
Implementation Strategy and Community Benefit Plan

Avera Dells Area Hospital

For FY19-FY21

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 2019 Community Health Needs Assessment.

II. Community Served

- Avera Dells Area Hospital’s service area covers portions of three counties (Minnehaha, Moody, and Lake County) and eight rural communities, consisting of 8,126 South Dakota residents. The eight rural communities include: Dell Rapids (3,683), Garretson (1,221), Baltic (1,108), Colton (713) and Sherman (63), located in Minnehaha County; Colman (721) and Trent (296), located in Moody County; and Chester (321), which is located in Lake County.

III. Prioritized List of Significant Health Needs Identified in CHNA

- In collaboration with key community stakeholders, the Avera Dell Rapids Medical Staff, Advisory Board, and Hospital Leadership Team worked diligently with the information provided from both the primary and secondary data collection process to prioritize the community’s current health needs based on the following criteria: significance to the community; the need for additional resources; alignment with organizational mission; and impact on vulnerable populations. As part of the CHNA prioritization process, we asked key community stakeholders to vote on the top three issues most important to the community. From there it was decided that Avera Dells Area Hospital would address the following top two:
 - i. Public Awareness & Use of Hospital/Clinical Services
 - ii. Nutrition Education

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

- Avera Dells Area Hospital has set the following goals to address the community health needs:

- i. Improve public awareness of local health care service options, which will improve community engagement around health and wellness. Awareness can be improved and generated through the new Avera Dells Area Hospital webpage, as well as through other social media avenues and public events.
- ii. Continue to promote free dietary consultations to all community members living in the Avera Dells Area Hospital service area.

- 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 where we can provide free education to the public. 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 providing sponsorship dollars, as well as staff hours and resources to help promote/educate these services to the community.

When it comes to printed material, the Dell Rapids Tribune and the Dell Rapids Journal are key partners with 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 recommended screening guidelines and the local health service options available to them. Our goal will be to increase awareness and screenings through services like Planet Heart and our Lung Cancer Screening program. Results will be shared with the leadership team at Avera Dell Rapids, as well as the advisory board throughout the next three years.

- ii. **Nutrition:** Avera Dells Area Hospital currently employs a Registered Dietician who will serve as a great resource for the promotion of a balanced, nutritious diet through community educational workshops and other opportunities. As a system, we will continue to offer her free dietary consultations to the public.

Avera Dells Area Hospital is also looking to offer a variety of educational programs involving meal planning and food preparation within the local grocery store, County Fair. This will provide us with the opportunity to teach and encourage community members on how to eat and live healthier. We will work with our local dietician to see if these programs could possibly be offered in Dell Rapids once a quarter.

In order to track progress, we will continue to monitor consultation numbers monthly, as well as taking attendance at educational opportunities to see if we're effectively connecting with the community. In addition secondary resources such as County Health Rankings will be reviewed and tracked. Results will be shared with the leadership team at Avera Dell Rapids, as well as the advisory board throughout the next three years.

V. Significant health needs not addressed:

- i. Avera Dells Area Hospital identified the following needs not being addressed in the 2019 Implementation Strategy: convenience to care, tobacco education/cessation, mental health, physical activity, outreach services, and transportation. Each of these needs were presented to the community leaders during the prioritization process, all of which felt there were other more impactful areas to focus on (Public Awareness and Use/Nutrition).

On September 23rd, 2019, the Avera Dells Area Hospital Advisory Board approved the Avera Dells Area Hospital Community Health Needs Implementation Strategy.

Board Chair: _____



Mike Park

Date: _____

9.23.19