

Avera De Smet Memorial Hospital
De Smet, SD

FY 2013

CHNA Executive Summary and
Implementation Strategy

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

Avera De Smet Memorial Hospital has partnered with the City of De Smet, De Smet Development Corporation, De Smet Chamber of Commerce, De Smet School District, and Kingsbury County Inter-Lakes Community Action Partnership to assess the health care needs of the community, identify priority health issues, and implement measures to improve the health of community members. Lori Oster with the South Dakota Department of Health, Office of Rural Health, provided consultation and was instrumental in the process development and resource identification.

Primary data was gathered through focus groups and a community wide survey. Approximately 500 surveys were distributed with 197 surveys completed. The survey response rate was nearly 40 percent and the results were used to identify the health needs of the community. Surveys were available online with the majority of response coming from paper surveys sent home with children from Iroquois, Willow Lake, Lake Preston, and De Smet Schools. Five focus groups were held to gather data from specific populations. High scores for air quality, safety, and healthcare were noted along with overwhelming concern for water quality. Trends in the data revealed 12 health issues. The community health needs assessment committee scored the 12 health issues based on their size, seriousness, economic feasibility, potential impact, availability of community assets, need, probability of success, and value. While all 12 issues were concerns for this community, the community selected the top five issues to focus on due to limited financial, physical, and time limitations. The five focus areas include water quality, physical activity, wellness and cancer screenings, specialty providers, and domestic abuse.

The recommendations of the community health needs assessment are as follows:

- The City of De Smet shall address water quality issues through a public education program.
- The Wellness Center Project committee will address physical activity needs of the community through the construction of a Community Center and Wellness Center in summer 2013.
- Avera De Smet Memorial Hospital will address wellness and cancer screenings through various events and education.
- Avera De Smet Memorial Hospital will address the need for specialty health care providers by expanding the number and variety of specialists available through telehealth services.
- The Brookings Domestic Abuse Shelter Rural Outreach Program will address the issue of domestic abuse in the community through education in the De Smet school district and an anti-bullying campaign.

SECTION 4: IMPLEMENTATION STRATEGY

Each Priority is listed along with an implementation plan:

Water Quality will be addressed by the City of De Smet. All comments/concerns listed in the assessment related to water quality will be identified and a public education program will be developed to address each one. The public education program will be a combination of newspaper articles and individual mailings to each household connected to the city water system. Some of the topics that will be addressed are water testing procedures and suggestions for things that homeowners can do when discolored water is an issue. It was noted by The Committee that the City's water is tested monthly and has always met all water quality standards. The City publishes an annual Water Quality Report in the local newspaper each year that includes the results of all water testing required by the SD DENR during the prior year.

Physical Activity will be addressed by the committee working on the Wellness Center Project, led by Rita Anderson. The Committee discussed options currently available such as the Get Fit exercise center, open gym at the school, exercise equipment and indoor pool at the Super Deluxe Hotel, and noted several groups who walk outdoors. There was discussion as to whether additional resources would be utilized.

The City of De Smet is addressing the wellness needs of the community with plans for construction of a Community Center and Wellness Center in the summer of 2013. A wellness center is a large part of the floor plan of the proposed 17,000 square foot facility. An office will be included for wellness administration as well as separate locker rooms. An indoor walking track will be incorporated in the building plans for the community to access at no cost. Additional recreational programs will be offered for all ages. Plans are to make low cost, affordable facilities and programs available for the general wellness of the residents of a 30 mile radius of De Smet.

Wellness/Screenings and Cancer will be addressed by Avera De Smet Memorial Hospital. Health Fair events will focus on those screenings identified in the study. Cancer is felt to be related to the wellness/screening need as many of the screenings could lead to a cancer diagnosis. Public awareness of the All Women Count and Get Screened SD programs through the South Dakota Department of Health will be increased through public education. Avera De Smet Memorial Hospital is a participating provider for both programs.

Specialty Providers will be addressed by Avera De Smet Memorial Hospital. Specialty providers are available for a number of specialties at this time. Both in person and videoconference appointment options are available. The number and variety of specialties continues to expand based on needs identified by local provider and patient requests. Raising public awareness of the specialties that are available is a priority and will be addressed through public education.

Domestic Abuse will be addressed by the Brookings Domestic Abuse Shelter Rural Outreach Program. Jackie Kyllonen was contacted and given information on the community health needs assessment project and results. She has worked in Kingsbury County for the past few years so is knowledgeable of the resources and demographics of the area. After reviewing the data she will initially focus on education in the De Smet school district because a majority of respondents were mothers of school age children in De Smet. The school district started an anti-bullying campaign in the spring 2013 that Jackie helped with.

Implementation Plan reviewed and approved by ADMH Advisory Board May 13, 2013,
approved by Corporate Board May 28, 2013.