

ADVOCATE SHERMAN HOSPITAL 2021 COMMUNITY HEALTH IMPROVEMENT PLAN

A PROGRESS REPORT ON OUR 2020-2022 IMPLEMENTATION PLANS

Every three years, Advocate Sherman Hospital (Advocate Sherman) completes a Community Health Needs Assessment (CHNA) by collecting and analyzing demographic and health data, as well as gathering input from community residents through a community health survey.

For the 2017-2019 CHNA, Advocate Sherman worked with the Community Health Council (CHC) to review the significant health issues impacting the primary service area (PSA). In addition, Advocate Sherman works in alignment with the Kane County Health Department and McHenry County Health Department.

In 2021, due to the ongoing COVID pandemic, the Community Health Department across Advocate Aurora Health (AAH) continued to respond to the immediate needs of the community. Advocate Aurora Health enhanced preventive services to combat the COVID-19 pandemic by continuing to share health education, Personal Protective Equipment (PPE) and COVID-19 community vaccinations. Some community health initiatives did continue to operate to address critical needs such as food security.

Priority: Obesity

Program Outcomes for 2021



Partners Involved: Advocate Sherman Diabetes Center, Mobile Integrated Health Program, Community Garden Master Gardeners, Gail Borden Public Library, Elgin Community College, YWCA of Elgin

- The Advocate Sherman onsite community garden yielded a bountiful harvest in the 2021 growing season. The hospital donated 640 pounds of fresh produce for students who are food insecure and accessing the Elgin Community College Student Food Pantry and the YWCA of Elgin.
- Advocate Sherman provides food insecurity screening and referrals to food resources for all patients enrolled in the Mobile Integrated Healthcare (MIH) program. The program screened 24 patients for food insecurity, but no MIH patients were identified as being food insecure.
- Due to the need to care for COVID-19 patients, food insecurity screening in all other Advocate Sherman departments were placed on pause in 2021. Additionally, due to the pandemic, the Diabetes Self-Management Program (DSMP) did not hold any sessions in 2021.
- The COVID-19 Food Resource Guide was updated and published to the community again in 2021 to reflect the current food access points in the service area, including food pantries, soup kitchens, mobile pantries and Meals on Wheels programs. The guide was distributed within the hospital's wide community partner network.

Priority: Behavioral Health

Program Outcomes for 2021



Partners Involved: Gateway Foundation, Advocate Sherman Emergency Department, Ecker Center, Kane County Opioid Task Force, Coalition for a Safe and Healthy Elgin

- The Warm Handoff Program is a partnership with Gateway Foundation where an engagement specialist meets in the Emergency Department with a patient who has come in for substance use-related health issues, providing screening and linkage of the patient into treatment. Additionally, a recovery coach on the Gateway Foundation team provides community support to patients as they transition into treatment. For 2021, Gateway Foundation completed 288 patient encounters and 103 patients (45%) were placed in treatment.
- Advocate Sherman serves on the Kane County Opioid Task Force. This group has focused on addressing the growing mental health and substance use issues during the pandemic and increasing awareness of resources available in the community. Advocate Sherman is also an active member of the Coalition for a Safe and Healthy Elgin (CSHE) which is funded through a Drug Free communities grant. This coalition focuses on substance use prevention and education among youth in the Elgin area.
- Advocate Sherman participated in National Drug Take Back day collecting 232 pounds of pills and 141 pounds of other drugs, including liquids, patches and syringes.

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Accomplishments in 2021

Mobile Integrated Healthcare Program (MIH)

- The Mobile Integrated Health (MIH) community paramedicine program provides home visits by a licensed paramedic to patients with chronic health conditions in order to improve health outcomes.
- In 2021, there were 97 patients enrolled in the program and 68 patients were seen for 229 visits. Of the 97 patients enrolled, only 14 percent of patients were readmitted to the hospital within 30 days.
- Enrolled patients had the following health conditions: 64 with Heart Failure; 15 with Chronic Obstructive Pulmonary Disease; four with Diabetes; one patient with Asthma; nine with Post-Myocardial Infarction and four with Pneumonia.



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Accomplishments in 2021

COVID-19 Prevention & Mitigation

American Red Cross Blood Drives

- According to the American Red Cross, the US is experiencing the worst blood crisis in over a decade.
- In 2021, Advocate Sherman hosted monthly blood drives at the hospital to help address the critical blood shortage.
- A total of 650 donors provided 624 units of blood which equates to approximately 1,872 lives saved; 110 individuals were first time donors.



COVID-19 Vaccination Clinics

- During 2021, Advocate Sherman hosted onsite COVID-19 vaccination clinics, providing initial shots and boosters to staff and community members.
- A total of 45,630 COVID-19 vaccines were provided at Advocate Sherman. The COVID-19 vaccination clinic transitioned to the Advocate Sherman Royal Boulevard/Fletcher facility in August 2021.



Community Health Worker Program

The Community Health Worker (CHW) addresses health disparities in the community, assists with health care navigation by linking patients to a primary care home and works with patients to reduce improper use of the emergency department (ED).

In 2021, the CHW engaged with 157 patients, made 252 referrals, including 107 referrals to physicians, 14 referrals to Advocate Medical group clinics and 60 referrals to federally qualified health centers. The top needs of patients seen were women's health—obstetric and gynecological care, behavioral health and Ear-Nose-Throat or orthopedic specialty care.

In response to the COVID-19 pandemic, in early 2021, the CHW was redeployed to assist with hospital programs such as the COVID-19 vaccination clinics and other departmental support. The CHW returned to the ED full-time in June 2021.

Stories from the Community

A patient was referred to VNA Health Care, a federally qualified health center, after a visit to the Advocate Sherman emergency room. The staff at VNA determined that most of the follow-up care the patient needed would need to be scheduled at Advocate Sherman. To make the process easier for the patient, the Advocate Sherman Community Health Worker (CHW) coordinated with staff at VNA Health Care to schedule all follow up appointments for the patient. Additionally, language service interpretation was secured for the patient, who is Spanish speaking. This included wound care visits, online education classes and Primary Care Physician follow-up appointments. The patient completed all appointments and is doing well, due to the patient-centered collaboration between the CHW and VNA Health Care.

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ADVOCATE SHERMAN HOSPITAL IMPLEMENTATION PLAN UPDATES

A FORECAST INTO OUR 2022 PROGRAM PLANS

AAH hospitals reserve the right to redirect resources to address emerging public health threats even if doing so slows the ability to implement plans for addressing key priorities selected through the CHNA process. The AAH community health team will remain focused on community education, prevention and promoting COVID-19 vaccinations, as well as continuing to address other key issues exacerbated by the pandemic, such as food insecurity, housing and need for connecting people to vital resources in the community. In 2022, AAH hospitals plan to reactivate community health improvement implementation plan activities whenever and wherever possible.

Community Health Initiatives

Year: 2022

In 2022, Advocate Sherman will continue community health initiatives to address diabetes, obesity and substance use. New instructors will be recruited for the Diabetes Self-Management Program (DSMP) to provide the sessions in both Spanish and English, focusing on Hispanic and African American populations in the service area who are diagnosed with diabetes. The program will align closely with the Advocate Sherman's Diabetes Center to provide continuity from hospital-based counseling to diabetes self-management education and support for both patients and community residents.

Food insecurity screenings will continue to be implemented with all patients enrolled in the Mobile Integrated Health program as well as those patients seen in the Diabetes Center. Community health staff will also explore opportunities for additional internal hospital departments to implement food insecurity screening. The on-site Advocate Sherman community garden will remain active and fresh produce will be donated to community partners to assist local residents who are food insecure.

Community education initiatives focused on youth substance use will be coordinated with the Coalition for a Safe and Healthy Elgin and the Kane County Opioid Task Force. The focus will be on preventing young adults from using e-cigarettes, marijuana and alcohol. Activities focusing on youth substance use prevention will also be coordinated throughout the AAH North region Illinois Primary Service Area, where possible. The partnership with Gateway Foundation will continue in 2022 for the Warm Handoff program in the Advocate Sherman ED, linking patients to community-based substance use treatment. The Community Health Worker initiative will also continue in 2022 at Advocate Sherman.

COVID-19 in the Community

Year: 2022

Advocate Aurora will continue to work closely with community partners and the Kane County Health Department to educate on COVID-19 prevention and promote access to COVID-19 vaccinations, particularly focusing on the most vulnerable communities within the service area.

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