

# **Community Health Needs Assessment Implementation Strategy 2019 - 2022**

**El Campo Memorial Hospital**

El Campo Memorial Hospital

303 Sandy Corner Road

El Campo, Texas 77437

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Implementation Guidelines for El Campo Memorial Hospital

\*ECMH Fiscal Year April 1 – March 31.

El Campo Memorial Hospital plans to publish this Community Needs Assessment on their local webpage at [www.ecmh.org](http://www.ecmh.org). Copies of this project will also be available from the ECMH PBX Operator's office and this will be noted on social media pages, through emails and other printed materials. We also plan to share this project with other local organizations and non-profits through presentations and by providing printed material.

<p><b><u>RECOMMENDATION:</u></b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>It was noted that the hospital CEO should be on the Economic Development Committee</li> </ul> <p><b><u>IMPLEMENTATION:</u></b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>El Campo Memorial Hospital has implemented a liaison to work closely with the Economic Development Corporation Director.</li> </ul>		
<b><u>*Goal for 2020</u></b>	<b><u>*Goal for 2021</u></b>	<b><u>*Goal for 2022</u></b>
This process will continue through meetings, emails, phone conversations.	This process will continue through meetings, emails, phone conversations.	This process will continue through meetings, emails, phone conversations.
<p><b><u>RECOMMENDATION:</u></b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The continued development and support of providing DOT physical exams and work-injury program through its therapy programs.</li> </ul> <p><b><u>IMPLEMENTATION:</u></b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Clinic locations have been expanded to area towns to make DOT physicals more easily available.</li> </ul>		
<b><u>*Goal for 2020</u></b>	<b><u>*Goal for 2021</u></b>	<b><u>*Goal for 2022</u></b>
Continual advertising of DOT physicals, digital marketing and noted at special presentations.	Continual advertising of DOT physicals, digital marketing and noted at special presentations. Possibly look into adding the availability to other clinic locations and or train/hire professionals to provide this service.	Continual advertising of DOT physicals, digital marketing and noted at special presentations. Possibly look into adding the availability to other clinic locations and or train/hire

professionals to provide this service.

**RECOMMENDATION:**

- Even though the hospital has a well defined plan, it is healthy to re-state that a community must help choose their physicians with the selection process. This need requires a concentrated effort of community leaders, pastors, and school officials to work in harmony to attract health professionals to the community. In light of the expansion into maternal-child services, this effort will be of paramount importance. Hospitals have a long history of “selecting physicians and announcing to the community hoping the community will like them and spend thousands of dollars in marketing if clinic visits are not positive.”
- Recruit and Retain Core Health Professionals. Continue to maintain a healthy way to retain and recruit core health professionals. Consider a means to minimize competition or duplication of other local/regional health providers not associated with El Campo Memorial Hospital to utilize or consolidate into the hospital network. The community should be guarded to “outside” companies or agencies that locate to El campo will erode the present hospital financial and clinic foundations.

**IMPLEMENTATION:**

- ECMH will continue to seek young professionals and provide them with an exchange education for employment, in an effort to attract and keep professionals that are interested in residing and working in a rural community. We consider this “growing our own” through this process.
- Continue with the Ministerial Alliance Partnership to keep close relations with local clergy and encourage that they share their input and their congregations input on physician needs.

<b><u>*Goal for 2020</u></b>	<b><u>*Goal for 2021</u></b>	<b><u>*Goal for 2022</u></b>
Continue with our work / education program. Continue with outreach to various groups to determine physicians needed.	Continue this process. Continue recruiting processes.	Continue this process. Continue recruiting processes.

**RECOMMENDATION:**

- A continued program of providing primary maternal services with El Campo at the Palacios Clinic could be better developed to keep the pregnant mother until the third trimester with the return of the mother and child to El Campo and Palacios for continued baby and maternal care (post delivery).

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- This would be a good opportunity to establish a Women’s Center platform to include specific Physical Therapy for pre-delivery high risk mothers and post delivery problems associated with age and female health problems addressed by specific women’s physical therapy modalities.

**IMPLEMENTATION:**

- ECMH already provided Gynecology services at the Palacios Location.
- In anticipation of the new hospital, ECMH will begin a search for OB/GYN physicians and mid-levels for this new added service.
- These professionals will have the opportunity to provide these same services (excluding delivery) at all of the area ECMH locations, depending on patient loads at the new facility (which will need to be determined after the completion of the new build).

<b><u>*Goal for 2020</u></b>	<b><u>*Goal for 2021</u></b>	<b><u>*Goal for 2022</u></b>
GYN services have been provided on a visiting basis in Palacios.  Expansion of these services to other locations might be considered after the new build and additional professionals are on board.	Expansion of these services to other locations might be considered after the new build and additional professionals are on board	After completion of new build and ECMH plans to add delivery services to the hospital. These services could be expanded to other areas (excluding delivery).

**RECOMMENDATION:**

- The hospital should solidify the partnership with the school clinic to ensure all Medicaid children are captured at such events as school registration and school clinic visits. A Medicaid screener could be present at school registration meetings to register any possible Medicaid qualifying student or upon registration at any new clinic visits.

**IMPLEMENTATION:**

- ECMH has added school clinics in El Campo, Louise and Wharton County Junior College. These are presently in operations.

<b><u>*Goal for 2020</u></b>	<b><u>*Goal for 2021</u></b>	<b><u>*Goal for 2022</u></b>
ECMH is in talks with the Wharton School District to add a school clinic at their location.	Continue seeking schools in the area that might be interested in school clinics.	Continue seeking schools in the area that might be interested in school clinics.

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<p>ECMH has plans for an initial meeting with the Palacios School District for a school clinic at their location.</p>	<p>Continue with assisting families and children with the necessary information for accessing Medicaid.</p> <p>Continue to be resource for families and children for health care needs.</p>	<p>Continue with assisting families and children with the necessary information for accessing Medicaid.</p> <p>Continue to be resource for families and children for health care needs.</p>
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**RECOMMENDATION:**

- Needs of children and seniors. Increase capacity to address health needs of growing numbers of children and seniors through physical activity, sex education programs and nutritional support relating to the poverty levels. Such proactive ideas could include afternoon school programs at the YMCA and any other Community Action Groups. The City Community Assessment Needs Study specifically addresses the expansion of its Park System to enhance walking trails and exercise opportunities for seniors and kids. The city has an excellent system of parks and community support through the Rotary Club. This support is a model example of non-profits and community programs working together. A specific opportunity relating to low income children with high obesity rates should be directed to assisting low-income family children to participate in sports by “adopting” kids to pay for scholarships for registration costs and uniform costs. Typically, this high risk disease group cannot afford team sports outside of the school system.

**IMPLEMENTATION:**

- ECMH will reach out and coordinate with area organizations to enhance physical activity opportunities.
- ECMH will add a state-of-the art gym to their new building.
- ECMH could coordinate with the Texas A & M Extension Office to assist in promoting healthy lifestyles.

<u>*Goal for 2020</u>	<u>*Goal for 2020</u>	<u>*Goal for 2020</u>	<u>*Goal for 2020</u>
<p>Continue to increase awareness for healthy lifestyles for both families and children.</p>	<p>ECMH might find ways to coordinate with the school clinics to make health lifestyles available to both families and children.</p>	<p>Continue this process and coordination with other organizations.</p>	

**RECOMMENDATION:**

- Community Health Programs and Emphasis of Hospital Clinical Services:

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- Heart disease, cancer, mental health and cerebral-vascular disease screening programs should be strengthened through community-wide, multiple-agency approach and the Mid-Coast Clinics through the Annual Wellness Programs and Clinic Electronic Medical Record templates.
- Cancer detection screening programs through dermatology, mammography, PAP and PSA screening clinics should be held on some regular basis such as quarterly or bi-annually in coordination with the Mid-Coast Clinic System. Mammography Screening remains below average among state and national averages.
- COPD programs and screening should be conducted yearly through area annual clinic patient visits to meet quality care mandates. Portable Pulmonary Function Screening Programs can be done in any business center to identify base-line pulmonary disease such as asthma or chronic obstructive pulmonary disease.
- Complications arising from diabetes. Area clinic patients should be screened at least annually (quarterly is better) with focused diabetic lab tests (A1C) as well as a scheduled bi-annual diabetic screening clinic along with foot wound evaluations in the clinic. This was the most common comment made by participants.
- Influenza and pneumonia immunization/vaccination programs should be a part of the quality measures of the Clinic Electronic Medical record systems with emphasis on school registration events and anticipated flu seasons. This should be coordinated with the health department representative, schools, senior citizen organizations, and any social and civic clubs. The health clinics and pharmacy in the county should collaborate to minimize the incidence of flu, Respiratory Syncytial Virus (RSV) and pneumonia. The School Clinic remains a viable vehicle available for the community.

**IMPLEMENTATION:**

- Discussion and plans to implement and/or education on the above health related topics.

<u>*Goal for 2020</u>	<u>*Goal for 2020</u>	<u>*Goal for 2020</u>	<u>*Goal for 2020</u>
Identify which health issues can be addressed and how best to do that process.  Continue with educational materials on these topics at public presentations and on social media.	Continue this process  Continue with educational materials on these topics at public presentations and on social media.	Continue this process  Continue with educational materials on these topics at public presentations and on social media.	

**RECOMMENDATION:**

- Develop capacity and access to quality behavioral health services:
- A local mental health initiative appears absent (e.g. classes and instructor development). A county task force of law enforcement, school, and health professionals (Emergency Department Staff/EMS) should be considered to collaborate with the regional Network of Care for Mental Health Services to manage the network of care between communities.

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This should continue to be a major emphasis going forward for the community health planning, as should reducing cost and other barriers to quality behavioral health services through prevention and treatment with depression screens. This was a consistent topic brought up in the majority of focus group meetings. Mental Health First Aid for Students and Adults should be a major task force initiative for the Justice System, School, and Hospital.

**IMPLEMENTATION:**

- Discussion and plans to implement and/or education on the above health related topics.

<u>*Goal for 2020</u>	<u>*Goal for 2020</u>	<u>*Goal for 2020</u>	<u>*Goal for 2020</u>
Start conversations with area agencies to gain input and possible ways to implement these plans.	Continue with the process	Continue with this process	

**RECOMMENDATION:**

- Increase access and capacity for the poor and other vulnerable groups by:
  - Reducing cost and other barriers to quality behavioral health services through prevention and treatment with depression screens in clinic(s) and through the Electronic Medical Records for quality care management.
  - Continuing to provide smoking and tobacco cessation classes as it ranks #3 of top causes of death. This could be in coordination with the hospital with portable pulmonary function screening in the community.
  - Continuing to provide prevention and treatment of alcohol and drug abuse classes with the area Veterans programs and working with school programs to extend student classes to include parents (noted in prior hospital CHNA Plan of Action).

**IMPLEMENTATION:**

- ECMH will attempt to begin discussions with these groups to give input as to how to best handle this issue.

<u>*Goal for 2020</u>	<u>*Goal for 2020</u>	<u>*Goal for 2020</u>	<u>*Goal for 2020</u>
Start conversations with various groups to determine if a plan can develop.	Continue with this process Provide educational materials on these issues through presentations and social media.	Continue with this process Provide educational materials on these issues through presentations and social media	

<p>Start discussions with our clinics on possible depression screenings.</p> <p>Start conversation with area counselors on depression screening activities.</p> <p>Research the possibility of smoking cessation and alcohol/drug abuse education opportunities in our community.</p>		
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**RECOMMENDATION:**

- Preventative outreach to the poor and extremely poor.
- Increase community capacity to reach the poor, extremely poor, and other vulnerable groups with preventative actions to:
  - Reduce obesity through community classes as Wharton County obesity rate (30.5%) exceeds the state rate (26.6%).
  - Reduce cost and other barriers to medical care and treatment through cash or discounted programs and sliding scales.
    - Improve case management and routine preventative screenings in a clinic or Emergency Room Setting (Current Emergency Room and Clinic volume indicates time to accomplish screens)
  - Continue to provide educational classes to promote healthy living and wellness as noted with the high level of poverty with children.

**IMPLEMENTATION:**

- ECMH will explores ways to implement programs to assist in these issues.

<u>*Goal for 2020</u>	<u>*Goal for 2020</u>	<u>*Goal for 2020</u>	<u>*Goal for 2020</u>
<p>The new hospital building will have a gym. Upon completion possible healthy programs could be established and implement.</p> <p>Possible low cost/no cost programs</p> <p>Coordinate with area agencies to assist in healthy outcome programs.</p>	<p>Continue this process</p>	<p>Continue this process</p>	



**RECOMMENDATION:**

- Food, housing, and neighborhood security. Increase the security of poor and extremely poor individuals and households by:
  - Increasing access to nutritious foods through WIC, Summer Meal Programs for Children and the Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program, etc. A program should specifically feed seniors on the weekends where food programs are not available. This should be a coordinated event with the senior citizens organization.
  - Study a means of increasing affordable housing in safe neighborhood environments.

**IMPLEMENTATION:**

- ECMH can help educate the public on these resources

<u>*Goal for 2020</u>	<u>*Goal for 2020</u>	<u>*Goal for 2020</u>	<u>*Goal for 2020</u>
Continue to educate the public. Share this information on Social Media.	Continue this process	Continue this process	

**RECOMMENDATION:**

- **Investment in community health needs.** Develop collaborative community efforts to increase investment in community health needs through a Community Wellness Council. Consider solutions for expanding quality coverage of the uninsured, coordinating funding and organizational and agency strategic planning, developing proposals or campaigns, and other collaborative community building approaches to the Prioritization of Community Health Needs.

**IMPLEMENTATION:**

- ECMH already participates in the Community Council Resource Group and can add these issues to all of those involved in this group. As a collaborative group they can each provide information, education, programs, etc. to the public through their various methods.

<u>*Goal for 2020</u>	<u>*Goal for 2020</u>	<u>*Goal for 2020</u>	<u>*Goal for 2020</u>
Continue with the collaboration	Continue with this collaboration	Continue with this collaboration	

**RECOMMENDATION:**

- **Conduct community health classes (drug, alcohol, diabetes, obesity, heart)** with high risk groups with a Mid-level provider, RN and Pharmacist. It was suggested that health fairs and other educational or screening services should be off-site, in order to draw more people into the activities. It was suggested that businesses or community meeting places would be appropriate locations to reach many of the residents. As to be noted, the hospital

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of today needs to be “out there” and instead of demanding all services to be held at the hospital. To only focus services at a local Senior Citizens Center is not effective.

- Study a means of increasing affordable housing in safe neighborhood environments.

**IMPLEMENTATION:**

- ECMH can help educate the public on these resources, provide additional information and education at their local health fair, and at various presentation.

<u>*Goal for 2020</u>	<u>*Goal for 2020</u>	<u>*Goal for 2020</u>	<u>*Goal for 2020</u>
Continue this process  Look for other alternatives / ways to promote these educational opportunities.	Continue this process	Continue this process	

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