



Texas Children's Hospital
Community Health
Implementation Strategy
2023-2025

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Table of Contents

- Texas Children’s Hospital 4
- Introduction 4
- Community Served..... 4
- Methods..... 5
- Prioritized Community Health Needs 5
- 2023–2025 Implementation Strategy Methods 5
- Implementation Strategy 6
- Community Focus..... 21
 - Division of Public Health Pediatrics 22
 - Texas Children’s Health Plan 24
 - Injury Prevention 25
- References.....27
- Appendices 28
 - Appendix A: Governance 29
 - Appendix B: Internal Stakeholders 30
 - Appendix C: Community Based Organizations..... 31
- Board Approval 33

Texas Children’s Hospital

Texas Children’s Hospital, a not-for-profit health care organization, is committed to creating a healthier future for children and women throughout the global community by leading in patient care, education and research. Consistently ranked as the best children’s hospital in Texas and among the top in the nation, Texas Children’s experts have garnered widespread recognition for their expertise and breakthroughs in pediatric and women’s health. The hospital includes the Jan and Dan Duncan Neurological Research Institute; the Feigin Tower, a hub for pediatric research; Texas Children’s Pavilion for Women, a comprehensive obstetrics/gynecology facility focusing on high-risk births; Texas Children’s Hospital West Campus, a community hospital in suburban West Houston; and Texas Children’s Hospital The Woodlands, the first hospital devoted to children’s care for communities north of Houston.

Texas Children’s also encompasses Texas Children’s Health Plan, the nation’s first HMO for children; Texas Children’s Pediatrics, the largest pediatric primary care network in the country; Texas Children’s Urgent Care, clinics that specialize in after-hours care tailored specifically for children; and Texas Children’s Global Health, an international health program that channels care to children and women around the world. For more information, visit www.texaschildrens.org. Get the latest news on Texas Children’s by visiting the online newsroom and Twitter at twitter.com/texaschildrens.

Texas Children’s Hospital has long been affiliated with Baylor College of Medicine. Ranked by U.S. News and World Report as one of the nation’s top 25 medical schools for research, Baylor College of Medicine is known for advancing the health of women, children and families through scientific discovery. Funding awarded to Baylor College of Medicine by the National Institutes of Health (NIH), as reported by the Blue Ridge Institute for Medical Research, reflects the depth and breadth of the college’s research enterprise and the progress being made. Our collaboration with this leading medical school in the areas of pediatrics, pediatric surgery and obstetrics and gynecology, and our work with Baylor physicians and researchers across hundreds of projects enables us to continually improve treatments and outcomes for children and women throughout our community and beyond.

Introduction

To fulfill the requirements of Section 501(r)(3) of the US Tax Code, not-for-profit hospitals must conduct a community health needs assessment (CHNA) at least once every three years. Shortly after, they are required to adopt an Implementation Strategy to address the health needs identified in the CHNA. The Texas Children’s Hospital 2022 Community Health Needs Assessment was approved by the Hospital’s Board of Directors in December 2022 and the Texas Children’s 2022-2025 Implementation Strategy was approved in April 2023.

Community Served

Texas Children’s Hospital defines the community it serves as the Houston-The Woodlands-Sugar Land Metropolitan Statistical Area (MSA), also known as “Greater Houston.” An MSA — defined by the U.S. Office of Management and Budget (OMB) and used by the Census Bureau and other federal government agencies for statistical purposes — is a geographical region with a high population density and close economic ties throughout the area. While the Texas Children’s Hospital Network of Care treats patients from around the globe, most of our patients (90.9% in Fiscal Year 2018) come from Greater Houston. In terms of land area, Greater Houston is approximately 9,444 square miles, making it larger than the states of New Hampshire (9,350 sqm), New Jersey (8,721 sqm), Connecticut (5,543 sqm), Delaware (2,489 sqm) and Rhode Island (1,545 sqm).

Methods

To assess the health needs of the community that Texas Children’s serves, a CHNA team was established which included members from the Texas Children’s Community Benefits department, a consultant from The University of Texas School of Public Health, and The University of Texas School of Public Health students from Fundamentals and Applications of GIS and Community Assessment Methods classes from the Fall 2021 through Fall 2022 semesters. The CHNA team embarked on an 18-month effort to solicit and consider input from persons who represent the broad interests of Greater Houston, including those with special knowledge of or expertise in public health. This involved a host of qualitative data gathering efforts, which included key informant interviews, focus groups and community meeting surveillance. The results of those analyses are summarized in this report.

Key Informant Interviews

The CHNA team engaged with 20+ organizations in Greater Houston that represent the broad interests of the community Texas Children’s serves, notably those that interface with vulnerable populations. After establishing rapport with representatives from each organization and describing the CHNA project, the team invited each partner to participate in a recorded virtual interview. Trained interviewers from the team used the Key Informant Interview Guide (Appendix A), developed from previous CHNAs, updated with time-relevant questions to ensure consistency and validity and utilized probing questions to further detail as needed when conducting the interviews.

These key informant interviews were conducted for approximately 30-60 minutes. Questions included background of the respective organizations, community health status and concerns, healthy living, access to health care and social services, the impact of COVID-19 on access to health care and social services and community health issues, ways to improve community health and advice for Texas Children’s Hospital as they develop their community health implementation strategy for 2023-2025 to address key health concerns. Qualitative data was coded using descriptive and in vivo codes to generate prominent themes that arose in the data (see Analysis). Cisco WebEx text-to-speech software was utilized to provide a written transcript of each interview.

Prioritized Community Health Needs and Potential Resources

Texas Children’s identified four essential health needs through key informant interviews, focus groups and community meeting surveillance. A team of graduate students from the UTHealth School of Public Health then utilized extant data sources and academic literature to investigate each of these health needs. The findings were brought before the hospital’s Community Benefits Workgroup on July 15, 2022, for guidance on prioritizing them from the hospital’s Network of Care perspective.

The Community Benefits workgroup consists of physicians and administrative leaders across the Texas Children’s Network of Care, who provide critical guidance to the Community Benefits department regarding community health issues. Their guidance is shaped by the institution’s mission to create a healthier future for children and women throughout our global community by leading in patient care, education and research. It is also shaped by the four core values of Texas Children’s: to embrace freedom, lead tirelessly, live compassionately and amplify unity. The Community Benefits workgroup prioritized our region’s key community health issues in the following order:

1. Mental and Behavioral Health

2. Social Determinants of Health

- a. Economic stability
- b. Food insecurity
- c. Access to care
- d. Health literacy

3. Maternal Health

4. Chronic Disease and Unhealthy Lifestyle

2023-2025 Implementation Strategy Methods

In the Spring of 2023, Texas Children’s Community Benefits department partnered with internal stakeholders to review the latest scientific literature on evidence-based interventions to address the community health needs identified in the Hospital’s 2022 CHNA. In addition to conducting a literature review, the team also consulted with several Texas Children’s subject matter experts. This information gathering helped identify evidence-based strategies for each of the four community health needs in the 2022 CHNA. Per the requirements of Section 501(r)3 of the tax code, the tables below provide a description of the actions the hospital plans to take over the next three years, the anticipated impacts of these actions and the anticipated impacts of these actions and an overview of potential community collaborations potential community collaborations for each suggested action.



Implementation Strategy

1. Mental and Behavioral Health

The Community Benefits Workgroup identified Mental and Behavioral Health as Texas Children’s number one community health need for the Greater Houston area. There has been a dramatic increase in mental health needs for children and young adults locally and across the nation which has only been accentuated by the COVID-19 pandemic. According to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC), one in five U.S. children are diagnosed with a mental disorder, with only 20% of those receiving care from a specialized mental health care provider. Key informants interviewed described mental health as a major health need in their communities. Many reported increasing depression, anxiety and suicidal behavior in the communities they served.

Mental health crises have also risen. From March 2020 to October 2020, behavioral health-related emergency department visits increased in the United States by 24% for children ages 5 to 11 and 31% for those ages 12 to 17, compared with 2019 emergency department visits, according to CDC data (Leeb et al., 2020).

Respondents expressed concerns regarding the shortage of mental health professionals, resulting in delays and barriers in access to care. Another concern expressed by several key informants was the cultural barrier of seeking mental health assistance. The key informants reported that stigma prevents minority communities from seeking mental health help and resources.

Action 1	Support the community with resources, evidence-based tools, and trainings in prevention and early intervention in mental and behavioral health.
Description	Research highlights the value of ongoing resources and training to support long-term outcomes and promote healthcare-community partnerships (Castillo et al., 2019).
Anticipated Impact	Supporting the community by offering trainings by professional service providers has demonstrated benefits in improving mental health literacy, reducing stigma and encouraging help-seeking behavior (Grant et al., 2018). Several factors also lead to increased accessibility in community-member based services such as immediate availability (drop-in basis) and the rapport built between members within the same community of those with similar background or life experiences (Grant et al., 2018).
Resource Commitment	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Through clinical services, training and education, research and community programs, the Division of Public Health Pediatrics is leading a larger effort to reframe how children and families receive care and services that mitigate adversities and that foster resilience within our community. Texas Children’s Hospital offers trainings related to behavioral health in the community through partnerships with Public Health Pediatrics and the Behavioral Health department. • The Gatekeeper Training program was specially designed to teach Texas Children’s and Baylor College of Medicine employees how to identify warning signs of suicide and to provide tools for navigating these difficult situations. More than 13,000 team members have completed this training and report feeling more comfortable about engaging in challenging conversations related to suicide. All new onboarding employees receive this as required training as well. • Texas Children’s Health Plan is establishing partnerships with Aldine ISD and additional Houston area school systems to provide education on mental health for adolescents.
Planned Collaborations	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Division of Public Health Pediatrics • Texas Child Health Access Through Telemedicine (TCHATT) • Texas Children’s Health Plan – The Center for Children and Women

Action 2	Explore the logistics of continuing and expanding services provided in current Texas Children’s mental and behavioral health programs.
Description	Integrated behavioral health services within primary care settings have been shown to improve care coordination and interdisciplinary collaboration, decrease stigma and increase treatment engagement (Godoy et al., 2017).
Anticipated Impact	Integrated care has been associated with greater rates of treatment engagement and patient outcomes when compared to procedures for enhanced community-based mental health referrals (such as transportation assistance) (Godoy et al., 2017). Cole et al (2019) also noted increased access to and utilization of primary care services without increased costs in low-income children in pediatric behavioral health integration in primary care settings.
Resource Commitment	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Texas Children’s Hospital and The Menninger Clinic have partnered to address the mental health epidemic adolescents are facing in the wake of the COVID-19 pandemic and crisis warnings sounded by the U.S. Surgeon General. This new affiliation will expand access to inpatient care for Houston patients ages 12 to 17 experiencing a behavioral health crisis. • Texas Children’s is expanding behavioral health services in the Greater Houston area. Recent philanthropic support has allowed Texas Children’s to hire behavioral health specialists in Texas Children’s Pediatrics (TCP) practices in Fort Bend County. The ultimate goal is to add more behavioral health specialists in TCP practices throughout the Greater Houston area. • Texas Children’s Behavioral Support team supports partnerships with the community and care management to establish community connections for discharge planning, including school partnerships, community providers for therapeutic and psychiatric needs and long-term care facilities when indicated.
Planned Collaborations	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Menninger Clinic • Texas Children’s Pediatrics • Texas Children’s Behavioral Support team • Texas Children’s Health Plan - The Center for Children and Women • Public Health Pediatrics • Texas Children’s Mobile Clinics

Action 3	Support initiatives, programs and screenings to increase identification of mental and behavioral health issues.
Description	Visits to health care providers create an opportunity to recognize people at risk who might not otherwise be identified (Bryan et al., 2023). Over 80% of people who die by suicide interact with health care services in the year before their death, often for non-psychiatric reasons. Only half who die by suicide have been diagnosed with a mental health condition at the time of their death (Bryan et al., 2023).
Anticipated Impact	Expanded suicide risk screening has proven to optimize identification of adults and children at risk of suicide (Bryan et al., 2023).
Resource Commitment	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Texas Children’s screens patients for suicide ideation in inpatient areas, Emergency Centers and Behavioral Health care clinics and locations. • Texas Children’s Government Relations continues to identify opportunities for Texas Children’s physician experts and leaders to advocate at the state legislature by participating in various committee hearings with a focus on pediatric mental health in Texas. • At the federal level, Texas Children’s is actively engaged in advocacy on the following legislative proposals: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◦ S. 4472, Health Care Capacity for Pediatric Mental Health Act ◦ H.R. 4943, Children’s Mental Health Infrastructure Act ◦ H.R. 4944, Helping Kids Cope Act ◦ H.R. 7236, Strengthening Kids Mental Health Now Act
Planned Collaborations	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Texas Children’s Government Relations • Behavioral Health and Suicide Prevention Task Force of Montgomery County • Brazoria County Mental Health Task Force • Houston Area Suicide Coalition and Suicide Prevention Area Resource Collaborative (SPARC) • Texas Children’s Health Plan - The Center for Children and Women • Texas Children’s Public Health Pediatrics • Texas Children’s Mobile Clinics

2. Social Determinants of Health

Texas Children’s second most important community health priority is addressing Social Determinants of Health (SDOH). These impact many aspects of Texas residents’ lives and are defined as “...the conditions in the environments where people are born, live, learn, work, play, worship and age that affect a wide range of health, functioning, and quality-of-life outcomes and risks” (US Department of Health 2020). Examples of SDOH domains include economic stability, education access and quality, health care access and quality, neighborhood and built environment and social and community context. The SDOH identified in the CHNA are economic stability, food insecurity, access to care and health literacy.

Respondents noted concerns regarding access to food, especially with rising inflation costs. An issue that many key informants discussed was the disconnect between various social services and the barriers in accessing basic needs such as housing, transportation, employment, food and utility assistance. Health access and health literacy was also a topic of worry for respondents — obtaining health care in a timely manner and at reasonable costs were top concerns. According to the Center for Children and Families (2022), Texas ranks last in the United States in children who have health insurance with 11.8% of children uninsured in 2021.

Action 1	Support programs and partnerships that improve quality of life and health outcomes across communities living in poverty.
Description	<p>Social and structural factors play a critical role in driving disparate health outcomes. One study estimated that, on average, clinical care impacts only 20% of county-level variation in health outcomes, while SDOH affect as much as 50% of health outcomes. More specifically, socioeconomic factors alone may account for 47% of health outcomes, while health behaviors, clinical care and the physical environment account for 34%, 16% and 3% of health outcomes, respectively (Whitman et al., 2022).</p>
Anticipated Impact	<p>Lower health care costs, lower health care utilization, and improved health outcomes have been associated with public benefit programs providing food assistance (Whitman et al., 2022). Low-income adults participating in a 2017 study of the Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP) found an association between SNAP participation and decreased health care expenditures, with approximately \$1,400 lower expenditures per year among SNAP participants. The Special Supplemental Nutrition Program for Women, Infants, and Children (WIC) has also been associated with improved maternal and child health outcomes, including decreased likelihood of premature births, lower odds of mortality within the first year and reductions in disparities in low birthweight, extended infant hospitalizations and NICU outcomes (Whitman et al., 2022).</p> <p>Reductions in total health care spending, health care utilization, and improved health outcomes have been found in studies of programs that use multiple types of providers, such as social workers, nurses, physicians and case managers to offer services that coordinate care across provider types and assist individuals with managing their health care conditions (Whitman et al., 2022). Evidence suggests that partnerships are more likely to be successful when they are coordinated and well-funded (Whitman et al., 2022).</p>
Resource Commitment	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • In response to community needs and community feedback, in 2022 the Division of Public Health Pediatrics launched upSTART, a suite of community-based programs offered to families with young children that addresses early brain development, social determinants of health, mental health and maternal health. Licensed nurses, social workers, community health workers, speech-language pathologists and parent educators work together to provide education and training and connect families to community resources. • Texas Children’s plans to establish a strategic partnership with a non-profit or community agency which addresses food insecurity in the Greater Houston Area.
Planned Collaborations	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Texas Children’s Public Health Pediatrics • The Houston Food Bank • Kids Meals • Texas Children’s Health Plan • The Center for Children and Women • Texas Children’s Mobile Clinics

Action 2	Support efforts to screen families for social determinants of health and connect families to resources.
Description	Screening for SDOH is recommended as part of the standard of care for all patients (Berkowitz, 2021). Experts suggest that this is equally as important as obtaining vital signs, as it allows the physician to identify risks to health. SDOH screening and response allows pediatricians the opportunity to affect long-lasting change in patients’ lives (Berkowitz, 2021). Understanding the needs and assets of the population and community served in a given clinical setting is essential.
Anticipated Impact	Findhelp.org is a commonly used referral platform to connect community members to local resources. It was adopted by the American Academy of Family Physicians and branded as the Neighborhood Navigator tool in 2018. An analysis of more than 168,000 searches of Findhelp.org between November 2018 and April 2022 identified that food, housing, and health care referral were the most commonly searched items (DeVetter et al., 2023). Seasonal analysis revealed 22% more searches in the winter than in the spring, potentially due to the increased need for housing assistance during colder months in some areas. The average number of monthly searches increased by 119% between 2018 and 2022, which was likely attributable to program expansion, dissemination of the tool, and the impact of COVID-19 later in this time frame. Neighborhood Navigator searches increased by 47% during the COVID-19 pandemic. The largest increases were for housing (79%), health (43%), and transportation (40%). These data suggest that U.S. family physicians are increasingly using the database to search for community resources to address SDOH in the clinical setting, which may indicate increased attention to their patients’ social needs (DeVetter et al., 2023).
Resource Commitment	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Findhelp.org is a free-for-use search engine to connect social services providers with the people they serve. Using zip code information, it connects users with a list of social service categories including food, housing, care, and transit. This tool facilitates referrals, establishes connections and supports quick follow-up and close referral loops. • The Center for Child Health Policy and Advocacy received grant funding through Episcopal Health Foundation which allowed implementation of a bundle of interventions to improve neurocognitive and developmental outcomes in young children at risk for health inequities. This bundle will use an intergenerational care model, focused on the needs of young children and their parents, to maximize benefits to the child. Two major upstream factors significantly associated with poor neurocognitive and developmental outcomes in children will be addressed – maternal mental health and household food insecurity. The program includes integrated screening for food insecurity, social needs, and mental health needs with direct connections to behavioral health clinicians and/or Houston Food Bank Navigators (respectively).
Planned Collaborations	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Texas Children’s Mobile Clinics • Department of Social Work • Texas Children’s Health Plan • Texas Children’s Pediatrics (TCP) • Center for Child Health Policy and Advocacy

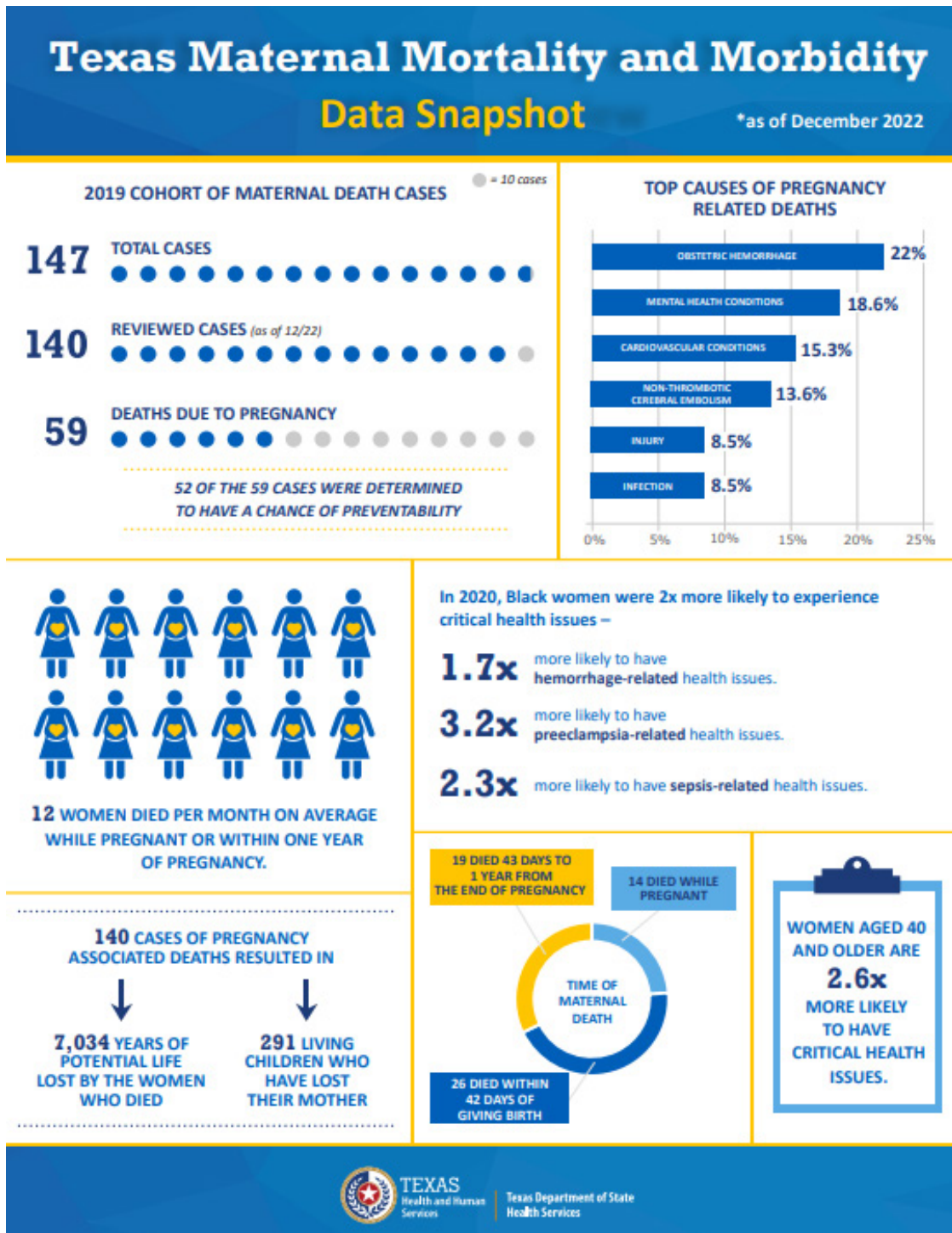
Action 3	Participate in community-based collaboratives to support access to basic needs and social determinants of health.
Description	The ability to positively change upstream determinants of health rests on the collaborative processes and structures of governance across diverse sectors in society (de Montigny et al., 2019). Focusing on capacity building for social change to promote population health is not enough; equal attention must be paid to the engagement process, the motivation to engage and collective learning at the core of effective collaboration across sectors (de Montigny et al., 2019). Through the five essential conditions for collective impact and the adaptive cycle of learning, planning and taking action, a cross-sector collaboration may enhance its ability to create positive social change, which may in turn lead to improved population health (de Montigny et al., 2019).
Anticipated Impact	Statistically significant associations were noted between community outcomes and a wide range of coalition characteristics including community context, resourcing, coalition structure, member characteristics, engagement, satisfaction, group facilitation, communication, group dynamics, relationships, community partnership and health promotion planning and implementation (Nagorcka-Smith, 2022).
Resource Commitment	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Drs. Claire Bocchini and Michelle Lopez are members of the Board of Directors of CHILDREN AT RISK, a non-partisan research and advocacy nonprofit dedicated to understanding and addressing the root causes of child poverty and inequality. Established in 1989 by Houston child advocates and researchers, it has grown into a statewide organization tackling Texas children’s and families’ most pressing needs. Texas Children’s Hospital has been a continuing sponsor for CHILDREN AT RISK, contributing to ongoing initiatives such as this. • Dr. Nancy Correa sits on the Steering Committee of the Health Equity Collective, a multi-sector effort focused on creating a more equitable health ecosystem in Greater Houston. The Collective has over 400 members representing over 140 organizations and more than 50 coalitions aligned with a shared mission to establish an impactful, sustainable, data-driven system to promote health equity and address the social drivers of health outcomes. Through this data sharing ecosystem, we aim to implement a comprehensive population-level approach to understand and effectively and efficiently address SDOH across the Greater Houston area.
Planned Collaborations	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Children at Risk • Health Equity Collective • Texas Children’s Mobile Clinics • Department of Social Work

Action 4	Leverage partnerships and services to support community-based organizations focused on improving health insurance coverage and education in vulnerable communities.
Description	Researchers have also found that Medicaid enrollment during early childhood leads to improvements in overall health during adulthood, as measured by a composite health index that examines the prevalence of high blood pressure, diabetes after age 18, heart disease or heart attack and obesity. Five studies suggest that, in the long run, access to childhood Medicaid reduces mortality (Wagerman et al., 2017).
Anticipated Impact	In 2010, Medicaid lifted an estimated 2.6 million to 3.4 million individuals out of poverty. Medicaid effectively shields many children from poverty, reducing their exposure to adverse childhood experiences that can influence their health in later life (Wagerman et al., 2017).
Resource Commitment	Texas Children’s Health Plan (TCHP) identifies geographic-specific partnerships with over 30 organizations, including nonprofit groups, community organizations, social services, school districts and police departments. Through these partnerships, community outreach events are facilitated to assist families with applications for the Children’s Health Insurance Programs (CHIP) and Medicaid Programs.
Planned Collaborations	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Texas Children’s Health Plan • Texas Children’s Mobile Clinics • Department of Social Work

3. Maternal Health

Maternal health was identified as a priority community health concern in the 2022 CHNA. According to the Texas Department of State Health Services, more than 800 women die each year in the U.S. from pregnancy-related complications up to one year after giving birth and, specifically in Texas, approximately four out of five of these deaths are preventable (Texas Health and Human Services, 2023). Maternal Mortality and Morbidity Review Committees (MMRCs) were formed to better understand the causes of and how to prevent maternal mortality. MMRCs also work with the CDC to develop data-driven recommendations on how to prevent maternal deaths (Centers for Disease Control and Prevention [CDC], 2022).

Key informants reported that there are several barriers preventing pregnant women from having a healthy pregnancy. Those barriers include access to healthy food, a safe environment, mental and behavioral health resources, and access to care. Additionally, respondents reported that expectant mothers have a hard time managing chronic diseases as there is a lack of access and resources available.



Action 1	Support and expand partnerships and programs which offer support services for pregnant women and new mothers.
Description	<p>One of the recommendations from the MMRC is to adopt evidence-based policies that support working women’s ability to protect and care for themselves and their newborns during pregnancy and recuperation from childbirth.</p> <p>The MMRC recommends stakeholders:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Promote available smoking cessation programs to maternal health populations • Promote prenatal and postpartum referrals and participation in the WIC Program • Bolster care coordination services and referral systems to address risk factors and prevent harm • Increase community capacity for programs that provide safe and secure housing with transitional services, access to comprehensive case management services, and housing assistance for unhoused pregnant and postpartum people and their families. <p>(Texas Maternal Mortality and Morbidity Review Committee and Department of State Health Services Joint Biennial Report 2022)</p>
Anticipated Impact	<p>According to the Centers for Disease Control (CDC) Foundation, the recommendations for action provided by the MMRCs “will be beneficial for public health and clinical care decision-makers as they design strategies to eliminate preventable maternal deaths at the local, state, regional and national levels” (Report from nine maternal mortality review committees.)</p>
Resource Commitment	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Texas Children’s Center for Childhood Injury Prevention - The Safe at Home Program focuses on infant safe sleep, home safety and water safety education and teaches parents how to childproof their homes and identify potential drowning hazards that may cause injury to their children. • upWORDS2 is offered to parents who have participated in the upWORDS program and are seeking additional sessions on early brain development and positive parenting. • upLIFT: Many mothers experience symptoms of depression and anxiety during pregnancy and in the year after giving birth. Through upLIFT, a licensed social worker meets with the mother in her home. • Family Connects supports families of newborns and is delivered in their homes by a registered nurse. The nurses support parents in caring for their newborns, conduct health assessments of the baby and the mother from the comfort of the home, answer questions about caring for the newborn(s), identify parent needs and help connect families with community services and resources virtually. Up to eight sessions are provided to support the new mother in learning new tools and strategies to help ease symptoms of depression and anxiety. • TCHP has established a workgroup to increase information about the importance of mental health and resources.
Planned Collaborations	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Texas Children’s Health Plan - The Center for Children and Women • Texas Children’s Pavilion for Women • Public Health Pediatrics • Houston Health Department Nurse-Family Partnership • Perinatal Psychiatry Access Network • Texas Children’s Government Relations department • Nonprofit organizations with similar goals

Action 2	Support initiatives which focus on reducing racial inequalities in accessing maternal health resources.
Description	<p>Research suggest that racial and ethnic disparities continue in pregnancy-related deaths. Emily Petersen, MD, medical officer at the CDC Division of Reproductive Health expressed that “There is an urgent need to identify and evaluate the complex factors contributing to these disparities and to design interventions that will reduce preventable pregnancy-related deaths.” (CDC 2019) The CDC also recommends that hospitals and healthcare systems implement standardized protocols in quality improvement initiatives to reduce disparities. Furthermore, the CDC suggests looking at state and local MMRCs to identify additional strategies. In December 2018, the MMRC formed a new subcommittee, Maternal Health Disparities, to investigate further factors that contributed to disparities in maternal mortality (Texas Maternal Mortality, 2020).</p>
Anticipated Impact	<p>According to the CDC, “Identifying factors that drive differences in pregnancy-related deaths and implementing prevention strategies to address them could reduce racial/ethnic disparities in pregnancy-related mortality (CDC, 2023).</p>
Resource Commitment	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Continued support for The Harris County Child Fatality Review Team (CFRT): The CFRT is led by Public Health Pediatrics. It brings together local partners to review child mortality from a public health perspective in order to identify trends and strategies to decrease preventable child deaths. • Maintaining an active Patient & Family Advisory Council • Texas Children’s Government Relations Department. • TCHP held a cultural competency focus group in December 2022 and heard from members about an increasing focus on mental health (across Black and Hispanic groups) but a lack of awareness of benefits.
Planned Collaborations	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Texas Children’s Health Plan - The Center for Children and Women • Texas Children’s Pavilion for Women • Public Health Pediatrics • Houston Health Department Nurse-Family Partnership • The Office of Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion (DEI)

Action 3	Advocate for the support, access, and expansion of Medicaid coverage for mothers' post-partum
Description	The first recommendation from the MMRC is to increase access to comprehensive health services during pregnancy, the year after pregnancy, and throughout the preconception and interpregnancy periods to facilitate continuity of care, implement effective care transitions, promote safe birth spacing and improve the lifelong health of women. The MMRC continues to find pregnancy-related deaths occurring up to 12 months postpartum with 27% of the reviewed 2019 pregnancy-related deaths occurring 43 days to one year after the end of pregnancy.
Anticipated Impact	According to the MMRC, comprehensive health services during pregnancy, the year after pregnancy, and throughout the preconception and interpregnancy periods provide opportunities for reproductive life planning, health risk screening, vaccinations, and acute and chronic condition prevention and management. These services can reduce morbidity and mortality risks, improve future birth outcomes, and promote lifelong health.
Resource Commitment	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Texas Children's Government Relations continues to identify opportunities for Texas Children's physician experts and leaders to advocate at the state legislature by participating in various legislative committee hearings with a focus on maternal health in Texas.
Planned Collaborations	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Texas Children's Government Relations department

4. Chronic Diseases and Unhealthy Lifestyle

Chronic disease and unhealthy lifestyle was identified as a priority community health concern in the 2022 CHNA. Research suggests that healthy nutrition and physical activity have been linked to preventing chronic diseases. Childhood obesity correlates with various health conditions such as heart disease, diabetes, asthma, sleep apnea, joint problems and mental health. According to various research obesity in children can also lead to social problems such as low self-esteem and bullying (CDC, 2022). In Texas, data suggest that 20.3% of youth ages 10-17 have obesity (State of Childhood Obesity, 2022). Additionally, the COVID-19 pandemic exacerbated the prevalence of chronic diseases and unhealthy lifestyles, including increases in food intake, sedentary behavior, weight gain and decreases in physical activity (Bukart, 2021).

Respondents in the CHNA reported that there is insufficient information on what a healthy lifestyle looks like, making it difficult to provide families with the appropriate resources. Other respondents also reported that neighborhoods in the Houston area are unsafe, preventing children and women from accessing physical activities outside the home. Respondents agreed that it is hard to prioritize a healthy lifestyle without access to needed resources.

Action 1	Support and connect families with low-cost/no-cost community resources to support healthy eating and physical activity in neighborhoods.
Description	According to the 2018 Physical Activity Guidelines Advisory Committee Scientific Report, strong evidence demonstrates that, in children and adolescents, higher amounts of physical activity are associated with more favorable status for multiple health indicators (Physical Activity Guidelines, 2018). Additionally, it was concluded in the Youth Risk Behavior Survey that more opportunities are needed for children to learn about a healthy diet and physical activity. It was also suggested that communities work together to create positive environmental changes (Youth Risk Behavior Survey, 2019).
Anticipated Impact	According to the CDC’s Childhood Nutrition Facts, healthy eating in childhood and adolescence is important for proper growth and development and to prevent various health conditions (CDC, 2019). Furthermore, Physical Activity Guidelines for Americans published by the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) provides research about how physical activity is linked to positive health outcomes.
Resource Commitment	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Current collaborations include the Texas Children’s Health Plan, Texas Children’s Pediatrics, Houston Food Bank, Kids Meals and various food pantries across Houston. • Texas Children’s works with Episcopal Health Foundation, City of Houston Parks Department and the Memorial Hermann Community Benefit Corporation to improve park space in the Alief area of Houston, an economically disadvantaged community that is part of the Mayor’s Complete Communities initiative. Community Benefit resources and foundations are utilized to support and enhance programming and equipment at a park in Alief and track utilization and health outcomes over time.
Planned Collaborations	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Houston Food Bank • Kids Meals • Children’s Nutrition Research Center • External partnership collaboration with a nonprofit organization

Action 2	Support opportunities aimed to better inform, educate, and engage the public regarding chronic disease prevention and management.
Description	According to the CDC, approximately two in five children ages 6-17 have a chronic health condition such as asthma, diabetes or epilepsy. The CDC recommends a coordinated effort between children, their families, community groups, social service agencies, schools and medical providers to manage chronic diseases in this population (CDC, 2023) Respondents in the CHNA reported that it is specifically hard for people who are struggling with chronic diseases such as diabetes to adapt a healthy lifestyle. As a result, additional learning opportunities are needed.
Anticipated Impact	According to the World Health Organization, “Patient engagement is increasingly recognized as an integral part of health care and a critical component of safe, people-centered services. Engaged patients are better able to make informed decisions about their care options. In addition, resources may be better used if they are aligned with patients’ priorities and this is critical for the sustainability of health systems worldwide.” (Patient Engagement, 2022)
Resource Commitment	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Children’s Nutrition Research Center (CNRC) is a unique cooperative venture between Texas Children’s, Baylor College of Medicine and the U.S. Department of Agriculture/Agricultural Research Service. The CNRC has over 40 faculty members conducting nutrition-related research. Research goals center on establishing evidence-based guidelines promoting health, growth and development through optimal nutrition. These guidelines are for use by physicians, parents and others responsible for the care and feeding of children. • Texas Children’s operates mobile clinics to provide trusted, high-quality medical services to children who may not have the access or opportunity to receive health care. This fleet of mobile clinics travels to low-income, largely Hispanic neighborhoods to provide comprehensive health care to underserved children. They provide free care to children from newborn to 18 years of age and are open to the public; children do not have to attend the school where the clinic is parked to receive care. • TCHP has a partnership with Harris County Public Health Department to remediate known environmental asthma triggers for high-risk asthma members.
Planned Collaborations	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Texas Children’s Health Plan - The Center for Children and Women • Texas Children’s Mobile Clinics • Children’s Nutrition Research Center • Texas Children’s providers • External partnership collaboration with a nonprofit organization

Action 3	Provide culturally appropriate support for healthy lifestyles in underserved communities.
Description	Key informants reported that nutrition is a huge concern for families but there is a lack of awareness and time to learn about what a healthy lifestyle looks like, especially in minority families. According to Houston Independent School District representative, there is a huge need to educate people on how to include healthy eating without breaking their budget and by adapting to their culture. Several organizations also reported that there is a lack of access to green spaces in several neighborhoods in the Houston area, making it hard for people in low income communities to have a healthy lifestyle.
Anticipated Impact	According to studies, “there has been a growing awareness that providing culturally sensitive pediatric primary care, especially during well-child visits, is a potentially modifiable way to address health care disparities and promote health equity (Okoniewski,MD 2022).
Resource Commitment	Texas Children’s plans to establish a strategic partnership with a nonprofit or community agency which addresses the community regarding chronic disease prevention and management in the Greater Houston Area.
Planned Collaborations	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Houston Food Bank • Children’s Nutrition Research Center • The Office of Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion (DEI)

Community Focus

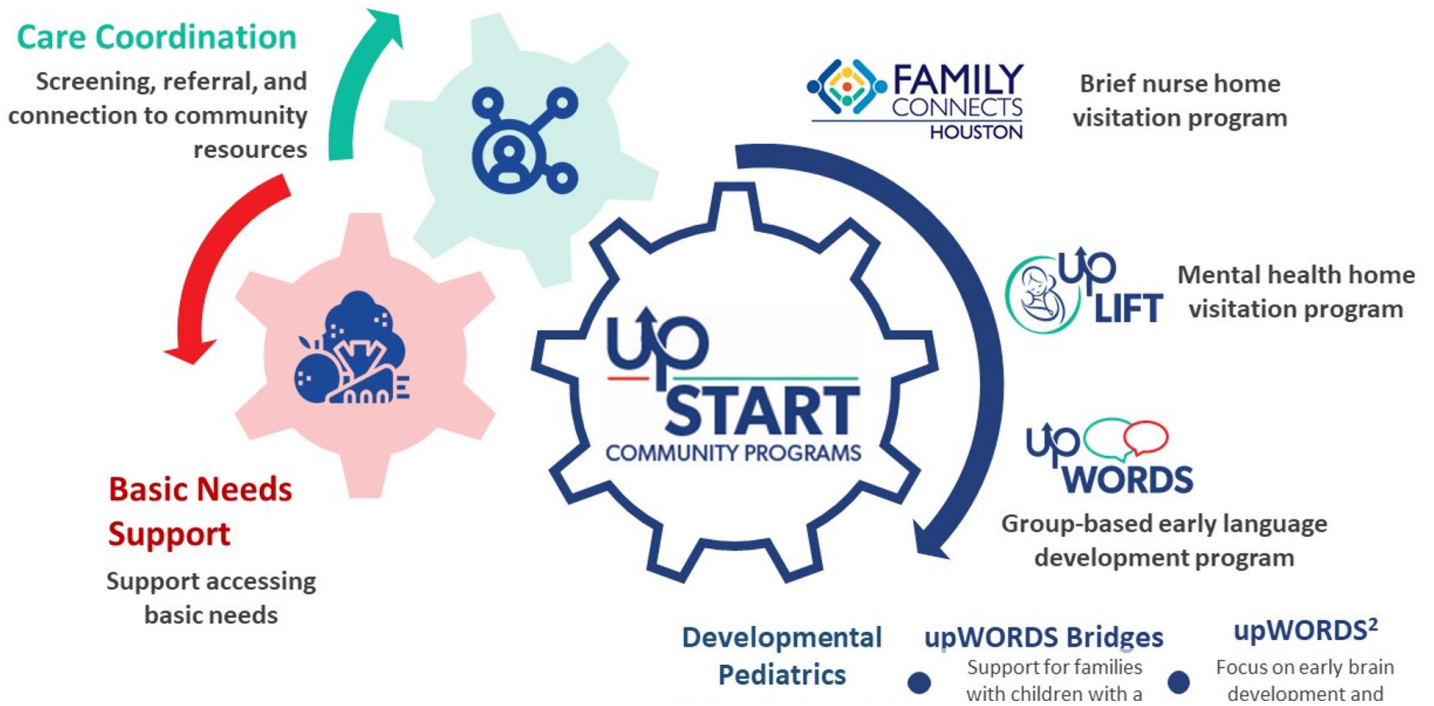
In addition to the Implementation Strategies identified in this report, Texas Children's is proud to support the Division of Public Health Pediatrics, Texas Children's Health Plan and the Center for Childhood Injury Prevention, which directly address the community health needs identified in the 2022 CHNA.

The Division of Public Health Pediatrics

The Division of Public Health Pediatrics at Texas Children’s Hospital and Baylor College of Medicine was established in recognition that complex family and community forces play a substantial role in the health and well-being of children. The mission of the Division is to create a healthier future for Texas’ children and families by leading in patient care, education, services and research that seeks to mitigate childhood adversities and foster individual, family and community resilience.

In response to community needs and community feedback, in 2022 the Division launched upSTART, a suite of community-based programs offered to families with young children that addresses early brain development, social determinants of health, mental health and maternal health. Licensed nurses, social workers, community health workers, speech language pathologists and parent educators work together to provide education and training and connect families to community resources.

upSTART Community Programs	Program description
Family Connects	An evidence-based universal, brief nurse home visitation program that supports new parents in caring for their newborn(s). Family Connects is delivered to community members who deliver at Harris County’s safety net hospital by a registered nurse who conducts health assessments on the mother and infant(s), helps new parents address common parenting challenges and connects families with community services or resources.
upLIFT	An individualized home visitation program for pregnant or postpartum women with elevated symptoms of depression or anxiety. upLIFT is delivered by a licensed social worker who provides up to eight home visits (or virtual sessions) designed to provide support to the family and decrease symptoms of depression and anxiety.
upWORDS	A group-based early language development program for families with children from birth to 3 years of age. The program has demonstrated a significant improvement in parent-child engagement and consists of 15 one-hour sessions over four months.
upWORDS²	An extension of upWORDS for parents who are looking for additional content on early brain development, positive parenting and behavior management.
upWORDS Bridges	Speech-language pathologists provide support to families with a child who has been identified as having a 6+ month language delay during our upWORDS program. Families are offered individual sessions and help in navigating the health system to access appropriate services and referrals.
Care Coordination	Community health workers assist families in accessing community resources through all of the upSTART programs.



Capacity Building, Education, Collaboration

In addition to the community programs it offers directly to community members, the Division is committed to supporting community partners and building capacity in community organizations to better serve high risk pregnant individuals and families with young children.

Capacity Building: In partnership with University of Texas Systems Population Health and Texas Prevention and Early Intervention, the Division trains professionals on how to support pregnant individuals and families with complex social needs, including substance use disorders, through an evidence-informed tool, the **Family CARE Portfolio**. The goal of this program is to promote healthy pregnancies and family health and keep children safe in the home. Similarly, the Division also trains professionals to deliver the **Parenting Action Plan**, a tool that is designed to help maternal caregivers of newborns understand and plan for common stressors often experienced during an infant's first few months of life.

Education: The Division also offers trainings to community members and professionals on topics including positive parenting, recognizing and responding to abuse and neglect, early brain development and adverse childhood experiences.

Collaboration: The Division both leads and participates in various community collaboratives that are designed to promote health equity and prevent youth suicides and unnatural child deaths. Specifically, the Division leads the Harris County Child Fatality Review team, which brings together local partners to review child deaths from a public health perspective in order to identify trends and strategies to decrease preventable child deaths.

Texas Children’s Health Plan-Population Health

The Population Health team at Texas Children’s Health Plan was formed in 2021, with a vision to improve health for all members, not just those with chronic conditions. It focuses on two strategic goals: screening and assisting members with SDOH needs, and identifying and addressing health disparities within our member population. The Population Health team is made up of Field Resource Coordinators (FRCs) — non-clinical healthcare navigators who assist members in connecting with community resources. The majority of the FRCs are bilingual in English and Spanish, to represent the predominant languages in our area. These FRCs outreach to members telephonically as well as in-person through provider offices and member events (pictured). If members answer a screening assessment indicating SDOH needs, the FRCs will send them an individualized list of community resources and follow-up to assist with any barriers to utilizing those resources. To date, this team has screened over 1,000 members for SDOH needs.

Quality Metrics and Outcomes

The Population Health team also reviews quality metrics and outcomes to identify disparities among different racial, ethnic or language groups. As part of a partnership with the Texas Health and Human Services Commission, TCHP analyzed maternal outcomes to improve the health of new mothers and their babies. This analysis found that Black women are more likely to have prenatal hypertension, more likely to be readmitted to an inpatient facility after delivery, and less likely to complete recommended postpartum appointments. It also identified an insurance coverage disparity, where certain payors do not cover home blood pressure cuffs, a recommended strategy for prenatal hypertension. TCHP The Center for Children and Women piloted an initiative supporting women with prenatal hypertension to improve outcomes and reduce avoidable readmissions. Through The Center for Children and Women, TCHP provided free blood pressure cuffs to women whose insurance did not cover these cuffs, so they did not have to pay out of pocket or go without this necessary equipment. As a result, more Center for Children and Women patients can follow recommendations to monitor their blood pressure at home, and be more quickly identified for medical assistance if there is a related concern during the prenatal or postpartum period. TCHP is planning to expand this benefit to all members with this coverage disparity to ensure that all members have access to recommended blood pressure cuffs, if needed

Community Events

Texas Children’s Health Plan (TCHP) identifies geographic-specific partnerships with over 30 organizations, including nonprofit groups, community organizations, social services, school districts and police departments. Through these partnerships, onsite community outreach events are hosted to assist families with applications for Medicaid and the Children’s Health Insurance Program.



Center for Childhood Injury Prevention

Injury is the leading cause of death in children in the Greater Houston region. These tragedies are preventable — they don't have to happen. They often occur in predictable ways and can be completely avoided with the right prevention strategies.

As a Level 1 Trauma Center, Texas Children's Hospital cares for thousands of patients with preventable injuries each year. The mission of the Center for Childhood Injury Prevention (CCIP) is to reduce injury and death to children through education, increased and proper usage of safety equipment and the engagement of child advocates across greater Houston in the development and implementation of injury prevention programs. CCIP has programming focused on child passenger safety, bike and pedestrian safety, childproofing the home, water safety and safe sleep.

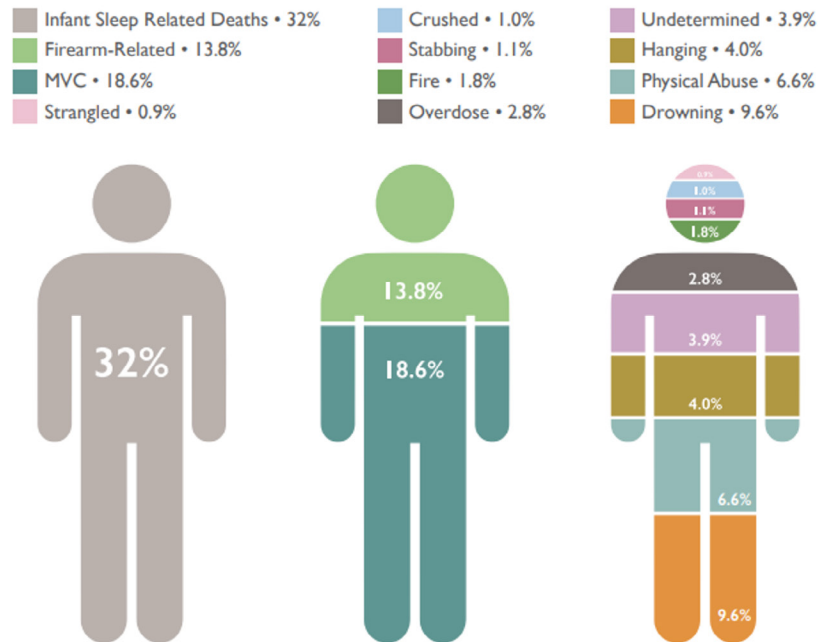
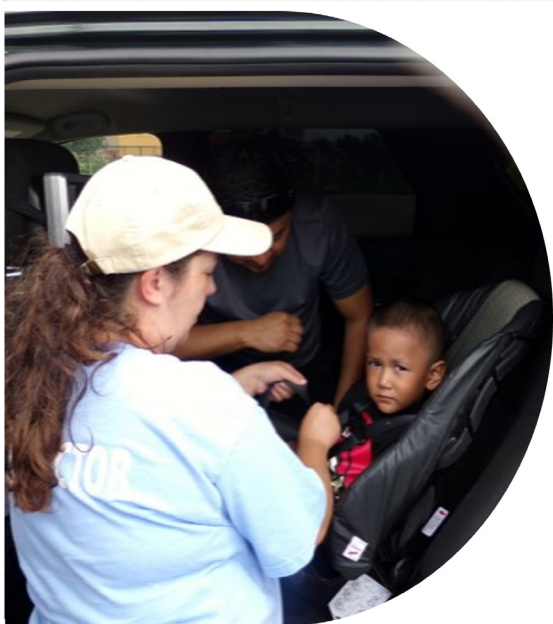


Figure 4. Leading causes of death, children under 18 years, Harris County, 2008 - 2017



Child Passenger Safety Program

The Child Passenger Safety (CPS) program was created to educate families on the correct installation and use of child safety restraints when traveling in a motor vehicle, while also addressing other injuries that occur in and around vehicles. This program is primarily supported by funds from Texas Department of Transportation.

FY 2022:

- Car Seats Inspected: 2,285
- Car Seats Distributed to Families in Need: 1,103
- New Child Passenger Safety Technicians Trained: 48
- Educational Materials on Child Passenger Safety Topics: 54,216
- Community Events: 31

Home Safety

The Center for Childhood Injury Prevention implements a Safe at Home Program focused on infant safe sleep, home safety and water safety education. The program teaches parents how to childproof their homes for potential hazards that may cause injury to their children, as well as teach parents of infants less than 1 year old how to reduce their child's risk for sleep-related death (e.g. SIDS). As funding allows, the program distributes portable crib systems, firearm safe storage devices and childproofing kits. It also offers presentations on home safety topics, water safety and safe sleep practices to community-based organizations, health care providers and licensed child care providers. Throughout the year, staff is engaged in participating in health fairs, community events and media outreach in targeted neighborhoods with diverse populations. By providing parents and caregivers with the knowledge and tools needed to reinforce safety practices in the home, many injuries and deaths to young children can be prevented.

FY 2022:

- Home safety-focused educational materials: 8,712
- Firearm safe storage devices (cable locks): 150
- Burn prevention bath thermometers: 720
- Trained 40 parents on cardiopulmonary resuscitation (CPR)
- Portable crib systems: 112
- Childproofing kits: 72

Safe Kids Greater Houston

Safe Kids Greater Houston, led by **Texas Children's Hospital** was established in 1998 to work on a local level to prevent child injuries and deaths. This is accomplished by raising awareness among adults and children, providing lifesaving education and resources and making childhood injury a public priority. The major risk areas addressed by Safe Kids Greater Houston are: **Child Passenger Safety, Home Safety, Pedestrian and Wheeled Sports Safety and Water Safety.**



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APPENDIX A GOVERNANCE

A Community Benefits Work Group, composed of representatives from key internal stakeholders representing various areas of the Texas Children’s Hospital system, supported the development of the CHNA. The Work Group met monthly to review, provide feedback and reach agreement on key decisions about processes and strategies related to data collection, qualitative analysis and prioritization.

Name	Title	Area Representing
Paige Schulz	Vice President of Administration	Community Benefits
Jean L. Raphael, MD, MPH	Professor, Department of Pediatrics	Academic Medicine / SDOH
Dan Gollins	President, Texas Children’s Pediatrics/ Texas Children’s Urgent Care	Texas Children’s Pediatrics
Paul Sirbaugh DO, MBA	Chief Medical Officer- The Woodlands	Community
Jeanine Graf, MD	Chief Medical Officer- West Campus	Community
Julie Boom, MD	Director, Immunization Project	Vaccine
Janet Winebar, DNP, MSM, RN, CNML	Senior Vice President	Surgery
Maame Aba Coleman, MD	Associate Professor of Obstetrics and Gynecology	Pavilion for Women
Christopher Greeley, MD, MS	Professor of Pediatrics, Vice Chair for Community Health, Department of Pediatrics	Public Health Pediatrics
Ketrese White, DNP, MHA, RN, NE-BC	Vice President	Community
Paola Alvarez-Malo, MS	Vice President, Financial Services	Strategy
Angela McPike, MPA	Senior Vice President	Marketing/ Public Relations/Philanthropy
Johnna Carlson	Assistant Vice President	Government Relations
Shazia Arroyo	Project Analyst	Community Benefits
Guadalupe Ortega	Program Support Coordinator	Community Benefits
Laura Hardy, MBA	Vice President	Behavioral Health / Pediatrics
Mike Mizwa	Director	Global Health
Jenny Little	Vice President	Finance
Rachel Zartman, MBA, MSN, RN, CCM	Vice President	Health Plan
Tarra Kerr, DNP, RN, NEA-BC	Assistant Vice President, Quality	Care Coordination / SDOH
Anne-Marie Savage, MSN, RN	Assistant Vice President, Nursing	Women’s Pavilion
Ryan Ramphul, PhD, MS	Assistant Professor of Epidemiology, Human Genetics and Environmental Sciences at The University of Texas Health Science Center at Houston (UTHealth) School of Public Health	UT Health, Consultant
Nancy Correa, DrPH	Practice Administrator	Public Health Pediatrics

APPENDIX B

Internal Stakeholders

The departments highlighted below provided support to the CHNA process. These departments were selected based on their ability to offer services both internally and externally.

The Texas Children's Hospital Center for Childhood Injury Prevention

The center serves as the lead organization for Safe Kids Greater Houston, a local consortium of health and safety experts and volunteers who work together to educate and prevent pediatric injury using evidenced-based best practice recommendations. For more information, [click here](#).

Public Health Pediatrics

Through clinical services, training and education, research and community programs, the Division of Public Health Pediatrics is leading a larger effort to reframe how children and families receive care and services that mitigate adversities and that foster resilience within our community. For more information, [click here](#).

Patient & Family Advisory Council

The Department of Patient and Family Engagement provides a rich variety of opportunities for patients and families to collaborate with Texas Children's to improve the quality and safety of care at Texas Children's. For more information, [click here](#).

Texas Children's Health Plan

Texas Children's Health Plan was founded in 1996 by Texas Children's Hospital. They are the nation's first health maintenance organization (HMO) created just for children. Texas Children's Health Plan has coverage for kids, teens, pregnant women, and adults. For more information, [click here](#).

Texas Children's Mobile Clinics

Texas Children's operates mobile clinics to provide trusted, high-quality medical services to children who may not have the access or opportunity to receive health care. Their fleet of mobile clinics travel to low-income, largely Hispanic neighborhoods to provide comprehensive health care to underserved children. The mobile clinics provide free care to children from newborn to 18 years of age. The clinics are open to the public; children do not have to attend the school where the clinic is parked to receive care. For more information, [click here](#).

Texas Children's Hospital Social Work

Social workers help families locate community resources, assist in crisis interventions, provide counseling, educate families on their child's diagnosis and respond to the unique needs of families who come to Texas Children's Hospital. Hundreds of medical groups, information centers, support groups, nonprofit agencies, home care services, special schools and federal, state and city programs are available to assist families in need. Social workers will help families find the resources they need during their child's hospital stay and after returning home. For more information, [click here](#).



APPENDIX C

Community Based Organizations

In conjunction with the input provided by Texas Children’s internal stakeholders, the following organizations provided support to the CHNA process. You can find more information on the services they provide below.

BakerRipley

BakerRipley is the largest charitable organization in Texas and hosts a network of over 70 services sites that helps more than half a million people each year. Their mission is to bring resources, education and connection by working with their neighbors’ side by side. For more information, [click here](#).

Brazoria County Alliance for Children

The mission of Brazoria County Alliance for Children, Inc. is to provide services and meet the needs of abused and neglected children by partnering with law enforcement and other social service providers within Brazoria County. For more information, [click here](#).

Children at Risk

Children at Risk serves as a catalyst for change to improve the quality of life for children through strategic research, public policy analysis, education, collaboration and advocacy. For more information, [click here](#).

Fort Bend County Women’s Center

The mission of Friends of North Richmond is to assist all survivors of domestic violence and sexual assault and their children to achieve safety and self-sufficiency, while striving to prevent violence against women. Since their founding in 1980, the Fort Bend Women’s Center has helped more than 52,000 survivors of domestic abuse and sexual assault. For more information, [click here](#).

Friends of North Richmond

The mission of Friends of North Richmond mission is to strengthen under-resourced communities through spiritual growth, education, revitalization and basic needs. For more information, [click here](#).

Girl Scouts

Scouting builds girls of courage, confidence and character, who make the world a better place. For more information, [click here](#).

House of Help

House of Help assists those living in the Hempstead ISD boundaries with a food pantry and community resources. For more information, [click here](#).

Houston Food Bank

Around one million people in the 18 southeast Texas counties served by Houston Food Bank are considered food insecure, meaning they lack consistent access to enough nutritious food to fuel a healthy life. In order to address this issue, the Houston Food Bank distributes food and other essentials to those in need through a network of more than 1,600 community partners. The Food Bank also provides programs and services aimed at helping families achieve long-term stability, including nutrition education, job training, health management and help securing state-funded assistance. For more information, [click here](#).

Houston Independent School District (HISD)

HISD’s mission is to equitably educate the whole child so that every student graduates with the tools to reach their full potential. HISD is the largest school district in Texas. For more information, [click here](#).

Houston Public Library (HPL)

The HPL system is comprised of 44 public service units, including 31 neighborhood libraries, four regional libraries, three special collection libraries and four express libraries, the HPL Mobile Express and a satellite library located at the Children’s Museum of Houston. HPL’s mission is to link people to the world. For more information, [click here](#).

Kids' Meals

The mission of Kids' Meals is to end childhood hunger in Houston by delivering free healthy meals, year-round to the doorsteps of Houston's hungriest preschool-aged children and through collaboration provide their families with resources to end the cycle of poverty. For more information, [click here](#).

Legacy Community Health

As a full-service, Federally Qualified Health Center, Legacy identifies unmet needs and gaps in health-related services and develops client-centered programs to address those needs. A United Way-affiliated agency since 1990, Legacy currently provides adult primary care, pediatrics, dental care, vision services, behavioral health services, OB/GYN and maternity, vaccinations and immunizations, health promotion and community outreach, wellness and nutrition and comprehensive HIV/AIDS care. Legacy's mission is driving healthy change in our communities. For more information, [click here](#).

Mosaics of Mercy

Mosaics of Mercy's mission is to help members of our community navigate mental health and addiction recovery. For more information, [click here](#).

New Hope Housing

New Hope Housing's core purpose is to provide life-stabilizing, affordable, permanent housing with support services for people who live on very limited incomes. For more information, [click here](#).

Pregnancy Help Center of Galveston

The Pregnancy Help Center of Galveston provides pregnancy resources and education. All services are free and confidential. For more information, [click here](#).

San Jose Clinic

San Jose Clinic's mission is to provide healing through quality health care and education with respect and compassion for those with limited access to care. For more information, [click here](#).

Target Hunger

The mission of Target Hunger is to alleviate hunger and its root causes in the Houston neighborhoods it serves. For more information, [click here](#).

Tony's Place

Tony's Place promotes respect, physical safety, security and development for LGBTQ+ youth and their allies up to age 25 who are unstably housed, couch-surfing or experiencing homelessness. The organization helps the youth survive on a day-to-day basis by providing services to meet their immediate, basic needs. When needed or desired, Tony's Place also provides referrals to services that will help the youth develop and thrive long term through education, health and wellness and cultural development. For more information, [click here](#).

Tri-County Behavioral Healthcare

Tri-County Behavioral Healthcare works to enhance the quality of life for those it serves by ensuring the provision of quality services for individuals with mental illness, substance use disorders and intellectual/ developmental disabilities. For more information, [click here](#).

YES to YOUTH

YES to YOUTH - Montgomery County Youth Services strengthens the emotional and mental health development of youth and families by providing crisis intervention, counseling and suicide prevention services. The organization provides a safe and nurturing home where abused, battered, sex-trafficked, homeless and at-risk youth begin healing from the past and become empowered for the future. For more information, [click here](#).

YMCA

"The Y" is a cause-driven organization for youth development, healthy living and social responsibility. For more information, [click here](#).

**TEXAS CHILDREN’S HOSPITAL
BOARD OF DIRECTORS**

I hereby certify that at a meeting of the Board of Directors of Texas Children’s Hospital, a Texas nonprofit corporation, held April 4, 2023, at which said meeting a quorum was present and acting throughout, the following resolution was approved:

RESOLVED, that the Texas Children’s Hospital Board of Directors does hereby approve the 2023 Community Health Needs Assessment and Plan, assessing the state of child and maternal health and those factors impacting the health of families throughout the Greater Houston community. This assessment and plan will fulfill requirements included in the Affordable Care Act and outlined by the IRS community benefit mandate and will be used to support and enhance programs and collaborations established through Texas Children's Hospital Community Benefits Department and help guide the organization in the fulfillment of its 2023-2025 Community Benefits Implementation Plan.

DocuSigned by: <i>Jessica Fleischer</i> <small>96E4576434C8441...</small>	4/4/2023
Jessica Fleischer Assistant Secretary Board of Directors Texas Children’s Hospital	_____ Date

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For questions or comments about Texas Children's Hospital Community Health Needs Assessments, please contact the following:

Paige Schulz

Vice President

Shazia Arroyo

Community Benefits

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