

St. Joseph's and Candler Hospitals 2022 Joint Implementation Plans

St. Joseph's/Candler utilized data from Coastal GA Indicators Coalition and other community partners to identify and address complex community health needs enhances population health and provides better coordination of limited community resources.

Coastal Georgia Indicators Coalition, Inc. is a 501(C)(3) non-profit entity, comprised of community members and advocates working together through a comprehensive, coordinated approach for planning accountability. CGIC serves as a resource to agencies addressing overall health and well-being while leveraging resources for community initiatives that align with the strategic long-range plan known as the Chatham Community Blueprint. The purpose of the Coalition is to improve community well-being by engaging and leading the community work collectively in its development, implementation of strategic priorities that guide policy, programs and resource allocation.

Below is the Executive Summary of the 2022 Community Health Needs Assessment.

This overview summarizes the key findings from the analysis of all data as well as community perception survey results. A full description of the qualitative and quantitative data follows in the full report.

Community Profile At-A-Glance

Chatham County is location on the southeast coast of United States in Georgia. The total estimated population in 2021 is 291,228 people. There are an estimated 114,362 households with 72,107 families in Chatham County.

Caucasians make up the majority of the population at 51%, followed by Black/African Americans at 41%. The largest percentage of the population falls into the 25-34 year-old age group.

The median household income is \$87,337. Approximately 47% of residents are homeowners. Approximately 49% of those who rent are burdened with more than 30% of their income going to rent.

Approximately 65% of the population age 25+ has some college experience or some type of degree.

Approximately 11% of families live below the poverty level in the county.

Life and Death

Female life expectancy is 79.6 years while male life expectancy is 74.3 years.

The leading causes of death include cancer, heart disease, and stroke.

Health Issues

High blood pressure, arthritis and diabetes are among the top chronic diseases in the county.

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More than 50% of the population received routine dental care in the past year and more than 75% reported having routine medical checkup.

Breast and lung/bronchial cancers lead the number of cancer cases in the county.

Adults 18-64 have an 81% insured rate. Children 19 and under have a 95% insured rate.

Social Determinants

The term “social determinants of health” is used to describe the conditions in which a person is born, grows, lives, and works that affect their overall health. These conditions include education, workforce development, work environment, employment, and housing as well as other living and working conditions.

CONCLUSIONS

After reviewing all the data and feedback, the following indicators of health and social determinants of health are the most pressing community health needs.

Chatham County Community Health Needs

- Access to affordable health insurance
- Access to mental health services
- Access to affordable and convenient health care
- Access to affordable dental care
- Chronic disease and routine care
- Preventative Cancer Care
- Reproductive Health
- COVID-19 Education

Chatham County Social Determinants of Health

- Unemployment
- Severe housing problems
- Poverty/Income Disparities
- Exercise Programs
- Reading on grade level
- Recidivism

Increased efforts on addressing these needs should be focused on the at-risk and vulnerable populations of Chatham County. It is necessary to provide support to our local community in the form of quality services which are easily accessible to the masses. It is also necessary to provide ways to foster security in individuals and opportunities to improve quality of life. A strong support and resource system is invaluable for the health of our community.

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NEEDS IDENTIFIED WHICH ST. JOSEPH'S/CANDLER WILL ADDRESS

NEED IDENTIFIED:	Access to Health Insurance for Adults and Children and Affordable Health Care Services		
Objective:	Contribute to the decrease in the percent of uninsured in Chatham County by June 2025		
Initiative/Program/Service Population Target	Timeline	Action Steps/Responsible Party	Target Completion Date & Metrics
<p>Goal 1: Enroll eligible patients in GA Medicaid Program</p> <p>Population Target: Uninsured patients living at 200% of the Federal Poverty Level or less</p>	July 2022 – June 2025	<p>1.) Provide Medicaid application assistance to eligible clients through St. Mary's Community Center's (SMCC) Public Benefit Enrollment Services.</p> <p>2.) Assist SJ/C eligible uninsured patients with Medicaid enrollment or additional health coverage.</p> <p>Responsible Parties: Directors and/or Managers of SJ/C's SMCC and Patient Accounts</p>	Ongoing
Status Report			
Objective:	Increase access to medical providers for un and under insured patients.		
<p>Goal 2: Provide a primary medical home for eligible patients or for those who miss the Affordable Care Act (ACA) open enrollment periods, provide information on primary medical homes</p> <p>Population Target: Uninsured patients</p>	Ongoing July 2022 – June 2025	<p>1.) Increase access to health care services at St. Mary's Health Center (SMHC) and the Good Samaritan Clinic (GSC) for those who do not qualify for or who cannot afford health insurance. Increase new patient visits by at least 10% each year.</p> <p>2.) Continue Medical Home Program's patient education in the emergency departments and facilitate referrals to medical homes within the Chatham County area. Increase patient encounters by 10%.</p> <p>Responsible Parties: Director and/or Manager of SJ/C's GSC, SMHC, and Medical Home Coordinator</p>	Ongoing
Status Report:			

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NEED IDENTIFIED:	Access to Mental Health Services		
Objective:	Increase access to mental health services for the broader community and vulnerable populations.		
Initiative/Program/Service Population Target	Timeline	Action Steps/Responsible Party	Target Completion Date & Metrics
Goal 1: Increase access to mental health services by offering one on one counseling Population Target: Broader Population and uninsured patients living at 200% of the Federal Poverty Level or less	Ongoing July 2022 – June 2025	1.) Provide one on one counseling services through SJ/C's Johnny's Bridges to Hope Program. Increase access at Candler Hospital, SJ/C's SMHC and other community partners by 10% each year. Responsible: Vice President of Mission Services or designee	Ongoing <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Provide at least three days of coverage at Candler Hospital open to the broader community • Provide at least two days of coverage at one of SJ/C's free clinics
Status Report			

NEED IDENTIFIED:	Access to Exercise Opportunities		
Objective:	Provide adult exercise classes targeting populations and people with high incidences of hypertension, diabetes and/or obesity.		
Initiative/Program/Service Population Target	Timeline	Action Steps/Responsible Party	Target Completion Date & Metrics
Population Target: Program(s) will be open to the broader community with special attention on enrolling clients who have history of hypertension, diabetes, or obesity.	July 2022 – June 2025	1.) Enroll clients in exercise fitness classes at the African American Health Information Resource Center (AAHIRC). Responsible Party: Director of AAHIRC	Ongoing <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Enroll an average of 10 new members each quarter • Increase class participation contacts by at least 10% each year
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NEED IDENTIFIED:	Access to Chronic Disease/Specialty Care		
Objective:	Continue to implement preventative cancer screenings and other specialty care programs for the broad community during the 2022-2025 reporting period.		
Initiative/Program/Service Population Target	Timeline	Action Steps/Responsible Party	Target Completion Date & Metrics
<p>Goal: Continue to implement more preventative cancer and dental care programs.</p> <p>Population Target: Program(s) will be open to the broader community with special attention given to the un/underinsured.</p>	2022-2025	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1.) Continue to provide preventative care screenings at SMHC, GSC and SMCC. 2.) Monitor progress of new preventative cancer care programs such as melanoma skin screenings and genetic counseling with indigent population. 3.) Partner with community dental programs to offer free/discounted dental care to patients of GSC and SMHC Center. <p>Responsible: Vice President of Mission Services, LCRP Director, and Director of GSC/SMHC.</p>	<p>Ongoing</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Collaborate with Lewis Cancer and Research Pavilion (LCRP) Directors for information on advances in cancer diagnosis and treatment for the population served. • Monitor growth of new community dental program at GSC and SMHC to establish baseline reporting and goals.
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NEED IDENTIFIED:	People Living In Poverty – Unemployment, Poverty, Income Disparity		
Objective:	Continue to meet identified socio-economic, health, workforce and education needs of individuals living in poverty through a broad spectrum of programs by providing services at SJ/C operated community outreach facilities in 2022-2025		
Initiative/Program/Service Population Target	Timeline	Action Steps/Responsible Party	Target Completion Date & Metrics
Goal 1: Address socio-economic needs Population Target: Un/under employed clients. (Goal 2 Continued on Next Page)	Ongoing	1.) Continue to provide at least one staff person to assist clients in evaluating eligibility in public benefit programs (i.e., Medicare, Medicaid, Food Stamps, etc.). 2.) Continue to provide free income tax preparation assistance yearly. Responsible: Director and Manager of SJ/C's SMCC and Director of SJ/C's AAHIRC	1. Number of clients served by public benefit enrollment <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Number of benefits for which clients qualify
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<p>Goal 2: Address health through services and health education</p> <p>Population Target: Un/under insured patients living at 200% of the Federal Poverty Level or less</p> <p>(Goal 3 Continued on Next Page)</p>	<p>Ongoing</p>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1.) Continue to provide at least one staff person to assist clients in evaluating eligibility in public benefit programs (i.e., Medicare, Medicaid, Food Stamps, etc.). 2.) Continue to provide free income tax preparation assistance yearly. 3.) Provide health education and culturally relevant health information. 4.) Provide food assistance to the broader community. 6.) Provide free blood pressure checks and referrals as needed. 7.) Provide free blood glucose testing and referrals as needed. 8.) Participate in community health fairs offering health information and health screenings. 9.) Offer healthy cooking lessons for children 10.) Offer free exercise and weight loss classes at least once weekly. 11.) Provide Health Literacy classes at least once yearly. 12.) Provide up to date and relevant information on community resources on the HERO Help Me Database. 	<p style="text-align: center;">Ongoing</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Increase access to all services by 25% each year.
<p>Status Report:</p>			

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<p>Goal 3: Assists in the development of workforce skills</p> <p>Population Target: Un/under employed community members</p>	<p>Ongoing</p>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1.) Provide computer classes to learn computer basics including internet use and competency in relevant computer programs including Microsoft programs. 2.) Assist clients in completing on-line and paper employment applications. 3.) Provide internet surfing center. 4.) Provide resume, job application and job search assistance. 5.) Provide job fair information for relevant job fields. 6.) SEARCH Program: Host special needs adult high school students to intern at SJ/C to assist in developing skillsets that will lead to employment after graduation. <p>Responsible Parties: Director of SMCC, Director of AAHIRC, and SEARCH Program liaison</p>	<p>Ongoing</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Increase access to all programs by at least 10% each year. 2. 70% of all SJ/C Project SEARCH interns find employment after completing the internship.
<p>Status Report:</p>			

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NEEDS IDENTIFIED WHICH ST. JOSEPH'S/CANDLER WILL NOT ADDRESS DIRECTLY

St. Joseph's/Candler provides many community benefit and community building programs that address the health and social determinants of health throughout Chatham County and the surrounding communities. Chatham County is fortunate to have a large number of health and social service agencies who work individually and collectively to provide services, programs and support for the county residents. To that end, St. Joseph's/Candler will not address some of the needs identified in the 2022 assessment because: **(1) SJ/C addresses the need, but currently has no plans to expand services, (2) Other providers are already addressing the needs and (3) The need identified is beyond the scope of SJ/C.** Despite the Systems decision not to directly address the need, SJ/C will periodically re-evaluate the needs not being addressed to determine if in-kind contributions or other support can be provided to organizations addressing the need.

SJ/C will continue to participate on community organization/agency board and collaborations which are addressing the need or, if not currently participating, may seek opportunities to participate and provide general assistance as needed, such as participating in a health fair, workshop, education session or other venue sponsored by a group addressing the need.

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NEED IDENTIFIED	REASON THE NEED IS NOT ADDRESSED	OTHER ORGANIZATIONS OR PROVIDER(S) ADDRESSING THE NEED
Reading on Grade Level	Need addressed by another provider; beyond scope of SJ/C. Reading on grade level in Chatham County is specific to evaluations of 4 th grade and 8 th grade students.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Savannah/Chatham County Public School System (SCCPSS)
Reduce Recidivism Rate	Need addressed by other provider; beyond scope of SJ/C	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Savannah Police Department • City and County Government • District Attorney's Office (Juvenile Court) • SCCPSS Social Workers
Affordable Housing Shortage	Need addressed by other provider; beyond scope of SJ/C	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Savannah Homeless Authority • Housing Authority of Savannah • Economic Opportunity Authority
Reproductive Health	Need addressed by other community providers.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Chatham County Health Department • Memorial Health • SCCPSS
COVID-19 Education	Need addressed by local, state, and federal providers. The pandemic is an event that has an unpredictable duration. SJ/C looks to federal and local guidelines to ensure best practices for staff and patients.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Center for Disease Control (CDC) • Georgia Department of Public Health <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Coastal Health District • Department of Health and Human Services • Georgia Hospital Association • American Health Association • Licensed Infection Control Providers

SJ/C continues to partner with organizations and groups to collectively move the Chatham County community toward better health and living. It cannot be stressed enough that no single organization or group can address all the needs in the community. SJ/C believes that by working with others, leveraging resources and increasing access to programs and services, the community will be a better place to work, live and play.

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KEY COLLABORATIVES IN CHATHAM COUNTY

United Way of the Coastal Empire

www.uwce.org

The mission of United Way of the Coastal Empire (UWCE) is to improve lives by mobilizing the caring power of communities. Through partnerships, long-term planning and wise investment of donor contributions, United Way supports community programs and services within four impact areas.

Four Impact Areas

- Education & Youth Development
- Economic Independence
- Health & Wellness
- Basic Human Needs

Savannah-Chatham Community Indicators Coalition

<http://www.uwce.org/our-work/community-indicators/>

Over the past few years there has been a growing awareness of the need to integrate community indicators and performance measurement efforts at the community level. The intention is to better assess the position and progress of communities' quality of life and to better engage the communities' citizens and stakeholders. The sponsors of the Savannah-Chatham Community Indicators Coalition have a shared responsibility for assessment, planning, evaluation, and accountability for policy change and systems change over time.

Chatham County Safety Net Planning Council (CCSNPC)

www.chathamsafetynet.org

The CCSNPC serves as a countywide planning group for healthcare. It was created in 2004 to improve the efficiency and effectiveness of the local healthcare delivery system, to advise regarding healthcare trends, and to assist the County Commissioners in better meeting the healthcare needs of uninsured and underinsured constituents. Since 2006, the Council has provided an annual evaluation to assess needs and trends and to identify key existing resources and gaps in the Community's healthcare delivery system. This evaluation is based on voluntary submission of data from the provider partners and publicly available data on population and policies affecting healthcare.

The CCSNPC Provider Network is composed of both primary care providers and other agencies which support the delivery of healthcare.

Key CCSNPC Health Care Providers

- Chatham C.A.R.E. Center – Chatham County Health Department Ryan White Clinic
- Curtis V. Cooper Primary Healthcare (CVCPHC) – Federally Qualified Health Center
- J.C. Lewis Primary Healthcare Center (JCLPHCC) – Federally Qualified Health Center

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- MedBank Foundation – Prescription Assistance Program
- SJ/C Good Samaritan (GS)
- SJ/C St. Mary's Health Center (SM)
- St. Joseph's/Candler Health System

Healthy Savannah, Inc.

www.healthysavannah.org

Healthy Savannah is dedicated to making Savannah a healthier place to live. Healthy Savannah leads and supports healthy lifestyles in Savannah by:

- Creating an environment that makes a healthy choice an easy choice,
- Building a collaborative network that identifies and shares resources,
- Collecting and disseminating information,
- Promoting best practices and implementing innovative programs, and
- Advocating for effective policies.

Step-Up Savannah, Inc.

www.stepupsavannah.org

Step Up Savannah, Inc., a collaborative of organizations, businesses, and government agencies, seeks to move families toward economic self-sufficiency.

Three Focus Areas

- Workforce development and jobs
- Wealth building and financial understanding
- Work supports

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OTHER HEALTH PROVIDERS

Chatham County Health Department

Health care services and wellness programs for Adults, Children, and Women's Health are available through the Georgia Department of Public Health. Services include immunizations, eye, ear and dental screenings, tuberculosis skin testing, family planning, sexually transmitted disease services, HIV testing and counseling, child health check and sports physical, the Children First program, breast feeding support, lead program, WIC, Babies Born Healthy, and a breast and cervical cancer program.

Curtis V. Cooper Primary Health Care

Curtis V. Cooper Primary Health Care provides discounted services for qualifying patients. Services include adult medicine, pediatric health care, health education, gynecological clinic (by referral), Medicaid screening, prenatal (pregnancy) services, family planning services (birth control, etc.), pharmacy services, dental services, nutrition services, laboratory services, radiology services.

Dental Care Treatment Sites

There are several dental care treatment sites in Chatham County serving uninsured clients. To find out more information about dental sites, please visit: <https://www.herohelpme.com/MatchList.aspx?c;;0;;N;0;9758;All%20Services;Dental%20Services;28>

J.C. Lewis Primary Health Care Center

The J.C. Lewis Primary Health Care Center provides primary health care, physician services, medication assistance, medical case management, health promotion and disease prevention, optometry, podiatry, shelter & housing referrals, economic education & referral, nutritional education and planning, dietary supplementation, prisoner re-entry program, 24-hour respite care, and behavioral health counseling.

Prescription Assistance

You can get prescription assistance from the City of Savannah, PharmaCare, Medicare Prescription Drug Plan, Benefitscheckup, NeedyMeds, MedBank, your doctor, or by purchasing generic medications. For more information on prescription assistance, please visit: <https://herohelpme.com/MatchList.aspx?k;;0;;N;0;0;Prescription%20Assistance;Prescription%20Assistance>

This information is provided with permission by the Chatham County Safety Net Planning Council.

OTHER SOCIAL SERVICES

There are many other social service agencies serving Chatham County too. The HERO Help Me Database assists residents in identifying available programs throughout the county. For a complete listing of the programs and services available in the HERO Help Me database, please visit: <https://www.herohelpme.com/>