Introduction

ABOUT EL CAMINO HOSPITAL

El Camino Health includes two nonprofit acute care hospitals in Los Gatos and Mountain View and urgent care, multi-specialty care and primary care locations across Santa Clara County. Hospital key medical specialties include cancer, heart and vascular, lifestyle medicine, men’s health, mental health and addictions, lung, mother-baby, orthopedic and spine, stroke and urology. Affiliated partners include Silicon Valley Medical Development, El Camino Health Foundation and Concern.

MISSION

It is the mission of El Camino Hospital to be an innovative, publicly accountable and locally controlled comprehensive healthcare organization that cares for the sick, relieves suffering, and provides quality, cost-competitive services to improve the health and well-being of the community.

COMMUNITY BENEFIT PLAN & IMPLEMENTATION STRATEGY

Per state and federal law, a Community Health Needs Assessment must be conducted every three years by nonprofit hospitals. In 2019, El Camino Hospital Community Benefit staff conducted a Community Health Needs Assessment (CHNA) in collaboration with the Santa Clara County Community Benefit Coalition. This assessment resulted in the identification of community health needs. The 2019 CHNA serves as a tool for guiding policy and program planning efforts and is available to the public. For a copy of the full CHNA, see https://www.elcaminohealth.org/community-benefit.

The documented needs in the 2019 CHNA served El Camino Hospital in developing this Community Benefit Plan for establishing Implementation Strategies pursuant to the Affordable Care Act of 2010 and California State Senate Bill 697. This plan outlines El Camino Hospital’s funding for fiscal year 2020.

The main steps of this planning process are:

1. Conduct a countywide Community Health Needs Assessment (CHNA)
2. Select health needs and establish health priority areas
3. Grants process; Development of Annual Plan and Implementation Strategy

These steps are further described below.
El Camino Hospital is a member of the Santa Clara County Community Benefit Coalition (“the Coalition”), a group of organizations that includes seven nonprofit hospitals, the Hospital Council of Northern and Central California, a nonprofit multispecialty medical group, and the Santa Clara County Public Health Department. The Coalition began the 2019 CHNA planning process in Summer 2017. The Coalition’s goal for the CHNA was to collectively gather community feedback and existing data about health status to inform the member hospitals’ respective community health needs prioritization and selection. Since its formation in 1995, the Coalition has worked together to conduct regular, extensive Community Health Needs Assessments (CHNA) to identify and address critical health needs of the community. The 2019 CHNA builds upon those earlier assessments.

The Coalition began the 2019 CHNA process in the fall of 2017. The collective goal for the assessment was to gather community feedback and existing data about local health needs to inform how each member hospital prioritizes and selects specific issues to address with community benefits in its service area. The Coalition engaged Actionable Insights, a local consulting firm with expertise in community health needs assessments.

Between January and May 2018, community feedback was gathered through interviews with eight local experts and discussions with eight focus groups. The experts were individually asked to: identify and discuss the top needs of their constituencies, including barriers to health; give their perceptions of access to healthcare and mental health needs; and share which solutions may improve health (such as services and policies).

The focus group discussions centered around five questions, which were modified appropriately for each audience:

- What are the most important health needs that you see in Santa Clara County? Which are the most pressing among the community? How are the needs changing?

### Definitions

**Health condition:** A disease, impairment, or other state of physical or mental health that contributes to a poor health outcome.

**Health driver:** A behavioral, clinical, environmental, social, or economic factor that impacts health outcomes.

**Health indicator:** A characteristic of an individual, population, or environment that is subject to measurement (directly or indirectly) and can be used to describe one or more aspects of the health of an individual or population.

**Health need:** A poor health outcome and its health driver, or a health driver associated with a poor health outcome that has not yet arisen as a need.

**Health outcome:** The measurable impact — morbidity (quality of life) and mortality (death) — of a disease within a community.
What drivers or barriers are impacting the top health needs?  
To what extent is healthcare access a need in the community? If certain groups are identified as having less access than others, what are the barriers for them?  
To what extent is mental health a need in the community? How do mental health challenges affect physical health?  
What policies or resources are needed to impact health needs?

The focus groups comprised local residents and people who serve them. Participants represented low-income, minority, and/or medically underserved populations in the community.

Secondary data were obtained from a variety of sources, including the Community Commons public data platform and the Santa Clara County Public Health Department.

Health needs described in this report fall into three categories, as described in the Definitions box on the previous page:

- Health condition
- Health driver
- Health outcome

El Camino Health generated a list of health needs reflecting the priorities in its service area based on community input and secondary data, which were filtered using the following criteria:

1. Must fit the definition of a “health need” (See Definitions box, page 7.)
2. Is suggested or confirmed by more than one source of secondary and/or primary data
3. Meets qualitative threshold:
   (a) Two of eight key informants identified the need, or
   (b) The community prioritized it over other health issues in at least two of eight focus groups

In addition, available statistical data for some health needs failed benchmarks by 5 percent or more. The benchmarks used for comparison came from Healthy People 2020 or, when unavailable, the California state average.
El Camino Hospital selected nine health needs, including all identified health needs from the work of the Coalition and will continue to address chronic conditions and violence/injury prevention health needs. These needs were mapped to the following priority areas: Healthy Body, Healthy Mind and Healthy Community.

- Diabetes & Obesity
- Chronic Conditions (other than Diabetes & Obesity)
- Healthcare Access & Delivery
- Oral Health
- Behavioral Health
- Cognitive Decline
- Violence & Injury Prevention
- Economic Stability
- Housing & Homelessness

El Camino Hospital released the 2020 – 2021 grant application with the requirement for proposals to address needs in the three health priority areas. Staff provided a comprehensive summary of each proposal received to the Community Benefit Advisory Council (CBAC), which met twice in April 2020 to discuss grant proposals. The CBAC is comprised of an El Camino Hospital Board Liaison and representatives from the community who have knowledge about local disparate health needs. The Council provided funding recommendations, which are described for each proposal in the hospital’s Community Benefit Plan & Implementation Strategy. The Plan also describes the health needs identified through the Coalition’s CHNA process and how the hospital plans to address these health needs. Findings from the CHNA are provided to illustrate the status of health needs and related disparities in Santa Clara County. El Camino Hospital used comparisons to Healthy People 2020 objectives (HP2020) where available, and state data where they were not.
Overview & Acknowledgement

Overview
Grant Proposals Received: 57
  Programs new to Community Benefit: 15
Grant Proposals Recommended for Funding: 47
Total Board Approved Grant Funding: $3,396,000
Total Board Approved Plan (including Placeholder and Sponsorships): $3,696,000

Acknowledgement

El Camino Hospital especially recognizes the critical contribution of the Community Benefit Advisory Council (CBAC) for its guidance with the FY21 Plan. The CBAC is comprised of an El Camino Hospital Board Liaison and representatives from the community who have knowledge about local disparate health needs.
To improve health and prevent the onset of disease in the community through enhanced access to primary care, oral health, chronic disease management & prevention services

The maintenance of healthy bodies is affected by a variety of factors including the environment in which we live, social and economic factors, and personal choices and health behaviors. Poor health can be experienced as diseases and conditions such as stroke or diabetes, and their related drivers such as hypertension or lack of adequate nutrition. Access to comprehensive, quality healthcare services is important for the achievement of health equity, to improve health, and to enhance quality of life for all. Healthcare access requires gaining entry into the healthcare system, accessing a healthcare location where needed services are provided, and finding a medical provider with whom the patient can communicate and trust.

2019 CHNA DATA FINDINGS: DIABETES / OBESITY

Rates are per 100,000 unless otherwise specified.

- Diabetes/Obesity was identified as a top health need in half of key informant interviews and one-third of focus groups.
- The community discussed factors that contribute to diabetes and obesity, such as the built environment, stress and poverty.
- The county has a significantly higher proportion of fast-food restaurants (86.7 per 100,000) than California overall (78.7).
- Santa Clara County has lower proportions of grocery and WIC-authorized stores to residents than state benchmarks. For example, there are 9.5 WIC-authorized stores per 100,000 residents in the county compared to 15.8 in the state overall.
- Diabetes prevalence is higher in Santa Clara County (9.8 percent) than in California overall (9.1 percent) — and trending up both locally and statewide.
- A significant number of LGBTQ survey respondents report being overweight or obese.
- 28 percent of youth are physically inactive.

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1 The Women, Infants and Children (WIC) Program is a federally funded health and nutrition program that provides assistance to pregnant women, new mothers, and children aged 0–5. The California Department of Public Health approves the grocers and other vendors statewide who accept program vouchers. https://www.cdph.ca.gov/Programs/CFH/DWICSN/Pages/Program-Landing1.aspx
Disparities in Santa Clara County include:
- Males are almost twice as likely as females to be obese (18 percent compared to 10 percent).
- Although obesity rates overall do not fail benchmarks, the overweight and obesity rates among Latinx youth (about 20 percent each) are significantly higher than state averages (about 17 percent), possibly driven by physical inactivity (42 percent).
- Being overweight or obese is also a problem among youth who identify as Pacific Islanders (about 25 percent each).
- African ancestry youth have higher rates of physical inactivity (33 percent) and inadequate fruit and vegetable consumption (73 percent) than the state benchmarks (38 percent and 47 percent, respectively).

2019 CHNA DATA FINDINGS: CHRONIC CONDITIONS (OTHER THAN DIABETES/OBESEITY)

Rates are per 100,000 unless otherwise specified.

- Health conditions such as cardiovascular disease, cancer and respiratory problems are among the top 10 causes of death in the service area.
- The proportion of hospitalization discharges due to asthma for children, youth and older adults are all higher than the state.
- The county’s prostate cancer incidence rate (127.3) is significantly higher than that of the state (109.2).
- Disparities in chronic conditions in Santa Clara County include:
  - Cancer incidence and mortality rates for various cancer sites are higher for African ancestry and White residents than for those of other ethnicities. For example, overall incidence of cancer is 22 percent higher for African ancestry residents than the county overall, and 51 percent higher than Asian residents. Also, overall cancer mortality for African ancestry residents is 71 percent higher than in the county overall, and 67 percent higher than Asian residents.
  - African ancestry residents are hospitalized for asthma at a rate (1.7 percent) that is disproportionately higher than the rates for residents of other ethnicities (all of which are below 1 percent, such as 0.7 percent for White residents).

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2 African ancestry refers to all people of African descent, whether they are recent immigrants or have been in the U.S. for generations. This term is in keeping with a 2015 report by the Black Leadership Kitchen Cabinet of Silicon Valley, in conjunction with the Santa Clara Public Health Department. See http://blkc.org for the full report. Many original data sources alternately use the category Black/African-American or African-American.
2019 CHNA DATA FINDINGS: HEALTHCARE ACCESS & DELIVERY

Rates are per 100,000 unless otherwise specified.

- Healthcare access and delivery was identified as a top health need by half of focus groups and key informants.
- The community expressed concern that healthcare is unaffordable, especially for people who do not receive health insurance subsidies, such as undocumented immigrants.
- Approximately one in every 13 people (8 percent) is uninsured countywide.³
- The community expressed concern about the ability of older adults to pay for healthcare (including long-term care) if they are not eligible for Medi-Cal.
- Meets quantitative threshold. (See #3 on page 8 of 2019 CHNA)
- Two in 10 Santa Clara County residents speaks limited English, which can restrict healthcare access.
- The county’s rate of Federally Qualified Health Centers and access to mental-health care fall below state averages.
- Health clinic professionals expressed concern about attracting and retaining talent (especially bilingual staff) in the healthcare sector due to the high cost of living in the Bay Area.

2019 CHNA DATA FINDINGS: ORAL HEALTH

Rates are per 100,000 unless otherwise specified.

- Oral Health was identified as a top health need in two interviews and one focus group.
- There is a perceived lack of access to dental insurance in the community.
- More than one-third of adults in Santa Clara County do not have dental insurance.
- Nearly one-third (30 percent) of county children aged 2–11 have not had a recent dental exam, which is 61 percent worse than the state. The rates were the worst among White (31 percent) and Latinx (52 percent) children.
- More than half of residents of African, Asian and Latinx ancestry have had dental decay or gum disease, which is worse than the county overall (45 percent).

STRATEGIES TO IMPROVE HEALTHY BODIES

**Note on COVID-19:** To address the challenges presented by the COVID-19 pandemic, many strategies will involve adaptations to service delivery models to achieve program goals.

- **Address diabetes and obesity epidemic through prevention and intervention**
- **Improve youth health through systematic integration of school-based physical activity and nutrition education**
- **Increase access to medical and dental care, including screenings, medication and health-related social service navigation**
Healthy minds are essential to a person’s wellbeing, family functioning, and interpersonal relationships. Good brain function and mental health directly impact the ability to live a full and productive life. People of all ages with untreated mental health disorders are at high risk for many unhealthy and unsafe behaviors, including alcohol or drug abuse, violent or self-destructive behavior, and suicide. Those affected by dementia experience a decline in mental ability, which affects memory, problem-solving, and perception. The resulting confusion often also leads to depression, aggression, and other mental health issues. Caregivers of those with dementia also experience depression. Mental health disorders can also impact physical health and are associated with the prevalence, progression, and onset of chronic diseases, including diabetes, heart disease, and cancer.

2019 CHNA DATA FINDINGS: BEHAVIORAL HEALTH

Rates are per 100,000 unless otherwise specified.

- Behavioral Health ranked high as a health need, with the community prioritizing it in more than two-thirds of discussions.
- The co-occurrence of mental health and substance use emerged as a common theme.
- The community expressed concern about a lack of services for behavioral health, including preventive mental-health care and detox centers.
- Professionals who work in behavioral health described experiencing challenges with health systems that were established to serve people with these conditions.
- LGBTQ residents expressed a need for mental health and suicide prevention assistance.
- Meets quantitative threshold. (See #3 on page 8 of 2019 CHNA.)
- Disparities in Santa Clara County include:

- Hospitalization rates for attempted suicide are 73 percent higher among females than males, whereas men nationwide are 3.5 times more likely than women to commit suicide.
- Adult men are more likely to binge drink than women, but adolescent females are more likely to binge drink (15 percent) than adolescent males (13 percent).
- 21 percent of Latinx adults binge drink, compared to 15 percent of Whites and 8 percent of other ethnic groups.
- Adults of White or Latinx ancestry are most likely to use marijuana (12 percent and 13 percent, respectively).

**2019 CHNA DATA FINDINGS: COGNITIVE DECLINE**
- Cognitive decline was mentioned in half of focus groups and two interviews with experts.
- One in nine Californians is experiencing subjective cognitive decline.
- The median age in Santa Clara County (36.8 years) is higher than the median age of California (35.8).
- The county death rate due to Alzheimer’s disease (35.9 per 100,000) is nineteen percent higher than the state’s rate (30.1).
- Community said that serving individuals who are cognitively impaired is difficult for providers.
- Professionals who serve people experiencing chronic homelessness and abusing substances report cases of early dementia and increased difficulty with treating and housing people with these impairments.
- Community expressed concern about the ability of older adults to pay for healthcare, including long-term care, if not Medi-Cal eligible. Professionals rely on family members to coordinate care for their loved ones, which can affect the health, well-being, and economic stability of those family members.
STRATEGIES TO IMPROVE HEALTHY MINDS

**Note on COVID-19:** To address the challenges presented by the COVID-19 pandemic, many strategies will involve adaptations to service delivery models to achieve program goals.

- Promote social emotional learning and resiliency skill-building for youth
- Reduce isolation and depression amongst seniors
- Increase access to counseling, crisis intervention and addiction prevention education for youth
- Increase access to psychiatric and behavioral health services, case management and medication management for at-risk adults
A healthy community can impact health positively by providing safe places to live, work, and be educated. When a community lacks affordable and sufficient transportation, lacks awareness of health issues and risk for chronic diseases, and is not able to access culturally competent services, its residents experience poor health.

**2019 CHNA DATA FINDINGS: VIOLENCE & INJURY PREVENTION**

Rates are per 100,000 unless otherwise specified.

- Violence is a major driver of poor behavioral health. Preventing violence in the service area will affect behavioral health.
- The rate of rape (22.8 per 100,000 people) in Santa Clara County is 8.5 percent higher than the state rate (21.0).
- Preventable unintentional injuries are a leading cause of death in the county (5 percent of all deaths) and the state (4 percent).
- 67 percent of all unintentional injury deaths are due to senior falls. This is higher compared to deaths due to accidental falls among the total population (31 percent).
- Disparities in violence and injury in the county include:
  - The mortality rate (43.0 deaths per 100,000 people) from all unintentional injuries is highest for African ancestry residents.
  - Community safety data — including homicides, violent assault, youth assault and self-harm, and school suspensions and expulsions — are all higher for Latinxs and African ancestry residents than for those of other ethnicities.

**2019 CHNA DATA FINDINGS: ECONOMIC STABILITY**

Rates are per 100,000 unless otherwise specified.

- Economic security was identified as a top health need by one-third of focus groups and key informants.
- Meets quantitative threshold (see #3 on page 8).
• The very high cost of living in Santa Clara County and concern about the low-income population emerged as common themes of community input.
• The 2018 Self-Sufficiency Standard for a family of two adults, one infant, and one preschool-aged child is over $120,600, which is more than four times higher than the 2018 Federal Poverty Level ($25,100).
• Almost four in 10 people in Santa Clara County experiencing food insecurity do not qualify for federal food assistance because of their household incomes. (This includes 46 percent of all food-insecure children.)
• The cost of long-term care for older adults with fixed incomes who are ineligible for Medi-Cal is a concern of the community.
• Cost of mental health care is also difficult for middle-income parents according to focus group participants.
• Economic security is crucial to stable housing. (See Housing and Homelessness health need description).
• Disparities in Santa Clara County include:
  - The rates of poverty among residents of African ancestry and Other races fail benchmarks.
  - One in four Latinx households and more than one in 10 African ancestry households received food from a food bank in recent years.
  - More than nine in 10 (93 percent) White high school students graduate, while only seven in 10 Latinx and Native American students graduate. Almost eight in 10 African ancestry students graduate.
  - Fourth-grade reading proficiency is a predictor of high school graduation. About 27 percent of White fourth-grade students are reading below proficiency. This proportion is significantly worse for other children: African ancestry (60 percent), Latinx (67 percent), Pacific Islander (61 percent) and Native American ancestry (58 percent)

2019 CHNA DATA FINDINGS: HOUSING & HOMELESSNESS

Rates are per 100,000 unless otherwise specified.

• Housing and Homelessness was identified as a top health need by more than half of focus groups and key informants.
• The community described stress about the high costs of housing and the lack of affordable rent as a major priority.

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6 “Other” is a U.S. Census category for ethnicities not specifically called out in data sets.
7 The Campaign for Grade-Level Reading (https://gradelevelreading.net) and Reading Partners (https://readingpartners.org/blog/why-reading-by-fourth-grade-matters-for-student-success/)
• Professionals who serve families report an increase in families seeking help from food banks and making difficult choices about how to spend remaining funds (healthy food, medicine, doctor visits, therapeutic services).
• The community reports that families often move to a different home or leave the area due to the increased cost of living.
• The 2018 Santa Clara County Self-Sufficiency Standard indicates that a family of two adults, one infant, and one preschool-aged child requires $120,600 in annual income to be self-sufficient.
• There are approximately 7,400 people experiencing homelessness in the county (15 percent of whom are aged 0–17), which is the highest number since 2013.
• In Mountain View, the number of people experiencing homelessness (416) increased 51 percent since 2015.

STRATEGIES TO IMPROVE HEALTHY COMMUNITIES

**Note on COVID-19:** To address the challenges presented by the COVID-19 pandemic, many strategies will involve adaptations to service delivery models to achieve program goals.
Financial Summary

Total Board Approved Grant Funding: $3,396,000
Sponsorship funding: $100,000
Placeholder: $200,000
Total: $3,696,000

Conclusion

El Camino Hospital’s CHNA identified health needs based on community input, secondary data and other qualitative thresholds. The nine health needs mapped to three priority areas overlap with one another, in that community members having one of these health needs are likely to face challenges in another. El Camino Hospital’s Community Benefit grant portfolio is targeted to address the needs in and across each of the three health priority areas through integrated and coordinated funding.

The grants proposed in this plan have been carefully screened based on their ability to impact at least one of the three priority areas. The Board of Directors’ support of this Community Benefit plan will allow El Camino Hospital to continue responding to the most pressing needs faced by vulnerable residents in our communities.

The premise — and the promise — of community benefit investments is the chance to extend the reach of hospital resources beyond the patient community, and address the suffering of underserved, at-risk community members. These annual community grants provide direct and preventive services throughout the service area. Community Benefit support addresses gaps by funding critical, innovative services that would otherwise not likely be supported. The Community Benefit Plan aims to improve the health and wellness of the entire community, far beyond hospital walls.
Healthy Body Program Partners

5210 Health Awareness Program — School-based nutrition and health programs at Campbell Union, Cupertino Union and San Jose Unified School Districts

African American Community Service Agency — Family health services outreach program for low-income children and families

Asian Americans for Community Involvement — Primary care services in East San Jose

Bay Area Women’s Sports Initiative — Physical activity and self-esteem program for girls at Campbell Union School District

Better Health Pharmacy, Santa Clara County Public Health Department — No-cost medication program for low-income individuals

Breathe California of the Bay Area — Screenings, education and home assessment for families of children with asthma

Cambrian School District — School nurse program

Campbell Union School District — School nurse program

Challenge Diabetes Program — Pre-diabetes education and support provided at community service agencies

Community Health Partnership — Safety-net clinics capacity building, learning collaborative and training

Cupertino Union School District — School nurse program

Gardner Family Health Network — Clinical services and healthy behavior change program for patients with pre-diabetes and diabetes

GoNoodle — Movement and mindfulness programs for youth at K-8 schools

Health Mobile — Mobile dental services for homeless and low-income community members

Healthier Kids Foundation — Dental and hearing screenings for children

Indian Health Center of Santa Clara Valley — Clinical services and healthy behavior change program for young people at risk for or who have pre-diabetes or diabetes

Latinas Contra Cancer — Cancer prevention and early detection services

Mount Pleasant School District — School nurse program

Playworks — Physical activity and positive school climate program at Campbell Union School District

Pre-diabetes Awareness Initiative (Hill & Company) — Awareness, screening and chronic disease management resources for pre-diabetes

Vista Center for the Blind and Visually Impaired — Vision rehabilitation program

Some program activities may be adjusted to address COVID-19 circumstances.

Healthy Mind Program Partners

Almaden Valley Counseling Service — School-based social-emotional skill building in elementary and middle schools

Alzheimer’s Association Latino Family Connections — Culturally based services for patients and caregivers

Bill Wilson Center — Psychotherapy for victims of child abuse

Cancer CAREpoint — Counseling for cancer patients, survivors, family members and caregivers

Child Advocates of Silicon Valley — Advocacy and support services for foster teens

Counseling and Support Services for Youth (CASSY) — Mental health counseling at Campbell Union School District

Cupertino Union School District — Mental health counseling

Family Health Services Outreach Program for low-income children and families

GoNoodle — Movement and mindfulness programs for youth at K-8 schools

Health Mobile — Mobile dental services for homeless and low-income community members

LifeMoves — Mental health counseling at homeless shelters

Los Gatos Union School District — Mental health counseling

Momentum for Mental Health — Psychiatric services and medication management for underinsured and uninsured

Peninsula Healthcare Connection — Psychiatric services and medication management for homeless and at-risk community members

Teen Success — Promoting self-sufficiency and health education for teen mothers

Uplift Family Services — Mental health counseling and addiction prevention services at Campbell Union High School District

Healthy Community Program Partners

American Heart Association — Multilingual hypertension management classes

Los Gatos-Saratoga Recreation — Addressing social isolation among older adults through guided activities and support groups

Midtown Family Services — Navigation support for accessing public housing assistance

Next Door Solutions to Domestic Violence — Crisis counseling, shelter services and advocacy for victims of domestic violence

Pacific Hearing Connection — Screening and access to free or reduced-cost hearing aids for children and adults

Rebuilding Together Silicon Valley — Home repair program for seniors at risk for falls

Sacred Heart Community Service — Addressing food insecurity through nutrition education and home gardens

South Asian Heart Center — Screenings and education to prevent heart disease and diabetes

Valley Verde — Home gardens and nutrition education for low-income households

Veggielution — Nutrition education and access to fresh produce for low-income households

West Valley Community Services — Case management, assistance accessing benefits and nutrition workshops for at-risk families and older adults

$3.7 Million invested to address unmet health needs and improve the health of the people in our community.