



2025–2028

 **Lower Bucks Hospital**

Implementation Strategy

To Address Significant Community Health Needs

Bucks County, Pennsylvania

Table of Contents

Overview3

Community Health Improvement Implementation Plan 2025.....3

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 Lower Bucks Hospital (Bucks County, Pennsylvania). This document is the Lower Bucks Hospital (LBH) Implementation Plan outlining how the hospital plans on addressing significant health needs in the community identified in the 2025 community health needs assessment.

The CHNA is contained in a separate document.

Lower Bucks Hospital's Board of Directors approved and adopted this Implementation Strategy on August 7, 2025

Starting on August 7, 2025, this report is made widely available to the community via Lower Bucks Hospital's website, www.Lowerbuckshosp.com, and paper copies are available free of charge at Lower Bucks Hospital, 501 Bath Road, Bristol, PA 19007.

Community Health Improvement Implementation Plan 2025

To successfully make our community healthier, it is necessary to have a collaborative venture which brings together all of the care providers, citizens, government, schools, churches, not-for-profit organizations and business and industry around an effective plan of action. The community health needs assessment was completed previously and posted on LBH's website.

Based on the results of the CHNA, Lower Bucks Hospital has selected the top two of the identified significant health needs to address.

1. Mental health
2. Substance use disorder

LBH plans to meet the significant health need by:

1. The actions of the hospital facility will address the significant health need
2. The anticipated impact of these actions
3. The programs and resources the hospital plans to commit to address the health need
4. Any planned collaboration between the hospital facility and other facilities or organizations

There is a link on the LBH's Community Health Needs Assessment section of their website for the community to provide written input into the 2025 CHNA and implementation plan.

LBH does not intend to address the following significant health needs:

1. Access and Affordability of Care
2. Housing
3. Living Wages

Due to resource and expertise limitations, we are not access/affordability of care, addressing community health needs regarding housing and living wages.

Lower Bucks Hospital – Bucks County Community Health Improvement Plan

Significant Health Need: Mental Health

Goal 1: Focus on improving Mental Health Services

Objective 1: Educate Nursing Homes Management in Bucks County on Behavioral Health.

Actions	Target Populations	Anticipated Impact	Collaborators	Resources
Involvement of BCHIP leadership to support Nursing Home site visits	Bucks County Healthcare Improvement Partnership	Buy in needed to help emphasize need for mental health	BCHIP leadership, LBH C-Suite	Site visit, education
C-Suite to visit nursing homes with behavioral health coordinator to present to each nursing home	Those with depression, anxiety and other mental health issues	Decrease stigma; highlight local resources	Nursing home leadership, CEO, behavioral health coordinator,	Pamphlets, verbal education.
Nursing Home leadership site visits to LBH Behavioral Health departments	Those with depression, anxiety and other mental health issues	Buy-in of nursing home leadership to understand hospital Mental Health services	BHU Staff, Nursing Home leadership, LBH C-Suite	Continued education of policies and procedures.
Six month follow up after Nursing Home leadership to LBH Behavioral Health for feedback, re-education.	Those with depression, anxiety and other mental health issues	To correct any issues with communication, coordination or unsatisfied delivery of services	Nursing Home leadership, LBH C-Suite, BHU coordinate/manager	Site visit, re-education

Objective 2. Create a Memory Care Environment in Senior Behavioral Health

Create a team of interested stakeholders to design MCE	Those with depression, anxiety and other mental health issues	Provide actionable information. Increase those seeking help	CNO, Facilities, volunteers, staff	Funding, design, policies,
Apply for Grant to secure funding to construct MCE	Those with depression, anxiety and other mental health issues	Complete application.	C-Suite, Highmark	Application,

Construct MCE and create policies for therapeutic care	Multidisciplinary team to provide feedback, design, and policy creation.	Draw down on selection of environmental impact, policies change, re-education.	Regional Facilities, BHU/Quality leadership, C-Suite	Grant, design study completed 7/25, additional evidence-based resources.
Educate staff and patients on MCE. Implement policies and educational content.	Educator, BHU/SBHU educator, program director, nurses and SBHU staff.	Improve patient experience, improve community outreach, decrease stigma on mental health in seniors.	CNO/BHU leadership/Staff	Evidence-based resources, information from design partners.

Objective 3. Receive approval for Montgomery County to refer to both Senior Behavioral Health and Adult Behavioral Health

CNO to reach out the Montgomery County for behavioral health admission approval including 302 patients.	CNO, BHU program director, Mental health delegate (Bucks and Montgomery Couty)	Improve access for mental health resources for community.	CNO, Program Director, Bucks County Mental Health	LBH BHU/SBHU overview and program objective presentation, admission fact sheets, contact information.
Once approved, coordinate with Montgomery County hospitals/nursing homes to educate that LBH can take mental health patients.	Those with depression, anxiety and other mental health issues	Improve access for mental health resources for community	CEO, CNO, CMO, Admissions Liaison, BHU Program Director	LBH BHU/SBHU overview and program objective presentation, admission fact sheets, contact information.
Follow up with Montgomery County and their Hospitals	Those with depression, anxiety and other mental health issues	Improve access for mental health resources for community	CEO, CNO, CMO, Admissions Liaison, BHU Program Director	LBH BHU/SBHU overview and program objective presentation, admission fact sheets, contact information.

Objective 4. . Receive approval for Philadelphia to refer to both Senior Behavioral Health and Adult Behavioral Health

CNO to reach out to Philadelphia mental health leadership for behavioral health admission approval including 302 patients.	CNO, BHU program director, Mental health delegate (Bucks and Philadelphia Couty)	Improve access for mental health resources for community	CNO, Program Director, Bucks County Mental Health	LBH BHU/SBHU overview and program objective presentation, admission fact sheets, contact information.
Once approved, coordinate with Philadelphia hospitals/nursing	Those with depression, anxiety and	Improve access for mental health	CEO, CNO, CMO, Admissions Liaison,	LBH BHU/SBHU overview and program objective

homes to educate that LBH can take mental health patients.	other mental health issues	resources for community	BHU Program Director	presentation, admission fact sheets, contact information.
Educate staff, physicians, ER on ability to take 302 mental health patients from Philadelphia	Those with depression, anxiety and other mental health issues	Improve access for mental health resources for community	CEO, CNO, CMO, Admissions Liaison, BHU Program Director	LBH BHU/SBHU overview and program objective presentation, admission fact sheets, contact information.

Significant Health Need: Substance Use Disorder

Goal 2 : Promote substance abuse awareness and prevention

Objective 1: Prevent and treat opioid substance misuse of patients coming to LBH

Actions	Target Populations	Anticipated Impact	Collaborators	Resources
Work together with County and other resources to create a warm handoff for patients with opioid substance misuse.	Patients with opioid abuse in ER.	Increase awareness and knowledge of substance abuse needs, services and resources. Lower drug overdose deaths	Bucks County Drug & Alcohol Commission, Inc., Lower Bucks Addiction Task Force, Physician offices, Pharmacists	Education resources
Allow access to BCARES and provide information on patients to follow	Community, providers, LBH staff, LBH CM team	Increase and improve treatment for SUD	CM Director, BCare Director, LBH leadership	Daily census, arrival of patients in crisis with SUD
Allow BCARES to round with nursing on the inpatient floors to provide education and resources to patients at risk of opioid, alcohol, or any other drugs.	Community in high-risk areas - libraries, hospitals, health departments, workplaces, schools	Save lives, reduce harm. Lower drug overdose deaths. Narcan deployment. # of overdoses treated with Narcan collected from various sources.	Schools, libraries, hospitals, pharmacists	Narcan injections, training
Invite BCARES to provide education to leadership, staff, physicians to identify substance abuse patients.	Patients	Increase understanding of the population. ED visits related to drug abuse and drinking	LBH Decision Support, ED staff	Statistics, regular standing updates, information from City of Philadelphia

Objective 2: Work with local Police to help with mental health patients.

Work together with local police departments of each township/borough to create a safe and private entrance/holding area for 302/dual diagnosis patients	Mental Health Patients, Law Enforcement, ED staff	Efficient access to treatment with consideration of maximum public safety.	Bucks County Drug & Alcohol Commission, Lower Bucks Addiction Task Force, Gaudenzia, Sheriff's office, other recovery providers, LBH leadership	Project Management, installation, safety bench
Provide sensitivity training to staff and local police to provide coping skills with mental health patients in our community.	BHU Program Director and local Law Enforcement	Improved community outreach, improved de-escalation and mental health assistance	BHU program director, C Suite, LBH leadership	LBH Sensitivity Program
Distribute suicide prevention workbook and community resources to patients and parents when applicable	BHU Program Director, NAMI	Lower ED visits. Lower binge drinking. ED visits for drinking and decrease overdoses related to suicide attempt.	School superintendent and school board, teachers, school nurses, LBH staff	Resource Guide
Objective 3: Provide Substance Abuse Education for Prevention and Awareness				
Use the SAMSA Substance use prevention month Awareness Month (October) Toolkit	Community, recovery community	Reduce substance abuse and misuse. Fewer alcohol related driving deaths. Assess data currently available - hospitals, law enforcement	Bucks County Drug & Alcohol Commission, Lower Bucks Addiction Task Force, Gaudenzia, Sheriff's office, other recovery providers	Evidence based resources.
Provide substance abuse prevention and management education materials at health fairs and community events	Substance users, community and family	Reduce substance abuse and misuse	Bucks County Drug & Alcohol Commission, Lower Bucks Addiction Task Force, Gaudenzia, Sheriff's office, other recovery providers	Materials from BCDA
Objective 4 Decrease tobacco use and vaping in the community				
Ensure all municipalities, workplaces, schools, etc. update their policies to include vaping.	kids, teens, adults, parents	Decreased incidence of vaping and prevent new onset.	School superintendent and school board, teachers, school nurses, LBH staff, community providers, primary care engagement	Community education, raised awareness, evidence-based literature

Provide programs on resources and awareness of tobacco/vaping	kids, teens, adults, parents	Decreased incidence of vaping and prevent new onset.	School superintendent and school board, teachers, school nurses, LBH staff, community providers, primary care engagement	Community education, raised awareness, evidence-based literature
---	------------------------------	--	--	--