



Molokai General Hospital

COMMUNITY HEALTH NEEDS IMPLEMENTATION PLAN
Updated June 2016

Mission Statement

Molokai General Hospital's mission is to fulfill the intent of Queen Emma and King Kamehameha IV to provide in perpetuity quality health care services to improve the well-being of Native Hawaiians and all of the people of Hawaii.

Community Health Needs Assessment

Approach (From the Molokai Community Needs Assessment: Updated November 2015)

In fall 2015, the Healthcare Association of Hawaii (HAH) partnered with Healthy Communities Institute (HCI) to conduct an updated Community Health Needs Assessment (CHNA) for Hawaii. HCI's approach followed the public health model of assessing and understanding community health holistically. A framework for analysis was constructed based on determinants of health; the framework included a broad definition of community health that considers extensive secondary data on the social, economic, and physical environments, as well as health risks and outcomes. The influence of *mauka* ("toward the mountains"), or upstream factors, and the resulting *makai* ("toward the ocean"), or downstream impacts, on health is a transcending theme. Key informant interviews with those having special knowledge of health needs, health disparities, and vulnerable populations provided vital information that increased the understanding of the health needs in Hawaii and each of the Counties. A small set of community residents provided additional insights on the health needs on Molokai.

Prioritization Process

Major themes emerged from the CNHA completed for Maui County. The most severe needs, based on the quantitative indicators and qualitative data, include Access to Health Services; Children's Health; Diabetes; Disabilities; Immunizations & Infectious Diseases, Mental Health & Mental Disorders; and Substance Abuse. Molokai General Hospital (MGH) recognizes the importance of these needs and has supported efforts to address many of them. It is also recognized that there are health needs that MGH will not directly be addressing for various reasons.

MGH also analyzed the needs of the Molokai community as part of the process to select MGH's priority area. Initially, MGH chose diabetes as its priority area. However, on-going challenges in providing access to care soon evolved into a critical priority. The island continues to have significant unmet healthcare access needs due to healthcare professional shortages. Like other small rural communities, the recruitment and retainment of medical and clinical professionals is a challenge. Hawaii's high cost of living paired with Molokai's slow-paced rural lifestyle is a disincentive to many.

Of the areas identified in the Maui County CNHA report, MGH selected Access to Care as its priority area.

Selection of Priority

Senior management of The Queen's Health Systems (Queen's), the nonprofit parent company of a family of health care-related companies that includes The Queen's Medical Center (QMC) and Molokai General Hospital (MGH), discussed the community health needs identified in this assessment. MGH selected Access to Care as its priority area based on an updated CHNA report completed in 2015. . (Queen's senior management team includes the president and chief executive officer, chief operating officer,

operating entity heads, clinical leaders [physicians and service lines], and those responsible for system-wide functions such as human resources, finance, endowment, legal, corporate development, information technology, and community development.)

Management’s recommendation was presented to the joint boards of trustees, and the boards supported the selection of Diabetes as the priority health need to be addressed by QMC and MGH.

[Approaches to Address the Selected Priority of Diabetes Prevention and Management](#)

Initial Priority Goal

To promote and improve community health for Molokai residents through diabetes prevention and management.

Molokai General Hospital’s Director of Nursing and its Clinical Educator worked with Molokai providers to identify needed services, interventions, education and/or support that would enhance or better support diabetes care and education on Molokai.

After extensive discussion, it was concluded that providers are satisfied with access to services for their diabetic patients. In addition, providers indicated that there is not a need for additional educational resources for themselves or their patients.

Discussion with the State Department of Education (DOE) regarding involvement with the schools showed that the time and personnel commitment to provide a consistent program was beyond the resources of Molokai General Hospital at this time.

Based on the discussions with Molokai providers and the DOE, it was determined that another Priority Area should be selected for Molokai General Hospital.

Current Priority Goal

MGH’s Priority Goal is **Workforce Development**, with the focus on creating a cohort of residents and facilitating their journey through nursing school. This would address both “Access to Health Services” and “Education,” which were identified through a Molokai community survey as two of the five “Highest Ranked Topic Areas” (see page 22 of the Molokai CHNA).

Molokai General Hospital is handicapped in terms of providing access to care without qualified skilled professionals. While Registered Nurses (R.N.’s) are the backbone of those professionals in a rural area, recruiting and retaining R.N.’s has been a challenge for more than 40 years.

With a stable professional workforce, Molokai General Hospital will be better able to serve the community and provide the access to care that is so clearly identified as a priority in our CHNA.

Objective 1: Explore collaboration/partnership with a community college in the State of Hawaii to create a Registered Nurse pathway that keeps students on Molokai for much of the program.	
Strategies	Time Frame

1.1 Work with contacts at The Queen’s Medical Center/Punchbowl and others to identify an educational partner.	Completed
1.2 Begin preliminary discussion on resources needed to provide clinical education to an R.N. cohort on Molokai.	Completed
Objective 2: Solidify educational pathway.	
Strategies	Time Frame
2.1 Work with the MGH team, the identified educational entity and QHS to create an educational pathway for the Molokai cohort.	Completed
Objective 3: Identify possible funders and identify cohort.	
Strategies	Time Frame
3.1 Identify and create agreements with possible funders.	In Progress
3.2 Create cohort criteria, recruit cohort members.	In Progress
Objective 4: Implement educational pathway.	FY 2018