2025 Community Health Implementation Strategy and Plan

Adopted October 2025



St. Joseph's Westgate Medical Center



A member of CommonSpirit

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At-a-Glance Summary

Community Served



St. Joseph's Westgate serves the geographic area of Maricopa County which encompasses 9,202 square miles, includes 27 cities and towns, as well as the whole or part of five sovereign American Indian reservations. With an estimated population of 4 million and growing, Maricopa County is home to well over half of Arizona's residents. The community served is ethnically and culturally diverse.

Significant Community Health Needs Being Addressed

The significant community health needs the hospital is helping to address and that form the basis of this document were identified in the hospital's most recent Community Health Needs Assessment (CHNA).

Needs the hospitals intends to address with strategies and programs are:



- Access to Care
- Mental Health
- Chronic Health Conditions
 - o Cardiovascular Disease (CVD)
 - o Diabetes
 - o Chronic Kidney Disease (CKD)

Strategies and Programs to Address Needs



The hospital intends to take several actions and to dedicate resources to these needs, including:

- Access to Care ACTIVATE Program, CATCH Program, Keogh Enrollment Specialist, Hospital-based Community Navigators, Lyft Transportation Services, MOMobile, Community Health Workers, and Patient Financial Assistance
- Chronic Conditions Diabetes Empowerment Education Program, Healthier Living Programs, Chronic Disease Self-Management Program, Chronic Kidney Disease Awareness, and Muhammed Ali Parkinson's Center Programs.
- Mental Health Mental Health First Aid, Anti-Stigma Training, Substance Use Navigator (SUN)

Planned resources and collaborators to help address these needs, as well as anticipated impacts of the strategies and programs, are described in the "Strategies and Program Activities by Health Need" section of the document.

This document is publicly available online at the hospital's website. Written comments on this strategy and plan can be submitted to the St. Joseph's Hospital and Medical Center Community Health Office at 350 W. Thomas Road, Phoenix, AZ 85013 or by e-mail to communityhealth-sjhmc@commonspirit.org.

Our Hospital and the Community Served

About the Hospital

St. Joseph's Westgate Medical Center (St. Joseph's Westgate) is a part of CommonSpirit Health, one of the largest nonprofit health systems in the U.S., with more than 2,200 care sites in 24 states coast to coast, serving patients in big cities and small towns across America.

St. Joseph's Westgate is one of eight Dignity Health acute care hospitals in the Arizona market. The hospital and its programs take new approaches to health care that utilize the most innovative uses of materials to promote patient safety, patient satisfaction and medical efficiency. Services include general surgery, orthopedics, urology, gastrointestinal care, bariatrics, and endoscopy. It is Arizona's first Center of Excellence for Colorectal Surgery. St. Joseph's Westgate, which is a not-for-profit hospital, continues the Sisters of Mercy's mission to provide care and compassion to the west valley. As of 2024, SJWMC has 250 employees, 14 employed faculty physicians, and 127 credentialed community physicians.

Our Mission

The hospital's dedication to assessing significant community health needs and helping to address them in conjunction with the community is in keeping with its mission. As CommonSpirit Health, we make the healing presence of God known in our world by

improving the health of the people we serve, especially those who are vulnerable, while we advance social justice for all.

Financial Assistance for Medically Necessary Care

It is the policy of CommonSpirit Health to provide, without discrimination, emergency medical care and medically necessary care in CommonSpirit hospital facilities to all patients, without regard to a patient's financial ability to pay.

This hospital has a financial assistance policy that describes the assistance provided to patients for whom it would be a financial hardship to fully pay the expected out-of-pocket expenses for such care, and who meet the eligibility criteria for such assistance. The financial assistance policy, a plain language summary and related materials are available in multiple languages on the hospital's website.



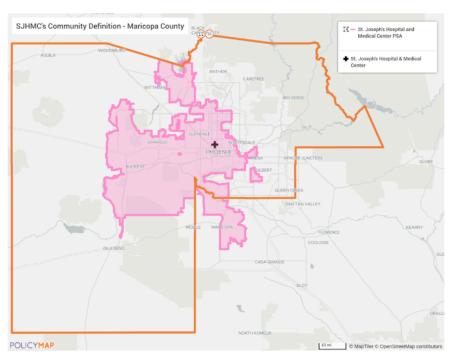
Description of the Community Served

The hospital serves Maricopa County. A summary description of the community is below, and additional details can be found in the CHNA report online. The map below displays St. Joseph's Westgate's defined community.

St. Joseph's Westgate is located in Maricopa County, the fourth most populous county in the U.S., with a population of over 4.4 million people. It is home to well over half of Arizona's

residents. Covering 9,202 square miles, Maricopa County includes 27 cities and towns and is comprised of nearly five percent of Indigenous land from tribes such as the Fort McDowell Yavapai Nation, Gila River Indian Community, Salt River Pima-Maricopa Indian Community, and Tohono O'odham Nation.

St. Joseph's Westgate serves patients across Maricopa County; hence, the community definition extends beyond its physical location in the City of Glendale. The table below describes the demographic and socioeconomic profile of residents in Maricopa County and Arizona, for comparison.



	Maricopa County	Arizona
Total Population Size	4,430,871	7,172,282
Population by Race / Ethnicity		
American Indian/Alaska Native (non-Hispanic)	1%	4%
Asian and Native Hawaiian/Pacific Islander (non-Hispanic)	4%	3%
Black/African American (non-Hispanic)	5%	4%
White (non-Hispanic)	53%	53%
Hispanic / Latino	32%	32%
Population by Sex		
Male	50%	50%
Female	50%	50%
Population by Age Group		

	Maricopa County	Arizona		
0-14 years	19%	18%		
15-24 years	14%	14%		
25-44 years	28%	26%		
45-64 years	24%	24%		
65+ years	16%	18%		
Languages, among those 5 year and older				
Non-English Languages Spoken at Home	26%	26%		
Population by Educational Attainment (Less the those 25 years and over	nan a high school d	iploma), among		
Less than 9th grade	5%	5%		
9th – 12th grade, no diploma	6%	6%		
Employment Status				
Unemployed	5%	5%		
Median Household Income				
Income	\$80,675	\$72,581		
Poverty				
Below poverty level all ages	12%	13%		
Below poverty level all ages under 18 years	16%	18%		
Health Insurance Coverage				
Uninsured	11%	11%		
Health Insurance Type				
Medicaid	18%	21%		
Health Professional Shortage Area	Yes	Yes		
Medically Underserved Area	Yes	Yes		
Medically Underserved, Low Income, Minority Populations	Medically Underserved, Low Income			

Maricopa County and Arizona Demographic and Socioeconomic Profile - 2022 ACS Census, HRSA MUA Finder, PolicyMap

Community Assessment and Significant Needs

The health issues that form the basis of the hospital's community health implementation strategy and plan were identified in the most recent CHNA report, which was adopted in April, 2025. The CHNA report includes:

- description of the community assessed consistent with the hospital's service area;
- description of the assessment process and methods;
- data, information and findings, including significant community health needs;
- community resources potentially available to help address identified needs; and
- impacts of actions taken by the hospital since the preceding CHNA.

Additional details about the needs assessment can be found in the CHNA report, which is publicly available on the hospital's website or upon request from the hospital, using the contact information in the At-a-Glance Summary.

Significant Health Needs

The CHNA identified the significant needs in the table below, which also indicates which needs the hospital intends to address. Identified needs may include specific health conditions, behaviors or health care services, and also health-related social and community needs that have an impact on health and well-being.

Significant Health Need	Description	Intend to Address?
Access to Care	Access to Care is defined as the timely use of health services to achieve the best possible health outcomes. Many people face barriers that prevent or limit access to needed healthcare services. Access to care includes availability, accessibility, affordability, acceptability, and appropriateness.	\supset
Cancer	Cancer is a large group of diseases that can start in almost any organ or tissue of the body when abnormal cells grow beyond their usual boundaries to invade adjoining parts of the body and/or spread to other organs.	
Chronic Health Conditions Diabetes Cardiovascular Disease (CVD) Chronic Kidney Disease	 Chronic Health Conditions are health conditions or diseases that are persistent or otherwise long-lasting in their effects. Diabetes is a chronic, metabolic disease in which the body's ability to produce or respond to the hormone insulin is impaired, resulting in abnormal metabolism of carbohydrates and elevated levels of glucose in the blood and urine. 	

Significant Health Need	Description	Intend to Address?
	 Cardiovascular Diseases (CVDs) is defined as the primary diagnosis of acute rheumatic fever and the following diseases: chronic rheumatic heart, hypertensive, ischemic heart, pulmonary heart, pulmonary circulation, cerebrovascular, arteries, arterioles, capillaries, and other forms of heart disease. Chronic Kidney Disease (CKD) is a condition in which the kidneys gradually lose their ability to filter waste products and excess fluid from the blood. This can lead to kidney damage, buildup of harmful substances in the body, and other health problems. 	
Maternal and Child Health • Preterm Births	Maternal and Child Health focuses on the well-being of pregnant women, mothers, and children from birth through adolescence. It involves a comprehensive approach to care, including prenatal, childbirth, and postnatal services. Preterm birth, defined as a live birth before 37 completed weeks of gestation, is a critical component of maternal and child health. Preterm birth can lead to long-term health conditions	
Mental Health	Mental Health encompasses emotional, psychological, and social well-being. It influences thoughts, feelings, actions and plays a key role in coping with stress, interacting with others, and making decisions. Mental health is a vital component of overall well-being	
Social Determinants of Health • Housing & Homelessness • Heat	 Social Determinants of Health are the conditions where people are born, live, work, play, worship, and age that impact their health quality-of-life. Housing & Homelessness are often identified as important social determinants of health due to the range of ways in which a lack of housing, or poor quality housing, can negatively affect health and wellbeing. Heat stress, the leading cause of weather-related deaths, can exacerbate underlying illnesses such as cardiovascular disease, diabetes, mental 	

Significant Health Need	Description	Intend to Address?
	health disorders, and asthma. Prolonged exposure to extreme temperatures can lead to serious health risks.	
Substance Use	Substance Use is a broad term that refers to the consumption of any psychoactive substance that can alter mood, consciousness, or behavior. It includes the use of alcohol, nicotine, illicit drugs, as well as the use of prescription medications for non-medical purposes.	
Violence and Injury Prevention Fall-related Injuries Assault-related Injuries	 Violence and Unintentional Injuries are a significant cause of death and burden of disease, and some people are more vulnerable than others depending on the conditions in which they are born, grow, work, live and age. Fall-related injury is preventable and includes any physical harm that occurs as a direct result of a fall, ranging from minor issues like bruises or strains to severe injuries such as fractures, head trauma, or even death. Assault-related Injury is physical harm or bodily damage caused by an act of assault, which is an intentional act or threat by one person that causes another to reasonably fear imminent harmful or offensive contact 	

Significant Needs the Hospital Does Not Intend to Address

The hospital has chosen not to address the following significant health needs due to limited capacity of hospital staff, limited capacity of available hospital services, and limited resources. While the hospital will not *directly* address the needs listed below, it will indirectly support work being done in the community to address these needs through strategic grant making and investments. The hospital will also secure and maintain key partnerships with community-based organizations that are addressing the needs listed below.

- Cancer
- Maternal and Child Health
- Social Determinants of Health
- Substance Use
- Violence and Injury Prevention

2025 Implementation Strategy and Plan

This section presents strategies and program activities the hospital intends to deliver, fund or collaborate with others to address significant community health needs over the next three years, including resources for and anticipated impacts of these activities.

Planned activities are consistent with current significant needs and the hospital's mission and capabilities. The hospital may amend the plan as circumstances warrant, such as changes in community needs or resources to address them.

Creating the Implementation Strategy

The hospital is dedicated to improving community health and delivering community benefit with the engagement of





The overall approach to creating the 2025 Community Health Implementation Plan (CHIP) was collaborative and data-driven. The process began following the adoption of the 2025 Community Health Needs Assessment (CHNA). The primary objective was to clearly define how the hospital would address the identified health needs in our community over the next three years.

The process involved the following key stages.

- CHNA Needs Analysis and Focus Selection: The strategy development process began with a thorough analysis of the health needs identified in the 2025 CHNA. Input from a variety of hospital leaders and key community stakeholders was then gathered to guide our focus and further prioritize which of these identified needs the hospital would concentrate on over the next three years.
- 2. **Program Identification & Evaluation:** Once priority needs were established, specific programs and initiatives were identified and evaluated. This involved an assessment of existing hospital programs demonstrating evidence of success and impact. The Community Health team also researched evidence-based interventions relevant to the prioritized needs.
- 3. Feasibility and Impact: Each potential program was evaluated based on the hospital's capacity to meet the need (including available resources, existing hospital services, and staff capabilities), its ability to measure impact, and its alignment with internal goals to address urgent community needs. The potential for leveraging and strengthening collaborative partnerships was also considered.

4. **Strategy Formation:** The selected programs and initiatives were then integrated into a strategy and plan, outlining how the hospital will address the identified needs in an achievable and sustainable manner.

Hospital and health system participants included the CommonSpirit Health System Office, the St. Joseph's Community Health & Benefit Team, Executive Leadership Team, Care Coordination Department, and leaders from the following areas: inpatient units, the emergency department, finance, human resources, mission services, philanthropy, and hospital support services. These various hospital departments actively participated in selecting the focus areas for the CHIP. These teams and leaders also discussed existing or upcoming hospital programs and initiatives that could effectively respond to the identified community health needs. These programs form the core of the plan's response to prioritized needs.

Community perspectives were critical in developing this plan, ensuring it genuinely reflects and addresses local needs. Community input and contributions to this implementation strategy included the following.

- Community Benefit and Health Equity Committee: Engagement with this hospital committee, composed of both hospital staff and external community stakeholders, provided essential guidance and validated strategic directions.
- **Community Partner Survey:** A survey was disseminated to community partners, soliciting their perspectives on which priority areas the hospital should focus on over the next three years, directly informing our strategic focus.
- Health Improvement Partnership of Maricopa County (HIPMC): Active participation in HIPMC, an existing collaborative effort between the Maricopa County Department of Public Health (MCDPH) and other public and private entities, significantly informed our process. Through HIPMC, we participated in the creation of a county-wide CHIP, which is Maricopa County's community-driven action plan to address public health priorities. Recognizing HIPMC's extensive reach and the county-wide community input they gathered, we adopted aspects of their activities to help inform and validate our own selection of health priorities. The health priorities identified in HIPMC's CHIP (mental health, access to health care, access to healthy food, substance use, and housing / homelessness) align very closely with those selected for St. Joseph's Westgate.

The programs and initiatives described here were selected on the basis of evaluating existing programs with evidence of success/impact, researching effective interventions, our ability to measure impact, and internal goals to address urgent community needs. The programs and strategies identified that address significant needs are achievable through the hospital's capacity to meet the need, available resources, existing hospital services, and collaborative partnerships.

Community Health Core Strategies

The hospital believes that program activities to help address significant community health needs should reflect a strategic use of resources. CommonSpirit Health has established three core strategies for community health improvement activities. These strategies help to ensure that program activities overall address strategic aims while meeting locally-identified needs.

- **Core Strategy 1**: Extend the care continuum by aligning and integrating clinical and community-based interventions.
- **Core Strategy 2**: Implement and sustain evidence-informed health improvement strategies and programs.
- **Core Strategy 3**: Strengthen community capacity to achieve equitable health and well-being.

Vital Conditions and the Well-Being Portfolio

Community health initiatives at CommonSpirit Health use the Vital Conditions framework and the Well-Being Portfolio¹ to help plan and communicate about strategies and programs.

Investments of time, resources, expertise and collaboration to improve health and well-being can take different approaches. And usually, no single approach can fully improve or resolve a given need on its own.

One way to think about any approach is that it may strengthen "vital conditions" or provide "urgent services," both of which are valuable to support thriving people and communities. A set of program activities may seek to do one or both. Taken together, vital conditions and urgent services compose a well-being portfolio.

What are Vital Conditions?

These are characteristics of places and institutions that all people need all the time to be healthy and well. The vital conditions are related to social determinants or drivers of health, and they are inclusive of health care, multi-sector partnerships and the conditions of communities. They help create a community environment that supports health.

What are Urgent Services?

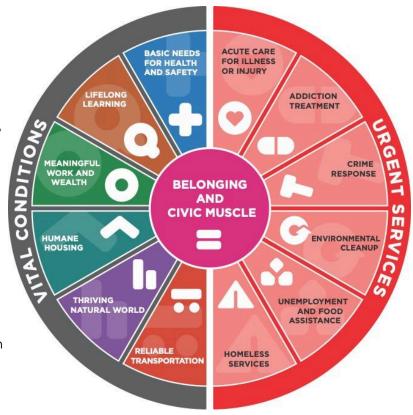
These are services that anyone under adversity may need temporarily to regain or restore health and well-being. Urgent services address the immediate needs of individuals and communities, say, during illness.

What is Belonging and Civic Muscle?

This is a sense of belonging and power to help shape the world.
Belonging is feeling part of a community and valued for what you bring. Civic muscle is the power of people in a society to work across differences for a thriving future.

Well-Being Portfolio in this Strategy and Plan

The hospital's planned strategies and program activities that follow are each identified as aligning with one of the vital conditions or urgent services in this figure.



¹ The Vital Conditions Framework and the Well-Being Portfolio were created by the Rippel Foundation, and are being used with permission. Visit https://rippel.org/vital-conditions/ to learn more.

This helps to identify the range of approaches taken to address community needs, and also acknowledges that the hospital is one community resource and stakeholder among many that are dedicated to and equipped for helping to address these needs and improve health.

Strategies and Program Activities by Health Need

Health Need:	Access to Care				
Population(s) of Focus:	Under-served groups including but not limited to those who are poverty-stricken, uninsured, underinsured, have multiple chronic conditions, have unmet health-related social needs, experience homelessness, have serious mental illness, have substance use disorder, and/or are justice-involved.				
			Stra	tegic Align	ment
Strategy or Program	Summary Description	Strategy 1: Extend care continuum	Strategy 2: Evidence- informed	Strategy 3: Community capacity	Vital Condition (VC) or Urgent Service (US)
Patient Financial Assistance	Financial Assistance Program for uninsured and underinsured patients (free or reduced-cost care).	✓	V	abla	 Basic needs for health and safety (VC) Acute care for illness or injury (US)
MOMobile	Maternity Outreach Mobile Unit provides prenatal and postpartum care for low-income, uninsured pregnant women. The Mobile clinic travels weekly to four different locations within Maricopa County to provide free care.	\ <u>\</u>	V	▽	 Basic needs for health and safety (VC) Acute Care for Illness or Injury (US)
Activate	Partnership with AllThrive 365 is designed to help transition high-risk hospital patients from hospital to home. Community case management is provided to patients with limited or no insurance. Patients are followed up to 90 days. Kindness Closet provides access to free medical equipment.	abla	V		 Basic needs for health and safety (VC) Unemployment and food assistance (US) Lifelong Learning (VC)

Health Need:	Access to Care				
Primary Care / Medical Home Partnerships	 Mission of Mercy - mobile primary care clinic St. Vincent de Paul - free clinic that serves as a temporary health care home. Provides specialty care and diabetes classes. Circle the City - medical respite center for people experiencing homelessness 			\triangleright	 Basic needs for health and safety (VC) Unemployment and food assistance (US)
Planned Resources:	The hospital will provide care navigation, community health navigators, community health improvement grants, outreach communications, and programmatic funding support for these initiatives.				
Planned Collaborators:	The hospital will partner with local community based organizations to deliver this access to care strategy. Current collaborators include AllThrive 365, Circle the City, MOMobile, Mission of Mercy, St. Vincent de Paul, St. Joseph's Foundation, and Arizona State University.				

Anticipated Impacts (overall long-term goals)	Measure	Data Source
More patient and community member enrollment in Medicaid/public coverage programs	Total coverage plan enrollments	Navigator reports
Patients will have access to quality health care services, regardless of insurance status or ability to pay for care	Total patients utilizing patient financial assistance program and connected to primary care	Patient financial assistance report and navigator reports

Health Need:	Chronic Conditions				
Population(s) of Focus:	Under-served groups including but not limited to those who are poverty-stricken, uninsured, underinsured, have multiple chronic conditions, have unmet health-related social needs, experience homelessness, have serious mental illness, have substance use disorder, and/or are justice-involved.				
_			Stra	tegic Alignn	nent
Strategy or Program	Summary Description	Strategy 1: Extend care continuum	Strategy 2: Evidence- informed	Strategy 3: Community capacity	Vital Condition (VC) or Urgent Service (US)
Diabetes Empowerment Education Program (DEEP)	Free diabetes self-management workshops offered in English and Spanish. Collaboration with community partners providing education on diabetes self-management to meet ongoing needs of individuals living with pre-diabetes and diabetes. 6-week workshop offered in community settings.	✓	✓	✓	 Basic needs for health and safety (VC) Lifelong Learning (VC) Unemployment and food assistance (US)
Chronic Disease Self-Management (CDSMP)	Free chronic disease self-management program offered in English and Spanish that provides strategies and tools to improve health and overall quality of life. 6-week workshop offered in community settings.	\searrow	abla	V	 Basic needs for health and safety (VC) Lifelong Learning (VC) Unemployment and food assistance (US)
Healthier Living Programs	Free community wellness classes that promote better health and wellbeing. Cocinando con Salud en Balance (Spanish healthy cooking series) Zumba Gentle Yoga	✓	✓	✓	 Basic needs for health and safety (VC) Lifelong Learning (VC)

Health Need:	Chronic Conditions				
Chronic Kidney Disease – Community Outreach Initiative	This program aims to address health disparities, expand chronic disease awareness, and improve chronic kidney disease (CKD) diagnosis and outcomes. This is an expansion of the initiative started by CommonSpirit Health's Office of Diversity, Equity, Inclusion, and Belonging and is supported by the CommonSpirit Health Mission & Ministry Fund.			abla	 Basic needs for health and safety (VC) Lifelong Learning (VC)
Planned Resources:	The hospital will provide free DEEP and CDSMP workshops, community health workers, community health improvement grants, outreach communications, and programmatic funding support for these initiatives.				
Planned Collaborators:	Collaboration with external partners include Keogh Health Connection (Chicanos Por La Causa), AllThrive 365, Salud en Balance, Unlimited Potential, Aeroterra Senior Living, Marc Atkinson Resource Center, St. Paul's Church, Iglesia Unidos Por Una Vision, Marcos de Niza Learning Center, Fellowship Square, Wilson Community Center, Dysart Community Center, Wesley Community & Health Center, Glendale Elementary School, Isaac School District, Tanner Community Development Corporation, Arizona Faith Network, Arizona Kidney Foundation.				

Anticipated Impacts (overall long-term goals)	Measure	Data Source
Improved overall health of community members with diabetes and other chronic conditions.	Number of participants the complete DEEP and CDSMP workshops	Workshop completion logs
Increase in knowledge and care for chronic conditions via increased education and disease prevention outreach efforts	Number of educational sessions held and total participants	Internal tracking log

Health Need:	Mental Health					
Population(s) of Focus:	Under-served groups including but not limited to those who are poverty-stricken, uninsured, underinsured, have multiple chronic conditions, have unmet health-related social needs, experience homelessness, have serious mental illness, have substance use disorder, and/or are justice-involved.					
Strategy or Program	Summary Description	Strategic Alignment				
		Strategy 1: Extend care continuum	Strategy 2: Evidence- informed	Strategy 3: Community capacity	Vital Condition (VC) or Urgent Service (US)	
Mental Health First Aid (MHFA)	Mental Health First Aid is a course that teaches you how to identify, understand and respond to signs of mental illnesses and substance use disorders. The training gives you the skills you need to reach out and provide initial help and support to someone who may be developing a mental health or substance use problem or experiencing a crisis.	abla	▽	abla	 Basic needs for health and safety (VC) Lifelong Learning (VC) 	
Anti-Stigma "Responding to Addiction" Training	Addiction is one of the most stigmatized health conditions on earth. Stigma prevents people who are struggling from reaching out for help and isolates families affected by the disease who fear being judged by their communities. Responding to Addiction is designed to reduce addiction stigma, including stereotypes, prejudice, and discrimination, and increase knowledge about addiction, as well as helping behaviors.	abla	✓	abla	 Basic needs for health and safety (VC) Lifelong Learning (VC) Addiction treatment (US) 	
Substance Use Navigator	The Substance Use Navigator (SUN) is a healthcare professional who works in the hospital to help patients with substance use	V	V	✓	Basic needs for health and safety (VC)Lifelong Learning	

Health Need:	Mental Health				
	disorders (SUD) connect with treatment and recovery services. (VC) • Addiction treatment (US)				
Planned Resources:	The hospital will provide free Mental Health First Aid classes, free Anti-stigma "Responding to Addiction" training, community health workers, community health improvement grants, outreach communications, and programmatic funding support for these initiatives.				
Planned Collaborators:	To address this health priority, the hospital will collaborate with Mercy Care, National Council for Mental Wellbeing, Addiction Policy Forum, and the St. Joseph's Foundation.				

Anticipated Impacts (overall long-term goals)	Measure	Data Source
Educate more staff and community members on how to identify, understand and respond to signs of mental illnesses and substance use disorders.	Graduates of MHFA and anti-stigma trainings	Training logs
Connect more patients with SUD to treatment and recovery services.	Connections made by SUN	SUN performance reports