

**Fiscal  
Year  
2022**

**Community Health Needs Assessment  
Implementation Plan**

Avera Queen of Peace Hospital  
525 N Foster Street, Mitchell, SD 57301  
Fiscal Year 2022

This Implementation Strategy report summarizes Avera Queen of Peace Hospital's (AQoP) plans to address the prioritized needs from the 2022 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 community in Mitchell, SD and the surrounding area.

Avera Queen of Peace Hospital utilized contracted with inHealth Strategies to analyze primary and secondary data, provide technical assistance, and prepare the Community Health Needs Assessment.

Two significant needs were identified and prioritized in the community health needs assessment process: behavioral health and substance abuse/addiction as one priority and healthy lifestyle choices for weight management and chronic diseases.

## **Behavioral Health and Substance Abuse/Addiction:**

The committee is recommending Queen of Peace Hospital concentrate efforts on community resources relating to behavioral health with a special focus on substance abuse and addiction issues.

**Goal:** *Increase community resources relating to behavioral health with special focus on substance abuse and addiction issues.*

**Partners:** *Avera Medical Group Behavioral Health Service Line, Avera Behavioral Health Hospital (Sioux Falls, SD), Access Health, Mitchell, SD, Dakota Counseling Institute, Mitchell Suicide Prevention Coalition, Emergency Medical Services-Mitchell Regional Ambulance Service, behavioral health specialists in the community, medical clinics, providers, public health, civic leaders, concerned citizens, school districts*

- Increase access to the three current behavioral health providers imbedded in Access Health Mitchell.
  - Measurement: Establish a baseline and track increased visits.
- Increase utilization of eBehavioral Health consults in the Emergency Department.
  - Measurement: Increase utilization by 5%.
- Implement the Avera's "Ask the Question: Are you thinking about suicide" campaign in the Avera facilities in the Avera Queen of Peace region.
  - Encourage independent practitioners in the community to implement "Ask the Question: Are you thinking about suicide" efforts in their clinics.
  - Avera Queen of Peace Hospital supported the 437 Project on September 24, 2022. The 437 Project had a group of runners who ran the 437 miles across the state of South Dakota for suicide prevention and raised over \$120,000 for the Helpline Center of South Dakota. Avera Queen of Peace Hospital was part of the welcome to Mitchell committee.
    - Measurement: Establish baseline and track data of compliance with asking the question.
- Implement strategies identified through the Communities that Care grant program as appropriate and feasible for Avera Queen of Peace Hospital.
- Implement SBIRT (Screening, Brief Intervention, and Referral to Treatment) in the Avera Queen of Peace Hospital emergency department.

SBIRT is an evidence-based practice used to identify, reduce, and prevent problematic use, abuse, and dependence on alcohol and illicit drugs.

- Measurement: Establish baseline and track data of compliance with asking the questions.
- Implement the Edinburgh Scale for depression and suicide screening for OB patients at Avera Queen of Peace Hospital and follow-up visits at Access Health for OB and pediatric patients.
  - Measurement: Establish baseline and track data of compliance with asking the questions.

### **Healthy Lifestyle Choices:**

Supporting healthy lifestyle choices to help individuals manage their weight and associated chronic diseases.

**Goal:** *Increase nutrition education, healthy choices, and awareness in the community to help individuals manage their weight and associated chronic diseases.*

**Partners:** *Medical clinics, providers, public health, employers, civic leaders, schools, concerned citizens*

- Provide nutrition and wellness information at the Health Fairs Avera Queen of Peace attends.
  - Measurement: Number of program participants.
- Provide annual education and/or cooking demonstrations on healthy eating as a component for wellness for those who experience chronic diseases.
  - Measurement: Number of participants.
- Primary Care Providers at Access Health in Mitchell commit to referring patients, as appropriate, to the registered dieticians from Avera Queen of Peace Hospital for healthy choices counseling.
  - Measurement: Number of referrals.
- Providers at Access Health in Mitchell commit to increasing the performance rate for child and adolescent weight management.
  - Measurement: Establish baseline and track data.
- Avera Medical Group opened a new clinic in Sioux Falls with a specialized focus on weight management. Primary Care Providers at Access Health in Mitchell commit to referring patients, as appropriate, to the Avera Medical Group Comprehensive Weight Management clinic.

- Measurement: Number of referrals.
- Analyze the feasibility of developing community or employee gardening plots at the Avera Queen of Peace Hospital campus.
  - Measurement: Completion of a business plan.
- Implement Good and Healthy South Dakota's Vending Munch Code to increase healthier food and drink options and selection on the Avera Queen of Peace Hospital campus.
  - Measurement: Successful implementation of Munch Code and related materials as recommended by the healthier vending and snack bar toolkit.

**Health needs identified but not selected for focus.**

Transportation:

The primary and secondary data indicated transportation remains an issue for Mitchell. The Avera Queen of Peace Foundation assists with patient transportation by providing funding for 100 to 150 rides on average per year.

Avera Queen of Peace Hospital will continue to advocate for increased transportation availability in the community.

Affordable Housing:

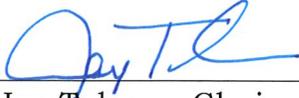
Avera Queen of Peace Hospital donated a 21.7 acre parcel of property to the City of Mitchell to build affordable homes in 2020.

Avera Queen of Peace Hospital will continue to advocate for affordable housing in the community. Mitchell Area Housing, Inc. was developed and Avera has representation on it's board.

**Approval:**

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The Fiscal Year 2022 Community Health Needs Assessment Implementation Plan was presented to and approved by the Avera Queen of Peace Hospital Board of Directors on September 27, 2022.



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Jay Tolsma, Chair  
Avera Queen of Peace Hospital  
Board of Directors

9/27/22

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Date