

Jennings Hospital

Introduction

Jennings American Legion Hospital (the Hospital) is a not for profit acute care hospital located at 1634 Elton Road, just south of I- 10 exit 64, in Jennings, Louisiana. It is the only acute care hospital in Jefferson Davis Parish, serving the people of Jennings and the surrounding communities since 1960. The Hospital is licensed for 60 beds, and provides a wide range of services, including a 24-hour emergency department. Jennings American Legion Hospital is proud to provide excellent patient care, up-to-date technology and a friendly, pleasant atmosphere.

Identifying Health Needs

The Hospital engaged BKD, LLP to assist in conducting a formal community health needs assessment. The community health needs assessment was conducted from March 2013 through November 2013. Community input was provided through key informant interviews, focus groups, and a community health input questionnaire. In addition, population demographics and socioeconomic characteristics of the community were compiled by various third parties, as well as national, state and local sources of information on disease prevalence, health indicators, health equity and mortality.

Information gathered in the above steps was analyzed and reviewed to identify health issues of uninsured persons, low-income persons and the community as a whole. Health needs were ranked utilizing a process that considers the numbers of persons affected, the seriousness of the issue, whether the health need particularly affected persons living in poverty or members of an underserved population, and the availability of community resources to address the need.

Subsequently, Jennings American Legion Hospital's leadership entered into a dialogue to discuss the results of the analysis and select health priorities. Participants were given the opportunity to revise their rankings; these individual rankings were summed to produce a composite ranking of health issues.

As a result, the following priority focus areas were identified:

1. Heart disease and stroke
2. Uninsured adults
3. Drug abuse
4. Access to care

PRIORITY: Heart Disease and Stroke

Goal 1: Enhance community education about prevention, detection and managing heart disease and stroke.

Strategies:

- A. Promote and participate in health related activities, including cholesterol and blood glucose screenings.
- B. Coordinate seminars and support/education to the community on heart disease and stroke prevention, detection and management.
- C. Provide education to area 5th graders on prevention of co-morbid conditions, such as diabetes.

Goal 2: Decrease population risk factors through support of healthier lifestyles

Strategies:

- A. Promote programs that support healthier eating, increased physical activity, tobacco-free lifestyle, and moderate alcohol use.
- B. Identify and partner with organizations that provide services and healthy lifestyle support to the underserved, low-income and diverse groups.
- C. Provide healthier meal choices for staff and visitors at Jennings American Legion Hospital.

PRIORITY: Uninsured Adults

Goal 1: Enhance community education about available local, state, and federal resources.

Strategies:

- A. Work with local schools in providing education to school-age children regarding available programs.
- B. Partner with local agencies, such as Health Unit, CADA, Library groups, City and Parish Councils, School Boards and City Halls in providing written materials for distribution among the community and in providing members of a team comprised of hospital staff members, physicians and board members to attend meetings of the agencies to reach residents of the outlying communities.
- C. Provide education to the communities via use of the media, (print, television and radio) and by utilizing social networking (facebook, myspace, twitter).

Goal 2: Increase number of covered individuals in the community

Strategies:

- A. Assist in qualifying process for government programs, including Medicaid and the Marketplace, by providing printed information and access to knowledgeable individuals.

PRIORITY: Drug Abuse

Goal 1: Increase community awareness of prescription drug abuse

Strategies:

- A. Identify resources available and compile a hand-out for distribution among the community.
- B. Educate community on resources available to the medical staff in helping prevent prescription drug abuse.

Goal 2: Decrease the incidence of prescription drug abuse

Strategies:

- A. Encourage more physicians to participate in the use of the national prescription drug database.
- B. Create a sub-committee of the Medical Use Team comprised of hospital leaders, physicians, and community partners to address prescription drug abuse.

PRIORITY: Access to Care

Goal 1: Enhance education and outreach, to ensure at risk patients are able to access resources necessary for health maintenance.

Strategies:

- A. Identify resources available and provide the community with a compilation of this information.
- B. Provide follow-up support to at-risk patients via phone calls and communications from appropriate healthcare providers.
- C. Partner with community organizations to evaluate transportation needs and resources.

Goal 2: Increase access to diverse local medical services.

Strategies:

- A. Provide local cardiac services.
- B. Maintain appropriate number and type of medical providers by recruiting physicians in the needed specialty areas.

Needs Not Addressed

Some issues that were identified through the community health needs assessment are not addressed in this plan. During the initial discussion and subsequent prioritization, Jennings American Legion Hospital's Needs Assessment Team reviewed the levels to which some needs are currently being addressed in the Hospital's service area.

The following outlines how some of the identified needs are being addressed by others or in different ways:

<i>Community Need</i>	<i>How Need is Addressed</i>
Excessive Drinking	This need is currently being addressed by DARE, MADD, and additional local programs.
Mental Health Services	Jennings American Legion Hospital does not have the infrastructure for providing mental health services. This need is currently being addressed by various community providers.
Violent Crime	While Jennings American Legion Hospital cares for victims of violent crime, we do not have resources available to address this need. Community law enforcement providers are currently addressing this community need.

Next Steps

The development of implementation strategies for each priority identified through the assessment process has been initiated by Jennings American Legion Hospital's Community Needs Assessment Team. This Implementation Plan will be rolled out over the next three years, from FY2014 through the end of FY2016. The Team, along with community partners and health experts, will work on the following to address the identified priority health needs:

- Develop work plans that support effective implementation
- Create mechanisms to monitor and measure outcomes
- Develop a report card to provide ongoing status and results of these community health improvement efforts

Jennings American Legion Hospital is committed to conducting another health needs assessment within the next three years.

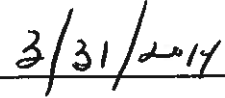
Adoption/Approval

Jennings American Legion Hospital's Board of Directors approves the Implementation Strategy that has been developed to address the priorities of the recent Community Health Needs Assessment.

Jennings American Legion Hospital will utilize this Implementation Strategy as a roadmap to collaborate with their community to address the priorities, particularly for the most vulnerable.



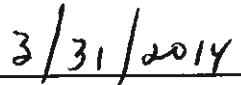
Chair, Jennings American Legion Hospital Board of Directors



Date



Chief Executive Officer, Jennings American Legion Hospital



Date