Nebraska Medicine

COMMUNITY HEALTH NEEDS ASSESSMENT
AND IMPLEMENTATION PLAN • 2019 – 2022

NebraskaMed.com
Executive Summary

Nebraska Medicine and our campus partner, The University of Nebraska Medical Center (UNMC), share a long-standing tradition of serving the health needs of the local, state, and regional communities. With innovative resources for clinical care, groundbreaking research and some of the world’s brightest minds training the future of medicine- Nebraska Medicine and UNMC are respected leaders in the healthcare community.

Our hospital system is located in Nebraska and operates two hospital facilities and several clinics. The main academic medical center campus (The Nebraska Medical Center) is located in Omaha, Nebraska and a smaller, community hospital (Bellevue Medical Center) is located in Bellevue, Nebraska. We also operate primary and specialty care clinics across the Omaha Metropolitan area. We serve a high proportion of uninsured and underinsured individuals and have always considered the health needs of the community when planning for programs and services.

The Affordable Care Act brought new requirements for non-profit hospitals to address the significant health needs in our respective communities. Those requirements include conducting a community health needs assessment (CHNA) every three years and developing an implementation strategy to address identified health needs. For a summary of those requirements, please click here: https://www.healthaffairs.org

The CHNA survey was created and funded by a collaborative group representing all of the local health systems and county health departments from the Omaha Metropolitan area. The team engaged local CHNA experts, Professional Research Consultants (PRC) to conduct a broad assessment of the community and prepare a report of the significant health needs.

This unique partnership has created opportunities for local hospital systems and public health officials to have conversations and work together in ways that promote better health for all who reside in the four counties surveyed as part of the CHNA process. This document will outline the results of that CHNA and the implementation plan for Nebraska Medicine.
Progress to Date: 2016 CHNA and Implementation Plan

The 2016 assessment and planning cycle identified nine health needs in the community. Those significant health needs were as follows:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Access to Care</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Cancer</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Dementia, Including Alzheimer's Disease</td>
</tr>
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<td>Heart Disease &amp; Stroke</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>Substance Abuse</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Table 1. **Source, PRC CHNA Full Survey**

Utilizing an internal prioritization process driven by administrators, community and public health professionals, and healthcare providers with special expertise within each of the identified needs, we narrowed our primary community health improvement focus to addressing four of the significant health needs identified in the 2016 CHNA. Those four priority focus areas were 1) access to care, 2) cancer, 3) injury & violence prevention, and 4) mental health.

For the implementation planning phase, a steering committee and three focus teams were formed - one for each prioritized need. The three focus teams were tasked with identifying significant access barriers within their patient populations and coming up with strategies to help address those barriers both within and outside of our walls. It is important to note, our main academic medical center is located within the geographic area identified as having the largest concentration of underserved populations and those who are at risk for poor health, as well as many underinsured and uninsured patients. Given that fact, the issues most commonly seen in our patient population were directly aligned with the findings of the CHNA. The focus teams met for several months, collecting data on existing programs, looking for ways to improve upon efforts to better target the needs, and using their findings to create proposals for the steering committee to review and approve for implementation.
Access to Care

To address ongoing access to care issues, Nebraska Medicine transitioned all primary care clinics to the Patient Centered Medical Home (PCMH) model. This model improves healthcare coordination by integrating behavioral health, pharmacy, social work and nutrition staff into each clinic. Nurse Care Managers help to coordinate care across the continuum of each patient’s life, by focusing on population health management, care transitions, and proactive management of the patient base.

Across the Metro area, convenient, affordable access was expanded through the opening of our Immediate Care Clinics. Four sites (Chalco, Bellevue Family Medicine, Eagle Run and Midtown) offer extended hours on evenings, weekends, and holidays. Utilization of immediate care provides additional options for the community to seek care after hours of traditional clinic hours.

Cancer

In June 2017, the Fred & Pamela Buffett Cancer Center opened on the Nebraska Medical Center campus. This uniquely designed center allows for clinical physicians and researchers to collaborate on treatments for all types of cancer. To enhance cancer care for patients, all inpatient and outpatient cancer services are provided within one building, including access to a 24/7 Infusion Center. Since the building opened, over 27,000 patients have received care in our inpatient or outpatient areas. Specifically, we have seen an 18% increase in the number of patients treated in the clinics and Infusion Center.

Mental Health

Over this cycle, Nebraska Medicine has significantly increased the number of mental health practitioners available to see patients. More than 20 positions have been added including psychiatrists, psychologists, and psychiatric social workers. In July 2018, we launched the Behavioral Health Intensive Outpatient Program, which provides integrated care for individuals suffering from both addiction and psychiatric disorders. This program fills the necessary gap for those needing comprehensive treatment without requiring hospitalization.
Injury & Violence

Nebraska Medicine continues to focus on injury and violence prevention through collaboration and education. The Nebraska Regional Poison Center serves the entire state of Nebraska by providing access to a 24/7 emergency line as well as providing poison education programs. Annually, the NRPC receives more than 36,000 incoming phone calls related to poison exposures, and reach nearly 5,000 individuals through their poison education programs.

Additional collaboration provides geriatric fall education programs in nursing homes and teen suicide prevention strategies through the Boys Town National Hotline. The Hotline answered nearly 130,000 calls in 2018 alone. We continue to build a trauma-informed community through programs such as Dusk to Dawn, a hospital-based youth violence prevention program with almost 400 attendees in the first three years. Another program, Stop the Bleed, is a trauma intervention program that has taught 1500 community members how to stop uncontrolled bleeding in trauma situations in the past two years. Additionally, a new collaboration with our Emergency Department, trauma team, and YouTurn works to mitigate potential acts of violence or retaliation for patients and families.

Nebraska Medicine’s commitment to the community is best illustrated by our community benefit figures. We make significant investments in financial assistance, health professions education, subsidized health services, community health improvement, and community building activities. The table below shows the aggregated total of our annual investments for the last three fiscal years.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Fiscal Year 2016</th>
<th>Fiscal Year 2017</th>
<th>Fiscal Year 2018</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>$158,590,999</td>
<td>$198,546,920</td>
<td>$229,482,143</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
2019-2022 CHNA and Implementation Plan

Description of Community Served

In 2018, Nebraska Medicine participated in a collaborative community health needs assessment process with all of the local health systems and county health departments for the 2019 community health improvement planning cycle. The assessed community includes a four county region that is considered the Omaha Metropolitan area, or the “Metro” as referred to in this document. The four county Metro area includes: Douglas, Sarpy and Cass counties in Nebraska, and Pottawattamie county in Western Iowa.

Nebraska Medicine’s health system includes a 718 bed academic medical center in Douglas County, a 91 bed community hospital in Sarpy County, and a network of over 40 primary and specialty care clinics in the region. While we serve patients from all over the state of Nebraska and the region, for purposes of this needs assessment and implementation plan, Douglas and Sarpy Counties in the Metro area are the most highly populated and are considered to be Nebraska Medicine’s primary service area - accounting for the majority of our inpatient and outpatient encounters at both hospital locations. Nebraska Medicine’s main academic medical center campus is located in Douglas County and serves the entire Metro area for tertiary and quaternary care. Nebraska Medicine’s Bellevue campus provides hospital services to Sarpy County and parts of Cass County bordering the Southern edge of the Metro area.

We also have primary care clinic locations in both Douglas and Sarpy counties, and one immediate care clinic serving Northern Cass County. Pottawattamie County is primarily served by Mercy Medical Center (CHI Health) and Jennie Edmundson Hospital (Methodist Health System).

All four counties surveyed in the Metro area also have Federally Qualified Health Centers that provide safety net services for underserved individuals. The following tables show the population characteristics for each of the surveyed counties (Source, PRC 2018 Community Health Needs Assessment).
Table 2. Douglas and Sarpy Counties make up the majority of the surveyed population, accounting for 715,713 of the 834,374 residents. Nebraska Medicine’s main academic medical center is located in Douglas County, while Nebraska Medicine Bellevue is located in Sarpy County.
Table 3. Most of Douglas, Sarpy, and Pottawattamie County residents are living in an urban setting while the majority of Cass County residents are in rural areas. The bulk of the population served by Nebraska Medicine system facilities reside in urban areas (Douglas and Sarpy Counties).
Table 4. The majority of Metro area residents are in the 18-64 age range, which is similar to the age demographics for the states of Nebraska and Iowa, and also reflective of what is seen across the United States.

Total Population by Age Groups, Percent
(2012-2016)

Sources:
- US Census Bureau American Community Survey 5-year estimates (2012-2016)
- Retrieved March 2018 from Community Commons at http://www.citrea.org
Table 5. *Douglas County is the most diverse in terms of race and ethnicity and is comparable to National percentages. Nebraska Medicine facilities in Omaha are serving the Douglas County population. Nebraska Medicine Bellevue serves Sarpy County, the second most diverse of the four-county Metro area.*
Assessment Process and Survey Methodology

The information provided in the needs assessment survey was collected through both quantitative and qualitative research. The professional survey company, Professional Research Consultants (PRC) administered the telephone survey to the four-county region. PRC also collected quantitative data from outside sources in order to provide state and national trends and benchmark data. The additional sources of quantitative data came from county vital statistics, public health information from the participating health departments, the Centers for Disease Control (CDC), and the Behavioral Risk Factor Surveillance System (BRFSS).

To conduct the telephone survey, a stratified random sample of individuals age 18 and older in the metro area was taken. The survey was conducted via a telephone interview using both landline and cell phones. The overall sample design plan surveyed 1,527 in Douglas County, 500 in Sarpy County, 400 in Pottawattamie County and 100 in Cass County. In addition, over sampling was administered to increase participation from minority populations. In total 2,527 metro area residents were included in the survey.

Table 6. The surveys were weighted in proportion to the actual population distribution to appropriately represent the Metro Area as a whole.
Community Stakeholder Input

In addition to the individual resident surveys, an online key informant email survey was conducted to gather additional qualitative input and do a deeper dive into the needs of the surveyed communities. This online survey solicited written comments from individuals regularly interacting with low-income, minority, and other underserved and/or vulnerable populations. In total, 163 respondents including physicians, other health professionals, public health professionals, social service providers and community leaders completed the key informant survey. This group provided valuable input including written comments on their perception of community needs for each of the surveyed counties. The written responses of the key informants were used as part of Nebraska Medicine’s prioritization process.

Additionally, Nebraska Medicine’s CHNA and implementation plans are publically available on the hospital website. Public comments are encouraged on the website via a dedicated email address that is monitored by the team who completes the CHNA and implementation plan. That public feedback is taken into consideration for all community health improvement planning efforts.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Key Informant Type</th>
<th>Number Invited</th>
<th>Number Participating</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Social Services Providers</td>
<td>119</td>
<td>50</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Community Leaders</td>
<td>84</td>
<td>41</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Other Health Providers</td>
<td>79</td>
<td>24</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Physicians</td>
<td>55</td>
<td>12</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Business Leaders</td>
<td>35</td>
<td>11</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>First Responders</td>
<td>6</td>
<td>5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Public Health Representatives</td>
<td>15</td>
<td>5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Criminal Justice</td>
<td>8</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Advanced Practice Providers</td>
<td>13</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Postsecondary Educators</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Table 7. Nearly half of the key informants invited to participate completed the survey. Nebraska Medicine welcomes public comment via our website at the email address community@nebraskamed.com.
The CHNA survey indicates that over thirty-one percent of metro area adults reported some type of difficulty or delay in obtaining healthcare services in the past year. This is more favorable than the national average. However, women, minorities, lower-insured residents, the uninsured and those under sixty-five years of age more often report difficulties accessing healthcare services.

The majority of the key informants expressed concerns in their written comments over a lack of mental health resources and needing better access to healthcare for low-income and minority populations. One local social service provider remarked “Barriers including ease of access, medication affordability and poverty affect all aspects of health and health care”. The CHNA survey results seem to support this sentiment.

Mental health

“Do not feel that there are enough resources available for people and the majority of the population suffering from mental illness are untreated and not on medications” – Other Health Provider, Douglas County

“Access to treatment, affordability, entry into a fragmented and confusing system. Police as first responders in many cases. County jail serving as the largest mental health facility in the state. One in four families impacted. Shortage of providers.” – Community Leader, Douglas County

“The lack of practitioners is one the single largest barriers we face currently in evaluating, diagnosing, and treating people with mental health conditions in our community.” – Social Services Provider, Douglas County

Injury and Violence

“Based on the neighborhood a person, family lives in, threat of violence is a daily occurrence. Keeps people from being able to think about their physical activity or eating right because they’re more concerned about their safety or that of their child” – Social Services Provider, Douglas County

Violence is deemed as a health condition. Many adolescents and young adults have untreated violent health conditions that generally stem from childhood experiences, acceptable violent norms, post/current traumatic events” – Social Services Provider, Douglas County
Summary of Significant Health Needs

The following table illustrates the primary areas of need found in the most recently conducted CHNA. For each significant health need, the highlights and areas of opportunity are listed.

| Access to Healthcare Services | Specific Source of Ongoing Medical Care  
|                               | Emergency Room Utilization |
| Cancer                        | Cancer is a leading cause of death  
|                               | Cancer Deaths  
|                               | Including Lung Cancer and Prostate Cancer  
|                               | Cancer Incidence  
|                               | Including Lung Cancer and Colorectal Cancer Incidence  
|                               | Cervical Cancer Screening (Age 21-65)  
|                               | Colorectal Cancer Screening (Age 50-75) |
| Dementia, Including Alzheimer’s Disease | Alzheimer’s Disease Deaths  
|                               | Caregiving |
| Diabetes                      | Diabetes Deaths  
|                               | *Diabetes ranked as a top concern in the Online Key Informant Survey* |
| Heart Disease & Stroke        | Cardiovascular disease is a leading cause of death |
| Injury & Violence             | Unintentional Injury Deaths  
|                               | Including Motor Vehicle Crash, Falls (Age 65+) Deaths  
|                               | Firearm-Related Deaths  
|                               | Firearm Prevalence  
|                               | Including In Homes With Children  
|                               | Violent Crime Rate |
| Mental Health                 | Suicide Deaths  
|                               | *Mental Health ranked as a top concern in the Online Key Informant Survey* |
### Nutrition, Physical Activity & Weight
- Fruit/Vegetable Consumption
- Overweight & Obesity (Adults)
- Medical Advice on Weight
- Trying to Lose Weight (Overweight Adults)
- Leisure-Time Physical Activity
- Use of Local Trails
- Use Local Parks/Recreation Centers
- *Nutrition, Physical Activity & Weight ranked as a top concern in the Online Key Informant Survey*

### Respiratory Diseases
- Chronic Lower Respiratory Disease (CLRD) Deaths
- Chronic Obstructive Pulmonary Disease (COPD) Prevalence
- Pneumonia/Influenza Deaths

### Sexually Transmitted Diseases
- Gonorrhea Incidence
- Chlamydia Incidence
- Multiple Sexual Partners (Unmarried Age 18-64)
- Condom Use (Unmarried Age 18-64)
- *Sexually Transmitted Diseases ranked as a top concern in the Online Key Informant Survey*

### Substance Abuse
- Cirrhosis/Liver Disease Deaths
- Excessive Drinking
- Binge Drinking
- Unintentional Drug-Related Deaths
- *Substance Abuse ranked as a top concern in the Online Key Informant Survey*

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**Table 8.** The 2018 survey identified eleven significant health needs. Many of these were also identified in the 2016 survey and showed little improvement in the last three years.

**2016-2019 Nebraska Medicine Priorities**

Utilizing an internal prioritization process driven by stakeholders and based on the survey data and qualitative responses, we narrowed our primary community health improvement focus to addressing three of the significant health needs identified in the 2018 CHNA. In an effort to make meaningful impact and to use our finances most effectively and efficiently, Nebraska Medicine will place a primary focus on *access to care, mental health, and injury and violence prevention* for this upcoming three year planning cycle. These three areas were chosen based on our strategic objectives, core competencies and community feedback. Nebraska Medicine is geographically located within the boundaries of the area most frequently reporting difficulty with access to care, thus this health need was of particular concern for us. Mental health was a common
concern of community stakeholders, with 79% of key informants indicating it was a major problem in our community. We felt it was very important to be responsive to the community’s need for more mental health services to meet the demand and thus, prioritized mental health for this planning cycle. Finally, as a designated Level 1 Trauma Center and as one of the sustaining partners of the Nebraska Regional Poison Center, a focus on injury and violence prevention is aligned with our efforts to provide advanced care and support for patients in this region and beyond. While these three areas were chosen as a priority focus for the next three years, there are efforts underway within many of the identified needs.

The community health needs assessment was adopted by the board of The Nebraska Medical Center and Bellevue Medical Center on June 3, 2019.

References

The full community health needs assessment conducted by Professional Research Consultants (PRC) can be accessed here:


The full report from Health Affairs regarding nonprofit hospitals’ community benefit requirements can be accessed here:


Contact Information

To provide feedback on the contents of this report or to request a paper copy, please send a note to community@nebraskamed.com or send a letter to:

Nebraska Medicine
Attn: Community and Patient Engagement
986826 Nebraska Medical Center
Omaha, NE 68198-6826
2019 - 2022 Community Health Improvement Plan

The following pages detail Nebraska Medicine’s Implementation Strategy. As discussed in the above Community Health Needs Assessment Report, utilizing a survey process conducted by Professional Research Consultants (PRC), the following 11 items were identified as significant health needs in the four-county area referred to as the Omaha Metro area:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Access to Healthcare Services</th>
<th>Mental Health</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Cancer</td>
<td>Nutrition, Physical Activity &amp; Weight</td>
</tr>
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<tr>
<td>Injury &amp; Violence</td>
<td></td>
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</tbody>
</table>

Together, the Nebraska Medical Center and Bellevue Medical Center have identified three significant health needs to focus on for the 2019-2022 cycle. Those three needs are 1) Access to Healthcare, 2) Mental Health, and 3) Injury and Violence. Both hospitals in the Nebraska Medicine system will make these needs a primary focus area, with each targeting the at-risk populations served by that hospital.

The table below illustrates the community health improvement plan for addressing the significant health needs prioritized for the upcoming three year cycle. This community health improvement plan was adopted by the board of The Nebraska Medical Center and Bellevue Medical Center on October 7, 2019.
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Identified Need</th>
<th>2019 – 2022 Goals</th>
<th>Implementation Activities</th>
<th>Anticipated Impact</th>
<th>Partners</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>
| **Access to Care** | Increase availability/accessibility of doctor appointments and points of care for residents of the Omaha Metro Area, with an additional focus on expanding care for populations in Northeast Omaha | Evaluate expanded access to Primary Care needs within Omaha Metro Area. Continue expansion of Immediate Care Clinics for after-hours access and treatment of minor illnesses and injuries. Expansion planned within Fontenelle Health Center in targeted area. | Reduce the % of Omaha Metro Area adults reporting difficulty obtaining healthcare services in the past year | American Cancer Society  
CHI Health  
Children’s Hospital & Medical Center  
Douglas County Health Department  
Girls, Inc.  
Hope Medical Outreach Coalition  
Nebraska Methodist Hospital  
Ronald McDonald House  
Sarpy County Health Department  
United Way of the Midlands  
University of Nebraska Medical Center |
|                 | Provide connection between patients who need assistance and community resources | Address the barrier of difficulty getting to health care appointments by working with community partners to establish a transportation support system for patients. | **Comparison:** 2015  
CHNA, 33.9% |
|                 | Assist patients in securing prescription medications at the lowest possible cost | Continued partnership with community organizations providing access to screenings, care and/or education. | **Comparison:** 2015  
CHNA, 5.2% |
<p>|                 | Help patients secure health insurance through assistance with the enrollment process and navigation of the healthcare marketplace | Utilization of Nebraska Medicine financial counselors for identification of medication assistance programs, healthcare qualification and enrollment, to include Medicaid expansion in Nebraska. | |
|                 | Improve quality of life through the early detection of disease | Identify additional opportunities in established Patient Centered Medical Home (PCMH) model for further clinical integration within population health management or telehealth strategies to connect patients to screening and resources. | |
|                 | <strong>31.7% of Omaha Metro Area adults report difficulty or delay in obtaining healthcare services in the past year</strong> | Partner with area health systems to address access to health barriers from a systems perspective. | |</p>
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
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</tr>
</thead>
</table>
| Injury & Violence Prevention                         | Reduce the number of preventable deaths related to poisoning, falls and motor vehicle accidents | Increase the number of educational programs and presentations to educate the community on preventable deaths. Collaborate with Nebraska Regional Poison Center on poison education programs and support of 24/7 emergency phone line. Participate in community wide initiatives to reduce violence in the Omaha Metro Area. Provide community-based education programs, including Stop the Bleed, to prepare bystanders for trauma response and Dusk to Dawn, youth violence prevention program. Partner with community organizations to build a trauma-informed community. | Reduce the average age-adjusted fall-related mortality rate for ages 65+ in the Omaha Metro Area.  
Comparison: US mortality rate, 60.6 per 100,000 population  
Decrease the % reporting Injury and Violence prevention as a major problem in the Omaha Metro Area.  
Comparison: 2015 CHNA – Key Informants, 55.5%  | Douglas County Health Department  
Grief’s Journey  
National Safety Council of Nebraska  
Nebraska Regional Poison Center  
Omaha Police and Fire Departments  
Sarpy County Health Department  
Stop the Bleed  
University of Nebraska Medical Center  
You Turn                                                                                                                                                                                                 |
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</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Mental Health</strong></td>
<td>Increase the number of health practitioners available to see patients at Nebraska Medicine</td>
<td>Continue to expand on growing services provided within Nebraska Medicine by increasing providers available within treatment areas, including the Intensive Outpatient Program, which integrates cares for individuals with addiction and psychiatric disorders.</td>
<td>Decrease the % reporting Mental Health as a major problem in the Omaha Metro Area</td>
<td>Boystown National Hotline Community Alliance</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Increase the capacity to treat patients with co-occurring mental health and substance use problems</td>
<td>Implement new psychiatry emergency service (PES) to provide rapid assessment and initiation of treatment for psychiatric patients presenting to the Emergency Department. This new, separate space will provide immediate psychiatric evaluation and treatment in a calm, therapeutic environment and can provide stabilization within 24 hours without hospitalization.</td>
<td><strong>Comparison:</strong> 2015 CHNA – Key Informants, 77.5%</td>
<td>Douglas County Health Department</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Decrease the stigma associated with mental illness through communication, education and community awareness</td>
<td>Participate in community collaborative project addressing social determinants of health and mental health issues by leveraging multisector partnerships and partnering with local community. Use this framework to identify additional future opportunities.</td>
<td></td>
<td>Heartland Family Service</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Partner with community organizations to provide information, education, and research on mental health and suicide prevention.</td>
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<td>National Alliance on Mental Illness - Nebraska</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Sarpy County Health Department</td>
</tr>
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<td></td>
<td></td>
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<td>University of Nebraska Medical Center</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

79.1% of Key Informants perceive Mental Health as a major problem affecting the community in the Omaha Metro Area.