

2013

CHRISTUS Dubuis Hospital of Bryan

Community Health Needs Assessment



CHRISTUS® DUBUIS
Hospital of Bryan



Table of Contents

Executive Summary	2
Purpose	3
Process	3
Heritage	4
Mission	4
Vision	4
Values	4
Organizational Description	5
CHRISTUS Dubuis Bryan Services	6
Service Area/Community Served	7
Age Analysis	24
Licensed Hospitals in Service Area	25
Community Health Needs Identified	26
Areas of Focus	26

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

Long term acute care hospitals meet a need within the community of those patients who require acute care, but require the service for an extended period of time. Many of these patients are referred directly from an intensive care unit or may be admitted directly to the facility when requiring extensive and extended acute care services. These patients clearly require extended complex medical care that is not typical for (nor reimbursed within) short term acute care hospitals.

The majority of patients who come to long term acute care are elderly (greater than 65 years of age) and meet the same requirements for short term acute care. At the present time, the only differentiator is the amount of time that will be required in the acute care setting and this is usually determined by the complexity of the patient.

The CHRISTUS Continuing Care Board Directors approved this methodology for meeting the requirement for Community Health Needs Assessment on September 27, 2013

Annual community benefit plans for CHRISTUS Dubuis Hospital of Bryan will be developed based on the community health needs assessment and within the scope of services permitted as a licensed long term acute care hospital.

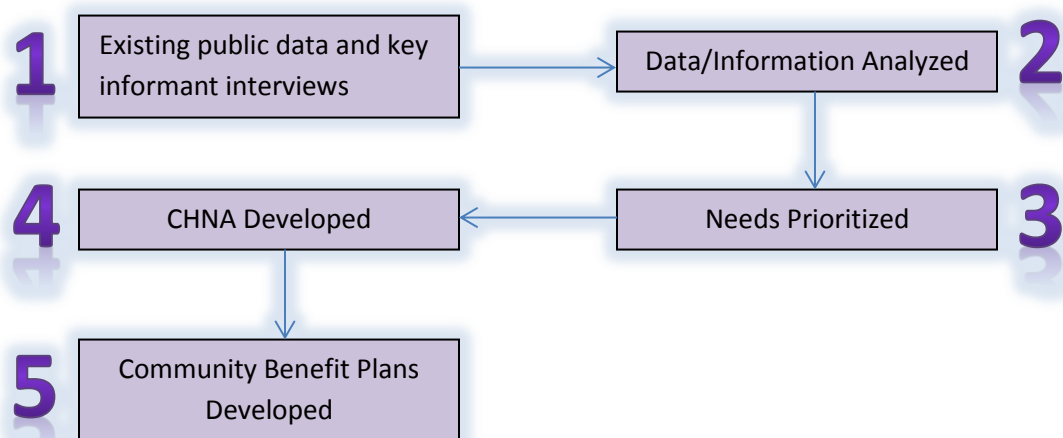
Purpose

This community needs assessment was developed for the purposes outlined below:

- To ensure that the mission of the organization is extended in the service area defined as it relates to improving the health care needs in the community.
- To identify areas of focus that exists in the community as they relate to health care and within the scope of service of the facility.
- To ensure the facility is in compliance with the required standards under the Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act of 2010.
- To ensure the health care needs of individuals in the community are met with the assistance of other health care providers, and to eliminate the possibility of duplicative services.

Process

In developing the community health needs assessment, CHRISTUS Dubuis Hospital of Bryan utilized information obtained from public documents, such as the community needs assessment for Brazos Valley conducted by Texas A&M School of Public Health and interviews with key leaders in the community. The Brazos Valley Needs Assessment included a seven-county region including Brazos, Burleson, Grimes, Leon, Madison, Robertson, and Washington Counties. They held discussion groups with individuals to ascertain needs in the community. Based on the community health needs assessment, annual community benefit plans will be developed to address priorities and community needs in accordance with the limited services provided by long term acute care hospitals.



Heritage

CHRISTUS Health is sponsored by the Sisters of Charity of the Incarnate Word in Houston and the Sisters of Charity of the Incarnate Word in San Antonio who were founded more than 140 years ago in response to Bishop Claude Marie Dubuis' call: "Our Lord Jesus Christ, suffering in the persons of a multitude of sick and infirm of every kind, seeks relief at your hands."

Mission

To extend the healing ministry of Jesus CHRISTUS HEALTH

Vision

CHRISTUS Health, a Catholic Health Ministry, will be a leader, a partner and an advocate in the creation of innovative health and wellness solutions that improve the lives of individuals and communities so that all may experience God's healing presence and love.

Values

Dignity

Respect for the worth of every person, recognition and commitment with respect to the values of diverse individuals and perspectives and special concern for the poor and underserved

Integrity

Honesty, justice, and consistency in all relationships

Excellence

High standards of service and performance

Compassion

Service in a spirit of empathy, love and concern

Stewardship

Service in a spirit of empathy, love and concern

Organizational Description

CHRISTUS Dubuis Health System, a non-profit long term acute care hospital (LTACH) system sponsored by CHRISTUS Health provides care to patients who require acute care over an extended period of time. Our dedicated staff provides specialty care that is tailored to the individual needs of every patient, resulting in excellent clinical outcomes. CHRISTUS Dubuis provides management services for several long term acute care hospitals that independently benefit from associating with a strong faith-based healthcare system.

The hospitals within the CHRISTUS Dubuis Health System are dedicated to providing the highest quality, compassionate care to our patients and families we are privileged to serve. Our dedication is evident by our quality indicators, which exceed national averages in key clinical areas and in our patient satisfaction scores, which are nationally recognized.

CHRISTUS Dubuis Hospital of Bryan is located adjacent to St. Joseph Hospital and shares the same building with St. Joseph Regional Rehabilitation Center. CHRISTUS Dubuis Hospital of Bryan opened in May 2008 as a 30 bed facility to provide care to medically complex patients.

Due to the nature of the long term acute care industry and the regulatory bodies that oversee and govern the types of services that are provided, the hospital has a limited scope of service and is subject to penalties if serving patients that do not meet the strict requirements for admission. The hospital only provides inpatient acute care services to patients whose length of stay exceeds 25 days and fall into a limited number of diagnoses.

Long term acute care hospitals meet several bodies of rules and regulations in order to operate. These facilities are subject to the same standards for any hospital as outlined by the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid; they comply with respective state rules and regulations for hospitals (most states have additional requirements for hospitals located within other hospitals); they are subject to the local Quality Improvement Organization; and most meet the requirements of The Joint Commission.

CHRISTUS Dubuis Bryan Services

The hospital currently provides services and programs to residents in the service area that target care for those patients requiring acute care services for an extended period of time. The services provided will help to meet needs that have been identified through the community health needs assessment. These patients require extended acute care hospitalization with specialty programs focusing on ventilator dependency, wound care, and rehabilitation.

Services provided by CHRISTUS Dubuis Hospital of Bryan include, but are not limited to, the following:

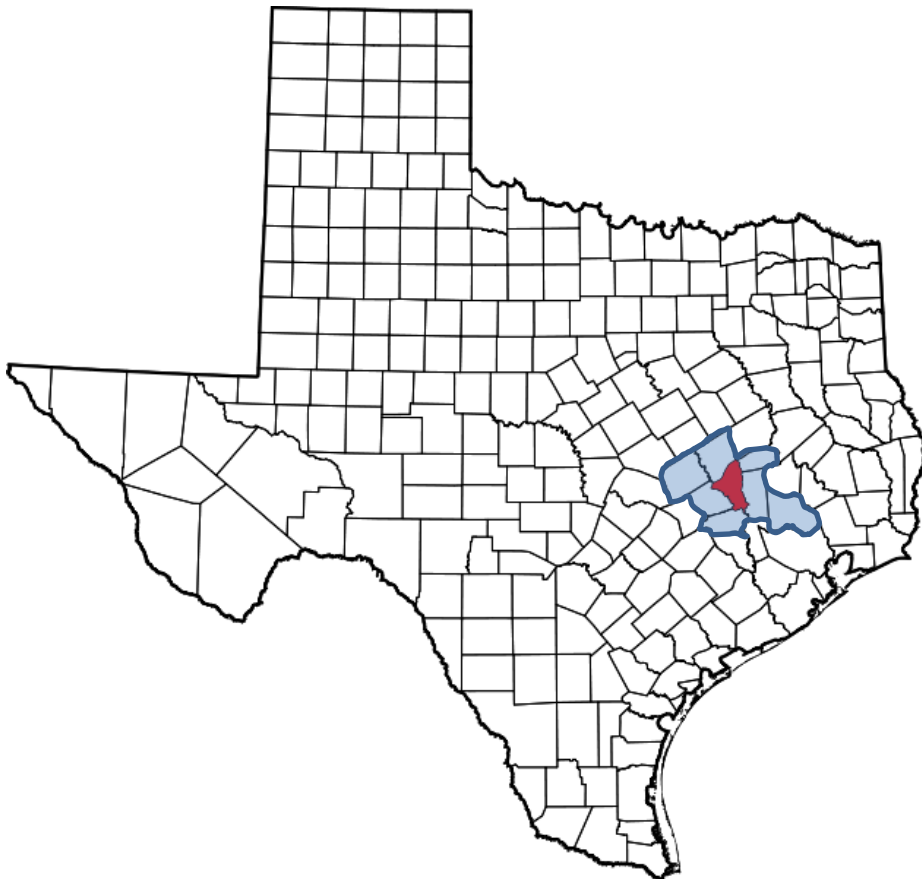
- 24-hour nursing care
- Acute and post-ICU medical care
- Ventilator care and weaning with 24-hour respiratory care
- Wound care
- Comprehensive inpatient physical, occupational, and speech rehabilitation
- Cardiac monitoring
- IV therapy
- Blood transfusions
- Dialysis
- Therapeutic nutritional support
- Pain management
- Case management
- Social work services
- Patient and family education.

Service Area/Community Served

CHRISTUS Dubuis Hospital of Bryan primarily serves Brazos County but also the contiguous counties of Burleson, Grimes, Madison, Milam, Montgomery, Robertson and Washington. Based on the 2010 US Census, these counties had a population of approximately 789,040. Approximately 11.44% of the population was greater than the age of 65 and 17% were below the poverty level.

The breakdown of the population statistics (based on 2010 Census) by parish is as follows:

County	Population	Over 65	Below Poverty Level
Brazos	200,665	7.8%	29.7%
Burleson	17,291	18.2%	13.3%
Grimes	26,569	15.1%	15.6%
Madison	13,667	14.5%	22.7%
Milam	24,757	18.7%	17%
Montgomery	455,761	11.3%	11.5%
Robertson	16,622	17.5%	22.1%
Washington	33,708	19.1%	14.3%



County Snapshots

Brazos County

	Brazos County	Error Margin	Texas	National Benchmark*	Rank (of 232)
Health Outcomes					16
Mortality					19
Premature death	5,753	5,346-6,160	6,928	5,317	
Morbidity					32
Poor or fair health	13%	9-18%	18%	10%	
Poor physical health days	3.8	2.6-5.1	3.7	2.6	
Poor mental health days	3.0	1.9-4.2	3.3	2.3	
Low birthweight	7.5%	7.2-7.9%	8.4%	6.0%	
Health Factors					30
Health Behaviors					44
Adult smoking	15%	10-22%	18%	13%	
Adult obesity	30%	24-37%	29%	25%	
Physical inactivity	22%	17-27%	25%	21%	
Excessive drinking	14%	9-21%	16%	7%	
Motor vehicle crash death rate	12	10-14	15	10	
Sexually transmitted infections	506		476	92	
Teen birth rate	28	27-29	60	21	
Clinical Care					23
Uninsured	22%	20-24%	26%	11%	
Primary care physicians**	1,304:1		1,766:1	1,067:1	
Dentists**	2,551:1		2,200:1	1,516:1	
Preventable hospital stays	66	61-70	72	47	
Diabetic screening	79%	75-84%	82%	90%	
Mammography screening	64%	59-69%	61%	73%	
Social & Economic Factors					88
High school graduation**	83%		86%		
Some college	66%	63-69%	57%	70%	
Unemployment	6.4%		7.9%	5.0%	

	Brazos County	Error Margin	Texas	National Benchmark*	Rank (of 232)
Children in poverty	24%	19-29%	27%	14%	
Inadequate social support	17%	11-25%	23%	14%	
Children in single-parent households	38%	33-42%	33%	20%	
Violent crime rate	434		483	66	
Physical Environment					116
Daily fine particulate matter	9.3	9.2-9.4	10.2	8.8	
Drinking water safety	0%		6%	0%	
Access to recreational facilities	9		7	16	
Limited access to healthy foods**	18%		9%	1%	
Fast food restaurants	57%		52%	27%	

Burleson County

	Burleson County	Error Margin	Texas	National Benchmark*	Trend	Rank (of 232)
Health Outcomes						58
Mortality						132
Premature death	8,409	6,757-10,061	6,928	5,317		
Morbidity						12
Poor or fair health	13%	7-22%	18%	10%		
Poor physical health days	2.1	0.9-3.4	3.7	2.6		
Poor mental health days	2.7	0.4-5.0	3.3	2.3		
Low birthweight	7.5%	6.1-8.8%	8.4%	6.0%		
Health Factors						133
Health Behaviors						199
Adult smoking			18%	13%		
Adult obesity	33%	25-40%	29%	25%		
Physical inactivity	32%	24-42%	25%	21%		
Excessive drinking	2%	0-10%	16%	7%		
Motor vehicle crash death rate	36	26-49	15	10		
Sexually transmitted infections	326		476	92		
Teen birth rate	60	53-68	60	21		
Clinical Care						152
Uninsured	27%	25-30%	26%	11%		
Primary care physicians**	3,442:1		1,766:1	1,067:1		
Dentists**	8,688:1		2,200:1	1,516:1		
Preventable hospital stays	87	76-98	72	47		
Diabetic screening	79%	68-90%	82%	90%		
Mammography screening	57%	46-69%	61%	73%		
Social & Economic Factors						116
High school graduation**	90%		86%			
Some college	35%	30-41%	57%	70%		
Unemployment	6.8%		7.9%	5.0%		
Children in poverty	26%	19-33%	27%	14%		

	Burleson County	Error Margin	Texas	National Benchmark*	Trend	Rank (of 232)
Inadequate social support			23%	14%		
Children in single-parent households	27%	19-36%	33%	20%		
Violent crime rate	248		483	66		
Physical Environment						4
Daily fine particulate matter	9.3	9.2-9.4	10.2	8.8		
Drinking water safety	7%		6%	0%		
Access to recreational facilities	17		7	16		
Limited access to healthy foods**	5%		9%	1%		
Fast food restaurants	39%		52%	27%		

Grimes County

Grimes County	Error Margin	Texas	National Benchmark*	Trend	Rank (of 232)
Health Outcomes					110
Mortality					159
Premature death	9,073	7,772-10,374	6,928	5,317	
Morbidity					39
Poor or fair health	14%	7-24%	18%	10%	
Poor physical health days	2.4	1.1-3.7	3.7	2.6	
Poor mental health days	4.1	1.5-6.7	3.3	2.3	
Low birthweight	7.8%	6.7-8.9%	8.4%	6.0%	
Health Factors					184
Health Behaviors					209
Adult smoking			18%	13%	
Adult obesity	34%	27-42%	29%	25%	
Physical inactivity	27%	20-35%	25%	21%	
Excessive drinking			16%	7%	
Motor vehicle crash death rate	35	27-45	15	10	
Sexually transmitted infections	342		476	92	
Teen birth rate	60	54-67	60	21	
Clinical Care					146
Uninsured	27%	25-30%	26%	11%	
Primary care physicians**	3,807:1		1,766:1	1,067:1	
Dentists**	9,886:1		2,200:1	1,516:1	
Preventable hospital stays	78	68-89	72	47	
Diabetic screening	78%	69-87%	82%	90%	
Mammography screening	57%	48-67%	61%	73%	
Social & Economic Factors					166
High school graduation**	86%		86%		
Some college	32%	28-37%	57%	70%	
Unemployment	7.9%		7.9%	5.0%	
Children in poverty	26%	19-33%	27%	14%	
Inadequate social support			23%	14%	

Grimes County	Error Margin	Texas	National Benchmark*	Trend	Rank (of 232)
Children in single-parent households	38%	28-47%	33%	20%	
Violent crime rate	286		483	66	
Physical Environment					94
Daily fine particulate matter	9.3	9.1-9.4	10.2	8.8	
Drinking water safety	20%		6%	0%	
Access to recreational facilities	4		7	16	
Limited access to healthy foods**	16%		9%	1%	
Fast food restaurants	40%		52%	27%	

Madison County

	Madison County	Error Margin	Texas	National Benchmark*	Trend	Rank (of 232)
Health Outcomes						91
Mortality						93
Premature death	7,723	6,033-9,413	6,928	5,317		
Morbidity						104
Poor or fair health			18%	10%		
Poor physical health days			3.7	2.6		
Poor mental health days			3.3	2.3		
Low birthweight	8.2%	6.6-9.8%	8.4%	6.0%		
Health Factors						166
Health Behaviors						162
Adult smoking			18%	13%		
Adult obesity	31%	24-39%	29%	25%		
Physical inactivity	27%	20-35%	25%	21%		
Excessive drinking			16%	7%		
Motor vehicle crash death rate	32	22-46	15	10		
Sexually transmitted infections	278		476	92		
Teen birth rate	63	54-72	60	21		
Clinical Care						183
Uninsured	32%	29-35%	26%	11%		
Primary care physicians**	6,872:1		1,766:1	1,067:1		
Dentists**	4,075:1		2,200:1	1,516:1		
Preventable hospital stays	87	72-102	72	47		
Diabetic screening	80%	68-93%	82%	90%		
Mammography screening	57%	44-70%	61%	73%		
Social & Economic Factors						143
High school graduation**	97%		86%			
Some college	37%	29-45%	57%	70%		
Unemployment	8.1%		7.9%	5.0%		
Children in poverty	31%	23-39%	27%	14%		
Inadequate social support	2%	0-9%	23%	14%		

	Madison County	Error Margin	Texas	National Benchmark*	Trend	Rank (of 232)
Children in single-parent households	47%	35-58%	33%	20%		
Violent crime rate	387		483	66		
Physical Environment						73
Daily fine particulate matter	9.2	9.1-9.4	10.2	8.8		
Drinking water safety	3%		6%	0%		
Access to recreational facilities	0		7	16		
Limited access to healthy foods**	4%		9%	1%		
Fast food restaurants	52%		52%	27%		

Milam County

Milam County	Error Margin	Texas	National Benchmark*	Trend	Rank (of 232)
Health Outcomes					131
Mortality					119
Premature death	8,199	6,926-9,471	6,928	5,317	
Morbidity					141
Poor or fair health			18%	10%	
Poor physical health days	3.8	2.0-5.7	3.7	2.6	
Poor mental health days			3.3	2.3	
Low birthweight	8.9%	7.8-10.0%	8.4%	6.0%	
Health Factors					188
Health Behaviors					210
Adult smoking	15%	8-27%	18%	13%	
Adult obesity	32%	25-40%	29%	25%	
Physical inactivity	32%	24-41%	25%	21%	
Excessive drinking			16%	7%	
Motor vehicle crash death rate	31	24-41	15	10	
Sexually transmitted infections	541		476	92	
Teen birth rate	68	62-75	60	21	
Clinical Care					133
Uninsured	26%	24-28%	26%	11%	
Primary care physicians**	2,748:1		1,766:1	1,067:1	
Dentists**	6,284:1		2,200:1	1,516:1	
Preventable hospital stays	79	70-88	72	47	
Diabetic screening	76%	67-86%	82%	90%	
Mammography screening	54%	44-64%	61%	73%	
Social & Economic Factors					174
High school graduation**	91%		86%		
Some college	41%	34-47%	57%	70%	
Unemployment	9.6%		7.9%	5.0%	
Children in poverty	32%	24-40%	27%	14%	
Inadequate social support			23%	14%	

Milam County	Error Margin	Texas	National Benchmark*	Trend	Rank (of 232)
Children in single-parent households	33%	26-40%	33%	20%	
Violent crime rate	165		483	66	
Physical Environment					119
Daily fine particulate matter	9.5	9.4-9.5	10.2	8.8	
Drinking water safety	0%		6%	0%	
Access to recreational facilities	0		7	16	
Limited access to healthy foods**	8%		9%	1%	
Fast food restaurants	56%		52%	27%	

Montgomery County

	Montgomery County	Error Margin	Texas	National Benchmark*	Trend	Rank (of 232)
Health Outcomes						45
Mortality						37
Premature death	6,483	6,225-6,742	6,928	5,317		
Morbidity						92
Poor or fair health	16%	12-20%	18%	10%		
Poor physical health days	3.8	2.9-4.7	3.7	2.6		
Poor mental health days	4.0	2.9-5.1	3.3	2.3		
Low birthweight	7.8%	7.6-8.1%	8.4%	6.0%		
Health Factors						14
Health Behaviors						14
Adult smoking	15%	12-19%	18%	13%		
Adult obesity	27%	23-31%	29%	25%		
Physical inactivity	23%	19-27%	25%	21%		
Excessive drinking	19%	15-24%	16%	7%		
Motor vehicle crash death rate	18	17-20	15	10		
Sexually transmitted infections	209		476	92		
Teen birth rate	42	41-43	60	21		
Clinical Care						32
Uninsured	22%	20-23%	26%	11%		
Primary care physicians**	1,640:1		1,766:1	1,067:1		
Dentists**	2,514:1		2,200:1	1,516:1		
Preventable hospital stays	78	75-81	72	47		
Diabetic screening	83%	80-86%	82%	90%		
Mammography screening	61%	58-64%	61%	73%		
Social & Economic Factors						48
High school graduation**	91%		86%			
Some college	62%	60-64%	57%	70%		
Unemployment	7.2%		7.9%	5.0%		
Children in poverty	20%	17-23%	27%	14%		

	Montgomery County	Error Margin	Texas	National Benchmark*	Trend	Rank (of 232)
Inadequate social support	24%	18-30%	23%	14%		
Children in single-parent households	25%	23-26%	33%	20%		
Violent crime rate	273		483	66		
Physical Environment						30
Daily fine particulate matter	9.3	9.2-9.3	10.2	8.8		
Drinking water safety	2%		6%	0%		
Access to recreational facilities	8		7	16		
Limited access to healthy foods**	6%		9%	1%		
Fast food restaurants	52%		52%	27%		

Robertson County

	Robertson County	Error Margin	Texas	National Benchmark*	Trend	Rank (of 232)
Health Outcomes						169
Mortality						203
Premature death	10,389	8,628-12,149	6,928	5,317		
Morbidity						66
Poor or fair health			18%	10%		
Poor physical health days			3.7	2.6		
Poor mental health days			3.3	2.3		
Low birthweight	7.5%	6.2-8.8%	8.4%	6.0%		
Health Factors						191
Health Behaviors						213
Adult smoking			18%	13%		
Adult obesity	32%	25-40%	29%	25%		
Physical inactivity	29%	22-38%	25%	21%		
Excessive drinking			16%	7%		
Motor vehicle crash death rate	52	40-67	15	10		
Sexually transmitted infections	397		476	92		
Teen birth rate	72	64-80	60	21		
Clinical Care						149
Uninsured	27%	25-29%	26%	11%		
Primary care physicians**	16,606:1		1,766:1	1,067:1		
Dentists**	8,400:1		2,200:1	1,516:1		
Preventable hospital stays	96	84-109	72	47		
Diabetic screening	86%	74-97%	82%	90%		
Mammography screening	62%	50-73%	61%	73%		
Social & Economic Factors						187
High school graduation**	93%		86%			
Some college	40%	32-48%	57%	70%		
Unemployment	8.8%		7.9%	5.0%		
Children in poverty	32%	23-40%	27%	14%		

	Robertson County	Error Margin	Texas	National Benchmark*	Trend	Rank (of 232)
Inadequate social support			23%	14%		
Children in single-parent households	43%	30-55%	33%	20%		
Violent crime rate	381		483	66		
Physical Environment						23
Daily fine particulate matter	9.4	9.3-9.5	10.2	8.8		
Drinking water safety	0%		6%	0%		
Access to recreational facilities	6		7	16		
Limited access to healthy foods**	8%		9%	1%		
Fast food restaurants	42%		52%	27%		

Washington County

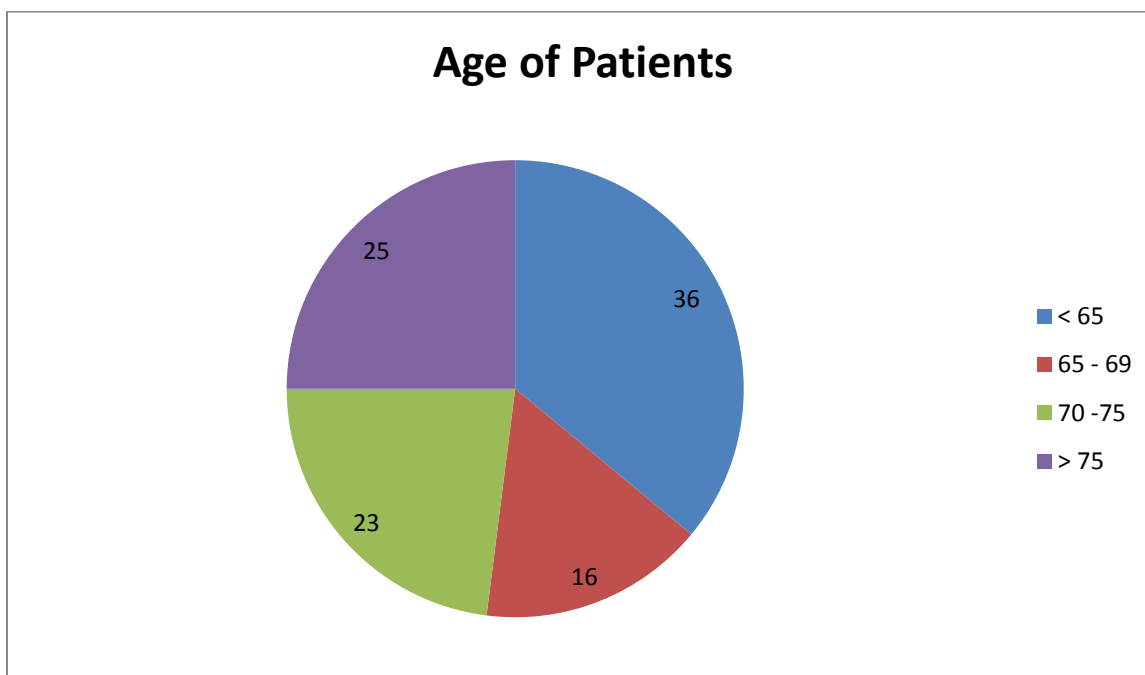
	Washington County	Error Margin	Texas	National Benchmark*	Trend	Rank (of 232)
Health Outcomes						21
Mortality						38
Premature death	6,496	5,491-7,501	6,928	5,317		
Morbidity						23
Poor or fair health	13%	7-23%	18%	10%		
Poor physical health days	2.2	1.4-3.1	3.7	2.6		
Poor mental health days	2.1	1.3-2.9	3.3	2.3		
Low birthweight	8.7%	7.7-9.7%	8.4%	6.0%		
Health Factors						19
Health Behaviors						36
Adult smoking	11%	5-21%	18%	13%		
Adult obesity	29%	22-36%	29%	25%		
Physical inactivity	28%	22-36%	25%	21%		
Excessive drinking			16%	7%		
Motor vehicle crash death rate	20	14-26	15	10		
Sexually transmitted infections	543		476	92		
Teen birth rate	44	40-48	60	21		
Clinical Care						27
Uninsured	24%	22-26%	26%	11%		
Primary care physicians**	1,776:1		1,766:1	1,067:1		
Dentists**	3,233:1		2,200:1	1,516:1		
Preventable hospital stays	51	45-57	72	47		
Diabetic screening	82%	73-90%	82%	90%		
Mammography screening	65%	57-72%	61%	73%		
Social & Economic Factors						63
High school graduation**	91%		86%			
Some college	54%	48-60%	57%	70%		
Unemployment	6.0%		7.9%	5.0%		
Children in poverty	22%	16-28%	27%	14%		

	Washington County	Error Margin	Texas	National Benchmark*	Trend	Rank (of 232)
Inadequate social support			23%	14%		
Children in single-parent households	38%	28-48%	33%	20%		
Violent crime rate	361		483	66		
Physical Environment						26
Daily fine particulate matter	9.3	9.2-9.4	10.2	8.8		
Drinking water safety	1%		6%	0%		
Access to recreational facilities	9		7	16		
Limited access to healthy foods**	5%		9%	1%		
Fast food restaurants	53%		52%	27%		

Age Analysis

Based on CHRISTUS Dubuis Hospital of Bryan admissions, the following chart provides a breakdown of the age of the patients served. Since the majority of patients are elderly, with an average age of 66, the focus of the community health needs assessment is based on serving patients in this population.

> 65	36%
65 – 69	16%
70 – 75	23%
< 75	25%



Licensed Hospitals in Service Area

County	Facility Name	City	Type	Beds
Brazos	CHRISTUS Dubuis Hospital	Bryan	Long Term Acute	30
	College Station Medical Center	College Station	Acute	143
	St. Joseph Regional Health Center	Bryan	Acute	238
	The Physicians Centre Hospital	Bryan	Surgical	16
Burleson	Burleson St. Joseph Center	Caldwell	Acute	58
Grimes	Grimes Saint Joseph Health Center	Navasota	Critical Access	18
Madison	Madison Saint Joseph Health Center	Madisonville	Critical Access	18
Milam	Central Texas Hospital	Cameron	Acute	34
	Richards Memorial Hospital	Rockdale		21
Montgomery	Aspire Behavioral Hospital	Conroe	Psych	30
	Conroe Regional Medical Center	Conroe	Acute	283
	Health South Rehabilitation Hospital	Conroe	Rehab	84
	Kingwood Medical Center	Kingwood	Acute	261
	Memorial Hermann The Woodlands Hospital	The Woodlands	Acute	0
	Nexus Specialty Hospital	Shenandoah	Long Term Acute	0
	Nexus Specialty Hospital	The Woodlands	Long Term Acute	75
	Reliant North Houston	Shenandoah	Rehab	60
	Saint Luke's Community Medical Center	The Woodlands	Acute	154
	Saint Luke's Lakeside Hospital	The Woodlands	Acute	30
	Solara Hospital	Conroe	Long Term Acute	41
Touchstone Neurorecovery Center	Conroe	Rehab	0	
Robertson	n/a			
Washington	Scott & White Hospital	Brenham	Acute	60

Community Health Needs Identified

Based on the community health needs assessment conducted, the following community health needs were identified as primary areas of focus for the service area.

1. Obesity – 64.5% of the adult population are overweight or obese with a 14.7% rate of morbidly obese individuals
2. Chronic Diseases – which exceed the national rates
 - a. Anxiety
 - b. Depression
 - c. Emphysema/COPD
 - d. High Cholesterol
 - e. Hypertension
3. Transportation is an issues as there are barriers to access care – the public transportation system is limited and only runs Monday – Friday 6:00 am – 6:00 pm. The community members believe the system is unreliable, unaffordable and inadequate. Those in rural areas indicate that it takes more than 20 minutes to access medical care.

In addition to the assessment conducted by Texas A&M Public Health, the hospital identified issues related to lack of adequate services for behavioral health. There is no access to inpatient substance abuse services. These individuals typically travel to Houston, which is approximately 1.5 hours in time distance. Mental health services were described as being inadequate. Many patients have to leave the community for inpatient services. They did identify support groups, such as Alcohol Anonymous and others.

The team also identified health issues that result in people developing diabetes. They believe much of the obesity and diabetes are behavioral related, but recognize healthy foods are more expensive and more difficult to obtain than are unhealthy foods. They believe there is a need for education related to health eating habits.

Areas of Focus

The two areas of focus for Dubuis Hospital of Bryan will be in the areas related to heart disease and diabetes. Plans will be developed to address these two populations in an effort to improve the health of individuals as well as preventative measures identified to keep these populations healthy.