2025 Community Health Needs Assessment Implementation goals and Implementation strategies.

The recent Community Health Needs Assessment identified several pressing concerns within our region, including:

- Safe and affordable housing
- Poverty
- Access to affordable childcare

While these issues are vital to the overall health and wellbeing of our community, Butler Memorial Hospital will not be focusing exclusively on them in our strategic initiatives. Instead, we will continue to build and strengthen partnerships with local organizations and service providers. These collaborations will enable us to better connect patients with existing community resources, ensuring they receive the support they need beyond clinical care.

Our approach reflects a commitment to leveraging community services and relationships to address social determinants of health in a sustainable and impactful way.

The identified areas of need which we intend and strive to impact are:

- Improve Safety in our Community and Schools
- Substance Use
- Food Insecurity

Implementation Goals and Strategies to Improve Safety in our Community and Schools

1. Work with local schools to have a Human Service Resource present at the orientation of school aged children.

2. Raise awareness of existing resources, when and how to access the resources.
3. Build and create a "toolbox" to help community members access resources when in need and before a crisis.
4. Share informative websites such as:
   - PA Bullying Prevention Toolkit:
     www.centerforsafeschools.org

   - PCCD-PA Commission on Crime and Delinquency
     www.pa.gov/agencies/pccd.html

Implementation Goals and Strategies for Substance Use

1. Prevention and Education- The PAYS report delves into the concept that prevention is a science. "To prevent a problem from happening, we need to identify that factors that increase the risk of the problem developing and then find ways to reduce the risks." For example, children who live in families with high levels of conflict are more likely to become involved in drug use and delinquency. Protective factors include strong bonding to community, family, school, peers and clear standards for behavior." The steps outlined in the PAYS data help county and community agencies make key decisions regarding the allocation of resources, how and when to address specific needs and which strategies are most effective in producing results. For more information visit
   www.bach-harrison.com

2. Continue Focus Group meetings and provide seminars on substance use disorders. Engage speakers with expertise in this area to provide ongoing education to health care providers. The following websites are informative:

   - PA Department of Drug and Alcohol Programs
     www.ddap.pa.gov

- Alcoholic Anonymous
  www.aa.org
- Talking with children about drugs and alcohol
  www.samhsa.gov

Implementation Goals and Strategies for Food Insecurity

1. Continue to provide evidence-based lifestyle education in a group setting (virtually and /or in person) for the community and employees.

2. Continued support and development of the Food Institute (FI) at Butler Memorial Hospital-Independence Health System. The FI Institue has been supported by multiple grants over the years and is currently being supported by the physician network, philanthropic donations and a 2-year pilot project with UPMC health plan. The FI specializes in nutrition education, meal planning and preparing healthy recipes on a budget. Participants receive healthy ingredients and cooking instructions to prepare meals on their own for up to 10 healthy meals per month for 4 months.

3. Continue to address the issues of Social Determinants of Health (SDOH) through assessment and education.

4. Continue our collaboration with Good Food Healthy Hospital and the Hospital Association of Pennsylvania to:

   a. Increase offering of healthier and more sustainable food and beverage choices
   b. Eliminate industrially produced trans fats
   c. Decrease the sodium content in available foods
   d. Decrease the added sugar in beverage offerings
   e. Allow individuals to make informed choices about what they are purchasing, selecting and eating through labeling of menu items.