

## **Pembina County Memorial Hospital Health Needs Assessment Implementation Strategy 2012**

Pembina County Memorial Hospital's mission statement "is to provide a family centered approach to the delivery of health services and to promote a healthy lifestyle to those it serves in Cavalier and surrounding communities." In order to fulfill its mission and move toward achievement of its vision, Pembina County Memorial Hospital recognized the need to solicit community and staff input in order to plan for future decisions and its strategic plan. A community health needs assessment was completed by the Center for Rural Health at The University of North Dakota School of Medicine and Health Sciences.

The survey process began in combination with key community informant interviews of locally identified community leaders. Information was collected throughout January and February, 2011. Staff of Pembina County Memorial Hospital was also given the opportunity to provide feedback.

### **Primary Community Health needs identified and how they are being addressed**

Respondents were asked to identify needs they felt should be addressed by Pembina County Memorial Hospital. The following are those key findings and how the organization plans to address the needs that were identified:

Provider Shortage- Pembina County Memorial Hospital has been working with two physician recruitment agencies to recruit an additional family practice physician to the organization. Recruitment has been ongoing for two years and continues to be monitored monthly by the Board of Directors. At the monthly Board meeting the CEO reports any findings or potential candidates for recruitment at that time. The Board continues to look for creative ways to recruit a community minded physician to Cavalier, ND.

To help meet the need we continue to conduct specialty clinics, so currently we have a variety of specialty physicians that visit our clinic on a monthly basis. This allows our patients a choice and the convenience of staying in Cavalier, ND.

Housing Options through Assisted Living- The Board of Directors at Pembina County Memorial Hospital has been working closely with YHR Architects to explore Assisted Living options. Discussion has been held in regards to building a new structure, converting an area at the Independent Living Facility or converting a portion of the Long Term Care facility. The Independent Living Facility and Long Term Care facility are part of Pembina County Memorial Hospital Association. The Board of Directors is waiting to review the blue print from YHR Architects before making decisions on moving forward with the Assisted Living Project.

### **Secondary Community Health needs identified and how they are being addressed**

Higher than average health conditions are prevalent in Pembina County related to diabetes, obesity and physical inactivity. Pembina County Memorial Hospital provides diabetic education, nutrition education and weight loss sessions provided by a licensed dietician. As these services

are underutilized; the Board of Directors has requested additional advertising throughout the year with a focus will be put on these services.

Regionally our area has a high rate of binge drinking- this was identified as a secondary need however our organization feels other entities provide this service within our region with great success i.e. Alcoholics Anonymous

Children's health needs (dental, behavioral, and developmental)-Pembina County Memorial Hospital has a family medicine doctor on staff 24 hours 7 days a week. They are able to assist patients health needs with behavioral or developmental issues. If it is beyond their scope of practice, they will refer patients to a specialist outside of the organization. Dental is not a service we provide or plan to provide as other entities within the community provide this service i.e. local dental office.

The above are needs identified by the Community Needs Assessment. The Board of Directors at Pembina County Memorial Hospital is responsive to the needs that were identified. The above needs are listed in prioritized order. The Board of Directors has been actively engaged in providing a solution to these needs and key findings.