

Community Health Needs Assessment Services



Ongoing, unprecedented increases in the demand for healthcare are challenging for communities and healthcare providers in this era of limited fiscal resources. Regulatory changes also have resulted in new obligations.

One of the mandates of the Health Care Reform Act is a Community Health Needs Assessment. Starting in 2013, tax-exempt hospitals must conduct, every three years, an assessment and implement strategies to address priority needs. The Health Reform Act spells out requirements for the Community Health Needs Assessment. This assessment is central to your organization's community benefit/social accountability plan. By determining and examining the service needs and gaps in a community, your organization can develop responses to address them with your community benefit plan and resources.

ParenteBeard can assist your team in every step of the process, from planning to execution and facilitating service delivery, in a cost-effective and timely fashion.

ParenteBeard's team of experienced professionals will help your organization meet its Community Health Needs Assessment requirement. We understand that an assessment is an intentional, inclusive and systematic process that actively seeks input from organizational and community stakeholders and combines that information with current research to identify the community's priority health needs and strengths in order to achieve measurable results. With this in mind, our team can help your organization realize the benefits of conducting a community health needs assessment.

ParenteBeard's presentations to The Hospital and Healthsystem Association of Pennsylvania and the Hospital Council of Western Pennsylvania are examples of the education we can provide to your hospital's board and staff leadership about Community Health Needs Assessments.

What Are The Benefits?

They include but are not limited to:

- > Identifying the most pressing needs for your service area and ensuring that your community benefit plan enables healthcare resources to be used to maximize health improvement while maintaining and/or improving your bottom line.
- > Building strong, long-term, collaborative relationships within your community and with its leaders.
- > Demonstrating to your market and its stakeholders that your hospital is an expert on community health needs.
- > Ensuring compliance with new requirements including responses to the Form 990 community needs assessment questions.

Our Approach to Performing a Community Health Needs Assessment:

ParenteBeard professionals have experience working with clients from over 350 hospitals, senior living organizations, community-based health care providers, foundations, United Ways, health systems and human service organizations in assessing community needs. Clients count on our team to work closely with them to design, develop, track and report their community benefit programs. This ensures that healthcare resources are used in a cost-effective manner to maximize health improvement, which in turn can help your organization achieve timely, cost-effective and practical benefits.

Community engagement is the next key factor. Meaningful engagement occurs when all stakeholders, from your organization's senior leadership and its board to the community's health leaders, politicians, business leaders, consumers and others, work together to fulfill the scope, timeframe, budget and overall purpose of the assessment.

ParenteBeard's consultants will perform on-site fact-gathering to develop a comprehensive picture of both the community at large and your hospital's delivery of healthcare services. The insight we acquire from these in-person interviews, combined with data analytics and illustrated examples, enables our team to deliver an in-depth Community Health Needs Assessment providing accurate, realistic and detailed analysis.

We will assist your organization to:

- > Establish or improve your existing community benefit programs assuring a solid foundation for community benefit planning, documenting, accounting and reporting.
- > Educate board members on their increased responsibilities with Community Health Needs Assessments.
- > Develop all phases of Community Health Needs Assessment including facilitation of committee, planning, data collection, priority setting, implementation strategy development, and report writing.
- > Prepare the annual Community Benefit Report, 990 and schedule H.
- > Integrate the community benefit and community health needs assessment into your health reform preparation and overall strategic plan.

As part of our assessment process, we will employ some or all of the following tools (note: the more data sources, the more comprehensive and helpful the analysis).

- > Observations
- > Stakeholder/Key Informant Interviews
- > Focus Groups
- > Surveys
- > Public Forums
- > Secondary Data

Through this process, we have the flexibility to assist your team in developing and interpreting the results of this important initiative, as well as educating them on maintaining current and relevant information.

This reinforces our commitment to our clients to offer **Confidence through Clarity.**

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