

Stormont Vail Health
FY 2025 – 2027 Flint Hills Campus Hospital Implementation Plan
Addressing Priorities Identified in the
2024 Geary County Community Health Needs Assessment

Adopted by the authorized governing body effective: October 24, 2024

Stormont Vail Health

Stormont Vail Health (SVH) is committed to providing the best possible health care for our community. Our commitment to community partnerships and attention to social determinants of health exemplifies our mission, “Working together to improve the health of our community”. SVH has a long history in our community. We are the product of a 1949 merger between Christ’s Hospital (1884) and the Jane C. Stormont Hospital and Training School for Nurses (1895). Stormont Vail Hospital and Cotton O’Neil joined in 1995 to form Stormont Vail Health.

Stormont Vail Health [Stormont Vail Hospital](#) is a nonprofit integrated health system based in Topeka, Kansas that has served the healthcare needs of Kansas for more than 130 years. It is comprised of Stormont Vail Hospital in Topeka (a 586-bed acute care hospital), Stormont Vail Flint Hills Hospital in Junction City (a 92-bed acute care hospital), Stormont Vail Manhattan Campus (a primary care, specialty care, and imaging clinic), and Cotton O’Neil Clinic (a multi-specialty physician group with more than 500 providers). Stormont Vail has been recognized as a Magnet organization since 2009 by the American Nurses Credentialing Center, achieving its fourth designation in 2024.

Stormont Vail Health has a deep commitment to the community and to Kansas to provide the best possible health care. Stormont Vail Health is a member of the Mayo Clinic Care Network, a group of more than 40 health care organizations who have joined together to complement their local expertise with the knowledge and experience of Mayo Clinic health care professionals. Stormont Vail Health and Children’s Mercy Kansas City became affiliated in 2018, opening a pediatric multi-specialty clinic on the Topeka Campus and strengthening the services available at the Flint Hills Campus.

Stormont Vail Health’s local partnerships include a health education and research affiliation with Kansas State University, an affiliation with Manhattan Surgical Hospital, collaborations with Manhattan Technical College, Topeka Center for Advanced Learning & Careers (TCALC), Washburn University, Washburn Tech, and other regional academic organizations.

2024 Community Health Needs Assessment

A Community Health Needs Assessment (CHNA) is an important tool used for examining and improving the health of a community. It provides insight into the current health status of a community by identifying needs and potential means of fulfilling them. The CHNA includes comprehensive information about health risks and outcomes based on systematic collection and analysis of data and conversations with community members and leaders. A Steering Committee comprised of representatives from Stormont Vail Health, the Geary County Health Department, Live Well Geary County Coalition, Pawnee Mental Health, USD 475, and Konza Prairie Community Health Center determined and implemented the method of collecting information for the 2024 CHNA. The CHNA was completed March 11–April 30, 2024. The Flint Hills Campus is a new Stormont Vail Health entity; therefore, this is the first Community Health Needs Assessment in Geary County in which SVH has been involved.

As of the 2023 census, Geary County was home to an estimated 35,934 residents. The 2024 CHNA included a perception survey completed by 601 community members, feedback from eight roundtables with 65 under-represented voices, a Town Hall community conversation attended by 75 individuals representing over 40 organizations, and data compiled from County Health Rankings and community demographics.

Community members prioritized the following five needs in the 2024 Geary County CHNA:

- Access to Community Resources
- Youth Character Development
- Transportation
- Obesity
- Mental Health

Purpose of the Implementation Strategy

Federal tax law in Internal Revenue Code section 501 (r) requires hospital facilities owned and operated by 501 (c) (3) organizations to conduct a CHNA at least every three years. The federal tax law also requires adoption of an Implementation Strategy outlining plans to address some of the community health needs identified in the CHNA. This Implementation Strategy describes Stormont Vail Health’s response to the needs identified through the 2024 CHNA process. Since this is SVH’s first iteration, progress towards previous CHNA goals will not be addressed.

Stormont Vail Health leaders reviewed the health priorities identified in the 2024 CHNA process for alignment with our mission and expertise, availability of resources to make a measurable difference, and support from community organizations in executing solutions to address underserved populations. Considerations included: the number of people impacted by the problem, severity, inequities and disparities that disproportionately impact the poor, underserved, and vulnerable, and ability to leverage existing partnerships and/or hospital resources and programs.

FY 2025-2027 Stormont Vail Health Geary County CHNA Implementation Plan

The Stormont Vail Health (SVH) Implementation Plan includes internal strategies as well as our involvement in community-based workgroup strategies to support all identified CHNA priorities.

Priority # 1 – Strategies to Improve Access to Community Resources

- Flint Hills Campus Care Managers and Community Resource Representatives will assess patients for needs related to Social Determinants of Health and refer to community resources. These team members will maintain a guide outlining local and nearby resources as well as refer to <https://jclib.org/community/#crg> the Junction City Library annual resource guide.
- SVH Team members will actively participate in a Community Health Improvement Plan workgroup addressing community resource strategies. Community-based options may include automating the library list of resources or more fully utilizing the USD 475 QR code link to resources.
- The Community Engagement Department and Care Transformation Department will research options for integration of a closed loop referral network and potential funding opportunities.
- The Regional Relations Department will engage community partners through employer fairs, Chamber of Commerce activities, and meet with referring providers to mutually share information regarding resources.

Priority # 2 – Strategies to Increase Youth Character Development

- The Flint Hills Campus will provide meeting space for Medical Explorer Scouts.
- The Flint Hills Campus will offer tours for middle and high school age students to share behind the scenes areas of the hospital and potentially interest youth in advancing their education and working in the medical field.
- SVH Team members will actively participate in a Community Health Improvement Plan workgroup addressing youth character development. This may include assistance in promoting available community resources related to youth character development to patients and team members so they are more aware of what is available in the community.
- SVH Volunteer Services Department will promote the youth volunteer program (for anyone over the age of 14) through the school district.
- SVH Volunteer Services Department will explore job shadowing opportunities for youth.

Priority # 3 – Strategies to Improve Transportation

- Flint Hills Campus Social Workers and Care Managers will assist patients in working with their individual insurance companies to explore any transportation related benefits included in their plan.
- Flint Hills Campus Care Managers and Community Resource Representatives will assess patients for needs related to Social Determinants of Health and refer transportation needs

to community resources including referral to the Flint Hills Area Transportation Agency <https://www.fhata.org/> and help completing and submitting application as needed. The AtA bus offers reduced cost and varied pickup options based on patient need.

- Flint Hills Campus Social Workers and Care Managers will refer seniors to the Geary County Senior Center [\(785\) 238-4015](tel:7852384015) and help complete and submit applications for transportation assistance.
- Flint Hills Campus will work to bring outreach clinics to the campus thus helping to decrease the need to travel to Topeka for care.
- SVH Team members will actively participate in a Community Health Improvement Plan workgroup addressing community transportation needs.

Priority # 4 – Strategies to Decrease Obesity

- The Care Transformation Department will seek grant funding to expand the SVH prescriptive food pantry to include Flint Hills patients.
- Flint Hills Campus team members will volunteer to deliver Meals on Wheels.
- Flint Hills Campus team members will volunteer regularly at the Geary County Food Pantry.
- The Weight Management team will offer telehealth options so patients only need to be seen in person every third visit.
- SVH surgeon, Dr. Regier, will provide outreach support at the Flint Hills Campus.
- SVH Team members will actively participate in a Community Health Improvement Plan workgroup addressing obesity.
- The Community Engagement Department will explore feasibility of sponsoring Walk With a Doc in Junction City.

Priority # 5 – Strategies to Improve Mental Health

- The Care Transformation Director will maintain dedicated Social Worker and Care Managers at the Flint Hills Campus.
- The Behavioral Health Department Director will improve access to inpatient and outpatient behavioral health services by recruiting, hiring, and retaining qualified staff. This includes supervision of students.
- The Behavioral Health Department will regularly communicate and coordinate with Konza and Pawnee mental health providers including implementation of EPIC Care Link.
- The Behavioral Health Department Director will work towards schedule optimization according to national benchmarks.
- The Behavioral Health Service Department will offer virtual appointments outside of normal business hours for SVH patients regardless of where they live.
- The Behavioral Health Director will participate in the Health Innovations Network of Kansas suicide prevention innovation network providing resources for farming and ranching communities.
- The Health Innovations Network of Kansas will host education for primary care providers to improve understanding of suicide prevention in farming and ranching

communities as well as suicide prevention education for community members, Question, Persuade, and Refer.

- The Director of Health Equity and Policy will partner with other health systems to evaluate advocacy opportunities to increase legislative and state funding for behavioral health services.
- SVH Team members will actively participate in a Community Health Improvement Plan workgroup addressing community mental health strategies.

The goals and strategies outlined in this Implementation Plan are not a complete inventory of Stormont Vail Health activities supporting the health needs of our community. Stormont Vail Health and the Stormont Vail Foundation continue to invest resources as appropriate when new opportunities arise and we can leverage organizational assets in partnership with our local communities and partners.

Process to Provide Feedback on Hospital Implementation Plan

If you would like to provide feedback on the 2025-2027 Shawnee County Community Health Needs Assessment Hospital Implementation Plan, please contact:

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