



2025-2027

Community Health
Improvement Plan

SSM Health St. Louis - St. Louis City

SSM Health Academic Hospitals

SSM Health Saint Louis University Hospital | 1201 S. Grand Blvd. | St. Louis, MO 63104

SSM Health Cardinal Glennon Children's Hospital | 1465 S. Grand Blvd | St. Louis, MO 63104

SSM Health St. Mary's Hospital - St. Louis | 6420 Clayton Rd. | St. Louis, MO, 63117

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Message to our community

SSM Health Saint Louis University Hospital, St. Mary's Hospital - St. Louis and Cardinal Glennon Children's Hospital, members of SSM Health, are committed to providing exceptional, compassionate care to our community. Inspired by our founding Franciscan Sisters of Mary and guided by our Mission – Through our exceptional health care services, we reveal the healing presence of God – we cherish the sacredness and dignity of each person as demonstrated through our values of compassion, respect, excellence, stewardship and community.

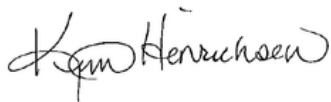


The health and well-being of our community is a priority for all of us and we look forward to deepening our relationships with community partners to address the pressing needs in our community including the priorities identified in our Community Health Needs Assessment process: Behavioral Health, Food/Nutrition Security, Violence Prevention and Maternal/Infant Health. The Community Health Improvement strategies and partnerships outlined in this report provide a strong roadmap for our engagement on these priorities moving forward through the next 3 years and beyond.

SSM Health and our individual hospitals teams remain committed to providing exceptional care to each patient we care for and improving the health and well-being of the communities we serve.



Sincerely,



Kim Henrichsen
Interim President
SSM Health Saint Louis University Hospital
SSM Health St. Mary's Hospital - St. Louis



Dr. Hossain Marandi
President
SSM Health Cardinal Glennon Children's Hospital
SSM Health System Vice President, Pediatric Services

Executive summary

Under the Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act, SSM Health must undertake a process every 3 years focused on engaging with the communities we serve to identify community health needs, prioritizing those needs, and ultimately designing actionable strategies to impact the named priorities. The Community Health Needs Assessment (CHNA) and Community Health Improvement Plan (CHIP) are created and published to collectively reflect all these efforts and provide a roadmap for continued collaboration with community in the coming 3 years to address our shared priorities.

The CHNA for the academic hospitals within SSM Health St. Louis was approved on November 25, 2024, is available here: [Community Health Needs Assessment](#). The CHNA Report outlines the process followed to identify community health needs and the resulting priorities to be addressed during 2025-2027:



This Community Health Improvement Plan report strives to take each of the identified priorities and create actionable strategies to continue to address the needs of the communities we serve. This CHIP report will serve as the guiding document for community health improvement efforts by SSM Health individual hospitals, collectively as a region, as well as in collaboration with regional partners including other hospitals systems, public health departments, community-based organizations and social service providers. This report was approved on February 24, 2025, and will remain in place through 2027.

The CHNA process embraced by the SSM Health Academic Hospitals focused on collaboration with other hospital systems in the St. Louis region to engage both community members and stakeholders. This intentional community-centered process provided a collective understanding of the needs from community as well as the clear mandate from community that community health improvement efforts are most effective when done collaboratively. In creating our Community Health Improvement Plan (CHIP), that collaboration with partner organizations and community again serves as our foundation not only continuing our efforts in partnership with regional hospital system partners (BJC Healthcare, Mercy and St. Luke's), but further expanding our collaboration for this CHIP with the City of St. Louis Department of Health and St. Louis County Public Health Department.



SSM Health Team Members support Telemundo St. Louis' first major "Tu Salud" Fair

About SSM Health

Nationally recognized for quality and innovation, SSM Health is a Catholic, not-for-profit, fully integrated health system working to advance health equity and empower all people to achieve their full potential. With care delivery sites in Illinois, Missouri, Oklahoma, and Wisconsin, SSM Health provides convenient access to high-quality community-based services as well as world-class academic medicine, clinical trials, and research studies. The organization’s footprint includes hospitals, physician offices, outpatient and virtual care services, senior care, comprehensive home care and hospice services, a fully transparent pharmacy benefit company, a health insurance company, and an accountable care organization. As one of the largest employers in every community it serves, the organization’s 40,000 team members and 13,900+ providers are dedicated to fulfilling SSM Health’s Mission: “Through our exceptional health care services, we reveal the healing presence of God.” Like our founding sisters, we care deeply for our communities -- SSM Health reported \$470 million in community benefit in 2023, including the provision of more than \$346 million in uncompensated care.

SSM Health Fast Facts at a Glance

Community Benefit	\$470 million
Team Members*	40,000
Providers on Medical Staff*	13,900+
Dean Health Plan members**	485,000+
Navitus members**	14 million+ across 50 states
Inpatient Admissions	149,221
Outpatient Visits	21 million
Completed Medical Group Appointments	6.1 million
Outpatient Surgeries	94,588
Virtual Visits	229,574
Home Care Visits	240,189



*Through our exceptional healthcare services,
we reveal the healing presence of God.*

Fast Facts reflect 2023 totals, unless otherwise noted.

** Values are approximate as of April 2024*

*** Values for Dean Health Plan (including Prevea360) and Navitus as of January 2024*



SSM Health Saint Louis University Hospital

Location:

1201 S. Grand Blvd.
St. Louis, MO 63104

Contact:

314-257-8000

Licensed Beds: 405

Key Statistics:

Employees: 2,000+

Physicians: 600+

Residents/Fellows: 450

Admissions: 15,246

Emergency visits: 43,063

Outpatient visits: 136,296

Inpatient surgeries: 5,891

Outpatient surgeries: 5,693

CMI: 2.52

Designations:

American Heart Association's
Get with the Guidelines: Gold
Plus Award for heart failure
and stroke

A Joint Commission Top
Performer on Key Quality
Measures

ACS Level 1 Trauma Center

Level 1 Time Critical Diagnosis
Stroke and STEMI Center

Designated Level 4 Epilepsy
Center by NAEC

Breast Center Accreditation
from NAPBC

American College of
Cardiology NCDR Chest Pain -
MI Registry Gold Performance
Achievement Award

Exceptional Services

Expert Cardiac Care

SSM Health Saint Louis University Hospital (SLU-H) and SLUCare Physician Group are partners in one of the most comprehensive heart program in the region. By fusing cardiology and cardiac surgery into one service, our specialists provide a patient-focused and individualized approach, giving patients personalized options for a wide range of heart diseases and disorders, including atrial fibrillation and complex valve disease. Our program is home to many firsts; the first open-heart surgery and cardiac catheterization lab in St. Louis were at SLU-H in the 1950s, and continue to advance medicine through new therapies such as transcatheter aortic valve replacement and the hybrid maze procedure.

Level I Trauma Center

The 40,000 sq. ft. emergency department and Level I Trauma Center features 42 beds, five trauma bays and is conveniently located beneath the operating room for easier access for our trauma patients. In addition to the exam rooms and quick-turn rooms, the emergency department features a behavioral health unit as well as its own designated CT and X-ray machines.

Center for Abdominal Transplantation

Since 1968, specialists at SLU-H have performed thousands of transplants with outcomes exceeding national averages. The Center for Abdominal Transplantation includes specially-trained nurses, patient care coordinators and SLUCare physicians who provide medical care for patients with end-stage organ failure requiring liver, kidney, pancreas, and combined kidney-pancreas transplants. In addition, our recognized specialists are internationally and nationally known

for advancing therapies in the field of hepatology and nephrology.

In 2023, SSM Health joined the Living Donor Circle of Excellence, adopting a policy to provide special paid time off for six weeks to employees to recover from surgery after choosing to become a living donor. The program is an initiative of the American Society of Transplantation (AST).

The Center for Outpatient Blood and Marrow Transplant

SLU-H is home to the only outpatient bone marrow transplant center in the region, allowing some patients the ability to return home during treatment rather than face a lengthy inpatient hospital stay. For cancer patients in need of a bone marrow or stem cell transplant, the Center for Blood and Marrow Outpatient Transplant truly offers care that few centers in the United States can provide, and is accredited by the Foundation for the Accreditation of Cellular Therapy (FACT). The center also offers CAR T-cell therapy for cancer patients, which uses the body's own immune system to fight the disease.

Our commitment to cancer care led SLU-H and SLUCare Physician Group to establish The Center for Blood and Marrow Outpatient Transplant to perform some allogeneic and autologous bone marrow transplants in an outpatient setting.

The MidAmerica Stroke Network

SSM Health Saint Louis University Hospital founded the MidAmerica Stroke Network in 2008 to improve and advance quality stroke care throughout the Midwest. Now with more than 70 member facilities, the stroke network plays a critical role in not only providing the latest in stroke care through the hospital's status as a Level I Stroke Center, but by promoting quality stroke care measures throughout the region.

Through our exceptional
health care services, we reveal
the healing presence of God.



SSMHealth

Saint Louis University Hospital

The state-of-the-art, \$550 million dollar SSM Health Saint Louis University Hospital and ambulatory care center officially opened September 1, 2020, with the goals of offering a healthier clinical environment for exceptional patient care and a superb teaching environment. It features:

- More than 800,000 square feet of space
- 316 private patient rooms
- Level I trauma center and emergency department
- Large intensive care units
- Patient parking
- Green space and water features
- Areas for campus expansion
- Interventional platform features 14 operating rooms, three hybrid operating rooms, MRI and CT rooms, labs, procedure rooms, PACU and a 16-room short stay unit.



SSM Health Saint Louis University Hospital Key Performance Indicators

Goal Name	2023 Goal
Growth and Sustainability	
Net Operating Income	100% of Budget
Total Admissions	100% of Budget
Exceptional Care and Performance	
Patient Experience - HCAHPS	75.46
Vizient Safety and Quality Score	
Inpatient Mortality	0.92
Effectiveness (30-day Unplanned Readmissions)	11.70%
Safety (HAI's and PSI's): CAUTI	5
Safety (HAI's and PSI's): CLABSI	11
Safety (HAI's and PSI's): cDiff	36
Safety (HAI's and SSI's): Colo, Hyst, Hip/Knee	8
Safety Vizient PSI Composite (PSI 90)	0.95
Excess Days	40733 days

Goal Name	2023 Goal
Culture and Inclusion	
Employee Engagement	5% improvement from baseline
Employee Safety- DART: (2023-2025)	2.78
Clinical Vacancy Rate	40.97%
Employee Voluntary Turnover	24.20%
Community	
Food Insecurity Improvements/Events	Solidify relationship with Foodbank
Care for Creation (Energy Star Score)	66

Services offered at SSM Health Saint Louis University Hospital

- Abdominal organ transplant
- Blood and marrow transplant
- Breast imaging and mammography
- Cardiac care
- Emergency medicine and trauma services
- Gastroenterology
- Geriatric
- Nephrology
- Neuroscience
- Orthopedics
- Otolaryngology (ear, nose & throat)
- The Center for Pancreatic and Biliary Diseases
- Behavioral medicine
- Radiology and imaging
- Rheumatology
- Robotic surgery
- Saint Louis University Cancer Center
- Sports medicine
- Urology

SSM Health St. Mary's Hospital - St. Louis



Exceptional Services

High-Risk Pregnancy

With an affiliation with SSM Health Cardinal Glennon Children's Hospital and a partnership with SLUCare Physician Group, SSM Health St. Mary's Hospital - St. Louis is the most comprehensive mother-baby program in the region. The Family Birthplace at SSM Health St. Mary's is the regional hub for maternal services and high-risk obstetrics. SSM Health St. Mary's is fully equipped with a Level III Neonatal ICU, a Perinatal Center and a satellite location for the SSM Health Cardinal Glennon St. Louis Fetal Care Institute. SSM Health St. Mary's also is home to the Women Infant Substance Help (WISH) Center, which provides comprehensive, high-risk maternity care for women who are dependent on opioid drugs. It is the only center of its kind in the region.

SSM Health Heart & Vascular Care

Our cardiologists are among the best in the area. In addition to caring for heart patients in all stages of their journey, we also offer a Cardiopulmonary Rehab Unit, where recovering patients can regain strength through supervised exercise. Since 2009, SSM Health St. Mary's has been one of the few hospitals nationwide to complete all emergent heart catheterization interventions in under 90 minutes—the gold standard of care.

SSM Health Imaging Services

SSM Health Imaging Services is a designated Breast Imaging Center of Excellence and is accredited by the American College of Radiology in breast imaging. You can count on updated technology, including 3D tomosynthesis mammography, an accurate diagnosis, and personalized care for patients who come in for an exam. We provide access to a multi-disciplinary network of breast care professionals and all the services needed in one location to monitor, diagnose, and inform your patients about their breast health.

In addition to 3D tomosynthesis mammography, SSM Health St. Mary's also offers a full array of imaging services such as CT, X-ray, ultrasound, MRI, nuclear medicine, bone density, and PET/CT scans.

Location:

6420 Clayton Road
St. Louis, MO 63117

Contact:

314-768-8000

Licensed Beds: 495

Major teaching facility affiliated with Saint Louis University School of Medicine

Key Statistics:

(on an annual basis)

Employees: 1,700+

Admissions: 14,137

Births: 2,700+

Emergency visits: 44,000+

Outpatient visits: 139,568

Inpatient surgeries: 1,888

Outpatient surgeries: 4,636

Internal Medicine, Pharmacy and

SLUCare Residents: 100+



SSMHealth

St. Mary's Hospital

ST. LOUIS

Awards:

CMS 4 Star Quality Rating

Watson Health 100 Top Hospitals®, 2017 and 2018

American Heart Association/American Stroke Association's Gold Plus Quality Achievement Award, 2016-2019

Designated a Baby-Friendly Hospital® in 2019

Newsweek Best Maternity Hospital in 2020 and 2023



Services offered at SSM Health St. Mary's Hospital

- Affiliation with SSM Health Cardinal Glennon Children's Hospital
- Endoscopy Center
- Level III Neonatal Intensive Care Unit (NICU)
- Partnership with Saint Louis University School of Medicine
- The Family Birthplace - SSM Health Women's Health
- Robotic Surgery
- SSM Health Cardinal Glennon St. Louis Fetal Care Institute
- SSM Health Behavioral Health
- SSM Health Breast Care
- SSM Health Cancer Care
- SSM Health Heart & Vascular Care
- SSM Health Imaging Services
- SSM Health Maternal Transport Team
- SSM Health Neurosciences
- SSM Health Orthopedics
- SSM Health Pain Care
- SSM Health Pharmacy
- SSM Health Rehabilitation Hospital
- SSM Health Sleep Services
- SSM Health Women's Health
- Wound Center

ssmhealth.com

Through our exceptional health care services, we reveal the healing presence of God.



SSMHealth

St. Mary's Hospital
ST. LOUIS

SSM Health Cardinal Glennon Children's Hospital

BEST CHILDREN'S HOSPITALS

U.S. News & World Report

RANKED IN 5 SPECIALTIES 2023-2024

Ranked as a U.S. News & World Report Best Children's Hospital

MAGNET RECOGNIZED

AMERICAN NURSES CREDENTIALING CENTER



More than 200 specialists



in more than 60 medical and 16 surgical subspecialties



The first to be designated a Level I Pediatric Trauma Center in both Missouri and Illinois



The Neonatal and Pediatric Transport team serves over 1,600 children a year from communities all over the bistate region.



The Knights of Columbus Developmental Center has been

servicing patients since 1981 and is designated as a Missouri Center for Autism and is part of SSM Health Cardinal Glennon.



A 195-bed teaching hospital

affiliated with Saint Louis University School of Medicine



The Missouri Poison Center at SSM Health Cardinal Glennon Children's Hospital is accredited by the American Association of Poison Control Centers and is the sole poison center serving all of Missouri.

5 SSM Health Cardinal Glennon Pediatrics offices located throughout St. Louis

13 SSM Health Medical Group offices affiliated with SSM Health Cardinal Glennon located in the St. Louis and Illinois region

7 pediatric emergency room locations in Missouri and Illinois

- SSM Health Cardinal Glennon Pediatrics offices
- Pediatric emergency rooms
- SSM Health Medical Group offices



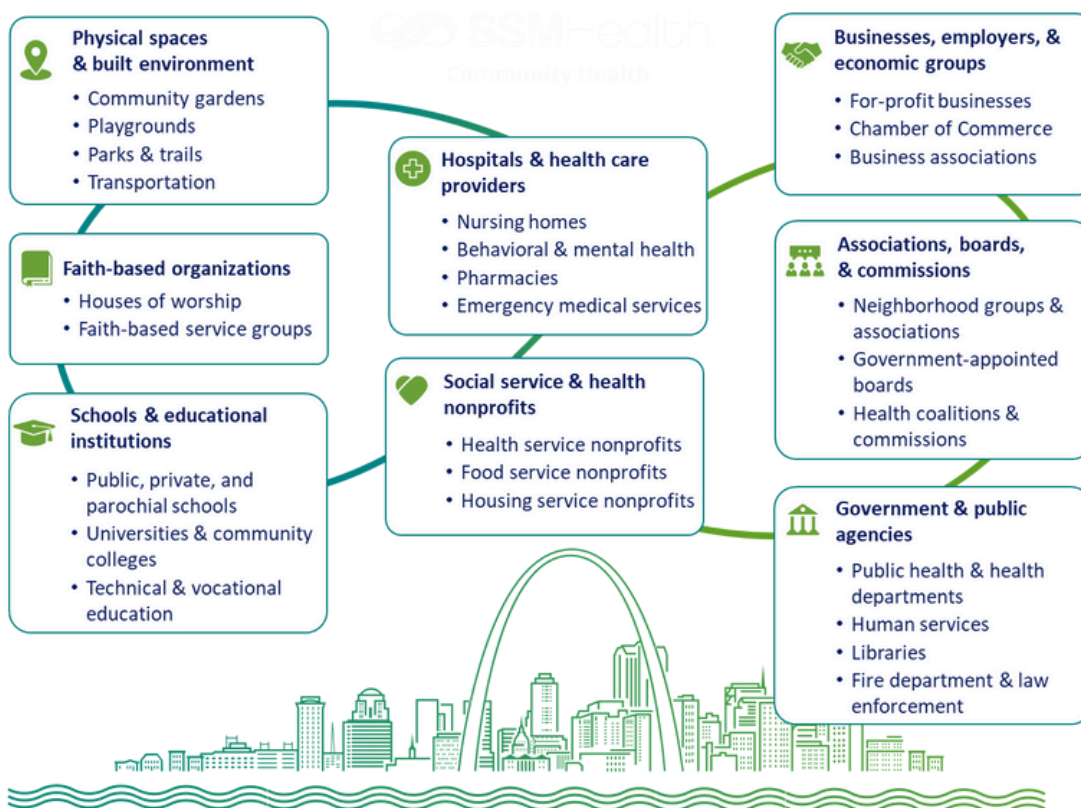
cardinalglennon.com

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CHIP Process, Partners and Guiding Principals

Community Health, as defined by the America Hospital Association, refers to the non-clinical approaches for improving health, preventing disease, and reducing disparities through addressing social, behavioral, environmental, economic, and medical determinants of health in a geographic area.[i] The Community Health Needs Assessment (CHNA) and Community Health Improvement Plan (CHIP) are two important processes that assist SSM Health Academic Hospitals gain stronger understanding of the community, develop and deepen relationships with our community as well collectively identify shared priorities and strategies to address them.

SSM Health St. Louis Academic Hospitals Community Health Needs Assessment was conducted in partnership with the St. Louis Regional Hospital Collaborative including BJC Healthcare, Mercy, and St. Luke's health systems. This collaboration was formed with the shared understanding that all of the regional health systems within St. Louis serve the same communities and that the process to engage with and learn from community is stronger in collaboration than when done as individual organizations. The community-centered approach embraced by the collaborative to conduct the CHNA is fully outlined in the SSM Health's Academic Hospitals CHNA report and the graphic below demonstrates the broad outreach engaged in both the CHNA and CHIP efforts to fully benefit from the expertise and experience of all of our partners.

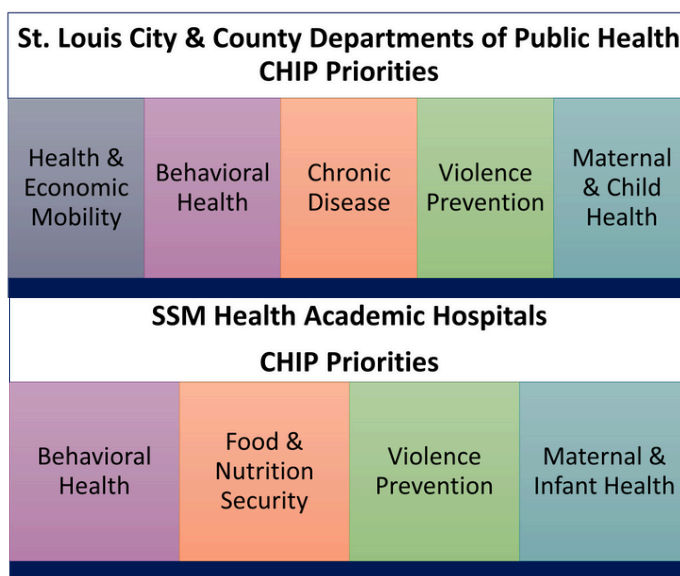


[i] <https://www.aha.org/center/community-health-well-being#:~:text=What%20is%20Community%20Health%3F,in%20a%20geographically%20defined%20population.>

CHIP Process, Partners and Guiding Principals

While the hospital and health systems in the St. Louis Regional Hospital Collaborative all conducted the information and data gathering portion of the CHNA together, our reporting timelines differ and each organization will therefore produce their own CHNA and CHIP reports. However, our shared commitment to working with community remains and all members of the collaborative remain committed to engaging in Community Health Improvement efforts collectively throughout the St. Louis region moving forward.

In addition to collaboration with hospital systems, community members and stakeholders, partners in public health were also engaged in our CHNA and CHIP processes. Public Health entities are required to conduct community health assessments and community health improvement plans every 5 years while nonprofit hospital and health systems are every 3 years. The SSM Health Academic Hospitals identified their community of focus for our CHNA as the city of St. Louis and therefore a key partner in our efforts is the City of St. Louis Department of Health.



In 2022 the City of St. Louis Department of Health collaborated with the St. Louis County Department of Public Health for a first-ever combined Community Health Assessment followed by a joint Community Health Improvement Plan providing a regional plan for their identified priorities from 2023-2027. The alignment and shared commitment of the city and county public health departments mirrors the alignment of the St. Louis region’s hospital systems: **community health improvement efforts are best done and most effective in collaboration**. Many metropolitan areas across the United States have recognized the importance of collaborative CHNAs and CHIPS and more importantly focused collaboration on shared CHNA priorities and the resulting CHIP strategies. And while St. Louis is not yet to a single CHNA and CHIP report, we do have an amazing opportunity to impact community health through collaboration. SSM Health Academic Hospitals are committed to aligning with the ongoing community health improvement efforts begun by the city/county CHIP process for our shared priorities moving forward.

CHIP Process, Partners and Guiding Principals

The 4 Community Health priorities identified by SSM Health St. Louis Academic Hospitals align with 4 of the 5 priorities identified by the city/county collaboration. It should be noted that the outlined strategies for Chronic Disease in the city/county CHIP all relate to food/nutrition security and fundamentally align despite different naming.

The city/county public health CHIP partnership has resulted in working groups being formed for each of the identified priorities bringing together community stakeholders, service providers, hospitals and health systems, as well as public health professionals to focus on each of their identified priorities for the region. Each working group is led by a community organization(s) known for their expertise and trusted leadership in that priority area and all of them are already partners of SSM Health St. Louis Academic Hospitals. In order to streamline efforts and ensure continuity of partnerships, focus, and impact in each of our identified priorities, SSM Health St. Louis Academic Hospitals commit to being active and engaged partners in each of the regional work groups for Behavioral Health, Chronic Disease/Food & Nutrition Security, Maternal/Child Health and Violence Prevention. This alignment allows for regional/collaborative initiatives, shared data tracking and outcomes measurement, conservation of resources, and impactful – not duplicative – engagement with community to ensure overall impact of initiatives.

Organizations leading regional work groups



Behavioral Health

- Behavioral Health Network



Chronic Disease

- American Heart Association



Violence Prevention

- Violence Prevention Commission



Maternal & Child Health

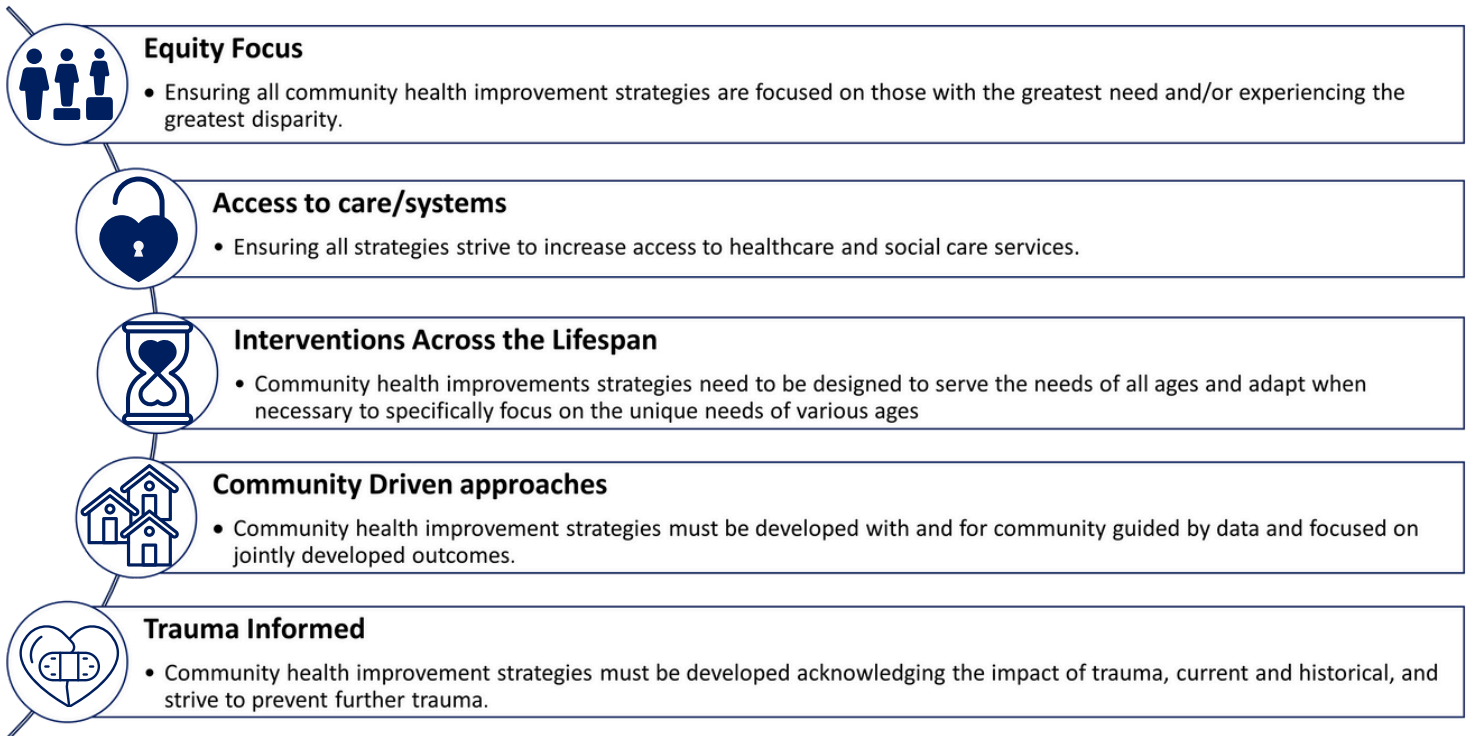
- Generate Health

Aligning our strategies and working collaboratively broadens the impact for SSM Health Academic Hospitals. Not only will we continue to focus on specific hospital and SSM Health St. Louis activities, this will allow us to share learnings with partners and work collaboratively on regional initiatives in addition to our focused hospital efforts.

The timing of this alignment is also important and impactful. The urgency for improvement in all identified priorities areas is well noted and documented in each of our CHNAs. Leaning into true collaboration allows each partner entity to learn from and serve community more deeply as well as build trust with community and one another.

CHIP Process, Partners and Guiding Principals

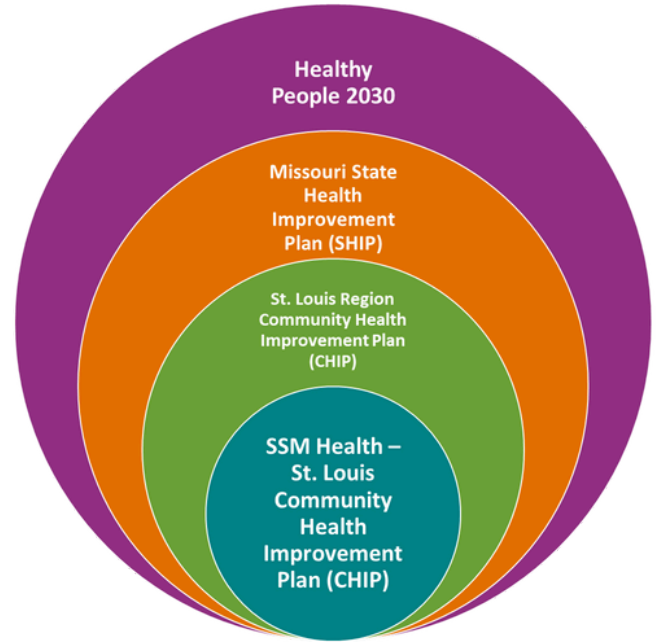
Throughout our CHNA and CHIP process, SSM Health Academic Hospitals have committed to a set of principles to anchor our efforts, community engagement, strategies, and collaborations. All of our partners, including the CHIP Workgroups initiated by the city/county public health collaboration have also committed to the same principles ensuring a community-centered approach to all we do to improve the health of the St. Louis community. The principles we commit to include:



The commitment to these guiding principles for CHIP strategies and initiatives is essential for our collective work and for achieving the outcomes our community deserves.

Aligning SSM Health St. Louis CHIP Efforts with National, State and Regional Initiatives

While SSM Health St. Louis Academic Hospitals are directly partnering and aligning with the City of St. Louis Department of Health and St. Louis County Department of Public Health for the implementation of regional Community Health Improvement strategies, alignment with larger state and national plans is imperative for improving health outcomes. Healthy People 2030 strives to set data-driven national objectives to improve health and well-being over a 10 year period. In addition, each state creates a Health Improvement plan further identifying goals, objectives and activities with a specific focus on their population. By ensuring alignment with these larger national and state goals, the St. Louis community-centered initiatives embraced by the city/county regional plan and SSM Health St. Louis Academic Hospitals strive to have deep and broad impact.



Aligning with St. Louis Public Health Partners

Below are the stated goals of the St. Louis Region Community Health Improvement Plan created collaboratively by the City of St. Louis Department of Health and the St. Louis County Department of Public Health. SSM Health St. Louis Academic Hospitals are aligning our CHIP strategies and activities within these goals and will be active members on all regional working groups for each priority. The full outline of the city/county CHIP objectives and goals under each goal is available here: [St. Louis Region Community Health Improvement Plan](#). A full listing of the goals, objectives and activities can also be found in Appendix A.

Priorities	Goals
Behavioral Health: Mental Health/Wellbeing and Substance Use	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Improve behavioral health and wellness through the availability, accessibility, and affordability of integrated and consistent, coordinated, patient-centered care for our most affected populations in St. Louis County and City of St. Louis through policy changes. • Improve behavioral health and wellness among affected populations through education and community navigation. • Increase the availability and accessibility of behavioral health services by utilizing systems-level navigation and integrated, coordinated, patient-centered care in the St. Louis region.
Food and Nutrition Security	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Increase healthy food availability, accessibility, and utilization as measured by: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◦ More coordinated, unified, systemic nutrition security solutions. ◦ Increased participation in food assistance programs (SNAP, WIC, School Meals, CACFP) ◦ Food and nutrition prioritized in health care for prevention and management of chronic disease (food security screening and referral, healthy food prescription, etc.) ◦ Nutrition valued as essential in hunger relief (food pantries, food banks) and food assistance programs (SNAP, WIC, School Meals, CACFP) ◦ Reduced food desert footprint
Violence Prevention	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Reduce non-fatal shooting incidents by 25% through increased coordination of community-level response, implementation of prevention practices, and increased community engagement in a holistic approach to public safety
Maternal and Infant Health	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Address racial disparities to reduce morbidity and mortality and improve maternal and infant health.

Behavioral Health: Mental Health & Wellbeing and Substance Use



Goal:

- Improve behavioral health and wellness through the availability, accessibility, and affordability of integrated and consistent, coordinated patient-centered care for our most vulnerable populations in St. Louis County and City through policy changes.
- Improve behavioral health and wellness among vulnerable populations through education and community navigation.
- Increase the availability and accessibility of behavioral health services by utilizing systems-level navigation and integrated coordinated patient-centered care in the St. Louis region.

SSM Health St. Louis Academic Hospitals commit to working towards the following objectives in addition to those outlined in the St. Louis Region Community Health Improvement Plan:

Objectives:	Community Partners:
Increase community awareness and utilization of SSM Health Behavioral Health Urgent care centers located at SSM Health Saint Louis University Hospital and SSM Health DePaul Hospital	BJC Behavioral Health, Places for People, City of St. Louis Department of Health - Behavioral Health Bureau
Increase community awareness and utilization of SSM Health Long Acting Injectable Clinics located at SSM Health Saint Louis University Hospital, SSM Health DePaul Hospital, and SSM Health St. Joseph Hospital - Wentzville	Community Behavioral Health providers
Actively participate in regional efforts to explore and establish Medical Respite program(s) and/or increased services for those who are unhoused and have Behavioral Health concerns	Hospital to Housing Collaborative Partners
Evaluate and optimize Housing Coordinator partnership with St. Patrick Center at SSM Health Saint Louis University Hospital and explore expansion opportunities within the region	SSM Health Saint Louis University Hospital, St. Patrick Center

Behavioral Health: Mental Health & Wellbeing and Substance Use



Objectives:	Community Parnters:
<p>Optimize participation in regional initiatives led by the Behavioral Health Network for patient navigation supports from acute to outpatient care for mental health services. Programs currently include: Adult and Youth Emergency Room Enhancement Programs and Hospital Community Linkages program.</p>	<p>Behavioral Health Network (BHN) community provider organizations, BJC Healthcare, and Mercy</p>
<p>Actively participate in regional efforts to explore and establish Mandatory Outpatient Therapy (MOT) for those who have behavioral health concerns, interactions with law enforcement and have high utilization of acute care services.</p>	<p>Community Behavioral Health providers, Law enforcement entities</p>
<p>Optimize participation in regional initiatives led by the Behavioral Health Network for patient/community navigation support for substance use services. Programs include: EPICC, Dunnica Sobering Support Center and Youth Family Treatment Enhancement and Expansion.</p>	<p>Behavioral Health Network (BHN) community provider organizations, BJC Healthcare, and Mercy</p>
<p>Increase community knowledge and utilization of drug take back bins located throughout the community and at SSM Health St. Louis hospitals</p>	<p>Community Pharmacies, Police Departments, Public Health Departments</p>
<p>Increase Behavioral Health supports within SSM Health primary care settings through the SSM Health Virtual Behavioral Health Integration program. Explore expansion from adult primary settings to additional specialty care settings including but not limited to: pediatrics, Obstetrics & Gynecology, and oncology.</p>	

Food and Nutrition Security



Goal: Increase healthy food availability, accessibility, and utilization measured by:

- Increased coordinated, unified, systemic nutrition security solutions.
- Increased participation in food assistance programs (SNAP, WIC, School Meals, CACFP)
- Food and nutrition prioritized in health care for prevention and management of chronic disease (food security screening and referral, healthy food prescription, etc.)
- Nutrition is valued as essential in hunger relief (food pantries, food banks) and food assistance programs (SNAP, WIC, School Meals, CACFP)
- Reduced food desert footprint

SSM Health St. Louis Academic Hospitals commit to the following objectives in addition to those already outlined in the St. Louis Region Community Health Improvement Plan:

Objectives:	Community Partners:
Optimize SSM Health SDOH inpatient screening for food insecurity ensuring those identified are connected to community-based resources. Connecting a minimum of 50% of identified inpatients to SSM Health’s Bread Basket Program providing immediate food resources and/or direct connection to St. Louis Area Foodbank Food Resource Team.	St. Louis Area Foodbank
In partnership with the St. Louis Area Foodbank, conduct Community Food Distribution events at all SSM Health - St. Louis hospitals on a yearly basis to support regional efforts to address food insecurity in community.	St. Louis Area Foodbank
Optimize partnerships with food and nutrition support organizations to increase food security and nutritional education for specific populations such as those with chronic disease, cancer or during pregnancy	Food Outreach, Operation Food Search
Explore opportunities with Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program Education (SNAP-Ed) partnership through University of Missouri Extension to increase nutrition education security within our communities	University of Missouri Extension

Violence Prevention



Goal: Reduce non-fatal shooting incidents by 25% through increased coordination of community-level response, implementation of prevention practices, and increased community engagement in a holistic approach to public safety.

SSM Health St. Louis Academic Hospitals commit to the following objectives in addition to those already outlined in the St. Louis Region Community Health Improvement Plan:

Objectives:	Community Partners:
Actively participate in regional Life Outside of Violence (LOV) program focused on serving individuals who are victims of violence between the ages of 8-30. Participants are provided with up to one year of services and support and the program is available at SSM Health Cardinal Glennon Children’s Hospital and SSM Health Saint Louis University Hospital	Washington University in St. Louis School of Public Health, St. Louis Children’s Hospital and BJC Barnes Jewish Hospital
Implement the Supporting Transition and Recovery in Trauma (START) program at SSM Health Saint Louis University Hospital for individuals above the age of 30 and victims of violence. Program utilizes multidisciplinary team to address medical/recovery needs, social driver of health needs and overall support for successful transition back to community.	City of St. Louis Office of Violence Prevention
Provide quality and engaging community education and trainings related to violence response and reduction. Expanding and adapting trainings for specific audiences to accommodate age, language and location. Trainings include Stop the Bleed and BeSMART.	Schools, Community organizations, Community Groups
Provide safe, no-cost support to all survivors of physical trauma regardless of where they received care through the Trauma Survivor’s Network.	Community members, Peer Support Specialists

Maternal and Infant Health



Goal: Address racial disparities to reduce morbidity and mortality to improve maternal and infant health.

SSM Health St. Louis Academic Hospitals commit to the following objectives in addition to those already outlined in the St. Louis Region Community Health Improvement Plan:

Objectives:	Community Partners:
<p>Commits to providing no-cost programs and support to all perinatal people regardless of birthing hospital, OB or Midwife through the MOMs Line. Services provided include but not limited to: MOMs telephonic support line, MOMs support groups, and Perinatal Mental Health Peer Coach Training.</p>	
<p>Serve as the lead organization for the HRSA State Maternal Health Innovation grant striving to reduce severe maternal mortality and morbidity through:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • improving access to comprehensive, high-quality care from preconception through one-year post partum • enhancing and support state maternal health surveillance and data capacity • identifying and implementing innovative interventions to improve outcomes for populations disproportionately impacted by maternal mortality and morbidity 	<p>Missouri Hospital Association, St. Louis Integrated Health Network, Missouri Primary Care Association, University of Missouri MIMH, Missouri Department of Health and Senior Services, MO HealthNet</p>
<p>Open The Center for Healthy Families & Communities on the campus of SSM Health St. Mary’s Hospital to serve all birthing people with supports for social drivers of health needs through direct supports from Community Health Workers, referrals to community-based service providers and an onsite volunteer-run boutique providing personal , baby and home items.</p>	<p>Community organizations supporting families, Community volunteers</p>
<p>Continue to optimize current services/clinics and explore additional opportunities designed to outreach, educate and provide quality healthcare to birthing individuals at high risk for maternal morbidity and mortality. Current initiatives include: Women’s Health & Wellness Center, Women & Infant Substance Help (WISH) Center, Fourth Trimester Integrative Transition (FIT Center) and OB Care Center.</p>	

Moving Forward



The partnerships, goals, objectives, and activities outlined in this Community Health Improvement Plan are ambitious. The priorities identified are complex and the disparities in outcomes experienced within our communities for each priority is significant. It will take time, resources, committed partnerships and most importantly community-driven collaboration to achieve our stated goals. While this CHIP will guide our efforts through 2027, the work in each of these priority areas began years ago and will need to continue well beyond this 3-year CHNA/CHIP cycle.

The level of collaboration between health systems and with our public health entities in the area of Community Health improvement plans and their implementation has never been stronger in the St. Louis Region. The opportunity for community-centered collaborative work to truly impact health outcomes is real and the academic hospitals of SSM Health St. Louis are ready to be active and committed partners in this work. SSM Health St. Louis Academic Hospitals have been providing exceptional healthcare services to the St. Louis community for generations and remain committed to continuing to do so for generations to come. We look forward to working closely with community members, regional hospital partners, public health entities, community organizations, and service providers to earnestly strive for improved health and well-being for the entire St. Louis community.





SSMHealth.

2025-2027

Appendices

Appendix A:

St. Louis Region Community Health Improvement Plan: Objectives and Activities

Below is a listing of the priorities and goals included in the St. Louis Region Community Health Improvement Plan created by the City of St. Louis Department of Health and the St. Louis County Department of Public Health. The full report can be viewed [here](#).

2023 – 2027 St. Louis Regional CHIP

Overview

Priorities	Goals
Priority 1: Intersection of Health and Economic Mobility	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Build coalition infrastructure for the Intersection of Health and Economic Mobility. 2. By 2028, implement opportunities to increase overall wealth by reducing the cost of housing and improving housing-related resources. By 2028, implement opportunities to 3. increase overall income by increasing employment and education opportunities, improving wages, and reducing barriers as necessary.
Priority 2: Chronic Disease	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Increase healthy food availability, accessibility, and utilization as measured by: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> a) More coordinated, unified, systemic nutrition security solutions. b) Increased participation in food assistance programs (SNAP, WIC, School Meals, CACFP) c) Food and nutrition prioritized in health care for prevention and management of chronic disease (food security screening and referral, healthy food prescription, etc.) d) Nutrition valued as essential in hunger relief (food pantries, food banks) and food assistance programs (SNAP, WIC, School Meals, CACFP) e) Reduced food desert footprint
Priority 3: Maternal and Child Health	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Address racial disparities to reduce morbidity and mortality and improve maternal and infant health.
Priority 4: Violence Prevention	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. By 2028, reduce non-fatal shooting incidents by 25% through increased coordination of community-level response, implementation of prevention practices, and increased community engagement in a holistic approach to public safety.
Priority 5: Behavioral Health	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. By 2027, improve behavioral health and wellness through the availability, accessibility, and affordability of integrated and consistent, coordinated, patient-centered care for our most affected populations in St. Louis County and City of St. Louis through policy changes. 2. By 2027, improve behavioral health and wellness among affected populations through education and community navigation. 3. By 2027, increase the availability and accessibility of behavioral health services by utilizing systems-level navigation and integrated, coordinated, patient-centered care in the St. Louis region.