

LOS NIÑOS HOSPITAL
2013 – 2015

Community Health Needs Assessment



Summary

The United States Congress approved the Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act in 2010. This legislation requires that 501(c)(3) hospital organizations conduct a Community Health Needs Assessment (CHNA) and implementation strategy.

About Los Niños Hospital

Los Niños Hospital (LNH) is a 15-bed, non-profit hospital. LNH was founded in 1994, at the bequest of physicians, health plans, patient care advocates and legislators, in order to serve a need in the valley for transitional acute and subacute care for medically fragile/complex pediatric patients.

Los Niños Hospital is a small hospital. It is governed by a board of directors and is licensed as a specialty hospital with a pediatric designation. Los Niños Hospital, unlike other Valley pediatric hospitals, does not have an emergency room or surgery capabilities.

Located in central Phoenix in Maricopa County Arizona, Los Niños Hospital is the leading provider of step down pediatric care in the state. In 2012, 99% of patients served by Los Niños Hospital arrived via transfer from another tertiary care hospital in order to receive subacute care and training so they could go home safely. One-percent of patients were directly admitted by pediatricians' offices. Transfers from Phoenix Children's Hospital accounted for 60% of LNH's admissions in 2012. PCH is located half a mile from Los Niños Hospital.

Los Niños Hospital has a dedicated and skilled team of providers working together towards the common goal of getting children home safely and

efficiently. Los Niños Hospital provides care that includes, but is not limited to caregiver training, intravenous therapy, total parenteral nutrition therapy, central line care, complex wound care, gastrostomy and nasogastric tube feedings, oxygen administration, tracheostomy care, and ventilator management.

families that face additional barriers to discharge. These barriers come in many forms: language, social, emotional, financial and even environmental. The goal at LNH is to make sure families and their children are able to go home in the safest manner possible.

...working together towards the common goal of getting children home safely and efficiently.

Los Niños Hospital's family training and discharge planning starts on day one of admission and provides families a safe environment to learn to manage their child's care, helping them become competent caregivers for their children—reducing the frequency of unnecessary ER or hospital visits.

Many of the infants and children that are admitted to Los Niños Hospital are from

Los Niños Hospital's mission is "to serve the medical community and the children and families of the greater Phoenix area by providing quality medical care in a nurturing environment and in doing so become the recognized leader in subacute pediatric care in Arizona."

The Community We Serve

The community Los Niños Hospital serves, consists mainly of medically underserved, low income and minority populations. Los Niños Hospital serves pediatric patients only. The average age of our admissions in 2012 was 29 months old.

The overwhelming majority of Los Niños Hospital's patients are Medicaid recipients. In the state of Arizona, LNH serves the highest number of Medicaid

patients of any hospital provider—91% in 2012. Most families of our patients have multiple children and face additional barriers to health access and have

multiple social support needs. In 2012, 45% of the patients admitted to LNH were of Hispanic ethnicity.

Snapshot of 2012 LNH Stats*	
Admissions	250
Patient Days	3,255
Medicaid recipients	91%
Average age of admit	29 months old
Ethnicity	45% Hispanic
Transfers from another hospital	99%
Direct Admits	1%

Percent of Medicaid Families LNH serves: 91%

*Data gathered from LNH Inpatient Records

Community Description

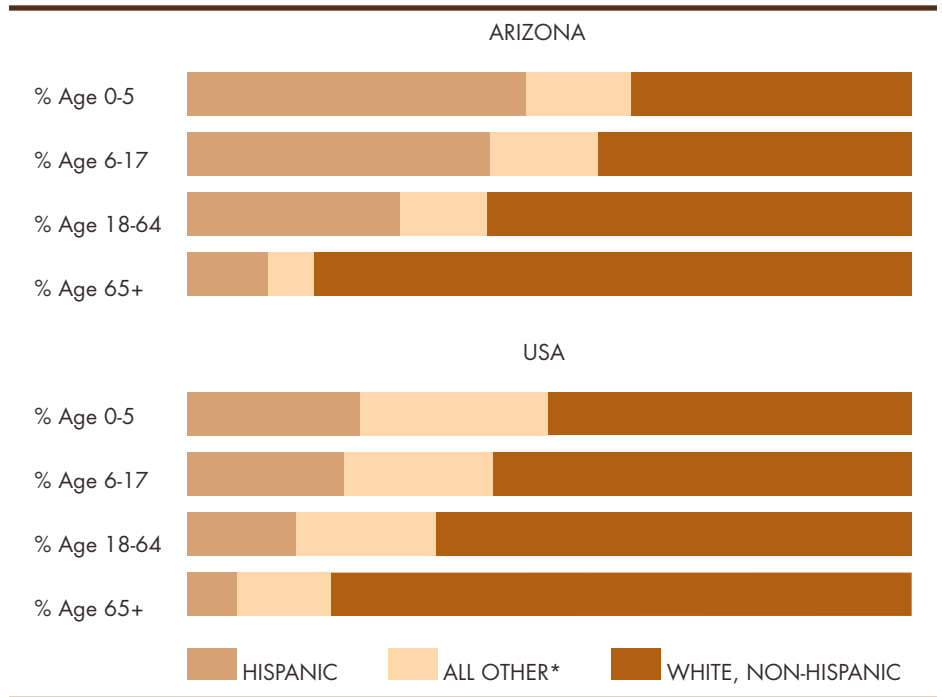
Key statistics provided by the US Census Bureau, American Community Survey

2010 regarding the community Los Niños Hospital serves in Arizona and Maricopa County include: Families with children: 31.5% of all occupied

households in Maricopa are family households with one or more children under the age of 18.

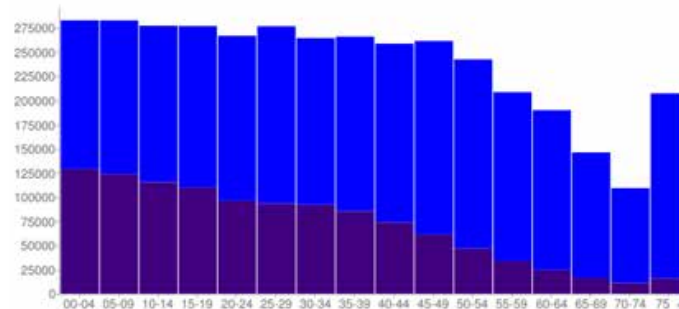
Report Area	Total Households	Total Family Households	Families with Children (Under Age 18)	Families with Children (Under Age 18), Percent of Total Households
Maricopa County, AZ	1,411,583	932,814	443,971	31.5%

The majority of children 0-5 in Arizona are Hispanic; 46.7%. This is twice the rate for the United States. The Hispanic population is the second largest ethnic group in Maricopa, reported at 1,128,741 which are 30% of the total.



Population by Hispanic or Latino Origin (of any race), 2010 Census - Maricopa County, Arizona	Counts	Percentages	Color
Persons Not of Hispanic or Latino Origin	2,688,376	70.43%	Blue
Persons of Hispanic or Latino Origin	1,128,741	29.57%	Dark Purple

Graph: Population by Age and Hispanic or Latino Origin, 2010 Census - Maricopa County, Arizona



The Hispanic population is the second largest ethnic group in Maricopa County, reported at 1,128,741 which are 30% of the total.

Poverty in Arizona

Category	AZ %	US %
All	21.20%	14.30%
People Under 18	31.30%	20.70%
Age 18-64	18.40%	12.90%
65 and older	13.80%	8.90%
Families	16.30%	11.10%
Female head of household, no husband, with children	45.70%	39.90%

The population of children living in poverty in Arizona is higher than the U.S. This is a vulnerable population which we find are more likely to have multiple health access, health status and social support needs.

Source: US Census Bureau

Process and Methodology

A focused approach to understanding the needs within the underserved and minority population in which LNH serves included an analysis of the input provided by the Maricopa County Community Health Assessment 2012 (MCCHA) as well as the First Things First Health Impact Assessment.

Both assessments included collaboration with Phoenix Children's Hospital. Since the majority of the admissions LNH receives are transfers from PCH and the communities served are shared, we incorporated these existing local needs assessment processes into our own Community Health Needs Assessment.

The MCCHA was a collaboration of the Maricopa County Department of Public Health and the Arizona Department of Health Services as well as participating hospitals. Their assessments and data focused on racial and ethnic minority communities' needs, they ensured a broad partner participation representing residents of underserved populations and included subject matter experts in the analysis and interpretation of their health data. This process was initiated in 2011 and includes over 400 surveys from four different minority communities, over 240 surveys from community organizations and health professionals and over 300 surveys from the Department of Public Health and the Arizona Department of Health Services.

The First Things First Health Impact Assessment included an extensive survey process comprising of over one hundred of the community's organizations' representatives responses to topic areas identified by the Phoenix Regional Council of

First Things First to be the health needs of our community.

In order to evaluate and prioritize the community needs identified through these assessments, a committee was commissioned to guide the process. The committee analyzed the community health needs identified and the initiatives relating more specifically to families served by LNH were distinguished from others. This subset of initiatives was then ranked according to hospital resources, outreach and program development supports available. An implementation strategy to address the initiative identified as our focus was forged based on input from leadership and community organization representatives.

Summary of Community Significant Health Needs

Los Niños Hospital took into account input from the Maricopa County Community Health Assessment 2012 (MCCHA) final report which identified five areas of health as most critical:

- Obesity
- Diabetes
- Cardiovascular Disease
- Lung Cancer
- Access to Health Care

Los Niños Hospital also analyzed the First Things First Health Impact Assessment. This focused on prevention activities targeting young children and their families. There were five major areas of health needs identified:

- Injury Prevention
- Nutrition and Obesity Prevention
- Oral Health Care
- Prenatal Outreach
- Developmental and Sensory Screening

Of these identified health needs, we determined Cardiovascular Disease, Diabetes and Lung Cancer to be non-critical given our pediatric population. We also determined that Oral Health Care, Prenatal Outreach and Developmental and Sensory Screening were areas that, while we feel are significant health needs within the community we serve, are secondary to the following needs in which we could see being able to address in the more short-term. The following health needs were determined to be of significant importance to the community Los Niños hospital serves:

1. Injury Prevention – The Arizona Department of Health Services reported in 2012:
 - Deaths per year among children 1-14 years old in Arizona for 2002-2012 was 19 due to accidental drowning and submersion and 34 due to motor vehicle-related accidents.
 - According to the Maricopa County Health Status Report of March 2012, shows the death rate for unintentional injuries in 2010 as being the highest in the American Indian population at 68.5 deaths per 100,000 persons. The next highest group affected by injury was whites with 44 deaths per 100,000 persons.
2. Obesity – The Maricopa County-Pediatric Nutrition Surveillance System (PedNSS) of 2009 showed

that 15.5% of children under 5 are classified as obese. The battle on obesity is growing and there are a multitude of existing programs leading the way. While the average age of admissions at LNH is under the age of 5, the most prevalent diagnosis treated is for failure to thrive, malnutrition and prematurity. This is an area LNH would have to develop from scratch and/or join forces with an existing community program/organization in order to support and sustain efforts.

3. Access to Health care – Accessibility to pediatric primary and specialty care was identified as an issue. Freezes in Medicaid's enrollment result in a high percentage of uninsured individuals. Improved access to quality health care regardless of economic status can be achieved by advocating for restoration of the Medicaid program and collaborating with legislature.

Potential resources

A multitude of government and community based resources were recognized by First Things First and the MCCHA. We found many of them adequately addressing the significant health needs identified.

Conclusion

Due to the small size of our business model we recognize that we do not have the resources to focus on an implementation strategy for all of the significant health needs identified as important to the LNH community. It was also determined that there are a significant number of potential resources that are already committed to each of the needs identified.

The committee reached consensus regarding the focus of our assessment and determined that the area of unintentional injury, more specifically, water-related incidents to be a significant health need that we could be effective at combating. Patients

that are recovering from water-related injuries are often times admitted to our facility. This made the focus on water-related incidents more personal for us as we can see our efforts making a difference. We've had an outstanding and long-lasting relationship with the Arizona Drowning Prevention Coalition which we could rely on as an existing resource and then further develop current programs and materials as well as create new initiatives in this area.

We plan to address additional significant health care needs identified in future year's assessments.

Implementation Strategy

Water-Related Incidents

Information from committee members and community organization representatives revealed that while we have been actively involved with the Arizona Drowning Prevention Coalition since 1989, there are areas we would be able to develop further.

According to the Suggestions for Consideration cited by the First Things First Assessment,

“Support a consistent message related to prevention of child drowning. The largest percentage of drowning deaths occurs among children ages one through four years. Encourage participation in community education activities at health fairs, back to school nights, or other public events where educational materials and demonstrations on... water safety and CPR for children and infants... These events will provide handouts as well as hands on demonstration.”

According to the Arizona Drowning Prevention Coalition, in Maricopa County and throughout Arizona, drowning is the leading cause of unintentional death among children ages 1-4. The number one reason for children drowning was the lack of supervision and most frequently occurred in residential swimming pools. The second cause of children drowning was access to the water.

Collaboration

LNH has been an active member of the Arizona Drowning Prevention Coalition since its inception in 1989. We will continue to collaborate with them as well as develop other business and organizational relationships to support a consistent message related to prevention of child drowning.

In 1989, there were no laws requiring pool fences or safety drains for pools and spas. As a founding member of the Arizona Drowning Prevention Coalition, LNH has been a

strong advocate of close parental supervision around water, barriers around pools, and life jackets for children in the water, swimming lessons for children and family members, and CPR training.

LNH is part of the continuum of care that provides for medically fragile, chronically ill infants, children, and young people including those who survive a near drowning resulting in profound neurological damage. Losing a child to drowning is devastating especially when it could have been prevented. Surviving a near drowning may seem like a miracle but can be equally tragic. Each precious minute without oxygen to the brain can cause severe lifelong disabilities to the child including intellectual disability, spastic quadriplegia, tracheostomy, g-tube, ventilator dependence, scoliosis, and anoxic brain injury. The emotions, feeling of guilt, and blame on the family members add to the tragedy.

The majority of our patients admitted have families struggling with socio-economic barriers, language barriers and have multiple children. Through this assessment process, we've determined that LNH has an opportunity to provide these families with resources and we have a chance to educate our families about the importance of water safety through our admission, discharge planning and education process.

Implementation Strategy

This plan represents Los Niños Hospital's strategy to address the significant health need identified as water-related incidents. Our goal is to improve access to resources and provide for

education to the underserved families and minority populations we serve in our community.

Strategy 1: Improve access to resources

Tactics

- Promote available community resources by providing a link on our website to the Arizona Drowning Prevention Coalition
- Promote events happening within the community
 - Partner with the Arizona Drowning Prevention Coalition to provide a Free Water Safety event
 - Participate in the National Drowning Prevention Alliance annual conference
- Distribute brochures and materials both in English and Spanish on water safety at events or provides materials to hosting organizations for distribution
- Distribute “Water Watcher” lanyards for the designated “Water Watcher of the children” promoting close supervision, safety instructions and a sense of responsibility
- Partner with pool and spa professionals to provide information for their customers
- Partner with local business people such as realtors and insurance agents who wish to distribute the “water safety” bags containing information and promotional items to residents of neighborhoods as a marketing tool for them as well

Strategy 2: Provide education

Tactics

- Welcome packet
 - Offer educational materials in English and Spanish
- Discharge planning
 - Resource packet in English and Spanish
 - Tips
 - List of resources
 - Goody bag

Strategy 3: Community Prevention Services

Tactics

In alliance with the Arizona Drowning Prevention Coalition, LNH will sustain efforts to:

- Support and advocate for safety legislation surrounding pool barriers, gate latches, safety covers/drains, and signage
- Make community presentations to local groups about water safety and drowning prevention
- Participate in a variety of community events with table top displays to inform the general public on drowning prevention at local pools
- Promote water safety at employee giving presentations during major Federal campaigns and United Way campaigns

- Partner with the local fire departments, drowning prevention foundations, and other corporations or organizations that promote water safety
- Hold press conferences or provides television interviews during water safety/drowning prevention seasons
- Teach continuing education courses to EMS and fire department personnel on near drowning

Anticipated Outcomes:

- More families will be educated about water-related safety, thus reducing unnecessary injuries and fatalities
- More families will have access to water-related resources available, thus reducing unnecessary injuries and fatalities
- Increased awareness throughout the community, thus reducing unnecessary injuries and fatalities

CHNA Works Cited Reports

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