



Wahiawa General Hospital Community Health Needs Assessment – Implementation Plan for FY 2023 thru FY 2025

A comprehensive Community Health Needs Assessment (“CHNA”) was conducted for O’ahu Island (Honolulu County) by the Healthcare Association of Hawaii (HAH) and utilized by Wahiawa General Hospital (WGH) to assess the needs of its defined service area. This CHNA utilized relevant health data and stakeholder input to identify the significant community health needs in O’ahu Island, HI (Honolulu County, HI) for the 2021 CHNA cycle. For comprehensive details for the CHNA methodology and results, please see the link to the 2021 Community Health Needs Assessment on this site.

The WGH CHNA Team included the following hospital personnel:

- Brian Cunningham, Chief Executive Officer
- Tammy Kohrer, Director of Nursing
- Brandon Tomita, Chief Operating Officer
- Linda Kurihara, Director of Clinical Operations

The WGH CHNA Team, reviewed the HAH 2021 CHNA for Hawaii and O’ahu Island (Honolulu County) to fully comprehend the community health needs and priorities. The five Priorities identified through the CHNA were:

1. **Financial Security**
2. **Housing**
3. **Food Security**
4. **Mental Health**
5. **Trust & Equitable Access**

The WGH CHNA Team assessed the health priorities specified within the CHNA report to determine the organizations ability to address these needs based on our capability and capacity as a small hospital. Given our hospital’s current capability and capacity, it was determined that we did not have the resources to significantly impact the first 3 Priorities (**Financial Security, Housing and Food Security**), and that we should focus our more limited resources on the last 2 Priorities which are **Mental Health and Trust & Equitable Access**. The specific WGH CHNA Implementation Plans (*Rationale, Objectives, Action Steps and Progress Updates*) related to these two Priorities follow.

***The WGH Board reviewed and adopted the 2021 Community Health Needs Assessment and Implementation Plan on July 27, 2022.**

Priority 1 – Mental Health

Rationale (from the 2021 CHNA):

“Overall, communities across the state saw a decrease in the accessibility to mental health resources. Providers and patients alike shared an overall decrease in appointment availability, resulting in lengthy delays for patients needing to access mental health providers in the community. As appointments transitioned to telehealth, patients without access to a phone or computer, or with anxiety around use and lack of privacy at home, were negatively impacted.”

WGH Objective 1:

Participate in initiatives and create opportunities to increase access to mental health services and providers in the service area

Action Steps	Responsible Leader(s) or Department	FY 2023	FY 2024	FY 2025
		Annual Progress Update	Progress Update	Progress Update
1. WGH Emergency Room staff, physicians, social workers and case managers will address patients who present to the Emergency Room with a mental or behavioral health condition by connecting those applicable patients with available services within the community.	CNO, Emergency Department Manager, Discharge Planners	WGH’s treated 456 patients in the Emergency Room with mental health conditions, and each were provided with the appropriate level of support, including connecting patients with applicable services within the community, based on their specific conditions and circumstances		
2. WGH will continue to provide suicide prevention educational materials within the Emergency Department to appropriately identified patients.	CNO, Emergency Department Manager	WGH’s Emergency Department provided Suicide Prevention Education Materials to 8 patients		
3. WGH has partnered with Queen’s Health System (QHS) to provide Telemedicine Psychiatry Consults through WGH’s Emergency Department for appropriate patients in need.	CNO, Emergency Department Manager	WGH provided 71 Telemedicine Psychiatry Consults for patients in collaboration with QHS		

Priority 2 – Trust & Equitable Access

Rationale (from the 2021 CHNA):

“Both community members and hospitals highlighted various forms of access issues throughout the assessment process. Underserved communities are often so because there are barriers to accessing, understanding, or being aware of those services and offerings. Focusing on equitable access becomes an opportunity for hospitals to meet people where they are, apply trauma-informed care principles, and help build meaningful relationships with those communities. In doing so, trust can be built, or in some cases rebuilt, to allow communities to try to gain meaningful access and better address the population's needs.”

WGH Objective 2:

Participate in initiatives and create opportunities to increase access to affordable care and reduce health disparities among specific populations

Action Steps	Responsible Leader(s) or Department	FY 2023	FY 2024	FY 2025
		Annual Progress Update	Progress Update	Progress Update
1. WGH provides translation services through a language line as necessary.	CNO, Nursing Staff	WGH provided language line translation services in 12 instances		
2. WGH continues to grow our Specialty Clinic Services to provide our community with various Specialist visits close to home.	COO, Director of Clinical Services	WGH provided for approximately 162 Specialty Services Clinics for our community		
3. WGH maintains a Financial Assistance Policy that provides for discounted fees and charity care based on qualified need.	CEO, CFO	WGH provided charity care for 284 patients for a total of \$436,754.83		

****The WGH Board of Directors reviewed and adopted the 2021 Community Health Needs Assessment and WGH Implementation Plan at its board meeting on July 27, 2022.***

*****The WGH Board of Directors reviewed and accepted the FY '23 CHNA Implementation Plan Annual Progress Update at its board meeting on July 27, 2023.***