

FY 2020 – 2022 Community Health Implementation Strategy

Ascension Seton Hays



**Ascension
Seton**

Ascension Seton Hays Implementation Strategy

Implementation Strategy Narrative

Overview

Ascension Seton Hays is a part of Ascension Seton, formerly known as Seton Family of Hospitals, is a 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization, and an affiliate of Ascension Texas and Ascension Health, with a long-standing history of serving Central Texas, not only as a health care provider, but as a leader and advocate for improving the health of the population as a whole.

Ascension's Mission

Rooted in the loving ministry of Jesus as healer, we commit ourselves to serving all persons with special attention to those who are poor and vulnerable. Our Catholic health ministry is dedicated to spiritually-centered, holistic care which sustains and improves the health of individuals and communities. We are advocates for a compassionate and just society through our actions and our words.

Ascension Seton Hays provides advanced medical care to the residents of Hays County. From cancer to cardiovascular disease, Ascension Seton Hays offers a wide array of services and a team of expert medical professionals, including physicians who are all board-certified, to provide personalized care and help patients return to their normal lives. The hospital is the largest medical campus in Hays County with a state-of-the-art hospital, outpatient diagnostic and therapeutic services and a medical office building.

Ascension Texas has developed 17 Community Health Implementation Strategies, one for each of its hospitals and joint venture facilities. Each plan identifies the action the hospital, with the support of the Ascension Texas network, plans to take to address the prioritized needs identified in the Community Health Needs Assessment (CHNA) of its region.

The various actions included in the Implementation Strategy are not intended to be exhaustive or inclusive of every single Ascension Texas strategy, initiative or program. Instead, the plan highlights the most significant actions that each hospital has undertaken to address the health needs prioritized in the CHNA, including those strategies that are expected to make the most significant impact on the delivery of health care in the region for the poor and vulnerable.

This Implementation Strategy addresses the health care needs identified by the [2019 Ascension Seton South 1 Region CHNA](#). Hays County is the focus of this CHNA because it is part of Ascension Seton's primary service area. Ascension Seton Hays is in Hays County.

Needs That Will Be Addressed

Ascension Seton Hays will address the needs identified in the 2019 South 1 Region CHNA. These needs include access to care and mental health.

Needs That Will Not Be Addressed

Ascension Seton Hays will address both identified needs.

Summary of Implementation Strategy

Need: Access to Care

Strategy: Provide free mammograms to uninsured and underinsured.

- Medical Mission at Home provided free health, dental and vision care for the Hays community.
- In March 2019, during the Medical Mission at Home at Ascension Seton Hays, the leaders noticed a high volume of women requesting free mammograms.
- Vouchers were provided to women to return for a free mammogram once all the appointment times were filled at the Medical Mission at Home.
- Ascension Seton Hays has continued to provide free mammograms to anyone in the community who is uninsured or underinsured.

Resources and Collaboration:

- Ascension Seton Hays will provide staff support.
- Ascension Seton Hays will collaborate with radiologists and oncologists, as needed.

Anticipated impact:

- Perform 50 free mammograms annually for uninsured and underinsured community members.

Strategy: Identify, educate and support people with chronic disease through access to health care.

- Ascension Seton Hays hosts an annual health fair that provides immunizations and health screenings.
- Through local health fairs, screen and educate community members for chronic health conditions.
- Provide space and staffing at the hospital for various chronic disease support groups.

Resources and Collaboration:

- Ascension Seton Hays will provide staff support.
- Ascension Seton Hays will collaborate with radiologists and oncologists, as needed.

Anticipated Impact:

- Screen 100 people annually at health fairs for high blood pressure.
- Provide 200 free flu shots annually at health fairs.
- Provide education on chronic disease prevention at five Lunch and Learns annually.
- Involve 30 patients in various support groups on average monthly.

Strategy: Offer diabetes self-management classes and individual consults.

- Due to prevalence of diabetes, the Seton Diabetes and Nutrition Education Center (SDNEC) offers a series of 8-10 hour long self-management classes at Ascension Seton Hays, which begin every month, referred by primary care physicians and endocrinologists. Private insurance and Medicare cover some costs associated with the classes.
- Instructors are RNs and RDs who are Certified Diabetes Educators.
- The program is nationally recognized by the American Association of Diabetes Educators.
- SDNEC provides individual nutrition consults for other health conditions and offers classes in corporate work settings.

Resources and Collaboration

- Ascension Seton Hays will provide staff support, meeting space, education and screening tools.
- Diabetes educators share their time and bring supplies for the screenings, classes and consults.
- SDNEC and Ascension Seton Hays collaborate with local businesses, community outreach leaders and clinicians.
- Ascension Seton Hays works with Ascension Texas network leaders including clinicians, community outreach staff, diabetes educators and social workers.

Anticipated Impact

- Participate in 30 health fairs each year, offering free blood sugar testing and providing information on pre-diabetes and risk reduction.
- Educate 1,200 individuals through classes and individual consultations on diabetes and nutrition.

Need: Mental Health

Strategy: Create a behavioral health consortium, comprised of hospital leaders and mental and behavioral health clinicians, to provide a forum to identify site-specific needs around access to mental and behavioral health services, and consider and implement best practices that improve delivery of care to a wider variety of patients both in and outside hospitals.

- Clinicians and hospital leaders have a growing desire to deliver appropriate levels of mental and behavioral health care when and where they are needed.
- Partnership between Ascension Texas and Dell Medical School and the role clinicians play in developing the entire continuum of care for brain health as part of the Austin State Hospital redesign provides context for creation of the consortium.
- Concerns about patient, associate and clinician safety have been increasing

Resources and Collaboration

- Ascension Seton Shoal Creek and DePaul will provide time of clinicians, resource navigators and administrative leaders in partnership with Ascension Medical Group.
- As a partner with Ascension Texas, Dell Medical School will also provide staff and faculty time and resources to this initiative.
- Hospitals in the Ascension Texas network will provide time of clinicians and administrative leaders.
- Ascension Texas and Dell Medical School at The University of Texas, including the Network Clinical Care Councils (NC3) and Behavioral Health Strategy Group.
- Community organizations providing mental and health care services, including the local mental health authority.

Anticipated Impact

- Expansion of coordinated continuum of care for mental and behavioral health services as measured by implementation of consortium-developed site-specific strategies.
- Metrics of the impact of specific strategies agreed upon by the consortium to be developed by July 1, 2020.

Prioritized Need #1: Access to Care

GOAL: Improve access to care for community members

Action Plan

STRATEGY 1: Provide free mammograms to uninsured and underinsured.
BACKGROUND INFORMATION: <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Medical Mission at Home provided free health, dental and vision care for the Hays community.• In March 2019, during the Medical Mission at Home at Ascension Seton Hays, the leaders noticed a high volume of women requesting free mammograms.• Vouchers were provided to women to return for a free mammogram once all the appointment times were filled at the Medical Mission at Home.• The hospital has continued to provide free mammograms to anyone in the community who is uninsured or underinsured.
RESOURCES: <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Ascension Seton Hays will provide staff support.
COLLABORATION: <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Ascension Seton Hays will collaborate with radiologists and oncologists, as needed.
ACTIONS: <ol style="list-style-type: none">1. Identify women who are uninsured or underinsured who meet criteria for a free mammogram.2. Provide mammographic support.
ANTICIPATED IMPACT: <ol style="list-style-type: none">1. Perform 50 free mammograms annually for uninsured and underinsured community members.

STRATEGY 2: Identify, educate and support people with chronic disease through access to health care.

BACKGROUND INFORMATION:

- Ascension Seton Hays hosts an annual health fair that provides immunizations and health screenings.
- Through local health fairs, screen and educate community members for chronic health conditions.
- Provide space and staffing at the hospital for various chronic disease support groups.

RESOURCES:

- Ascension Seton Hays will provide staff support, meeting space, education tools and screening tools.

COLLABORATION:

- Ascension Seton Hays will collaborate with physicians, local health fairs and faith-based entities.

ACTIONS:

1. Identify common chronic illnesses in the service area.
2. Identify opportunities for screenings and education through health fairs.
3. Provide leadership for support groups, such as Easy Breathers and Very Important Hearts.
4. Educate community about disease prevention, monitoring and treatment through physician led Lunch and Learns.

ANTICIPATED IMPACT:

- I. Screen 100 people annually at health fairs for high blood pressure.
- II. Provide 200 free flu shots annually at health fairs.
- III. Provide education on chronic disease prevention at five Lunch and Learns annually.
- IV. Involve 30 patients in various support groups on average monthly.

STRATEGY 3: Offer diabetes self-management classes and individual consults.

BACKGROUND INFORMATION:

- Due to prevalence of diabetes, the Seton Diabetes and Nutrition Education Center (SDNEC) offers a series of 8-10 hour long self-management classes at Ascension Seton Hays, which begin every month, referred by primary care physicians and endocrinologists. Private insurance and Medicare cover some costs associated with the classes.
- Instructors are RNs and RDs who are Certified Diabetes Educators.
- The program is nationally recognized by the American Association of Diabetes Educators.
- SDNEC provides individual nutrition consults for other health conditions and offers classes in corporate work settings.

RESOURCES:

- Ascension Seton Hays will provide staff support, meeting space, education and screening tools.
- Diabetes educators share their time and bring supplies for the screenings, classes and consults.

COLLABORATION:

- SDNEC and Ascension Seton Hays collaborate with local businesses, community outreach leaders and clinicians.
- Ascension Seton Hays works with Ascension Texas network leaders including clinicians, community outreach staff, diabetes educators and social workers.

ACTIONS:

1. In collaboration with hospital leaders and community partners, promote opportunities for diabetes awareness.
2. Offer regularly recurring series of evidence-based classes on self-management of diabetes and individual consults on nutrition.
3. Participate in health fairs and provide blood sugar testing and offer risk-reduction strategies.

ANTICIPATED IMPACT:

- I. Participate in 30 health fairs each year, offering free blood sugar testing and providing information on pre-diabetes and risk reduction.
- II. Educate 1,200 individuals through classes and individual consultations on diabetes and nutrition.

Alignment with State & National Priorities

OBJECTIVE:	STATE PLAN:	HEALTHY PEOPLE 2020:
Strategy 1: I, Strategy 2: I – IV, Strategy 3: I and II	Department of State Health Services Strategic Plan: Goal 1: Improve health through prevention and population-health strategies.	Healthy People 2020 AHS-6 Reduce the of proportion of persons who are unable to obtain or delay in obtaining necessary medical care.

Prioritized Need #2: Mental Health

GOAL: Expand provision of mental and behavioral health services

Action Plan

STRATEGY 1: Create a behavioral health consortium, comprised of hospital leaders and mental and behavioral health clinicians, to provide a forum to identify site-specific needs around access to mental and behavioral health services, and consider and implement best practices that improve delivery of care to a wider variety of patients both in and outside hospitals.

BACKGROUND INFORMATION:

- Clinicians and hospital leaders have a growing desire to deliver appropriate levels of mental and behavioral health care when and where they are needed.
- Partnership between Ascension Texas and Dell Medical School and the role clinicians play in developing the entire continuum of care for brain health as part of the Austin State Hospital redesign provides context for creation of the consortium.
- Concerns about patient, associate and clinician safety have been increasing.

RESOURCES:

- Ascension Seton Shoal Creek and DePaul will provide time of clinicians, resource navigators and administrative leaders in partnership with Ascension Medical Group.
- As a partner with Ascension Texas, Dell Medical School will also provide staff and faculty time and resources to this initiative.
- Hospitals in the Ascension Texas network will provide time of clinicians and administrative leaders.

COLLABORATION:

- Ascension Texas and Dell Medical School at The University of Texas, including the Network Clinical Care Councils (NC3) and Behavioral Health Strategy Group.
- Community organizations providing mental and health care services, including the local mental health authority.

ACTIONS:

1. Leaders at Ascension Seton Shoal Creek and DePaul, in partnership with Dell Medical School faculty, identify leaders and convene the consortium by March 2020.
2. By July 1, 2020, consortium creates charter and goals and establishes timeline for implementation.
3. By January 2021, consortium has implemented strategies in at least three Ascension Texas sites to improve coordination, provision of care and/or safety of patients, community and/or clinicians.
4. By July 2021, consortium evaluates experience of strategies of at least three sites to assess effectiveness and makes recommendations for improvement based on findings.

ANTICIPATED IMPACT:

- I. Expansion of coordinated continuum of care for mental and behavioral health services as measured by implementation of consortium-developed site-specific strategies.
- II. Metrics of the impact of specific strategies agreed upon by the consortium to be developed by July 1, 2020.

Alignment with State & National Priorities

OBJECTIVE:	STATE PLAN:	HEALTHY PEOPLE 2020:
I and II	Department of State Health Services Strategic Plan: Goal 1: Improve health through prevention and population-health strategies.	Healthy People 2020 MHMD-9 Increase the proportion of adults with mental health disorders who receive treatment.

Approval

Prepared by Ascension Seton. Formally recommended and approved by the Ascension Seton Board of Directors on October 23, 2019 and thereafter approved and adopted by the Ascension Texas Board of Directors on October 23, 2019.