



FLINT & GENESEE COUNTY, MICHIGAN

# COMMUNITY HEALTH NEEDS ASSESSMENT

REPORT 2022



GREATER FLINT  
HEALTH COALITION



Ascension  
Genesys





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# EXECUTIVE SUMMARY



The residents of Genesee County, Michigan, and its urban core, the City of Flint, are served by three local hospital systems: Ascension Genesys Hospital, Hurley Medical Center, and McLaren Flint. These hospital systems have collaborated with the 501(c)3 nonprofit Greater Flint Health Coalition and a collection of multi-sector and community stakeholders, including the Genesee County Health Department, to complete a joint Community Health Needs Assessment (CHNA) for the Flint & Genesee County region. The identification of Flint & Genesee County’s most critical health needs and issues is based upon data and information provided by community residents, health care consumers, health care professionals, community stakeholders, and multi-sector representatives. These individuals participated in meetings of the Greater Flint Health Coalition’s network of community organizations and partners or responded to a community-wide survey of individuals and stakeholders who live and/or work in Genesee County. The identified community health needs are also informed by the Greater Flint Health Coalition’s Community Data Scorecard, a collection of over 500 metrics reviewed annually and designed to measure health status and chronic disease priorities, social and economic factors impacting residents, and healthcare delivery system access and utilization trends experienced in the region.

## Identification and Prioritization of Community Health Needs

The joint Community Health Needs Assessment (CHNA) conducted by this collaboration has identified ten priority health needs for the Flint & Genesee County community. The identified health needs were selected based upon their potential to impact both short- and long-term health outcomes, the ability of local health care systems to have an impact on addressing the identified needs, current priorities and programs, and effectiveness of existing programs. The 2022 priority health needs of focus for the Flint & Genesee County community are:

- Addictions (including the opioid epidemic)
- Mental Health (inclusive of stress, anxiety, and depression)
- Social Determinants of Health
- Obesity & Healthy Behaviors
- Health Care Access
- Chronic Disease Burden
- Maternal & Child Health
- Health Inequities (including the burden of systemic racism)
- Safe & Affordable Drinking Water
- COVID-19

## Implementation Plan Development

As a result of the completed 2022 CHNA, the Greater Flint Health Coalition will convene the three local hospital systems to develop implementation plans that seek to individually and collectively address identified community health needs identified in this assessment. While each Genesee County hospital partner is required to have its own CHNA Implementation Plan, the local partners have committed to collaborate via the Greater Flint Health Coalition to align implementation plan activities where possible to leverage existing programs, avoid duplication, build economies of scale, and maximize available resources through combined community benefit investment. These collective implementation plans will form the basis of a shared Community Health Improvement Plan to be implemented in collaboration with the members and stakeholders of the Greater Flint Health Coalition.

# I. INTRODUCTION



## Community Health Needs Assessment Population

For the purpose of the 2022 Community Health Needs Assessment (CHNA), Ascension Genesys Hospital, Hurley Medical Center, and McLaren Flint have defined their joint service area and population as Genesee County, Michigan. This is the same population served by the Greater Flint Health Coalition and Genesee County Health Department. Genesee County includes the city of Flint and encompasses the following zip codes: 48502, 48503, 48504, 48505, 48506, 48507, 48532, 48509, 48519, 48529, 48420, 48423, 48430, 48433, 48436, 48438, 48439, 48449, 48451, 48457, 48458, 48463, 48473, 48411, 48418, 48421, 48429, 48437, 48442, 48480, 48501, 48551, 48553, and 48746.

## Flint/Genesee County Demographics

Located 70 miles northwest of Detroit, Genesee County, which includes its major urban core, the city of Flint, was at one time the national epicenter of automotive forethought and production. As the birthplace of General Motors (GM) in 1908 and home to the United Auto Workers' (UAW) famous Sit-Down Strike of 1936-37, Flint & Genesee County helped define the American auto industry. By the late 1970s, GM employed more than 80,000 workers in the county. Impacted by national deindustrialization in the 1980s and thereafter, a period of disinvestment, depopulation, and urban decay would follow as the automotive industry declined rapidly. By 2010, less than 8,000 GM jobs remained, approximately 10% of what once defined the community's manufacturing and economic base.



According to U.S. Census Bureau data, Genesee County's current population of 406,211 includes a racial composition of 75.3% white, 20.3% African American, and 3.6% Hispanic/Latino. While nearly 200,000 people once lived within the city of Flint during its peak in the 1960s and 1970s, today only 81,252 residents remain, a majority being African American (54.1%).

Population outmigration has impacted Flint & Genesee County with decreased tax revenue and an increase in urban decay and neighborhood blight, especially in the city of Flint. As of 2020, there are 15,929 vacant homes in Genesee County, with the majority in the city of Flint (American Community Survey). Home values in Genesee County remain lower than the values experienced a decade ago (\$104,800 median home value for 2019 compared to the 2007 value of \$129,300, U.S. Department of Housing & Urban Development). The median home value in the city of Flint was only \$31,700 in the U.S. Census Bureau's five-year average (2016-2020), far lower than that of the broader county.

The unemployment rate in Genesee County has yet to fully recover from the impact of the COVID-19 pandemic. Averaging 4.9% in 2019, Genesee County's unemployment rate, which hit a high of 30.9% in April 2020 in the first month of the COVID-19 pandemic Stay-at-Home orders, was 6.1% as of December 2021 (Bureau of Labor Statistics). The city of Flint's unemployment rate remains approximately twice that of the county rate.

Meanwhile, the poverty rate in Genesee County has decreased from 19.8% to 18%, and the city of Flint has also decreased from 41.2% to 38.8% (U.S. Census Bureau, five-year estimates). However, poverty rates for both Genesee County and city of Flint remain much higher than state (13.7%) and national (12.8%) rates. According to U.S. Census Bureau data from 2020, Flint has one of the highest poverty rates when compared to cities of its size in the United States, with approximately 61.9% of the city's young children (0-5 years) living below the federal poverty level, it remains nearly three times the state average of 21.9%. Median household income in 2020 (five-year estimates) was \$30,383 in the city of Flint and \$50,269 in Genesee County, compared to \$59,234 in Michigan and \$64,994 in the United States (U.S. Census Bureau). As of 2020 (five-year estimates), 19.6% of Genesee County households were receiving Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP) benefits. Within the city of Flint, 89.2% of students were eligible for Free or Reduced-Price Lunch, a significantly higher rate than Genesee County (60.3%) and the state of Michigan (23.5 %) (Michigan Department of Health and Human Services).

Social, economic, and environmental factors impact the health status among residents throughout Genesee County, with significant impact on residents of the city of Flint, where higher rates of poverty are associated with poorer educational outcomes, employment rates, crime/incarceration, and lack of health insurance. Residents who are low-income, minority, or uninsured are disproportionately impacted by environmental issues such as pollution, crime, property abandonment, lack of areas to exercise outdoors, and lack of access to healthy foods. For example, African Americans in Genesee County have a 2019 age-adjusted death rate per 1,000 residents of 44.8 for homicide (compared to the state's overall rate of 6.3). Significant disparities exist in life expectancy across the county. Zip codes within the city of Flint have shorter life expectancies, while out-county areas typically have longer life expectancies. The disparity in life expectancies between zip codes county-wide has risen from 12.5 years in 2000-2002 to 15 years in 2018-2020, exhibiting a lack of health equity among Genesee County residents.

For three consecutive years, Genesee County has been ranked among the least healthy counties in Michigan for health outcomes and health factors. The age-adjusted death rates for heart disease, stroke, diabetes mellitus, and kidney disease are higher in the county than statewide. While health status indicates poor overall population health, data for minority, low income, and



uninsured populations indicate these populations are experiencing worse health outcomes when compared to the population as a whole. Specifically, this relates to life expectancy, sexually transmitted infections, obesity, heart disease, and birth weight. African Americans in Genesee County are experiencing significant health disparities compared to the total population. For example, African Americans in Genesee County have a 2020 age-adjusted death rate per 100,000 residents of 301.3 for heart disease (compared to the state's overall rate of 232.2), 60.2 for stroke (compared to 49.9), and 58.9 for diabetes mellitus (compared to 36.4) as reported by the Michigan Department of Health and Human Services. Racial disparities are profound in all Years of Potential Life Lost (YPLL) categories reviewed in the assessment.

Residents of the region continue to be impacted by significant environmental health factors. The city of Flint continues recovery efforts as a result of the Flint Water Crisis. In April 2014, state-appointed emergency managers in the city of Flint severed a half-century relationship with the Detroit Water and Sewage Department (a Great Lakes source) to begin drawing drinking water from the local Flint River. As a result of failures by city and state agencies to effectively and safely treat the Flint River water for human consumption, the city's drinking water was contaminated with excessive levels of lead from the damaged infrastructure. This contaminated water supply was then consumed by the city's population for over 18 months. As of December 2021, a public health emergency declaration is still in effect. While recent water testing results have shown that the quality of the water supply is within acceptable limits for lead, residents justifiably remain skeptical and distrustful as all of the affected lead service lines have not yet been replaced and state-supported free bottled water has now ended. The City of Flint Fast Start Program, which will replace all lead service lines in the city, was scheduled to be completed by 2020, however, as of December 2021 that process is ongoing.

It would be insufficient to discuss the Flint & Genesee County experience with health disparities without mentioning the impact of COVID-19 on the community. Prior to the pandemic, health disparities were a significant obstacle to a pathway of optimal health for all residents. COVID-19 has only increased those disparities, as data from the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention and Michigan Department of Health & Human Services showed the disproportionate impact of COVID-19 infection, severe illness, and death in the early phases of the pandemic. While significant efforts were undertaken by multi-sector community partners to combat COVID-19 disparities impacting residents, the underlying root causes of health inequities are deeply rooted and require significant attention on an immediate and long-term basis.

## **Organizations Completing the CHNA**

The 2022 CHNA is a partnership of Greater Flint Health Coalition member organizations, led by the three area hospital systems that serve the Flint & Genesee County population: Ascension Genesys Hospital, Hurley Medical Center, and McLaren Flint.

## **ASCENSION GENESYS HOSPITAL**

As a Ministry of the Catholic Church, Ascension Genesys Hospital is a non-profit hospital governed by a local board of trustees represented by residents and medical staff that provides medical care to Genesee and neighboring counties. As a leading health care provider in Mid-Michigan, Ascension Genesys is anchored by a 21st century, 412-bed inpatient facility, built both clinically and architecturally around a patient-centered care philosophy. Employing a medical staff of 674 primary and specialty care clinicians, Ascension Genesys had over 18,000 patient discharges and provided \$28,180,734 in care of persons living in poverty and other community benefit programs in fiscal year 2021.

Serving Michigan since 1997, Ascension Genesys is continuing the long and valued tradition of addressing the health of the people in our community, following in the footsteps of the Sisters of St. Joseph legacy in 1920. After witnessing the success of the Sisters of St. Joseph's Kalamazoo hospital, Detroit Bishop Michael J. Gallagher asked the Sisters if they would come to Flint and open a hospital for the rapidly growing population there. The Sisters arrived in Flint in September 1920, and opened St. Joseph Hospital in a former residence. The hospital expanded as health needs grew. At the same time, other local hospitals in the Flint area were being built. Eventually, hospital facilities became more and more costly to maintain and upgrade, and affiliations developed. Finally, the local hospitals made history by consolidating four hospitals into one, with the opening of Genesys Regional Medical Center. In 1999, The Daughters of Charity National Health System and the Sisters of St. Joseph Health System in Michigan came together to form Ascension Health, a national Catholic healthcare system, in order to extend into the future a shared healing Mission — caring for those persons who are poor and most in need.

## **HURLEY MEDICAL CENTER**

Hurley is a 443-bed premier public teaching hospital recognized as a regional leader in advanced specialized health care. Every year, more than 20,000 people choose Hurley for their inpatient hospital care and its Emergency Department handles over 80,000 annual emergency cases. As the region's only Level 1 Trauma Center, and with the region's only Burn Unit, Neonatal Intensive Care Unit, Pediatric Intensive Care Unit, and Pediatric Emergency Department, Hurley continues to honor its commitment to provide the highest level of critical care to those who need its services.

As well as being a recognized leader in clinical care, Hurley Medical Center is a highly-regarded educator of tomorrow's professionals, maintaining affiliations with Michigan State University, the University of Michigan-Ann Arbor, the University of Michigan-Flint, Children's Hospital of Michigan-Detroit Medical Center, Oakland University, Mott Community College, and Henry Ford Health System. With over 2,500 employees, Hurley is also a major contributor to local economic development and one of Genesee County's largest and most consistent employers.

Over the past 110 years, much has changed, but Hurley's standards of excellence and delivery of exceptional care have not. However much more remains to be done. In these times where healthcare economics are in flux and the health status of the region is poor, Hurley Medical Center's vision continues to include expanding beyond the walls of the hospital to provide the best possible care to its patients and their families before they get sick and after they leave the hospital's care. Hurley's job is to become a partner in caring so that people can stay well, live healthier lives and, when they are sick, return to health faster and with better outcomes.

## McLAREN FLINT

McLaren Flint is a 378-bed tertiary teaching facility located in Flint, Michigan, serving the medical needs of residents in greater Genesee County and Mideast Michigan. McLaren Flint is a subsidiary of McLaren Health Care, one of the largest integrated health care systems in Michigan. McLaren Flint is affiliated with Michigan State University College of Human Medicine in its medical residency programs including family practice, internal medicine, general surgery, and orthopedic surgery. McLaren Flint also maintains vascular surgery, health psychology, and cardiology fellowship programs in partnership with Michigan State University.

McLaren Flint holds the following recognitions:

- Blue Distinction Center+ for Spine Surgery by Blue Cross Blue Shield of Michigan
- Blue Distinction Center+ for Cardiac Care by Blue Cross Blue Shield of Michigan
- Blue Distinction Center+ for Bariatric Surgery by Blue Cross Blue Shield of Michigan
- Blue Distinction Center+ for Maternity Care by Blue Cross Blue Shield of Michigan
- Bariatric Surgery Center of Excellence by the Metabolic and Bariatric Surgery Accreditation and Quality Improvement Program
- Advanced Comprehensive Stroke Center Designation by the Joint Commission and 2021 Get with the Guidelines Gold Plus Award for Stroke Care from the American Heart Association
- Karmanos Cancer Institute at McLaren Flint is accredited by:
  - American College of Radiology Radiation Oncology Practice
  - Quality Oncology Practice Initiative – American Society of Clinical Oncology and Michigan Radiation Oncology Quality Consortium (MROQC) 2021 Gold Card.
  - The McLaren Proton Therapy Center on the Karmanos Cancer Institute campus is one of only 39 proton therapy centers in the United States
- Diagnostic Imaging Center of Excellence Designation from the American College of Radiology
- Breast Imaging Center of Excellence from the American College of Radiology
- McLaren Flint Laboratory Accreditation by the American College of Pathologists

McLaren Flint annually provides more than \$20 million in free and uncompensated care to people unable to pay for services. In other community benefit services, the hospital contributes an additional value of \$10 million in free and reduced-price community-based programs.

## **GREATER FLINT HEALTH COALITION**

Established in 1996, the Greater Flint Health Coalition (GHFC) is a Flint, Michigan-based non-profit collective impact organization and partnership between Genesee County hospitals, physicians, businesses, insurers, public health professionals, policymakers, government leaders, educators, organized labor, community organizations, residents, and all those concerned about the well-being of our community and its residents. The two-fold mission of the Greater Flint Health Coalition is to improve the health status of Genesee County residents and to improve the quality and cost-effectiveness of the health care system in the community.

Through serving those living in Flint and Genesee County, the vision of GFHC is a healthy Genesee County community practicing healthy lifestyles with access to the best and most cost-effective health and medical care. As Genesee County's neutral convener and backbone support organization for community, public health, and health care initiatives, the Greater Flint Health Coalition works together to achieve collective impact to improve the health status of Flint & Genesee County residents. Currently, the GFHC is the neutral convener of 25 multi-sector coalitions in the following focus areas: Access & Environment, Health Improvement, Health Policy, Cost & Resource Planning, Quality & Innovation, Social Determinants of Health and Health Equity, and Racial Disparities & Anti-Racism Activities. In addition to its convener role, the GFHC also operates a variety of community-based programs including Commit to Fit, Genesee Community Health Access Program (CHAP), Connecting Kids to Coverage, and the Flint Healthcare Employment Opportunities (FHEO) Program.



# II. COMMUNITY HEALTH NEEDS ASSESSMENT INFRASTRUCTURE & PARTNERSHIPS



## Partnerships and Potential Resources to Address Community Health Needs

Each year, the Greater Flint Health Coalition facilitates a Community Data Scorecard Project to collect, aggregate, and trend a variety of key public health, healthcare, and community health needs. The Community Data Scorecard Project informs the Community Health Needs Assessment (CHNA), which is conducted every three years.

The 2022 CHNA includes input and data from residents, subject matter experts, and key community organizations representing the broad interests of Genesee County. Specifically, the 2022 CHNA includes input from persons with expertise in public health, health care, and government programs, with special emphasis on inclusive engagement of community leaders, residents, and members of the medically underserved, low income, and minority populations. The following list represents the 2022 CHNA participating organizations and potential community resources to address the significant health needs identified in the CHNA (in alphabetical order):

- Ascension Genesys Hospital
- Blue Cross Blue Shield of Michigan
- City of Flint
- Genesee County Department of Health and Human Services
- Genesee County Health Department
- Genesee County Medical Society
- Genesee County Osteopathic Society
- Genesee Health Plan
- Genesee Health System (Genesee County Community Mental Health)
- Genesee Intermediate School District
- Greater Flint Health Coalition
- Health Alliance Plan
- Hamilton Community Health Network
- Hurley Medical Center
- Meridian Health Plan of Michigan
- McLaren Flint
- McLaren Health Plan
- Molina Healthcare of Michigan
- Mott Children's Health Center
- Region 10 Prepaid Inpatient Health Plan (PIHP)
- United Way of Genesee County

The GFHC's Community Referral Network and Outreach Strategy Workgroup, with representation from approximately 50 community-based organizations as well as residents (representing all community demographics), also have been convened to discuss and inform relevant community health needs, data, resources, and programs.

The lead organizations completing the 2022 Community Health Needs Assessment included the Greater Flint Health Coalition, Ascension Genesys Hospital, Hurley Medical Center, and McLaren Flint. This collaborative worked together to collect data and input from the participating organizations and data sources listed in 2022 CHNA Section III. These primary partners represent existing health care facilities and resources within the community that are available to respond to the health needs of the community as they include Genesee County's three major health system facilities (Ascension Genesys Hospital, Hurley Medical Center, and McLaren Flint) and the Greater Flint Health Coalition, a neutral, non-profit health coalition whose membership includes multi-sector participation from additional health care facilities and resources in the community, including (but not limited to) Genesee County's federally qualified health centers, safety-net healthcare providers for mental health and children, physician organizations, community and social service agencies, health insurers, policymakers, educators, and more.

# III. DATA COLLECTION & ANALYSIS



## Data Sources

Greater Flint Health Coalition (GFHC) facilitates public and privately sourced data collection, aggregation, and analysis to inform the completion of the Community Health Needs Assessment (CHNA). The following list represents the 2022 CHNA data public sources:

- Centers for Disease Control and Prevention
  - American Community Survey
  - Behavioral Risk Factor Surveillance System (BRFSS)
  - National Center for Chronic Disease Prevention and Promotion
  - National Vital Statistics System
- Health Resources and Services Administration
- Michigan Department of Health and Human Services (state public health department)
- Michigan Health & Hospitals Association
- National Center for Education Statistics
- National Center for Healthcare Statistics
- United States Department of Housing and Urban Development
- United States Census Bureau
- United States Department of Agriculture
- United States Department of Education
- United States Department of Justice
- United States Department of Labor
- University of Wisconsin Population Health Institute, County Health Rankings Report
- Annie E. Casey Foundation, Kids Count Data Book
- Center for Applied Research and Engagement Systems
- Feeding America
- *U.S. News & World Report* "Healthiest Communities"

The 2022 CHNA leveraged and utilized the GFHC's existing Community Data Scorecard Project, which is a collaborative data collection project completed annually by the GFHC and its community and institutional partners that consists of public and private data shared and analyzed by local hospitals, insurers, physicians, government agencies, health departments, school systems, businesses, and residents.

The GFHC's Community Data Scorecard Project utilizes multiple types of data collection and aggregation methods to complete data analysis, including:

1. Quantitative data, both public and private is provided by the sources listed in this section;
2. Literature reviews are completed to identify state and national benchmarks that relate to the indicators/metrics measured through the quantitative data sources;
3. Social determinant of health (SDOH) needs screening data collected in aggregate from partnering patient-centered medical home practices and GFHC programs (such as Genesee CHAP) for aggregate analysis; and
4. Qualitative data provided through a community health needs assessment survey which was distributed by the Greater Flint Health Coalition, the 2022 CHNA primary partner organizations (to patients visiting clinical delivery sites as well as stakeholders), and the GFHC Community Referral Network (to residents served in community locations). The survey was also shared via social media channels and the network of the Greater Flint Health Coalition. The 2022 CHNA's utilization of multiple types of data collection and aggregation methods allowed for data-driven input across a broad range of community informed indicators relating to overall population health, social determinants of health (including geographic/location differences in health outcomes), and the needs of disadvantaged populations including uninsured persons, low-income persons, and minority groups within the Genesee County community.

## Indicators and Data Measures

The 2022 CHNA includes a significant amount of data measures across multiple categories relating to health and health factors. The Community Data Scorecard/CHNA process includes trend data for a total of over 500 different indicators.



# 2022 Genesee County Community Health Needs Assessment

## PUBLIC HEALTH, HEALTHCARE, AND COMMUNITY INDICATORS REVIEWED INCLUDE:

### SUBSTANCE USE

Binge Drinking Rate

Drug Overdose Deaths

Opioid Related Inpatient Discharges by Age Grouping

Opioid Related Inpatient Discharges by Insurance Type

Opioid Related Emergency Department Visits by Age Grouping

Opioid Related Emergency Department Visits by Insurance Type

### MENTAL HEALTH

Number of Psychiatrists (Adult and Child)

Intentional Self-Harm (Suicide) Rates

Report Rarely or Never Receive Needed Social & Emotional Support

Percentage of Adults Reporting Poor Mental Health on At Least 14 Days in the Past Month

Mental Health Inpatient Hospitalization

### SOCIAL DETERMINANTS OF HEALTH

Average Life Expectancy by Zip Code

City of Flint Population

County Population

City of Flint Race & Ethnicity

County Race & Ethnicity

County English Language Limitations

Employment

- Unemployment Rate
- Underemployment Rate
- Total Residents in Labor Force
- Rate of Residents in Labor Force

Education

- Public School Enrollment
- Rate of Public School Enrollment
- Rate of Preschool Enrollment, Children Age 3-4
- Genesee Fourth-Grade English Language Arts – NOT Proficient
- Flint Fourth-Grade English Language Arts – NOT Proficient
- Genesee Eighth-Grade MSTEP Math – NOT Proficient
- Flint Eighth-Grade Math – NOT Proficient
- Genesee Students Not Graduating On Time
- Flint Students Not Graduating On Time
- Flint Students Identified as Homeless at Any Time During the Year
- Rate of Residents with Bachelor's Degree

Income

- Genesee County Poverty Rates
- Flint City Poverty Rates
- Genesee County Median Household Income
- Flint Median Household Income
- Income Inequality

- Genesee Child Poverty, Ages 0-17
- Flint Child Poverty, Ages 0-17
- Genesee Free or Reduced-Price School Lunch
- Flint Free or Reduced-Price School Lunch
- Genesee Young Children Receiving Food Assistance Program (FAP)
- Flint Young Children Receiving FAP

Home Values

Housing Units (Total)

Housing Units (No Vehicle)

Housing Units (No Heating Fuel)

Households with Children

Severe Housing Problems

Homeless Population

Families Assisted with Housing

Shelter Utilization

Utility Assistance

Medical Transportation Assistance

Non-Medical Transportation Assistance

Literacy

Disability Rate

Hazardous Waste Generated

Air Pollution – Particulate Matter

Water Pollution

PFA's Sites

Lead Detection in Drinking Water

Leaking Underground Storage Tanks

Park Acreage

Rates of Violent Crime in County

Rates of Violent Crime in City of Flint

Injury Deaths

### HEALTH BEHAVIORS & OBESITY

Number of Residents Reporting No Leisure Time Physical Activity (Sedentary Lifestyle)

Access to Exercise Opportunities

Percentage of Overweight Adults

Percentage of Obese Adults

Food Environment Index

Food Insecurity

Limited Access to Healthy Foods

Residents That Report Tobacco Use

Number of Residents, Businesses, Schools, and Churches Participating in Commit to Fit Programming

Seat Belt Usage

### HEALTH CARE ACCESS & COVERAGE

Percentage of Residents Uninsured

Number Of Medicaid Recipients

- Temporary Assistance for Needy Families (TANF)
- Disabled, Aged, and Blind
- Healthy Michigan
- MIChild
- Flint Medicaid Expansion Waiver

Medicaid Enrollment and Retention Trend

Number of Medicare Recipients

Percentage of Insured Individuals Who Report Having Unmet Medical Needs in the Last 12 Months

Primary Care Physicians

Specialty Physicians

Total Physicians

Total Active MDs

Total Active DOs

Physician Assistants

Nurse Practitioners

Nurse Midwives

### CHRONIC DISEASE & PREVENTION

Age Adjusted Mortality Rates, Total (Per 100,000 Residents)

- Heart Disease
- Cancer
- Chronic Lower Respiratory Diseases
- Stroke
- Unintentional Injuries
- Diabetes Mellitus
- Alzheimer's Disease
- Pneumonia/Influenza
- Kidney Disease
- All Other Causes

Persistent Asthma Diagnosis

Asthma Medication Management

Diabetes

Cardiovascular Disease

COPD

High Blood Pressure

Stroke

Cancer Incidence

Breast Cancer Screening

Cervical Cancer Screening

Prostate Cancer Screening

Colorectal Cancer Screening

No Dental Visit in Past Year

Communicable Disease

Immunizations Among Adults Aged 65 Years and Older: Had Flu Vaccine in Past Year

Immunizations Among Adults Aged 65 Years and Older: Ever Had Pneumonia Vaccine

Number of Residents with Documented Advance Directives

### MATERNAL/ INFANT HEALTH

Birth Rates (Per 1,000 Residents)

Number of Live Births

Infant Death Rate – County (Total)

Infant Death Rate (African-Americans)

Infant Death Rate (Whites)

Infant Death Rate – Flint (Total)

Infant Death Rate (African-Americans)

Infant Death Rate (Whites)

## MATERNAL/ INFANT HEALTH (cont'd.)

Infant Death Rate Disparity
Genesee Less Than Adequate Prenatal Care
Flint Less Than Adequate Prenatal Care
Genesee Low-Birthweight Babies
Flint Low-Birthweight Babies
Rate Preterm Births
Birth Defect Cases
Live Births by Weight Gain of Mother
% Gestational Diabetes
% Hypertension
C-Section Rates

## CHILD MEASURES

Child Dependency Ratio
Mortality
Leading Causes Hospitalizations
Genesee Child / Teen Death, Ages 1-19
Flint Child / Teen Death, Ages 1-19
Children in Single-Parent Households
Genesee Children in Investigated Families
Flint Children in Investigated Families
Genesee Confirmed Victims of Child Abuse/Neglect
Flint Confirmed Victims of Child Abuse/Neglect
Flint Children In Out-Of-Home Care – Abuse/Neglect
Genesee Births to Teens, Under Age 20
Flint Births To Teens, Under Age 20
Genesee Children Tested for Lead, Ages 1-2
Flint Children Tested for Lead, Ages 1-2
Infant/Child Immunization Rate (Children 19-35 Months Old)
Well Child Visits – First 15 Months Of Life
Well Child Visits – Third, Fourth, Fifth, and Sixth Years of Life
Well Child Visits – Adolescents
Number of Enrollees Who Received Weight Assessment and Counseling
Total Number of Inpatient Discharges (Excluding Psychiatric)
Total Number of Inpatient Days (Excluding Psychiatric)
Persistent Asthma – Total Number of Inpatient Discharges (Excluding Psychiatric)
Persistent Asthma – Total Number of Inpatient Days (Excluding Psychiatric)
Total Number of Emergency Room Visits
Total Number Of Enrollees with 2 or More ED Visits
Persistent Asthma – Total Number of Emergency Room Visits
Persistent Asthma – Total Number of Enrollees with 2 or More ED Visits
Otitis Media – Total Number of Emergency Room Visits

## HEALTH CARE ECONOMIC IMPACT

Total Healthcare Employment
Total Wages (Direct and Indirect Jobs)
Associated Tax Revenue Generated
Total Economic Impact of Health Care Sector

## HIV, STI'S, & TEEN PREGNANCY

Chlamydia Rate
Gonorrhea Rate
Teen Pregnancy Rate (Age 15-19)
HIV Testing Among Adults Aged 18-64
HIV Prevalence

## HEALTH CARE UTILIZATION (HOSPITALS)

Inpatient Discharges (Total)
Inpatient Days (Total)
Inpatient Revenue (Total)
Inpatient Expenses (Total)
Observations (Total)
Observations Revenue (Total)
Observation Expenses (Total)
Emergency Department Utilization (Total)
ED Revenue (Total)
ED Expenses (Total)
Preventable ED Utilization
Value of Uncompensated Care
Medicare & Medicaid DSH Funding
Medicare & Medicaid GME Funding
Mission Related Funding Levels: Other State And Local Funding
% Readmissions Within 30 Days – AMI
% Readmissions Within 30 Days – CABG
% Readmissions Within 30 Days – Heart Failure
% Readmissions Within 30 Days – Pneumonia
% Readmissions Within 30 Days – COPD
% Readmissions Within 30 Days – THA/TKA
% Readmissions Within 30 Days – All Conditions

## PHYSICIAN/PROVIDER CAPACITY

MDs Age 0-54 (Percentage of Total)
MDs Age 55+ (Percentage of Total)
Total Undergraduates (Primary Care)
Average Number of Undergraduates
Total Post-Graduates (Primary Care)
Total Post-Graduates (Specialty Care)
Total Number of Post-Graduates Who Remain in Genesee County
Total Number of Post-Graduates Who Relocate Somewhere Else in Michigan
Total Number of Post-Graduates Who Relocate Outside of Michigan

## HEALTH CARE UTILIZATION (PAYERS)

Total number of Genesee County Commercial, Medicaid, and Medicare Member Months
Total number of Genesee County Babies
Total Service Utilization by Genesee County Commercial, Medicaid, and Medicare Enrollees – Inpatient Discharges
Inpatient Days – Total
Average Length of Stay
Non-ER Outpatient Service Utilization
Total Outpatient Service Utilization
Professional Services Utilization by Provider Specialty
Total Service Utilization by Provider Specialty
<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Family Medicine</li><li>• General Practice</li><li>• Internal Medicine</li><li>• Cardiology</li><li>• Radiology</li><li>• Pediatrics</li><li>• Physical Medicine &amp; Rehab</li><li>• Obstetrics/Gynecology</li><li>• Orthopedic Surgery</li><li>• Emergency Medicine</li><li>• Anesthesiology</li><li>• Dermatology</li><li>• Ophthalmology</li><li>• Surgery</li><li>• Social Work</li><li>• Pathology</li><li>• Urology</li><li>• Otolaryngology</li><li>• Adult Psychiatry</li><li>• Child Psychiatry</li></ul>
Professional Service Utilization by Procedure Type
Total Service Utilization by Procedure Type
<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Cardiovascular – Total</li><li>• Dialysis – Total</li><li>• Immunizations – Total</li><li>• Mammography – Total</li><li>• Office Visits – Total</li><li>• Outpatient Surgery – Total</li><li>• Radiology – Total</li><li>• Physical Medicine – Total</li><li>• Psychiatric – Total</li><li>• Well Baby Exams – Total</li><li>• C-Sections – Total</li><li>• Behavioral Health – Total</li><li>• Chiropractic – Total</li><li>• Genetic Testing – Total</li><li>• Podiatry – Total</li><li>• Telehealth – Total</li></ul>

Public Health, Healthcare, and Community Indicators were collected, aggregated, and analyzed to assess trends and inform community health needs. For each metric, state and national comparisons were reviewed to inform need identification. A health need was identified when the community indicator was significantly below comparative norms. Indicators reviewed by GFHC exceed those highlighted in the two-page table above.

## Methods and Approach

Following the collection, aggregation, and analysis of more than 500 metrics within the CHNA, the data was then shared strategically through the Greater Flint Health Coalition's established network of collaborative partners. As noted, the GFHC is a multi-sector coalition recognized in Genesee County as the neutral convener of community and population health initiatives. The GFHC regularly convenes residents, subject matter experts, and community/institutional organizations representing multi-sector interests through the engagement of representatives from business, education, public health, physicians, hospitals, health insurers, safety-net providers, community-based organizations, residents, policymakers, foundations, labor, and media. This network of collaborative partners is continuously engaged to review and prioritize the health indicators and needs as detailed in the CHNA.

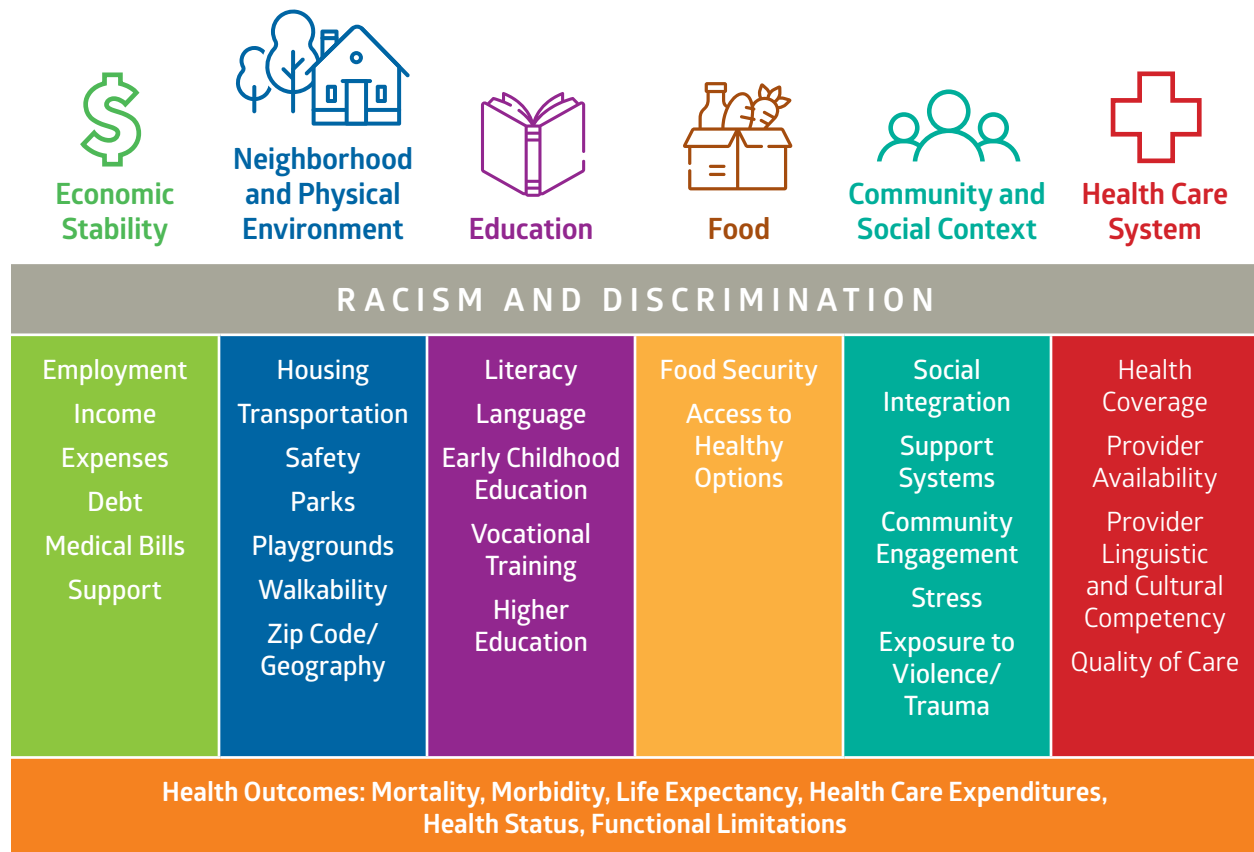
The following entities informed the collection and review of relevant CHNA data, measures, and perspectives:

- Greater Flint Health Coalition's Board of Directors, comprised of 35 executive and community leadership representatives from sectors that include health care, health insurers, government, business, education, organized labor, and the at-large community.
- Greater Flint Health Coalition's established multi-sector Committees and Task Forces that work on various projects and activities within the GFHC focus areas of Access & Environment, Health Improvement, Health Policy, Cost & Resource Planning, Quality & Innovation, Social Determinants of Health, and Health Equity. Collectively, these Committees and Task Forces include approximately 300 members who each have special knowledge and subject matter expertise specific to their sector of representation
- Greater Flint Health Coalition's Community Referral Network, which represents a network of approximately 50 community-based organizations and social service agencies that serve residents, with special emphasis on minority groups, the uninsured, and low-income residents.
- Strategic planning representatives from the 2022 CHNA primary partners, specifically Ascension Genesys Hospital, Hurley Medical Center, McLaren Flint, and Greater Flint Health Coalition.
- Greater Flint Health Coalition's Data Review Subcommittee, which includes representatives from the Genesee County Health Department, Blue Cross Blue Shield of Michigan, Meridian Health Plan, McLaren Flint, Hurley Medical Center, Ascension Genesys Hospital, Genesee Health System, Molina Healthcare of Michigan, Health Alliance Plan, and Genesee County Osteopathic Society.
- Local government leaders from the City of Flint and Genesee County Board of Commissioners, as well as locally elected representatives to the Michigan State Senate and House of Representatives.
- More than 17,000 unique community residents surveyed through multiple survey instruments (e.g. CHNA Community Resident Survey, GFHC program and partner-led Social Determinants of Health Screening Surveys) relevant to developing a broad collection of community informed input.

## Factors that Affect Health

Collectively, the sources, indicators, methods, and measures represent the continuum of factors that affect community and personal health.

**Figure 2: Social and Economic Factors Drive Health Outcomes**



*Table adapted courtesy of Kaiser Family Foundation*



## IV. COMMUNITY HEALTH NEEDS IDENTIFIED & ASSESSMENT PRIORITIES

Following its partner-based data collection and review process, data for the Community Health Needs Assessment (CHNA) was compiled from both public and private sources gathering insight from quantitative and qualitative data reported by numerous community partners as well as input from over 800 Genesee County residents who participated in community health needs surveys and over 17,000 additional Genesee County residents that have completed social determinant of health surveys in more than 50 clinical settings throughout the county. As a result, a consolidated list of priority health needs emerged. The three Genesee County hospitals and Greater Flint Health Coalition (GFHC) leadership convened an ad-hoc Community Health Needs Assessment Workgroup to further analyze and prioritize the needs. Summary data from all sources was aggregated by priority need area and presented to appointed CHNA Subgroup members.



Priorities were reviewed and finalized using the following additional criteria:

- Data trends, with an emphasis on disparities, comparing local, state, and national norms, where possible;
- Resident input on how community, social, and environmental factors affect their health and the health of the community;
- The hospital and health systems' ability to have an impact on community health needs identified;
- Alignment with existing multi-sector efforts focusing on the same service area, population, and priorities;
- Current hospital and GFHC community priorities and programs;
- Effectiveness of existing programs and a gap analysis of where additional efforts are needed; and
- How the GFHC and its partners responded to identified community health needs in the past.

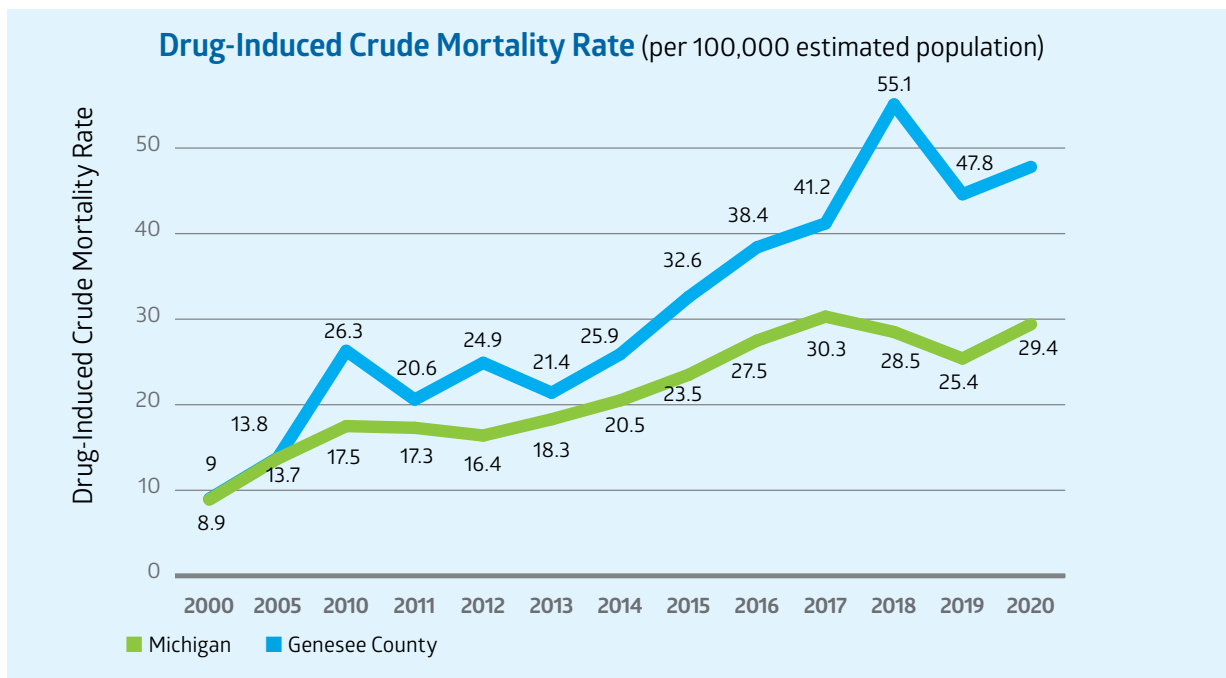
Once priorities were identified, the CHNA was subject to a multi-level review process including approval by the Greater Flint Health Coalition's Board of Directors and each hospital's Board. Based upon the process and criteria described, the priority health needs for Ascension Genesys Hospital, Hurley Medical Center, McLaren Flint, and the greater Flint and Genesee County region resulted in ten priority community health needs identified.

## Addictions (including the opioid epidemic)

Genesee County Quick Response Team members engaging residents about available resources to educate and support individuals experiencing substance use issues.

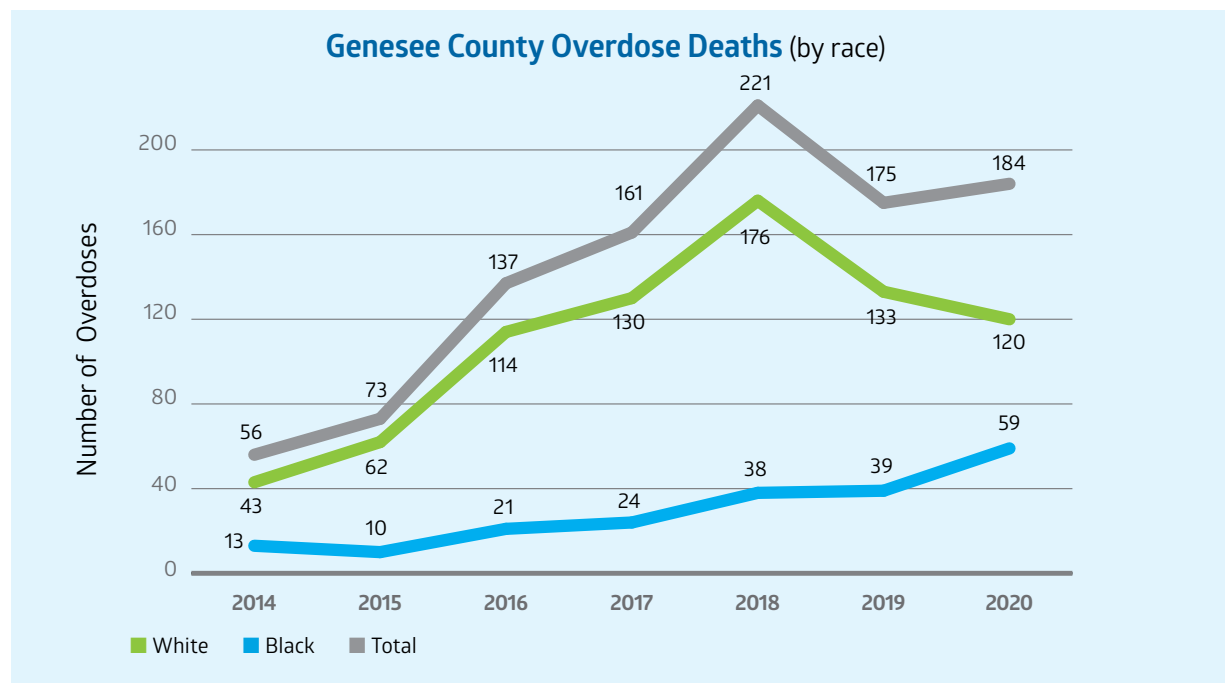


Substance use is a rapidly growing health behavior that contributes to poor health status, poor health outcomes, and increased morbidity and mortality. In Genesee County, the number of deaths attributed to drug use has been increasing. The rate of drug-induced deaths (all deaths for which drugs are the underlying cause including drug overdoses and chronic drug use, for both illicit and prescription or over-the-counter drugs) in Genesee County has more than quintupled since 2000 and is well above the average for the state of Michigan.



Michigan Department of Health and Human Services, 2000-2020

Like many communities across the United States, Genesee County is experiencing an opioid epidemic. According to the latest data available from the Michigan Overdose Data to Action Dashboard, the prescription opioid unit rate for Genesee County in 2021 was 11,233.4 opioid pills/capsules/tablets per every 1,000 persons. Michigan Department of Health and Human Services indicates that total overdose deaths declined from 2018 to 2019 but saw a slight increase in 2020. It is important to note that since 2018, White residents dying of overdose has decreased, whereas African American overdose deaths have increased by 51%. The COVID-19 pandemic has only increased substance use, with the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention reporting in June of 2020 that 13% of Americans reported starting or increasing substance use as a way of coping with stress or emotions related to the pandemic.



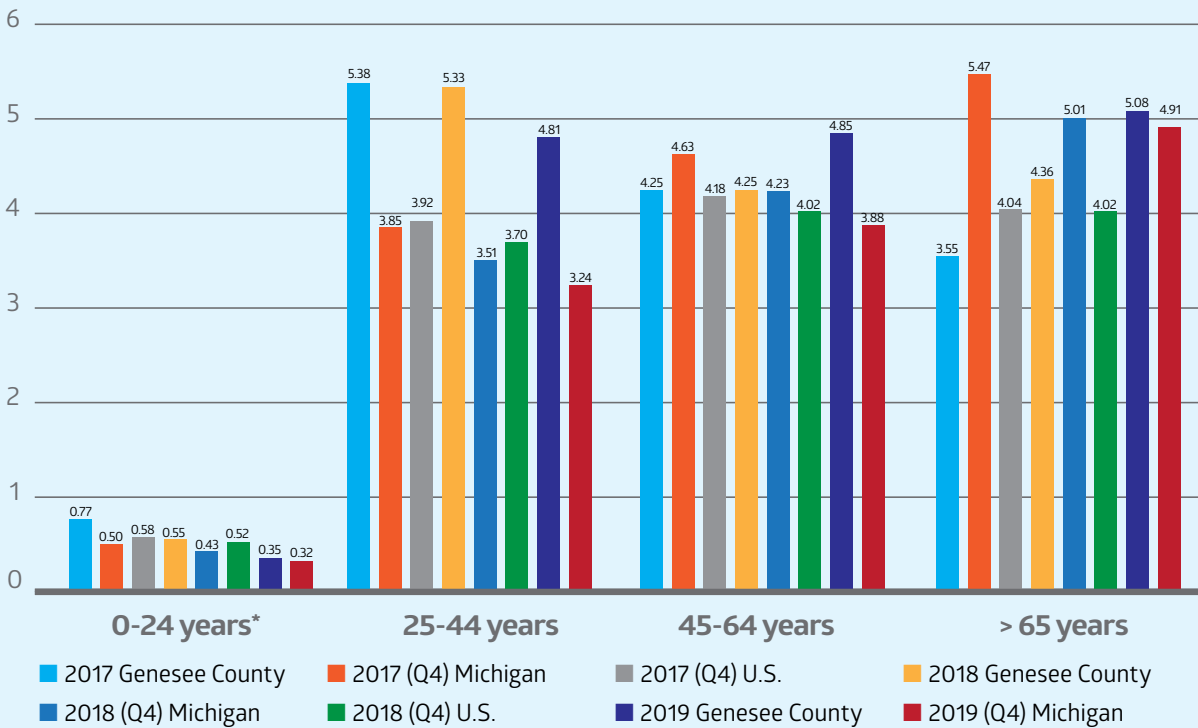
Michigan Death Certificates, Division for Vital Records and Health Statistics, MDHHS, 2020

Measure	Genesee County	Michigan	United States
Drug overdose deaths per 100,000 population	44.7	24.5	21.6

CDC National Vital Statistics Program, 2019

Opioid-related inpatient hospital use is increasing in Genesee County. Data collected via the Greater Flint Health Coalition’s Mental Health & Substance Use Task Force from Genesee County’s three hospital systems indicates that inpatient hospitalizations related to opioid use for all ages increased 14.4% between 2016 and 2019, surpassing the state’s rate in 2017. While the rates of opioid-related inpatient hospitalizations for the 25 to 44-year-old age demographic has started to slightly decline from 2017 to 2019, the rates for adults 45-64 years and 65 years and older continue to rise and have surpassed that of their younger counterparts. For 2019, the population 65 years and older had the highest rates of opioid inpatient hospitalizations at 5.08 per 1,000 residents followed by the rate for individuals 45-64 years at 4.85 per 1,000 residents, with both being considerably higher than the respective state rates of 4.91 and 3.88.

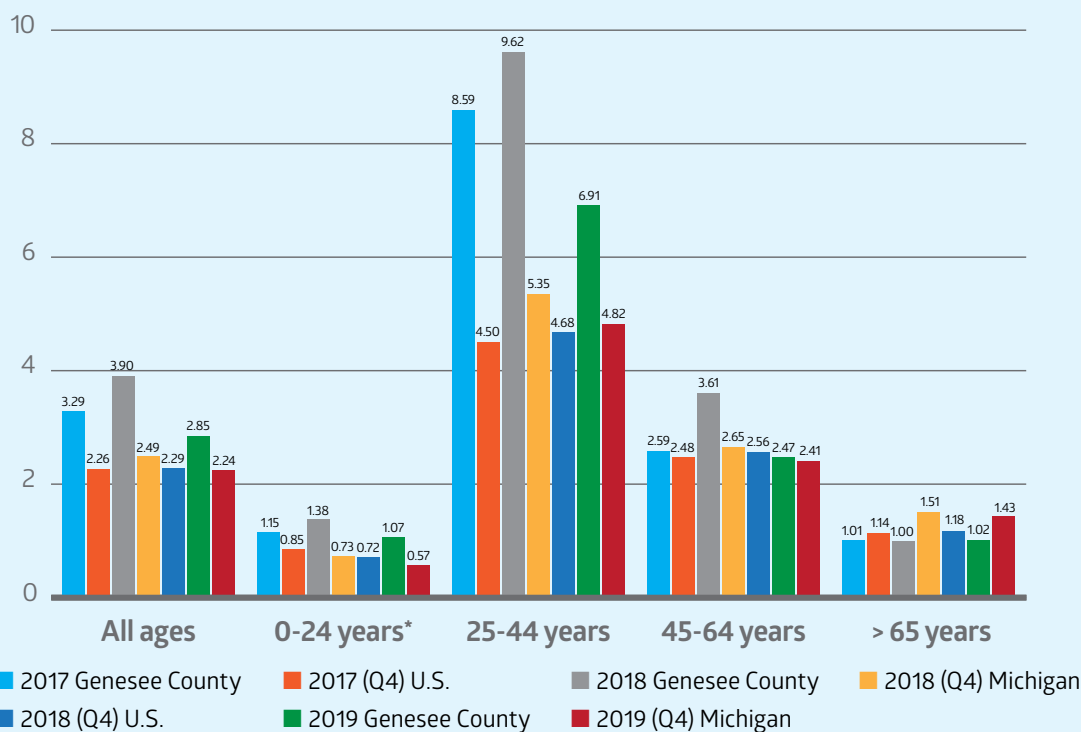
## Genesee County Opioid Related Hospital Utilization Inpatient Discharge per 1,000 by Age Group



*GFHC Community Data Scorecard, Aggregate Hospital Data Submission, Agency for Healthcare Research and Quality, 2017-2019*

In 2019, opioid-related Emergency Department (ED) utilization for all ages decreased after trending upwards for several years, the result of multiple state policy initiatives and community-based interventions to address the issue. While the rate of opioid-related ED use decreased over 25% in 2019 for individuals 25 to 44 years of age, this demographic remains of particular concern in Genesee County, with rates far exceeding the state and national averages for opioid-related hospital use.

## Genesee County Opioid Related Hospital Utilization Emergency Department Visits per 1,000 by Age Group



*GFHC Community Data Scorecard, Aggregate Hospital Data Submission, Agency for Healthcare Research and Quality, 2017-2019*

In 2019, Genesee County’s 25 to 44-year-old age demographic had an opioid-related ED utilization rate of 6.91 compared to the state rate of 4.82. The rate of opioid-related ED visits for Medicaid recipients was the highest of all payers, increasing 33.7% between 2016 and 2019 as reported by the local hospitals. The rise in opioid-related deaths and ongoing opioid-related hospital use emphasizes the need to continue efforts to connect individuals presenting to the hospital Emergency Department with community resources for substance use treatment or recovery support. These needs have only been exacerbated by the COVID-19 pandemic and continue to underscore the importance of coordinated efforts to address the opioid epidemic at a community-wide level (e.g. GFHC’s Community-Wide Strategy to Address the Opioid Epidemic).

**COMMUNITY RESPONSE:** When Genesee County residents were asked via the 2022 CHNA Community Resident Survey to identify the three most important health problems, 67% of them identified addictions as one of the top three. When asked about the top three risky behaviors, 58% identified drug abuse while 39% identified alcohol abuse.



## Mental Health (inclusive of stress, anxiety, and depression)

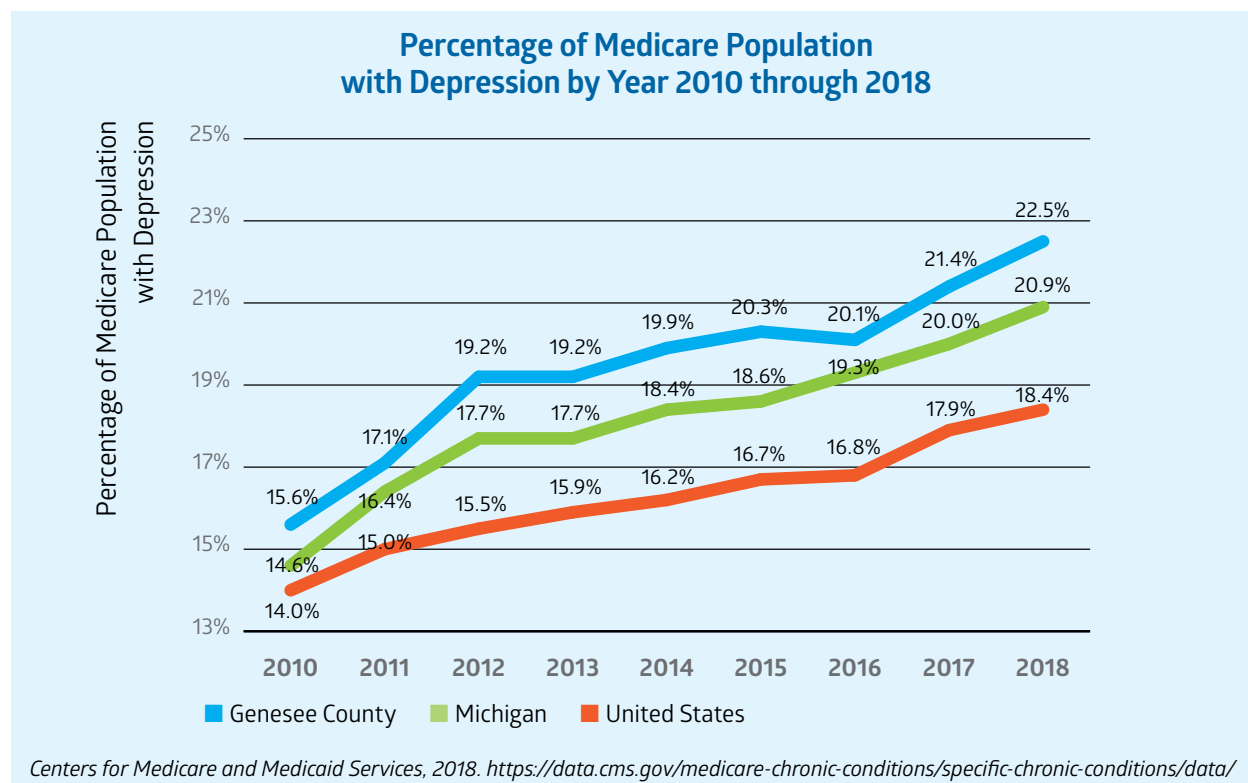
For Genesee County, as with many communities having significant health disparities and high rates of poverty, mental health is a serious concern and was only exacerbated by the COVID-19 pandemic. Mental health indicators demonstrate that Genesee County residents report greater numbers of poor mental health days and have higher rates of depression than their state and national counterparts. Good mental health is critical for navigating the challenges of daily life, education, and employment. Depression is often overlooked in treating chronic disease even though it may have a great impact on health behaviors, morbidity, and health outcomes.

Measure	Genesee County	Michigan	United States
Adults self-reporting more than 14 days within the last 30 where their mental health was not good	19.5%	15.4%	13.1%
Medicare fee-for-service population with depression	22.5%	20.9%	18.4%

*Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, Behavioral Risk Factor Surveillance System. Access via the Web Enabled Analysis Tool. MIBRFSS Annual Report. 2018-2020*

*Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services, 2020*

In Genesee County, 19.5% of residents' report having more than 14 poor mental health days in the past month per the Behavioral Health Risk Factor Surveillance System (BRFSS), higher than both statewide and national rates. Rates of depression within Genesee County's Medicare population have been trending upward at a rate that is greater than that for Michigan and the United States. Evidence suggests that communities with more unhealthy days were likely to have higher rates of unemployment and poverty, increased percentages of adults who did not complete high school, and higher mortality rates (County Health Rankings).



Mental health related needs in Genesee County, particularly those within the city of Flint, were already higher due to the community-wide trauma experienced as a result of the Flint Water Crisis. The COVID-19 pandemic increased stress and anxiety levels within the whole population and public health actions such as social distancing have led to increased feelings of isolation and loneliness, further adding to emotional and mental health challenges. Genesee County has been designated as a Health Professional Shortage Area for Mental Health (as reported by U.S. Department of Health & Human Services, Health Resources and Services Administration). The social determinants of health, as highlighted elsewhere in this report, further compound the mental health issues and trends observed in the community.

**COMMUNITY RESPONSE:** Mental health was identified by community residents completing the 2022 CHNA Community Resident Survey as the second most important health problem in the community, as 42% of respondents to the survey question identified “Access to mental and behavioral health services” as one of their top three health problems. When Genesee County residents were asked which health issues they are dealing with, 45% identified stress and 33% identified mental health problems such as depression, anxiety, etc. Regarding social isolation, 24% of residents indicated they “sometimes” felt isolated from others, and 18% “often” felt isolated from others.

## Social Determinants of Health

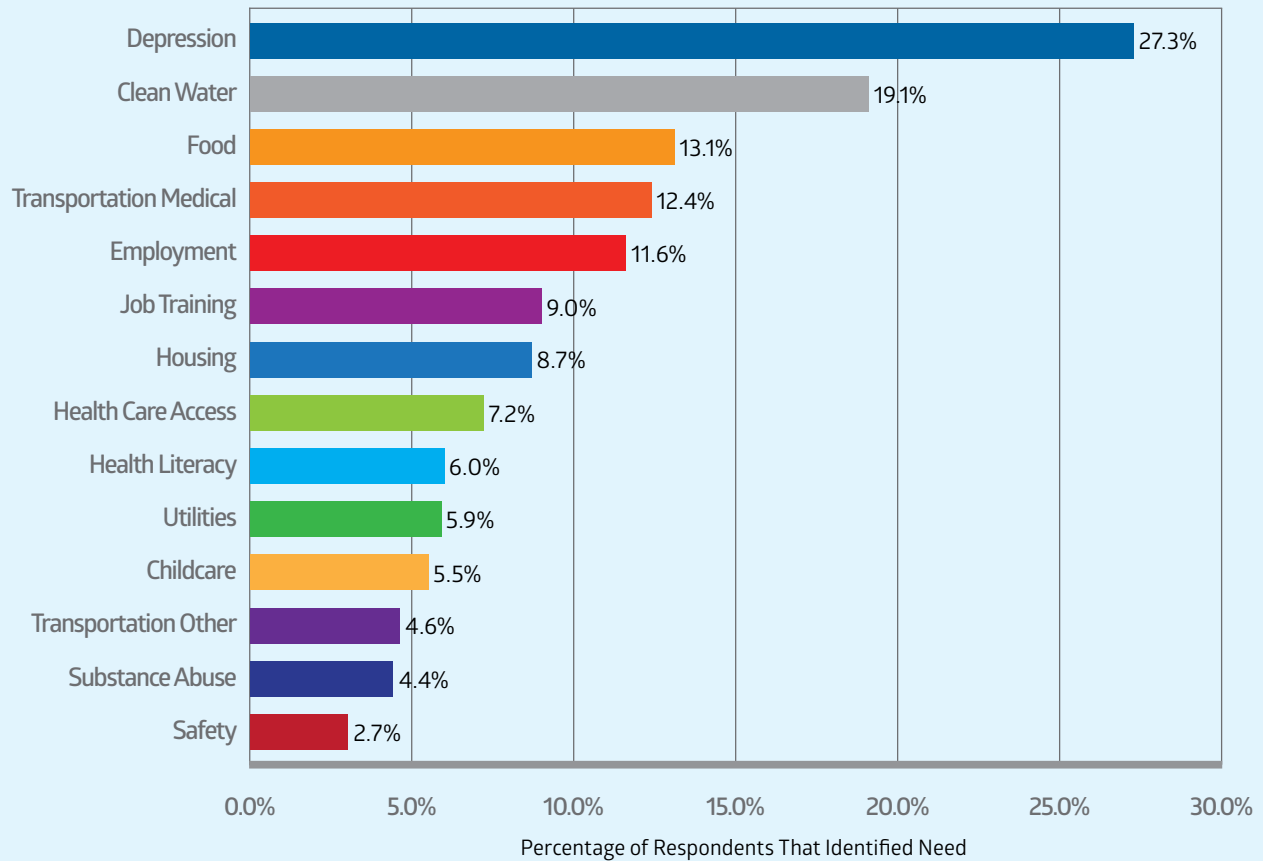
(including housing, employment, education, food insecurity, safety, and poverty)

According to the Robert Wood Johnson Foundation, 80% of the factors impacting health outcomes fall outside traditional healthcare delivery. When these social determinants of health (SDOH) needs are not met, more serious health concerns may emerge, while existing conditions are often left untreated or undiagnosed. In Genesee County, this relationship could not be more apparent. In the 2021 County Health Rankings & Roadmap Report, Genesee County ranked 36th out of 83 counties in Michigan for clinical care and 80th in health outcomes. Despite a relatively high ranking in quality of healthcare services, health outcomes experienced by Genesee County residents are near the bottom of all counties in the state. This disparity is explained by the county's poor rankings in Social & Economic Factors (64th) and Physical Environment (80th) emphasizing the impact that social and environmental conditions have on an individual's health. The need in Genesee County is so significant, support could be gathered around any number of social needs, but for the purpose of this assessment, social needs were chosen that have the most far reaching implications on the health of the community, as well as those being identified by residents themselves. The 2022 CHNA Community Member & Stakeholder surveys were distributed to over 800 community residents representing all Genesee County zip codes and an additional 153 "stakeholders" which were defined as healthcare executives or managers, as well as members of various leadership committees within the major health care institutions. Residents were asked to identify the top healthcare, environmental, and socioeconomic concerns in Genesee County.

Additionally, as part of the ongoing Genesee Community Health Innovation Region (CHIR) Initiative of the Greater Flint Health Coalition, there has been a community-wide SDOH screening effort in Genesee County since 2017. As a component of the Genesee CHIR Initiative, Genesee County Patient-Centered Medical Home (PCMH) practices, in partnership with the Greater Flint Health Coalition, Genesys PHO, McLaren Physician Partners, and Professional Medical Corporation (PMC), developed and administered a standardized SDOH screening tool that was collected for over 40,000 Genesee County-based patients by the end of January 2020. Results were uploaded monthly to a central data repository administered by Greater Flint Health Coalition oversight, for detailed monitoring and analysis of Genesee County SDOH needs sorted by age, gender, zip code, and type of health insurance coverage. SDOH screening questions cover domains including food, utilities, housing, healthcare access, safety, substance use, depression, water, child care, education, employment, stress, anxiety, and transportation (medical and non-medical). Patients were asked to identify areas where they had a need, as well as provided an opportunity to indicate if they desired assistance or support getting connected to a community resource to address an indicated need.

The Figure 1 entitled "SDOH Screening Needs Identified" illustrates screening results from 7,877 Medicaid beneficiaries collected between January 1, 2019, and January 31, 2020.

**Figure 1: SDOH Screening Needs Identified January 1, 2019 through January 31, 2020  
Medicaid Beneficiaries (n = 7,877)**



## HOUSING

Stable housing is critical to an individual's health and well-being and provides the foundation for social mobility and achieving positive health outcomes. In 2019, home values in Genesee County experienced a decline with a median home value of \$104,800 compared to \$118,700 in 2018, and a lack of safe and affordable housing for lower income residents continues to present as a wide-spread problem. According to the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) Comprehensive Housing Affordability Strategy (CHAS) database, a severe shortage exists in housing supply for very low-income individuals. For a total of 10,520 very low-income households in Flint, roughly 2,000 affordable rental units were identified.

Affordability is not the only issue. For households in the low-moderate income range, housing supply is sufficient, but many of the available units are in sub-standard condition or in unsafe areas. Out of the 167,890 households in Genesee County, 51,060 or 30% are considered sub-standard and of those 26,455 have severe problems. Approximately 55% of renter occupied units in Flint are either sub-standard (e.g., lack of complete plumbing or kitchen facilities), overcrowded, or cost burdened. Out of roughly 40,000 households, 8,900 in Flint are experiencing a severe cost burden. Severe cost burden is defined as spending 50% or more of income on housing costs.

Housing that is both safe and affordable is hard to come by for most low-income residents. In areas of Genesee County outside the city of Flint, an even greater shortage of affordable housing exists, resulting in the county’s lowest income residents concentrated in urban areas.

Another shortage area is seen in both quality and supply of permanent supportive housing for non-homeless special needs-residents, such as those who are mentally ill, developmentally disabled, at-risk youth, elderly, victims of domestic violence, and persons with HIV/AIDS. Housing supply for these groups is very limited and programs are often administered by non-profit agencies, which are overburdened and consistently operating with inadequate funding for service-delivery to meet demand. Where resources are available, a lack of effective prioritization of need, as well as confusing and burdensome processes present significant barriers to navigating these services. These factors have resulted in individuals living in sub-standard housing, “couch-surfing,” or becoming homeless. Recently, the community’s designated Continuum of Care organization has undergone a governance reorganization and is in the process of implementing a new governance charter to support Genesee County permanent supportive housing providers to improve the coordinated system of entry to ensure available housing units are provided to those with greatest need.

Year	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020
Number of homeless individuals	635	488	377	420	438	450	349

*Department of Housing and Urban Development, 2014-2020*

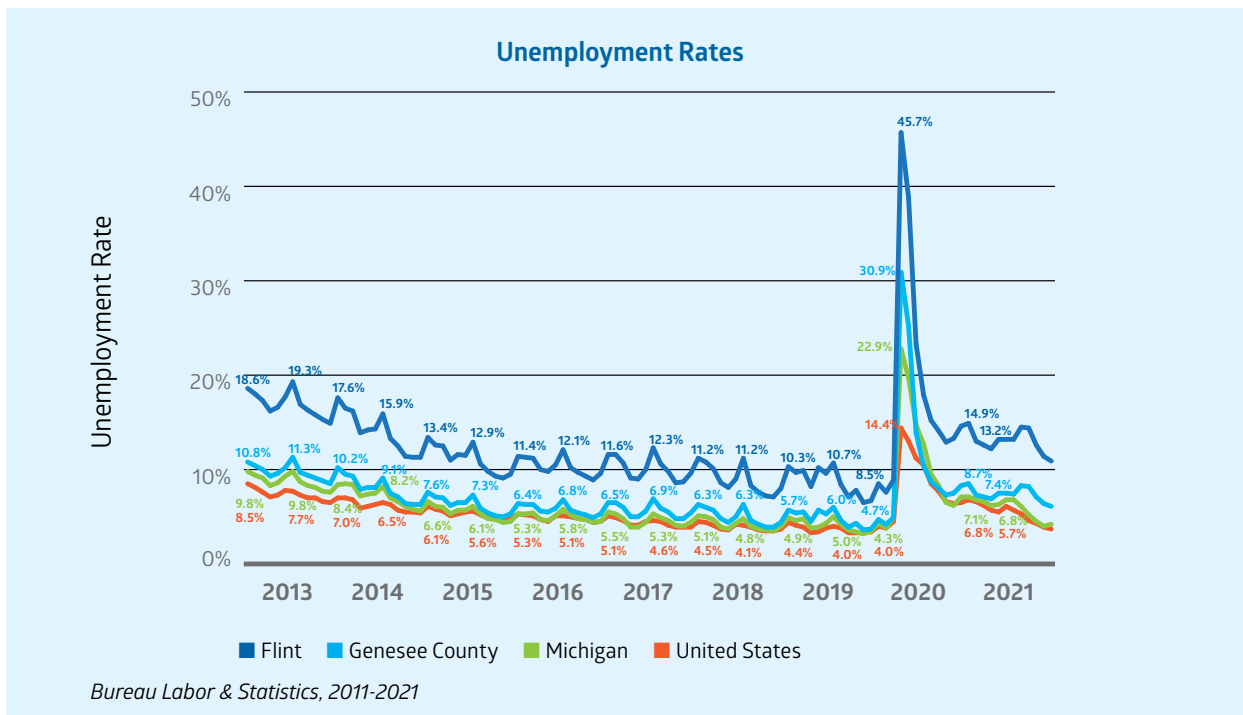
**COMMUNITY RESPONSE:** When asked via the 2022 CHNA Community Resident Survey about the three most important factors for a healthy community, 25% of residents identified safe and affordable housing. When asked to identify the top three environmental factors impacting the community, affordable housing received the second highest rate of response out of all categories (49.5%) only behind clean water.

## EMPLOYMENT

While unemployment has declined significantly since 2011, Genesee County and Flint continue to exhibit an unemployment rate greater than state and national averages. As of December 2021, residents in the city of Flint experienced an unemployment rate of 10.9%, more than double the state (4.2%) and national (3.7%) averages. The unemployment rate for Genesee County at 6.1% was also higher than the state and national rates.

At the onset of the COVID-19 pandemic, residents of the city of Flint and Genesee County were hit exceptionally hard by unemployment due to Michigan’s stay-at-home orders. In April 2020, almost half the workforce was unemployed in the city Flint with an unemployment rate of 45.7%, and almost one third the workforce in Genesee County with an unemployment rate 30.9%. Both these unemployment rates were significantly higher than the state and national rates of 22.8% and 14.4%, respectively, for the same time period. While the unemployment rates have since recovered, they remain above the pre-pandemic numbers.





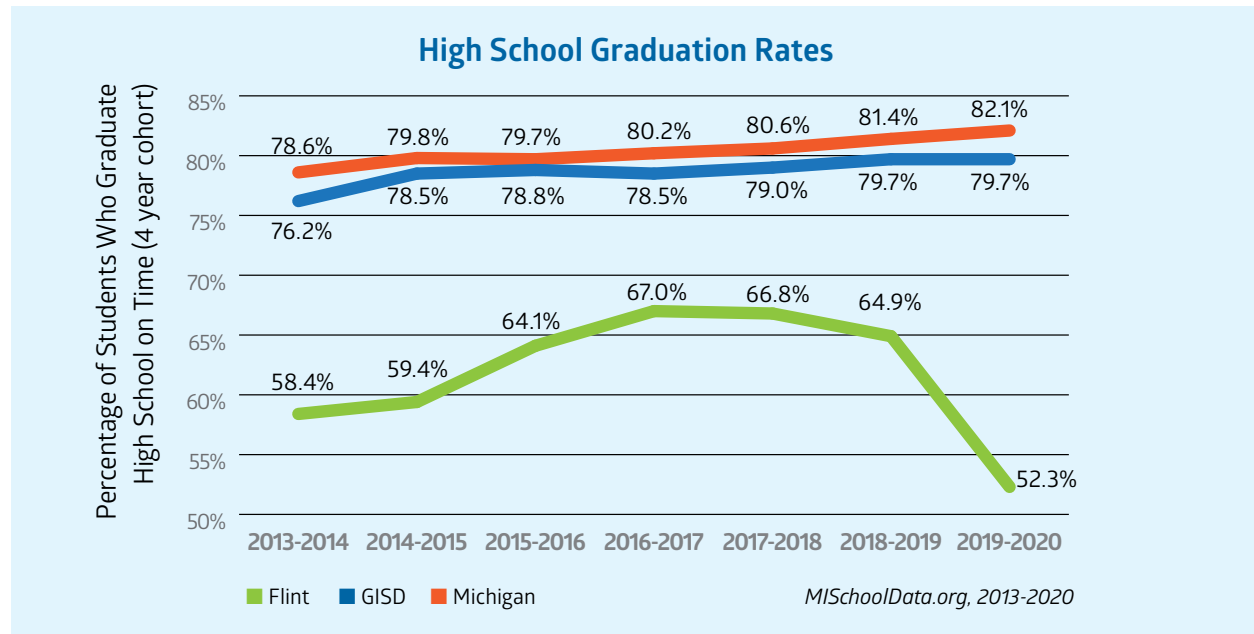
Coupled with unemployment, many employed residents are not earning a living wage. Genesee County’s median household income in 2019, according to the U.S. Census, was around \$50,389 which is notably lower than the state of Michigan median of roughly \$59,584. The city of Flint has a reported median household income of only \$31,113, which is about half that of the state of Michigan. Earning a living wage is not only instrumental to preventing homelessness, but it also impacts every facet of an individual’s quality of life and their associated health outcomes. Financial instability creates barriers to access including insurance coverage, health services, healthy food, and other necessities that contribute to poor health status.

**COMMUNITY RESPONSE:** When the 2022 CHNA Community Resident Survey asked community members to identify the top three health concerns in Genesee County that government official should focus on over the next three years, employment ranked fifth in the number of responses across all needs. When asked to identify the top three factors of a healthy community, “good jobs and a healthy economy” received the fourth highest rate of responses overall with a 31%.

## EDUCATION

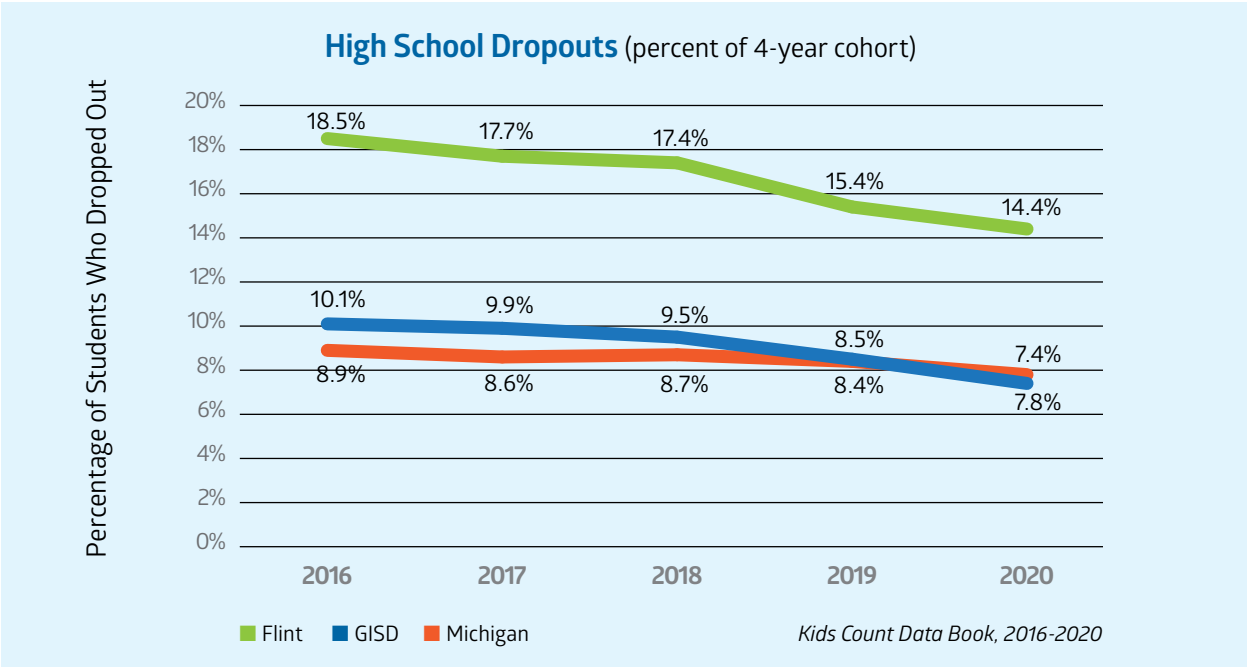
A quality education system is paramount to the health of a community. Educational achievement affects not only employment and income, but access to health care, health literacy, and a person's ability to engage in healthy behaviors, making it one of the strongest predictors of health.

High school graduation rates for students in Genesee County consistently fall slightly below the statewide average, while those for Flint Community School students are considerably lower as demonstrated in the graph below. High school graduation rates for Flint Community School students plummeted in 2019-2020 to 52.3%, a result of the challenges brought forth by the COVID-19 pandemic related to remote learning and social and racial inequities.

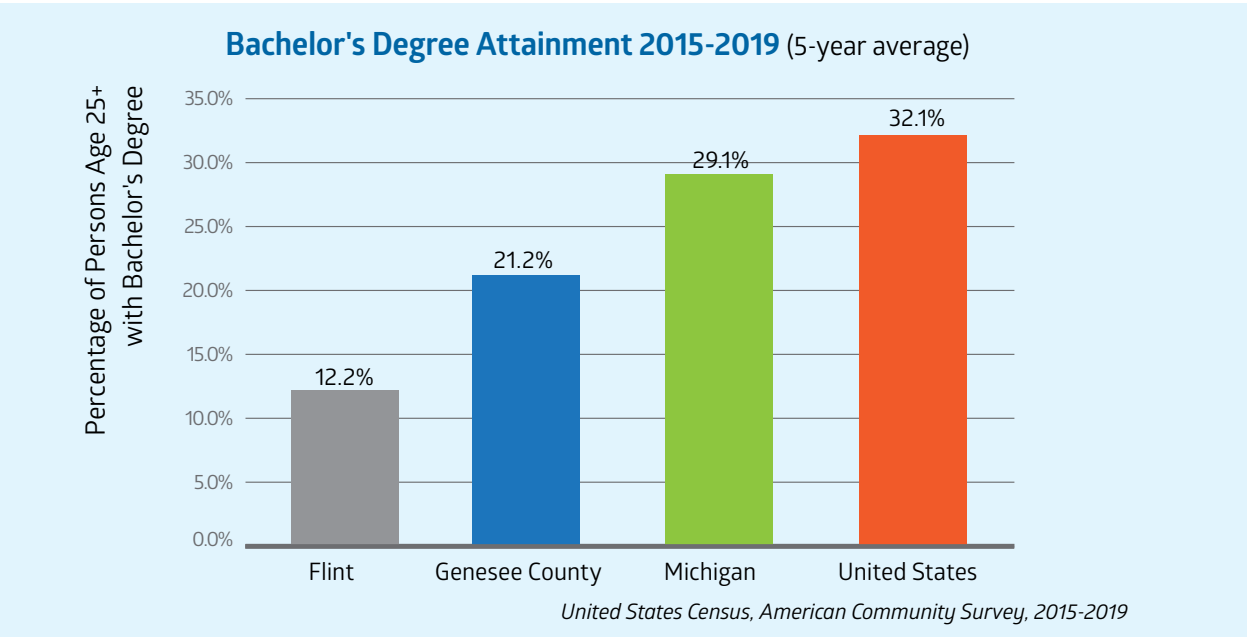


High school dropout rates have been decreasing, with Genesee County's rate of 7.4% falling below the state average of 7.8% for the first time in recent history. Meanwhile, the dropout rate for Flint students at 14.4% is still considerably higher than both the county and state.

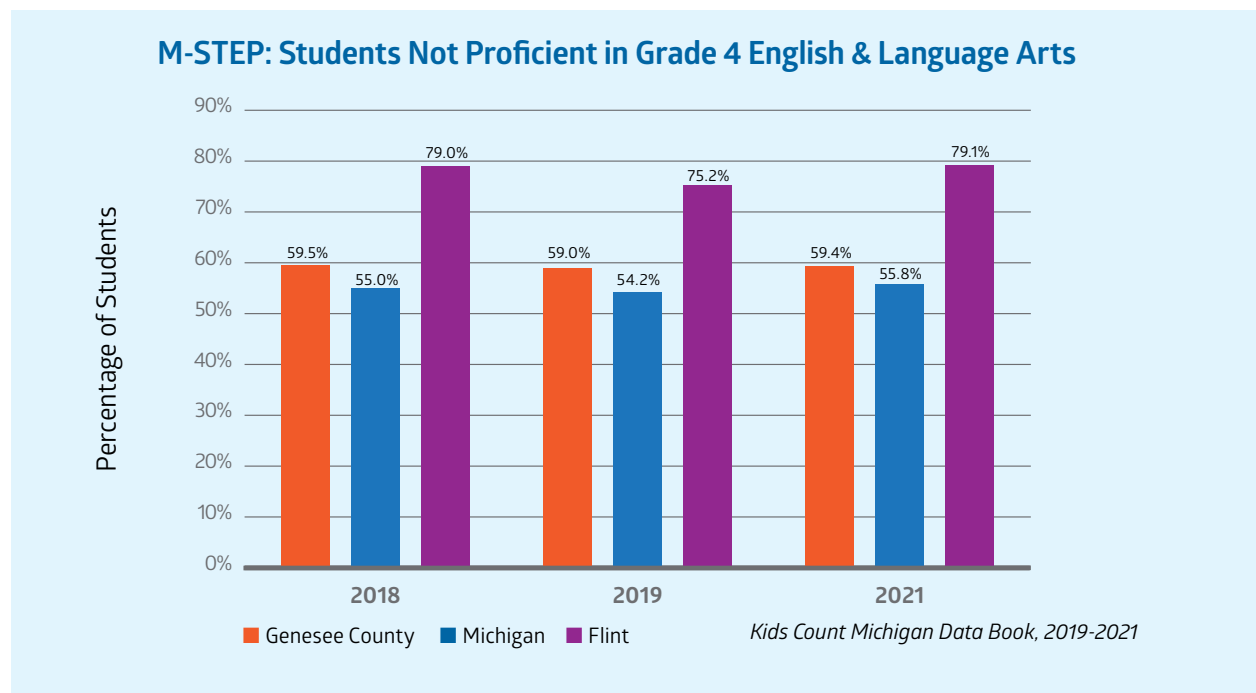
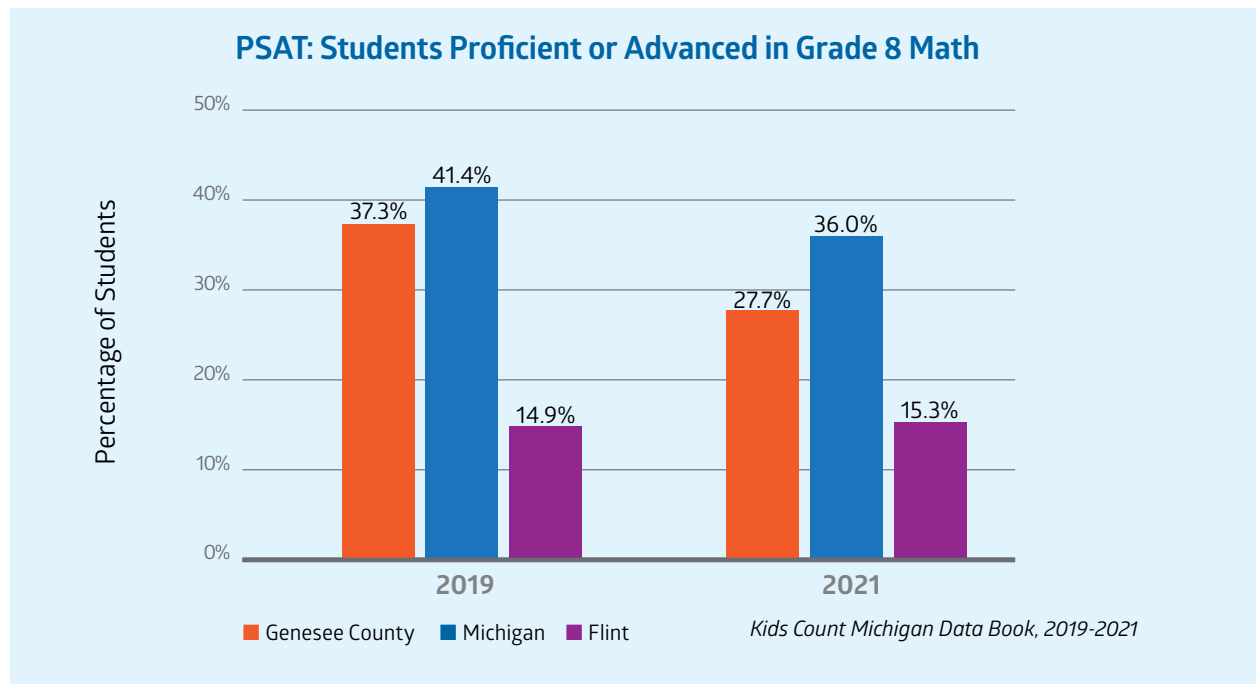
**COMMUNITY RESPONSE:** When Genesee County residents were asked via the 2022 CHNA Community Resident Survey to identify the three most important factors for a healthy community, 15% identified good schools. When asked about the three most important socioeconomic factors impacting the community, 20% cited education attainment.



Additionally, a large disparity continues to exist in Bachelor's Degree attainment between Flint, Genesee County, State of Michigan, and the United States. While all have slightly improved over the course of the last three years, with state and national Bachelor's Degree attainment at 29.1% and 32.1% respectively, the comparative rates for Flint (12.2%) and Genesee County (21.2%) continue to lag behind. Levels of attainment in the city of Flint are nearly half the county rate and a third of the national norm.



In addition to low levels of educational attainment, Genesee County lags behind the state average, as well as comparison communities, in eighth-grade math and fourth-grade English Language Arts Proficiencies according to the Preliminary Standardized Assessment Test (PSAT) and Michigan Student Test of Education Progress (M-STEP) respectively. Educational proficiency for students in the Flint Community Schools is far lower, with nearly 85% of all eighth-grade students lacking proficiency in math and almost 80% of fourth-grade students lacking proficiency in English/language arts. Data was not reported for 2020 due to the COVID-19 pandemic and county-wide scores trended lower in 2021 than what they were pre-pandemic.





## FOOD INSECURITY

Food insecurity is the household-level economic and social condition of limited or uncertain access to adequate food. Flint and Genesee County’s food insecurity rate, which measures the estimated percentage of the population that experienced food insecurity at some point during the year, is higher than state and national averages. A higher number of Flint & Genesee County households receive SNAP (Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program) benefits and are eligible for free and reduced-price school lunches. According to the Genesee County Health Department, there were 17,504 residents enrolled in the special supplemental nutrition program for Women, Infants, and Children (WIC) in 2020. Additionally, 89.2% of children attending the Flint Community Schools are eligible for free and reduced-price lunches (2020).

Measure	Genesee County	Michigan	United States
Food insecurity rate <sup>1</sup>	15.2%	13.0%	10.9%
Percent population receiving SNAP benefits <sup>2</sup>	18.8%	12.4%	10.7%
Food insecure children <sup>1</sup>	19.4%	14.2%	14.6%
Children eligible for free/reduced price lunch <sup>3</sup>	59.2%	50.0%	52.3%

<sup>1</sup>Feeding America, 2019

<sup>2</sup>US Census Bureau, Small Area Income and Poverty Estimates, 2015

<sup>3</sup>National Center for Education Statistics, NCES – Common Core of Data, 2018-109



In 2019, Feeding America reported that approximately 27% of individuals in Genesee County above 200% of the Federal Poverty Line (FPL) experience food insecurity, an increase of 22% from the previous year. This percent is more than 2.5 times as high for individuals under 200% of the FPL (73%). This data emphasizes the magnitude of this issue for individuals in low-income households. Genesee County has better access to WIC and SNAP authorized retailers than the average county in Michigan and a comparable number of grocery stores per population, yet food insecurity continues to affect many people due to uneven distribution. In Genesee County, over 36% of the population lives more than a half mile from the nearest grocery store, creating barriers for those who do not have access to reliable transportation. Many city of Flint residents lack convenient access to a full-service grocery store. For those living in food deserts, the lack of access prohibits healthy choices. Additionally, Genesee County has 90 liquor stores and roughly 311 fast food restaurants (Center for Applied Research and Engagement Systems). Good nutrition and a healthy diet are increasingly important for children in the community, compounded by their ability to help mitigate the effects of lead contamination and support healthy development throughout childhood and into adolescence.

Measure	Genesee County	Michigan	United States
Percent low income population with low food access <sup>1</sup>	11.0%	6.0%	6.0%
Households with no motor vehicle <sup>2</sup>	9.0%	7.7%	8.6%
Population without access to a large grocery store <sup>3</sup>	36.4%	22.8%	21.6%

<sup>1</sup>Food Access Research Atlas, 2021

<sup>2</sup>US Census Bureau, Small Area Income and Poverty Estimates, 2019

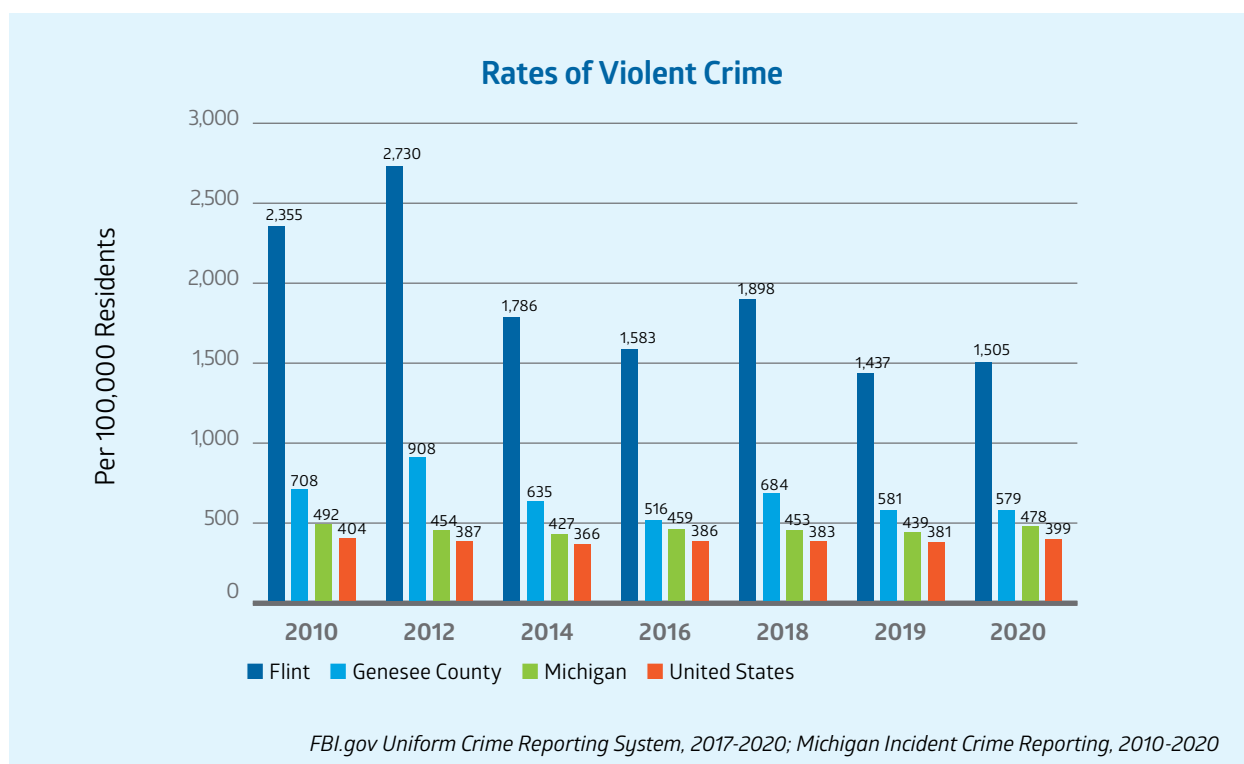
<sup>3</sup>U.S. News and World Report Healthiest Communities, 2021

Senior citizens are also disproportionately affected by food insecurity as many are homebound and cannot take advantage of resources that may be available in the community. Programs that offer services to accommodate these individuals, such as home delivered meal services or food box delivery services, are overburdened, resulting in waitlists and associated challenges.

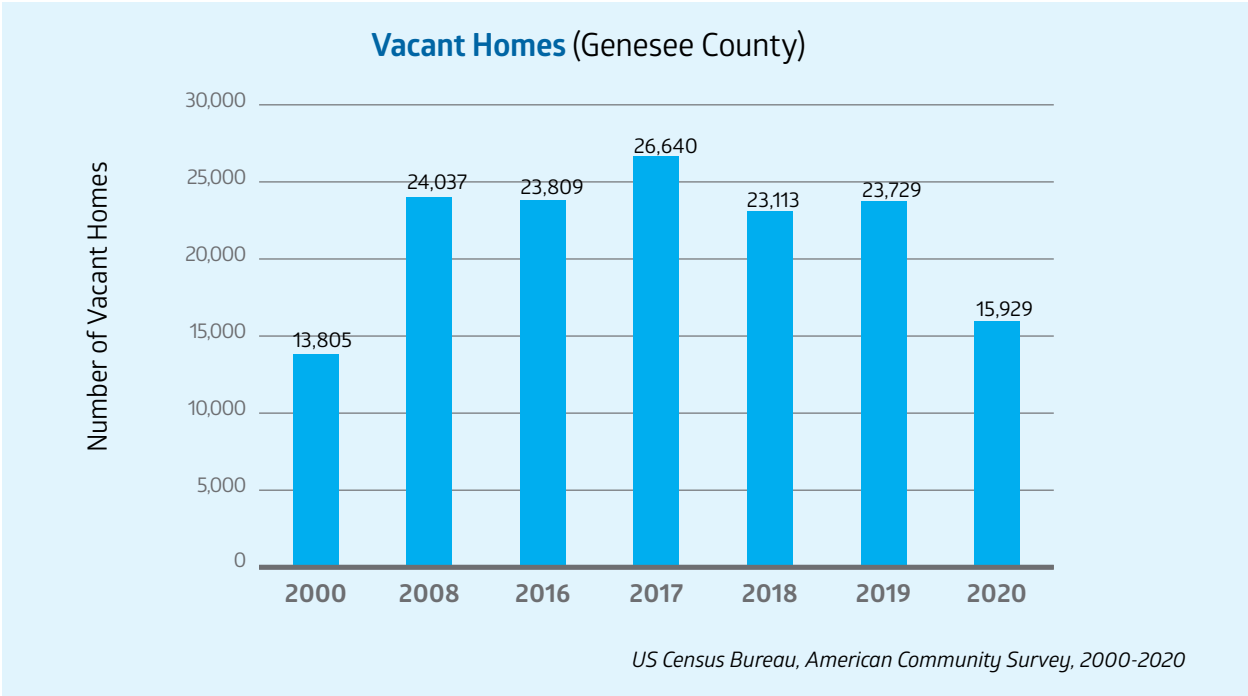
**COMMUNITY RESPONSE:** “Healthy Food Access” received the fourth highest rate of response when Genesee County residents were asked via the 2022 CHNA Community Resident Survey to identify the top environmental concerns impacting the community with 35% of respondents citing it as one of their top concerns.

## SAFETY & COMMUNITY VIOLENCE

Safety was selected as a priority focus area consistent with previously completed Community Health Needs Assessments. After experiencing a rise in violent crime in 2017, the county has since exhibited a downward trend from 2018 through 2020 with a 19% decline in violent crime in Genesee County. The county's rate of violent crime is heavily influenced by the city of Flint, which has a violent crime rate of almost four times the national average. Violent crime includes homicide, rape, robbery, and aggravated assault. According to the Michigan Incident Crime Reporting database, Genesee County had 2,353 violent crimes and 6,137 property crimes (including burglary, larceny, and motor vehicle theft) reported in 2020. The total number of crimes reported across all categories was more than 24,750 incidents. Representing less than a quarter of the Genesee County total population, the city of Flint accounted for almost 52% of all violent crime.



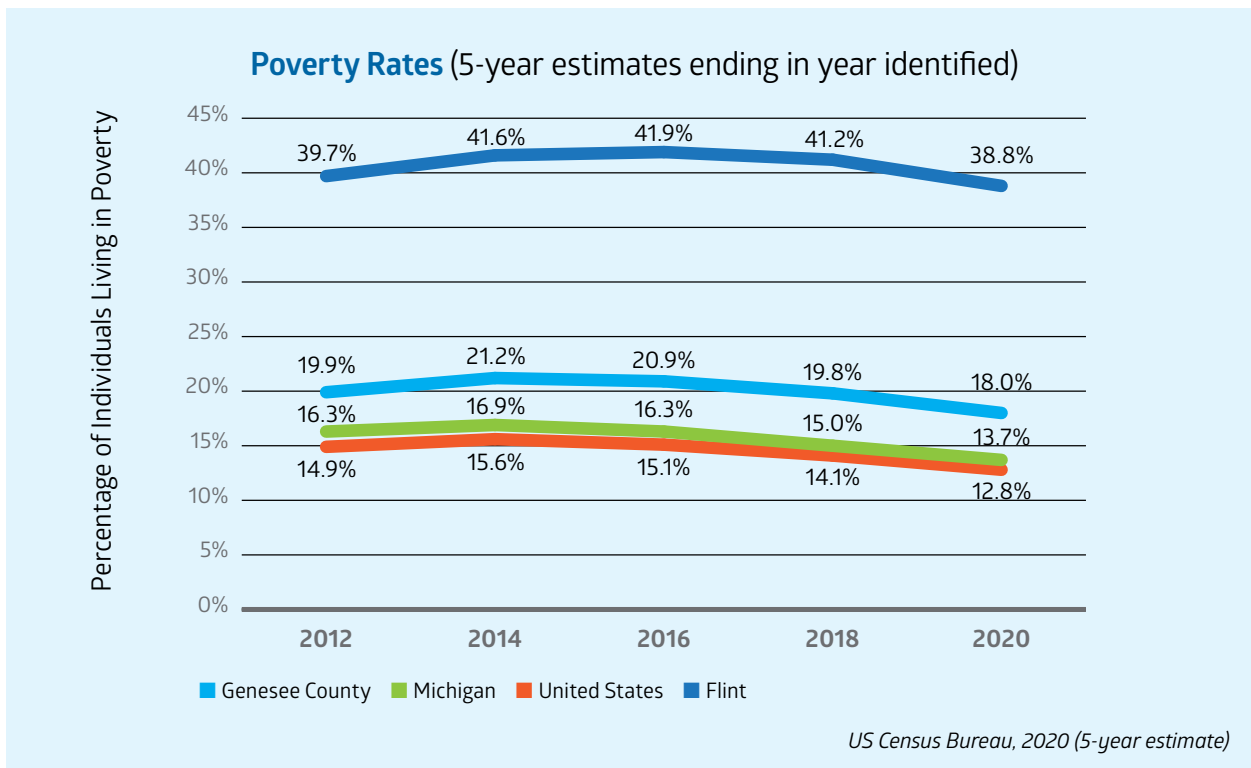
A component of safety (blight) is a major concern of many residents, especially within the city of Flint. Not only does blight lead to perceptions that make residents feel unsafe in their own neighborhoods, but neighborhoods with a higher percentage of vacant homes are likely to attract higher rates of crime. Since 2009, with the exception of 2020 (no foreclosures due to the pandemic), the Genesee County Land Bank has accepted between 1,000-2,000 properties per year that private owners have walked away from. In 2020, Genesee County Land Bank held 14,359 properties, 73% of which were vacant lots and 20% of which were structures in need of demolition or major renovation. In 2020, the City of Flint announced a new campaign to fight blight and over the course of the year, 1 million pounds of blighted waste was hauled away with clean-up of blighted properties increasing 38% year over year.



**COMMUNITY RESPONSE:** When the 2022 CHNA Community Resident Survey asked “What do you think are the three most important environmental factors that affect the health of our community,” approximately 84% of respondents identified violent crimes or neighborhood safety as a top factor.

### POVERTY

Addressing poverty is critically important to improving population health. Poverty is the overarching social condition that impacts every facet of an individual’s life and hinders a community’s ability to achieve forward momentum. Most of the SDOH issues listed above are a direct result of poverty, which is why low-income individuals face such tremendous barriers to achieving positive health outcomes. As home to one of the most impoverished cities in the nation, few communities illustrate this more clearly than Genesee County.



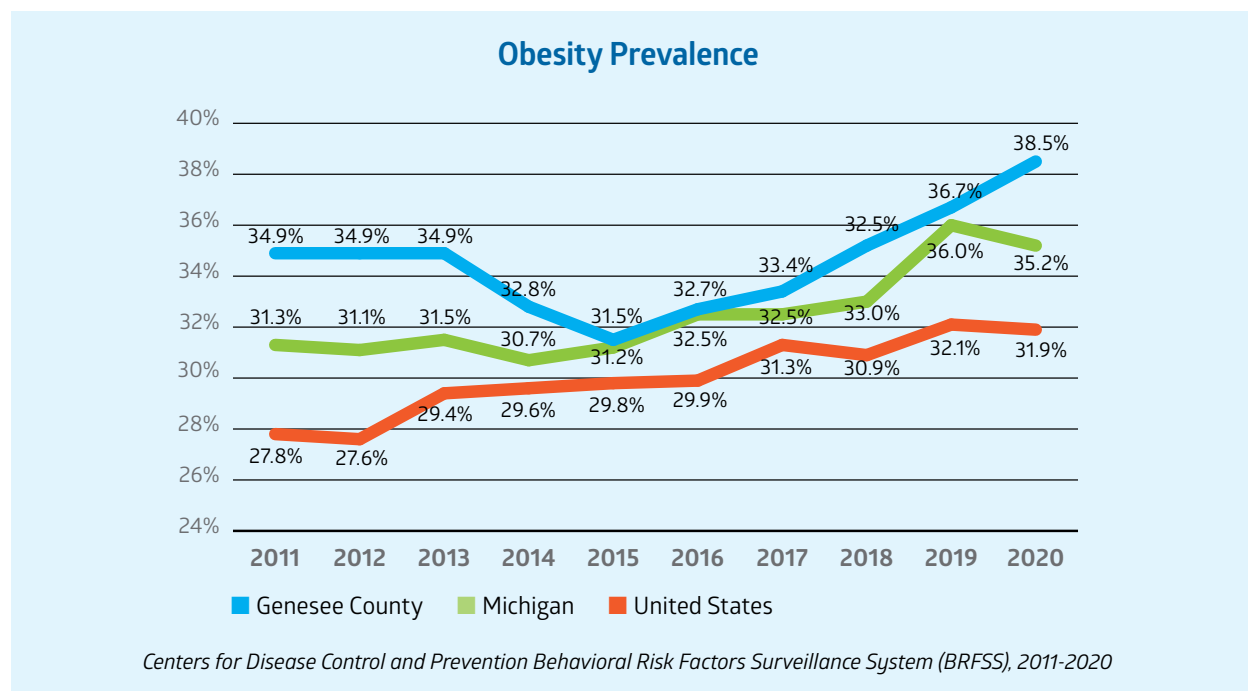
The poverty rates in Genesee County and Flint have remained high in comparison to state and national averages, and in recent years have trended upwards. The majority of Genesee County’s lowest income households are concentrated in the city of Flint where over 40% of all residents are living below the Federal Poverty Line (FPL) poverty limit. A devastating number of children in Flint (63.5%) live in poverty. This is nearly twice the rate for Genesee County (36.7%) children living in poverty, and nearly three times the national rate (20.3%). Income disparities not only exist geographically, but also between ethnicities, as minority children experience poverty at rates twice that of white children according to the U.S. Census Bureau.

Without a massive influx of community investment or new livable wage jobs, poverty cannot be solved overnight. It is essential that healthcare systems begin to integrate a focus on the documented SDOH needs of residents and patients, recognizing the impact on an individual’s care plan and how SDOH needs impact the ability to effectively provide care that can be adhered to. Without addressing these root causes, clinical approaches may be unsuccessful and health outcomes will remain poor as demonstrated in Flint and Genesee County. Fortunately, Genesee County healthcare providers are realizing this and taking meaningful action to participate in initiatives to increase effective clinical/community linkages to address the social determinants of health.

**COMMUNITY RESPONSE:** In the 2022 CHNA Community Resident Survey, when Genesee County residents were asked to identify the top three socioeconomic factors that impacted the community, 45% cited poverty/working poor, followed by basic needs (29%), and income/wealth distribution (28%).

## Obesity & Healthy Behaviors

Genesee County's health behaviors are some of the poorest in the state. Health behaviors are associated with a combination of physical activity, food and nutrition, smoking rates, alcohol use, access to exercise opportunities, and more. Genesee County's obesity rate is significantly higher than state and national averages, and the combined obesity and overweight rate for Genesee County is 72.4%. For comparison, in the 2019 CHNA Report, that combined rate was 67.1%.



As illustrated in the above graph, obesity and overweight prevalence has been trending upward over the last five years. There are a number of reasons that this is a high priority concern for the community. Children with obesity are two times more likely than their non-obese peers to die before the age of 55 and obesity increases an individual's risk of developing serious chronic conditions such as diabetes, heart disease, cancer, etc. Obesity has also been a compounding risk factor for complications and death associated with COVID-19 infection since 2020.

Flint & Genesee County's physical environment presents many challenges for residents attempting to incorporate physical activity into their daily routines including neighborhood blight, high rates of crime, and limited recreation and fitness facilities. Safe environments to practice regular physical activity are a major challenge for under-resourced and low-income populations. Many low-income residents cannot afford access to fitness centers. Additionally, transportation and other accessibility factors may present barriers to physical activity resources.

Measure	Genesee County	Michigan	United States
Recreation and fitness facility access (per 100,000 population) <sup>1</sup>	5.17	8.59	12.23
Percent adults with no leisure time physical activity <sup>2</sup>	27.3%	21.7%	22.0%

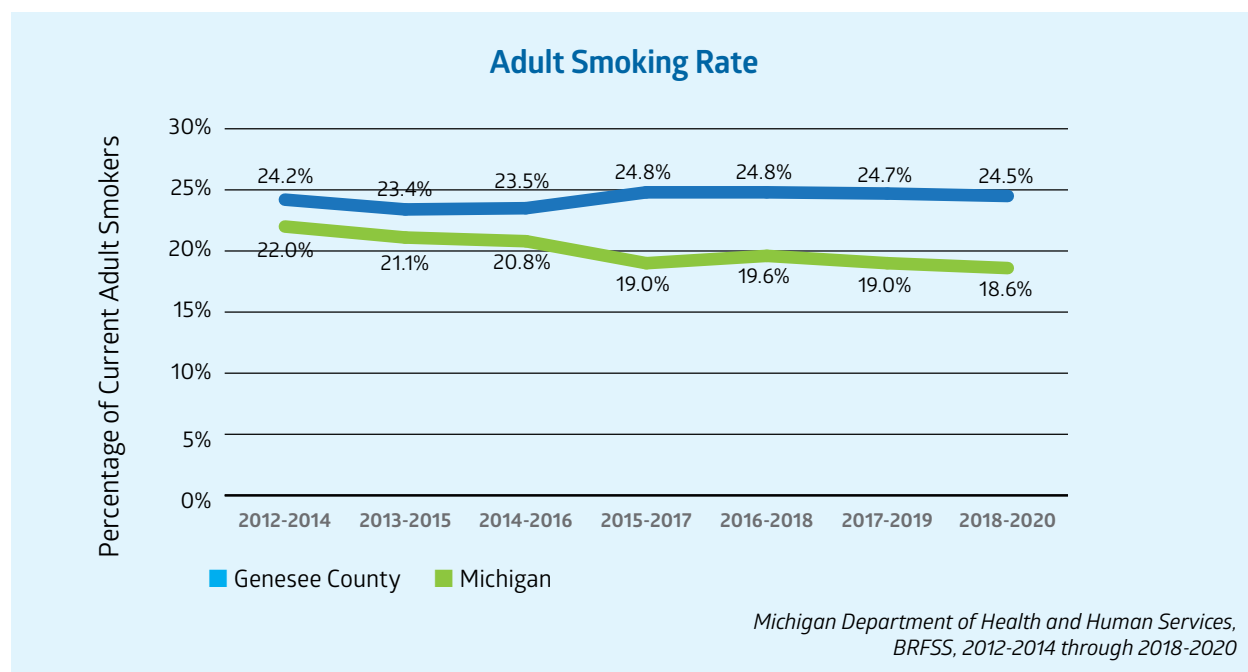
<sup>1</sup>US Census Bureau, County Business Patterns, CARES analysis, 2019

<sup>2</sup>Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, National Center for Chronic Disease Prevention and Health Promotion, 2019



Food insecurity and inconsistent access to grocery stores within the county (with emphasis on the city of Flint) compromises residents' abilities to eat healthy. Current health behaviors are determinants of future health, and unhealthy eating practices may cause significant health issues such as obesity and diabetes. According to the most recent data from the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC, 2019), 11.3% of residents in Genesee County had diabetes (Age-Adjusted Rate) compared to 10.2% of Michigan residents and 8.3% of the United States. While the national rate of diabetes has been on the decline, as well as the most recent numbers for the state and county, diabetes remains a significant health status indicator and high-cost disease.

Genesee County's smoking rate is higher than state and national averages. The smoking rate among adults in Genesee County is almost 25% higher than the state's rate. Smoking is a significant risk factor for poorer health (e.g., pulmonary disease, cardiac disease, etc.) and higher health care costs. There are minimal smoking cessation resources in Genesee County and those that exist are underutilized.



**COMMUNITY RESPONSE:** When Genesee County residents were asked via the 2022 CHNA Community Resident Survey what the three most important health problems were in our community, obesity had the fifth highest number of responses at 19%. Residents also indicated poor eating habits (30%) and lack of exercise (18%) as top risky behaviors in our community.

## Health Care Access

Health care access is impacted by a variety of factors, such as whether one has healthcare coverage, is uninsured, or underinsured. Furthermore, a community's capacity to provide primary, specialty, mental health, or dental care is important. Affordability and the social determinants of health can also impact a resident's ability to access and receive care. Relative to health insurance, Genesee County is fortunate in that only 5.3% of its total population is uninsured as indicated by the U.S. Census Bureau, lower than state and national rates. However, a number of additional factors exist that raise concern regarding healthcare access in the community. Reviewing coverage by type, the number of Genesee County residents eligible to have Medicaid as their healthcare coverage type continues to grow each year.

Healthcare Coverage	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	% Recent Change	Trend
Medicaid Recipients <sup>1</sup>	130,818	132,701	134,876	132,299	134,291	150,483	12.06%	▲
Medicare Recipients <sup>2</sup>	87,247	88,861	87,227	88,552	89,791	90,745	1.06%	▲
Commercially Insured Residents <sup>3</sup>	192,329	184,250	184,851	185,274	180,254	*	-2.71%	▼
Uninsured Residents <sup>3</sup>	22,186	24,925	25,665	19,124	21,466	*	12.25%	▲
Genesee Health Plan <sup>4</sup>	4,362	4,466	4,383	4,419	4,469	N/A	1.13%	▲

<sup>1</sup>Michigan Department of Health and Human Services (Green Book), 2015-2020

<sup>2</sup>CMS Medicare Dashboard, 2015-2020

<sup>3</sup>U.S. Census Bureau, 2015-2019

<sup>4</sup>Genesee Health Plan, 2014-2019 (data not available for 2020)

\*2020 Census Data had not been released as of March 2020

In 2020, over one-third of Genesee County residents (37%) received Medicaid healthcare coverage. Healthy Michigan enrollment (Michigan's Medicaid expansion program under the Affordable Care Act) increased more than 12% between December 2016 (35,514) and December 2020 (39,827), contributing to the 13.4% rise in Medicaid enrollment. The Flint Medicaid Expansion Waiver provides additional coverage to almost 27,000 individuals impacted by the Flint Water Crisis. While the number of providers accepting Medicaid coverage has increased over the past decade, the Medicaid reimbursement rate in Michigan is one of the lowest in the nation. This payer mix can potentially impact a provider's willingness to practice in the community.

Between 2018 and 2019, Genesee County experienced an 11.7% increase in the number of uninsured residents. This may be a result of increases in the cost of coverage or changes in the requirements to purchase coverage (individual mandate) that is no longer part of the Affordable Care Act. While the release of 2020 census data has been delayed, it is expected the number of uninsured residents will increase given the increase in the number of unemployed residents who no longer would have health insurance coverage through their employer.



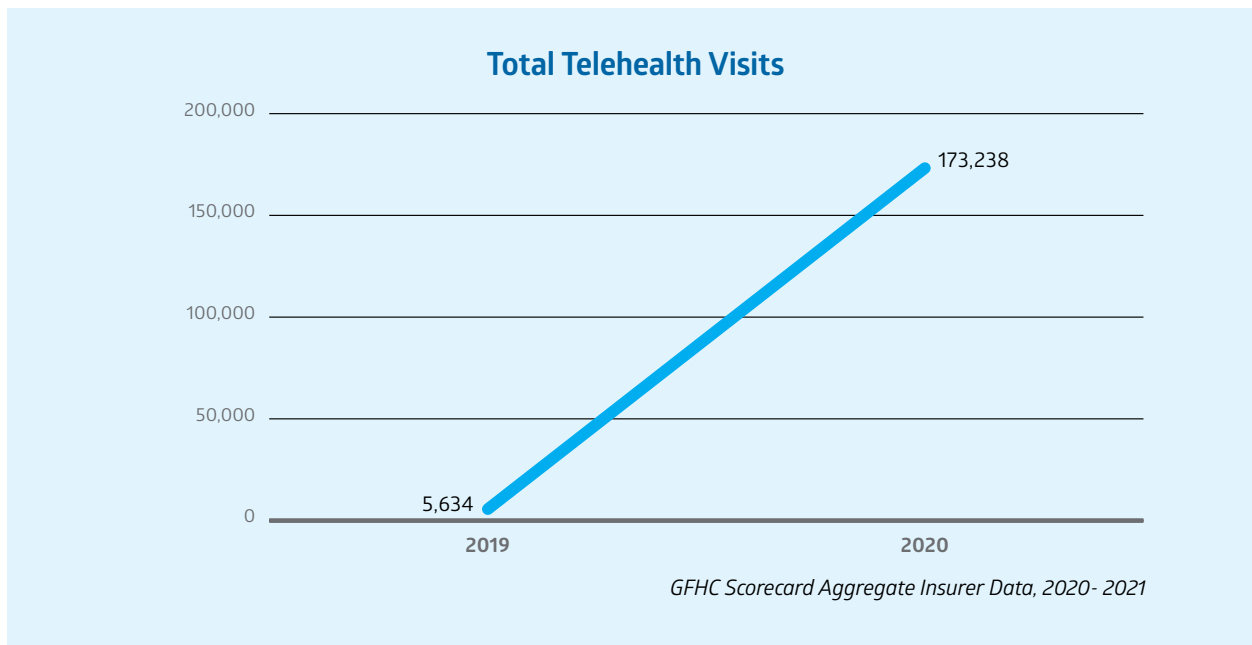
While Genesee County's rate of Emergency Department (ED) visits decreased 11.2% between 2019 and 2020, during this same period, ED expenses only decreased 2.3% which may indicate a continued higher level of acuity for ED visits. The rates of ED utilization for both Medicare and Medicaid beneficiaries continue to be significantly greater than commercially insured residents. In 2020, Medicaid beneficiaries utilized the ED at a rate over two times higher than their commercially insured counterparts per locally aggregated data collected as part of the GFHC's Community Data Scorecard.

The higher ED utilization rate for Medicare beneficiaries can be explained by the prevalence of chronic disease and illness in the older population. However, the high ED utilization rate for Medicaid beneficiaries is often due to access issues, including the lack of a medical home. While all Medicaid beneficiaries have a designated primary care provider, often residents are unaware who their provider is or they are impacted by issues accessing primary care appointments, including a lack of transportation or an inability to receive time off work. Initiatives focused on reducing ED utilization by improving the connection to medical homes and addressing social determinants of health needs (e.g., programs such as Genesee CHAP and the Genesee CHIR) will continue to be important.

Genesee County's Federally Qualified Health Centers, such as Hamilton Community Health Network and the Genesee Community Health Center, provide sliding scale services to help reduce the lack of access for the uninsured. The Genesee County Free Medical Clinic and Mott Children's Health Center also support residents who may otherwise lack access to care. Furthermore, the millage-funded Genesee Health Plan can provide limited coverage for doctor visits, prescriptions, and adult dental services to residents who otherwise lack coverage.

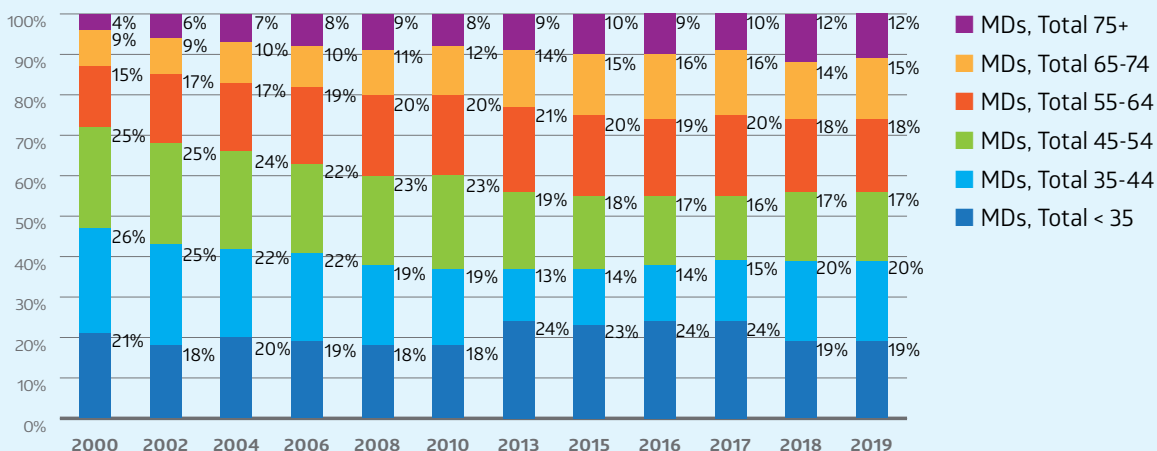
Although utilization of safety-net services decreased 13% in 2020 due to the COVID-19 pandemic and statewide stay-at-home orders, Genesee County continues to experience an ongoing demand for safety-net services with the total number of patient visits remaining approximately 40% greater than what they were in 2007, highlighting the ongoing need for community resources.

The onset of the COVID-19 pandemic did result in a transformation of how healthcare is delivered via telehealth and remote monitoring services for patients, resulting in an increase of telehealth visits increasing by 2,975% in 2020. Commercially insured residents had greater utilization of telehealth visits than those with Medicaid coverage, which may be indicative of a lack of internet and technology access for patients or a need for greater investment in the capacity of safety-net providers impacted by Michigan's low Medicaid reimbursement rates.



The capacity of the primary care workforce in Genesee County remains an issue of concern. With an aging physician population, a provider shortage is possible in the near future. Genesee County's physician population continues to age with 45% of practicing physicians over the age of 55 years in 2019. This number does not take into account the number of physicians whose practices were impacted by the COVID-19 pandemic causing them to retire.

**Percentage of MDs by Age in Genesee County**



*HRSA Area Resource File, 2000-2019*

Since 2018, the number of future primary care physicians being trained in Genesee County has declined, as has the number of primary care and specialty care post-graduates remaining in Genesee County. More post-graduates are deciding to relocate elsewhere in Michigan. More collaborative efforts are needed within the community's health care system to retain medical school graduates or to attract primary care providers that will sustain access to care.

**COMMUNITY RESPONSE:** The CHNA Community Resident Survey further asked residents about barriers to healthcare access. In response, 40% Genesee County residents identified an inability to get a timely appointment, 20% indicated not being able to get time off work, and 14% reported not being able to afford prescriptions. A large percentage of residents indicated "other," with common responses including: COVID-19, money, discrimination/bias, personal mental health, and lack of mental health services. Genesee County residents also shared that when they have a health problem or are sick, they go to a primary care provider (82%), urgent care clinic (32%), or treat themselves at home (31%).

## Chronic Disease Burden

Genesee County residents experience higher rates of chronic disease and chronic disease mortality than state and national averages for nearly all the most common chronic conditions.

Genesee County's age-adjusted mortality rate for all causes increased almost 15% between 2017 and 2020. Heart disease, the top cause of death, which had been trending downward until 2017, increased 9.7% through 2020. The age-adjusted mortality rate for pneumonia/influenza increased 31.75% in Genesee County from 2019 to 2020.

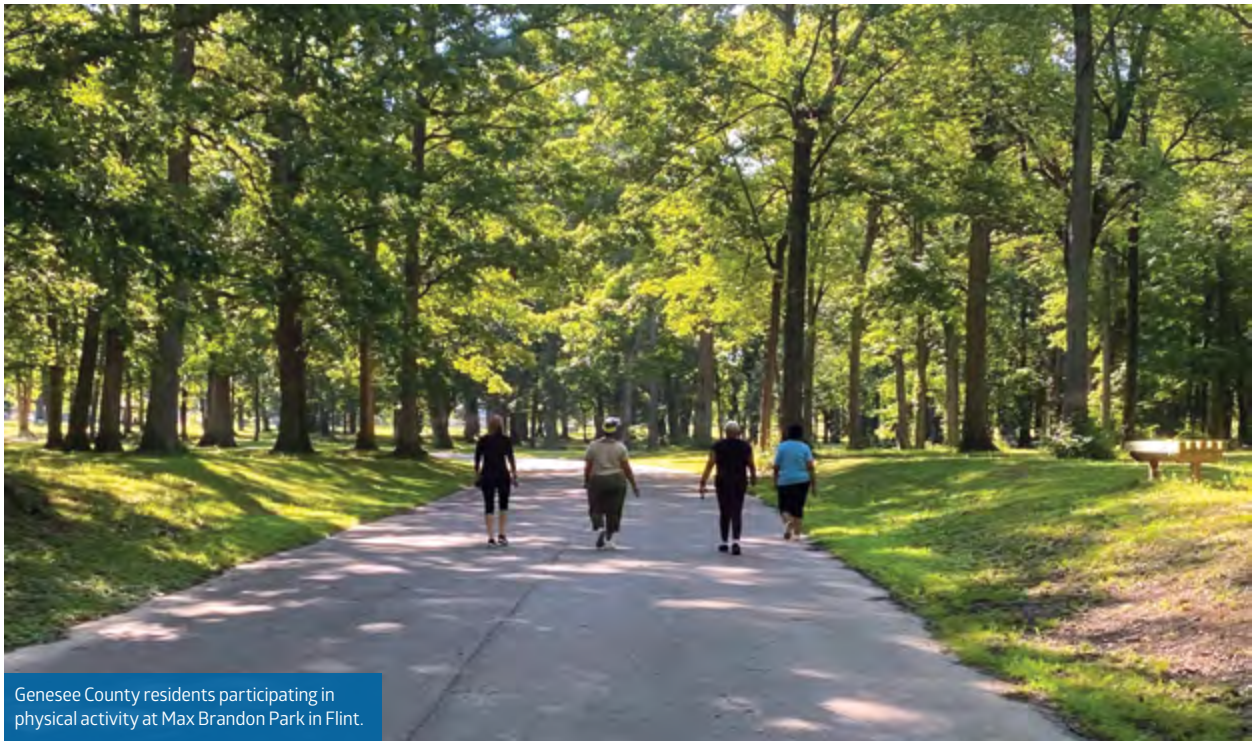
### Age-Adjusted Mortality Rates (per 100,000 residents)

	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	% Recent Change	Trend
All Causes — Genesee County	880.4	897.2	909.8	923.4	891.3	1,044.6	17.20%	▼
All Causes — Michigan	780.8	788.3	784.1	784.9	772.0	913.8	18.37%	▼
Heart Disease — Genesee County	224.1	222.4	211.7	215.3	226.2	232.2	2.65%	▼
Heart Disease — Michigan	197.2	200.8	196.3	195.4	193.5	206.0	6.46%	▼
Cancer — Genesee County	168.2	174.4	180.0	182.1	163.5	162.5	-0.61%	▲
Cancer — Michigan	166.8	167.2	161.3	161.4	156.6	158.8	1.40%	▼
Diabetes Mellitus — Genesee County	29.4	28.8	34.9	37.0	38.4	36.4	-5.21%	▲
Diabetes Mellitus — Michigan	22.4	21.5	22.1	22.0	22.2	26.3	18.47%	▼
Pneumonia/Influenza — Genesee County	17.9	11.2	12.6	11.8	12.6	16.6	31.75%	▼
Pneumonia/Influenza — Michigan	15.1	13.6	14.2	14.6	12.7	14.4	13.39%	▼

*Michigan Department of Health and Human Services (MDHSS), 2015-2020*

The prevalence of chronic disease has consistently played a role in Genesee County being ranked in the bottom quartile for health outcomes and length of life according to the Robert Wood Johnson Foundation's County Health Rankings initiative. Genesee County experiences numerous factors that contribute to chronic disease: an aging population, obesity, the practice of unhealthy behaviors, substance use, lack of healthcare access, and the many social determinants of health needs (poverty, food insecurity, health literacy, etc.) previously highlighted.





Genesee County residents participating in physical activity at Max Brandon Park in Flint.

Premature death is measured by years of potential life lost (YPLL) before age 75 per 100,000 population (age-adjusted). Genesee County's overall Years of Potential Life Lost rate has increased to 10,100. Reviewing the disparity of YPLL, the YPLL rate for African American residents is 14,800, compared to 9,500 for Hispanic residents, and 8,800 for white residents of Genesee County (National Center for Health Statistics).

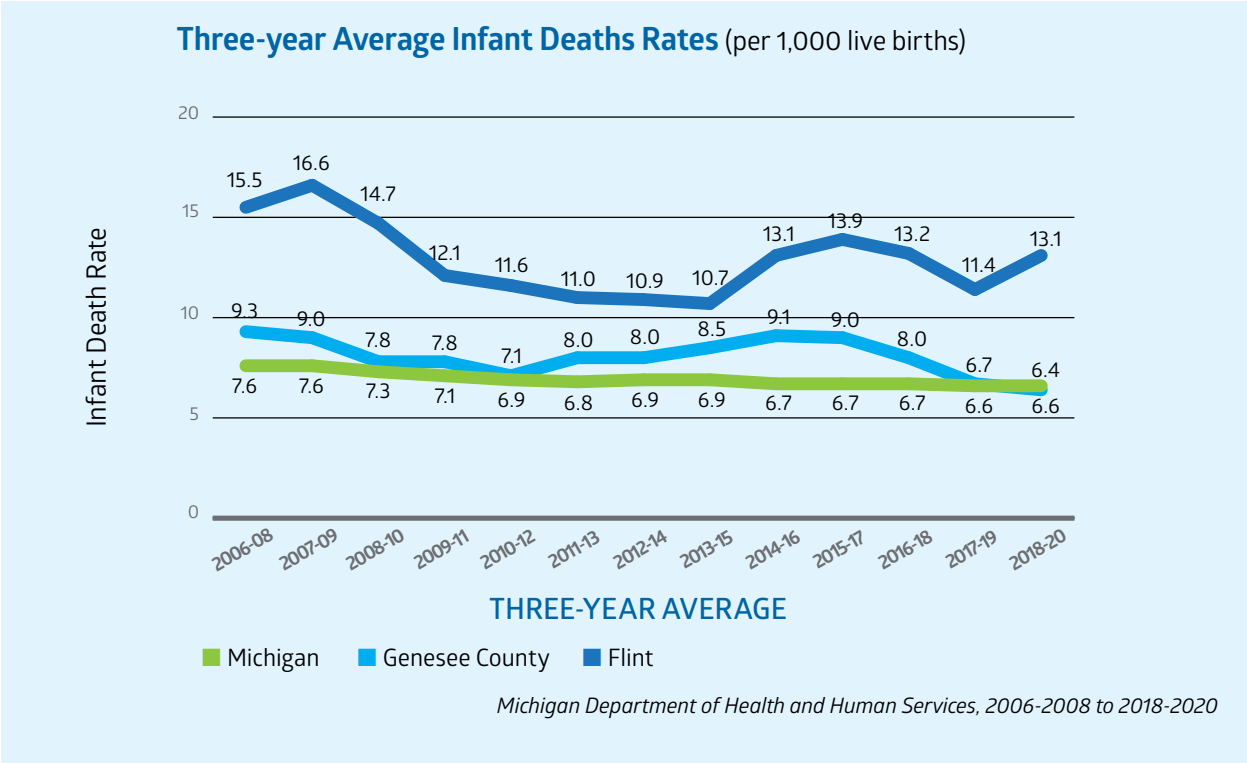
Preventative services such as well visits and routine screenings are critical for identifying chronic conditions early and ensuring proper treatment is received. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention data from the City Health Dashboard indicated that only 23.4% of Flint residents over the age of 65 reported receiving preventative health services compared to an average of 30% for all 500 of the cities in the Dashboard. This is important because this is the age when many chronic conditions are likely to begin manifesting or already exist. High rates of chronic disease place a burden on communities in several ways. Individuals with chronic conditions utilize exponentially more healthcare resources than the general population, making it far more expensive to care for and insure them. When chronic conditions limit an individual's ability to work or maintain independence, it results in morbidity, lower quality of life, depression, lost economic productivity, and added strain on social programs. This is evidenced by Genesee County ranking in the lowest quartile for Michigan counties in the Quality-of-Life metric for the 2021 County Health Rankings Report. This metric includes measures specific to poor or fair health days, poor physical health days, poor mental health days, etc.

**COMMUNITY RESPONSE:** When Genesee County residents were asked to rank their personal health, almost 20% self-reported having poor or fair health. When asked to identify which health issues they are dealing with, 29% identified back or joint pain, 23% identified high blood pressure, 10% identified diabetes, and 9% identified lung problems.

# Maternal & Child Health

Maternal & Child Health not only determines the health of the next generation, but can help predict future public health challenges for families, communities, and the health care system. Healthy birth outcomes and early identification and treatment of developmental delays and disabilities among infants can prevent death or further disability and enable children to reach their full potential.

Infant mortality has long been a concern for Genesee County. In 2010, the Flint and Genesee County community celebrated the success of efforts leading to reductions in infant mortality. Many targeted initiatives ended thereafter, and since then the community has struggled with an increase in infant deaths. The infant death rate for Flint is more than double that of the United States.

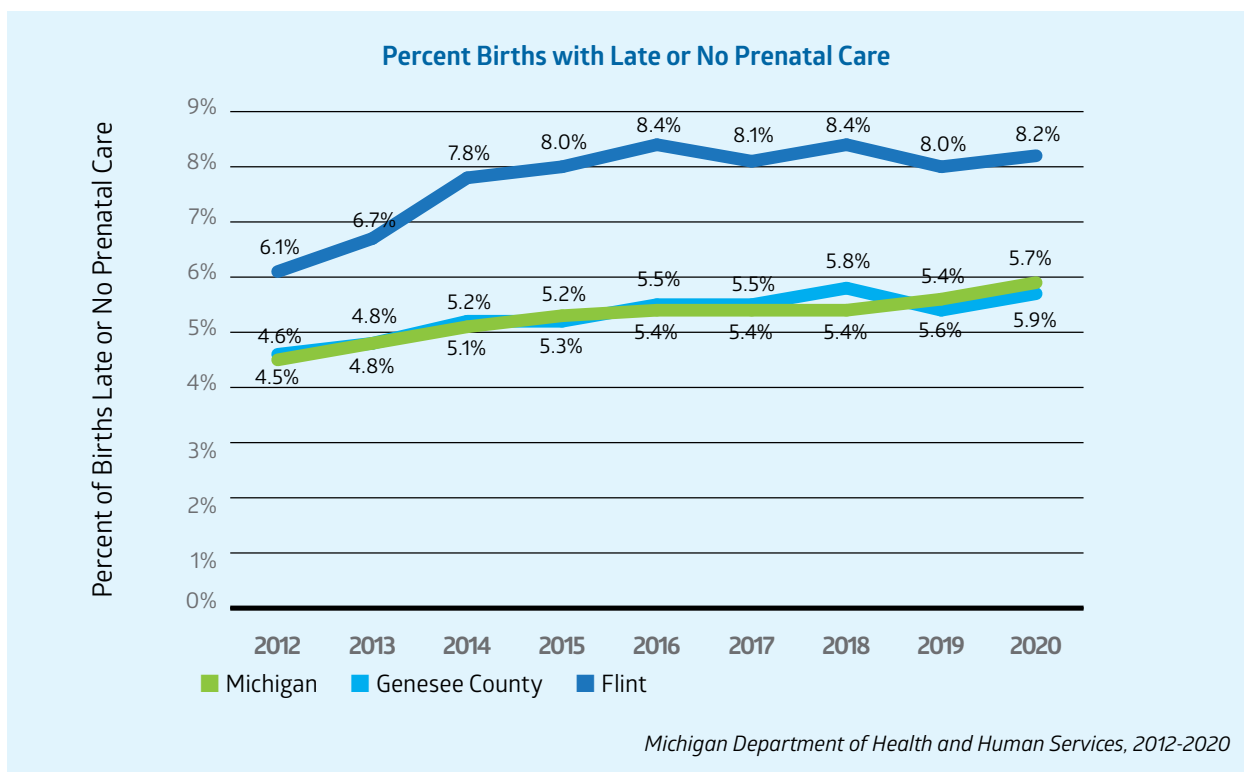


The risks for infant mortality and morbidity are increased by low birth weight and preterm birth. Low birth weight and preterm birth, with their associated economic and social costs, are far reaching, particularly among the most vulnerable populations. Low birth weight infants (under 2,500 grams) are at high risk for health problems. The average hospital cost for a low birthweight infant is estimated to be \$76,700 compared with \$3,200 for a normal weight newborn according to the United Health Foundation’s America’s Health Rankings. Genesee County’s percentage of low birth weight and preterm babies is higher than both state and national percentages. According to the Annie E. Casey Foundation’s 2020 Kids Count Data Book, Genesee County ranks 77th out of 82 Michigan counties for low birth weight infants.

Measure	Flint	Genesee County	Michigan	United States
Percentage of low birth weight infants	14.6%	9.9%	8.8%	8.3%
Percentage of preterm births	14.7%	11.9%	10.3%	10.2%
Percentage of Medicaid covered births	82.8%	56.6%	41.5%	42.1%

Michigan Department of Health and Human Services, 2019

Maternal health is closely linked to newborn survival, as vulnerabilities to illness can pass from mother to child. Prenatal care is important to both the health of the mother and her unborn child. Pregnant women in Flint receive prenatal care later in pregnancy than their county and state level counterparts and the number has been trending upward. The same holds true for less than adequate prenatal care.



Data indicates that demographically, Flint and Genesee County mothers are more often teenagers, less educated, lack spousal support, and/or have poorer health behaviors than Michigan mothers. These are all risk factors for poorer infant health outcomes.

Measure	Flint	Genesee County	Michigan
Births to teens under age 20	9.4%	6.0%	4.5%
Births to mothers with <12 years education	21.6%	12.3%	10.5%
Births to mothers with no diploma or GED	21.7%	12.1%	10.5%
Births to unwed mothers	80.6%	56.9%	41.5%
Births to mothers who smoked during pregnancy	27.9%	20.6%	13.6%

*Michigan Department of Health and Human Services, 2019*

Approximately one quarter of Genesee County’s population is under the age of 18, which is similar to state and national percentages. However, Genesee County’s children are at a significantly higher risk for poor health outcomes and poor educational outcomes over the life course. In the city of Flint, 53.2% of children (61.9% of those under age 5 years) are living below the federal poverty level. This percentage is more than triple the percentages for the state of Michigan and United States, and is more than 2.5 times the percentages for the state of Michigan and United States.

Measure	Flint	Genesee County	Michigan	United States
Percent of population, <18	24.8%	22.3%	21.5%	22.2%
Percent of children, <18, below poverty level	52.3%	26.3%	18.8%	17.5%

*US Census Bureau, 2020 (5-year estimate)*

Analysis of data provided by several Genesee County commercial and Medicaid health plans has identified that Genesee County children often lack preventive health services. Combination 10 immunization rates (at 2 years) are almost three times higher for commercially insured children than children with Medicaid healthcare coverage. Lead testing rates have declined for children insured by both Medicaid and commercial insurance. While not reflected in the data tables reported here, the COVID-19 pandemic has had a significant impact on timely immunization and lead screening for children, and efforts in the years ahead will require an emphasis on improving those rates on a community-wide scale.

### Combination 10 Immunizations and Lead Testing

% Received:	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	% Recent Change	Trend
<b>Combination 10 Immunizations (2 years old)</b>								
Commercial	23.1%	26.4%	25.7%	27.0%	30.3%	34.0%	12.15%	▲
Medicaid	23.3%	13.2%	12.6%	12.5%	12.3%	13.0%	5.47%	▲
<b>Lead Testing by 2nd Birthday</b>								
Commercial	33.6%	34.4%	28.4%	30.0%	27.6%	24.3%	-11.96%	▼
Medicaid	82.5%	75.9%	79.4%	73.5%	71.7%	62.0%	-13.53%	▼

*GFHC Community Data Scorecard, Health Insurer Data Submission, 2015-2020*

Children who lived, attended daycare, or attended school in Flint at an address serviced by the Flint Water System between April 25, 2014 and October 15, 2015 were exposed to unsafe levels of lead in their drinking water. Evidence-based research indicates that even a small amount of lead in a child’s body can cause serious health problems. Studies have demonstrated lead’s compromising effects on child health, the immune system, and association with impairments in neurobehavioral factors such as a child’s learning skills, hearing, and self-regulatory ability resulting in delinquent behavior.

Further analysis of local health insurer data has identified trends indicating that Medicaid insured children have different characteristics than their commercially insured counterparts in accessing and utilizing healthcare resources. For instance, although inpatient utilization for all Genesee County children has been decreasing since 2017, Genesee County children covered by Medicaid were hospitalized at a rate 42% higher than those commercially insured. Additionally, local Medicaid insured children had higher rates of acute care length of stays, which may indicate they are sicker or delaying care resulting in additional harm. Furthermore, while the total rate of Emergency Department (ED) utilization by Genesee County children decreased 38% in 2020, Genesee County children covered by Medicaid utilized the hospital ED at 2.5 times the rate of commercially insured children. Medicaid insured children had rates of emergency department use for otitis media (a diagnosis most often treatable in the primary care setting) almost 2.5 times higher than their commercially insured counterparts; had higher rates of ED utilization for asthma; and had lower rates of utilization of well-child visits in the first 15 months of life (GFHC Community Data Scorecard).

Poverty and social determinant of health needs impacting Genesee County families can also generate stress and anxiety, which in turn can lead to greater likelihood of child abuse or neglect. Parents living in poverty often do not have access to the resources necessary to provide appropriate care for children. The physical effects of child abuse and neglect create Adverse Childhood Experiences (ACEs) with long-term consequences that may include impaired development, academic failure, social and emotional problems, poor relationships, substance abuse and dependency, risky behaviors, and juvenile delinquency. According to the Michigan Department of Health and Human Services, Children’s Protective Services (2020), the confirmed number of child abuse and neglect victims (per 1,000 children) is 35.4 for Flint and 16.1 for Genesee County, compared to only 13.0 for all of Michigan.

Efforts to provide vulnerable children optimal child and health development, early childhood education, continuous access to a pediatric medical home, access to infant and child behavioral health services, nutrition education, healthy food access, as well as safe and healthy home living environments are critical health needs to continue to address on a community-wide scale.

## Health Inequities (including the burden of systemic racism)

Every resident of Genesee County should have the opportunity to live a healthy life, no matter who they are, where they live, or how much income they have. Health is about more than medical care and genetics, and is more so defined by where residents live, learn, work, and play. Genesee County has a significant disparity in life expectancy (2018-2020) of up to 15 years based on resident zip code. Zip codes within the city of Flint have shorter life expectancy, while out county areas often have longer life expectancy.

	2015 - 2017	2017-2019	2018-2020	% Recent Change	Trend
<b>Genesee County</b>	<b>76.1</b>	<b>76.6</b>	<b>74.6</b>	<b>-2.6%</b>	<b>▼</b>
48420 – Clio	77.8	76.7	73.9	-3.7%	▼
48423 – Davison	77.8	77.0	76.5	-0.6%	▼
48430 – Fenton	83.3	82.3	82.1	-0.3%	▼
48433 – Flushing	78.7	78.9	78.6	-0.4%	▼
48438 – Goodrich	78.7	80.0	79.1	-1.1%	▼
48439 – Grand Blanc	79.1	79.7	79.2	-0.7%	▼
48451 – Linden	78.9	76.7	76.8	0.2%	▼
48457 – Montrose	77.9	76.9	77.7	1.1%	▲
48458 – Mt. Morris	72.7	73.1	72.1	-1.3%	▼
48463 – Otisville	74.3	75.4	75.9	0.7%	▲
48473 – Swartz Creek	78.2	78.1	78.0	-0.1%	▼
48503 – Flint	74.3	73.0	72.9	-0.2%	▼
48504 – Flint	72.4	71.6	70.1	-2.1%	▼
48505 – Flint	68.9	68.9	67.1	-2.6%	▼
48506 – Flint	72.7	72.6	72.0	-0.8%	▼
48507 – Flint	73.9	73.6	72.6	-1.4%	▼
48532 – Flint	74.4	73.1	72.3	-1.1%	▼
48509 – Burton	75.6	73.3	73.2	-0.1%	▼
48519 – Burton	72.9	72.5	71.1	-1.9%	▼
48529 – Burton	70.8	71.1	70.8	-0.4%	▼

Michigan Department of Health and Human Services



Infant mortality is another indicator of health disparity in Genesee County. While infant mortality is on the decline in Genesee County in total, the disparity between African American and white infant mortality is increasing growing to an almost 4:1 disparity.

Infant Mortality	2016-2018	2017-2019	2018-2020	% Recent Change	Trend
Total	8.0	6.7	6.4	-4.5%	▲
African Americans	13.6	12.6	13.2	4.8%	▼
Whites	5.4	4.1	3.5	-14.6%	▲

*Michigan Department of Health and Human Services, 2016-2020*

In addition to the disparity in infant death rates, there is also a significant disparity in the age adjusted mortality rates and low birth weight babies between African Americans and whites. The 2021 County Health Rankings reports Genesee County African Americans experience an age-adjusted mortality rate 51% higher than whites, child mortality rate 140% higher, and infant mortality rate 180% higher.

Genesee County residents continue to face numerous challenges relating to environmental factors (e.g., water quality, housing problems, blight, built environment issues), social and economic factors (e.g., unemployment, multi-generational poverty, food insecurity), and education factors (e.g., poor educational outcomes, literacy), all of which contribute to disparities in health outcomes. Low income, minority, and aging populations are disproportionately affected as seen throughout the 2022 Community Health Needs Assessment. Residents of the city of Flint experience considerably lower health outcomes when compared to Genesee County overall, as well as a higher prevalence of chronic conditions. Other factors impacting health equity include, but are not limited to, COVID-19, gender, sexual orientation, and social injustices experienced as part of the Flint Water Crisis. Community leaders and healthcare providers must continue to work as vocal advocates for their patients and constituents ensuring equal access and opportunity to all the factors affecting health.

**COMMUNITY RESPONSE:** When Genesee County residents were asked via the 2022 CHNA Community Resident Survey how often they felt that racial/ethnic groups such as African Americans or Latinos were discriminated against, 50% of respondents indicated “often” and 33% indicated “sometimes.”

## Safe & Affordable Drinking Water

It is the position of the American Public Health Association and many others in the public health community that safe and affordable drinking water is the basic right of all people and all communities.

In the years since the onset of the Flint Water Crisis, much work has been undertaken to make the City's water supply safe to drink and to mitigate the effects of residents' exposure to lead and other contaminants. In addition to the City working to replace all lead service lines and to upgrade the infrastructure of its water treatment facility. The City of Flint's Fast Start Program, aimed to replace all lead service lines in the city of Flint. As of July 16, 2021, it had conducted 27,133 excavations, checked 17,074 copper service lines, and replaced 10,059 pipes. However, the lead service line replacement program is not yet complete as of December 2021, slowed by the COVID-19 pandemic.

Safety is coupled with the affordability of accessing the Flint Water System itself. Flint has some of the highest water costs in the nation. Many residents ceased paying for water they could not use during the Flint Water Crisis and for a period of time, the City suspended water shut offs to maintain water flow necessary for restorative measures. While the City of Flint has paused water shut offs during the COVID-19 pandemic, in early 2022 water shut offs and collections have resumed, lifting up the need for sustainable solutions to accompany the trauma and lifelong impacts resultant from the Flint Water Crisis.

**COMMUNITY RESPONSE:** When asked what the top health concerns Flint & Genesee County should focus on in the next three years, Genesee County residents indicated clean water as the top priority, followed by mental health, and crime.

## COVID-19

The COVID-19 pandemic was unlike anything experienced in recent history and highlighted the significant inequities that exist in our community. Early on in the pandemic, Michigan had observed an alarming racial disparity in COVID-19 cases and deaths, with African Americans consisting of 14% of the state's population, but 33% of COVID-19 cases and 40% of deaths, with cities such as Flint at the forefront of this disparity. To address these disparities, targeted efforts such as church and community-based testing efforts, deployment of grassroots Public Health Navigators and Community Health Workers, and mobile vaccination opportunities prioritizing those areas with the greatest need were implemented. The success of these efforts is reflected in the eventual elimination of the COVID-19 disparity among African Americans.

At the height of the COVID-19 pandemic, there was a significant decrease in preventative healthcare services including annual physicals, immunizations, and screenings for diseases such as cancer and diabetes. In response to this decrease, many local programs, health plans, and physicians have worked to ensure residents are receiving any services that were previously delayed. The long-term impacts of COVID-19 are unknown, however, the GFHC's Data Review Subcommittee is aligning data monitoring efforts with the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention's recommendations which include:



Genesee Community Health Center, Greater Flint Health Coalition, and Genesee County Community Action Resource Development partnering to provide increased access to COVID-19 vaccines in the community.  
 PHOTO CREDIT: Tom Travis, East Village Magazine

- Measuring and improving mental health outcomes in the public health workforce and other frontline workforce populations;
- Implementing workplace policies and practices to improve worker resilience and reduce adverse mental health effects of the COVID-19 pandemic;
- Measuring changes to other health epidemics and diseases impacted by the COVID-19 pandemic, including increases in drug-related overdoses, obesity, diabetes, STIs, and decreases in vaccination coverage beyond COVID-19, and developing evidence-based health communications and interventions to address these changes;
- Measuring prevalence and incidence of COVID-19 associated second-order consequences among children, including orphanhood and caregiver death, poverty, food insecurity, violence, adverse childhood experiences, mental health threats, and educational impacts;
- Understanding how the effect of the pandemic on income, housing, employment, caregiving, childcare, and other factors have exacerbated health inequities in non-COVID-19 conditions; and
- Evaluating health and economic impacts to workers and families from changes in employment status related to the COVID-19 pandemic.

**COMMUNITY RESPONSE:** The 2022 CHNA Community Resident Survey asked residents about the most important health problems in our community, 19% of respondents indicated COVID-19.

## 2022 CHNA – Community Resident Survey Highlights

The 2022 CHNA Community Resident Survey sought input on many questions. Below are three question excerpts from the 2022 CHNA Community Member Survey that summarize the community response when 819 Genesee County residents were asked about local priority needs. For each question, respondents were asked to identify the top three priorities. The table below illustrates the answers to each question and percent of total respondents that identified each of the needs as one of the top three.

### What do you think are the three most important “health problems” in our community?

Addictions (alcohol, drugs)	66%
Mental Health Problems	42%
Violence	27%
COVID-19	19%
Obesity	19%

### What do you think are the three most important “environmental factors” that affect health in our community?

Clean/Safe Drinking Water	54%
Affordable Housing/Homelessness	49%
Violent Crime	43%
Neighborhood Safety	41%
Healthy Food Access	35%

### If you were asked by the mayor, governor, or president what the top health concerns Flint & Genesee County should focus on in the next three years, what would your top priority activities be?

Clean Water	24%
Mental Health	21%
Access to Services	21%
Healthcare	19%
Affordable Housing	15%

### In the following list, what do you think are the three most important factors for a “Healthy Community?”

Access to Healthcare	57%
Access to Mental and Behavioral Health Services	42%
Low Crime and Safe Neighborhoods	32%
Good Jobs and Healthy Economy	31%
Safe and Affordable Housing	21%

**What do you think are the three most important “risky behaviors” in our community?**

Drug Abuse	58%
Alcohol Abuse	39%
Poor Eating Habits	30%
Distracted Driving	23%
Unsecured Firearms	23%

**What do you think are the three most important “socioeconomic factors” that affect health in our community?**

Poverty – Working Poor	45%
Basic Needs (clothing, furniture, household supplies)	39%
Income – Wealth Distribution	30%
Housing – Homelessness	27%
Family Support System	25%





# APPENDIX A: EVALUATION OF IMPACT FROM 2019 CHNA IMPLEMENTATION

The 2019 Community Health Needs Assessment (CHNA) Report prepared for the Flint & Genesee County community identified twelve priority health needs affecting the community at the time. In order to have the greatest impact improving health behaviors and health outcomes related to the priority health needs, Genesee County's three hospital systems (Ascension Genesys Hospital, Hurley Medical Center, and McLaren Flint) each developed individual CHNA Implementation Plan activities, as well as a number of shared CHNA Implementation Plan activities in partnership with the Greater Flint Health Coalition (GFHC).

The 2019 Genesee County CHNA Implementation Plans sought to impact the following twelve priority community health needs:

- Social Determinants of Health
- Substance Use (with emphasis on Opioid Misuse and Addiction)
- Child Health & Development
- Mental Health
- Obesity & Health Behaviors
- Safe & Affordable Drinking Water
- Healthcare Access
- Chronic Disease Burden
- Effective Care Delivery for an Aging Population
- Maternal & Infant Health
- Sexual Health
- Health Equity

It is important to note that the COVID-19 pandemic did impact the progress of many CHNA Implementation efforts, however progress was still made in many strategies.

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## **PART 1: 2019-2021 CHNA Implementation Plan Accomplishments Conducted via Greater Flint Health Coalition in Partnership with Ascension Genesys Hospital, Hurley Medical Center, and McLaren Flint.**

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### **Priority Health Need Addressed:**

- Social Determinants of Health

The Genesee Community Health Innovation Region (CHIR) recognizes that 80% of the factors that influence a person's health are due to social, economic, and environmental factors and that addressing these upstream factors can result in improved health outcomes and reduced healthcare costs. As the backbone organization for the Genesee Community Health Innovation Region (CHIR), a model for improving the well-being of a region and reducing unnecessary medical costs through collaboration and systems change, the GFHC is the neutral convener of a broad group of stakeholders seeking to improve the well-being of residents in a coordinated approach to improving conditions where people live, work, learn, and play.

In addition to the three Genesee County hospitals, partners include: three physician organizations, the local public health department, the community's federally qualified health centers, community mental health, five Medicaid managed care plans, commercial health insurers, the United Way, and dozens of community-based service providers that address a multitude of SDOH. The main focus of the CHIR is to enhance cross-sector partnerships that impact population health and connect residents with relevant community and social services to address their SDOH. Reducing emergency department utilization and creating connectedness to a patient centered medical home is a major goal of the project.

From 2019-2021, accomplishments include:

- Continued growth of the Clinical-Community Linkage model based on the success of Genesee CHAP.
- Community-wide SDOH needs screening strategy that embedded a standardized SDOH screening tool into more than 60 patient medical home practice's electronic health record systems. SDOH screening engages patients on needs related to food insecurity, access to clean water, housing, transportation, utilities, health care access, depression, substance use, health literacy, child care, safety, education, job training, employment, anxiety, and stress.
- Utilized four Clinical-Community Linkage Specialty Hubs via Genesee CHAP, Genesee Health Plan, Genesee Health System, and New Paths to provide community-based care coordination and case management services using community health workers, social workers, behavioral health specialists, and peer recovery coaches to support referred individuals.
- Expanded New Path's "Opioid Overdose Recovery Program" to make peer recovery coaches available in all three Genesee County hospitals' EDs as well as community-based locations for non-opioid substances.

### **BEHAVIORAL HEALTH EMERGENCY CENTER (BHEC):**

#### **Priority Health Needs Addressed:**

- Mental Health
- Health Care Access

The COVID-19 pandemic significantly delayed the opening of the in-person Behavioral Health Emergency Center. To address the behavioral health needs in the community, Genesee Health System implemented a Virtual Behavioral Health Urgent Care (BHUC) that was launched in late 2020. The Virtual Behavioral Health Urgent Care is a remote, community based service that provides face-to-face video chat services 24 hours a day, 7 days a week with a Licensed Mental Health Professional. This service is open to all residents, regardless of insurance coverage, and provides supports for residents experiencing COVID-19 related distress, mild to moderate mental health symptoms, urgent mental health needs, and severe mental health symptoms. The Virtual BHUC accepts referrals from anyone, including healthcare providers that know of a person in Genesee County in need of urgent behavioral health care access to a Licensed Mental Health Professional. In late 2021, the in-person Behavior Health Urgent Care was opened and will operate in conjunction with the Virtual Behavioral Health Urgent Care (BHUC). All hospital partners have information available for their patients to connect to the Behavioral Health Urgent Care and working to develop formal referral partnerships.

## COMMUNITY-WIDE STRATEGY TO ADDRESS THE OPIOID EPIDEMIC

### Priority Health Needs Addressed:

- Substance Use
- Health Care Access

The Greater Flint Health Coalition's Mental Health & Substance Use Task Force has supported the implementation of a Community-Wide Strategy to Address the Opioid Epidemic. This multi-sector strategy has integrated care and treatment services that connect individuals with substance use disorders to providers, resources, and community-based recovery and addiction treatment; educate providers and patients on opioid use, risks, and best practice prescribing strategy for target populations (especially seniors); and provided community-based education and prevention activities through schools, providers, law enforcements, and resident groups that are catered specifically to adolescents/teens, adults, and families; among other interventions.

From 2019-2021, the Community-Wide Strategy to Address the Opioid Epidemic accomplishments include:

- The integration of the Opioid Overdose Response Program (OORP) into all three local hospitals (Ascension Genesys, Hurley Medical Center, McLaren Flint) to allow Peer Recovery Coaches to be connected to patients in the Emergency Departments that had experienced overdose or drug seeking utilization patterns. Peer Recovery Coaches meet with individuals to discuss treatment options and assist with navigating entry to treatment. Since 2019, 1,174 unique clients have been served by the OORP program.
- Development and launch of KnowMoreGenesee.org, an interactive website that highlights locally available resources, as well as physician and community-specific toolkits.
- Training of over 60 Genesee County physicians to obtain a Buprenorphine Waiver to prescribe Medication Assisted Treatment, prior to the change in waiver requirements.
- In 2020, the Community-Wide Strategy was expanded to support prevention and treatment efforts around non-opioid substances including alcohol, cocaine, heroin, and methamphetamine.
- In 2021, a Genesee County Quick Response Team (QRT) was launched to connect overdose survivors to harm reduction and treatment services, reduce repeat overdoses, and increase community readiness to prevent overdose. The QRT has distributed 6,000 fentanyl testing strips and 2,800 Naloxone kits as of December, 2021.

## GENESEEE COMMUNITY HEALTH ACCESS PROGRAM (CHAP)

### Priority Health Needs Addressed:

- Social Determinants of Health (SDOH)
- Substance Use, Child Health & Development
- Mental Health
- Obesity & Health Behaviors
- Safe & Affordable Drinking Water
- Healthcare Access
- Chronic Disease Burden
- Infant Maternal Health
- Health Equity

The Greater Flint Health Coalition's Genesee Community Health Access Program (CHAP) was established in 2015 as a collaborative effort to address the significant health disparities experienced by low-income children enrolled in Medicaid via a collaborative, physician-driven, community-based medical home initiative. In 2017, Genesee CHAP expanded and began to serve adults. The three Genesee County hospital systems are all Genesee CHAP partners, each identifying and referring patients from their affiliated primary care clinics for community-based services, as well as providing leadership as members of the Genesee CHAP Steering Committee. Genesee CHAP works to improve access to a medical home and community resources for underserved, low-income children and adults through a transformation of service delivery at the family, practice, and system levels. Genesee CHAP's population-based approach emphasizes use of a patient-centered medical home and prevention, including preventative visits and immunizations. In addition to improving access to a medical home and use of prevention and education services, Genesee CHAP seeks to improve health outcomes for Medicaid covered children and adults, while reducing inappropriate emergency room visits and hospital admissions, among other targeted efficiencies.

The community-based Genesee CHAP team, composed of nurses, social workers, and community health workers, provide Genesee CHAP referred families with education, case management, care coordination, patient navigation, referral to community and social resources, transportation, and other associated support services that aid children and adults with increased access and improved health outcomes. Genesee CHAP staff work to help patients and their families overcome any barriers to healthcare access that they may be experiencing as well as address other challenges related to social determinant of health needs so that they are able to make healthcare a priority.

From 2019-2021, Genesee CHAP accomplishments include:

- Expansion of the number of partnering medical home practices from 29 to 42 referring medical partners.
- Provided CHAP services in 2021 to an average of 1,490 unduplicated clients per month.
- Addressed over 9,000 Social Determinant of Health (SDOH) referral needs from 2019-2021.
- State of Michigan Medicaid Actuary Analysis on utilization and cost savings completed, indicating significant savings for health plans.
- Implemented a OB/GYN Lead Risk Screening Program for Pregnant Women as a primary prevention strategy.
- Provided clients with COVID-19 education, COVID-19 testing, and information regarding COVID-19 vaccinations. Genesee CHAP also supported clients by providing free masks, at-home COVID-19 tests, and Quarantine & Isolation boxes.
- Partnering with the United Way of Genesee County, Genesee CHAP developed and implemented a Vaccine Hesitancy course for all community-based organizations and residents to participate in free of charge.

## COMMIT TO FIT

### Priority Health Needs Addressed:

- Obesity & Health Behaviors
- Social Determinants of Health (Food Insecurity)
- Child Health & Development
- Chronic Disease Burden
- Health Equity

Commit to Fit is a community-wide, health behavior improvement initiative focused on increasing the practice of healthy behaviors (lifestyles) while improving physical activity and nutrition habits among residents. Launched by the multi-sector partners of the GFHC, Commit to Fit aims to mobilize all community sectors to support and utilize a common message and shared strategy for engaging community residents in efforts that provide a number of no cost resources that support improved health behaviors, including opportunities to engage in free physical activity and nutrition education classes/sessions based in the community. In addition to the education and community-based resources provided by Commit to Fit, local physicians, healthcare providers, and workplace wellness programs partner via the GFHC to reinforce and promote efforts within their service delivery that supports health behavior improvement and a reduction in sedentary lifestyles.

From 2019 – 2021, Commit to Fit accomplishments include:

- Conducted multi-method outreach that engaged the Genesee County community with consistent physical activity and nutrition education messaging.
- Hosted free community physical activity and nutrition challenges throughout each calendar year, as well as more than 70 free fitness classes each month with the support of community partners, collectively increasing access to opportunities to be safe and active. During the COVID-19 pandemic, Commit to Fit worked with community partners to support the transition of physical activity classes to virtual platforms.
- Continued Commit to Fit Cooking with Kids, a free, evidence-based program that teaches families about healthy eating and preparing affordable foods from diverse cultures. This evidence-based program empowers children and families to make healthy food choices through hands-on learning with fresh local foods and simple recipes. Commit to Fit also implemented SNAP-Ed funded nutrition programs that include Fresh Conversations and The Learning Kitchen.
- Prepared and distributed a monthly Nutrition Resource Calendar that details free cooking demonstrations, mobile food giveaways, food pantries, and food-related resources that are offered throughout Flint and Genesee County each month at [www.commit2fit.com](http://www.commit2fit.com). This collection of resources facilitated by Commit to Fit was created in partnership with the Crim Fitness Foundation, Flint Farmers' Market, Food Bank of Eastern Michigan, Hurley Medical Center, Michigan State University Extension, and local food pantries.
- Expanded the Commit to Fit Active Schools Challenge, designed to promote health and wellness within local schools through a "healthy" competition in which students are encouraged to perform 30 minutes of physical activity each day to 36 local elementary, middle, and high schools across 116 school districts. During the month of March 2021, over 4,569 students participated in the Active Schools Challenge logging more than 4.3 million minutes of physical activity.
- Implemented the "Certified Healthy Workplace Designation" for Genesee County businesses and organizations that participate in health and wellness promoting activities for their employees. A total of 14 businesses in Genesee County have been certified "Healthy."
- Promoted physical activity in the parks by implementing the Walk with Ease Program. This program (designed by the Arthritis Foundation) combines self-paced walks with information about related topics. This program allows participants to work on their own at their own pace to increase their physical activity. Since its launch in 2018, over 183 adults have participated.

## CHILDREN'S ORAL HEALTH TASK FORCE

### Priority Health Needs Addressed:

- Child Health & Development
- Healthcare Access
- Maternal & Infant Health
- Health Equity

Convened by the Greater Flint Health Coalition, the Children's Oral Health Task Force is designed to improve the oral health of children in Genesee County through the development and implementation of an educational campaign focused on families and caregivers of all children. The strategy also seeks to improve access to dental care for all children with a special emphasis on children at high-risk for developing dental caries/tooth decay. The campaign educates providers on children's oral health issues and utilizes them as a vehicle for disseminating the campaign message.

From 2019 to 2021, the Children's Oral Health Task Force accomplishments include:

- Distributed over 9,475 "Baby Those Baby Teeth" Oral Health Wheels to residents throughout Genesee County, as well as organizations across the United States.
- Distributed over 100 maternal and child oral health bags in Genesee County.
- The Children's Oral Health Task Force has monitored the number of dental offices in Genesee County accepting infants and toddlers as patients. COVID-19 did impact the number of offices that were open and accepting new patients, with a total of 45 locations available in Genesee County. The Task Force updated the Dentist Referral Guide for Infants and Toddlers to inform community families where to take their young children for dental services.

## CONNECTING KIDS TO COVERAGE

### Prioritized Health Needs Addressed:

- Healthcare Access
- Health Equity

The Greater Flint Health Coalition launched the Connecting Kids to Coverage Outreach and Enrollment Program to support and coordinate Medicaid and Children's Health Insurance Program (CHIP) outreach and enrollment efforts in Flint and Genesee County Michigan. This effort not only includes children, but also parents and pregnant women impacted by the Flint Water Crisis. This program leads the coordination of a community-wide effort to promote utilization and retention of Medicaid benefits. The Connecting Kids to Coverage program seeks to not only provide outreach to children and their families, but to assist families with the enrollment and retention process.

From 2019 to 2021, Connecting Kids to Coverage accomplishments include:

- Nearly 27,000 children and adults have been provided with new enrollment and redetermination support.
- More than 37,500 health coverage education materials have been directly distributed to community residents.
- More than 275 community-based outreach events as well as virtual enrollment cafes were held to support Connecting Kids to Coverage outreach and enrollment assistance resources.



## FLINT HEALTHCARE EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITIES (FHEO) PROGRAM

### Prioritized Health Need Addressed:

- Social Determinants of Health (Education, Employment, Poverty)

The Flint Healthcare Employment Opportunities (FHEO) Program was designed to assist unemployed and underemployed residents of Flint and Genesee County with obtaining training and employment in the healthcare industry. FHEO Program participants receive:

- Career readiness and “fit” assessments;
- 120 hours of Healthcare Life Skills Training and Career Exploration Workshops;
- Credential Training;
- Assistance with tuition, books, uniforms, exam/license fees, and work supplies;
- A career advisor to assist with decision making and goal achievement;
- Resume, interview skills, and financial literacy workshops;
- Employer connections and job search assistance; and
- Subsidized employment opportunities for out of school youth.

Nearly 1,500 participants have been trained in the FHEO Program to date, of which 85% are employed with a 97% employment retention rate over the past five years.

## YOUR HEALTH YOUR CHOICE ADVANCE CARE PLANNING PROJECT

### Prioritized Health Need Addressed:

- Effective Care Delivery for an Aging Population

The Your Health Your Choice Advance Care Planning (ACP) Project seeks to create a community-wide, standardized approach to advance care planning, which is defined as a person-centered, ongoing process of communication that facilitates individuals’ understanding, reflection, and discussion of their goals, values, and preferences for future healthcare decisions. Implemented via the GFHC and its hospital, physician, insurer, business, and community-based partners, the ACP Project emphasizes the creation of comprehensive, effective advance care plans to ensure an individual’s wishes are followed in end-of-life healthcare treatment, resulting in a better quality of life, less anxiety, less pain and suffering, and improved satisfaction among family members, decision makers, and the medical community. ACP Project partners are implementing processes to ensure a complete patient record reflecting the patient’s advance care plan, including advance directive, is available when needed in medical records across the community’s health systems and healthcare provider sites. The importance of having a completed advance directive has been reinforced during the COVID-19 pandemic.

From 2019 to 2021, Advance Care Planning Project accomplishments include:

- Refinement of a single advance directive document used at community-wide scale.
- The community’s ACP workforce and infrastructure necessary for ongoing program development has been expanded to include the Respecting Choices certification of over 80 ACP facilitators. The program currently includes 70 active facilitators, 7 ACP instructors, and 1 ACP faculty member.
- Implementation of an Advance Care Planning Outreach Week, highlighting locally available resources, as well as the importance of National Healthcare Decisions Day.

## SEXUAL HEALTH: GENESEE COUNTY HEALTH DEPARTMENT

### Priority Health Need Addressed:

- Sexual Health

Led by the Genesee County Health Department, efforts were made to destigmatize sexual health and decrease STI/HIV rates in Genesee County by working with multiple resources. A primary strategy included the Genesee County Health Department hosting free STI testing at the Genesee County Free Medical Clinic on a weekly basis. Additionally, a large-scale campaign was launched entitled “SEX: We Get It,” designed to encourage confidential family planning and sexual health services to teens and young adults living in and around Genesee County. The GCHD’s Family Planning & Sexual Health Clinic is a trusted source for teens and young adults in Genesee County, giving them access to high-quality reproductive and sexual health services at low or no cost.

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## Part 2: 2019-2021 Ascension Genesys Accomplishments

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### PRIORITIZED NEED: Mental Health, including Substance Use

#### OPIOID USE DISORDER SAFE ACCESS PROJECT

Genesys launched the Opioid Use Disorder Safe Access Project in the summer 2021. Funded by a Michigan Opioid Partnership Grant from the Community Foundation of Southeast Michigan, the purpose of this initiative is to build the capacity of the Ascension Genesys Emergency Department to serve as a point of access to equitably and effectively identify, assess, provide medication assisted treatment, and facilitate community-based treatment referrals for people with Opioid Use Disorder (OUD); and also extend best practice Medication for Opioid Use Disorder (MOUD) treatment to patients who are identified in the Emergency Department or during their hospitalization. Stewardship with community OUD treatment partners is an important component to the initiative; Ascension Genesys engages peer recovery coaches from New Paths, a Flint-based center that works with an array of partners to address OUD, if the patient wants to pursue recovery. Upon discharge, the navigators (peer recovery coaches) help ensure the patient returns to the hospital daily for Suboxone treatment for three days until they are placed for community-based treatment.

#### HILLSIDE CENTER FOR BEHAVIORAL HEALTH

Ascension Genesys Hillside Center for Behavioral Health offers a wide range of services to address prevention, interventions, treatments, and recovery support to improve behavioral and mental health in a safe environment for patients and clients. The highly-experienced care team offers confidential, high-quality care that specializes in the evaluation and treatment of behavioral and emotional difficulties. Outpatient behavioral and mental health services provide treatment for all age groups and includes: abuse (sexual, psychological, physical), anxiety and depression, attention deficit disorders (behavior, social skills), eating disorders, perinatal mood and anxiety disorders (baby blues), post-traumatic stress disorder (PTSD), schizophrenia, and self-harm. The intensive outpatient treatment is designed to provide short-term intensive therapy for clients who are in a crisis situation, where weekly outpatient visits are not adequate to stabilize symptoms.

Since the tele-behavioral health program pilot was launched November 2019, and offered to new and existing patients in November 2019, 7,410 patients have been seen and a total of 72,224 visits had (in-personal and virtual).

## **HUMAN TRAFFICKING EDUCATION & AWARENESS**

Ascension Genesys utilizes an established protocol to identify, assess, treat, and refer victims of Human Trafficking (HT) to supportive community services who present for care in the Emergency Department or who are identified while receiving inpatient services. To support the recovery of victims who are identified, referrals are made to established community partners across the continuum of care including law enforcement, child protective services, substance use disorder treatment, housing, mental health, and advocacy. Ascension Genesys Hospital has combined efforts with Ascension Southwest Michigan Community Health and other Ascension hospitals throughout Michigan to offer hospital-wide associate education with an Ascension internal MyLearning education module to increase awareness and recognition of the signs and symptoms of Human Trafficking via the lens of Trauma Informed Care, and community resources to support victims. Over 500 in-patient providers (nurses and physicians) have completed the training since its launch in Fall 2020. Ascension Genesys Hospital also conducts bi-annual HT Multidisciplinary Team meetings with community partners to support HT survivors across the continuum of care. Additionally, Ascension Genesys was honored to participate in the community discussion with 300+ individuals which followed a showing of "Ring of Silence" hosted at Grand Blanc High School in November 2019.

### **PRIORITIZED NEED: Obesity and Health Behaviors**

#### **DREAM (DIABETES RESOURCES FOR EDUCATION AND MOTIVATION) PROJECT**

Ascension DREAM (Diabetes Resources for Education And Motivation) Project embeds a computer-assisted Motivational Interviewing (MI) enhancement into Diabetes Self-Management Education (DSME) to guide patients in setting behavior change goals to support improved behavior change readiness and sustained self-directed health behavior change. This project was made possible through a grant award from the Michigan Health Endowment Fund's 2019 Community Health Impact program to the Ascension Genesys Diabetes Nutrition and Learning Center.

Although COVID-19 created challenges in the quantity of diabetes self-management groups which Ascension Genesys was able to launch and thus impacting the total number of individuals served, the Project Team has successfully launched the Motivational Interviewing process within its diabetes self-management curriculum and has shown some initial encouraging short-term outcomes. Outcomes include an increase in the percentage of patients who completed a health behavior change goal and an increase in the percentage of patients who sustained health behavior goal progress at 50-100% at three-month follow-up. Throughout the pandemic, as people have become more accustomed to virtual services (currently required for diabetes self-management classes), the Project Team continues to see an increase in virtual program enrollment. The Project Team also developed a compendium of Motivational Interviewing resources to support program sustainability and replication to additional Ascension sites.

### **PRIORITIZED NEED: Healthcare Access**

#### **emPOWER GENESEE**

emPOWER Genesee is a strategic initiative of Ascension Genesys Hospital, Consumers Energy, and Huntington Bank designed to address social determinants of health (SDOH) that adversely influence the health outcomes of each institution's most vulnerable clients. The three institutions came together to leverage their shared resources and commitment to the community, engaging Genesee Health Plan to provide navigation that connects residents with essential services including energy, basic needs, healthcare, and financial assistance. The program recognizes that vulnerable populations have needs spanning all partner organizations and utilizes a Genesee Health Plan community navigator to help residents access SDOH-related services. Prior to COVID-19, the community navigator was located at the Consumers Energy direct payment center

in Flint to help residents with real-time, in-person access to navigation services. Since then, the program has continued to safely provide virtual navigation services to Consumers customers and has expanded its scope to include a virtual kiosk located at Ascension Genesys Downtown Health Center where patients with SDOH needs can access navigation services confidentially.

Since program launch in October 2019 through December of 2021, the Community Navigator has facilitated 3,007 client interactions. Of these clients, 805 received direct healthcare and energy assistance referrals; and 351 received community service referrals. Overall, the most needed services are daily essentials including food, water, and clothing; housing; and completion of State Emergency Relief (SER) applications that qualify individuals to receive energy assistance. In 2021 alone, 239 SERs were completed with 98% of applicants served by the navigator receiving some type of financial assistance.

Ascension Genesys Hospital, Consumers Energy, and Huntington Bank together received the 2021 Health Care Hall of Fame Community Partnership award given in gratitude for partnership with Genesee Health Plan to ensure that Plan members receive quality, affordable health care. Program representatives were also invited to the 2021 Root Cause Coalition's National Conference to present emPOWER Genesee as a best practice model to address SDOH, and as an example of how public and private organizations are working together to meet people where they are to navigate complex systems to access needed essential services.

### **MEDICAL MISSION AT HOME**

Ascension's Medical Mission at Home events provide a real-time delivery of organized health and social services to those who would not have access to care with follow-up care and continuity as needed. Due to the coronavirus outbreak and out of concern for the health and safety of our community members, patients, and hospital associates, Ascension Genesys Hospital chose to postpone the Genesee County event originally scheduled to be held in March 2020.

### **PRIORITIZED NEED: Chronic Disease Burden**

#### **GENESYS SUPPORTIVE CARE CLINIC**

The mission of the Genesys Supportive Care Clinic is to improve the quality of life for people facing chronic or life-threatening conditions. The clinic, which is a part of Ascension Medical Group – Genesys, provides services to help patients manage their pain, and meet any physical, psychosocial, and spiritual needs from diagnosis through the process of living and dying. Palliative care providers offer support to both the patient and to their family and/or caregivers by concentrating on what the needs of the patient are and what the family and caregivers need to help support the patient. Palliative care providers can help with symptom management through medications or tools such as raised toilet seats, walkers, or other physical needs, as well as coordinate with all other providers which can be beneficial in that there is another person the patient and family can reach out to for information and care.

Launched in January 2020 in Ascension Genesys Hospital campus, the initial outpatient palliative care program launched in four offices through Genesys Physician Hospital Organization (PHO), with special focus patients with the following diagnoses: Congestive heart failure, chronic obstructive pulmonary disease, and chronic kidney disease. The clinic is open to all qualifying patients, but focused on the above diagnosis to best collect and evaluate data related to patient experience, patient satisfaction, and volume of utilization.

In summer 2021, the Genesys Supportive Care Clinic relocated to the Genesys Family Health Center – East Flint Campus due to the impact of COVID-19 and hospital response. Currently, the clinic is available on Wednesdays from 8:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m.

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## Part 3: Hurley Medical Center Accomplishments

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### PRIORITIZED NEED: Social Determinants of Health

#### EDUCATION & EMPLOYMENT

As a teaching hospital, Hurley Medical Center is a highly-regarded educator of the health care professionals of the future, maintaining affiliations with Michigan State University, the University of Michigan-Ann Arbor, the University of Michigan-Flint, Children's Hospital of Michigan-Detroit Medical Center, Mott Community College, and Henry Ford Health System. With over 2,700 employees, Hurley is also a major contributor to local economic development and one of Genesee County's largest and most consistent employers.

#### FOOD INSECURITY: HURLEY FOOD FARMacy

The Food FARMacy department opened in autumn of 2017, with Hurley screening all patients for food insecurity and opening a physical location for patients in need. Currently, the Food FARMacy focuses on patients who have both chronic disease and food insecurity. Patients receive a referral to visit up to six times for healthy food to feed their entire household. They also get referred/enrolled into additional local/state programs that can help them address many other social needs.

**All Patients (Unique & Follow Up): 4,931 Visits / 11,902 People Served**

**Unique Patients: 2,322 Visits / 4,372 People Served**

#### ADDITIONAL EFFORTS:

- Starting in October 2021, patients at the Hurley OB/GYN prenatal clinic have also been receiving \$15 fruit and vegetable prescriptions that are redeemable at the Flint Farmers' Market and Flint Fresh.

#### COMMUNITY SAFETY

Hurley actively works with local partners to help improve community safety. They have partnered with other organizations on a project to address Human Trafficking. The focus is to work directly with patients who have been affected by violence through their Trauma Resource Center. Additionally, in partnership with the University Avenue Corridor Alliance, patients have access to resources regarding personal safety, housing, and economic development initiatives.

#### HURLEY INJURY PREVENTION

Hurley Medical Center is the lead organization for the Safe Kids of Greater Flint Coalition. Safe Kids and Hurley Injury Prevention provide over 20 active programs to promote risk reduction in the community. Programs include Child Passenger Safety car seat inspections, distracted driving, drinking and driving, fire and burn safety, First Aid, Stop the Bleed, traumatic brain injury, fall prevention, home alone, cooking and poison safety, water safety and drowning prevention, dog bite safety and prevention, bullying, cyberbullying, internet and cyber safety, assault and abuse prevention, high risk behaviors, sports safety, seasonal safety, and more. Bike helmets, gun locks, smoke detectors, car seats, and other giveaways are made available through various grants.

Injury prevention spans all ages and saves significant dollars in health care spending. Community partners include schools, social services agencies, regional hospitals, and an array of childhood stakeholders and senior service agencies. Hurley helps to navigate vital safety information, gain access to resources, and holds regularly scheduled injury prevention events.

## **PRIORITIZED NEED: Substance Use**

### **HURLEY MEDICATION FOR OPIOID USE DISORDER (MOUD) CLINIC**

Services through Hurley's Emergency Department are available for those who seek treatment with opioid use addiction. Patients receive consultations with a social worker, telemedicine appointments, medications, and referrals to New Paths (a local substance use disorder treatment program). Goals of the clinic include facilitating safe withdrawal by relieving symptoms and controlling cravings, reducing the risk of death due to overdose, increasing retention in treatment with medications, and working to decrease decline health associated with the drug use.

## **PRIORITIZED NEED: Child Health & Development**

### **HURLEY ASTHMA CLINIC/HOME MANAGEMENT PROGRAM**

Physicians and Respiratory Therapists work with patients and families to manage asthma with a focus on taking medications properly, trigger reduction, and include home visits. Roughly 80-90 children are seen in their homes. This program is facilitated by the Hurley Asthma Nurse Case Manager.

### **CAMP EASY BREATHERS**

Through a partnership with the YMCA of Greater Flint Camp Copneconic, and various sponsors, Hurley is able to provide the annual four-day daytime camp which focuses on giving children with asthma the experience of going to camp with the safety of having a Respiratory Therapist and medical team nearby, 25-30 children participate yearly. This program is facilitated by the Hurley Asthma Nurse Case Manager.

### **PEDIATRIC DIABETES EDUCATION PROGRAM**

Hurley offers the only diabetes pediatric education and management program of its kind in Genesee County. The program treats children with type 1 diabetes, type 2 diabetes, and prediabetes.

### **ADDITIONAL EFFORTS:**

- Focusing on child abuse prevention, Hurley Medical Center has one of only six board certified child abuse specialists in Michigan.
- Conducting Teen Heart Screenings in partnership with the Thomas Smith Memorial Foundation, Hurley offers Teen Heart Screening events two to three times per year, with 200-350 screenings at each event. Due to the COVID-19 pandemic, Hurley Medical Center has paused the heart screening events, completing the last one in October of 2019. These efforts will likely be resurrected post-pandemic.

## **PRIORITIZED NEED: Mental Health**

Hurley continues to care for its mental health and substance abuse patient population at the Hurley Mental Health Associates building, as well as through the inpatient behavioral health unit and through collaborations with Genesee Health System.

### **ADVANCED NEUROPSYCHOLOGY & PEDIATRIC PSYCHOLOGY SERVICES (ANPPS)**

Hurley's ANPPS (formerly Brain Function Assessment Center) offers assessment and treatment services for brain injuries, neuropsychological evaluations for individuals of all ages, and psychology services for children and adolescents who are dealing with the effects of chronic medical conditions.

### **HURLEY TRAUMA RECOVERY CENTER**

Hurley Medical Center provides a free, confidential, non-insurance billed, Trauma Recovery Program for both adult and pediatric patients that have been impacted by trauma, violence,



sexual assault, etc. Hurley coordinates immediate crisis support alongside medical care, follows up with patients after discharge, assists patients with continued symptom management, and connects patients to appropriate services (emergency shelter, food resources, legal support, etc.) when necessary.

#### **ADDITIONAL EFFORTS:**

- Hurley offers Pediatric Psychology Services and offers evaluation, treatment planning, and therapy for an array of diagnoses and behavioral needs.
- Hurley opened a Pediatric Psychology Unit in 2022 to better serve the needs of the youth.
- Hurley offers employees Employee Assistance Programs, mindfulness and wellness programs for coping and stress reduction, as well as a calm and relaxing weekly experience for employees to attend to provide them a brief reprieve from daily stressors.

#### **PRIORITIZED NEED: Obesity & Health Behaviors**

##### **THE KOHL'S HEALTHY KIDS GRANT**

The Kohl's Healthy Kids Grant focuses on healthy living for children and families, including large-scale events and school assemblies reaching 3,000-4,000 kids each year as well as more targeted programs such as free family nutrition counseling with a Registered Dietician reaching between 400-800 kids each year. Grant programs were accessible to the community through 2021.

##### **CAMP MOVE IT**

Through a partnership with the YMCA of Greater Flint Camp Copneconic and various sponsors, Hurley is able to provide an annual camp for 8 to 12-year-old children who would benefit from healthy lifestyle changes. They learn about the importance of nutrition, movement, sports, gardening and growing food, mindful eating, preparing and cooking food, as well as stress and coping techniques. They also participate in many of the existing Camp Copneconic activities, such as swimming, hiking, and zip-lining.

Each year 30-40 kids attend. Camp Move It was a six-day overnight night, temporarily halted due to the COVID-19 pandemic in 2020. Camp Move It resumed in 2021 as a five-day daytime camp.

#### **ADDITIONAL EFFORTS:**

- Hurley provides sponsorship and support for several run/walks in the community, including the YMCA Santa Run, the Burton Veteran's Run, and remains the lead medical sponsor for the Crim Festival of Races.
- Diabetes Self-Management Education and medical nutrition therapy offered for patients with chronic disease with over 4,000 visits per year. Virtual appointments are available.
- Nutrition seminars/healthy cooking demos for Cardiac Rehab patients, offered monthly, reaching 300 patients annually.
- Low-Dose CT Lung Screenings are preventative screenings for current or former smokers to aid in finding lung cancers in the earliest stages.
- The Wellness Department maintains ongoing programs and activities for 2,700 employees; including fitness challenges, nutrition information, blood pressure/A1c/ECG screenings, a robust internal resource website, and the access to a free, onsite fitness room and exercise equipment at select off-site locations.
- Monthly support groups are offered for various patients with the goal of health maintenance and continued support (Bariatric, diabetes, etc.).

## **PRIORITIZED NEED: Safe & Affordable Drinking Water**

### **WATER RESOURCES FOR PATIENTS**

Hurley Medical Center has provided its patients with pertinent resources such as water distribution sites, registration information for the Flint Registry, and the Flint Cares website link.

### **PEDIATRIC PUBLIC HEALTH INITIATIVE (PPHI)**

In partnership with Michigan State University, in 2016 Hurley Medical Center established the Pediatric Public Health Initiative (PPHI) as a model public health program to improve the outcomes of Flint children. Through community and clinical programs, childhood health policy/advocacy, and robust evaluation, the Pediatric Public Health Initiative works with the primary goal of mitigating the impact of the Flint Water Crisis and serving as a national resource for best practices. In connection with many local partners, including Flint's parents and kids, as a center of excellence, PPHI works to wrap Flint children in a nutrient-rich environment of development-promoting interventions.

### **HURLEY'S CHILDREN'S CENTER**

Hurley Children's Center (Pediatric clinic) at the Flint Farmers' Market offers many long-term services and resources to foster healing in response to the water crisis: A Fruit and Vegetable prescription program, Literacy/reading programs, positive parenting, recruiting families to enroll in the Flint Lead Registry, social needs screenings/referrals, including referrals to the Hurley Food FARMacy.

- More than 45,000 fruit and vegetable prescriptions have been distributed since beginning in February 2016. Prescriptions have roughly a 37% redemption rate.
- Imagination Library: over 251,000 books have been distributed in Flint through the program.
- The Born to Read program at the hospital is giving literacy bundles to every newborn before discharge and connects the family to Early On if they consent. Over 4,000 bundles have been distributed since 2018.
- The Hurley Children's Center also offers the Video Interaction Project (VIP). The VIP is an evidence-based parenting program that uses videotaping and developmentally-appropriate toys, books, and resources to help parents utilize pretend play, shared reading, and daily routines as opportunities for strengthening early development and literacy in their children. Since 2017, the VIP team has delivered 1,833 toys in 1,457 video sessions to over 300 Flint-area families.
- The First Five Fresh program was implemented in 2021 through a partnership between Hurley Children's Hospital and Michigan State University with funding from No Kid Hungry and Support through the Flint Fresh organization. Families receive a voucher from the Hurley Children's Clinic in which they can redeem through Flint Fresh for a produce and protein box that is delivered directly to their homes to address transportation barriers and minimize COVID exposures. Through the Hurley Children's Clinic, vouchers were distributed to over 3,400 children (birth through 5 years of age).

## **PRIORITIZED NEED: Healthcare Access**

Hurley continues to provide care to everyone who walks through their doors in addition to those who cannot. As a response to the COVID-19 pandemic, access to Urgent Care/Health Centers has expanded by offering virtual Telehealth services for non-emergent needs. Telehealth services began as a response to patients being unable or unwilling to leave their home, though the access and availability of Telehealth has accelerated access for many people who would not seek care otherwise.

## **PRIORITIZED NEED: Chronic Disease Burden**

### **HURLEY'S PATIENT RESOURCE AND COMMUNITY ADVOCATE**

A new Hurley position was developed in 2020 with the intention of identifying minority populations and engaging in communication to improve healthcare literacy, reduce disparities, identify access to care opportunities, reduce readmission rate, and improve patient experience through education and understanding. This community-based job positions a Registered Nurse into community centers (such as churches, businesses, and neighborhoods) to nurture relationships and strengthen communication. Providing equitable healthcare access to the vulnerable residents of Genesee County endeavors to reduce chronic disease burden amongst residents (with a focus on Heart Health, Diabetes, Kidney disease, etc.).

### **ADDITIONAL EFFORTS:**

- The Breast Navigation Program helps to directly relieve disease burdens by helping patients plan care, clinical visits, answer questions, and obtain funding to assist with extra bills that may arise. This program allows cancer patients to concentrate on treatment, wellness, and healing.
- The Congestive Heart Failure and Renal Nurse Navigator is available to patients with an overall goal of reducing readmissions. The Nurse Navigator helps answer questions, assists with symptom management, taking medications properly, promptly follows up with patients after discharge, and helps to schedule their follow-up appointments. The Nurse Navigator is on-call 24/7. Within 30 days of discharge, Heart Failure patients had readmission rates of 26% in 2017, since declining to 13% in 2021.
- A Lung Health Navigator is available during each step of patient's lung related health care needs, providing information, knowledge, support, and guidance as needed to manage lung health. The Lung Navigator works with Primary Care Physicians and specialists to develop specialized treatment plans for patients.
- A Joint Navigator and support team cares for patients during their entire joint replacement journey, assisting with appointment scheduling, rehabilitation, and improving patient compliance and outcomes.
- Hurley's Annual Vaccination fair is held every November. It was held as a drive-thru clinic due to the COVID-19 pandemic. Partnerships and sponsors make it possible to create more access to vaccinations.

## **PRIORITIZED NEED: Effective Care Delivery for an Aging Population**

- Exemplar status for NICHE (Nurses Improving Care for Health-System Elders). Certified Geriatric Nurse Specialists see all patients 65 and older.
- Hurley continued to grow Palliative Care Services, with additional staff and added hours outpatient and at the Genesys Hurley Cancer Institute.
- Continuation of "HELP" (Hospital Elder Life Program) which places volunteers with elderly patients 70 years and older (similar to Child Life model in pediatrics). It is a proactive measure to protect against the risk of delirium and functional declines while hospitalized.
- Fast Track Emergency Room for Seniors/Bone Health program. All patients 65 years and older do not wait in the emergency department waiting room. Upon arrival, they are immediately fast-tracked into a room so they can be monitored. Hurley is awarded Level III status by the American College of Emergency Physicians, certifying that there are advanced policies, protocols, and procedures to insure the best emergency health care delivery for older patients.
- Continued a partnership with Valley Area Agency on Aging on Transitions to Care, with 340 patients in the program.
- Senior Caregiver Event offered annually with 150-200 people in attendance. The Caregiver Event was temporarily halted in 2020 due to COVID-19, but resumed in 2021.

## **PRIORITIZED NEED: Maternal & Infant Health**

Hurley operates the region's only Level III Neonatal Intensive Care Unit, with over 1,400 – 1,700 discharges per year and supports many programs that promote healthy pregnancies and positive infant health outcomes.

### **MATERNAL INFANT HEALTH PROGRAM (MIHP)**

The MIHP is Michigan's largest evidence-based home visitation program for Medicaid eligible pregnant women and infants with a long-term goal to reduce maternal and infant morbidity and mortality. Hurley's program promotes healthy pregnancies, positive birth outcomes, and healthy infant growth and development. It is a supplement to regular prenatal/infant care and serves infants up to 12 months in their homes by a team of Registered Nurses, Licensed Social Workers, Registered Dietitians, Infant Mental Health Specialists, and Lactation Consultants. In combination with the Nurse Family Partnership, Hurley assists over 300 new moms/pregnant women and their babies up to age two.

### **NURSE FAMILY PARTNERSHIP (NFP)**

The NFP is a free program for first-time moms who are pregnant with their first child, reside in eligible service areas, and whose income level falls within specific requirements. Under the mentorship of a personal nurse, new moms will build maternal confidence in activities such as breastfeeding, nutrition, child development, safe sleep techniques, and more. New moms will also get necessary referrals for healthcare, childcare, job training, and other programs which will help their family be more successful. In combination with MIHP, Hurley assists over 300 new moms/pregnant women and their babies up to age two. This program has implemented a virtual aspect during the COVID-19 pandemic.

### **DIABETES DURING PREGNANCY EDUCATION PROGRAM**

Pregnant or soon-to-be pregnant women are offered diabetes education and medical management during their pregnancy. Virtual classes are available.

### **PHOTOTHERAPY LIGHTS**

Five phototherapy lights (large enough to cover the infant from head to toe) were purchased for Hurley's Neonatal Intensive Care Unit. Preterm babies commonly need treatment for jaundice and light therapy lowers bilirubin quickly and safely.

### **ADDITIONAL EFFORTS:**

- Continued hiring and training of Certified Lactation Consultants. Hurley maintains an ongoing weekly breastfeeding clinic as well as provide lactation support over the phone.
- Hurley starting "rooming in" for Neonatal Abstinence Syndrome (NAS) babies to give mothers time to bond with the baby until they are discharged.
- Supporting patients with parenting/breastfeeding classes for pregnant/new moms. Classes were taught in person until the COVID-19 pandemic, and continue with virtual learning modules for patients.
- The Community Baby Shower which is offered annually at Flint Farmers' Market provides many resources to pregnant/new moms, with 120-150 participants each year. The yearly event was paused due to COVID-19 but will resume when appropriate.

## **PRIORITIZED NEED: COVID-19 Response/Relief**

Hurley Medical Center worked closely with the Genesee County Health Department and other community stakeholders to support pandemic response efforts throughout Genesee County.

In 2020, Hurley developed a drive through COVID-19 testing station at Atwood stadium in partnership with Kettering University. The site was open for two months and provided residents of the community efficient access to free viral swabbing, with results provided within 1-2 days.

Hurley Medical Center offered numerous COVID-19 vaccination clinics, administering both Pfizer and Moderna vaccines to over 20,000 individuals. Hurley also provided shared vaccine storage space to local partners without adequate freezer capacity, helping improve vaccine access within the community.

Hurley also opened a Monoclonal Antibody Clinic in 2021. Monoclonal Antibody Infusions were identified as a treatment option which resulted in milder symptoms for those infected with the COVID-19 virus. Over 2,400 doses have been administered.

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## **Part 4: 2019-2021 McLaren Flint Accomplishments**

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NOTE: Along with the initiatives outlined in this document, McLaren Flint also participates in collaborative initiatives with other health partners through the Greater Flint Health Coalition, including Hurley Medical Center, Ascension Genesys Hospital and the Genesee County Health Department, to collectively address community health needs identified in the 2019 Community Health Needs Assessment Report for Flint and Genesee County. These initiatives are outlined in a shared Community Health Improvement Plan, with the goal of aligning implementation plan activities where possible to leverage existing programs, avoid duplication, build economies of scale, and maximize available resources through combined community benefit investment.

### **PRIORITY HEALTH NEED: Social Determinants of Health (SDOH)**

**INITIATIVE:** Increase public safety and community engagement and reduce blight in neighborhoods in the University Corridor and College Cultural Neighborhood in Flint.

- Recognizing the need to maintain safe, clean, blight-free, and engaged neighborhoods for residents of Flint, McLaren Flint provided resources to maintain the Flint Urban Safety Corps initiative in the University Corridor and College and Cultural Neighborhood in Flint.
- McLaren Flint donated \$48,000 over the three-year period to support the University Corridor program.
- With McLaren Flint's support, 14 full and part-time AmeriCorps members worked in the University Corridor neighborhood to build capacity of community watch groups, radio patrol groups, bike watch groups, and to organize and implement board-ups of blighted buildings.
- Outcomes realized to reduce blight, decrease crime and increase community engagement include:
  - 2 community watch groups formed
  - 54 community patrol shifts performed
  - 5 block clubs supported
  - 14 homes boarded up
  - 7 lots cleaned
  - 18 canvassing events held
  - 21 safety education events held
  - 108 volunteers recruited
  - 6,000 informational brochures distributed to residents

## **PRIORITY HEALTH NEED: Social Determinants of Health (SDOH)**

**INITIATIVE:** Provide vulnerable individuals with food insecurity in Genesee County access to healthy food resources and linkages to additional programs that can address related needs.

- On a weekly basis, McLaren Flint donated over-produced food that was prepared in the hospital nutritional services department to the Genesee County Food Rescue Program for distribution to people in need through their soup kitchen and food pantry at the New Life Center.
- 33,442 pounds of food was donated to the Genesee County Food Rescue Program to increase its capacity to provide healthy food and meals for people with food insecurity who are served through the New Life Center.
- The value of this donation (estimated \$1 per pound) is \$33,442.
- McLaren Flint donated 700 pounds of unperishable food to the Food Bank of Eastern Michigan through the annual Harvest Gathering Food Drive in 2019 and 2020. Employees provided food donations which the hospital collected and then coordinated with the Food Bank of Eastern Michigan for pick-up and distribution to those in need. The 2021 food drive was an online donation program due to COVID-19 restrictions.

## **PRIORITY HEALTH NEED: Social Determinants of Health**

**INITIATIVE:** To identify and address SDOH barriers that impact medical care and recovery for patients discharged to Skilled Nursing Facilities (SNF) with goal of resource provision and reduction in hospital readmissions.

- McLaren Flint Case Management met with all patients being discharged to SNF and screened them for Social Determinants of Health using a SDOH screening tool. Screening results were shared with the appropriate SNF to promote continuum of care in addressing patient needs, connecting patients to resources, and reducing hospital readmission. From 2019-2021, case management screened 3,240 patients.
- McLaren Case Management further provided a daily list of patients whose physicians are part of McLaren Physician Partners (MPP) to MPP case managers, with SDOH screening results. These case managers utilized these results for additional follow-up with the appropriate SNF for each patient. From 2019-2021, 342 patients were referred to MPP to support improved care and resource connection for patients discharged to Skilled Nursing Facilities.
- Reduction in hospital readmission for patients referred to SNF will be measured moving forward through McLaren's newly implemented Cerner software application.

## **PRIORITY HEALTH NEED: Child Health & Development**

**INITIATIVE:** Provide medical and psychosocial examinations to children who are suspected victims of child sexual abuse with the goal of gaining forensic evidence to bring perpetrators to justice as well as providing children and their families with supportive services.

- McLaren Flint operates the Child Evaluation Clinic in coordination with the Voices for Children Child Advocacy Center in Flint, providing medical examinations of children who are suspected victims of sexual abuse. McLaren funds a specially-trained, dedicated physician and trained nursing staff to support the Clinic along with specialized equipment for a value of approximately \$42,000 per year.
- 58 children who were suspected victims of sexual abuse received specialized medical services from physicians and nurses trained to provide these forensic medical examinations.
- Physical evidence gained through these exams resulted in successful prosecution of 25 perpetrators, with others awaiting trial.



## **PRIORITY HEALTH NEED: Mental Health**

**INITIATIVE:** To provide improved access and expanded services to serve a growing demand for mental health services for adolescent and adult residents of Genesee County.

- McLaren Flint recruited and hired two additional psychiatrists in 2019 to increase the total number of employed board-certified psychiatrists to four. A board-certified psychiatric nurse practitioner joined the staff in 2021, thus further expanding specialist capacity to serve patients in need of behavioral health services.
- McLaren Flint added two new beds to its 36-bed inpatient adult psychiatric unit in 2019 to increase operational capacity in behavioral health services and received Certificate of Need approval in 2021 for new 12-bed Geriatric Psychiatry Unit designed to serve the needs of the older adult population.
- McLaren Flint contracted with Reliable Transportation in 2019 and 2020 and with the Flint Mass Transportation Authority in 2021 to provide free transportation to the Partial Hospitalization Program for 1,325 patients to remove transportation as a barrier to receiving service. The cost of these contracts was \$150,000.
- McLaren Flint operates the area's only Partial Hospitalization Program (PHP) for Adolescents age 12-18, recording 7,320 adolescent visits from 2019-2021. To provide an academic resource for patients, McLaren arranged for a teacher from Genesee Intermediate School District to work daily with adolescent patients.
- Along with the adolescent PHP volumes, McLaren Flint served 3,255 people in the adult inpatient unit; recorded 13,909 adult PHP visits and 8,858 outpatient visits from 2019-2021.

**INITIATIVE:** To provide integrated behavioral health services to primary care and cancer patients to address behavioral health issues with early intervention and treatment and improve the care continuum.

- During patient visits to the McLaren Family Practice or Internal Medicine Residency Group practice programs, if the medical provider determined the patient would benefit from a behavioral health assessment, the psychologist/psychology fellow was contacted and provided an immediate same-day assessment with the patient to determine a behavioral health intervention and treatment plan (coping skills, stress management, sleep strategy, etc.) This service was offered at no charge to patients. During 2019-2021, 842 patients were referred for behavioral health assessments. This number was impacted by COVID-19 interference as well as clinics having reduced hours due to COVID-19.
- A similar program was offered to patients at the McLaren's Cancer Center in 2019, and 109 patients received services.

**INITIATIVE:** Suicide Prevention

- McLaren Flint participates in the Emergency Department Suicide Risk Screening Program utilizing the Columbia Suicide Severity Rating Scale, screening all patients 10 and older. From 2019-2021, 165,092 patients were screened in McLaren Emergency Departments at the Flint hospital and in the Fenton Emergency Center to promote early intervention to address suicidal behaviors or thoughts with appropriate treatment and follow-up. If identified as potentially suicidal, patients were referred to a McLaren clinical psychologist or for a psychiatric consult as appropriate.

## **PRIORITY HEALTH NEED: Obesity & Health Behaviors**

**INITIATIVE:** To provide programs to address obesity and healthy behaviors for Genesee County residents.

- The McLaren Bariatric and Metabolic Institute offers a comprehensive/multidisciplinary surgical weight loss program, including two surgical options, and a behavioral health and nutrition component. From 2019-2021, 469 patients underwent bariatric surgery to address obesity issues and reduce co-morbidities.
- Sixty percent of those undergoing bariatric surgery attended post-surgical telehealth follow-up for one year for support in maintaining and managing their health.
- 360 patients participated in bariatric support groups facilitated by the program's clinical psychologist.
- A dedicated Facebook page was established for bariatric patients which was facilitated by the bariatric nurse and dietitian with the goal of providing information and support in helping patients manage and address any health concerns as well as provide information regarding additional resources.
- Twenty-one patients from the McLaren Bariatric Program annually were funded by McLaren to participate in the Crim Fitness Foundation Training Program through a dedicated group led by a member of the McLaren Bariatric Program staff. McLaren invested \$2,730 per year (\$8,190) to support this program and provide opportunities for patients to remain active and sustain a healthy lifestyle.
- McLaren also maintains a clinically monitored fitness center for bariatric patients to provide a safe environment for post-surgical exercise in the maintenance of weight and lifestyle changes.

## **PRIORITY HEALTH NEED: Health Behaviors**

**INITIATIVE:** To provide Flint residents access to health information and resources that address health behaviors.

- McLaren Family Practice residents (18) and the Medical Director of Behavioral Services met twice per month at Eisenhower School in Flint with school staff, parent liaisons, Genesee Health Plan and Crim Youth Program to assess needs and plan programming at the school to address those needs.
- McLaren Flint residents staffed an "Ask the Doctor" monthly series at Eisenhower to discuss various health topics and resources for parents and public. 144 families at Eisenhower participated in the "Ask The Doctor" series to gain access to timely health information and resources through medical professionals.
- Approximately 360 students were impacted through the Eisenhower School program.
- McLaren Flint expanded this program in late 2021 to include families and mentors of the Boys and Girls Club of Genesee County.
- McLaren Flint provided a grant of \$6,000 for the purchase of laptop, projector and connection chords to support the "Ask the Doctor" virtual program and other virtual learning opportunities at Eisenhower.
- Physician residents from McLaren's Family Practice Program donated \$450 and 42 items including toiletries, gloves, socks, hand/foot warmers, to support student needs.

### **PRIORITY HEALTH NEED: Healthcare Access**

**INITIATIVE:** To increase access to medical services for uninsured adults (ages 18 through 65) who are eligible residents of Genesee County and to assist with transition to sustaining programs of healthcare.

- McLaren Flint internal medicine residents and faculty physicians staff the Genesee Free Medical Clinic three days per week, and provide medical care and services to uninsured clients, at no charge to patients. During 2019-2021, 9,700 people were served by physicians at the Clinic, with 1,200 referrals to physician specialists, diagnostic services, and other resources. The value of these services provided by McLaren physicians was approximately \$175,000 per year or \$525,000 over the three-year period.
- McLaren Flint Laboratory Services receives lab specimens from the Free Medical Clinic and performs testing services/results at no-charge. The value of these free tests was almost \$200,000 per year, or \$600,000 over the three-year period.
- McLaren Family Medicine program physicians staffed free monthly Women's Health Clinic to support maternal and child health needs in 2019 and part of 2020 but was discontinued due to COVID-19 restrictions.
- McLaren Flint Psychologists and psychology fellows held free monthly Lifestyle Clinics for patients at the Free Medical Clinic in 2019 and into 2020 but the program was suspended after participation stopped due to the impact of COVID-19.

### **PRIORITY HEALTH NEED: Healthcare Access**

**INITIATIVE:** To provide transportation to and from healthcare services for patients unable to drive themselves, seek other means of transportation or afford transportation costs.

- Through the Patient Care Fund at McLaren Flint, the hospital funded \$217,420 in cab fares, bus fares, and other means of transportation for patients to be safely transported to their home or appropriate setting after discharge from the hospital.

### **PRIORITY HEALTH NEED: Healthcare Access**

**INITIATIVE:** To provide access to health screenings, information and resources for Genesee County residents.

- McLaren Family Practice Residency Center provided physician coverage and health screenings for participants at the Our Lady of Guadalupe Church Health Fair in Flint to enhance access to health information and resources for the Flint Latino American Community. A total of 319 individuals participated in free health screenings in diabetes, hypertension, obesity, and mood disorder, along with an "Ask the Doctor" booth for health information. The Health Fair was cancelled in 2020 and 2021 due to COVID-19 restrictions.

**INITIATIVE:** To connect residents of Genesee County with resources available in the community to address health needs and related issues.

- McLaren Case Management coordinated with community agencies to facilitate their participation in the Community Resource Day, held each October in McLaren Flint's Auditorium. The goal is to provide community residents with awareness and opportunities to connect with resources to serve a variety of health-related needs. A total of 256 community residents attended the Community Resource Days in 2019 and 2021, while more than 250 people participated in a virtual Community Resource Day in 2020 (due to COVID-19).
- Twenty-five agencies participated in the annual Community Resources Day, including: McLaren Health Management Group; MedStar Ambulance; McLaren Advance Care Planning; Disability

Network; Valley Area Agency on Aging; Genesee County Health Department; Genesee Health System; McLaren Outpatient Coumadin; Wound and Diabetic Education Clinics; Alternative Elder Care; The Lodges of Durand; Department of Veteran's Services; United Way; Legal Services of Eastern MI; Visiting Physicians Assoc.; Families Against Narcotics; Building Stronger Women; Caretel Inns of Linden; Greater Flint Health Coalition; Home Town Heroes; Hamilton Community Health Network; Durand Senior Care and Visiting Physicians Association.

### **PRIORITY HEALTH NEED: Healthcare Access**

**INITIATIVE:** To provide medications for individuals who are being discharged from the hospital and cannot afford to pay for their prescriptions.

- Through the Patient Care Fund at McLaren Flint, \$77,076 in medications was provided to allow patients who could not afford prescription costs to have access to needed medications to support treatment and recovery. McLaren employees made donations to the fund through a special campaign entitled "Every Little Change Makes A Big Difference."
- The process for patients to qualify for the fund involves an initial screening evaluation through which case management staff identified patients in financial need. Case managers sent patient prescriptions to Walgreen's for a cost estimate of the patient portion of their prescription. The case manager then met with the patient to assess if the patient could meet the financial obligation. If not, the case manager worked with the physician to determine if there was a less expensive but effective prescription. If no other alternative was identified, patient medications were funded through Patient Care Fund, and the patient was connected with community resources for further support.

### **PRIORITY HEALTH NEED: Chronic Disease Burden**

**INITIATIVE:** To provide resources that assist people with chronic health conditions in managing their condition, preventing complications and improving health outcomes.

- To assist patients with resources to better manage their diabetes and improve health outcomes, McLaren Flint provided an Outpatient Diabetes Education Program involving weekly one-on-one and group sessions for patients with diabetes. A team including a dietitian, nurse, pharmacist and physician provide education to patients. The program was open to the public, with a physician referral.
  - 853 patients participated in the Outpatient Diabetes Management Program from 2019-2021 to better manage their diabetes and improve health outcomes.
  - The Outpatient Diabetes Management Program was successful in reducing patients' HgbA1C hemoglobin by 1.5%, exceeding the national benchmark of .6%.
- McLaren Flint provided a Pulmonary Rehabilitation Program for patients with Chronic Obstructive Pulmonary Disease, featuring weekly classes and exercise. The program was open to the public with a physician referral. From 2019-2021, 175 patients participated in the program to manage their COPD. Outcomes from the Pulmonary Rehabilitation Program include:
  - Improvement in walking capacity from 981 feet in 6 minutes to 1,242 feet in 6 minutes
  - 42% decrease in shortness of breath
  - 25% decrease in oxygen use
  - 33% increase in self-reported quality of life
- High-risk COPD inpatients received a free assessment with a Respiratory Therapist for lifestyle and health behaviors, with recommendations and resource referral.

## **PRIORITY HEALTH NEED: Effective Care Delivery for an Aging Population**

**INITIATIVE:** Provide Medicare patients with resources to prevent hospital readmissions, ensure continuum of care, and meet basic needs.

- McLaren Flint Case Management participated in a collaborative program with the Valley Area Agency on Aging Care Transition Program, identifying Medicare patients who were at potential high risk for re-admission. Case managers worked with these patients' physicians to coordinate a referral to the VAAA program. The patient was seen at home the day after discharge by a nurse practitioner through VAAA who could identify/treat medical issues and connect the patient to resources. McLaren Flint referred an average of 21 patients per week to the VAAA program. This program was more limited during the pandemic as VAAA suspended "in-home" services for a period of time but continued to call patients and provide resources.

## **PRIORITY HEALTH NEED: Effective Care for an Aging Population**

**INITIATIVE:** To provide information and resources in support of Advance Care Planning for Genesee County residents.

- McLaren Flint's Advance Care Planning Educator provided 1,174 people with information and assistance in completing Advanced Care Directives through one-on-one sessions, community presentations, and community outreach events.

## **PRIORITY HEALTH NEED: Infant and Maternal Health**

**INITIATIVE:** To improve breastfeeding initiation and duration rates among Women, Infants, and Children (WIC) participants and WIC-eligible mothers.

- McLaren Flint implemented a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) with the Genesee County Health Dept. and the Special Supplemental Nutrition Program for Women, Infants, and Children (WIC) to make the services of the WIC Breastfeeding Peer Counselor available to WIC eligible mothers who deliver infants at McLaren Flint for breastfeeding education, resources, and support.
- During 2019-early 2020, 98 new mothers participated in the program, with the goal of improved infant health. During COVID, the WIC counselor did not visit mothers in the hospital, and hospital nursing staff provided breastfeeding support.

## **PRIORITY HEALTH NEED: Infant and Maternal Health**

**INITIATIVE:** Identify and address variation in obstetric care in the State of Michigan and utilize best practices in support of quality outcomes.

- McLaren Flint participated in the Obstetrics Initiative (OBI) Funded by Blue Cross Blue Shield of Michigan/Blue Care Network, which included 74 hospitals statewide.
  - OB Nursing Staff participated in a Skills Fair class (30 staff members; 1 hour class) each year.
  - OB/GYN physician, midwives, OB educator, OB nursing manager, OB data abstractor participated in conferences and workgroups with colleagues across the state.
- McLaren Flint realized the following reductions in C-section rates:
  - Primary C-section rate decreased from 23.1% in 2019 to 11.8% in 2021.
  - C-section after induction rate decreased from 33.3% in 2019 to 15.7% in 2021.

**INITIATIVE:** Increase access to childbirth education and resources for women in the Genesee County community.

- McLaren Flint Family Birthplace offered free childbirth classes to expectant mothers and their support persons as well as free breastfeeding counseling. Classes included: Natural Comfort Techniques, Childbirth Preparation, Baby Care, and Breastfeeding.
- 1,319 new mothers received access to breastfeeding counseling.
- 102 families participated in childbirth classes in 2019-April 2020. On-site classes were not held during the COVID-19 pandemic.

**PRIORITY HEALTH NEED: Substance Use**

**INITIATIVE:** Implement a comprehensive strategy to provide access to substance use treatment, prevention, and education regarding opioid misuse throughout Genesee County.

**NOTE:** McLaren Flint participates with the Greater Flint Health Coalition, Hurley Medical Center, Genesys Health System, and other partners in a collaborative community-wide task force to address the Opioid Epidemic (see detailed strategy, actions, and input in the collaborative section of the report).

## APPENDIX B: 2022 CHNA IMPLEMENTATION PLAN DEVELOPMENT, RESOURCES TO MEET COMMUNITY NEEDS, AND PUBLIC DISPLAY

A Community Health Needs Assessment Subgroup to the Greater Flint Health Coalition's Cost & Resource Planning Committee has been established to formulate aligned CHNA Implementation Plans for each priority health need identified. These aligned CHNA Implementation Plans will include how Ascension Genesys Hospital, Hurley Medical Center, and McLaren Flint will each individually address priority health needs to provide community benefit, as well as developed shared strategies to implemented and supported via the Greater Flint Health Coalition.

Upon completion of each hospital's Implementation Plan, Appendix B will be populated with additional information for public consumption, including resources to meet community health needs identified.

The finalized Community Health Needs Assessment Report and Implementation Plans are available to the community on each of the following websites:

- **Greater Flint Health Coalition:** [www.gfhc.org](http://www.gfhc.org)
- **Ascension Genesys Hospital:** [www.ascension.org](http://www.ascension.org)
- **Hurley Medical Center:** [www.hurleymc.com](http://www.hurleymc.com)
- **McLaren Flint:** [www.mclaren.org/flint](http://www.mclaren.org/flint)
- **Genesee County Health Department:** [www.gchd.us](http://www.gchd.us)

The websites of the Greater Flint Health Coalition and Genesee County Health Department each provide descriptions of a variety of targeted initiatives that are available to support community health needs to be addressed.

**For additional information or questions, please contact the Greater Flint Health Coalition at [gfhc@flint.org](mailto:gfhc@flint.org).**







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