

Implementation Strategy and Community Benefit Plan

Avera Dells Area Hospital

For FY16-FY18

I. Summary

- Avera Dells Area Hospital is a licensed 23-bed critical access hospital located in the northern most part of Minnehaha County, South Dakota. Avera Dells Area Hospital is a leased facility operating under Avera McKennan Hospital & University Health Services of Sioux Falls, S.D., which is part of the greater Avera Health system. Avera Health is a ministry of the Benedictine and Presentation Sisters. This network supports parts of eastern South Dakota and surrounding states with hospitals, clinics, home care, long term care, and other health services at more than 300 locations.
- The Avera Health community is guided by the Gospel values of compassion, hospitality and stewardship. Our mission is “to make a positive impact in the lives and health of persons and communities by providing quality services guided by Christian values.” Our vision is “to provide a quality, cost-effective health ministry, which reflects Gospel values. We shall improve the health care of the people we serve through a regionally integrated network of persons and institutions.”
- This report summarizes Avera Dells Area Hospital’s plans to address the prioritized needs from the 2016 Community Health Needs Assessment.

II. Community Served

Avera Dells Area Hospital’s service area covers three counties (Minnehaha, Moody, and Lake County) and eight rural communities, consisting of 7,950 South Dakota residents. The eight rural communities include: Dell Rapids (3,728), Garretson (1,216), Baltic (1,147), Colton (700), and Sherman (83), located in Minnehaha County; Colman (582) and Trent (233), located in Moody County; and Chester (261), which is located in Lake County.

III. Prioritized List of Significant Health Needs Identified in CHNA

- As part of the CHNA, Avera Dells Area Hospital discussed the data gathered and came to a consensus, ranking the health needs of Dell Rapids service area as follows:
 - i. Public Awareness & Use
 - ii. Transportation
 - iii. Physical Activity

IV. What Avera Dells Area Hospital will do to address community health needs:

- Avera Dells Area Hospital has set the following goals to address community health needs:
 - i. Improve public awareness of local health care services through the new Avera Dells Area Hospital webpage, as well as other social media avenues and public events.
 - ii. Continue to look for ways to improve local/emergency transportation services.
 - iii. Explore possible solutions to further educate/motivate community members on living a healthier lifestyle.

- Action Plans:

- i. **Public Awareness & Use:** Through the increased use of both social media and online portals, Avera Dells Area Hospital will lead the efforts of public awareness throughout Minnehaha, Moody, and Lake County to promote local health care services that are currently available to the community. To achieve this goal, Avera Dells Area Hospital will look to participate in community events, such as parades, high school activities, and other local congregational functions. These identified events provide a great opportunity for Avera Dells Area Hospital to promote local health services, as well as to educate the public on preventative health and wellness programs and opportunities. The hospital is committed to supplying sponsorship dollars and employee's time to help promote/educate these services to the community.

When it comes to printed material, the Dell Rapids Tribune continues to show a significant following from area community members, both in print and online. Therefore, these publications continue to offer significant opportunities to spread more consistent educational information throughout the community. Avera Dells Area Hospital will also look to organize its online tools and resources – like Facebook and the hospital's website – so that the community will receive the same consistent health care information no matter which online avenue they choose to go with.

In order to track progress, Avera Dells Area Hospital will closely monitor patient statistics to see, if in fact, we are being effective in our efforts to create awareness and educate community members on the local health services available. Our goal will be to increase usage in services like Planet Heart and our Lung Cancer Screening program.

- ii. **Transportation:** The community was very vocal throughout the CHNA on Avera Dells Area Hospital needing to have a better operational plan for emergency evacuation of patients. The current plan requires the use of several local public services (fire/police/ambulance), as well as public space to land the emergency aircraft. Avera Dells Area Hospital is committed to constructing a \$90K heliport pad on campus, from which the hospital is hoping to reduce the length of transportation time for patients needing to go to Sioux Falls. Through the creation of this helipad, Avera Dells Area Hospital is also looking to eliminate the unnecessary need for additional support from local fire, police, and ambulance services, while transferring patients to and from the hospital. With the helipad located on Avera Dells Area Hospital's land, the facility will no longer have to tie up public space for landing the helicopter. Ultimately, this will make the entire process much safer for the community of Dell Rapids as well.

In order to track progress, Avera Dells Area Hospital will monitor the amount of time it takes to airlift patients from Dell Rapids to Sioux Falls. We will also

monitor the number of Careflights throughout the year to better understand the impact on local resources in town.

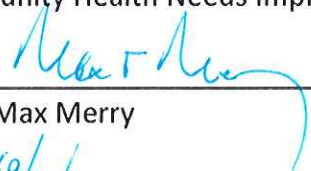
- iii. **Physical Activity:** While the primary and secondary data collection showed the general population has a good understanding of the importance of active lifestyles, the results showed that such behaviors have opportunity to be improved upon. Therefore, the CHNA process revealed the need for a more comprehensive focus on encouragement/motivation of active lifestyles. Avera Dells Area Hospital is committed to building relationships with local fitness centers (GreatLife Fitness Center and Revive Fitness Center) to try and help educate community members on the importance of living a healthy lifestyle, as well as providing them with information on all the local resources/gyms in town. Through our local Avera wellness center, the hospital is also willing to provide the following resources to help increase physical fitness within the community - free dietary consultations with a registered Avera dietician, free monthly gym memberships for patients completing physical therapy, and budgeted capital dollars to help purchase the latest trends in exercise equipment.

In order to track progress, Avera Dells Area Hospital and its local fitness partners will closely monitor gym memberships to see if we are in fact increasing physical activity amongst community members. Avera Dells Area Hospital will also track all of the free dietary consultations, free gym memberships, and capital dollars spent on exercise equipment.

V. Significant health needs not addressed:

- i. **Greater Convenience to Care** - Avera Dells Area Hospital currently offers expanded clinic hours on Monday mornings (7:30am - 8am), Monday evenings (5pm - 7pm), Tuesday mornings (7:30am – 8am), Wednesday mornings (7:30am – 8am), and Saturday mornings (8am – 12pm). However, throughout the CHNA process, it became evident that the public would like to see more expanded clinic hours. Avera Dells Area Hospital feels the clinic’s hours of operation already provide a great convenience to care for patients in the community. Expanding hours of operation would require additional resources - more FTE - for the organization, which the hospital does not have.

On October 31st, 2016, the Avera Dells Area Hospital Advisory Board approved the Avera Dells Area Hospital Community Health Needs Implementation Strategy.

Board Chair: 
 Max Merry

Date: 10/31/16