Implementation Strategy

Community Health Needs Assessment FY13

MILLER CHILDREN’S HOSPITAL LONG BEACH

March 4, 2013
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Introduction
Miller Children’s Hospital Long Beach, in collaboration with other Long Beach non-profit hospitals and the city’s health department, conducted a community health needs assessment (CHNA) in FY13. This CHNA meets the California state law and the new federal requirements under the Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act 2010. The CHNA incorporated secondary data from existing sources such as the 2010 Census, cancer registry and the California Health Interview Survey (CHIS), and primary data collection from community members and identified key informants who represent the medically underserved, low-income, minority populations, and populations with chronic disease. Through an examination and review of these data, health needs were identified. The health needs were prioritized through a structured process using defined criteria. This Implementation Strategy addresses the health needs identified through the CHNA.

Priority Health Needs
For Miller Children’s Hospital Long Beach, selected Community Benefit efforts focus on increasing and supporting access to health care services through direct programs and partnerships with local community-based organizations. Our programs address the following access to care priority health needs:

- Medical Homes
- Transportation
- Mental health
- Preventive care

Community Benefit efforts also focus on the prevention of and attention to key chronic health conditions. Our programs address these related chronic health priority health needs:

- Asthma
- Overweight/obesity: nutrition and exercise
- Access to care
- Mental health
- Preventive care/prevention
- Health education
Addressing the Health Needs
Miller Children’s Hospital Long Beach (MCHLB) plans to meet the identified priority health needs; access to care, mental health, asthma, obesity/overweight and preventive care/prevention through a commitment of resources with the following programs and services.

Access to Care
Outpatient specialty centers provide more than 30 sub-specialties dedicated to the health and wellbeing of children and adolescents in our community. Many of our specialty centers serve as a medical home for children. These clinics are supported by Miller Children’s; more than $18 million dollars in FY12, the majority of patients are MediCal or uninsured. We will continue to promote the medical home model to improve access to care and partner with The Children’s Clinic (TCC), a federally qualified health clinic (8 locations throughout greater Long Beach).

Mental Health
MCH has an active school reintegration program for children who have long-term illness that keeps them out of their school environment. There are a number of support groups available for parents and children to address their identified and unique needs, to increase social support and provide information directly related to their disease. Support groups include; HIV/AIDS, Autism, children with special needs.

Asthma
Miller Children’s Hospital Long Beach was part of the founding coalition of the Long Beach Alliance for Children with Asthma (LBACA). LBACA provides education, clinician training, community health workers and advocacy related to asthma in the greater Long Beach area.

LBACA’s activities include a community health worker home visiting program, an asthma resource center, Physician Asthma Care Education training to improve physician asthma management skills and training medical assistants to provide asthma education to patients at provider sites. LBACA is also teaming up with schools, after-school programs, parks and recreational centers to develop asthma-friendly environments and policies; and mobilizing the community to respond to air quality issues, both indoors and outdoors.

LBACA’s long-term objectives are to change the profile of childhood asthma in the most affected areas of the cities of Long Beach, Carson, Wilmington and San Pedro through improved health care delivery and quality, outreach, education, support systems, improved living environments and changes in policy at all levels. The program is committed to improve clinical outcomes including reduction in
preventable hospitalizations, emergency room visits, and school absenteeism due to asthma, and enhanced quality of life measures.

Prevention
Miller Children’s provides Community Health Improvement and Prevention services through 20 different programs and activities, which include community health education, community lectures, presentations and workshops in the areas of asthma, diabetes, obesity, health screenings, pediatric cancer, and children with special needs. We will expand these efforts to reach more people through partnership with the Long Beach Health Department and community based organizations. Our pediatric safety program includes not only community education but also provides bicycle helmets and car seats to those who are unable to afford them.

Overweight/Obesity
MCH will work in partnership with the City of Long Beach to promote the Healthy Active Long Beach initiative to battle overweight and obesity in our community. In addition we will provide nutrition communication in multiple languages. MCH staff actively participates on coalitions such as First Five LA. The Family Medicine program facilitates a Fit Teen support group and education program for overweight and obese teens and their families.

Other Health Needs
Miller Children’s Hospital has chosen not to actively address the following health needs identified in the CHNA that were not selected as priority health needs. These health needs are:

- Dental Disease
- High blood pressure
- Diabetes

MCH has chosen not to focus on these health needs as there are existing resources in the community that are addressing these needs. Nevertheless, MCH may have some activities that address these health needs, and we will continue to investigate opportunities to address these identified health needs, however, the focus of the hospital’s charitable resources will be placed on the identified priority health needs.