

# Avera Creighton Hospital Implementation Strategy 2019

This Implementation Strategy report summarizes Avera Creighton Hospital's (ACH) plans to address the prioritized needs from the 2019 Community Health Needs Assessment. The hospital recognizes that the Implementation Strategies in this report are to be used as a guide and will serve as a framework in addressing the identified needs. As the hospital moves forward, many resources, on-going commitments and partnerships will be necessary to effectively assist in creating healthier communities in Creighton, NE and the surrounding area.

## 1) Behavioral Health

- Current ACH activities:
  - Continue to implement revised screening to assess for risk of self harm for all Emergency Room patients, inpatients and clinic patients
  - Provide free and confidential counseling to ACH employees through the Avera Employee Assistance program
  - Educate patients on available mental health services and make local resource materials available in the ER and the clinics
  - Transportation of individuals to mental health appointments
  - Continued development of a Behavioral Health ER protocol for providers listing all area resources for inpatient and outpatient behavioral health treatment
- Current collaboration with others:
  - Participation in the Northern Plains Tele-Behavioral Health Research Network who provides licensed mental health counselor/therapists via telemedicine as part of a HRSA grant.
  - The Avera Behavioral Health service line communicates information on all Behavioral Health service line recommendations to Avera facilities.
- Proposed ACH activities:
- **Improve access to behavioral health providers**
  - Actions to be taken
    - ◆ Continue to implement the HRSA grant with Northern Plains Tele-Behavioral Health Research Network who provides licensed mental health counselor/therapists via telemedicine
    - ◆ Replacement of the behavioral health provider that was providing outpatient treatment of patients through Avera recruitment office
    - ◆ Explore other mental health providers willing to provide counseling at ACH
  - Resources committed
    - ◆ Staff time
    - ◆ Financial resources
  - Anticipated impact of the program
    - ◆ Decrease wait time for patients to access outpatient treatment of behavioral health disorders
    - ◆ Decrease travel time and resources for patients to access behavioral health treatment
  - Collaboration with others
    - ◆ Northern Plains Tele-Behavioral Health Research Network
    - ◆ Avera Central provider recruiters

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- **Behavioral Health education for health care providers and nursing staff**
  - Actions to be taken
    - ◆ Annually assign education on Behavioral Health topics for providers and nursing staff to complete on the Avera Learning Center
    - ◆ Update the Behavioral Health ER protocol at least annually
    - ◆ Review documentation of the risk of self harm interventions in the EMR
  - Resources committed
    - ◆ Staff time
    - ◆ Financial resources
  - Anticipated impact of the program
    - ◆ Empower providers and nursing staff who interact with people who may suffer from mental health issues by providing them with knowledge and tools to handle difficult situation and provide support
    - ◆ Reduce the stigma of mental illness
  - Collaboration with others
    - ◆ Avera Behavioral Health
    - ◆ Avera Learning Center
    - ◆ Nebraska Region 4 Behavioral Health System
  
- **Behavioral Health education in collaboration with the area school system on suicide prevention**
  - Actions to be taken
    - ◆ Meet with local school principal/guidance counselor to discuss initiatives for suicide prevention
    - ◆ Explore speakers for students and parents regarding suicide prevention
    - ◆ Monitor the suicide rate for Knox County
  - Resources committed
    - ◆ Staff time
    - ◆ Financial resources
  - Anticipated impact of the program
    - ◆ Sharing of information on Behavioral Health resources with school students, teachers and parents
  - Collaboration with others
    - ◆ Local school system and possibly other school systems in the county
  
- **Behavioral Health education for the community**
  - Actions to be taken
    - ◆ Provide education to community members at least once a year on a behavioral health topic such as suicide prevention, depression, or coping with stress
    - ◆ Include information on behavioral health resources including the HRSA grant telehealth counseling options at all public events attended by Avera Creighton Hospital
  - Resources committed
    - ◆ Staff time
    - ◆ Financial resources
  - Anticipated impact of the program
    - ◆ Decreased wait time for patients to access a mental health provider
    - ◆ Increase in number of outpatient visits for treatment of behavioral health issues
  - Collaboration with others

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- ◆ Northern Plains Tele-Behavioral Health HRSA grant
- ◆ AMG area clinics

## 2) Hypertension

- Current activities
  - Free blood pressure screenings at local events
  - Live Now screenings for ACH employees
  - Wellness screenings for employees of North Central District Health Department
- Proposed ACH activities
  - **Explore options for increasing the number and location of blood pressure screenings in the community**
    - Actions to be taken
      - ◆ Collaborate with AMG clinics to identify events and locations to provide blood pressure screenings
      - ◆ Develop or purchase a brochure with current definitions of hypertension and guidelines for treating hypertension
    - Resources committed
      - ◆ Staff time
      - ◆ Financial resources
    - Anticipated impact of the program
      - ◆ Earlier identification of hypertension and referral to a primary care provider
    - Collaboration with others
      - ◆ AMG clinics
      - ◆ North Central District Health Department
  - **Patient education campaign focused on definition and treatment of hypertension**
    - Actions to be taken
      - ◆ Develop or purchase patient education defining hypertension, treatment options, and benefits of treatment
      - ◆ Ensure that patient education is in plain language
      - ◆ Collaborate with marketing to distribute this information in multiple ways – social media, local newspapers, printed material
      - ◆ Market the expanded Wellness Center as a treatment option
    - Resources committed
      - ◆ Staff time
      - ◆ Financial resources
    - Anticipated impact of the program
      - ◆ Decrease in the number of people with untreated hypertension
    - Collaboration with others
      - ◆ Avera Marketing
      - ◆ Avera Education

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## 3) Diabetes

- Current activities
  - Know Your Numbers lab screenings available every weekday at ACH and AMG clinics
  - Live Now screenings for ACH employees
  - Wellness screenings for employees of North Central District Health Department
  - Continue having Katie Beckmann, PA-C, available for consults with diabetic patients
- Proposed activities
  - **Continued evaluation of the current diabetic education program**
    - Actions to be taken
      - ◆ Annually review number of referrals to Katie Beckmann, PA-C
      - ◆ Annually review impact of the program by collecting data on patient's A1C
    - Resources committed
      - ◆ Staff time
      - ◆ Financial resources
    - Anticipated impact of the program
      - ◆ Improved Hemoglobin A1C results for patients seen in the program
    - Collaboration with others
      - ◆ AMG and other area primary care clinics
  - **Market the current diabetic education program**
    - Actions to be taken
      - ◆ Collaborate with marketing to distribute this information in multiple ways – social media, local newspapers, printed material
    - Resources committed
      - ◆ Staff time
      - ◆ Financial resources
    - Anticipated impact of the program
      - ◆ An increase in the number of referrals to the Diabetic Educator
    - Collaboration with others
      - ◆ Avera Marketing
      - ◆ North Central District Health Department
  - **Provide an educational program on diabetes recognition and treatment**
    - Actions to be taken
      - ◆ Explore options for presentation to the community on diabetes considering patient population, location for the presentation and best time to offer the presentation
      - ◆ Presentation to include diabetes information from the diabetic educator as well as a patient success story
    - Resources committed
      - ◆ Staff time
      - ◆ Financial resources
    - Anticipated impact of the program
      - ◆ Increase the number of at-risk for diabetes individuals through education to the public
      - ◆ Decrease the number of diabetic complications through comprehensive management of diabetic patients

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- Collaboration with others
  - ◆ AMG Clinics
  - ◆ North Central District Health Department

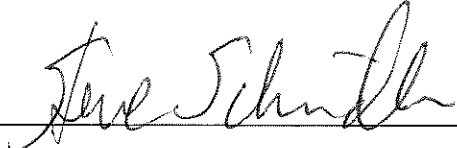
## **Significant Health Needs Not Addressed:**

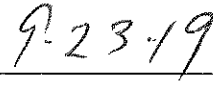
The following health needs were not addressed in this Implementation Plan; however, Avera Creighton Hospital will continue to access and monitor these needs through planning efforts to serve the health and well-being of the service area communities.

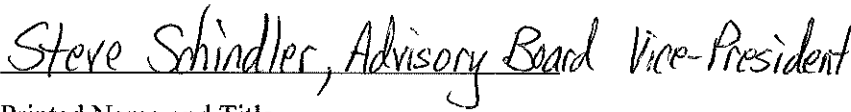
- No Assisted Living facility in Creighton
  - There are assisted living facilities within the service area. Avera Creighton Hospital offers acute, skilled and long term care. There are retirement and low rent housing options in Creighton.
  - ACH is aware of community investors considering the feasibility of an assisted living facility in Creighton and will monitor the progress of this group.
- Limited restaurants in the service area
  - ACH operates the Caring Heart Café for breakfast and lunch on weekdays.
  - ACH has a lack of expertise and resource constraints to further address this need and the local Economic Development committee is working on this.
- Limited Senior Center activities
  - The current Senior Center does not employ a director and ACH lacks the resources to address this need.

**Approval:**

The 2019 Implementation Plan for the Avera Creighton Hospital Community Needs Assessment was presented and approved by the officer of the Avera Creighton Hospital Advisory Council on September 23, 2019.

  
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Signed

  
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Date

  
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Printed Name and Title