



CHRISTUS DUBUIS Hospital of Fort Smith

Community Health Implementation Plan

2022 - 2022

2020 - 2022 Community Health Improvement Plan for CHRISTUS DUBUIS of Fort Smith

MISSION FOR IMPLEMENTATION

CHRISTUS DUBUIS of Fort Smith, Arkansas is a long term acute care hospital (LTACH) located within Mercy Hospital Fort Smith. CHRISTUS DUBUIS of Fort Smith provides care to patients who require acute care over an extended period of time and is co-owned and operated by LHC Group of Lafayette, LA in a joint venture with CHRISTUS Health. CHRISTUS Health was formed in 1999 to strengthen the Catholic faith-based health care ministries of the Congregations of the Sisters of Charity of the Incarnate Word of Houston and San Antonio that began in 1866. Founded on the mission “to extend the healing ministry of Jesus Christ,” CHRISTUS Health’s vision is to be a leader, a partner, and an advocate in creating innovative health and wellness solutions that improve the lives of individuals and communities so that all may experience God’s healing presence and love.

As part of this effort and to meet [federal IRS 990H requirements](#), this document serves as a community health improvement plan (CHIP) report for CHRISTUS DUBUIS of Fort Smith. This report is the companion piece to the Community Health Needs Assessment (CHNA) report that was finalized June 2019 (see separate document), and based, in part, off of several needs identified in that document.

TARGET AREA/ POPULATION

CHRISTUS DUBUIS of Fort Smith sees patients from the following counties in Arkansas and Oklahoma. Due to the nature of the long term acute care industry, the regulatory bodies that oversee and govern the types of services that are provided, and the limited resources available to address the needs highlighted within the CHNA, patients admitted to CHRISTUS DUBUIS of Fort Smith will serve as the target population for most of the implementation strategies discussed in this report.

CHRISTUS DUBUIS of Fort Smith Counties	
Arkansas	
Sebastian (primary)	Scott
Franklin	Crawford
Johnson	Yell
Logan	
Oklahoma	
Adair	Le Flore
Haskell	Sequoyah
Latimer	

PRIORITY HEALTH NEEDS

Leadership for CHRISTUS DUBUIS of Fort Smith was provided with a draft community health needs assessment report May 2019. A panel of experts comprised of both CHRISTUS staff and external partners representing various members of the community was tasked with reviewing the findings and determining which priority issues would be selected to address over the next three years as part of a community health implementation plan.

The panel took a number of things into consideration when choosing priorities. Some priorities were selected based off issue prevalence and severity according to county and regional secondary data. Input provided by key informants, focus group participants, and other community stakeholders was also heavily considered, especially for priority areas where secondary data were less available. The official Community Health Needs Assessment report was finalized June 2019 (see separate document). Based on the process described above, the priority health needs selected by CHRISTUS DUBUIS of Fort Smith are:

- 1. Access to Care
- 2. Nutrition

SELECTED IMPLEMENTATION STRATEGY

The following implementation strategies outline actions CHRISTUS DUBUIS of Fort Smith will take over the next three years to address the priority health needs listed above.

ACCESS TO CARE PRIORITY STRATEGY

CHRISTUS DUBUIS of Fort Smith will enhance access to primary care by supporting efforts to connect community members with organizations and / or resources in the region.

Major Actions	Sub-actions
<p>Ensure proper follow up care for patients discharged from CHRISTUS DUBUIS of Fort Smith</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Provide thorough case management follow up that assists with proper care (e.g. skilled nursing facility, Home Health, Palliative Care, obtaining Durable Medical Equipment) 2. Provide referral information that may assist patient with proper post-acute care.
	<p><i>Anticipated Outcome: Devoting time and effort in follow up effort could help individuals better manage existing conditions and could reduce other preventable conditions, improving the chances of a quicker, fuller recovery and reducing the need for further / subsequent hospitalizations</i></p>

NUTRITION PRIORITY STRATEGY

CHRISTUS DUBUIS of Fort Smith will work, through education and resource referrals, to improve health by emphasizing good nutrition.

Major Action(s)	Sub-actions
Ensure better long-term care for patients because of improved nutrition	<ol style="list-style-type: none"><li data-bbox="565 407 1408 474">1. Provide patients, both at the facility and as part of follow up care, with education needed for proper nutrition <i>Anticipated Outcome:</i> Providing this type of education will enable the patients to have a greater understanding of their dietary needs and the actions needed to develop healthier nutritional habits.<li data-bbox="565 625 1354 688">2. Through Case Management, assist locating various community resources and agencies for low-income patients <i>Anticipated Outcome:</i> Improved clinical outcomes as a result of patients accessing necessary resources to manage their diet properly.

OTHER COMMUNITY NEEDS THAT CANNOT NOT BE ADDRESSED

In an effort to maximize any resources available for the priority areas listed above, leaders and staff at CHRISTUS DUBUIS of Fort Smith determined that the following issues would not be included in their Community Health Improvement Plan (CHIP):

- Behavioral Health

CHRISTUS DUBUIS of Fort Smith, per CMS regulations, is not allowed to provide behavioral health services and, as such, will not address this identified health need found in the CHNA.