



2019 Community Health Needs Assessment Implementation Strategy

Connecticut Children's 2019 Community Health Needs Assessment (CHNA) explored and identified needs for Hartford's children in four areas: Behavioral Health, Mental Health and Trauma; School Readiness; Childhood Obesity Prevention; and Housing and Community Factors. The CHNA offers a number of long-range recommendations that inform our three-year Implementation Strategy (IS). The IS serves as a fluid document and may fluctuate as the capacity of Connecticut Children's to build partnerships to address the stated objectives, along with other objectives yet to be identified, becomes clearer. Our process for setting goals and objectives in the IS involved reviewing the CHNA recommendations and engaging with hospital leadership, community program staff, and community based programs to determine the following course of action.

Connecticut Children's Office for Community Child Health (the Office) houses the many programs and resources that connect the larger organization to community opportunities that contribute to the health and well-being of Connecticut's children. The Office's 15 programs engage in rigorous data collection and measurement to ensure that their efforts are effective. These programs currently use, or have developed in response to the 2019 CHNA, the following objectives and associated measures to track Connecticut Children's progress in addressing the needs identified in the most recent CHNA.

Behavioral Health, Mental Health and Trauma
Goal: Promote well-being among children and youth by ensuring equitable access to affordable behavioral and mental health services.
Objective: Track number of maternal depression screens billed to Medicaid by pediatric primary care providers.
Objective: Increase collaboration with Hartford Communities that Care and Compass Youth Collaborative in implementation of violence prevention model advocated by The Health Alliance for Violence Intervention.
Objective: Provide care coordination trainings at schools working with Compass Youth Collaborative to increase referrals to Connecticut Children's and enhance community partnerships.
Objective: Increase clients served through Connecticut Children's Behavioral Health Transitions Clinic.
Objective: Increase referrals from Connecticut Children's clinicians and/or Care Network clinicians to Connecticut Children's Center for Care Coordination for those who seek care for mental health concerns in an effort to decrease ED visits.
Objective: Increase referrals from Connecticut Children's clinicians and/or Care Network clinicians to community supports for children and youth exposed to domestic violence, abuse, neglect, and other trauma.
School Readiness
Goal: Prepare Hartford students for kindergarten by promoting early literacy among infants, toddlers and pre-school age children.
Objective: Track number of developmental screens billed to Medicaid by pediatric primary care providers.
Objective: Strengthen Help Me Grow CT's adoption of Help Me Grow National Center resources to increase Help Me Grow CT's capacity to connect children and families to services.
Objective: Work with community partners to bring the Imagination Library early literacy program to all children of Hartford residents.
Objective: Increase collaboration with early care and education providers, home visitors, family centers, and public schools to champion school readiness initiatives, which include early literacy promotion, back to school events, school supply drives, etc.
Childhood Obesity Prevention
Goal: Increase education and awareness about healthy lifestyles to reduce childhood obesity.
Objective: Develop and deploy an electronic medical record tool to help primary care child health providers prevent childhood obesity and track downloads upon expected deployment in 2021.
Objective: Increase number of families served through community outreach programs that promote nutrition and physical activity as measured by attendance at Start Childhood Off Right monthly wellness events.
Housing and Community Factors
Goal: Increase health and well-being of Hartford residents by raising awareness about the critical link between housing, environmental factors, and health.
Objective: Increase the use of the Easy Breathing asthma management program among primary care child health providers.
Objective: Increase the number of trainings completed for Care Network practices that address social and environmental needs of children.
Objective: Expand the Building for Health cross-sector referral initiative from its current service areas of Frog Hollow and North Hartford to serve residents citywide.
Objective: Increase referrals from Connecticut Children's clinicians to Connecticut Children's Center for Care Coordination for those who seek support for chronic health conditions.
Objective: Continue to partner with North Hartford Triple Aim Collaborative with goal of launching a health hub in North Hartford, featuring a health clinic, supermarket, affordable child care, exercise facilities, job training, etc.
Statewide and Local Policy Advocacy
Goal: To enhance systems of support for children and families through administrative and legislative policy changes.
Objective: Advocate for increased insurance coverage for, and access to, mental health counseling.
Objective: Advocate for a centralized system of care coordination in Hartford.
Objective: Advocate for housing and developmental services for children with blood lead levels as low as 5 micrograms per deciliter.
Objective: Increase the adoption of Strengthening Families Protective Factors Framework among pediatricians, community health workers, and others who work with children.