

# 2019 Community Health Needs Assessment Implementation Strategy

Calendar Years 2020-2022



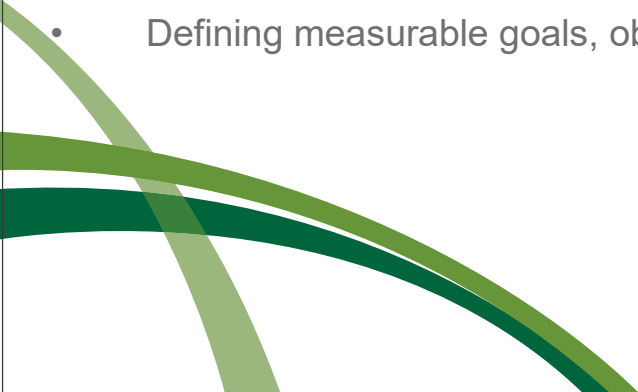
*The heart and science of medicine.*

— THE —  
**University of Vermont**  
MEDICAL CENTER

## Summary

The University of Vermont Medical Center (UVM Medical Center) is committed to delivering high quality care in partnership with the University of Vermont and a network of community organizations. Over a million people from Vermont and Northern New York are served by the UVM Medical Center. While we feel our community is inclusive of those regions, as a tax-exempt hospital, UVM Medical Center is required by federal legislation to triennially conduct a Community Health Needs Assessment (CHNA) for the state determined health service area of Chittenden and Grand Isle Counties in Vermont. The results of this assessment help us to understand the current health trends, priority needs, and assets of our health service area and is used to inform an Implementation Strategy to meet the prioritized needs.

In January 2018, the UVM Medical Center convened a CHNA Community Steering Group that included 34 members from over twenty-two community organizations to advise and inform the assessment process. To further aid in the process, the UVM Medical Center hired two consultants from Baker Tilly, a nationally recognized advisory firm. The CHNA methodology included the following quantitative analysis, qualitative analysis, priority and strategic planning activities:

- An analysis of statistical health and socioeconomic indicators
  - Comparisons to region, state, national benchmarking
  - A Key Informant Survey and interviews with community leaders and representatives (202 surveys, 31 one-on-one interviews). Community Survey (1938 completed)
  - Community Breakfast to share research findings and to engage 120+ community stakeholders in dialogue to determine community-wide health priorities
  - Identifying unique and cross-cutting health needs
  - Identifying opportunities for collaboration
  - Defining measurable goals, objectives and strategies
- 

## Summary continued

The CHNA Community Steering Group recommended the inclusion of the following top five areas of the 2019 CHNA (in alphabetical order):

Affordable Housing  
Chronic Disease Prevention  
Child & Family Health  
Mental Health  
Substance Use Disorder

Recommendations for prioritizing the identified needs were brought to the Academic Medical Center (AMC) members in February 2019 to inform their final selection process for the Implementation Strategy. After weighing the capacity and availability of resources to make the greatest impact, it was determined that the top priority area selected for the 2020-2022 Implementation Strategy will be:

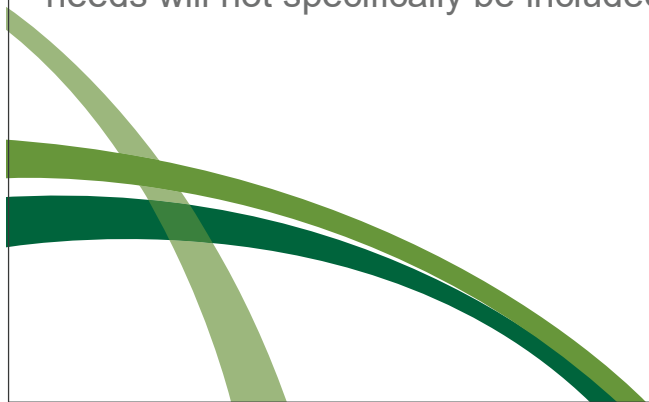
### Mental Health

Across research methods, enhancing the mental well-being of our community members arose as a clear area of focus during the 2019 CHNA process:

- “Access to Mental Health Services” was deemed as a top priority under Child & Family Health.
- “Access to Mental Health Services for Children and Youth” was identified as the highest need under Mental Health.

Therefore, the priorities of Mental Health and Childhood and Family Health will be combined within the 2020-2022 Implementation Strategy with the intention of increasing access to these vital services across identified populations.

Affordable Housing, Chronic Disease Prevention, and Substance Use Disorder have been priority areas in previous CHNA Implementation Plans and remain top priorities for the organization. Ongoing work in each area continues with inclusion of community stakeholder input and investments to address needs at various levels. These identified needs will not specifically be included within the 2020-2022 Implementation Strategy.



# Implementation Strategy

## Priority Focus: Mental Health

*Board approved 12/9/2019*

**GOAL: Expand access to high-quality, comprehensive mental health resources to improve the health and well-being of our patients, their families, and community members in Chittenden and Grand Isle Counties**

### OBJECTIVE # 1

**To create a Collaborative Care Model for mental health care within UVM Medical Center medical homes**

***Target Population:*** Patients of UVM Medical Center

#### ***Strategy:***

Implement The University of Vermont Health Network's Mental Health Strategic Plan for Primary Care Integration within UVM Medical Center: Embed Psychiatrists, Mental Health Clinicians, and Care Managers in Adult Primary Care, and Pediatric Primary Care Practices

#### ***Measures:***

- % of UVM Medical Center Primary and Pediatric Primary Care Practices where model is implemented
- % of patients who had 30 day follow up after discharge from the Emergency Department for alcohol and other substance use dependence\*
- % of patients who had 30 day follow up after discharge from the Emergency Department for mental health\*
- % screened for clinical depression and have a follow up plan\*
- % readmitted to inpatient psychiatry program due to clinical depression\*

*\*Of the practices that have implemented the model*

#### ***Key Partners:***

Community-Based Organizations in Chittenden and Grand Isle Counties  
University of Washington, Psychiatry & Behavioral Sciences Division of Population Health

## *Objectives continued*

### **OBJECTIVE # 2**

**Screen youth ages 12 to 24, who utilize the Emergency Department (ED), using a comprehensive approach to assess the severity of and/or risk of substance use and mental health symptoms**

***Target Population:*** Youth ages 12-24 who utilize the Emergency Department at the UVM Medical Center

***Strategy:***

The Emergency Department Social Workers will screen youth using the Youth Screening, Brief Intervention, and Referral to Treatment (Y-SBIRT) model which is a set of tools to assess the severity of substance use and mental health symptoms, identify the appropriate level of treatment and provide brief intervention if needed.

***Measures:***

% of youth who utilize the ED that are screened using the Y-SBIRTS model

% of youth who screened positive that are referred to treatment

***Key Partners:***

Spectrum Youth & Family Services

Howard Center

## Objectives continued

### OBJECTIVE # 3

**To assess gaps in service delivery and identify opportunities for alignment with community partners around strategic resource allocation to best address prevention, early intervention and access to mental health services for all populations**

**Target Population:** Patients of UVM Medical Center, community members of Chittenden and Grand Isle Counties

#### **Strategies:**

1. The Chittenden Accountable Community for Health (CACH) will identify and implement evidence based initiatives addressing the identified priority focus of suicide prevention, in alignment with their goal of achieving population health through collaboration.
2. The Community Health Investment Fund (CHIF) will invest annually in community initiatives that further the 2020-2022 priority area of mental health.
3. Via the Child and Adolescent Psychiatry & Psychology Consult Program (CAPPCON), improve coordination and interdisciplinary communication between the ED, inpatient pediatrics, pediatric medical homes, and community-based mental health providers to better serve children and families who may require mental health care.

#### **Measures:**

1. Year one: CACH Identification of initiative(s) is completed. Implementation of those initiative(s) begins by 2021 (years 2-3 TBD based on measures for specific initiatives)
2. % of CHIF funding invested annually in community-based mental health programs
- 3a. # of consults conducted by CAPPCON
- 3b. Improved provider satisfaction with care provided to this population
- 3c. Improved patient satisfaction with care provided to this population

#### **Key Partners:**

Community-Based Organizations in Chittenden and Grand Isle Counties

Community Health Investment Committee (CHIC)

Chittenden Accountable Community for Health (CACH) members and member organizations

## Next Steps

In continued collaboration with key community stakeholders and experts in the field, UVM Medical Center will report progress annually for each of the identified strategies over the course of 2020-2022. Additionally, UVM Medical Center is committed to supporting complimentary strategies aimed at improving the overall health and well-being of community members. We believe that all staff, community partners and community members play an important role in this collaborative work.





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