

Corewell Health Wayne Hospital



Community Health Needs
Assessment

2026-2028 Implementation Strategy

Contents

Executive summary	3
Introduction	4
Mission	
Description of hospital	
Internal Revenue Service requirements	
General information	
About this plan	5
Selection of significant health needs	
Process for developing the implementation strategy	
Significant health needs addressed in the implementation strategy	
Significant health needs not addressed in the implementation strategy	
Health transformation compass	6
Significant health needs addressed	7
Health care access	7
About the significant health need	
Goal	
Addressing the significant health need	
Mental health	8
About the significant health need	
Goal	
Addressing the significant health need	
Appendix: Abbreviated tables	10

Executive summary

In November 2025, Corewell Health Wayne Hospital adopted the Community Health Needs Assessment (CHNA), which identified the top community health needs in Macomb, Oakland and Wayne counties. The present report provides details on strategies Corewell Health Wayne Hospital will employ to address these community health needs between Jan. 1, 2026 to Dec. 31, 2028. The significant health needs identified in the most recent 2025 CHNA included chronic disease, health care access, mental health, physical wellness and food security. Following input from key interest groups, Corewell Health Wayne Hospital decided to address health care access and mental health in the present implementation strategy. The process of identifying or developing strategies to address these needs was a collaborative effort between Corewell Health Wayne Hospital leaders, community subject matter experts and the Corewell Health Wayne Hospital Community Advisory Board.

Corewell Health Wayne Hospital will dedicate significant resources toward improving the health of our community, with a focus on health care access and mental health. By committing to the included strategies, strengthening community collaborations and focusing on measurable outcomes, we plan to show improvement in these areas by the end of 2028.



Introduction

Mission

Corewell Health's mission is to improve health, instill humanity and inspire hope. People are at the heart of everything we do and the inspiration for our legacy of outstanding outcomes, innovation, strong community partnerships, philanthropy and transparency.

Description of hospital

Corewell Health is a not-for-profit health system that provides health care and coverage with an exceptional team of 65,000+ dedicated people — including more than 12,000 physicians and advanced practice providers and more than 15,500 nurses — providing care and services in 21 hospitals, 300+ outpatient locations and several post-acute facilities, and Priority Health, a provider-sponsored health plan serving more than 1.3 million members. Through experience and collaboration, we are reimagining a better, more equitable model of health and wellness. For more information, visit corewellhealth.org.

Internal Revenue Service requirements

The Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act of 2010 set forth additional requirements that hospitals must meet in order to maintain their status as a 501(c)(3) Charitable Hospital Organization. One of the main requirements states that a hospital must conduct a CHNA and must adopt an implementation strategy to meet the community health needs identified through the assessment. The law further states that the assessment must consider input from persons who represent the broad interests of the community, including those with special knowledge of, or expertise in, public health. In response to the Affordable Care Act's requirements, Corewell Health Wayne Hospital produced a 2025 CHNA and this document, the 2026-2028 Implementation Strategy.

General information

Contact: chna@corewellhealth.org

2026-2028 Implementation Strategy adoption date: May 12, 2026

Authorized governing body: Corewell Health East Board of Directors

The 2025 CHNA report is available electronically at [Community Health Needs Assessments | Healthier Communities | Corewell Health](#). A printed copy is available upon request.

About this plan

Selection of significant health needs

The 2025 CHNA identified the following health needs:

- Chronic disease
- Community safety
- Economic security
- Education
- Environmental quality
- Food security
- Health care access
- Mental health
- Neighborhood and built environment
- Physical wellness
- Social cohesion

These 11 health needs were further prioritized during a data preview event where five significant health needs were identified by Corewell Health in Southeast Michigan and community partners. They are:

- Chronic disease
- Health care access
- Mental health
- Physical wellness
- Food security

Process for developing the implementation strategy

An Implementation Strategy Workgroup was established for Corewell Health Wayne Hospital. This workgroup was made up of community advisory board members, hospital leadership and representatives of community partner organizations. In November 2025, the workgroup met to identify which of the five significant health needs identified in the assessment would be addressed by the hospital. To achieve this, a voting matrix that plotted criteria such as feasibility, impact and community benefit considerations was utilized. The workgroup discussed each of the areas and recommended health care access and mental health as the significant health needs to be addressed in the 2026-2028 Implementation Strategy. Next, the workgroup focused on selecting strategies and developing the report. Throughout this process, there was robust dialogue around existing efforts, gaps in service and potential collaborations between community partners and the hospital.

Significant health needs addressed in the implementation strategy

The significant health needs addressed in this document are:

- Health care access
- Mental health

Choosing two significant health needs to address means resources can be focused on taking a comprehensive approach: utilizing the data from the CHNA to determine which populations have been experiencing disproportionate health outcomes, and what Corewell Health can do from a programming perspective to tailor existing interventions and build new interventions that respond to documented gaps, needs and opportunities.

Significant health needs not addressed in the implementation strategy

The three significant health needs not addressed are:

- Chronic disease
- Food security
- Physical wellness

Corewell Health Wayne Hospital will not address chronic disease, food security and physical wellness in the

2026-2028 Implementation Strategy. These health needs were not ranked as high in terms of feasibility, impact and community benefit considerations in relation to the hospital's capacity to meaningfully influence these areas within the implementation strategy timeline. Although not selected for the 2026-2028 Implementation Strategy, some of the nonprioritized needs will be indirectly addressed through enhancing health care access and mental health, and by partnering with lead organizations outside of this implementation strategy that are addressing these areas.

Health transformation compass

Health care systems have traditionally focused on meeting the medical needs of individual patients. A deepened understanding of the significance of community and societal factors on health has strengthened our focus to prevent poor health outcomes and to ensure everyone has a fair and full opportunity to be as healthy as possible. Each project described in this implementation strategy impacts one or more levels of this framework. To save lives and improve population health, we must work across the spectrum to implement impactful initiatives, advance equity-focused practices, address social determinants of health and advocate for systemic justice.



Individual change: Efforts address health-related social needs and medical factors of people, such as access to care, housing, transportation and food.

Organizational change: Efforts address organizational policies, practices, culture and systems that influence how services are delivered.

Community change: Efforts address community-wide conditions, such as local resources, partnerships and community systems, that shape social determinants of health for populations.

Structural change: Efforts address advocacy for public policy reforms that improve health and reduce harm at the municipal, state and federal levels.

Significant health needs addressed

Health care access

About the significant health need

Access to health care refers to the ability of individuals to obtain timely, affordable and appropriate health services when needed, including preventive, primary, specialty and behavioral health care. Health care access was a top health need identified in the 2025 CHNA community survey, listening sessions and focus group sessions. Barriers included transportation, language, financial costs (health care services are too expensive, making it difficult for residents to afford necessary care), hours of operation that did not fit their schedules and insurance plans not being accepted. Also, they did not feel comfortable or confident navigating the health system or seeking doctors. Among survey respondents, 27% indicated they disagreed or strongly disagreed that there are affordable health care services in their community, and 60% indicated the cost of health care was too high and they could not afford to pay.

Preventable hospital stays among the Medicare population were the top indicator of concern in Macomb, Oakland and Wayne counties. This measure reflects the quality and accessibility of primary health care services. High rates of preventable hospitalizations suggest that outpatient care may be inadequate, leading individuals to rely on hospitals for conditions that could be managed in a primary care setting. Additionally, the rate of primary care doctors in Wayne and Macomb counties falls below both state and national averages.

Goal

Ensure accessible and quality health care for Corewell Health in the Southeast Michigan service area.

Addressing the significant health need

Strategy No. 1: Expand access to essential health care services

Background

This strategy prioritizes residents who are disproportionately experiencing barriers to care. Efforts will include conducting an asset map of available health care services, identifying an internal process to address social determinants of health needs and expanding financial counseling services for patients. Overall, this approach focuses on improving care coordination efforts.

Anticipated impact

The anticipated impact of this strategy is improved access to timely and appropriate health care services.

Planned collaborators

Corewell Health Care Management, The Guidance Center, Wayne Metro, Corewell Health School Based Clinics and Mental Health Services, Healthy Downriver Coalition

Resources

Time spent by team members, funding and in-kind support

Level of transformation

Organizational

Mental health

About the significant health need

Mental health was consistently identified as a top health concern within the 2025 CHNA survey, focus groups and listening sessions. In the survey, 50.84% of respondents listed mental health and mental disorders such as anxiety, depression and suicide as one of the most important health problems in the community. Additionally, 13.23% of respondents reported that there was a time they needed or considered seeking mental health or substance use treatment but did not receive services. The most frequently cited reasons for not accessing care included the high cost of services, uncertainty about where to go for help and clinic or care team hours that did not align with their availability or work schedules.

Concerns about access to mental health care extended to children as well. Approximately 40% of survey respondents indicated that their children were unable to receive mental health services in the past 12 months. The primary barriers were the cost of services, lack of insurance coverage and long wait times. Participants in focus groups and listening sessions emphasized the need for increased education and awareness around mental health, including a better understanding of what mental health is and how to manage it. Populations identified as most affected included youth, seniors and men.

Secondary data reinforced these findings, illustrating several zip codes within the primary service area, including 48213, 48204, 48238, 48203 and 48227, that face high risk for poor mental health. Together, these findings highlight the importance of ensuring that all residents have access to timely, affordable and high-quality mental health care to foster improved individual and community health.

Goal

Improve mental health for Corewell Health in the Southeast Michigan service area.

Addressing the significant health need

Strategy No. 1: Increase awareness and accessibility of behavioral health services.

Background

This strategy focuses on improving awareness of and access to behavioral health services for populations disproportionately experiencing mental health conditions and substance use disorders. Key efforts include mapping available behavioral health resources, strengthening outreach from Corewell Health School Based Clinics and Mental Health Services and addressing the lack of rehabilitation services available in the community. This work will improve how services are identified, shared and connected across settings.

Anticipated impact

The anticipated impact of this strategy is a reduction in barriers to care and improved access to behavioral health services.

Planned collaborators

Corewell Health Care Management, The Guidance Center, Wayne Metro, Corewell Health School Based Clinics and Mental Health Services, Healthy Downriver Coalition

Resources

Time spent by team members, funding and in-kind support

Level of transformation

Organizational

Strategy No. 2: Empower youth and community through education, early intervention and supportive environments.

Background

This strategy focuses on youth and community members experiencing mental health concerns, as well as the caregivers and educators supporting them. Efforts will increase mental health awareness and resiliency through training opportunities such as Mental Health First Aid. Additionally, community partnership opportunities will be explored to implement the school Blue Envelope program by Corewell Health and to bolster the Wayne Metro Health Fair. Expanding education and early intervention efforts are crucial for improving access to mental health care and reducing mental health disparities.

Anticipated impact

The anticipated impact of this strategy is reduced stigma and increased support and response to mental health needs.

Planned collaborators

Corewell Health Care Management, The Guidance Center, Wayne Metro, Corewell Health School Based Clinics and Mental Health Services, Healthy Downriver Coalition

Resources

Time spent by team members, funding and in-kind support

Level of transformation

Community

Appendix:
Abbreviated table 1

Health care access

Goal: Ensure accessible and quality health care for Corewell Health in the Southeast Michigan service area.

Strategy

Anticipated impact

Expand access to essential health care services.



This strategy will improve access to timely and appropriate health care services.



Organizational transformation

Appendix: Abbreviated table 2

Mental health

Goal: Improve mental health for Corewell Health in the Southeast Michigan service area.

Strategy

Anticipated impact

Increase awareness and accessibility of behavioral health services.



This strategy will reduce barriers to care and improve access to behavioral health services.



Organizational transformation

Empower youth and community through education, early intervention and supportive environments.



This strategy will reduce stigma and increase support and response to mental health needs.



Community transformation