



# **Decatur County**

## **Community Health Needs Assessment**

### **Implementation Strategy**

This report was prepared by Decatur County Memorial Hospital



Decatur County  
Memorial Hospital  
The Quality Care You Want. Close By.

Dear Community Members,

We are excited to share Decatur County's 2022-2024 Community Health Needs Assessment (CHNA) Implementation Strategy with you. This document reflects the insights gathered from Decatur County Memorial Hospital's (DCMH) Community Health Needs Assessment (CHNA) and numerous community committee discussions.

Through this process, we identified critical health needs in Decatur County, including access to broadband and internet services, cancer care, child care, and insurance enrollment. In addition, four key priorities from the previous CHNA—diabetes education, mental health, substance abuse, and physical activity & nutrition/weight management—remain central to our focus.

Our implementation goals and strategies aim to address these needs by forging partnerships with local organizations and leaders who play a vital role in shaping the health environment in Decatur County. We are deeply grateful for the many organizations that contributed their feedback and actively participated in this process.

We look forward to seeing these strategies strengthen collaborations across the community and positively impact health behaviors at both individual and organizational levels.

Rex McKinney, FACHE  
CEO/President

Liz McCoy  
Manager, Marketing and Communications

# CHNA Development and Implementation Strategy



Decatur County Memorial Hospital (DCMH) partnered with the Indiana Rural Health Association (IRHA) to conduct a Community Health Needs Assessment (CHNA) in 2022. The community served by DCMH was identified based on patient zip codes, defining the area as all postal codes within Decatur County. Data for the assessment was collected from various sources, including the U.S. Census Bureau, the Robert Wood Johnson Foundation’s Community Health Rankings, and the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention.

A focus group, organized with the help of DCMH’s Marketing & Communications Manager, included business owners, local officials, healthcare providers, and other community representatives. This group discussed the health needs of the community, identifying key areas of concern. To further understand the community’s health, a 59-question survey was developed and distributed online via SurveyMonkey and in hard copy, asking residents about issues such as drug use, transportation, and poverty, along with perceived needs for health services.

The IRHA also gathered information on existing healthcare resources in the community, with DCMH providing a list of local clinics, family practices, and nursing facilities. The collected data was analyzed to assess how current needs are being met and to create a plan to address unmet needs. Four key priorities were identified to strengthen the community health infrastructure and improve the overall health and wellness of Decatur County: access to broadband and internet services, cancer care, childcare, and insurance enrollment. Additionally, four priorities from the previous CHNA were deemed important to continue focusing on: diabetes education, mental health, substance abuse, and physical activity, nutrition, and weight management.

The completed CHNA report has been publicly posted on DCMH’s website, with hard copies available to the community upon request.



# What is a CHNA Implementation Strategy?

An implementation strategy for a Community Health Needs Assessment (CHNA) is a dynamic action plan designed to improve community health. It not only outlines the specific steps needed to address health priorities but also assigns clear responsibilities, establishes a system for accountability, and sets regular progress check-ins.

The strategy serves as a tool for keeping the community informed with ongoing updates. By bringing together residents, organizations, service providers, and local leaders, this approach fosters collaboration toward shared health goals. Utilizing CHNA data, the strategy identifies key health issues, develops actionable plans, and ensures measurable outcomes to drive improvements in community health. This process engages community members and stakeholders to collectively address the most pressing health needs of the population.

For each priority, specific goals and objectives were established to guide implementation and track progress over a three-year period. Local organizations were designated to facilitate continuous information sharing and coordinate tasks effectively. Decatur County organizations identified one or more priorities that aligned with their own missions or the missions of their respective organizations.



# ACCESS TO BROADBAND

Access to reliable broadband is a significant challenge in Decatur County, especially in rural areas where connectivity is limited. This issue affects education, employment, healthcare, and overall quality of life.

According to the CHNA in Decatur County:



**65.14%**

of residents identify access to broadband as a “Definite need” or “Extreme need”

**Goal:**

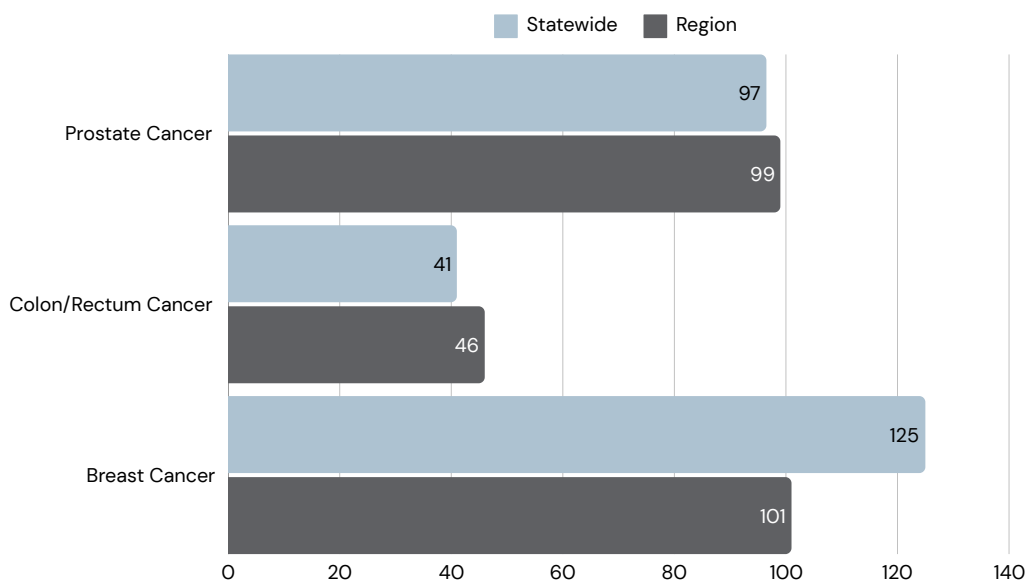
Provide reliable, high-speed broadband to all DCMH visitors by establishing free public Wi-Fi in key areas and equipping on-call DCMH staff with Wi-Fi hotspot devices by December 31, 2024.



# CANCER CARE

Decatur County community members lack sufficient awareness about cancer risks and the critical importance of early detection. This gap in knowledge often leads to delayed diagnoses and treatments, adversely affecting health outcomes.

## According to the CHNA in Decatur County vs. Statewide Rates:



- Cancer incidence is 471.5 per 100,000, slightly higher than the statewide rate of 457.9
- Prostate cancer rates are higher (99.1 vs. 96.5)
- Colon/rectum cancer is higher (46.8 vs. 41.7)
- Breast cancer incidence is lower (101.2 vs. 124.5)

### Goal:

DCMH will increase cancer awareness and early detection by hosting at least three major community events focused on cancer prevention, engaging at least 500 participants, and providing cancer screenings and educational resources by December 31, 2024.



# CHILD CARE

Decatur County is facing a shortage of affordable and reliable childcare, which impacts local families and employers. This issue is particularly felt by workers in essential sectors, including healthcare, where access to childcare is crucial for workforce stability and retention.

**According to the CHNA in Decatur County:**



**65.78%** of residents recognize a need for increased childcare



**32.89%** of residents identify it as a “Definite need” or “Extreme need”

DCMH will implement a comprehensive communication and support strategy to increase awareness in the Dependent Care **Goal:** Flexible Spending Account (FSA) program, and collaborate with local businesses and childcare providers to expand childcare options awareness, by December 31, 2024.



# INSURANCE ENROLLMENT

Decatur County faces a significant gap in affordable insurance coverage, especially among underserved residents, leading to limited access to healthcare.

According to the CHNA in Decatur County:



**77.63%**

of residents recognize a need for better insurance options



**20%**

cite lack of insurance as a barrier to primary care

**Goal:**

DCMH will increase insurance enrollment awareness by hosting informational sessions and partnering with local organizations to connect at least 200 residents with coverage options by December 31, 2024.





# DIABETES EDUCATION

Decatur County faces rising diabetes risk, with a need for education on disease prevention and management.

According to the CHNA in Decatur County:



**48.3%**

of respondents felt diabetes was a major problem in the community



**25.9%**

view it as a moderate problem

**Goal:**

DCMH will engage 100 individuals in diabetes education programs, aiming for improved blood glucose control and a reduction in program participants' average BMI by 1-2 points by December 31, 2024.



# MENTAL HEALTH AND SUBSTANCE USE

Decatur County faces a critical shortage of mental health providers, with a high number of residents reporting poor mental health days and substance abuse concerns.

According to the CHNA in Decatur County:



**59%**

viewed mental health as a major problem



**23%**

reported seeking formal help for mental problems



**23%**

reported having used opioids (prescription or not) in the past year



**3.5%**

reported using illicit drugs in the past month

Decatur County respondents reported 4.7 days out of 7 days being poor mental health days.

**Goal:**

DCMH will enhance mental health and substance abuse care by increasing provider capacity, expanding staff education, offering mental health screening options, and connecting individuals to appropriate care. These efforts aim to improve access to treatment and support the mental well-being of the community by December 31, 2024.

# NUTRITION AND WEIGHT MANAGEMENT

Decatur County faces a need for healthier lifestyle choices to improve community wellness and weight management.

According to the CHNA in Decatur County:



**18%** received weight advice



**47%** perceive nutrition, physical activity, and weight as major problems in the community



**25.9%** view nutrition and weight loss as moderate problems

7.8 recreation/fitness facilities for every 100,000 population in Decatur County in 2016 (Indiana 9.3, U.S. 11).

**Goal:** DCMH will improve community health by engaging 100 individuals in weight management programs, aiming for an average weight loss of 5-7 pounds per participant, while providing nutrition education through additional programs by December 31, 2024.

# PHYSICAL ACTIVITY

Decatur County aims to improve community health through better access to trails and fitness classes.

According to the 2019 CHNA in Decatur County:



**18%**

received weight advice



**47%**

perceive nutrition, physical activity, and weight as major problems in the community



**25.9%**

view nutrition and weight loss as moderate problems

7.8 recreation/fitness facilities for every 100,000 population in Decatur County in 2016 (Indiana 9.3, U.S. 11).

**Goal:** DCMH will promote community physical activity aiming to host at least 4 fitness events and distribute resources to 500 community members by December 31, 2024.

# ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

## PRODUCED IN PARTNERSHIP WITH

- American Legion Auxiliary
- American Legion Post 129
- City of Greensburg
- Centerstone
- Community Healthcare Clinic of Decatur County
- DCMH Board of Directors
- Decatur County - Purdue Extension
- Decatur County Community Foundation
- Decatur County Community Schools
- Decatur County Family YMCA
- Decatur County Health Department
- Decatur County Parks & Recreation
- Decatur County Sheriff's Department
- Decatur County United Fund
- Economic Development Corporation
- Good Shepherd Christian Academy
- Greensburg Adult Center
- Greensburg Community Bread of Life
- Greensburg Community School Corporation
- Greensburg - Decatur County Public Library
- Greensburg Fire Department
- Greensburg/Decatur County Chamber of Commerce
- Greensburg Kiwanis Club
- Greensburg Lions Club
- Greensburg Police Department
- Greensburg Rotary Club
- Hospital Foundation of Decatur County
- Hospital Foundation of Decatur County Board of Directors
- Indiana Rural Health Association
- Main Street Greensburg
- Main Street Westport
- Office of Community and Rural Affairs
- One Community, One Family
- Optimist Club of Greensburg, IN
- Our Hospice of South Central Indiana
- St Mary's Catholic School
- Visit Greensburg/Decatur County, IN Tourism
- Westport Area Business Association
- Westport Kiwanis Club



**With your support, we can achieve these goals.  
To connect and make a difference, contact  
Decatur County Memorial Hospital at  
[dcmh.marketing@dcmh.net](mailto:dcmh.marketing@dcmh.net)**