IMPLEMENTATION STRATEGY AND COMMUNITY BENEFITS PLAN

FY 2019-2021
Summary

Marshall County Healthcare Center Avera is a 20-bed/10-swing bed critical-access hospital, located in Britton, S.D. with a mission to oversee that the full continuum of quality health care services is made available to the people in its region. The facility’s service area is defined geographically as Marshall County, S.D.

This report summarizes Marshall County Healthcare Center Avera’s plans to address the prioritized needs from the 2019 Community Health Needs Assessment conducted by the CHNA Committee.

Prioritized Needs Identified

As part of the CHNA, the committee discussed the data gathered and came to a consensus, ranking the health needs of Marshall County as follows:

1) Mental/Behavioral Health Services
2) Maintaining EMT/Ambulance Service
3) Weight Management
4) Community Education

What Marshall County Healthcare Center Avera will do to address community health needs

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

- Improve Mental/Behavioral Health Services through multiple actions including education of staff and patients and collaboration with other providers.
- Collaborate with Marshall County Ambulance to help ensure the continuation of ambulance services.
- Continue to promote weight management through support of the Marshall County WOW (Working On Wellness) Coalition and the MCHC Wellness Center.
- Develop and implement a community education strategy around a variety of health-related topics.

Action Plans

1) Improve Mental/Behavioral Health Services: Marshall County Healthcare Center Avera will take three specific actions toward this goal:

   a. Ensure that a Mental Health First Aid class is held in Britton or Langford at least once per fiscal year by providing staff time to organize and advertise the class, the facility to hold the class, and financial support of the class if other grant or sponsorship funding sources cannot be secured.
   b. Meet annually with leadership from Northeastern Mental Health Center of Aberdeen to discuss partnership options with the goal of increasing the number of hours a counselor is available in the area.
c. In partnership with Avera eCARE Behavioral Health, offer virtual behavioral health appointments via telemedicine technology. Because this program is new to the facility, the number of visits will be tracked annually to assess its impact.

2) **Collaborate with Marshall County Ambulance:** Marshall County Healthcare Center Avera will continue to collaborate with Marshall County Ambulance Service by providing laundry service at no cost, assisting with ambulance paging, paying RNs to accompany patients when treatment for the transport exceeds an EMT’s scope of practice, and promoting EMT and paramedic careers through the HIPE program. Additionally, the CEO will meet twice annually with Marshall County Ambulance personnel to assess EMT recruiting needs and options.

3) **Continue to promote weight management:** Marshall County Healthcare Center Avera will continue to support the Marshall County Working On Wellness (WOW) Coalition with an annual financial donation of $1500 and by paying employees for time dedicated to coalition meetings and events. Membership rates for the Wellness Center have recently been lowered from $25 to $20 per month to encourage increased activity in the community. Finally, the facility will explore the feasibility of employing a Community Resource Nurse to be available to those seeking weight management solutions.

4) **Develop and implement a community education strategy:** At least twice per year, Marshall County Healthcare Center Avera will produce and distribute a public service announcement about a health-related topic. Such topics may include signs of stroke, CPR, weight management, diabetes, mental health, smoking cessation, or the like. Resources committed to this action step will include staff time to create and distribute the PSA and the financial cost of distribution.

**Approval**

By signing below, the officer of the Board of Trustees of Marshall County Healthcare Center Avera swears that the Board of Trustees has, at its June 11, 2019, meeting, reviewed and approved both the Community Health Needs Assessment Summary and the Implementation Strategy and Community Benefit Report.

Signed

Date

Printed Name and Title

Chairman of Trustee Board