

# Executive Summary

Owensboro Health Inc. (OHI) owns and operates Owensboro Health Twin Lakes Medical Center, a 75 bed hospital in Grayson County, Kentucky. Owensboro Health Twin Lakes Medical Center (OHTLMC) is pleased to present its 2021-2024 Community Health Needs Assessment (CHNA). OHTLMC contracted with the Community and Economic Development Initiative of Kentucky (CEDIK) to conduct a CHNA in accordance with the Affordable Care Act (ACA) and section 501(r) of the Internal Revenue Code for nonprofit tax-exempt hospitals. This CHNA is the first report prepared by CEDIK for OHTLMC. This report will be used to create an implementation plan to address the identified health needs for the community served by OHTLMC over the next three years. The Owensboro Health, Inc. Board of Directors approved this CHNA on May 23, 2022.

## Summary of Findings

### ***Methodology***

CEDIK facilitated the process of primary data collection through focus groups and key informant interviews to support OHTLMC in their creation of an implementation plan to address identified health needs. In addition, county specific secondary data was gathered to help examine the social determinants of health. Throughout the process, CEDIK made it a priority to get input from populations that are often not engaged in conversations about their health needs or gaps in service. CEDIK conducted three key informant interviews to probe more deeply into health and quality of life themes within the county. Potential barriers to accessing community resources were also identified in these interviews.

This CHNA report synthesizes community health needs survey data, focus groups with vulnerable populations, and key informant interview data with social and economic data as well as health outcomes data collected from secondary sources to help provide context for the community. Below are identified themes collected from the primary data collection:

### ***Focus Group Visioning***

Residents describe their vision of a vibrant, healthy Grayson County: a philanthropic community that exhibits a passion for volunteerism; shared mission and goals for health among community organizations; access to healthy foods; access to parks and recreation; access to primary health care; transportation; quality mental health care including recovery and addiction services; strong education system; reduced tobacco use and vaping; reduced obesity and heart disease.

### ***Focus Groups – Unmet Needs***

Three focus groups were conducted by CEDIK in Grayson County to discuss health needs of populations with unmet health needs and to deepen the understanding of the health challenges they face. Focus group discussions revealed unmet needs across the low-income and vulnerable populations. Common concerns across these populations include: obesity – in children and adults; tobacco use and vaping; food insecurity and poor diet; substance use and addiction – drugs, alcohol and illicit substances; mental health services for adults and youth - lack of providers and long wait times; chronic diseases including diabetes, heart disease, and lung diseases; primary care providers; transportation; dental care – providers who accept

Medicaid; aging population health care – hearing and vision care for elderly; need for affordable child care; homelessness and need for quality, safe housing across all income brackets.

### ***Key Informant - Community Themes and Strengths***

OHTLMC and CEDIK obtained additional primary data through four key informant interviews with individuals knowledgeable about health and quality of life needs in Grayson County. CEDIK organized the data into strengths, barriers, and opportunities for change for Grayson County. Strengths included collaborative partners across multiple sectors; the addition of Owensboro Health is an asset and strong employer in the community; high quality health care is available in the community. Challenges faced by residents include need for increased economic development to increase employment with living wages; transportation needs to access health care and essential services; not enough mental health and primary care providers; need for more communication of hospital services. Several opportunities were highlighted, including increased health care provided in schools; health education opportunities in schools and community; add indoor recreation opportunities; expanding EMS services, substance use treatment, dental care for Medicaid population and increased promotion of available community and health care services.

## **Prioritized Areas**

Based on survey results, focus group and key informant interview results, as well as key secondary health data, there were four priority areas identified. Existing local, state and national priorities were considered. This information can assist the hospital as implementation plans are developed to address the prioritized health needs. The following priorities were identified as areas of need to address in the next three years:

- **Address Chronic Health Conditions**
- **Address Obesity/Physical Inactivity**
- **Address Mental Health**
- **Address Substance Abuse**

A plan for addressing these priority areas will be described in the OHTLMC Implementation Strategy.