

Pasco County Community Health Improvement Plan Annual Progress Report 2012-2013

Pasco County Community Health Improvement Progress Report

Community health improvement planning and related activities have evolved over the years taking many forms and following many different models in Pasco County. To navigate our communities to healthier futures we initiated the Mobilization for Action through Planning Partnerships strategy known as MAPP in 2007. Since 2005, Pasco has conducted three county-wide triennial community health needs assessments which identifies the most critical healthcare issues, in Pasco, then pulls together partners and resources to work on model projects that fill the gaps in the local healthcare system. The third iteration of community health needs assessment was created in 2010. The report aims to provide a resource for individuals, agencies and institutions to identify community health needs and concerns and to be the basis upon which community health programs and interventions can be targeted, developed and evaluated. The ultimate goal of the report is to empower the community to improve the health of its members.

The Pasco County Community Health Improvement Planning group discussed key health issues which included maternal and child health issues, unintentional injuries, access to care and chronic diseases and condition. Group members then collapsed and prioritized these key health issues while keeping focus on substance abuse issues that impact both areas. The group moved forward and developed recommendations and action steps for Access to Care and Chronic Diseases and Conditions. The group will continue to meet and work on a Community Health Improvement plan for these areas.

We look forward to the ongoing successful implementation of all the CHIP initiatives, and are eager to share news of the impact CHIP is making in Pasco County.

Strategic Issue Area: Access to Care

Goal 1 - Improve Availability of Services: Reduce professional health care shortages for the underserved by supporting Mobile Medical Unit services and increase the number and diversity of volunteer providers of specialty care.

- The number of partners participating in the Mobile Medical Unit site visits has increased to 26.
- The mobile medical unit has experienced an increase in medical provider volunteers. Efforts will continue to recruit volunteers to provide services to the medically indigent residents of Pasco.

Goal 2 - Reduce Barriers to Services: Address health care service barriers by linking people to continuous and coordinated quality care when they have no medical home and increase the number of residents that enroll in benefits through ACCESS Florida and/or KidCare.

- Through the mobile medical unit 307 (November 2012-January 2013) Pasco County residents received information on community resources for care in Pasco County through the providers. Efforts will continue to create a written resource list.
- A system has been identified for tracking Mobile Medical Unit utilization and an electronic system that is being established will improve this system as well as allow for tracking Mobile Medical Unit clients' use of referral services.
- Collaboration has resulted in a system for making ACCESS available in conjunction with the Mobile Medical Unit.

Goal 3 - Inform, Educate and Empower Residents to Make Health Care Decisions: Raise awareness and enhance skills among providers and consumers on use of the health care system and empower citizens and providers to advocate for improved mental health and substance abuse care.

- Supportive efforts with the Safe Rx Campaign evolved into the Pasco Be SMARxT initiative.
- We continue to pursue opportunities to provide Suicide Prevention Gatekeeper Trainings.

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Strategic Issue Area: Chronic Diseases and Conditions

Goal 1 - Promote Healthy Living to Prevent Chronic Disease and Conditions: Raise awareness among business and community partners on the importance and benefits of providing information and enhancing skills and opportunities for healthy behaviors; Raise awareness and skills among providers and consumers on the importance and benefits of healthy behaviors and modify barriers/opportunities for self-management.

- In December of 2012, Get Healthy Pasco! was established. The mission is to improve community wellness through healthy lifestyle choices that prevent chronic disease. Get Healthy Pasco! will share resources; promote policies, physical environments, and systems-changes that improve community wellness. With currently more than 20 active participants implementation of fruit co-ops, prompts for physical activity and the number of employee wellness initiatives are increasing in Pasco.
- We continue to work on plans to establish training health professionals, outreach workers and students related to chronic disease prevention and how to make appropriate referrals in our community.
- Multilingual educational resources are being researched for use in communication efforts.

Goal 2 - Advocate and Educate for Healthier Communities: Collaboratively assess and report findings to policy makers and community on nutrition related issues in Pasco and create community support for healthy behaviors.

- The Community Health Assessment and Group Evaluation (CHANGE) tool has been initiated for the purpose of advancing community efforts.
- Results of these assessments will be shared with policy makers and used to develop improvement plans.

Collaboration:

In today's environment of shrinking budgets and competition, optimizing talent and vision of collaborative partners is crucial to community health improvement, especially in underserved neighborhoods. We believe health is a part of everything and to improve health and solve complex community problems, we must work together. Thank you to our partners who have participated in this process.

All Children's Hospital
Pasco County Health Department
Pasco County Extension
Alliance for Substance Abuse Prevention, Pasco
Gulfcoast North AHEC, Inc.
Private Practitioners
Bureau of Community Health Assessment
Sertoma Speech & Hearing Foundation
Pasco Sheriff's Office
Regional Medical Center Bayonet Point
Suncoast Health Council, Inc.
Healthy Start Coalition of Pasco, Inc.
American Red Cross
Pasco County Schools

BayCare Behavioral Health
Rasmussen College
Premier Community Health Care Group
Pasco County Parks and Recreation
Good Samaritan Health Clinic, Inc.
Pasco County Libraries
All Children's Specialty Care Center of Pasco
Department of Juvenile Justice
Pasco Sheriff's Office
Pasco Kids First
Morton Plant North Bay Hospital
Medical Center of Trinity
Elderly Nutrition
Department of Children and Families