

St. Luke's Health Sugar Land Hospital

2022 Community Health Implementation Strategy






Adopted September 2022



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At-a-Glance Summary

<p>Community Served</p> 	<p>St. Luke’s Health Sugar Land Hospital is located at 1317 Lake Pointe Parkway, Sugar Land, TX 77478 and has a service area population of 984,182. The hospital service area covers 9 cities or communities, located primarily in Fort Bend County, with portions in Harris County and the following ZIP codes: 77469, 77545, 77031, 77035, 77036, 77053, 7071, 77072, 77082, 77083, 77099, 77489, 77406, 77407, 77471, 77459, 77477, 77478, 77479, 77498, 77536, 77017, 77034, 77089, 77571, 77502, 77503, 77504, 77505, 77506, 77587.</p>
<p>Significant Community Health Needs Being Addressed</p> 	<p>The significant community health needs the hospital is helping to address and that form the basis of this document were identified in the hospital’s most recent Community Health Needs Assessment (CHNA). Needs being addressed by strategies and programs are:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Access to Care • Chronic Disease (includes obesity and overweight) • Preventive Practices
<p>Strategies and Programs to Address Needs</p> 	<p>The hospital intends to take actions and to dedicate resources to address these needs, including:</p> <p>Access to care: financial assistance, eligibility and enrollment screening, health equity education</p> <p>Chronic disease (includes obesity and overweight): community building efforts, community health education/ healthy lifestyle promotion</p> <p>Preventive practices: outreach activities and wellness promotion</p>
<p>Anticipated Impact</p> 	<p>The anticipated impact of these programs and strategies will:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Increase access and reduce barriers to care for the medically underserved. • Increase identification and treatment of chronic diseases and improved compliance with chronic disease prevention and management recommendations. • Increase the identification and treatment of disability and disease and increase individuals’ compliance with preventive care recommendations.
<p>Planned Collaboration</p> 	<p>St. Luke’s Sugar Land Hospital anticipates collaborating with the following facilities and organizations to address these priority needs: FQHCs, Health Districts, WIC, Catholic Charities, Texas AIM, SNAP, Community Clinics United Way, Fort Bend Transit, County Social Services, Health & Human Services, Independent School Districts, The Rose, American Heart Association, AgriLife Extension, Texan Center, Law Enforcement Agencies, NAMI-Houston, etc., Mamie George Community Center</p>

This document is publicly available online at the hospital’s website. Written comments on this report can be submitted to the Mission Department; 1317 Lake Pointe Parkway, Sugar Land, TX, 77478 or by email to ronald.lester@commonspirit.org or fawn.preuss@commonspirit.org.

Our Hospital and the Community Served

About the Hospital

St. Luke's Health Sugar Land Hospital is a part of CommonSpirit Health, one of the largest nonprofit health systems in the U.S., with more than 1,000 care sites in 21 states coast to coast, serving 20 million patients in big cities and small towns across America.

St. Luke's Health Sugar Land Hospital

- 1317 Lake Pointe Parkway in Sugar Land, TX
- 100 beds
- Major program and service lines:
 - Bariatric Surgery, Cardiovascular Care, Diabetes Care, Imaging & Diagnostic Procedures, Ear, Nose & Throat (ENT), Emergency Care, Gastroenterology, Infectious Diseases, Laboratory Services, Neurology & Neurosurgery, Oncology, Orthopedics & Sports Medicine, Plastic & Reconstructive Surgery, Rehabilitation Services, Respiratory & Lung Care (Pulmonology), Rheumatology, Spine Care, Surgical Services, Urology, Women's Health & Maternity



Our Mission

The hospital's dedication to assessing significant community health needs and helping to address them in conjunction with the community is in keeping with its mission. As CommonSpirit Health, we make the healing presence of God known in our world by improving the health of the people we serve, especially those who are vulnerable, while we advance social justice for all.

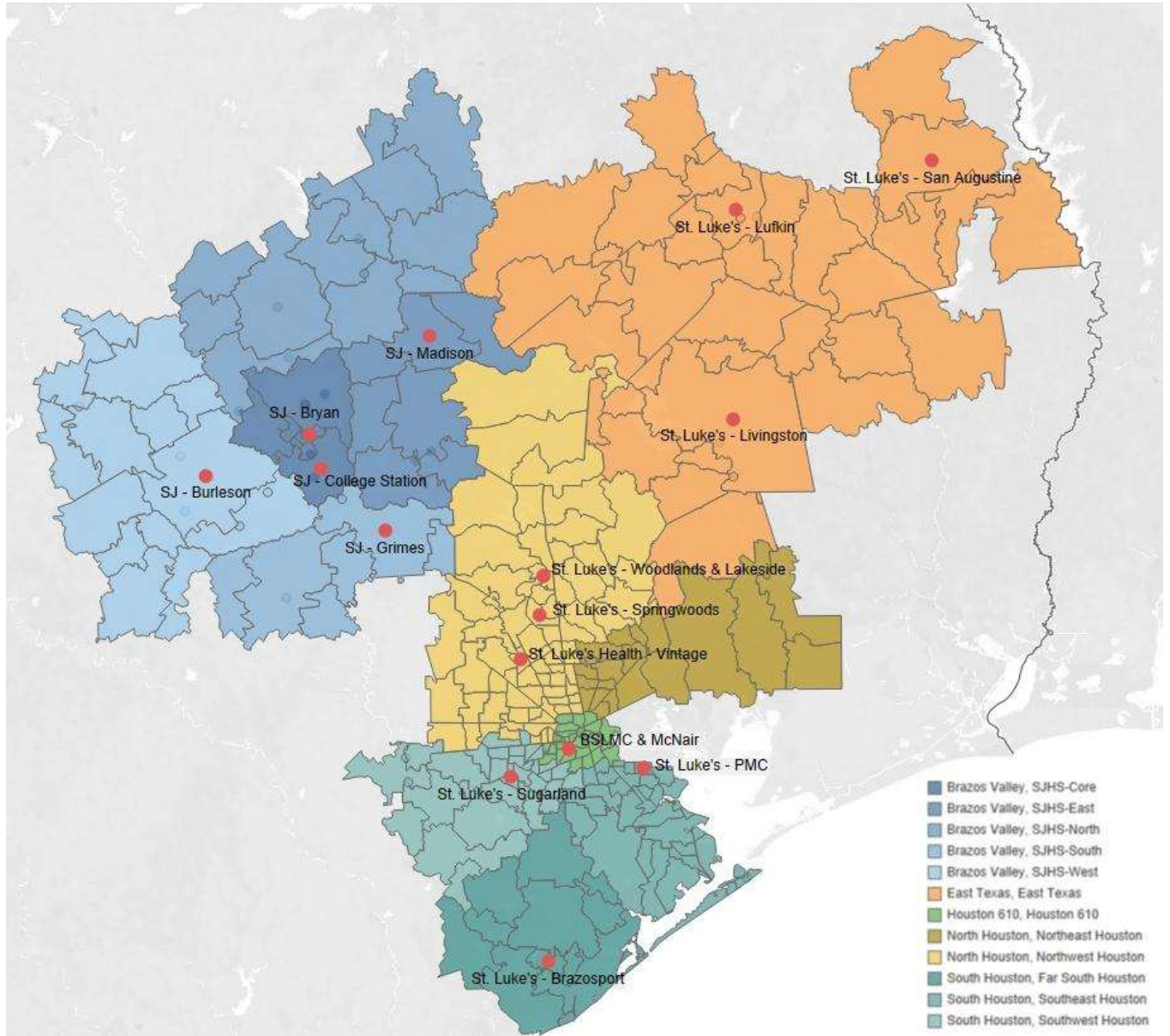
Financial Assistance for Medically Necessary Care

It is the policy of CommonSpirit Health to provide, without discrimination, emergency medical care and medically necessary care in CommonSpirit hospital facilities to all patients, without regard to a patient's financial ability to pay. This hospital has a financial assistance policy that describes the assistance provided to patients for whom it would be a financial hardship to fully pay the expected out-of-pocket expenses for such care, and who meet the eligibility criteria for such assistance. The financial assistance policy, a plain language summary and related materials are available in multiple languages on the hospital's website.

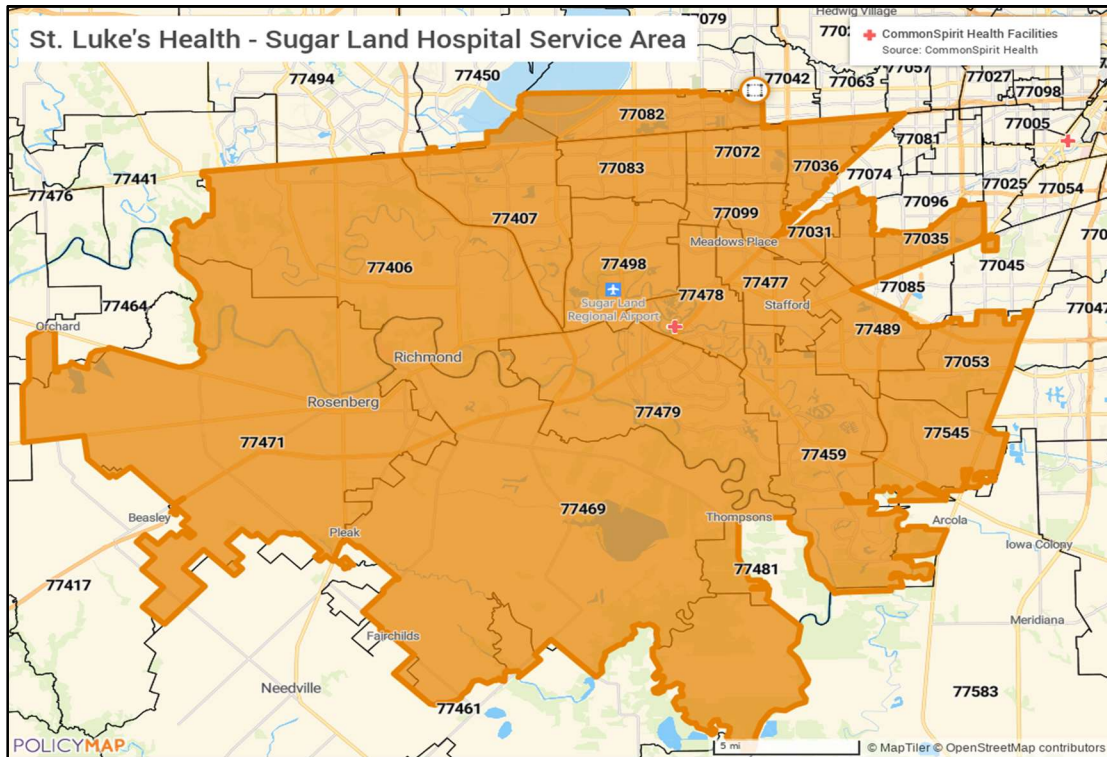
Description of the Community Served

St. Luke's Health Sugar Land Hospital has a service area that covers the following zip codes located Fort Bend (majority) and Harris County: (ZIP Codes: 77469, 77545, 77031, 77035, 77036, 77053, 7071, 77072, 77082, 77083, 77099, 77489, 77406, 77407, 77471, 77459, 77477, 77478, 77479, 77498, 77536, 77017, 77034, 77089, 77571, 77502, 77503, 77504, 77505, 77506, 77587). There is a mix of rural, urban, and suburban areas. A summary description of the community is below, and additional details can be found in the CHNA report online.

St. Luke's Health – Texas Division Service Area Map



St. Luke's Health – Sugar Land Service Area Map



The population of the hospital service area is 984,182. From 2014 to 2019, the population increased by 12.7%, which is a higher rate of growth than Harris County (8.8%) and the state (8.3%), but lower than the Fort Bend County rate of population growth (20.9%).

Children and youth, ages 0-17, make up 26.4% of the population, 63% are adults, ages 18-64, and 10.6% of the population are seniors, ages 65 and older. 32.7% of the population in the service area identifies as Hispanic/Latino, and 24.9% of the population identifies as Black/African-American. 21.8% of the population identifies as non-Hispanic White, and 18.8% are Asian. 1.4% of service area individuals identify as multiracial (two-or-more races), 0.2% as of a race/ethnicity not listed, 0.1% of residents identify as American Indian/Alaskan Natives, and 0.1% as Native Hawaiians/Pacific Islanders. In the service area, 50.9% of the population, 5 years and older, speak only English in the home. Among the area population, 27% speak Spanish, 11.4% speak an Asian/Pacific Islander language and 6.9% speak an Indo-European language in the home.

Among the residents in the service area, 13.5% are at or below 100% of the federal poverty level (FPL) and 33.4% are at 200% of FPL or below. Those who spend more than 30% of their income on housing are said to be “cost burdened.” In the service area, 35.3% of owner and renter occupied households spend 30% or more of their income on housing. Educational attainment is a key driver of health. In the hospital service area, 16.3% of adults, ages 25 and older, lack a high school diploma. 35.1% of area adults have a Bachelor’s degree or higher degree.

Harris County and Houston are designated as Medically Underserved Areas (MUA) and Health Professional Shortage Areas (HPSA) for primary care, dental health and mental health.

Many parts of Fort Bend County are food deserts. Public transportation is an issue and there is a limited amount of green spaces in Fort Bend County, especially in the urban areas. Another issue is the lack of proper sidewalks for walking.

The following groups and areas came up multiple times in stakeholder interviews as having the most barriers to accessing care: undocumented individuals - especially hispanic residents, african americans, foreign born population, and the Venezuelan community (Fulshear/Katy), labor trafficking victims, domestic violence victims, LGBTQ+ youth, young adults (ages of 18-25), pregnant African American and Latina women, working poor, seniors, individuals living with disabilities, and individuals living in poverty.

Community Assessment and Significant Needs

The health issues that form the basis of the hospital’s community health implementation strategy and programs were identified in the most recent CHNA report, which was adopted in May and June 2022. The CHNA contains several key elements, including:

- Description of the assessed community served by the hospital;
- Description of assessment processes and methods;
- Presentation of data, information and findings, including significant community health needs;
- Community resources potentially available to help address identified needs; and
- Discussion of impacts of actions taken by the hospital since the preceding CHNA.

Additional detail about the needs assessment process and findings can be found in the CHNA report, which is publicly available on the hospital’s website or upon request from the hospital, using the contact information in the At-a-Glance Summary.

Significant Health Needs

The CHNA identified the significant needs in the table below, which also indicates which needs the hospital(s) intend to address. Identified needs may include specific health conditions, behaviors and health care services, and also health-related social needs that have an impact on health and well-being.

Significant Health Need	Description	Intend to Address?
Access to Care	Access to care has one of the most severe impacts on the community. Approximately 20% of the population is uninsured. Transportation, cost, provider availability, insufficient resources available to address the need. Racial disparities in access to care were also found.	•
Birth Indicators	African American and Hispanic women have lower rates of accessing prenatal care. There are high rates of infant and maternal mortality in the African American community. Harris County shows a higher than state rate of low birth-weight babies. This service area shows a higher than state average of preterm births.	•
Chronic Disease	Chronic disease was one of the top three needs shown to have worsened over time with insufficient resources available to address the need. High rates of chronic diseases and comorbidities such as diabetes, COPD, cardiac disease, respiratory disease, hypertension, high cholesterol, asthma	•

Significant Health Need	Description	Intend to Address?
	and emphysema. The top two leading causes of death in Harris County were heart disease and cancer.	
COVID-19	Increased dependency on alcohol and drugs to deal with stress and isolation. Undiagnosed issues related to chronic disease are on the rise due to COVID. Since people didn't come in for checkups, many health issues were unchecked and got worse over the course of a year. Social isolation has affected mental health among all populations, especially among the senior population.	•
Housing & Homelessness	Affordable housing is lacking and subpar due to substandard building materials and the impacts of Hurricane Harvey and Irma. The incidence of homelessness has risen without an increase in resources or coordination.	•
Mental Health	Insufficient resources available to address the need. Socially vulnerable individuals, especially seniors, are more at risk for depression and other mental health issues due to isolation from neighbors and lack of a support network. Harris County and Houston are designated as Medically Underserved Areas (MUA) and Health Professional Shortage Areas (HPSA) for primary care, dental health and mental health.	•
Overweight & Obesity	Over a third of adults and high school students in the service area are obese and another third are overweight.	•
Preventive Practices	Many adults and parents of children seek acute/emergency care and do not emphasize the importance of preventive care. People are also behind on getting screenings and check-ups due to COVID-19.	•
Sexually Transmitted Infections (Pasadena)	Rates of STIs were higher in Harris County than the state.	•
Substance Use	Tobacco usage was shown to be lower than the state average. The largest problem is with opioids, marijuana, and alcohol with a rise in heroin use. There are not enough inpatient treatment facilities and none for children. Cost is also a major hindrance. The number of drug overdoses skyrocketed during COVID.	•
Tuberculosis	The rate of TB in Fort Bend County and Harris County were higher than the state rate in 2019.	•
Violence & Injury (Pasadena)	Human trafficking and domestic violence are issues in the area with limited resources and shelters to accommodate women and children.	•

Significant Needs the Hospital Does Not Intend to Address

The hospital system will not focus on Birth Indicators, COVID-19, Housing and Homelessness, Mental Health, Overweight and Obesity, STIs, Substance Abuse, TB, Violence and Injury/Unintentional Injury. These needs are being focused on by other organizations in our service area, similar focused work falls under an alternative significant health need label, it is not within the capacity of the hospital system, or it is beyond the mission of our health system.

2022 Implementation Strategy

This section presents strategies and program activities the hospital intends to deliver, fund or collaborate with others on to address significant community health needs over the next three years, including resources for and anticipated impacts of these activities.

Planned activities are consistent with current significant needs and the hospital’s mission and capabilities. The hospital may amend the plan as circumstances warrant, such as changes in community needs or resources to address them.

Creating the Implementation Strategy

The hospitals are dedicated to improving community health and delivering community benefit with the engagement of its management team, board, clinicians and staff, and in collaboration with community partners.

Hospital and health system participants included the Healthy Communities Council - Texas Division. Multiple departments from each hospital across the Texas Division have come together to inform, influence, and evaluate the selection and delivery of hospital community health and community benefit programs.



Community input or contributions to this implementation strategy included community stakeholder interviews conducted during the Community Health Needs Assessment (CHNA).

The programs and initiatives described here were selected based on identified community need, existing programs with evidence of success/impact, existing community partnerships, and hospital capacity by the Healthy Communities Council. The Healthy Communities Council is an interdisciplinary team made up of key stakeholders across the St. Luke’s Health - Texas Division with the goal of strategic priority alignment, accountability, leadership support, and team member and community engagement.

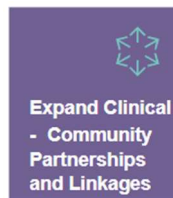
Community Health Strategic Objectives

The hospitals believe that program activities to help address significant community health needs should reflect a strategic use of resources and engagement of participants both inside and outside of the health care delivery system.

CommonSpirit Health has established four core strategic objectives for community health improvement activities. These objectives help to ensure that our program activities overall address strategic aims while meeting locally-identified needs.



Create robust alignment with multiple departments and programmatic integration with relevant strategic initiatives to optimize system resources for advancing community health.



Scale initiatives that complement conventional care to be proactive and community-centered, and strengthen the connection between clinical care and social health.





Work with community members and agency partners to strengthen the capacity and resiliency of local ecosystems of health, public health, and social services.



Partner, invest in and catalyze the expansion of evidence-based programs and innovative solutions that improve community health and well-being.

Strategies and Program Activities by Health Need


 Health Need: ACCESS TO CARE					
Anticipated Impact (Goal)		The hospital’s initiatives to address access to care are anticipated to result in increased access and reduced barriers to health care for the medically underserved.			
Strategy or Program	Summary Description	Strategic Objectives			
		Alignment & Integration	Clinical - Community Linkages	Capacity for Equitable Communities	Innovation & Impact
Financial Assistance	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> St. Luke’s Health delivers compassionate, high quality, affordable health care and advocates for members of our community who are poor and disenfranchised. In furtherance of this mission, the hospital will provide assistance to eligible patients who do not have the capacity to pay for medically necessary health care services, and who otherwise may not be able to receive these services. 	•	•	•	•
Eligibility and Enrollment	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Eligibility and enrollment services screens the patient and assists with government and indigent program connections if criteria is met. Care Coordination offers assistance as well. 	•	•	•	•


	Health Need: ACCESS TO CARE				
Health Equity	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Provide education for staff and community regarding services, cultural differences that may affect treatment • Increase communication referencing diversity and inclusion with regard to cultural stressors that impact bias and potential access to care • Actively explore new and strengthen existing volunteer and collaboration opportunities with local healthcare, civic, and non-profit agencies 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> •
Planned Resources	<p>The hospital will provide in-kind funding, staff, education materials, outreach communications, and program management support for these initiatives.</p>				
Planned Collaborators	<p>The hospital intends to explore collaboration and referral opportunities with the following groups: FQHCs, Harris Health, Mobile Clinics, WIC, Pasadena Health Center, ISD School based Clinics, Houston Mayor’s Office, HOPE Clinic, Strawberry Clinic, Meals on Wheels, Catholic Charities, Adult Protective Services, HCA, City of Houston Health Department, Healthy Choices, Texas AIM, SNAP, El Centro de Corazon (multiple locations), Spring Branch Community Health Center, Legacy Community Health, Christ Clinic, Fort Bend Health and Human Services Department, United Way, Fort Bend Transit, Second Mile Mission, Catholic Charities, Access Health, Fort Bend County Social Services, Ben Taub Hospital, Uber Health, Lunches of Love, Fort Bend Independent School Districts</p>				




Health Need: CHRONIC DISEASE (includes obesity and overweight)

Anticipated Impact (Goal)	The hospital’s initiatives to address Chronic Disease are anticipated to result in increased awareness, education and disease management for various populations in our community.				
Strategy or Program	Summary Description	Strategic Objectives			
		Alignment & Integration	Clinical - Community Linkages	Capacity for Equitable Communities	Innovation & Impact
Community Building	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Actively explore new and strengthen existing volunteer and collaboration opportunities with local healthcare, civic, and non-profit agencies 	●	●	●	●
Healthy Lifestyle Promotion	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Partner with schools, faith groups, and other non-profit organizations to provide resources and educational support Explore education opportunities with the Mamie George Senior Center (Fort Bend County/Sugar Land Hospital) 	●	●	●	●
Planned Resources	The hospital will provide in-kind funding, staff, education materials, outreach communications, and program management support for these initiatives.				
Planned Collaborators	The hospital intends to explore collaboration and referral opportunities with the following groups:YMCA, Boys and Girls Club, American Heart Association, FQHCs, Food Banks, ISD school nurses, Strawberry Health Center, Harris County Public Health, EMS, Red Cross, Pasadena Health Center, Church based food pantries, Texas Heart Institute, Community Health Choice, Texas Children’s Hospital, Kelsey Siebel,				

	Health Need: CHRONIC DISEASE (includes obesity and overweight)
	Methodist Health System, Catholic Charities, Baker Ripley, March of Dimes, WIC, Centro de Corazon, Angels Medical, El Vecino Health Centers, Hermann Hospital, Mamie George Senior Center

	Health Need: PREVENTATIVE PRACTICES				
Anticipated Impact (Goal)	The hospital’s initiatives to address Preventive Practices are anticipated to result in increased education, awareness, and prevention activities for various populations in our community.				
Strategy or Program	Summary Description	Strategic Objectives			
		Alignment & Integration	Clinical - Community Linkages	Capacity for Equitable Communities	Innovation & Impact
Community Building	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Actively explore new and strengthen existing volunteer and collaboration opportunities with local healthcare, civic, and non-profit agencies 	•	•	•	•
Outreach Activities	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Participate in community organization-led initiatives including prevention screenings, immunizations, and education 	•	•	•	•

	Health Need: PREVENTATIVE PRACTICES				
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Explore outreach opportunities with the Mamie George Senior Center (Fort Bend County/Sugar Land Hospital) 				
Wellness Promotion	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Promote importance of annual wellness visits/screenings and having an established primary care physician within the patient population and surrounding community 	•	•	•	•
Planned Resources	The hospital will provide in-kind funding, staff, education materials, outreach communications, and program management support for these initiatives.				
Planned Collaborators	The hospital intends to explore collaboration and referral opportunities with the following groups: FQHCs, Strawberry Health Clinic, The Rose, Harris Center, Harris Health, Hospital based providers, Legacy Community Health, MD Anderson, Fort Bend Health Care Center, American Heart Association, Spring Branch Community Clinic, Mamie George Senior Center				

