Community Health Needs Assessment 2016
Mission:
To provide the highest quality health care in a patient-focused environment in the most cost effective manner.

Vision
To become a leader in the health care community.

Values:
Professionalism – We deliver high quality care by being experts in the field.
Attitude – We foster a positive and uplifting environment for our patients and each other.
Teamwork – We work together to overcome obstacles and achieve success.
Integrity – We take pride in upholding the highest standards, both morally and professionally.
Excellence – We commit to providing every patient with an exceptional health care experience.
Nurturing – We show compassion and give comfort to each and every patient.
Trust – We have faith in each other so patients can place confidence in us.
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Executive Summary

On March 23, 2010, the Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act (ACA) was signed into law and created new requirements for not-for-profit hospitals including a requirement for a Community Health Needs Assessment (CHNA) to be completed every three years. This report was prepared by Alabama Quality Assurance Foundation (AQAF) in conjunction with The University of Alabama of Birmingham Health System to meet the CHNA requirement for The University of Alabama at Birmingham (UAB) Hospital for fiscal year 2015-2016. AQAF is the Quality Improvement Organization (QIO) for the state of Alabama and has more than three decades of experience in identifying and addressing community health needs.

To prepare this CHNA report, data were gathered from a variety of sources in an effort to construct a comprehensive, current and accurate snapshot of the health issues in Jefferson County, Alabama. Data were obtained from multiple public data bases and opinions were solicited from public health experts and community leaders within the community served by UAB Hospital. This information was summarized for final consideration by a CHNA team consisting of hospital and system personnel, as well as community members. This team prioritized the community health needs as follows:

1. Diabetes Education
2. Obesity
3. Access

An implementation strategy that will address each of these issues is currently in development. The strategy will seek to leverage valuable partnerships that currently exist, identify novel opportunities for synergy and maximize legacy programs while deploying specific interventions within the community. The outcomes and results of these interventions will be followed and reexamined in preparation for the next CHNA scheduled for completion no later than Fall 2019.
Methodology

The needs assessment process was initiated by assembling an internal team responsible for shepherding the entire project. The internal team was comprised of representatives from hospital management, outreach services, strategic planning, and AQAF. This team met initially to review the requirements of the CHNA as established by the ACA and further defined by IRS Notice 2011-52, and to establish the roles and responsibilities for the team members. These decisions were memorialized in a project plan and incorporated into a project dashboard. A secure, web-based portal was established to provide reliable communication among the team members and ready access to the project plan and dashboard. With the infrastructure created and the purpose and scope of the project identified, the team set about its primary task of gathering data.

The first step in the data gathering process was to obtain several de-identified data sets from the hospital. The initial task was to obtain zip code specific discharges for up to three years. These data sets were then analyzed to compile zip code maps defining the hospital’s service area. Additional data sets were requested from the hospital including admission data stratified by age, race, ethnicity, payer mix, and discharge diagnoses. With the service area of the hospital determined, a best fit county was selected for data collection from secondary (public) sources and for the purposes of comparison. Secondary sources utilized for this report include:

- Behavioral Risk Factor Surveillance Survey
- Youth Risk Factor Behavior Surveillance Survey
- Alabama Department of Public Health, Center for Health Statistics
- Alabama Department of Public Health, Cancer Registry
- Georgia Department of Public Health
- U.S. Census Bureau
- U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics
- County Health Rankings and Roadmaps
- Community Health Status Indicators

The second step was to gather information from various representatives of the community. The CHNA team met to establish a list of key informants that included individuals with public health expertise, state and local officials, and community leaders. Topic areas and interview questions from the previous CHNA were reviewed to determine the appropriateness of utilizing for this CHNA. The topic areas were then used to develop survey and interview tools that were utilized in discussions and interviews with their identified key informants. The results of these surveys and interviews were then compiled.
Distillation of these data into a prioritized list was the final step of the Community Health Needs Assessment. The CHNA Oversight Committee met to complete this final task. AQAF staff presented the data collected. The Oversight Committee members then established the agreed upon top 3 health care priorities for their community. The information presented to the CHNA Oversight Committee and the final prioritized list of health care needs are summarized in this report and will also be displayed on UAB Medical West website.
Community Description

Geographic Area Defined

The Medical West Community is defined using the 10 zip codes derived from 72% of the hospital's inpatient discharges. The zip codes encompass the entire county of Jefferson and small portions of Bibb County. Over 80% of these zip codes are in Jefferson County. For the purpose of this study, the Medical West community will be defined as Jefferson County or Jefferson County and all contiguous counties. Zip codes are listed in descending order from highest concentration of discharges to lower concentration of discharges. The zip codes are as follows:

- 35020
- 35023
- 35022
- 35111
- 35184
- 35006
- 35228
- 35127
- 35064
- 35188

The county has a total area of 1,122.3 square miles. Of which, 1,111 square miles are land and 11.2 square miles are water (Graph 16). Birmingham is the county seat for Jefferson County. The neighboring counties are Bibb, Blount, St. Clair, Shelby, Tuscaloosa, and Walker. Birmingham is the state’s largest city and the county seat. There are 34 additional municipalities located within Jefferson County. The City of Bessemer and Medical West are approximately 15 miles from Birmingham. Jefferson County is 89% urban and 11% rural. Due to its location in the north central part of the state and the foothills of the Appalachian Mountains, the county is characterized by rolling hills and valleys.

Illustration 1. UAB Medical West Service Area
Demographics

Population

Located in central Alabama, Jefferson County is a mix of urban, suburban, and rural environments. It is the largest county in the state in both land mass and population. There are 67 communities within the county, 34 of which are incorporated municipalities. According to the U.S. Census Bureau, the most recent population estimate for Jefferson County is 660,793 (Table 1). The dominant language is English, with 5.9% speaking another language in the home.

Race/Ethnicity

The population of Jefferson County is 54.0% white, 42.9% black, and 3.1% other (Graph 20). The U.S. Census Bureau considers Hispanic/Latino heritage as an ethnicity and not a race. Of Jefferson County residents responding to the most recent census, 3.8% consider themselves to be of Hispanic/Latino origin. Persons of Hispanics/Latino origin may be of any race, and are included in the applicable race categories above. The Hispanic/Latino population of Jefferson County is equal to the state average of 4.1%. 

Education

Of Jefferson County’s 660,793 residents, 23.1% (152,643) are under 18 years old (Graph 18) and are served by 12 school systems. There are 11 city systems and one run by the Jefferson County Board of Education. This county system is Alabama’s second largest school district with 56 schools, 2,500 teachers, and 36,000 students. The system offers a multitude of academic, career technical and extracurricular opportunities for students. The Birmingham City School System serves students in the City of Birmingham with 43 schools, 18 elementary schools, eight middle schools, 10 K-8 schools, and seven high schools. There are 115 private schools offering Pre-K- 8 and 39 offering grades 9-12. Of the county’s residents, 87.7% graduated from High School (Graph 22).

Jefferson County offers many post-secondary education opportunities. The University of Alabama at Birmingham, Birmingham Southern College, and Samford University provide the area with major colleges of medicine, dentistry, optometry, pharmacy, law, engineering, and nursing. Of the county’s residents, 30.3% hold a Bachelor’s degree or higher (Graph 23). Birmingham has been the home of The University of Alabama at Birmingham School of Medicine since 1947. Birmingham is also home to three of the state’s five law schools.

Employment

Jefferson County is an economic catalyst for the state. Not only does it have many companies and organizations with a large employment base, but it is a hub for medical care. The University of Alabama at Birmingham has an extensive health care complex and is the largest employer in the county and the second largest in the state. UAB provides one of every 33 jobs in the state with an annual economic impact of more than 5 billion dollars.
The Per Capita Income of a Jefferson County resident is $26,896, Median Family Income $45,239 (Graph 24). The percentage of residents living below the poverty level is 19.5% (Graph 25). Unemployment rates for the county are 6.0% which is slightly less than the state's 6.2%. In April 2014, the Birmingham Business Alliance lists the largest employers in Jefferson County as follows:

**TOP TEN EMPLOYERS**
1. University of Alabama at Birmingham (23,000)
2. Regions Financial Cooperation (7,668)
3. AT&T (5,750)
4. St. Vincent's Health System (4,644)
5. Children’s Health System (4,497)
6. Blue Cross Blue Shield of Alabama (4,000)
7. Alabama Power Company (3,982)
8. Baptist Health System (3,200)
9. BBVA Compass (2,606)
10. American Cast Iron Pipe Company (2,400)

UAB Health System is the largest healthcare provider in the state. Blue Cross Blue Shield of Alabama is the major health insurance carrier in the state with corporate headquarters in Birmingham. In addition to Regions, the other major financial institutions in the area are BBVA/Compass and Wells Fargo. Honda Manufacturing and Mercedes-Benz, each with 4,000 employees, are located in adjacent counties which are within driving distance of Birmingham. U.S. Steel, American Cast Iron and Pipe, and Marshall Durbin are the major manufacturing employers. The City of Bessemer is located centrally between Birmingham and Tuscaloosa.

**Largest Employers: City of Bessemer**
1. UAB Medical West (1079)
2. Dollar General (720)
3. U.S. Pipe and Foundry Company (525)
4. Piggly Wiggly Distribution Center (450)
5. CVS/Caremark (432)
Roads and Transportation

The roadway system in Jefferson County provides residents and companies transportation access to all major cities in the southeast and throughout the United States. The 5 major interstates located throughout the county are I-20, I-22, I-59, I-65, and I-459. U.S. Highways 31 and 280 carry travelers through downtown Birmingham and over Red Mountain.

Public Transportation is limited in Jefferson County. The Birmingham-Jefferson County Transit Authority (BJCTA) operates public transportation for the county. Bus service runs regularly, along fixed routes, from the transportation center to multiple points in Birmingham, Bessemer, Center Point, Fairfield, Homewood, Midfield, Mountain Brook, Hoover, Tarrant and Vestavia Hills. The downtown natural gas trolley service is available for three routes through the City Center. Greyhound provides intercity bus transportation to cities across the United States. Current service area is 200 square miles with a demand population of 400,000.

The Birmingham Shuttlesworth International Airport is home to four major airlines and offers 100 daily flights to 23 cities throughout the US. In 2014, a $201 million terminal upgrade was completed, replacing the 40 year old terminal and its concourses.

The Birmingham region has rail transportation for both passenger and freight. There are daily Amtrak stops connecting to most major cities in the U.S. Metropolitan Birmingham has three rail hubs: Norfolk Southern, CSX, and BSNF.
The state of Alabama contains an extensive waterway system. Port Birmingham is located in the western part of Jefferson County on the Warrior River. River service connects to the deep water Port of Mobile. It offers fleeting and shifting services and can store up to 40 barges. It also offers access to inland as well as international ports.

Weather/Air Quality

Jefferson County has a humid subtropical climate, characterized by hot summers, mild winters, and abundant rainfall. The spring and fall months are pleasant but variable as cold fronts frequently bring strong to severe thunderstorms and occasional tornadoes to the region. The fall season features less rainfall and fewer storms, as well as lower humidity than the spring, but it is also a secondary severe weather season. Birmingham is located in the heart of a Tornado Alley due to the frequency of tornadoes in Central Alabama. The state was hit by an EF4 tornado in 2011. In Jefferson County alone, 4,800 homes were significantly damaged or destroyed and 20 people were killed. The neighboring County of Tuscaloosa’s death toll was 44. More recently, a tornado rated an EF2 touched down in Jefferson County on March 1, 2016, primarily damaging the Bessemer area. Thirty homes were damaged and four people were injured. In the late summer and fall months, the area experiences the results of occasional tropical storms and hurricanes due to its proximity to the Central Gulf Coast.

From the 1970s to the early 2000s, Jefferson County was classified at times as a nonattainment area for ground-level ozone and particle pollution by the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA). This occurs when pollution levels exceed federal limits. Through the cooperation of the community and other entities, Jefferson County has been designated as attainment area for the eight-hour ozone standard since 2012.
Health Care

Jefferson County residents are well served by an abundance of hospitals in the area. A small area of West Central Jefferson County is currently designated as a Medically Underserved Area Population (MUAP) according to criteria developed by the Department of Health and Human Services (see Illustration 2 below). This designation is based on an index of four variables; the ratio of primary care physicians per 1,000 populations, the infant mortality rate, population living below the poverty line, and population over the age of 65. Jefferson County is considered a Health Professional Shortage Area (HPSA) for low-income residents in areas of primary care, dental care, and mental health care. Low income residents of Jefferson County are able to utilize the county’s charity healthcare system, Cooper Green Mercy Hospital. Due to financial concerns, the inpatient services were discontinued in late 2012, but the facility continues to provide chronic and urgent care to those in need of free or subsidized healthcare. Although many in the community have the needed healthcare services, Medical West is committed to providing the residents of Jefferson County the highest quality of care, while treating every patient with the utmost compassion and respect.

Illustration 2. MUA/P Map
Medical West provides basic, primary care through inpatient care, ancillary services, clinics and specialty clinics to residents of an urban community. The hospital is located at 995 9th Avenue South West Bessemer, Alabama 35022.

**INPATIENT SERVICES**

- **310 Inpatient Beds**
  - Intensive Care Unit (18 beds)
  - Geriatric Psychiatric Unit (25 beds)
- **24-hour Emergency Department (44,000 visits per year)**
  - 21 beds
  - Level 3 Trauma Center
  - Heliport
- **24-hour Freestanding Emergency Department (18,000 visits per year)**
  - Located in Hoover, AL
  - 14 beds
  - Level 3 Trauma Center
  - Helipad

- **Inpatient Rehabilitation Facility**
  - 19 beds
  - All private rooms and bathrooms
  - Occupational Therapy (OT)
  - Physical Therapy (PT)
  - Speech Therapy (ST)
- **Telemetry Nursing Unit**
- **Surgery Department (10,000 cases per year)**
- **Women’s Center**
OUTPATIENT SERVICES

- Ambulatory Surgery Center
  - 6 Operating rooms
  - ENT
  - General Surgery
  - Gynecology
  - Ophthalmology
  - Orthopaedics
  - Pain Management
  - Urology
- Community Programs
  - Senior Care Program
  - Volunteer Program
  - Alzheimer's Support Group
  - Childbirth Classes
  - Diabetic Education
  - Grief Support Group
  - TOUCH Support Group
  - Scale-back Alabama
  - Look Good Feel Better
- Health Centers
  - Bessemer Clinic
  - Live Well Family Medicine
  - Jerry McLane Internal Medicine
  - Cardiovascular Health Center
  - OBGYN Health Center
  - Medical West Orthopaedics
  - Bessemer Health Center
  - Hueytown Health Center
  - Tannehill Health Center
  - Vance Health Center
  - Parkwest Health Center
  - Hoover Health Center
- Endoscopy/GI Lab
  - 11 beds
  - 4 procedure rooms
- Imaging Services
  - CT Scan
  - MRI
  - Ultrasound
  - Mammography
  - Radiology
  - Nuclear Medicine
  - Vascular Lab
  - Catheterization Lab
  - Sleep Center
  - Medical West Imaging Center
- Rehabilitation Services
  - Physical Therapy (PT)
  - Occupational Therapy (OT)
  - Speech Therapy (ST)
- Sleep Disorders Center
- Advanced Wound Center
  - Hyperbaric Oxygen Therapy
  - Vacuum Assisted Closure
ADDITIONAL HOSPITALS IN JEFFERSON COUNTY

- Brookwood Medical Center
- Children's Hospital of Alabama
- Grandview Medical Center
- HealthSouth Lakeshore Rehabilitation Hospital
- Hill Crest Behavioral Health Services
- Princeton Baptist Medical Center
- St. Vincent’s Health System
  - St. Vincent’s Birmingham
  - St. Vincent’s East
- The University of Alabama at Birmingham Hospital
  - UAB Callahan Eye Hospital
  - UAB Hospital - Highlands
  - Spain Rehabilitation Center
  - Women & Infant Center
- Veterans Affairs Medical Center

ADDITIONAL HEALTHCARE SERVICES IN THE CITY OF BESSEMER

- Baptist Health Center Bessemer
- Bessemer Dialysis Center DaVita
- Middle Creek Medical Urgent Care
  - Big Creek
  - Little Creek
- The Bessemer Clinic
Patient data for Medical West for FY 2015 is detailed below and includes principal discharge diagnoses, payor source, and inpatient demographics.

### Inpatient FY2015

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Principal Diagnosis</th>
<th>Cases</th>
<th>%</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Septicemia Not Otherwise Specified</td>
<td>296</td>
<td>3.87</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Single Liveborn, Born In Hospital, Delivered W/O C-Section</td>
<td>277</td>
<td>3.62</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Rehabilitation Proc Nec</td>
<td>229</td>
<td>2.99</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Pneumonia, Organism Not Otherwise Specified</td>
<td>180</td>
<td>2.35</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Obstructive Chronic Bronchitis, With (Acute) Exacerbation</td>
<td>139</td>
<td>1.82</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Single Liveborn, Born in Hospital, Delivered Cesarean</td>
<td>126</td>
<td>1.65</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Acute Renal Failure, Unspecified</td>
<td>121</td>
<td>1.58</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sepsis, Unspecified Organism</td>
<td>112</td>
<td>1.46</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Alzheimer's Disease</td>
<td>94</td>
<td>1.23</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Acute Myocardial Infarction, Subendo Infarction, Initial Episode</td>
<td>86</td>
<td>1.12</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Top Ten Total</strong></td>
<td>1,660</td>
<td>22.0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total</strong></td>
<td>7,654</td>
<td>100.00</td>
</tr>
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</table>

### Payor Source FY2015

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Payor</th>
<th>Cases</th>
<th>%</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Medicare</td>
<td>2,089</td>
<td>27.29</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Medicaid</td>
<td>1,703</td>
<td>22.25</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Medicare HMO</td>
<td>1,234</td>
<td>16.12</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Blue Cross Blue Shield</td>
<td>1,053</td>
<td>13.76</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Self Pay</td>
<td>512</td>
<td>6.69</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Viva Medicare</td>
<td>472</td>
<td>6.17</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CO</td>
<td>317</td>
<td>4.14</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>MGC</td>
<td>244</td>
<td>3.19</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CH</td>
<td>18</td>
<td>0.23</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Workers Comp</td>
<td>12</td>
<td>0.16</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Grand Total</strong></td>
<td>7,654</td>
<td>100.00%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### Inpatient Race Distribution FY 2015

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Race</th>
<th>Volume</th>
<th>%</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Caucasian</td>
<td>4,465</td>
<td>58.34</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>African American</td>
<td>2,868</td>
<td>37.47</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Hispanic</td>
<td>249</td>
<td>3.25</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Other</td>
<td>56</td>
<td>0.73</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Asian</td>
<td>9</td>
<td>0.12</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Native American</td>
<td>6</td>
<td>0.08</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### Inpatient Age Distribution FY 2015

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Age</th>
<th>Volume</th>
<th>%</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>&lt;18</td>
<td>590</td>
<td>7.71</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>18-24</td>
<td>416</td>
<td>5.44</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>25-34</td>
<td>674</td>
<td>8.81</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>35-44</td>
<td>583</td>
<td>7.62</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>45-54</td>
<td>898</td>
<td>11.73</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>55-65</td>
<td>1,376</td>
<td>17.98</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>66-69</td>
<td>726</td>
<td>9.49</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>&gt;70</td>
<td>2,391</td>
<td>31.24</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Community Resource List

Alabama Legal Help
Aletheia House
Brother Bryan Mission
Cahaba Valley Health Care
  • Dental Clinic
  • Vision Clinic
  • Catholic Center of Concern
Churches (702)
ClasTran Specialized Public Transportation
Community Kitchens of Birmingham
Children’s Aid Society
Firehouse Shelter
Food Banks (25+)
Greater Birmingham Ministries
Hope House
Jefferson County Chamber of Commerce
Jefferson County Court and Family Services
Jefferson County Department of Rehabilitation Services
Jefferson County Department of Health
  • Health Center
    • Bessemer
    • Central
    • Eastern
    • Morris
    • West End
    • Western

• Specialty Clinics
  o International Travel
  o Sexually Transmitted Diseases
  o Tuberculosis
  o Tot Shots
• Community Health (CH)
  o CH Nurses
  o Nutrition Education
  o Tobacco Prevention and Control Program
• Jefferson County Department of Veterans Affairs
  • Birmingham Center
  • Clay Center
  • St. Benedict’s Center
Jefferson County Sheriff Department
Jefferson County Senior Citizens Centers
Jessie’s Place
Jimmy Hale Mission
Parks and Recreation
  • Public Parks (95+)
  • Walking Trails (12+)
  • Bike Trails (10+)
Salvation Army
The Foundry Rescue Mission and Recovery Center
The Lighthouse for Recovery Ministries
COMPARISON COMMUNITY

Comparison Community – Fulton County, Georgia

In an effort to measure how the Medical West’s community of Jefferson County compared to a peer county, the U.S. Department of Health & Human Services 2015 Community Health Status Indicators (CHSI) report was utilized. CHSI uses population size, poverty level, age distribution, population density and other demographic data to establish comparison communities across the United States. Of the 43 counties considered to be peer counties to Jefferson County; Fulton County, Georgia was selected for this CHNA based on its’ similar location in the southeastern section of the United States.

Illustration 2. Jefferson County, Alabama and comparison Fulton County, GA
## Comparison Demographics

### Table 1. U.S. Census 2014 Population Estimates

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>Jefferson County, Alabama</th>
<th>Fulton County, GA</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Population</strong></td>
<td>660,793</td>
<td>977,773</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Density (per square mile)</strong></td>
<td>593</td>
<td>1,748</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Poverty Level (% below)</strong></td>
<td>19.5%</td>
<td>15.9%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Age Distribution (Graph 18 and Graph 19)</strong></td>
<td>Under 18 (23.1%) 19 to 64 (62.6%) 65 and older (14.3%)</td>
<td>Under 18 (23.2%) 19 to 64 (66.4%) 65 and older (10.4%)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Race (Graph 20)</strong></td>
<td>White 54.0% Black 42.9% Other 3.1%</td>
<td>White 46.7% Black 44.3% Other 9.0%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Hispanic or Latino Origin (Graph 21)</strong></td>
<td>3.8%</td>
<td>7.6%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>High School Graduates (Graph 22)</strong></td>
<td>87.7%</td>
<td>90.7%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Bachelor’s Degree or Higher (Graph 23)</strong></td>
<td>30.3%</td>
<td>48.1%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Median Household Income (Graph 24)</strong></td>
<td>$45,239</td>
<td>$56,642</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
DATA AGGREGATION

Data from primary and secondary sources were analyzed. Secondary source data were aggregated at the smallest unit available - the county. Secondary data reports and other resources were carefully reviewed for this CHNA in order to provide points of comparison for the information and opinions gathered through the primary information collection process. Information from primary sources was obtained via electronic surveys, face-to-face surveys, and phone and in-person interviews.

Behavioral Risk Factors

The Behavioral Risk Factor Surveillance System (BRFSS) is the world’s largest, on-going telephone health survey system, tracking health conditions and risk behaviors in the United States yearly since 1984. Currently, data are collected monthly in all 50 states, the District of Columbia, Puerto Rico, the U.S. Virgin Islands, and Guam. It is a state-based system of health surveys that collects information on health risk behaviors, preventive health practices, and health care access primarily related to chronic disease and injury. For many states, the BRFSS is the only available source of timely, accurate data on health-related behaviors.

Graph 1. 2014 BRFSS Data
Graph 2. 2014 BRFSS Data

Diabetes

- Jefferson County: 12.4%
- Alabama: 12.9%
- Georgia: 11.6%
- National: 10.0%

Percentage who have been told by a doctor they have diabetes

Graph 3. 2014 BRFSS Data

Tobacco Use

- Jefferson County
- Alabama
- Georgia
- National

Currently Smoke: 21.1%
Smoke every day: 14.8%
Smoke some days: 6.1%
Former Smoker: 25.9%
Graph 4. 2014 BRFSS Data

**Alcohol**

- **Jefferson County**: 46.0%
- **Alabama**: 40.1%
- **Georgia**: 48.1%
- **National**: 53.3%

Percentage who have had at least 1 drink in last 30 days

Graph 5. 2014 BRFSS Data

**Depression**

- **Jefferson County**: 20.8%
- **Alabama**: 21.3%
- **Georgia**: 18.3%
- **National**: 19.0%

Percentage who have been told they have a form of depression
Graph 6. 2014 BRFSS Data

Exercise

- Jefferson County: 75.3%
- Alabama: 72.4%
- Georgia: 76.4%
- National: 77.4%

Percentage who said they had participated in a form of physical activity in the last month

Graph 7. 2014 BRFSS Data

Health Care Coverage

- Jefferson County: 86.0%
- Alabama: 86.1%
- Georgia: 79.1%
- National: 87.6%

Percentage who have any kind of health care coverage
**Graph 8. 2014 BRFSS Data**

**Heath Care Provider**

- **Jefferson County:** 68.0%
- **Alabama:** 66.5%
- **Georgia:** 65.2%
- **National:** 70.0%

Percentage who think of one person as their personal doctor or health care provider.

**Graph 9. 2016 County Health Rankings**

**Health Behaviors**

- **Jefferson County**
- **Fulton County**
- **Alabama**
- **Georgia**

- **Adult smoking:** 17%, 21%, 17%, 17%
- **Adult obesity:** 34%, 22%, 29%, 34%
- **Physical inactivity:** 28%, 19%, 25%, 29%
- **Access to exercise opportunities:** 78%, 90%, 75%, 75%
- **Excessive drinking:** 15%, 18%, 13%, 16%
- **Alcohol-impaired driving deaths:** 16%, 24%, 24%, 24%
Graph 10. 2016 County Health Rankings

Clinical Care - Ratio of population to 1 Provider

- Jefferson County
- Fulton County
- Alabama
- Georgia

Primary care physicians
- Jefferson County: 980
- Fulton County: 970
- Alabama: 1,570
- Georgia: 1,540

Dentists
- Jefferson County: 1,220
- Fulton County: 1,490
- Alabama: 2,200
- Georgia: 2,060

Mental health providers
- Jefferson County: 680
- Fulton County: 490
- Alabama: 1,200
- Georgia: 850

Graph 11. 2016 County Health Rankings

Social & Economic Factors

- High school graduation
  - Jefferson County: 80%
  - Fulton County: 69%
  - Alabama: 73%
  - Georgia: 81%

- Some college
  - Jefferson County: 76%
  - Fulton County: 58%
  - Alabama: 66%
  - Georgia: 61%
Graph 12. 2016 County Health Rankings

Social & Economic Factors

- Jefferson County
- Fulton County
- Alabama
- Georgia

Children in poverty:  Jefferson County 29%, Fulton County 25%, Alabama 27%, Georgia 26%

Children in single-parent households: Jefferson County 43%, Fulton County 43%, Alabama 38%, Georgia 37%
County Health Rankings

Secondary data available on Jefferson County and all counties in the nation are available at countyhealthranking.org. This annually updated site establishes a benchmark using Health Outcomes and Health Factors. The County Health Rankings are a key component of the Mobilizing Action Toward Community Health (MATCH) project. MATCH is the collaboration between the Robert Wood Johnson Foundation and the University of Wisconsin Population Health Institute. The rankings identify the multiple health factors that determine a county’s health status. Each county receives a summary rank for its health outcomes and health factors - the four different types of health factors include: health behaviors, clinical care, social and economic factors, and the physical environment.

Table 2. County Health Rankings 2016

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>County Health Rankings</th>
<th>Jefferson County</th>
<th>Fulton County</th>
<th>Alabama</th>
<th>National Benchmark</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Health Outcomes and Factors</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Mortality</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Premature death</td>
<td>10,300</td>
<td>6,900</td>
<td>9,500</td>
<td>5,200</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Health Behaviors</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Adult smoking</td>
<td>17%</td>
<td>14%</td>
<td>21%</td>
<td>14%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Adult obesity</td>
<td>34%</td>
<td>22%</td>
<td>34%</td>
<td>25%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Physical inactivity</td>
<td>28%</td>
<td>19%</td>
<td>29%</td>
<td>20%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Excessive drinking</td>
<td>15%</td>
<td>18%</td>
<td>13%</td>
<td>12%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Alcohol-impaired driving deaths</td>
<td>16%</td>
<td>24%</td>
<td>30%</td>
<td>14%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sexually transmitted infections</td>
<td>801.5</td>
<td>451.6</td>
<td>556</td>
<td>134.1</td>
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<tr>
<td>Low birthweight</td>
<td>11%</td>
<td>11%</td>
<td>10%</td>
<td>6%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Teen birth rate</td>
<td>45</td>
<td>38</td>
<td>44</td>
<td>19</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Clinical Care</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Uninsured</td>
<td>15%</td>
<td>21%</td>
<td>16%</td>
<td>11%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Primary care physicians</td>
<td>980:1</td>
<td>970:1</td>
<td>1,570:1</td>
<td>1,040:1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Preventable hospital stays</td>
<td>47</td>
<td>41</td>
<td>65</td>
<td>38</td>
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<tr>
<td>Diabetic screening</td>
<td>86%</td>
<td>85%</td>
<td>85%</td>
<td>90%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mammography screening</td>
<td>66%</td>
<td>64%</td>
<td>63%</td>
<td>71%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Social &amp; Economic Factors</strong></td>
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<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>High School Graduation</td>
<td>80%</td>
<td>69%</td>
<td>81%</td>
<td>93%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Unemployment</td>
<td>6.3%</td>
<td>7.2%</td>
<td>6.8%</td>
<td>3.5%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Children in poverty</td>
<td>29%</td>
<td>25%</td>
<td>27%</td>
<td>13%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Children in single-parent households</td>
<td>43%</td>
<td>43%</td>
<td>38%</td>
<td>21%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Violent crime rate</td>
<td>717</td>
<td>856</td>
<td>418</td>
<td>59</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Physical Environment</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Air pollution-particulate matter days</td>
<td>12.7</td>
<td>13.2</td>
<td>12.8</td>
<td>9.5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Severe housing problems</td>
<td>18%</td>
<td>21%</td>
<td>15%</td>
<td>9%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Food environment index</td>
<td>5.9</td>
<td>6.2</td>
<td>6.6</td>
<td>8.3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Access to exercise opportunities</td>
<td>78%</td>
<td>90%</td>
<td>63%</td>
<td>91%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Community Health Status Indicators

Community Health Status Indicators (CHSI) provide data on over 200 key health indicators for each of the 3,141 U.S. counties. The data are provided to assist community leaders and public health professionals as they identify, compare, and address the most pressing issues for their community.

Graph 13. Infant Mortality and Low Birth Weight 2013

![Infant Mortality and Low Birth Weight Graph](image-url)
Graph 14. Deaths per 100,000 Population CHSI

Deaths per 100,000 Population

![Bar chart showing deaths per 100,000 population for various causes including Cancer, Coronary Heart Disease, Stroke, Unintentional Injury, Chronic lower respiratory disease (CLRD) deaths, Diabetes deaths, Alzheimer’s disease deaths, Chronic kidney disease deaths, Motor Vehicle Injuries. The chart compares data from Jefferson County, Fulton County, and National figures.](image-url)
Surveys/Interviews

In order to formulate a comprehensive list of the greatest health needs within the Medical West community, survey and interview questions were developed as previously described. Using the guidance provided in IRS Notice 2011-52 on Community Health Needs Assessments for tax-exempt hospitals, the CHNA team identified key informants. The list of key informants included health experts at the state and community levels and local civic leaders. These key informants were queried using a variety of techniques including electronic survey, and telephone and in-person interviews. Below is a list of the survey questions and the weighted responses:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Question</th>
<th>Responses</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Which are Most Pressing Health Concerns in Your Community?</td>
<td>Access, Diabetes, Obesity/Nutrition, Affordable healthcare</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>(Interviews/Survey)</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Which are the Problems/Concerns in Your Community?</td>
<td>Lack of exercise, Access to healthcare, Obesity, Increasing elderly population, Economy, Poor diet</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>(Survey)</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Most Pressing Problems &amp; Concerns In Your Community</td>
<td>Obesity/nutrition and weight loss, Diabetes, Access, Cancer, Tobacco use</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>(Survey)</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Most Common Cause of Death in Your Community?</td>
<td>Heart disease &amp; stroke, Cancer, Obesity, Mental health</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>(Survey)</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Main Reason People Don’t Seek Healthcare in Your Community?</td>
<td>Cost, Transportation, Access, Healthcare literacy, Lack of providers</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>(Interviews/Survey)</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>What is the Hospital’s Role in Addressing Needs?</td>
<td>Education, Make healthcare more affordable, Coordination of care, Transitional care programs, More satellite centers</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>(Interviews/Survey)</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
RESULTS

Summary of Findings

The CHNA Oversight Committee, consisting of representatives from mid and senior level management at the hospital and health care system, determined the greatest health care needs of the community. They were:

1. Diabetes Education
2. Obesity
3. Access

Identifying the needs of the community provides Medical West the opportunity and the knowledge to better align existing programs and to design future efforts to best meet the needs of their community.
Appendix
Graph 15. U.S. Census – 2015 Population Estimate

Graph 16. U.S. Census – Land Area
Graph 17. U.S. Census – Persons per Square Mile

Graph 18. U.S. Census – Persons under 18 years
Graph 19. U.S. Census – Persons 65 years and over

Graph 20. U.S. Census – Race
Graph 21. U.S. Census – Ethnicity

Persons of Hispanic or Latino Origin

- Jefferson County, Alabama: 3.8%
- Fulton County, Georgia: 7.6%
- Alabama: 4.1%
- National: 17.4%

Graph 22. U.S. Census – High School Graduate or Higher

High school graduate or higher

- Jefferson County, Alabama: 87.7%
- Fulton County, Georgia: 90.7%
- Alabama: 83.7%
- National: 86.3%
Graph 23. U.S. Census – Bachelor’s degree or higher

Graph 24. U.S. Census – Median household income
Graph 25. U.S. Census – Persons below poverty level

Persons below poverty level

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Region</th>
<th>Percentage</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Jefferson County, Alabama</td>
<td>19.5%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fulton County, Georgia</td>
<td>17.4%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Alabama</td>
<td>19.3%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>National</td>
<td>14.8%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>