



**2026
McLAREN FLINT**

**COMMUNITY HEALTH
NEEDS ASSESSMENT
IMPLEMENTATION
STRATEGY**

BACKGROUND

This plan outlines how McLaren Flint will respond to the priority health needs identified through the Community Health Needs Assessment (CHNA) for the next three years.

REGIONAL STRATEGIC PRIORITIES

Priority identification and implementation plan was developed based on key findings in the Community Health Needs Assessment.

1. Addressing Social Determinants of Health
2. Addressing Chronic Disease Prevention, Maintenance, and Treatment
3. Addressing and Promoting Healthy Behaviors
4. Access to Health Care

The hospital developed an implementation plan including community health improvement goals and strategies to address the identified priority areas. The hospital is pursuing these internally and working with community organizations to achieve the greatest possible community impact through our actions.

IMPLEMENTATION PLAN

1. Addressing Social Determinants of Health

Goal: To advance health equity by eliminating socioeconomic barriers to care and investing in a sustainable healthcare workforce for underserved communities.

Strategies:

Blight and Safe Neighborhoods

- Endorse policies and projects around safe and affordable housing with community partners.
- Increase referrals to community resources for support in accessing basic needs, including housing.
- Remove blight and increase safety surrounding the McLaren Flint campus by purchasing vacant homes and properties.

Provide Transportation for Patients

- To address the increasing need for transportation, the McLaren Flint Foundation and McLaren Flint will support transporting patients to receive care on our campus.

Providing Assistance with Food Insecurity and Basic Needs

- A goal of 95% of all inpatients at McLaren Flint are to be screened for health-related social needs to determine how best to work with and support each patient. When a patient screens positive, the nutrition team receives a consult and offers food resources and educational handouts to the patient, provided the patient is willing to accept them. On average, approximately 4% of our patients screen positive for food insecurity each month.
- McLaren Flint and McLaren Flint Foundation will continue providing patients with “basic need” support due to lack of income.
- In 2026, a partnership with the Food Bank of Eastern Michigan will allow the Karmanos Cancer Institute at McLaren Flint to open a food pantry to serve our oncology patients.

Providing Healthcare for the Homeless

- The McLaren Flint Family Medicine Residency Program partners with local shelters as well as provides “street medicine” to homeless individuals throughout the community.

Providing Tuition Loan Reimbursement and Scholarships

- McLaren Flint will continue to provide tuition loan repayment programs as well as scholarships to current staff and future nurses. With an average student debt of \$36,000 in Genesee County, the hospital will continue its program of allocating \$3 million over 4 years to help reduce college debt.
- With over 30 scholarships available each year, McLaren Flint and its generous donors continue the annual support of both current and future nurses.

2. Addressing Chronic Disease Prevention, Maintenance, and Treatment

Goal: Increase opportunities for Genesee County residents to improve and manage health issues and prevent disease.

Strategies:

- Continue free monthly stroke screenings at the Genesee Free Medical Clinic. Screenings include hemoglobin A1C, full lipid panel including total cholesterol, HDL, LDL and triglycerides, blood pressure and pulse sleep disorder risk assessment, risk reduction plan and results counseling and education.
- Continue to offer free 3D mammogram screening program to promote early detection and breast cancer awareness for uninsured, at-risk, low-income women throughout Genesee County.
- Continue the Karmanos Cancer Institute at McLaren Flint’s free Art Therapy program for any individual in the community. A registered Art Therapist provides

art therapy as well as suicide and crisis prevention and crisis stabilization to those dealing with cancer, as well as caregivers.

- Continue participating in community health fairs offering free education and free and low-cost screenings.
- McLaren Flint internal medicine residents and faculty physicians will continue to staff the Free Medical Clinic three days a week and provide medical care and services to uninsured clients, at no charge to the patients.
- Connect patients with no medical home to a primary care provider.
- Inform patients and the community on how to access health care information and creditable resources including patient portal access and internet access.
- Contribute information on the services and health and wellness offerings we provide to the 211 information database.
- Offer provider-led presentations on prevention of chronic disease throughout the community including through the monthly free webinars in partnership with MSU College of Human Medicine Flint Campus.
- Continue offering support groups and education for those with chronic disease.
- Advocate for policies, rules, and regulations that reduce health risks for the general public.

3. Addressing and Promoting Healthy Behaviors

Goal: For greater overall health and to lower re-admission rates.

Strategies:

- Physician faculty and support staff at the McLaren Flint Family Medicine Residency Clinic have implemented a lifestyle medicine program to help prevent chronic conditions. The new initiative will use therapeutic lifestyle interventions to treat chronic conditions which can include diabetes, obesity, heart disease, depression, and high blood pressure. It is an 8-week program that works directly with the patient and focuses on physical activity, stress management, restorative sleep, avoidance of risky substances, and social connection.
- A new initiative to reduce heart failure re-admissions by meeting food disparity needs will be implemented in early 2026. Often, heart failure patients in Flint live in a food desert with little access to fresh food. By working with them and providing this resource, these patients can live healthier, longer lives.
- The hospital uses an electronic customer relations management tool to remind women to have their yearly screening mammogram. The tool is also used to create awareness among those at higher risk of lung cancer about the importance of receiving an annual lung screening. Messages are also being

developed for those with Type 2 diabetes regarding educational resources and colorectal cancer screening awareness.

- McLaren Flint will create or participate in 25 or more community events each year. Ranging from health fairs, educational sessions to physician presentations.

4. Access to Health Care

Goal: Increase access to health care services for all.

Strategies:

- Provide same-day access to primary care services through McLaren Medical Group providers.
- Provide remote care through internet-based service.
- Partner with McLaren Medical Group and independent primary care providers to ensure adequate succession planning for providers transitioning into retirement or leaving the area.
- Offer extended hours for diagnostic testing, such as imaging services.
- Continue to work on decreasing wait times for appointments for all services.
- Continue to recruit and retain top-quality providers in all primary care and specialty areas.
- Support recruitment and retention by enhancing opportunities for employee well-being.
- Promote resident retention, specifically targeted at primary care providers interested in establishing a practice in the service area.
- Collaborate with the Michigan Health and Hospital Association to advance best practices addressing social determinants of health to reduce barriers to accessing health care.

As part of a fully integrated, statewide health care system with a mission to be the best value in health care as defined by quality outcomes and cost. McLaren is participating in, and will continue to explore initiatives designed to improve hospital safety, quality, and experience including:

- Various payor performance metrics.
- Utilization of the McLaren Health Care Safety Dashboard monitoring key performance indicators.

The implementation plan will be monitored to track outcomes of success and areas for improvement. The plan and program metrics will be monitored and updated annually. The hospital reserves the right to amend this implementation strategy as circumstances warrant. For example, certain needs may become more pronounced and require enhancements. During the three-year period, other organizations in the community may

decide to address certain needs indicating that the hospital then should refocus on its limited resources to best serve the community.

Unaddressed Health Needs and Rational

Due to resource constraints and the lack of competencies to effectively address the need, we will not be addressing the following needs identified in the CHNA:

- Child Health - While the hospital does have employed and independent physicians on its medical staff who provide pediatric care, currently McLaren Flint partners with other area hospitals for inpatient pediatric needs.