

Executive Summary

Owensboro Health Inc. (OHI) owns and operates Owensboro Health Twin Lakes Medical Center, a 75 bed acute-care hospital in Grayson County, Kentucky. Owensboro Health Twin Lakes Medical Center (OHTLMC) is pleased to present its 2024-2027 Community Health Needs Assessment (CHNA). OHTLMC contracted with Blueprint Kentucky, formerly known as 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 second report prepared by Blueprint Kentucky 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 OHTLMC Board of Directors approved this CHNA on May 22nd, 2025 and The Owensboro Health Board of Directors approved this CHNA on May 29th, 2025.

Summary of Findings

Methodology

Blueprint Kentucky facilitated the process of primary data collection through community surveys, focus groups and key informant interviews to identify and prioritize health needs. In addition, county specific secondary data was gathered to help examine the social determinants of health. Throughout the process, Blueprint Kentucky and the community steering committee intentionally sought input from populations that are often not engaged in conversations about their health needs or gaps in service. Blueprint Kentucky conducted seven key informant interviews to probe more deeply into health and quality of life themes within the county. Current community resources and potential barriers to accessing resources were also identified in these interviews.

This CHNA report synthesizes community health needs survey data, focus groups with vulnerable populations and their representatives, 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.

Focus Groups – Community Assets

Grayson County residents identified community assets and strengths that contribute to their continued vision for a healthy and vibrant community that encompasses all who live, work and play here. These assets include access to quality health care, opportunities for community members through education and outdoor recreation, and strong community and social support organizations and groups that are collaborative and strengthen the sense of community in Grayson County. This well-resourced county continues to work together to build a community where youth feel safe and protected, can live drug, tobacco and vape free and can enjoy access to trails and recreation.

Focus Groups – Unmet Needs

Blueprint Kentucky conducted specific focus groups with representatives of organizations in Grayson County that provide services to vulnerable populations that are under resourced or experience unmet health needs. The participants provided a view of health challenges and gaps in health care or essential services. The discussions revealed needs among children/youth, low-income, and aging populations. The needs most often mentioned include mental health concerns for youth and adults noting that substance use is a common co-occurring disorder for mental health, obesity and nutrition needs related to access to healthy foods and lack of

nutrition education, and access to care. Supporting family needs, such as parenting classes or support for grandparents raising grandchildren was mentioned many times as an area for growth. The shortage of affordable and safe housing for a variety of groups (families, individuals in recovery, seniors, and the homeless) was mentioned.

Key Informant - Community Themes and Strengths

OHTLMC and Blueprint Kentucky obtained additional primary data through seven supplemental interviews with individuals knowledgeable about health and quality of life needs in Grayson County. Blueprint Kentucky organized the data into strengths, barriers and opportunities for change in Grayson County. Strengths include local health care assets (rural clinic, hospital, specialty care, health department, substance use treatment) and community assets (strong community collaboration through organizations with innovative programming and involved local leadership.) Barriers to health care include lack of public transportation, low health literacy, stigma related to mental health conditions, dental care access for Medicaid patients, and support for caregivers. The interviews identified several opportunities that could improve the health and well-being of Grayson County residents including public transportation or mobile units, preventative care and education, expanding access to care, and continued collaboration within the community.



Prioritized Areas

The OHTLMC Community Health Committee reviewed survey results, focus group and key informant interview results as well as key secondary health data. Members identified current resources and possible barriers to resources that residents may experience. The committee considered existing local and state priorities, conducted an open discussion and voted on prioritized health areas for the county. This information can assist both the hospital and the health department, as implementation plans are developed to address the prioritized health needs.

OHTLMC Community Health Committee selected the following priority areas for action:

- Mental health
- Addiction
 - Substance or behavior
 - Legal or illegal
- Nutrition
- Physical inactivity

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