



Marshfield Clinic  
Health System



2022-2024 Community Health Implementation Strategy  
Marshfield Medical Center-Ladysmith

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# **Executive Summary**

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## **Health System Overview**

Marshfield Clinic was founded in 1916 by six physicians practicing in Marshfield, a rural central Wisconsin city. At its inception, Clinic founders saw research and education as critical to their practice of health care and that remains so today.

The Clinic became a 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization in 1992 and in 2014, Marshfield Clinic Health System, Inc., was formed. The Health System's mission is to enrich lives and create healthy communities through accessible, affordable, compassionate health care.

The Health System today is an integrated system serving Wisconsin and beyond, with more than 12,000 employees including over 1,400 providers comprising 90 specialties and subspecialties. Its entities provide service and health care to more than two million residents through over 60 locations and ten hospitals in communities across northern, central and western Wisconsin.

MCHS primary operations include: Marshfield Clinic; Marshfield Medical Center hospitals in Marshfield, Eau Claire, Beaver Dam, Ladysmith, Minocqua, Neillsville, Rice Lake, Weston, Park Falls, and Marshfield Children's Hospital; Marshfield Clinic Research Institute, Security Health Plan, Division of Education and Marshfield Clinic Health System Foundation.

The Clinic operates several dental clinics in northern, central and western Wisconsin, providing general family dentistry and dental hygiene services to more than 60,000 unique patients per year. These centers were launched through a collaboration including Marshfield Clinic, Family Health Center of Marshfield, Inc., and federal and state agencies, to address the need for dental care in underserved areas. The centers serve all patients regardless of ability to pay or insurance status - uninsured/underinsured, private pay and commercial insurance.

## **Hospital Overview**

Marshfield Medical Center-Ladysmith (MMC-L) a 25-bed full-service hospital in Ladysmith, Wisconsin. MMC-L is the only hospital within a 45-mile radius and offers a variety of medical services to care for Rusk County residents and the surrounding communities.

MMC-L, offers a wide range of advanced care services including:

- Emergency department and urgent care
- Comprehensive surgical services
- Cardiac rehabilitation
- Physical, occupational and speech therapy
- Digital imaging, lab and pharmacy
- Swing bed-transitional care
- OB/GYN, Cardiology, oncology, orthopedics, and more

## **Implementation Strategy Overview**

This Implementation Strategy is specific to Marshfield Medical Center-Ladysmith (MMC-Ladysmith) and addresses the community health priorities identified through a collaborative Community Health Needs Assessment (CHNA) process. This document outlines the plans for MMC-Ladysmith support specific community improvement efforts as part of a larger community-wide plan.

This plan was reviewed and approved by the authorized governing body, MCHS Hospitals Board, Inc. on December 13, 2021, which is on or before the 15th day of the fifth month after the end of the taxable year the CHNA was completed. Evaluation of the previous Implementation Strategy can be found in the MMC-Ladysmith Community Health Needs Assessment (CHNA) report.

## **Community Health Needs Assessment Overview**

The MMC-Ladysmith CHNA written report includes the process used to conduct the assessment and establish the community health priorities, and describes:

- The community served by the hospital and how it was determined
- Community demographics
- The process and methods used to conduct the assessment including data and other information used, methods of collection and analyzing information, cited external source material
- How the hospital accounted input from persons that represent the broad interests of the community
- How data was collected and what types of data were used in the assessment process
- Health priorities and concerns of all population groups including the medically underserved, low-income, and minority groups
- The identified health priorities of both the community and hospital, including the process and criteria used to identify and prioritize identified needs
- Existing resources in the community available to respond to identified priorities

## **Accessing the Full Report**

The written report was presented to the MCHS Hospitals Board, Inc. for discussion and was approved on December 13, 2021. The full CHNA report, which details the entire assessment and prioritization process, can be found on

<https://marshfieldclinic.org/about-us/community-health-needs-assessment-reports>.

## Prioritization Process

After completing an extensive analysis of quantitative and qualitative data, the National Association of County and City Health Officials (NACCHO) Prioritization Matrix was used by the committee to determine the health improvement priorities and included questions to answer the following:

- How is the county doing compared to the state and national goals?
- What health priorities have the largest community impact?
- What health priorities have the most serious impact?
- Is the community ready to change?
- Can these health priorities be changed over a reasonable period of time?
- Are there gaps in county efforts to address the health priority?
- Did the community and county data identify this as a health priority?

## Health Priorities

After review of the data and stakeholder input, the top community health priorities identified by Marshfield Medical Center in Ladysmith are:

- Alcohol and Substance Abuse
- Behavioral Health
- Chronic Disease
- Social Determinants of Health

Due to the interconnected nature of these health priorities, a number of health priorities as shown in *Table A* were combined. However, MMC-Ladysmith will continue to support additional community health needs as they arise.

<b>Table A. Health Priority Crosswalk</b>	
<b>Rusk County Community Health Needs Assessment Survey Results</b>	<b>MMC-Ladysmith CHNA</b>
Alcohol Misuse	Alcohol and Substance Abuse
Substance Abuse	
Mental Health	Behavioral Health
Healthy Growth and Development	
Obesity	Chronic Disease
Physical Activity	
Healthy Nutrition	
Tobacco Use & Exposure	
Chronic Disease	Social Determinants of Health

### **\*Social Determinants of Health**

MCHS is committed to improving the overall health and well-being of the communities we serve by strategically focusing on health equity. According to the

World Health Organization, health equity implies that everyone should have a fair opportunity to attain their full health potential and that no one should be disadvantaged from achieving this potential. Therefore, the MMC-Ladysmith will focus on improving health equity in our communities by implementing strategies that systematically focus on the social determinants of health and subsequently reduce health disparities.

## **Identified Health Needs Not Being Addressed**

Through the assessment process, other community health priorities were identified that will not be addressed in this plan. The following was considered while prioritizing community health needs; other organizations addressing the specific need, the ability of MMC-Ladysmith to impact change, availability of resources, as well as readiness of the community for interventions.

The following health priorities will not be addressed by MMC-Ladysmith for reasons indicated:

- **Injury & Violence Prevention:** injury and violence prevention are important areas of focus. Instead of leading this charge, MMC-L staff participate in a coalition supporting this area called the Rusk County Youth Council (RCYC). This area is also served by Embrace Inc. located in Rusk County.
- **Communicable Disease Prevention & Control:** This is an important area of focus, MMC-L has systems and processes in place to prevent and reduce the spread of communicable diseases in hospitals and clinics. Instead of leading this charge community wide, staff participate in the numerous COVID-19 workgroups in Rusk County and surrounding communities.
- **Oral Health:** Marshfield Clinic Ladysmith Dental Center addresses the community need for oral health by serving patients regardless of ability to pay or insurance status. While MCHS addresses oral health it is not listed as one of the top health priorities.

## **Implementation Strategy**

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The Implementation Strategy is a part of a community effort to address identified health priorities. Many strategies will be implemented collaboratively with community and Marshfield Clinic Health System partners. Community change is a long-term process that no one organization can accomplish alone, therefore partnerships are essential for success.

## Health Priority: Alcohol and Substance Abuse

<b>Goal 1: Reduce youth substance use</b>				
Strategy	Key Actions	Anticipated Outcomes	Resources	Partnerships
Support Alcohol and Other Drug (AOD) Prevention Curriculums in school and/or afterschool settings.	Identify evidence based curriculum	Reduction of underage alcohol consumption	Staff time Program materials	Rusk County Public Health Schools
	Implement an AODA prevention curriculum	Reduction of substance abuse	Funding as appropriate	Community Based Organizations
	Evaluate implemented curriculum			
<b>Goal 2: Reduce community impact related to substance abuse and misuse</b>				
Strategy	Key Actions	Anticipated Outcomes	Resources	Partnerships
Support community led recovery efforts to reduce substance use.	Implement Recovery Oriented Systems of Care (ROSC)	Produce a recovery resource guide Reduction in substance use disorders	Staff time Funding as appropriate	AmeriCorps Rusk County Public Health Rusk County Recovery Task Force
	Implement Community for Addiction Recovery (CARR) model through Recovery Corps			Community Based Organizations
<b>Goal 3: Engage in community efforts related to alcohol and substance use prevention efforts</b>				
Strategy	Key Actions	Anticipated Outcomes	Resources	Partnerships
Participate in community based workgroups	Actively attend and participate in meetings	Increased collaboration across sectors to advance prevention efforts around alcohol misuse and drug use	Staff time Funding as appropriate	Rusk County Alcohol Subcommittee Rusk County Substance Subcommittee
	Promote and participate in events and initiatives			Rusk County Youth

		Increased community awareness related to alcohol and substance use prevention		Coalition (RCYC) Rusk County Public Health
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## Health Priority: Behavioral Health

<b>Goal 1: Decrease suicides rates for high risk populations</b>				
Strategy	Key Actions	Anticipated Outcomes	Resources	Partnerships
Enhance community member's skills to support mental health promotion and suicide prevention.	Identify curriculum/training Identify individuals to be trained Implement curriculum/training Evaluate implemented curriculum/training	Decreased suicide rates Increased capacity to support suicide prevention efforts	Staff time Program materials Funding as appropriate	Rusk County Health Department Mental Health Coalition Schools Community based organizations
Support suicide prevention community awareness events	Seek out partner organizations Plan event Create and disseminate materials Evaluate event	Increased community awareness of the burden of suicide	Staff time Program materials Funding as appropriate	Rusk County Mental Health Subcommittee Rusk County Public Health Community Based Organizations
<b>Goal 2: Improve social and emotional development of children and adolescents (YRBS)</b>				
Strategy	Key Actions	Anticipated Outcomes	Resources	Partnerships
Enhance school capacity to provide high quality social, emotional assesment, support, and learning.	Seek out partner organizations Develop materials Educate community groups or organizations	Improved social and emotional development of children and adolescents	Staff time Program materials Funding as appropriate	Local Schools



<b>Goal 3: Engage in community efforts related to supporting behavioral health efforts</b>				
Strategy	Key Actions	Anticipated Outcomes	Resources	Partnerships
Participate in community based workgroups	Actively attend and participate in meetings  Promote and participate in events and initiatives	Increased collaboration across sectors to advance community support  Increased community awareness related to behavioral health	Staff time  Funding as appropriate	Price County AODA/Mental Health Coalition  Price County Schools  Price County Public Health

## Health Priority: Chronic Disease

<b>Goal 1: Improve access to healthy foods</b>				
Strategy	Key Actions	Anticipated Outcomes	Resources	Partnerships
Increase community capacity to provide nutritious, locally grown food and address food insecurity.	Identify community partnerships  Maintain garden/unit  Distribute produce	Improved access to healthy foods	Staff time  Funding as appropriate	Fork Farms  Community based organizations
<b>Goal 2: Engage in community efforts related to chronic disease prevention efforts</b>				
Strategy	Key Actions	Anticipated Outcomes	Resources	Partnerships
Participate in community based workgroups	Actively attend and participate in meetings  Promote and participate in events and initiatives	Increased collaboration across sectors to decrease chronic diseases  Increased community awareness related to chronic disease prevention	Staff time  Program materials  Funding as appropriate	Thrive Barron County Chronic Disease Prevention  Rusk County Public Health  Community Based Organizations

## Health Priority: Social Determinants of Health

<b>Goal 1: Increase knowledge and awareness of health equity</b>				
Strategy	Key Actions	Anticipated Outcomes	Resources	Partnerships
Conduct an organizational (internal) and community assessment (external) assessment of health disparities and health equity and develop a workplan to address those gaps.	Identify assessment tool	Increased awareness and understanding of health equity	Staff time Funding as appropriate	Community based organizations
	Assess results			
	Develop a work plan	Improved access to resources		
<b>Goal 2: Improve health outcomes by connecting clinical practice to community efforts to address Social Determinants of Health barriers</b>				
Strategy	Key Actions	Anticipated Outcomes	Resources	Partnerships
Support and connect patients and community members to resources to address socially determined needs.	Develop platform	Increased awareness of resources	Staff time Funding as appropriate	Community based organizations
	Educate and engage community members	Improved access to resources	NOWPOW platform	Rusk County Health Department
<b>Goal 3: Engage in community efforts related to advancing health equity and Social Determinants of Health</b>				
Strategy	Key Actions	Anticipated Outcomes	Resources	Partnerships
Participate in community based workgroups	Actively attend and participate in meetings	Increased collaboration across sectors to advance community support	Staff time Program materials	Community Based Organizations
	Promote and participate in events and initiatives	Increased community awareness related to SDOH and Health Equity	Funding as appropriate	Rusk County Public Health

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## Next Steps

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This implementation strategy outlines a three-year community health improvement process. Each year within this timeframe, MMC-Ladysmith will:

- Create an annual work plan with specific action steps for that year
- Set and track annual performance indicators for each strategy, evaluate for effectiveness and areas of improvement.
- Track progress
- Report progress toward the performance indicators to the hospital board
- Share actions taken to address the needs with the community at large

## Approval and Community Input

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This Implementation Strategy Report was adopted by the MCHS Hospitals Board, Inc. on December 13, 2021.

If you would like to serve on a coalition that helps meet the aims of this report, or have a comment on this assessment, please contact the Marshfield Clinic Health System Center for Community Health Advancement at [communityhealth@marshfieldclinic.org](mailto:communityhealth@marshfieldclinic.org) or (715) 221-8400.

## References

- Marshfield Clinic Health System. (2021, September). *Marshfield Medical Center-Ladysmith Community Health Needs Assessment Reports*. Retrieved from <https://www.marshfieldclinic.org/locations/ladysmith-marshfield-medical-center/community-health-needs>
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