

# St. Michael's Hospital Avera

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## 2016 – IMPLEMENTATION STRATEGY

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Approved by St. Michael's Board of Directors

  
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Secretary, Board of Directors

9/27/16  
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Date

## Mission

It is the mission of St. Michael's Hospital to provide readily accessible care to the people of Bon Homme County and the surrounding area. In keeping with the tradition and the heritage of the Catholic Church, St. Michael's will aim to promote the physical, mental, social and spiritual health of all its patients. The healthcare centers will continue to offer quality services based on community needs and fiscal solvency

## Community Served

St. Michael's Hospital Avera is located in Tyndall, the county seat of Bon Homme County in South Dakota. The hospital defines its primary service area as Bon Homme County. This designation is not only a geographic one but is also supported by inpatient discharge data. According to the *Inpatient Origin and Destination Semi-Annual Report for January – June 2015*, compiled by the South Dakota Association of Healthcare Organizations (SDAHO), 93.1 percent of St. Michael's Hospital Avera inpatient discharges originate in the hospital's primary service area of Bon Homme County. Also located in Bon Homme County is a hospital and clinic in Scotland. Of special focus, therefore, were the healthcare needs of the communities of Tyndall, Avon and Springfield.

## Prioritized Health Needs Identified

The Community Health Needs Assessment committee reviewed and evaluated the checklist data, summary of the feedback from group and individual interviews and the community health indicators. Common themes were identified and considered from across all information sets: access to primary medical care, mental health services, nutritional needs of children, and advance directives. The committee discussed the significance of each need to reach a consensus in establishing two main priorities:

- 1) Provider Recruitment
- 2) Advance Directives

What St. Michael's Hospital Avera will do to address community health needs:

The Committee has set the following goals to address community health needs:

- Establish a robust recruitment initiative
- Promote Advance Directives

## Action Plan:

- 1) Establish a robust recruitment initiative: St. Michael's Hospital Avera will establish a recruitment committee to include representatives from the community as well as from the Board of Directives, Medical Staff and Administration of SMHA. This committee will work with the recruiter at Avera Sacred Heart Hospital to identify potential candidates to develop an attractive and competitive compensation and benefit package. St. Michael's will identify recruitment incentives that are available through the South Dakota Office of Rural Health and the National Health Service Corp and provide the staff and resources necessary to meet the eligibility requirements and assure continued compliance. In addition, St. Michael's will collaborate with local representatives to strengthen community support for potential candidates.

*Anticipated Impact:* Maintain access to care locally. This will save community members time and dollars associated with saved travel.

- 2) Promote advance directives: St. Michael's Hospital Avera will encourage community members to have advance directives by providing education and assistance. The facility will provide the staffing and resources for the education and promotion of advance directives as well as assistance to complete the advance directives documents.

*Anticipated Impact:* Increase the number of community members who have advance directives in place which can ensure that their wishes as a patient are known and honored.

## Other Needs Identified:

The need for mental health services was another concern. It was noted that St. Michael's has invested in the technology which can be utilized for telehealth visits for various specialty services including mental health services. This expands the opportunity and flexibility to most effectively utilize the very limited availability of mental health providers. We will continue to advocate for and support expansion of mental health services.

The nutritional needs of children were discussed at length. It was noted that the Hoch foundation generously provides breakfast at no cost to children in the Bon Homme schools. There was special concern for children who come to school hungry on Monday mornings. This evolved into the very recent addition of a backpack program for children which provides food for the weekend for any child who wishes. The Bon Homme food pantry is coordinating this effort with assistance from various individuals and organizations. Staff members of St. Michael's volunteer their time to serve on the Bon Homme food pantry, Tyndall Rotary and various church groups to support the backpack program. St. Michael's will continue to encourage staff involvement and support for this volunteer effort in meeting the needs of local children.