

Hospital and Community Projects and Programs Implemented to Address Needs Identified in 2022

In response to the needs identified in the 2022 CHNA process, the following actions were taken:

Need 1: Not enough affordable housing – Since the last CHNA process, McKenzie Health has purchased several homes in the community to utilize as resources for providers and staff who are in Watford City providing services. Additionally, with many offers of employment, housing is an added benefit where either housing is provided or a stipend issued. Housing continues to be a challenge in Watford City and, as such, some legislative action has been suggested as well to address the need.

Need 2: Availability of resources to help the elderly stay in their homes – McKenzie Health's Chronic Care Management Team deploys to see individuals in their homes to address needs. They provide blood pressure monitoring, bring flu and COVID vaccinations, assist patients with getting access to assistive devices like walkers, and help with follow-up care.

Need 3: Having enough child daycare services – McKenzie Health worked to address daycare services and the expense associated with it by reserving several slots with the local daycare specifically for our staff members. A flexible work schedule is offered as well to help accommodate staff with children.

Need 4: Availability of mental health resources – McKenzie Health now has a listing in FirstLink, a 501(c)3 nonprofit, which is responsible for answering the 2-1-1 Helpline statewide for North Dakota and the National Suicide Prevention Lifeline for the entire state of North Dakota and parts of Minnesota. Anyone can call this number 24 hours/day and be connected to a live person who can provide information about local resources and a listening ear. A "Preventing Suicide – What to Know and Expect with Suicidal Thoughts, Plans, or Threats in Pediatric Patients" trifold was developed for utilization in the Emergency Department for parents and guardians. Philomena Cunningham, Psychiatric Mental Health Nurse Practitioner (PMHNP), was hired to see patients for psychiatric assessments, diagnoses, and medication management. Her services are offered via telemedicine on Tuesdays, Wednesdays, and Fridays. She is bilingual (English/Spanish) and will see patients from age 6 to adult.

The above implementation plan for McKenzie Health is posted on the McKenzie Health website at [Community Health Needs Assessment | McKenzie Health](#).