

**Piedmont Athens Regional Medical Center
CHNA Implementation Strategy – Fiscal Years 2023, 2024, and 2025**

On October 27, 2022, Piedmont Athens Regional Medical Center’s board of directors approved the hospital's community health needs assessment (CHNA) implementation strategy, which laid out the tactics and strategies the hospital will undertake over the next three fiscal years to address the health priorities established in the hospital’s CHNA.

Priority: Ensure affordable access to health, mental and dental care			
Vision	Goal	Tactics	How to measure
Low- and no-income patients receive assistance for necessary care	Eligible low- and no-income patients are enrolled in Medicaid or hospital-based financial assistance program	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Financial assistance is available for eligible low- and no-income populations • Patients are adequately alerted that financial assistance is available • Patients are given tools, resources, and ample opportunity to apply for assistance • Eligibility threshold of 300% Federal Poverty Level for financial assistance is maintained throughout all Piedmont hospitals • Actively screen all potentially patients for Medicaid coverage 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Annual review of policy, guidelines, Plain Language Summary, and languages served, updated to reflect any changes • Consistent policy administered throughout PHC
Vulnerable populations receive health care	Provide primary care home for under and uninsured	Community Care Clinic provides primary, specialty, and pharmacy services regardless of income or insurance status	Operational expenses, pharmacy staff salaries, pharmacy expenses
Community members can	Provide transportation services	Pay community transportation companies for	Transportation expenses

physically access care	for low-income patients	transport of patients for medical appointments	
Low-income patients receive necessary lab services	Support Mercy Health Center's patients with laboratory services	Provide free lab services to qualifying patients at Mercy Health	Lab expenses
Future health workers are trained	Build future health workforce; high school, college, graduate, nursing, and medical students, and medical residents, receive experiential educational opportunities	Provide opportunities for shadowing, internship, externship, volunteer, and resident opportunities, including opportunities through Empower Career Academy & Athens Career Academy	Number of students, Athens Tech financial support
Future health workers are trained	Award six \$500 grants to six local HOSA clubs in surrounding high schools	Create mini-grant program to benefit HOSA (Health Occupations Student Associations) in local high schools	Number and amount of awards
More community members receive mental health services	Increased access and mental health treatment provided to patients receiving care at the Clay Community Care Clinic	The Clay Community Care Clinic will explore a partnership with the UGA Graduate Behavioral Health program to help improve the mental health of the Clinic's patients.	Number of patients, number of visits
More community members receive mental health services	Quality behavioral health services provided to Piedmont Athens Regional patients in a timely and efficient manner	Continue partnerships with Riverwoods to provide behavioral health assessments and Advantage Behavioral Health to provide mental healthcare coordination.	Number of patients referred, number of patients receiving care
Community leaders better understand health care within the community	Community leaders will receive health education and will have fuller understanding of hospital resources to inform their leadership role in the community	Leadership groups in Athens, Jackson and Barrow counties will connect with hospital through health education events and hospital tours	Number of participants, material expenses
Patients and caregivers have a meaningful voice in their health care	Improve patient and caregiver experiences through a Patient and Family Advisory Council	Regularly convene a Patient Family Advisory Council comprised of patients, caregivers and staff	Number of meetings, meeting expenses

Mental health services within the community are strengthened	Participate on Envision Athens' Board and Healthy Athens Committee to provide input on mental health strategies created across organizations	Provide input on community mental health strategies through being a board member of Envision Athens and participating in Healthy Athens subcommittee	Number of meetings, meeting expenses
More children have access to dental care	Partner with Hilsman Health Center & local dentists to improve children's dental health	Assist the Hilsman Health Center in recruiting local dentists to volunteer their time during the school week to treat students	Number of participating dentists, number of hours volunteered, number of patients treated

Priority: Promote healthy behaviors to reduce preventable conditions, diseases, and addiction

Vision	Goal	Tactics	How to measure
Vulnerable community members receive education, screenings and referrals	Reach vulnerable populations with prevention education and disease management skills (includes heart disease)	Serve clients of community partners with prevention education, chronic disease management education, screenings, and referrals to health and social services	Number people reached, material expenses
Children and families are better equipped to make safe decisions	Provide health and safety education to school-aged children and families	Healthy behavior programs in school classrooms, SafeKids programming with community partners including ACC Sheriff & Police Departments, Oglethorpe County Sheriff's Office & Oconee County Sheriff's Office	Number of participants, material expenses
Children and school staff have tools to stay mentally healthy	Provide mental health tips to school-aged children and school staff	Create and distribute short videos on mental health strategies for children & staff	Number of videos created, number of watches
Teen mothers have more tools to stay healthy	Reach incarcerated pregnant teens and teen mothers with health education	Provide education in partnership with Athens-Clarke County District Attorney's office	Number of people reached, material expenses
Fewer community members	Reach community-at-large and	Provide stroke education classes, maintain DNV	Number of participants, material

die from stroke	vulnerable populations with stroke education	Stroke Center Certification	expenses
More community members walk and hike	Reach community-at-large with health education as part of Firefly Trail project	Partner with UGA Extension Service to provide health education opportunities on walking/biking trail	Number of opportunities provided, material expenses
Fewer community members suffer from opioid addiction	Reach community-at-large and vulnerable populations with opioid addiction education	Create and promote Speakers Bureau offering on opioid addiction facts and recovery resources	Phase 1: research & creation of presentation. Phase 2: number of participants, material expenses
Community members suffering from opioid addiction recover	Promote National Rehab Hotline	Distribute opioid fact sheet with National Rehab Hotline number	Number of flyers distributed and tracking of material expenses
Fewer community members suffer from opioid addiction	Participate in Athens Police & DA's Office Opioid & Fentanyl Overdose Taskforce	Explore opportunities to partner with community agencies/organizations to address the overdose problem	Number of community collaborations & number of patients treated

Priority: Reduce preventable instances of death from cancer

Vision	Goal	Tactics	How to measure
Fewer community members die from cancer	Reach vulnerable populations with cancer prevention information, cancer management skills, and caregiver support	Free group and individual counseling, education about trusted resources and treatment options, grief and illness-adjustment counseling at Loran Smith Center for Cancer Support, and education and resource awareness at community events	Number people reached, material expenses
Fewer community members	Reach community-at-large and	Provide education on breast cancer prevention	Number of participants, material

die from cancer	vulnerable populations with breast cancer education	and treatment options	expenses
More women are screened for breast cancer	Provide screening and diagnostic mammograms to vulnerable populations	Provide screening & mammograms at PAR Breast Health Center with financial assistance from PAR Foundation	Number people screened, expenses
More community members are screened for lung cancer	Provide lung cancer screening to vulnerable populations; support patient efforts to stop smoking	Provide lung cancer screenings to uninsured patients through targeted events with clinics	Number people screened, expenses

Priority: Reduce preventable instances of death from heart disease

Vision	Goal	Tactics	How to measure
Fewer community members smoke	Provide nicotine cessation support; patients receive information and support for making a detailed, personalized quit plan	Free, four-session in-person (Athens' area) and virtual nicotine cessation classes (provided by Athens, open to community members systemwide)	Number of participants, material expenses
Fewer community members die from a heart attack	Reach vulnerable populations and community-at-large with CPR skills; community receives education on signs and symptoms of heart attack and practices skills for assisting in cardiac arrest	Provide CPR certification and hands-only CPR courses to community-at-large and for staff of community partners who serve vulnerable populations, maintain DNV chest pain center certification	Number of participants, material expenses