

Mt Graham Regional Medical Center Community Health Needs Assessment - 2013



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Community Health Needs Assessment



Between September 26, 2012 and July 30, 2013, a Community Health Needs Assessment (CHNA) was conducted by the Graham County Health Dept. and Mt Graham Regional Medical Center (MGRMC) for the approximately 42,000 residents of Graham and Greenlee Counties (Residents of the San Carlos Indian Reservation were not included due to the Indian Health hospitals and clinics that service their population). MGRMC is located in Safford, AZ, which is the county seat for Graham county. Both Graham and Greenlee counties are located in the Southeastern corner of Arizona.

MGRMC operates a 49-bed hospital with full Emergency Department, Laboratory, Imaging, General and Orthopedic Surgery, Obstetrics and ICU services. MGRMC also provides a rural health clinic and sleep lab as well as oncology, cardiology and gastroenterology services.



Conducting the Assessment



The information gathering phases of the assessment were initiated and primarily conducted by the Graham County Health Department. The Health Dept. held meetings with community members and formed a survey much like what MGRMC would have done had they completed this process on their own. Following the Health Department's information gathering process, MGRMC, in collaboration with Eide Bailly LLP an accounting and consulting firm specializing in consulting with healthcare organizations, analyzed the data and formed a committee of community members, many of whom had taken part in the Health Department's process, to discuss and analyze the data as it pertained to the hospital.



Conducting the Assessment



To ensure input from persons with broad knowledge of the community, individuals representing the educational, civic and non-profit segments of our community as well as a broad representation from the diverse ethnicities in our community were invited to participate. Representatives from the local health care providers and the county public health department were included to bring in additional professional perspective. Members of the underserved population were not represented directly. However, individuals who specifically serve these populations through government agencies, hospital clinics for the uninsured or underinsured, and non-profit organizations that solely exist to meet the needs of the underserved were invited and did participate so that the issues these individuals face would be addressed.

Conducting the Assessment

Community Advisory Committee Participants

| Individual | Position |
|-------------------------------|---|
| Randy Bryce | Pharmacist |
| Jan Davenport | Home health provider |
| Lori Burress | Director of Nursing-Hospital and Long Term Care |
| Heather Mack | Emergency medical services representative |
| Laura Rogers/Steve Rutherford | Public health officials (Graham/Greenlee) |
| Chris Gibbs | Safford City Mayor |
| Brian Douglas | Graham County Disaster Planning |
| Sean Wenham | Chamber of Commerce/Freeport |
| Gary Sorenson | Community College Dean of Students |
| Dr. Mark Tregaskas | Superintendent of Safford Schools |
| | Non-profit organizations/Social |

Conducting the Assessment

Community Advisory Committee Participants

| Individual | Position |
|--------------------|----------------------------|
| Toni Burress | Tobacco/Diabetes Education |
| Keith Bryce | Hospital CFO |
| Craig Smith | Counselor/Social Services |
| Dr. Clinton Damron | Physician |
| Brenda Adamson | Nurse Practitioner |
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Conducting the Assessment



An initial meeting with the Community Advisory Committee was held and the first issue addressed by the Community Advisory Committee was the applicable service area to be considered in determining the community served.



Defining the Community



MGRMC presented information on the community origin of its patients based on admissions from the past year. More than 85% of its patients reside in either Graham or Greenlee county.

Based on this information, the committee identified the service areas of Graham County (not to include the San Carlos Indian Reservation due to the fact their healthcare needs are being met by hospitals and clinics provided by Indian Health Services) and Greenlee County for the purposes of the CHNA.



Defining the Service Area



MGRMC is a community-owned hospital and operates under the direction of a Graham County Hospital District Board. Greenlee County has no hospital and is considered part of the MGRMC service area. Those individuals living in Graham County on the San Carlos Indian Reservation are serviced by the Federal Indian Health program and receive their hospital services from the hospital located in San Carlos, AZ.



Community Description

Graham and Greenlee counties are predominantly rural areas dominated by agricultural and mining. The 2010 census estimates a population of 37,220 with an average population density of 8.1 residents per square mile in Graham County and a population of 8,437 with an average population density of 4.6 resident per square mile in Greenlee County. MGRMC provides the only inpatient hospital services in the two county service area. The service area population is estimated to have experienced a very slight increase in total population between 2010 and 2012 (1.2%).



Community Description



Median household income in the service area is \$43,083 in Graham County and the median household income is \$49,390 for Greenlee County. Both counties are below the median income values for both the state of Arizona and the United States. Unemployment rates for the service area range from 8.1% (June, 2013), 5.7% (January, 2008), to 14.5% (July, 2010). These rates compare favorable to the state of Arizona (9.5%) and almost identical to the United States average (8.2%).



Conducting the Assessment



In their initial meeting, the Graham County Health Department (GCHD) community committee reviewed health statistics and data from the Arizona Health Status and Vital Statistics 2010.

(<http://www.azdhs.gov/plan/report/ahs/ahs2010/toc10.htm>)

The review included analysis of health trends and comparisons within the community and with other counties in Arizona.



Conducting the Assessment



The GCHD Community Committee discussed each of the health trends to determine if the information was consistent with their understanding of the needs of the community. This discussion led to the development of a survey tool to gather additional information on the community health needs, as perceived by others not already participating in the Community Committee.



Conducting the Assessment



This survey was then taken to community meetings throughout the service area, advertised in local media and made available in paper form in public health clinics, local businesses, at MGRMC, physician's clinics and at various civic organizations (Rotary, Lions' Club). The survey was also available on-line utilizing the SurveyMonkey software and questionnaire tool.

A total of 1026 surveys were collected for a total sample size of 2.24% of the population. This total is significantly higher than totals collected in similar volunteer studies conducted by county health departments throughout the state of Arizona throughout 2012.



Conducting the Assessment



The results of the survey were then communicated to the MGRMC Community Advisory Committee.

Based on the health needs identified in the review of health data and the results of the GCHD survey, the MGRMC Community Advisory Committee developed a list of 9 potential community needs related directly or indirectly to the hospital. There were no primary and chronic disease or other specific health needs identified related to low income or chronically ill populations.



Potential Health Needs

1. Alcohol and Substance Abuse
2. Mental Health Services
3. Other Specialty Services
4. Teen Pregnancy
5. Abuse or Neglect
6. Obesity
7. Poor Diet
8. Car Seat Safety
9. Basic Understanding of the ACA

Conducting the Assessment



The MGRMC Community Advisory Committee members agreed on a set of criteria to evaluate the list of potential needs identified through the fact finding process. The criteria included:

- a. Potential to Impact Community Health
- b. Cost to the Community
- c. Community Urgency

The Community Advisory Committee discussed each of the 9 identified health issues in terms of whether it truly was an issue, the potential health improvement impact, cost and urgency. Committee members then identified 5 of the issues they felt had the highest community priority. This process involved casual group discussion as committee members placed their priority votes on the items, allowing for individuals to make decisions with input from their fellow committee members.



Conducting the Assessment



The prioritization process identified priority issues for the community, presented in rank order:

1. Alcohol and Substance Abuse
2. Mental Health Services
3. Additional Specialty Services
4. Teen Pregnancy
5. Car Seat Safety

Conducting the Assessment



During the discussion on health needs, the Committee identified other resources in the community that may be available to work in collaboration with MGRMC to address the needs identified including:

- Schools
- Churches/Non-Profits
- County Health Department



Community Health Needs Assessment



Next Steps

MGRMC is required to adopt an organization specific implementation strategy in response to the Community Health Needs Assessment report. In the coming months, this implementation strategy will be discussed and approved by the Board of Directors of MGRMC, and will be reviewed on an annual basis. The CHNA process and public report will be repeated every three years, as required by federal regulations.



Community Health Needs Assessment



Community Contact Information for CHNA

Community members who would like to provide input on the next CHNA process, would like to comment on the needs identified or would like to review detailed community health statistics and data gathered and reviewed by the committee, are encouraged to contact MGRMC with their inquiries, suggestions or comments.

CHNA Contact for MGRMC:

Ryan Rapier, Director of Public Relations and Marketing

928-348-3748

ryanr@mtgraham.org

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Community Health Needs Assessment



2013 Implementation

Implementation

- **Alcohol and Substance Abuse** – MGRMC will work Graham County's Drug Coalition to sign up medical providers who will learn to identify substance abusers and provide them with alternative solutions as part of their care in the hospital.

Implementation

- **Additional Providers** – Within the last two years, MGRMC has brought both full-time Cardiology and full-time Gastroenterology to our campus. Also, following the study, MGRMC added Dermatology to our list of specialties provided in the Specialty Clinic on a bi-monthly basis. We will continue to assess and recruit primary and specialty providers to our valley as needed.

Implementation

- **Mental Health** – MGRMC is currently investigating the feasibility of instituting Tele-Psych into our Emergency department.

Implementation

- **Teen Pregnancy** – MGRMC is committed to providing education to teens through our Rural Health Clinic and our Annual Health Fair regarding family planning and safe-sex practices.

Implementation

- **Car Seat Safety** – MGRMC is committed to provide education in our Maternity Services department regarding the importance of proper car seat installation and use for newborns and will also provide Car Seat Safety education and Car Seat Safety Checks at its Annual Health Fair.



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