

**2016**

**UP Health System Portage**

**Implementation Strategy**

**To Address Significant Community Health Needs**

Paper copies of this document may be obtained at UP Health System Portage, 500 Campus Drive,  
Hancock, MI 49930 or by phone 906-483-1500 or via the hospital website

<http://www.portagehealth.org>

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## Overview

The Community Health Needs Assessment (CHNA) defines priorities for health improvement, creates a collaborative community environment to engage stakeholders, and an open and transparent process to listen and truly understand the health needs of the community served by UP Health System Portage (Houghton County, Michigan). This document is the Implementation Plan outlining how UP Health System Portage will address significant health needs in the community.

The CHNA is contained in a separate document.

The UP Health System Portage board of directors approved this assessment and the hospital's implementation plan on August 10, 2016.

Starting on August 15, 2016, this report is made widely available to the community via UPHS Portage's website, [www.portagehealth.org](http://www.portagehealth.org), and paper copies are available free of charge at UPHS Portage, 500 Campus Drive, Hancock, MI 49930 or by phone 906-483-1500.

To successfully make our community healthier, it was necessary to have a collaborative venture which brought together all of the care providers, citizens, government, schools, churches, not-for-profit organizations, and business and industry around an effective plan of action. UPHS Portage selected key elements of the assessment to address, as set forth in the Implementation Plan, and encouraged other organizations in the community to do the same.

Based on the results of this CHNA, UPHS Portage selected three (3) of the identified significant health needs to address.

### 1. Aging / Chronic Disease Management:

#### a. UPHS Portage plans to meet this significant health need by:

- i. Developing a Clinically Integrated Network within the Upper Peninsula. This clinically integrated network will provide a framework for the physicians in the network to drive clinical improvements across populations and care locations leading to a measurable overall improvement in the health status of area patients as well as a reduction in the overall cost of care.
- ii. Development of a Community Paramedic Program. A community paramedic program will be developed to address transition of care issues for area most at risk patients to reduce the frequency of crisis events for

these at risk patients. UPHS Portage plans to collaborate with area Emergency Medical Service providers and Hospitals.

- iii. Community Awareness Campaigns. UPHS Portage will develop and host a series of programs for people dealing with chronic conditions in our community.

## 2. Mental & Behavioral Health:

- a. UPHS Portage plans to meet this significant health need by:

- i. Assisting in the recruitment of a professional (psychiatrists, psychologists, clinical social workers).
- ii. Development of a Community Paramedic Program. A community paramedic program will be developed to address ongoing check-ins with area at risk patients. The goal of the program would be to decrease the frequency of crisis times by coordinating services prior to crisis. UPHS-Portage plans to collaborate with area Emergency Medical Service providers and Hospitals.
- iii. Continued participation with area Behavioral Health Improvement Task Force Activities. UPHS will continue to support and participate in the area behavioral task force activities, specifically working towards development of an area mental and behavioral health asset inventory, development of easy to use crisis materials related to locally available support services. UPHS Portage, through this task force, will be working with over 30 different community agencies.  
  
Development of a behavioral Health Medical Home. UPHS Portage will participate in the development of a behavioral health medical home for area “at risk” young people. UPHS Portage will collaborate with Upper Great Lakes Family Health Center, Copper Country Independent School District, and other area agencies.

## 3. Access to Care:

- a. UPHS Portage plans to meet this significant health need by:

- i. Availability of needed physician specialties. UPHS Portage will support this effort by bringing to the community, either by direct employment, outreach, professional service agreements, or telemedicine, the following specialties: (1) Ophthalmology, (2) ENT, (3) Psychiatry, (4) Cardiology, and (5) dermatology.

- ii. **Accessibility of Means Based Services:** UPHS Portage will support the growth and expansion of means based services in the community through strengthening the relationship with Upper Great Lakes Family Health Center by developing a comprehensive new service location in the community of Calumet. This new clinic will provide primary care, behavioral health, and comprehensive oral care, as well as physical and occupational therapy services.
- iii. **Healthcare Navigator Program.** UPHS Portage will support expansion of Medicaid in the State of Michigan by having trained staff available to assist patients in accessing the many different health care insurance programs available on the Health Care Exchange, as well as identifying and assisting individuals who qualify for charity programs to complete the applications.

UPHS Portage will monitor the progress through the Hospital's Executive Team and will annually report the progress to their Board and the community.

The UPHS Portage board of directors approved this assessment and the hospital's implementation plan on August 10, 2016.

Community input was received into the 2016 implementation plan during a community meeting on August 30, 2016. Where possible the implementation plan was altered to reflect this input.