central Ohio Regional Health Care Alliance	Member of the Allen County 2014 - 2021 Community Health Improvement Plan Committee focus and survey groups	Community hospitals
West Ohio Health Ministries	Member of the Allen County 2014 - 2021 Community Health Improvement Plan Committee focus and survey groups	Faith organizations and minority populations
YMCA	Member of the Allen County 2014 - 2021 Community Health Improvement Plan Committee focus and survey groups	Children and families

## Prioritization of Health Needs

Based on all of the above information and feedback from community stakeholders, the prioritized needs of the community served by the hospital were identified and are listed below.

The Community Sustainability Advisory Committee implemented the Healthy Communities Institute software, which has recently been replaced by the Community Health Atlas, to track numerous health indicators in Allen County. The members of the Committee assisted in selection of the indicators and benchmarks that were to be monitored. The Health Atlas software summarizes data from secondary data sources.

The community dashboard feature provides a summary of the indicators. Each indicator has a detail page which provides an explanation and the significance of the indicator. Allen County information was available on via the Health Atlas and Community Needs Assessment. Data for Auglaize, Hardin, and Putnam Counties was retrieved from the original data source and measured on the same color-coded, quartile based scale.

The Community Sustainability Initiatives Committee identified the following areas of community need: Access to Health Services; Cancer; Diabetes; Disabilities; Exercise, Nutrition & Weight; Family Planning; Heart Disease & Stroke; Immunizations; Infectious Diseases; Maternal, Fetal & Infant

Health; Mental Health & Mental Disorders; Oral Health; Prevention & Safety; Respiratory Diseases; Substance Abuse and Wellness & Lifestyle.

The committee utilized a color gauge (red, yellow, green) to help prioritize how they would move forward. The 100 indicators are sub-divided into 15 categories. Those 15 categories were then divided by topic to focus on specific health indicators. Utilizing the color scheme and aligning the indicators by color led to a process of elimination by setting aside the green indicators as low priority and focusing on the yellow and red. That division led to identification of 15 indicators. The break down also led to creating a narrower scope, in which some topics were combined or eliminated in the CHNA data.

The final step in the process of prioritizing needs established priorities among identified CHNA health needs. The step incorporated the perspective of major stakeholders in the local community relevant to the hospital's defined service area. Stakeholders used a survey to rate each health need based on the four key criteria listed below. Each criterion was assigned a weight based on its relative importance in relation to the other key criteria. Weights were assigned to each criterion to take into account that while all the criteria are important, not all the criteria are of equal importance. The criteria and their assigned weights are listed in the heaviest to lightest order: the size of population (4); the severity of health need (3); the ability to evaluate outcome data (2) and the current community capacity to address the health need (1). This scoring method created a rank order among the identified health needs.

## PRIORITIZED HEALTH NEEDS OF THE HEALTH SYSTEM

Based on all of the above information and processes, the prioritized health needs of the community served by the Health System are listed below.

### Chronic Disease and Increased Wellness

Community members indicated there are many people impacted by chronic health conditions. The statistics indicate the percentage of adults who are overweight or obese is higher than the state and national averages for for Allen, Auglaize, Hardin, and Putnam counties. In addition, only 71% of Allen County adults saw their provider in the past year for a routine check-up. This is more than 5% below the state and national averages.

### Mental Health and Substance Abuse

Many people are impacted by mental health in our community. With the known shortage of mental health providers, access and education about mental health conditions is becoming more important. The consequences of not attending to mental health needs can be severe. In Allen County the average number of days citizens rated their mental health as not good in the previous 30 days has risen steadily since 2014. Mental health in the youth population is of heightened concern for citizens, especially following the COVID pandemic. Noting that that 32% of Allen Co. youth had felt sad or hopeless almost every day for 2 weeks or more weeks in a row, and 8% had attempted suicide in the last year. Both of these statistics are above the state average.

### Maternal, Fetal, and Infant Health

The statistics indicate the community continues to be above the state average for babies with low birth weight and for babies born pre-term. In addition the trend for mothers seeking early prenatal care moved negatively by over 7%. Despite the efforts throughout the community and over the past several years this area still remains a top concern.

### Social Determinants of Health

Community members shared the growing concern for the various social determinants and their impacts on the health equity. Social determinants of health (SDOH) are the conditions in the environments where people are born, live, learn, work, play, worship, and age that affect a wide range of health, functioning, and quality of life outcomes and risks. The ability to access important things like affordable housing, transportation, food can have significant impact. In Allen County it was identified that 8%, or over 6,100 people experienced more than one food insecurity issue in the previous year. In some areas of Allen County, over 30% of households do not have a vehicle.

# Progress on Health Priorities Identified in the 2019 Health Needs Assessment

## OBESITY / WEIGHT

Initiatives	Evaluation of Impact
<b>Exercise and physical activities</b>	<p><b>On-Site Fitness Center:</b> LMHS allows associates to utilize the on-site fitness equipment in the Cardiac Rehab Unit. Associates have access to various pieces of fitness including access to treadmills, stationary bikes, weight resistance equipment and other exercise modalities.</p> <p><b>YMCA Memberships:</b> To improve the ability for associates to have access to workout facilities, LMHS has continued to offer free and discounted memberships to the YMCA. This offering continues to provide access to fitness facilities for associates who are unable to utilize the on-site facilities due to living in outlying communities. LMHS' partnership with the YMCA continues to provide associates and their families access to their local YMCA.</p>
<b>Healthy lifestyle awareness initiatives</b>	<p><b>Health Fairs:</b> Health fair materials were developed to target key topics based on "awareness topics" identified by LMHS. This strategy was developed to engage awareness to specific topics. While broad and generalized is beneficial, through the CHNA process, we continue to learn that focused materials directed toward a target audience have much greater impact. In addition to providing targeted materials and screenings, LMHS engaged provider participation in events as well.</p> <p><b>LMHS Wellness:</b> Employees are encouraged to establish care with a primary care provider and set wellness goals. They are also given access to support programs to influence healthy lifestyle changes.</p>
<b>Community collaborative</b>	<p><b>Activate Allen County:</b> Data outcome information demonstrates that the program has exceeded expectations. Outcomes include environmental improvements, policy &amp; procedure changes and strengthened community collaboration. These have all increased access to healthy food options and physical activities. A recent evaluation indicates concern around sustainability of the collaborative and a need for financial and organizational plans.</p>

## SUBSTANCE ABUSE

Initiatives	Evaluation of Impact
<b>Tobacco free</b>	<p><b>Adopt Tobacco Free Spaces:</b> This is a community collaboration effort with Activate Allen County. Impact of efforts helped with the successful passing of the tobacco 21 law. Efforts also continue to push for the community to adopt tobacco free spaces.</p>
<b>Community collaborative</b>	<p><b>Allen County Opiate Community Action Commission:</b> Continues to focus on: opiate prescribing practices, adding additional detox beds to the community, increasing medication drop box locations, Narcan initiatives, first responder fatigue, as well as prevention and education initiatives.</p> <p><b>Let's Talk Initiative:</b> Was presented to over 1,500 parents and provide the tools to use when speaking to your children about drugs and alcohol.</p>

# Progress on Health Priorities Identified in the 2019 Health Needs Assessment

## MENTAL HEALTH

Initiatives	Evaluation of Impact
Behavioral health program	<p><b>Mental Health Services:</b> Screening tools are part of the standard intake process for primary care patients at Lima Memorial. Screenings are conducted in a discreet fashion to ensure privacy of the patient, as well as to promote honest responses. If patients screen positive using the screening tool, their provider is alerted to continue with further assessment of mental health needs. Based on the assessment, the provider may provide further recommendations or provide any necessary referral for further treatment. Referral patterns are monitored to identify any increases or decreases occurring in the service area. Access to mental health services has remained a challenge for providers.</p> <p><b>Mental Health Access:</b> Lima Memorial has opened an outpatient practice to address the growing need for mental health services in the community. Located on Campus, Lima Memorial Health System Next Chapter Mental Health has expanded the access for local citizens. Lima Memorial also established an Employee Assistance Program (EAP) for associates to seek support for mental health and other needs related to the workplace.</p>
Community partners	<p><b>Mental Health and Recovery Services Board and Coleman Professional Services:</b> Collaboration with Coleman to provide primary care services on site at the South Main St. location. This has been effective in addressing continuum of care needs for patients with moderate to severe mental health disease.</p>

## CANCER

Initiatives	Evaluation of Impact
Community outreach and education	<p><b>Community Education:</b> Various events have been held to increase awareness about cancer and highlight prevention. At the community events, educators highlight the benefits of wellness screenings and early detection in cancer treatment. These events have been very successful, and we will continue to perform evaluations to address specific concerns pertaining to cancer within the community.</p> <p><b>Breast Cancer Coalition and Colorectal Cancer Coalition:</b> Appropriate and effective coalitions perform ongoing evaluations as to the effective modes of education and awareness.</p> <p><b>Comprehensive Cancer Center:</b> Lima Memorial Cancer Institute is a comprehensive cancer center designed to provide information, resources and support based on individual patient needs.</p>
Sponsorship	<p><b>American Cancer Society:</b> An annual evaluation and dialogue around sponsorship and objectives that align with the local community health improvement plans occur to maximize the community impact.</p>

# Progress on Health Priorities Identified in the 2019 Health Needs Assessment

## MATERNAL, FETAL AND INFANT HEALTH

Initiatives	Evaluation of Impact
<b>Ante partum</b>	<b>Ante partum education classes:</b> Evidence has shown that individuals who participate in ante partum education classes are better prepared for the birthing process and to care for their infant. Over the years there has been a decrease in participation. The decrease in participation has created the need to identify varying methods to educate individuals, including on-line, through collaboration and with traditional classes.
<b>Breastfeeding support</b>	<b>Breastfeeding support services:</b> Community collaboration has been effective in addressing workplace policy changes to support breastfeeding. <b>Lactation Specialists:</b> Lima Memorial offers the support of a lactation specialist to all new mothers. This service is dedicated to assisting new mothers and supporting the increase of a prolonged duration of breastfed infants.

## Access to Health Services

Resources for addressing the need for access to health services in the community include: Lima Memorial Health System, Lima Memorial Physicians, Bluffton Hospital, Health Partners of Western Ohio, Mental Health and Recovery Services, St. Rita's Medical Center, West Central Ohio Health Ministries, Area Agency on Aging, United Way, Lima-Allen County RTA, primary care & specialty care providers and walk-in care centers.

## Collaborating Partners

*IRS Notice 2011-52 Section 3.03 (2)*

The hospital collaborated with the following organizations as part of the process of conducting the needs assessment:

### THE COMMUNITY SUSTAINABILITY ADVISORY COMMITTEE

Lima - Allen County Regional Planning Commission  
130 W. North Street, Lima, Ohio 45801-4311

### HEALTHY PEOPLE 2030

Allen County Health Department  
219 E. Market Street, Lima, Ohio 45801



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