

2013 Implementation Strategy Updates FY2014-2016

This report covers activities that occurred from June 2013-October 2016.

The 2013 Implementation Strategy included five areas of need: Access to Healthy Food, Dental Health, Mental Health, Removing Barriers to Care and Senior Issues. Each focus area was broken up into three categories to describe how the need would be addressed. These three categories were: Community Health Investment Funding, Ongoing Programs and New Initiatives/Future Plans.

Many of the strategies described under New Initiatives/Future Plans are now included under ongoing programs. Information regarding Community Health Investment Funding is listed in the second part of this document. Below is an update of activities that occurred as part of our ongoing efforts to address these needs. For more information on any of the below programs or events, please contact Peggy Rost at margaret.rost@uvmhealth.org.

Ongoing Programs

Access to Healthy Food

- Health Care Shares at several primary care offices
- Continues classes on food related issues through the HealthSource Community Education series
- Learning Garden and Community Garden
- Continued commitment to serve fresh, locally produced foods to patients, staff and families.

Dental Health:

- UVM Medical Center opened UVM Medical Center Oral and Dental Health (a clinic) in August of 2014.
- UVM Medical Center continues to provide oversight and support to dental residents at federally qualified health centers through its dental residency program.
- The Health Assistance Program provides financial assistance with income-eligible community members for dental health needs.
- The UVM Medical Center's Pediatric Outreach Coordinator worked with the Tooth Tutor and school nurses at the Winooski School District to implement a transportation system for dental visits.

- UVM Medical Center partnered with United Way and others to support the Public Health Dental Hygienist position at the Vermont Department of Health.
- UVM Medical Center piloted a school-based sealant program at the Milton Elementary School.

Mental Health

- Community Health Improvement's Pediatric Outreach Coordinator participates and supports with area organizations that address children's mental health needs.
- Collective Impact efforts, such as the Caring Collaborative, which aims to bring holistic wrap around support to at-risk children and families at a child care center.
- UVM Medical Center continues to collaborate with Howard Center's Crisis Services.
- UVM Medical Center has maintained staffing levels in Child Psychiatry and the wait time has remained under 30 days.
- The Child Psychiatry department continues to oversee the Autism Assessment Program.
- The State's opening of a 25 bed in-patient facility in Waterbury reduced but did not eliminate the impact on the Medical Center. We continue to work collaboratively with the State to address the need for more mental health in-patient beds.

Removing Barriers to Care:

- Health Assistance Program continues to provide assistance with co-pays, medications, vision, dental and hearing care.
- Vermont Health Connect Navigation services in Patient Financial Services assists patients with insurance enrollment.
- The ACC Garage provides free parking to income eligible patients.
- The UVM Medical Center continues to subsidize several bus routes in the region to increase access to care for patients.
- The UVM Medical Center provided \$3.8 million in charity care to patients that were otherwise unable to pay for medically necessary care based on their individual financial situation.

Senior Issues

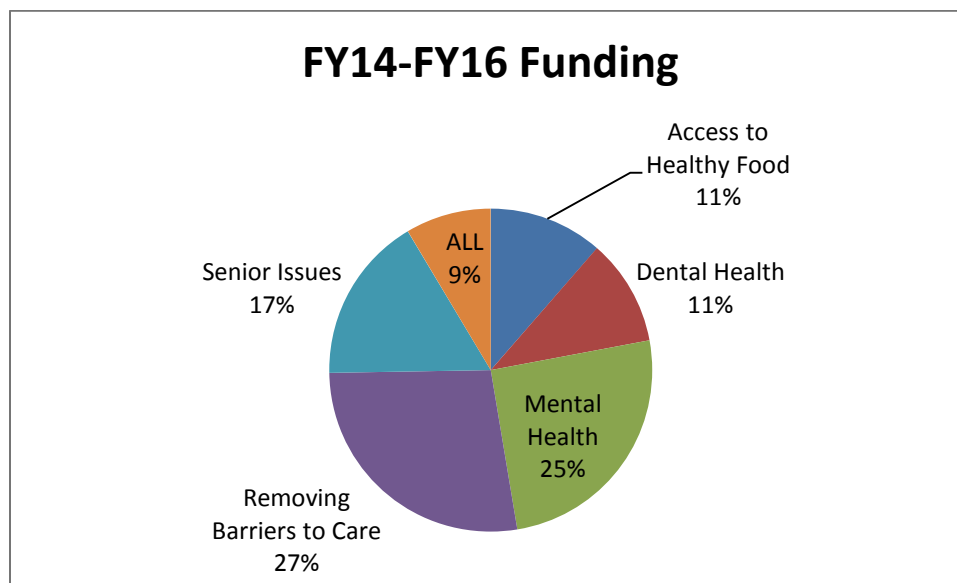
- CHI's Falls & Fires and Footnoters program which provides income eligible seniors with free home safety assessments and foot care.
- Palliative Care Collaborative continues to work to strengthen regional palliative care expertise and collaboration to provide telemedicine consultations to remote sites.
- Continue to offer classes on senior related health issues through the HealthSource Community Education series and the Community Medical School
- Self-management classes

- Partnership with Support and Services at Home (SASH)
- Continuation of Falls & Fires program and self-management program

Community Health Investment Funding

The UVM Medical Center, through the Community Health Investment Fund, granted \$2.4 million to community organizations and programs to further the priority areas identified in the 2013 CHNA. The graph below shows the funding distribution.

Examples of funded programs are listed below under each focus area. For a complete list of all the programs that were funded during this time period please contact Julie Cole at julie.cole@uvmhealth.org.



Access to Healthy Food

- Almost \$300,000 was invested in access to healthy food initiatives, such as the Vermont Works for Women Fresh Food program, which provided job training and healthy lunches to childcare facilities; the Health Care Shares program at Vermont Youth Conservation Corps, which provides CSAs to food-insecure patients; and Hunger Free Vermont for the Breakfast Before the Bell challenge, which aimed to increase the number of Vermont schools that offer free breakfast.

Dental Health

- \$260,000 was invested in dental health initiatives, including the Public Health Dental Hygienist Project, which incorporated a dental hygienist at the Burlington WIC clinic to identify at-risk children and families – and two Tooth Tutor programs, which connect children to a dental home.
- Through the Hauke Fund, the Health Assistance Program provided income-eligible community members with dental care assistance.

Mental Health

- \$620,000 was invested in mental health initiatives, both for prevention supports and increased access. Programs include the VNA Family Room, which provides services to at-risk parents and their children, and the Howard Center's Street Outreach Project, which assists those in need with coordination of services.

Removing Barriers to Care

- Almost \$670,000 was invested in projects to reduce barriers to care, including programs such as the Community Health Centers of Burlington for their sliding fee program; the Burlington Housing Retention program, which helps people stay in their home; and the United Way's Neighbor Rides, which seeks to increase transportation options for seniors through a volunteer network.

Senior Issues

- Just over \$400,000 was invested in senior issues, such as support to Cathedral Square for Support and Services at Home (SASH), which connects the health and long-term care systems for seniors in the region, the Visiting Nurse Association of Chittenden and Grand Isle Counties' Adult Day program which provides care for elders, people with dementia, adults with mental and physical disabilities and others who need support during their day and the Vermont Ethics Network education and outreach regarding Advance Directives, palliative care and the like for both community members and health care professionals.
- In addition, \$210,000 was invested in programs that cut across all the priority areas, such as support to the United Way of Northwest Vermont.