

# Implementation Plan for Needs Identified in the Community Health Needs Assessment for The Linton Hospital

**FY 2017-2019**

**Covered Facilities:** The Linton Hospital, Linton Medical Center, Hazelton Clinic, Herreid Clinic, Emmons County Public Health

**Community Health Needs Assessment:** A Community Health Needs Assessment (“CHNA”) was performed in Winter 2016/2017 in collaboration with public health to determine the most pressing health needs of the Linton area.

**Implementation Plan Goals:** The Board of The Linton Hospital has determined that the following health needs identified in the CHNA should be addressed through the implementation strategy noted for each such need:

## 1. Jobs with livable wages –

- ❖ *Specific Needs Identified in CHNA:*
  - Jobs with livable wages is the highest ranked community health concern (page 34, 89 votes)
- ❖ *Goal*
  - Increase the organizations’ involvement in community economic development efforts
- ❖ *Current Activities*
  - Continually striving to offer life sustaining wages to staff
  - Attend Linton Industrial Development Corporation and Linton Chamber of Commerce meetings
- ❖ *Proposed Activities*
  - Pursue having someone from the hospital’s administration be on the board of the LIDC by the next annual meeting
- ❖ *Resources/Partnerships*
  - Linton Industrial Development Corporation, Linton Chamber of Commerce, USDA Rural Development

## 2. Having enough child daycare services–

- ❖ *Specific Needs Identified in CHNA:*
  - Adequate childcare services was the third ranked community health concern (page 34, 50 votes)
  - Having enough child daycare services was the most cited concern among the Community Group (page 49, 11 votes)
- ❖ *Goal-*
  - More daycare openings/daycare providers in the area by 2019
- ❖ *Current Activities*
  - Actively supporting the Rural Childcare Innovation Project to provide daycare services to families in the area.
  - The Linton Hospital has a staffmember on the ‘core team’ for the project.
- ❖ *Proposed Activities*
  - Continue to support the project
  - Hospital staff and administrators participate in focus groups for the project over the next couple months
- ❖ *Resources/Partnerships*
  - NDSU Extension Service, Emmons County Social Services, licensed childcare providers, First Children’s Finance, ND Child Care Aware

### 3. Cancer

- ❖ *Specific Needs Identified in CHNA*
  - Cancer was the highest ranked Physical Health Concern (page 36, 95 votes)
- ❖ *Goal*
  - Prevent an increase in cancer and chronic diseases in Emmons County
- ❖ *Current Activities*
  - Utilizing the Linton Hospital's Facebook page for preventative screenings available and for health safety reminders
  - Sent reminder letters to mammogram eligible population containing list of other preventative screenings available.
  - Partnered with Public Health, tobacco prevention.
- ❖ *Proposed Activities*
  - Use educational programs to provide community members with skills to make healthier lifestyle changes.
- ❖ *Resources/Partnerships*
  - Linton Hospital, NDSU Extension Service, Emmons County Public Health

### 4. Ability to recruit and retain primary care providers

- ❖ *Specific Needs Identified in CHNA*
  - Ability to recruit and retain doctors and nurses in the area was the highest ranked Delivery of Health Services Concern (page 35, 83 votes)
  - Other 'Availability of Health Concerns' primarily focused on getting a pediatrician, mental health provider and an OB/GYN; attracting and retaining healthcare professional that are the right fit for the community (page 34)
- ❖ *Goal*
  - Keep our clinics, hospital, and ER fully and appropriately staffed
- ❖ *Current Activities*
  - The most recently hired providers have local ties to the community
  - Recently hired an OB/GYN and increased services
  - Recently hired a Pediatrician and increased services
  - Recently hired a second general surgeon and increased services
  - Have successfully been able to recruit and retain adequate nursing staff in hospital and clinics.
  - Residency program for PA's and NP's, nursing clinical/internships
  - Strive to be competitive in wages and benefits
  - Morale boosting and employee satisfaction activities
- ❖ *Proposed Activities*
  - Recruit as needed
- ❖ *Resources/Partnerships*
  - University of Mary (Bismarck, ND), CHI St. Alexius Provider Recruitment Program, North Dakota Center for Rural Health, UND School of Medicine and Health Sciences, Linton Hospital's Employee Enhancement Group

### 5. Youth drug use and abuse

- ❖ *Specific Needs Identified in CHNA*
  - Youth alcohol use and abuse (including binge drinking) was the highest ranked mental health and substance abuse concern (page 37, 57 votes)
  - Youth drug use and abuse (including prescription drug abuse) was the 3<sup>rd</sup> ranked mental health and substance abuse concern (page 37, 43 votes)
- ❖ *Goal*
  - Decrease youth drug use and abuse

- Increase community awareness
- ❖ Current Activities
  - Providers are discussing drug and alcohol use and abuse during their sport's physicals and educating patients on the risk (many times parents attend these physicals)
  - Emmons County Safe Night (annual night of fun activities and dance, includes youth education)
  - NDSU Extension Programs are in the schools
  - Emmons County Sheriff's Department provides education at the schools
  - Published the CHNA report on the Linton Hospital website
  - Utilizing the Linton Hospital's Facebook page to highlight awareness and for health safety reminders
- ❖ Proposed Activities
  - Further media outreach regarding the CHNA assessment and findings over the next couple months
  - Provide/facilitate access to resources such as the Drug Take Back program
- ❖ Resources/Partnerships
  - Emmons County Sheriff's Department, NDSU Extension Service, Emmons County Public Health, Emmons County Social Services, Linton Hospital, Emmons County schools and youth leadership programs (FCCLA, 4-H)