



[WWW.MYCHN.ORG](http://WWW.MYCHN.ORG)

# COMMUNITY HEALTH NETWORK

Community Health  
Needs Assessment  
**2021**



# Table of Contents

<b>Executive Summary</b>	<b>1</b>
<b>Purpose</b>	<b>2</b>
<b>Organization Description</b>	<b>2</b>
<b>Service Area</b>	<b>4</b>
<b>Social and Environmental Factors</b>	<b>8</b>
<b>County Health Rankings</b>	<b>14</b>
<b>Community Health Network Services</b>	<b>17</b>
<b>Medical Infrastructure</b>	<b>23</b>
<b>Health Disparities and Concerns</b>	<b>24</b>
<b>Community Health Needs Identified</b>	<b>26</b>
<b>Recommendations/Areas of Focus</b>	<b>26</b>
<b>Approval of Needs Assessment</b>	<b>29</b>

# Community Health Network Health Needs Assessment

## Executive Summary

Stephen F. Austin Community Health Center, Inc. (dba) **Community Health Network** (CHN) (Center) is a federally qualified health center (FQHC) whose mission is to provide quality care that uplifts, supports, and shapes healthy communities while addressing financial and social barriers.



The vision of CHN is to be a leader in providing quality services and programs that enhance the lives of the people in our community.



The values of the Center are quality care at reasonable costs, education to promote healthy living, access to needed care, transparency in all aspects of our operations, competent and empathetic staff, high professional standards and commitment to advances in healthcare.



CHN seeks to be the medical home for all patients receiving care at any of the 13 service sites. To this end, CHN achieved National Committee for Quality Assurance Patient Centered Medical Home (PCMH) 2017 Transformational accreditation for the Adoue Family Care, Freeport Family Care and Women and Children's Center locations in March 2019. In 2020, CHN received additional accreditation for Victory Lakes in League City, Callaway BH Center, Bay Area Family Care, Pearland Family Care, and Brazoria County Dream Center locations. PCMH is a model or philosophy of primary care that is patient-centered, comprehensive, team-based, coordinated, accessible, and focused on quality and safety. The "medical home" is not a place, but a philosophy of health and health care that emphasizes providing care to patients wherever they are in the disease process, from the simplest to the most complex conditions. The PCMH is a place that should "feel like home" - where patients are treated with respect, dignity, and compassion, and have a strong and trusting relationship with providers and staff. A PCMH site requires a team care model that promotes accessibility, compassion, transparency, and is built on trust and communication. PCMH is not a final destination; it is a framework for achieving primary care excellence so that care is received in the right place, at the right time, and manner that best suits a patient's needs. CHN is seeking accreditation for Scarsdale Family Care and Angleton Internal Medicine and Primary Care site by December 2021.

In developing the community health needs assessment, CHN utilized health information from public datasets of Brazoria County developed by the Area Health Education Center – East in conjunction with UTMB, Texas Department of State Health Services, Texas Counties.Net, Brazosport Regional Health System, and The Episcopal Health Foundation. Addendums will be added to the Community Health Assessment for Brazoria, Galveston and Harris County as future activities including meeting with focus groups and surveying patients of the Center to assess the patient experience.

Annual community action/benefit plans will be developed on the Community Health Network's Community Health Needs Assessment in conjunction with the scope of PCMH and services of a Federally Qualified Health Center.

## **Purpose**

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

- To describe the status of the designated population.
- To identify areas for health improvement.
- To determine factors that contribute to health issues.
- To ensure the mission of the organization is extended as it relates to improving the health care needs of the community.
- To identify areas of focus that exists in the community as they relate to health care and within the scope of services of The Center.
- To ensure the health care needs of individuals in the community are met with the collaboration of other health care providers to strengthen the continuum of patient care.
- To ensure CHN adequately identifies and addresses the Social Determinants of Health needs of the patient population as it moves towards to a Value Based Care payment structure.

## **Organizational Description**

CHN is a thriving community care provider delivering a wide array of integrated primary care, oral health and behavioral health services to anyone in need of health care including the low-income, uninsured and underinsured with household incomes below 200% poverty level population of Brazoria, Galveston and Southeast Harris Counties and across multiple counties in southeast Texas along the Gulf Coast and the Greater Houston Metro Area.

CHN was formed as a private, not-for-profit FQHC in April of 2008 with a single clinic and administrative site. Today CHN operates 13 full time health centers and a mobile clinic three full-time, full-service clinic locations in Alvin, two in Lake Jackson, one in Freeport, Angleton, Pearland, Bacliff, League City, Clute and a Scarsdale location in Harris County. The Center also has a Mobile Unit that is equipped to provide medical and limited oral health services, and behavioral health services via telehealth. The Callaway location in Alvin houses enabling services: the information technology team, the care coordination, human resources, outreach and eligibility and facilities staff. CHN continually strives to extend its reach to serve those in greatest need. CHN also practices at three intermittent locations on a part time basis: Brazos Place in Freeport, Gulf Coast Integrated Center in Galveston and the Salvation Army Shelter in Freeport.

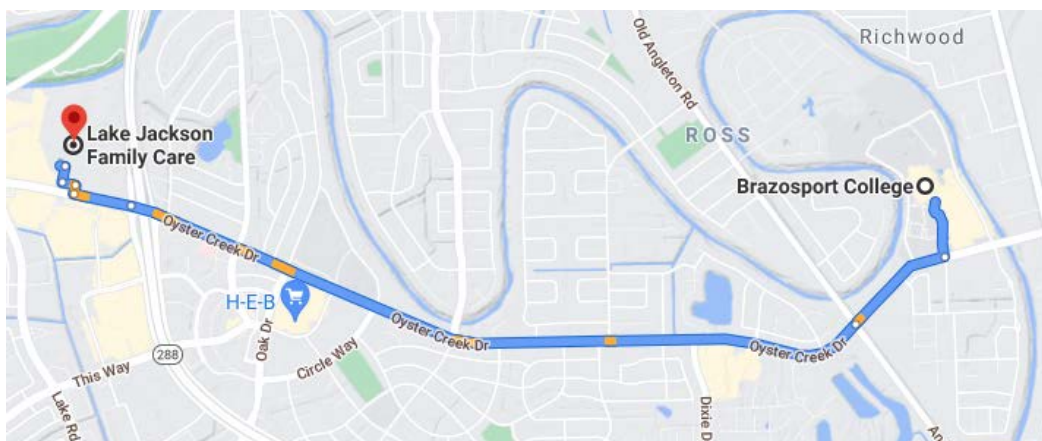
CHN has successfully provided telehealth psychiatry services since 2015 and has the potential to deploy services on a regional basis. CHN deployed Telehealth primary medical and behavioral health, including psychiatry and group therapy, to new and established patients within one week of Covid-19 impacting our area. 95% of all behavioral health care and 65% of primary medical services were provided virtually using Telehealth during regular business hours. Other ways CHN created access through virtual care are:

- CHN initially provided virtual psychiatry care in 2015 to bring a scant resource to the more rural areas of Brazoria County.

- CHN provided medical care through virtual methods on an intermittent basis to accommodate patients in need of primary care services throughout the Houston area.
- CHN added extended-hour therapy through virtual and hands-on (on site) services at the Pearland Family Care location through a Houston Methodist Hospital grant in 2019.
- CHN has an in-house Class A Pharmacy at its Freeport site and TelePharmacies at the Scarsdale, Angleton and Women and Children locations and has imminent plans to open a Class A pharmacy at the League City and Adoue locations. Another Class A pharmacy at Pearland will follow in late 2021. CHN pharmacies provide brand name prescriptions at a significantly reduced cost for patients. Prescription services are available to registered patients without the expense of a pharmacist using TelePharmacy.

CHN provides integrated medical, dental, and behavioral health care services including psychiatry and pharmacy services at all clinic locations. CHN employs seven physicians, 21 mid-level medical providers, four dentists, two hygienists, 12 therapists, five psychiatric nurse practitioners and contracts with one psychiatrist. In 2019, CHN provided comprehensive primary care services to 19,831 unduplicated patients. CHN increased the total number of unduplicated patients served by 56% in 2020 to 31,026. CHN serves all individuals regardless of insurance type and assists those who are low-income or uninsured with household incomes below 200% poverty level or lack access to quality services in their communities. State, federal, and private foundation grants help fund the cost of caring for the uninsured and low-income. The Center accepts patients that have Medicaid, Medicare, private insurance or are uninsured that pay full pay or qualify for sliding fee scale. Dedicated staff provide superior care that is tailored to the needs of the individual resulting in better clinical outcomes and an improved patient experience.

Since 2016, CHN has experienced tremendous growth expanding from four to 13 new clinic locations to enhance access to care and reduce transportation barriers. A new endeavor for CHN is a clinic on the campus of Brazosport College located in Lake Jackson. The clinic was delayed in opening due to the Covid-19 Pandemic when the college suspended on-site classes. The clinic officially opens in August 2021 when the students return to campus following a year of virtual studies. CHN will provide medical and behavioral health services and virtual psychiatry. CHN's newest site is the Lake Jackson Family Care inside the Brazos Mall also located in Lake Jackson, the clinic site opened in May 2021 providing behavioral health services and Covid-19 vaccines to the public.



\*Map displays the 2.9-mile distance between CHN's Brazosport College clinic site and the Lake Jackson Family Care site

CHN also provides primary health care services on an intermittent basis at a Gulf Coast Center in Galveston through a collaboration with the Mental Health authority for Brazoria and Galveston Counties. CHN provides primary, oral, behavioral health and hospital oversight services of detoxification services for Brazos Place, a residential treatment provider for women in Freeport. CHN also provides primary and behavioral health care services on an intermittent basis at the Salvation Army Shelter located in Freeport, Texas.

Comprehensive service integration is a hallmark of the Center's programs. Key places where services are integrated are in eligibility and between service departments including primary health care, behavioral health care, general dentistry and pharmacy services. Medication Assisted Treatment is integrated into primary care to treat substance use disorders and prevent opioid overdose.<sup>1</sup> CHN has integrated screenings for dental care into its EHR system to assess patient oral health needs in the primary care clinic. The Center provides care coordination through its primary care services and within the behavioral health department for Medication Assisted Treatment (MAT) patients and those hospitalized with mental health issues in need of integrated behavioral health care coordination, access to assessment and referral to appropriate mental health services. The Needs Assessment will address CHN's innovation towards service integration in the Areas of Focus.

CHN provides high quality, compassionate care to all patients and families served. The goal is to surpass national quality measure benchmarks within all programs.

CHN was formed in April of 2008 specifically for the purpose of replacing a Federally Qualified Health Center that lost its 330 funding. The Center received its first funding award from the Bureau of Primary Health Care Health Resources Services Administration (BPHC-HRSA) in December 2008. Throughout 2009 the Center was establishing compliance with the 21 BPHC program requirements and the resources to operate effectively as a Federally Qualified Health Center. In April 2010 CHN hired the current Medical Director and the CEO, each of whom brought significant leadership experience which is exhibited in the accelerated growth and innovation CHN enjoys today.

CHN operates in accordance with national, state and local rules and regulations. These include the By-Laws established by the consumer majority Board of Directors; and healthcare quality standards established by the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services, the Bureau of Primary Health Care and the Texas Health and Human Services Commission. CHN is in compliance with all guidelines for the Health Resources and Services Administration for Federally Qualified Health Centers.

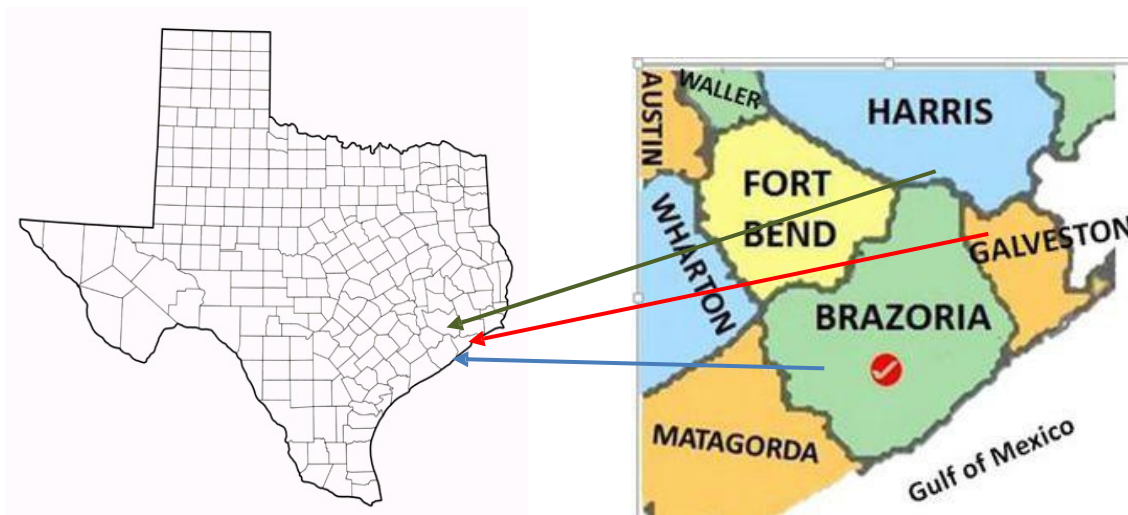
## **Service Area**

**Geography:** CHN currently provides services and programs to residents of Brazoria, Galveston and Southeast Harris County, Texas. Brazoria County borders the Gulf of Mexico on the southeast, and the City of Houston on the northwest. Brazoria also shares borders with Harris, Matagorda, Fort Bend, Wharton and Galveston Counties.

Per the 2021 Texas Association of Counties, Brazoria County is very large in area with 1,363.3 square miles of land ranking it the 28th largest and most populated county in the State of Texas with 380,518 individuals. It is less dense with 279.1 population per square mile than its nearby neighbors.<sup>2</sup>

Galveston County, in comparison, is much smaller in size with 910.5 square miles of land and a population of 345,089 (379.0 population per square mile).<sup>3</sup> Harris County with 1,706.20 square miles of land is the 14th largest county in Texas. It is extremely population dense with 2,777.1 individuals per square mile (population of 4,738,253).<sup>4</sup> CHN's service site in Harris County is in the 77089-zip code, the area has a total population of 54,751 in an area of 12.72 sq. miles for a population density of 4,304.3.<sup>5</sup>

The largest city in Brazoria County is Pearland with a population of 134,448.<sup>6</sup> Pearland is within 15 miles of downtown Houston and is considered, by most, a Houston suburb. The remainder of Brazoria County has less populated cities and vast areas that are rural; with some areas designated medically underserved and economically disparate. The largest city in Galveston County is League City with a population of 107,536.<sup>7</sup> League City is 23 miles southeast of Houston and the same distance northwest of Galveston (city). The largest city in Harris County is Houston, considered the County Seat with a population of 2,310,432.<sup>8</sup>



## Population

According to the 2019 1-Year U.S. Census American Community Survey (ACS), an estimated 374,264 people live within Brazoria County. The ACS 2015-2019 5-year estimate demonstrates a population estimate of 360,677 for Brazoria County. Ethnically, 31.6% of the population is Hispanic; racially 14.8% of the population is African American, 72.9% is white (non-Hispanic), 7.2% is Asian and 4.6% is other or multiracial. The population is young with a median average age of 36.6, 50.3% of the county is male and 49.7% is female.<sup>9</sup> Brazoria County has 14,609 Veterans.<sup>10</sup>

Per the 2019 1-Year U.S. Census, ACS, an estimated 342,139 people live within Galveston County. The ACS 2015-2019 5-year estimate demonstrates a population estimate of 332,885 for Galveston County. Ethnically, 25.4% of the population is Hispanic; racially 12.5% of the population is African American, 79.5% is white (non-Hispanic), 3.4% is Asian and 7.6% other or multiracial. The population is young with a median average age of 38.2, 48.9% of the county is male and 51.1% is female.<sup>11</sup> Galveston County has 20,129 Veterans.<sup>12</sup>

Per the 5-Year 2015-2019 Year U.S. Census, ACS, an estimated 54,751 people live within the 77089 Harris County service area. Ethnically, 49.0% of the population is Hispanic; racially 16.0% is African American, 56.8% is white (non-Hispanic), 15.4% is Asian and 8.8% other and multiracial. The population is young with a median average age of 34.5, 50.1 of the county is male and 49.9% is female.<sup>13</sup> 77089 Harris County has 2,687 Veterans.<sup>14</sup>

The two Counties and the Harris County 77089 Service Area, like Texas, are aging with Galveston demonstrating the largest growth in the 65+ age group. The Harris County 77089 Service Area has a younger population than the State, or Brazoria and Harris Counties<sup>15</sup>:

**2019 County Breakdown by Age<sup>16</sup>**

	<b>0 – 17 Years</b>	<b>18 – 64 Years</b>	<b>65+ Years</b>	<b>85+ Years</b>
<b>TEXAS<sup>17</sup></b>	26%	62%	12%	-
<b>Brazoria County</b>	26%	60%	12%	1%
<b>Galveston County</b>	24%	60%	15%	2%
<b>Harris County 77089: Service Area</b>	26%	62%	11%	1%

### **Economy/Income**

America’s Health Rankings 2020 Annual Report demonstrates that Texas has the highest uninsured rate in the Nation at 24%<sup>18</sup> (1 in 4 individuals have no health insurance). The US Census American Community Survey demonstrates the percentage of uninsured in Brazoria County is 14.5% (52,328 individuals); Galveston County is 14% (47,974) and 77089 Harris County is 16.8% (9,205).<sup>19</sup> The data reflects that Adults are uninsured at higher rates than children with Harris County adult residents at 27% compared to Brazoria at 19% and Galveston County at 20% verses Texas at 24%.

Children living in poverty in Texas is 19% compared to Brazoria County at 11%, Galveston County’s 16% and Harris County’s 21%. The percentages increase dramatically when ethnicity and race are examined. The percentage of Black children living in poverty is Texas: 27%; Brazoria County: 10%; Galveston County: 29% and Harris County: 28%; The percentage of Hispanic children living in poverty in Texas is 28%; Brazoria County: 15%; Galveston County: 26% and Harris County: 30%. Ethnicity and Race are correlated with negatively impacting childhood poverty. Children from families with household incomes below 130% federal income level qualify for the National School and Lunch



Programs for Texas and receive free meals. Children from families with household incomes between 130% and 150% federal poverty level qualify for reduced price meals. Participants must register through their school districts to qualify. The percentage of children eligible for the free or reduced breakfast and lunch program in Brazoria County is 48%, Galveston Counties is 47% compared to Harris County at 68% and the State at 61%. According the 2010 US Census, 61.6% of students in the 77089-zip code attending public schools receive or are eligible to participate in free or reduced lunch programs.

Pearland, the largest city in Brazoria County has a median income of \$107,995. However, the remainder of the county has a much lower median income level of \$73,623. League City, the largest city in Galveston County has a median income of \$111,609 while the remainder of the county has a median income level of \$74,977. The medium income of the Harris County 77089 Service area is \$69,617.<sup>20</sup>

**Median Household Income:**

**Brazoria County**

Zip Code	City	\$ Dollars
77511	Alvin	64,932
77515	Angleton	64,778
77422	Brazoria	56,064
77531	Clute	62,892
77430	Damon	89,889
77534	Danbury	95,890
77541	Freeport	46,039
77566	Lake Jackson	83,782
77577	Liverpool	73,889
77578	Manvel	92,487
77581	Pearland	92,687
<b>77584</b>	<b>Pearland</b>	<b>107,995</b>
77583	Rosharon	78,808
77480	Sweeny	60,423
77486	West Columbia	79,231

**Galveston County**

Zip Code	City	\$ Dollars
77581	Bacliff	46,063
77539	Dickinson	75,664
77546	Friendswood	106,287
77550	Galveston	42,710
77551	Galveston	49,789
77554	Galveston	75,283
77563	Hitchcock	68,028
77565	Kemah	66,282
77568	La Marque	52,441
<b>77573</b>	<b>League City</b>	<b>\$111,609</b>
77650	Port Bolivar	52,804
77539	San Leon	75,664
77510	Santa Fe	78,828
77517	Santa Fe	64,680
77590	Texas City	46,992
77591	Texas City	51,659

**Harris County 77089**

Zip Code	City	\$ Dollars
77089	Harris County	\$69,617

During the Covid-19 Pandemic, the May 2020 unemployment rate for Brazoria County was 12.3%., As of April 2021, the unemployment rate decreased 5% for Brazoria County to 7.0%. Galveston County’s unemployment rate in May 2020 was 13.3% and decreased to 6.9% in April 2021. In May 2020, the unemployment rate for Harris County was 13.5% and also decreased to 6.6% in May 2021. Texas unemployment rate in during the Covid-19 Pandemic in May 2020 was 11.8% and a year later is now 5.9% in May 2021.

## Workforce Solutions – Unemployment Rate Statistics for the Texas Gulf Coast Region<sup>21</sup>

	Latest Month: May 2021			1-Month Ago: April 2021			1-Year Ago: May 2020		
	Employment	Unemployment	Rate	Employment	Unemployment	Rate	Employment	Unemployment	Rate
<b>Brazoria</b>	165,796	12,501	7.0	164,649	13,756	7.7	151,636	21,345	12.3
<b>Galveston</b>	153,471	11,319	6.9	152,377	12,159	7.4	140,163	21,591	13.3
<b>Harris</b>	2,135,160	151,668	6.6	2,118,046	165,515	7.2	1,947,656	303,953	13.5
<b>TEXAS</b>	13,231,992	829,251	5.9	13,162,985	897,924	6.4	11,957,125	1,592,840	11.8

The petrochemical industry remains a major employer in Brazoria County. Other major industries in Brazoria County are sulfur, farms, ranches, tourism and construction. Major industries for Galveston County are shipping, tourism healthcare, and financial. Harris County has a diverse economy. The Harris County 77089 Service area has a large service industry with many individuals commuting over 30 minutes to the Pasadena/Deer Park petrochemical industrial area or into Houston for retail, office and trade professions. Houston is also home to the Texas Medical Center, the largest medical center in the world employing over 106,000 individuals in direct patient care, research and supportive services.<sup>22</sup> While large corporate employers are recovering economically from the Pandemic, low-income, female, single-income workers, undocumented and individuals of ethnic and racial backgrounds and those that rely on child-care and earn their living in the retail, fast food and minimum wage job market are meeting barriers to returning to full employment. The Texas Economy restaurant, hotel and entertainment industry loss of 400,000 jobs during the Pandemic. Many workers remain unemployed. Many of these individuals were financially stable with Food Bank assistance, enhanced unemployment eviction and rent increase moratoriums expire at the end of July and electricity disconnection moratoriums put in place by State regulators since February that the Public Utility Commission lifted in June 2021.<sup>23</sup>

## Social and Environmental Factors

Many factors attribute to good health and it is increasingly recognized that individuals may be greatly impacted by:

- their social and economic environment (social determinants of health),
- their physical environment, and
- their individual characteristics and behaviors

Other factors impacting health include:

- Income and social status – higher income and social status are linked to better health. The greater the gap between the richest and poorest people, the greater the differences in health.
- Education – low education levels are linked with poor health, more stress and lower self-confidence.
- Physical environment – safe water and clean air, healthy workplaces, safe houses, communities and roads all contribute to good health.
- Employment and working conditions – people in employment are healthier, particularly those who have more control over their working conditions.
- Social support networks – greater support from families, friends and communities is linked to better health.

- Culture – Customs and traditions, and the beliefs of the family and community all affect health.
- Genetics – Inheritance plays a part in determining lifespan, healthiness, and the likelihood of developing certain illnesses.
- Personal behavior and coping skills – balanced eating, keeping active, smoking, drinking, and how we deal with life’s stresses and challenges all affect health.
- Health services – Access and use of services that prevent and treat disease influences health.
- Gender – Men and women suffer from different types of diseases at different ages.

There are no statistics on the Harris County 77089 Service Site, but data demonstrates disparities for living conditions related within all three counties impacting the physical environment. Air quality is one area in which disparities exist. The average daily density of fine particulate matter in micrograms per cubic meter (PM2.5) particles for Texas is 7.3 while Brazoria County is 9.7; Harris County is 10.1 and Galveston County is 6.7. Drinking water violations also exist in all three counties. Severe housing problems defined as the presence of overcrowding, high housing costs, or lack of kitchen or plumbing facilities also negatively impact individuals’ health outcomes. The percentage of individuals in Texas experiencing severe housing problems is 17%; Harris County’s percent is 20%. Brazoria County is 13% and Galveston County is 15%. The ability to access and afford healthy foods is important to good health outcomes. A significant concern for Galveston County is limited access to healthy foods. Limited access to healthy food measures the proportion of the population who are both living in poverty and do not live close to a grocery store. Living close to a grocery store is defined differently in metro and non-metro counties; in metro counties, it means living less than 1 mile from a grocery store, in non-metro counties, less than 10 miles. This measure comes from the United States Department of Agriculture (USDA) Food Environment Atlas, a resource which assembles statistics on food environment indicators to stimulate research on the determinants of food choices and diet quality. 9% of Texans have limited access to healthy foods. Galveston County is 8%; while Brazoria County is 7%.

Food deserts are defined as parts of the county lacking access to grocery stores, farmer’s markets and food pantries with access to fresh fruits, vegetables and other healthy foods. Residents in food deserts tend to rely on fast food stores and high calorie, fatty, processed foods for their main diet, a trend that contributes to obesity. Galveston County includes 11 census tracts that meet the definition of a food desert while Brazoria County includes four food deserts. Healthy People 2020 defines Food Insecurity as “the disruption of food intake or eating patterns because of lack of money and other resources”. The percentage of individuals in Texas that are Food Insecure is 15% while Galveston and Harris Counties are 15%. Brazoria County residents are 12% Food Insecure.<sup>24</sup>

The 2021 Annual Point-in-Time (PIT) was conducted on January 28<sup>th</sup>, 2021. Due to complications of the Covid-19 Pandemic the PIT count was conducted by shelter count only. In Galveston County there were 149 homeless individuals (122 were in Emergency Shelter and 27 were in Traditional Housing); 105 (Adults 18+), 7 veterans and 44 children.

Per the 2021 Gulf Coast Homeless Coalition Report for Galveston County<sup>25</sup>:

32% of the 104 individuals who responded to the PIT Count survey question:

❖ **“Are you experiencing homelessness because of COVID-19?”**

of the 33 individuals who stated they are experiencing homelessness due to Covid-19

- **30% reported they were evicted,**
- **64% lost their job,**
- **52% were unable to pay rent or mortgage.**

**Are you experiencing homelessness because of COVID-19?**

Yes	33
No	70
Don't Know	1
Refused	0
Total	104

**If you are experiencing homelessness because of COVID-19, what reason caused your current situation? (Select all that apply)**

Eviction	10
Illness due to the COVID-19 virus	0
Loss of job	21
Unable to pay rent/mortgage	17
Total <i>*Individuals could select multiple answers*</i>	48

In Brazoria County 69 homeless individuals were identified in various shelters such as the Salvation Army of Brazoria County, Boots on the Ground, Warriors Refugee and Brazoria County Women’s Center: 35 veterans, 23 adults, 11 kids. The number of Homeless Children in Brazoria County school districts as reported from the 2021 Homeless Coalition of Brazoria County is 1,096 children.

Per the 2021 Gulf Coast Homeless Coalition Report for Brazoria County:

31% of the 58 individuals who responded to the PIT Count survey question:

❖ **“Are you experiencing homelessness because of COVID-19?”**

of the 18 individuals who stated they are experiencing homelessness due to Covid-19

- **50% reported they were evicted,**
- **72% lost their job,**
- **83% were unable to pay rent or mortgage.**

**Are you experiencing homelessness because of COVID-19?**

Yes	18
No	40
Don't Know	0
Refused	0
Total	58

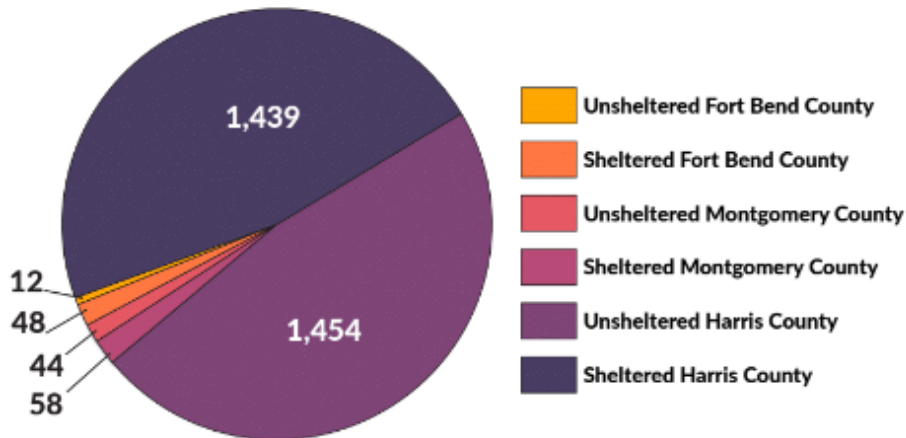
**If you are experiencing homelessness because of COVID-19, what reason caused your current situation? (Select all that apply)**

Eviction	9
Illness due to the COVID-19 virus	0
Loss of job	13
Unable to pay rent/mortgage	15
Total <i>*Individuals could select multiple answers*</i>	37

Per the 2021 PIT Homeless Count & Survey Independent Analysis report Harris County identified 2,893 homeless individuals: 1,439 sheltered and 1,454 unsheltered individuals.

**2021 Key Findings**

**Total Number of those Experiencing Homelessness in 2021 by Interview Location, N = 3,055**



This data compares to the 2020 Point-in-Time survey for Galveston County in which a total of 369 homeless individuals were identified as living in emergency shelters, transitional shelters, hotel/motel and place not meant for habitation. There was a total of 53 Brazoria County homeless individuals. The Salvation Army Shelter in Freeport and the Women’s Shelter in Angleton and Alvin provide resources for homeless individuals in Brazoria County. There was a total of 3,753 homeless individuals in Harris County; 2,202 sheltered and 1,551 unsheltered.

Critically important to care during the Covid-19 Pandemic and post Pandemic is availability of Internet Access and Broadband capability. The Texas rate for Broadband access, defined as the percentage of households with broadband internet connection, is 82%. Brazoria County’s percentage of broadband access is 87%; Galveston County is 86% and Harris County is 84%. CHN is surveying patient access for Internet access to provide remote patient monitoring and audio/visual virtual care services.

The data that follows demonstrates that Brazoria County residents are impacted in the domain of Physical Environment (Brazoria County ranks 240).

Galveston County residents are especially impacted in three domains: Health Behaviors (Galveston County ranks 137<sup>th</sup> in the state), Length of Life (County ranks 57 in the state) and Physical Environment (County ranks 147 in the state).

Harris County is impacted in two domains: Social & Economic Factors (County ranks 160 in the state) and Physical Environment, ranking 241<sup>st</sup> in the State.<sup>26</sup>

**Special factors of concern include the following for Brazoria, Galveston and Harris County based off the 2021 County Health Rankings:**

Brazoria County	Galveston County	Harris County
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Air pollution – particulate matter</li> <li>▪ Alcohol-impaired driving deaths</li> <li>▪ Dentists (access to)</li> <li>▪ Food environment index</li> <li>▪ Income inequality</li> <li>▪ Long commute</li> <li>▪ Mental health providers</li> <li>▪ Physical inactivity</li> <li>▪ Preventable hospital stays</li> <li>▪ Unemployment</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Alcohol-impaired driving deaths</li> <li>▪ Dentist (access to)</li> <li>▪ Drug overdose deaths</li> <li>▪ Excessive drinking</li> <li>▪ Food environment index</li> <li>▪ HIV Prevalence</li> <li>▪ Income inequality</li> <li>▪ Juvenile arrests</li> <li>▪ Premature deaths</li> <li>▪ Poor mental health days</li> <li>▪ Suicide</li> <li>▪ Unemployment</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Access to exercise opportunities</li> <li>▪ Air pollution – particulate matter</li> <li>▪ Alcohol-impaired driving deaths</li> <li>▪ Food environment index</li> <li>▪ HIV Prevalence</li> <li>▪ Long commute</li> <li>▪ Sexually transmitted infections</li> <li>▪ Violent crimes</li> </ul>

According to the County Health Rankings Survey 2021, Brazoria County (1,400:1) has fewer mental health providers per individuals than the State of Texas (830:1). Brazoria County is a health provider shortage area according to the Health Resources Services Administration. CHN recognizes the impact the Covid-19 virus has created in the community and implemented various programs to provide greater access to care through virtual visits, hiring additional therapists and psychiatrist nurse practitioners and extending care to seven days a week, 8am – 9pm. Galveston County is home to University of Texas John Sealy and associated hospitals and provides acute and inpatient, end stage hospital care to surrounding counties. Some of the mortality data may be skewed and reflects higher death rates due to greater access of the hospital system in Galveston County.

Harris County is the largest county of the three and has the largest population. The 77089-service area is in the Houston metro area within Southeast Harris County. Memorial Hermann Southeast Hospital is also located in the 77089-service area, just a two-to-three-minute drive from CHN’s Scarsdale Family Care site. Although Memorial Hermann is located within the 77089-service area, per the UDS Mapper significant health disparities exist. 13% of the population live in poverty, 12% of attain a high school education, 40% are not employed, 31% are low-income, 13% have a disability and 10% are low-birth weight. 34% of the adults had no dental visits within the past year. 23% of the adults have no source of care, 32% of adults are obese, 32% have high blood pressure, 11% of adults ever were told they had diabetes.<sup>27</sup>



## BRAZORIA, GALVESTON AND HARRIS COUNTY HEALTH RANKINGS 2021<sup>28</sup>

### Health Outcomes:

Brazoria (BRZ) is ranked among the healthiest counties in Texas (Highest 75%-100%)

Galveston (GAL) is ranked among the healthiest counties in Texas (Highest 75%-100%)

Harris (HAS) is ranked among the healthiest counties in Texas (Highest 75%-100%)

### Health Factors:

Brazoria (BRZ) is ranked among the healthiest counties in Texas (Highest 75%-100%)

Galveston (GAL) is ranked in the higher middle range of counties in Texas (Higher 50%-75%)

Harris (HAS) is ranked in the higher middle range of counties in Texas (Higher 50%-75%)

<i>Rank of 243</i>	<b>Brazoria County</b>	<b>Error Margin</b>	<b>Galveston County</b>	<b>Error Margin</b>	<b>Harris County</b>	<b>Error Margin</b>	<b>Top U.S. Performers</b>	<b>TEXAS</b>
<b>Health Outcomes Rank</b>	<b>17</b>		<b>55</b>		<b>30</b>			
<b>Length of Life Rank</b>	<b>19</b>		<b>57</b>		<b>30</b>			
Premature death	6,100	5,800 – 6,400	7,500	7,200 – 7,800	6,400	6,300 – 6,500	5,400	6,600
<b>Quality of Life Rank</b>	<b>35</b>		<b>63</b>		<b>69</b>			
Poor or fair health	18%	16 – 19%	19%	17 – 21%	22%	20 – 24%	14%	19%
Poor physical health days	3.5	3.2 – 3.8	3.9	3.6 – 4.2	4.1	3.8 – 4.4	3.4	3.8
Poor mental health days	4.1	3.8 – 4.4	4.3	4.0 – 4.6	4.0	3.7 – 4.3	3.8	3.8
Low birthweight	8%	8 – 9%	9%	8 – 9%	9%	9 – 9%	6%	8%
<b><i>Additional Health outcomes (not included in overall ranking)</i></b>								
Diabetes prevalence	12%	8 – 16%	12%	11 – 14%	10%	9 – 11%	8%	10%
HIV prevalence	271		422		678		50	393
<b>Health Factors Rank</b>	<b>39</b>		<b>77</b>		<b>90</b>			
<b>Health Behaviors Rank</b>	<b>32</b>		<b>137</b>		<b>15</b>			
Adult smoking	15%	13 – 17%	18%	16 – 21%	16%	14 – 17%	16%	14%
Adult obesity	32%	26 – 39%	35%	32 – 38%	30%	28 – 32%	26%	31%



	<b>Brazoria County</b>	<b>Error Margin</b>	<b>Galveston County</b>	<b>Error Margin</b>	<b>Harris County</b>	<b>Error Margin</b>	<b>Top U.S. Performers</b>	<b>TEXAS</b>
Food environment index	7.8		7.2		7.3		8.7	5.9
Physical inactivity	32%	26 – 38%	26%	24 – 29%	22%	20 – 24%	19%	23%
Access to exercise opportunities	81%		84%		91%		91%	81%
Excessive drinking	19%	19 – 20%	22%	21 – 22%	16%	16 – 17%	15%	19%
Alcohol-impaired driving deaths	34%	30 – 37%	32%	29 – 36%	33%	32 – 34%	11%	26%
Sexually transmitted infections	395.6		464.4		589.2		161.2	517.6
Teen births	25	24 – 26	24	23 – 25	31	31 – 32	12	31
<b><i>Additional Health Behaviors (not included in overall ranking)</i></b>								
Food insecurity	12%		15%		15%		9%	15%
Limited access to healthy foods	7%		8%		6%		2%	15%
Drug overdose deaths	11	9 – 13	16%	14 – 19	12	12 – 13	11	11
<b>Clinical Care Rank</b>	<b>43</b>		<b>48</b>		<b>61</b>			
Uninsured	16%	15 – 18%	17%	16 – 19%	23%	22 – 23%	6%	20%
Primary care physicians	1,590:1		1,320:1		1,710:1		1,030:1	1,640:1
Dentists	1,820:1		2,100:1		1,410:1		1,210:1	1,680:1
Mental health providers	1,400:1		870:1		800:1		270:1	830:1
Preventable hospital stays	5,365		6,379		4,701		2,565	4,793
Mammography screening	33%		36%		24%		51%	37%
Flu vaccinations	45%		47%		47%		55%	46%
<b>Social &amp; Economic Factors Rank</b>	<b>36</b>		<b>78</b>		<b>160</b>			
High school completion	88%	87 – 89%	89%	88 – 90%	81%	81 – 82%	94%	84%
Some college	68%	65 – 71%	67%	64 – 70%	61%	60 – 62%	73%	62%
Unemployment	4.2%		4.0%		3.8%		2.6%	3.5%
Children in poverty	11%	8 – 15%	16%	11 – 21%	21%	20 – 23%	10%	19%

	<b>Brazoria County</b>	<b>Error Margin</b>	<b>Galveston County</b>	<b>Error Margin</b>	<b>Harris County</b>	<b>Error Margin</b>	<b>Top U.S. Performers</b>	<b>TEXAS</b>
Income inequality	4.3	4.0 – 4.6%	5.3	5.0 – 5.5	4.9	4.9 – 5.0	3.7	4.8
Children in single-parent households	19%	17 – 21%	24%	22 – 27%	28%	28 – 29%	14%	26%
Social associations	6.4%		7.5		5.4		18.2	7.5
Violent crime	183		289		730		63	420
Injury deaths	53	50 – 56	69	65 – 73	57	56 – 58	59	58
<i>Additional Social &amp; Economic Factors (not included in overall ranking)</i>								
Suicides	13	11 – 14	16	14 – 18	11	10 – 11	11	13
Juvenile arrests	23		25		16			17
<b>Physical Environment Rank</b>	<b>240</b>		<b>147</b>		<b>241</b>			
Air pollution - particulate matter	9.7		6.7		10.1		5.2	7.3
Drinking water violations	Yes		Yes		Yes			
Severe housing problems	13%	12 – 14%	15%	14 – 16%	20%	20 – 20%	9%	17%
Driving alone to work	86%	85 – 88%	82%	81 – 83%	80%	80 – 80%	72%	81%
Long commute - driving alone	52%	49 – 54%	41%	39 – 43%	48%	47 – 48%	16%	39%

# Community Health Network Services

Services provided by Community Network (CHN) include, but are not limited to the following:



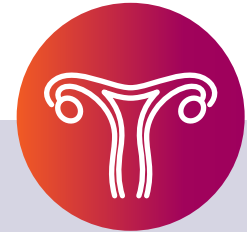
## Integrated Health Services

- \*Primary Health
- \*Dental Health
- \*Behavioral Health
- \*Pharmacy



## Primary and Family Medicine

- \*Monoclonal Antibody Infusion Therapy
- \*Remote Patient Monitoring



## OB/GYN

- \*Prenatal Care
- \*Delivery Services
- \*Well Woman Care
- \*Cervical Screens
- \*Breast Screens



## Pediatric Care

- \*Well Child Exams
- \*Immunizations



## Medication Assisted Treatment (MAT) Program



## Dental Care

- \*Preventive:
  - Exams
  - Oral Health
  - Hygiene
- \*Endodontics
- \*Prosthodontics



## Counseling

- \*Individual
- \*Group Counseling
- \*T.O.V.A Testing
- \*Art Therapy

## Behavioral Health (MH/SA)

## Psychiatry

## Medication

## Substance Use Disorder

## Medical Supervision of Detoxification Service



**Pharmacy Services**

- \*Class A
- \*TelePharmacy
- \*Mail Order



**Care Coordination/  
Navigation**



**Patient and Family  
Education**



**Eligibility**

- \*Financial Screening



**Insurance Enrollment**

- \*HHSC Community Partner Program
- \*Medicaid, SNAP, TANF Application Assistance



**Outreach and  
Enrollment**



**After Hours  
Coverage**



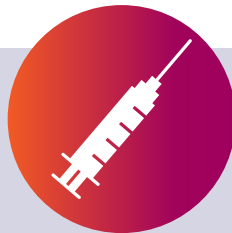
**Virtual Care for  
Medical and  
Behavioral Health**



**Health Information  
Exchange**



**Student Health  
Services**



**Mobile Testing and  
Vaccination Program**



**Health in the Home  
Services**

CHN opened a Class A pharmacy in early 2020 within the Freeport Community Health Center to increase access to low-cost prescription medications to registered patients living in the Southern end of Brazoria County. The CHN Pharmacy is staffed with a full-time pharmacist and certified pharmacy technician. A second, “virtual pharmacy” staffed with a certified pharmacy technician opened months later at the Scarsdale Family Health Center in the Harris County 77089 Service Site. CHN is currently changing the Scarsdale Pharmacy to a Class A pharmacy with plans to add a specialty license for mail order specialty drugs through URAC. CHN opened a second virtual pharmacy at the CHN Women and Children’s Center in Alvin, Texas in the Brazoria County area. Patients residing in the Alvin area may access low-cost prescriptions at either the Women and Children’s location or the Parkwood Pharmacy, a CHN’s contract pharmacy. CHN’s next steps are to open a full-service Class A pharmacy at the Adoue Family Care location in Alvin and the Victory Lakes location in League City in late summer 2021. A full-service Class A pharmacy is slated for the Pearland location in late Fall 2021. All CHN pharmacies and the Parkwood location offer very reduced priced brand-name medications through CHN’s participation in the 340 Drug Discount Program. Pharmacy services are a key element of integrated services and plays an important role as CHN shifts further into integrated care in 2021.

CHN’s Value-Based Care (VBC) embraces a team-based approach to patient management by monitoring health outcomes against the cost of healthcare. This approach benefits patients, providers, payors, suppliers, and the community. VBC utilizes enabling services such as care coordination to close care gaps and direct patient care to ultimately improve health. The result is a payment structure that compensates providers based on actual improvements in health outcomes over time instead of the current fee for service payment for visits. CHN’s VBC Program is composed of 10 elements: chronic care management care coordination, remote patient monitoring (RPM) with MyVitals, referral management, OB care coordination with MyPrenatal Care, pediatric care coordination, CPRIT navigation and women’s health management, patient navigation (ReCare), Medication Assistance Treatment (MAT) navigation, behavioral health integration case management, transitional care (hospitalizations), and senior care population management (Medicare/Medicare Advantage Plans).

CHN newest VBC project is Remote Patient Monitoring (RPM). RPM is a grant funded program to provide extended care opportunities for patients with comorbid medical conditions from in-home connected device monitoring and submission of daily vital sign readings. The service offers patients access to virtual visits through a smart cellular tablet and a digital smart package kit that includes blood pressure cuffs, glucometer, pulse oximeters and a scale to collect vitals. The RPM coordinator conducts a 20-minute care coordination visit monthly to discuss care plans, care goals and assist patients with resources as well monitoring the patient’s vitals data in real time to assist with immediate anomalies or abnormalities in readings. CHN obtained federal and private funding to secure the RPM devices, tablets with broadband access and salary support for care coordinators. The care coordinators work closely with the patients’ providers to evaluate the patients for fluctuations in vital signs and blood values. Broadband access is now a standard question for all patients registering for care. The tablets are issued only to patients who lack broadband access and smart technology at home.

CHN added Infusion therapy to its array of services in response to the Covid-19 Pandemic with monoclonal antibody therapy for mild to moderate treatment of patients with comorbid conditions. Monoclonal antibody therapy is a successful form of outpatient treatment for Covid-19. CHN expanded the use of infusion therapy to care for other chronic conditions including osteoporosis and will continue to utilize infusion therapies at the Scarsdale, Alvin, and Freeport location in addition to oral therapies or instead of oral medications with less optimal side effects.

CHN also integrated Wound Care into primary care at the Scarsdale and Freeport locations. Wound care services are available for patients with deep lacerations, patients with diabetes and other wounds that do not heal on their own. CHN is also integrating more specialty care services into its primary care clinics. Cardiology services is the next specialty service after wound care and prenatal to provide on-site services once a week at the Scarsdale location in late Summer 2021.

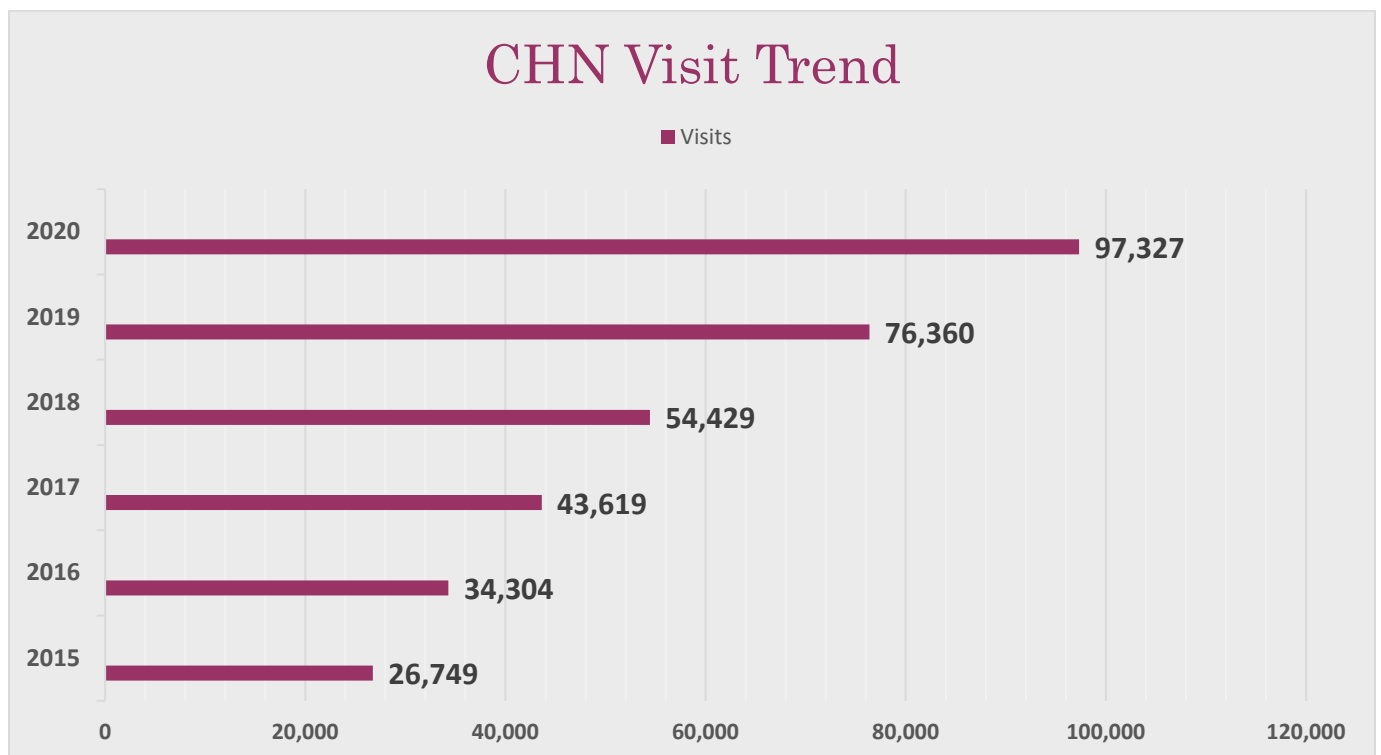
CHN increased access to new and established patients in response to the Covid-19 Pandemic by enhancing its patient portal to help streamline patient registration and connect patients with their medical provider through virtual technology while social distancing. Patients may communicate through their patient portal with the communications staff to schedule appointments, review test results and vaccine records, view and download a summary of their past visits, sign consents online, update patient registration forms, request a copy of their medical records and request medication refills. CHN decreased its wait time for appointments, added new behavioral health groups and has received approval from the state to conduct virtual MAT visits to help the spread of virus and eliminate transportation barriers.).

CHN immediately transformed and adapted to the pandemic day by day by creating innovated access to care. The economic and health barriers Covid-19 has caused. The virtual experience has moved to the forefront as the desired method to continue healthcare. CHN is further developing the patient portal to allow patient to complete depression screens (PHQ 2/9), tobacco screens and social determinant of health screens. Providers will incorporate the screens into the next patient visit for action and treatment.

CHN responds to access for care with virtual and in-person services, increasing the number of visits and persons served each year through primary care and behavioral health services. The CHN behavioral health department array of therapy and psychiatry including substance use, group therapy and screening, brief intervention and referral to therapy (SBIRT) services has experienced tremendous growth throughout 2020-2021. Demand for in-person and virtual services exploded during the Covid-19 pandemic and CHN hired additional licensed staff to meet the needs of the community. CHN provides an annual data report to the Health Resources and Services Administration. The data charts and graphs below demonstrate steady growth in all departments over the years. A snapshot of patients served in the behavioral health department demonstrates 660 unique patients in 2015 to 3611 in 2020 (547% increase) and 57 substance use disorder patients in 2018 to 257 in 2020 (450% increase). The worldwide Covid-19 Pandemic has been a true challenge for CHN and CHN responded with innovative strategies to meet the needs of the community.

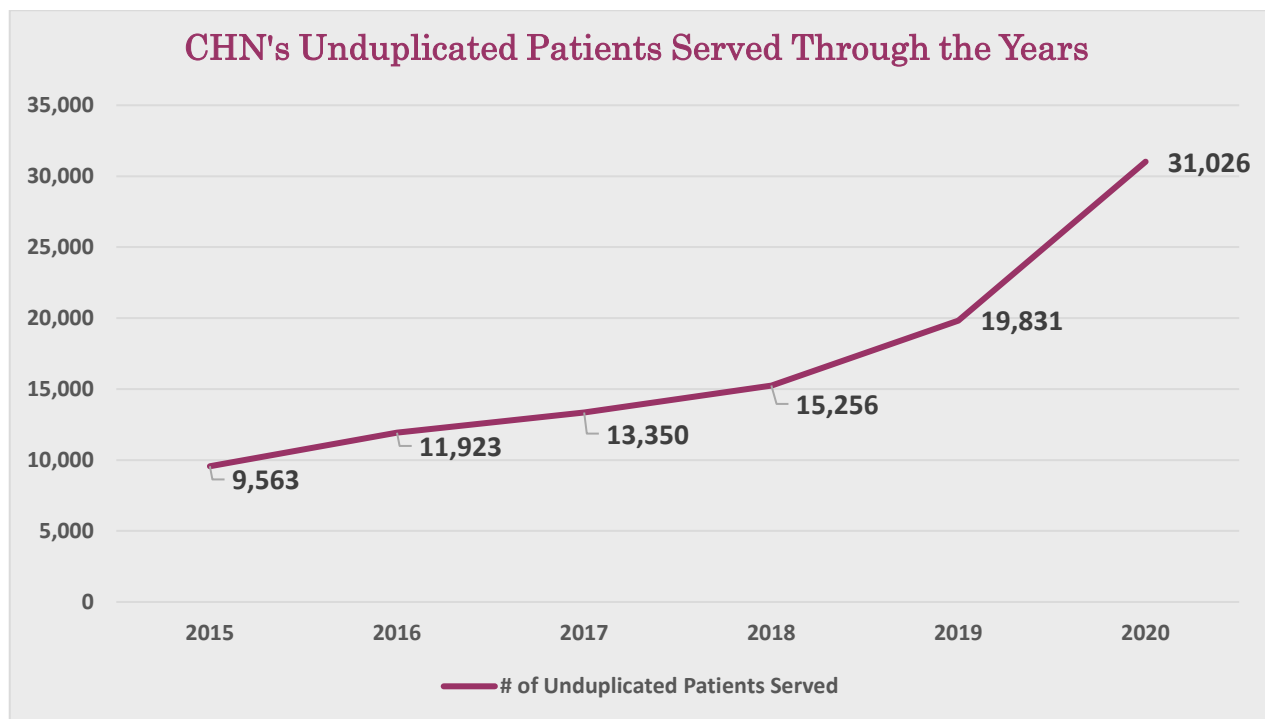
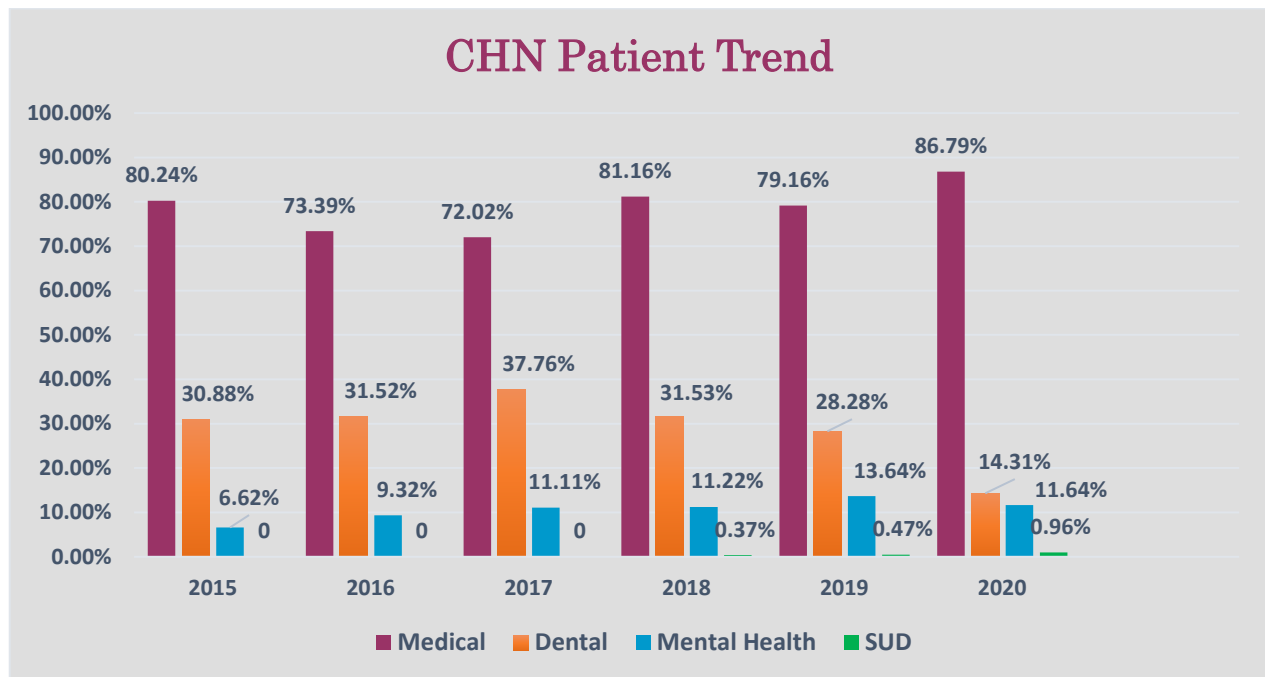
This chart represents the actual % of patients per service category for CHN from 2015 – 2020.

Services	2015		2016		2017		2018		2019		2020	
	#	%	#	%	#	%	#	%	#	%	#	%
Medical	7,673	80.24%	8,750	73.39%	9,615	72.02%	12,382	81.16%	15,699	79.16%	26,926	86.79%
Dental	2,953	30.88%	3,758	31.52%	5,041	37.76%	4,810	31.53%	5,608	28.28%	4,441	14.31%
Mental Health	633	6.62%	1,112	9.32%	1,483	11.11%	1,712	11.22%	2,705	13.64%	3,611	11.64%
Substance Use Disorder							57	0.37%	94	0.47%	297	0.96%
<b>TOTAL NUMBER OF PATIENTS</b>	<b>9,563</b>		<b>11,923</b>		<b>13,350</b>		<b>15,256</b>		<b>19,831</b>		<b>31,026</b>	



In 2019 CHN provided 75,052 clinic visits and 1,308 virtual visits, a grand total of 76,360 visits. Following the 2020 Covid-19 Pandemic CHN provided 55,447 on-site visits and 41,880 medical and behavioral health virtual visits, a grand total of 97,327 visits.

The patient trend represents unique patients served in each department. The majority of patients seek primary health care. Integration of services is the hallmark of CHN and a growing number of individuals are seeking this care. CHN closed the dental clinics to all but emergency services during the Covid-19 Pandemic under orders of the Governor due to safety concerns.



In addition to direct care services, CHN has highly integrated support services including outreach and enrollment, continuous quality improvement, peer review, risk management and patient-centered medical home. Administration and financial management are part of the organizational infrastructure.



## Medical Infrastructure

There are three nonprofit hospitals within Brazoria County: Sweeny Hospital, located in the city of Sweeny is a 20 bed, critical access facility providing acute care. Brazosport Regional Health Center, located in Lake Jackson is a 175 bed, Level III Trauma Center, offering comprehensive acute healthcare including bariatric, cancer, cardiac, family medicine, home healthcare and rehabilitation services. The Brazoria County Health Department offers six locations in the cities of Manvel, Clute, Pearland, Alvin, Angleton, and Brazoria, Texas to provide public health services and holds indigent clinics in Angleton and Alvin. Brazoria County has 138 general/family, pediatric, internal medicine and obstetrical physicians in private practice throughout the service area. In addition to the Angleton-Danbury Medical Center the University of Texas Medical Branch in Galveston operates a women's health clinic in Angleton, a primary care and pediatric clinic in Alvin and a women's health clinic in Pearland. Mental health services are provided through Gulf Coast MHMR which serves Brazoria and Galveston Counties.

Galveston County is served through three large hospitals, the health department, another FQHC, a Veteran Administration clinic and a variety of general medical clinics. The Shriners Hospitals for Children has consolidated their world-renowned, pediatric specialty healthcare services into one location in Galveston, Texas. Shriners Children's Texas provides comprehensive orthopedic and burn care treatment, as well as correction of cleft lip and palate to all children, regardless of their family's ability to pay. Located directly across from UTMB's main campus, the hospital features: a 15-bed acute burn care unit, on-site tissue bank, advanced orthopedic and cleft palate imaging, highly specialized physical rehabilitation team including a motion analysis lab, 15-bed in-patient step-down unit and four operating rooms. The second facility, Mainland Medical Center is a campus of Clear Lake Regional Medical Center and an HCA Gulf Coast hospital. Located in Texas City, the 90-bed hospital offers an emergency room, Heart and Vascular, Surgery services, women's services, orthopedics, senior program for behavioral health, wound and care, center for sleep disorders. The third UTMB Health facility is the UTMB League City Campus with inpatient and outpatient care, medical and surgical specialties, expanded-hours urgent care and 24-hour emergency department.<sup>29</sup> The largest hospital system in Galveston County is the University of Texas Medical Branch (UTMB), an academic health system with over 11,000 employees. UTMB is composed of multiple hospitals and a myriad of general and specialty clinics, and surgical centers located throughout Galveston and Brazoria County. The newest hospital is the Jennie Sealy Hospital, a 12 floor, 765,000 square foot, 310 bed facility with 60 ICU rooms, 10 family waiting rooms, 20 operating suites, and 28-day operating rooms. A few of the John Sealy areas have moved to the new Jennie Sealy Hospital, however, John Sealy continues to house the Blocker Burn Unit, Mother & Baby and Labor Delivery Units, the Children's Hospital, the Sleep Lab, and various other services. UTMB has four community clinics.

The Galveston County Health Department manages the Women, Infant and Children program for Galveston County, the County Indigent Health Program, provides immunizations for a fee of \$14/one immunization; \$25/two or more per visit; and currently oversees management of the Coastal Health & Wellness federally qualified health center. The health department has three locations: Texas City, Galveston Clinic, and Dickinson.

Coastal Health & Wellness is a FQHC with clinics in Texas City and Galveston providing medical, dental and behavioral health services for individuals of Galveston County on a sliding fee for service basis. In addition to Coastal Health & Wellness and the four UTMB Community Clinics, there is a Galveston VA Outpatient Clinic providing Primary Care services, behavioral health and women’s health, mental Tele-Med, and Prosthetic services; and two other clinics, St. Vincent Hope Clinic and CHRISTUS Point of Light, providing general medicine, immunizations and other services. Finally, Gulf Coast Center is in Galveston and Texas City providing adult, adolescent and child mental health, substance abuse recovery, intellectual and development disabilities.

A Memorial Hermann Hospital (Memorial Hermann Southeast) is located three blocks from the Harris County 77089 Service Area clinic location. The full-service hospital provides newborn delivery services as well as general hospital services. CHN partners with the Memorial Hermann Hospital System and Houston Methodist Hospital to develop collaborations to reduce unnecessary emergency room and inpatient admissions. The hospital case workers may refer Medicaid and uninsured individuals and those without a medical home to CHN for primary care services in lieu of caring for non-emergency conditions within the emergency room setting. CHN contracts with two area obstetricians to extend antepartum, prenatal, and post-partum care and delivery services within *My CHN Prenatal Program*. Dr. Maximos Bassem and Dr. Kingsley Asumugha cares for all prenatal patients at the CHN’s Women and Children clinic locations at the Victory Lakes, Pearland, Alvin and Scarsdale sites, and then provide delivery services at the Clear Lake Regional Hospital (Dr. Maximos) or the Memorial Hermann SouthEast Hospital (Dr. Asumugha).

## Health Disparities and Concerns

While most health measures within the service area, such as socioeconomic, births and communicable diseases are either in line or better than rates within Texas, each county has a number of mortality measures that are higher than the State; as demonstrated in the table below:

<b>CDC Wonder Mortality Data<sup>30</sup>/ County Ranking</b> (Underlying Cause of Death, 2018-2019 Single Race Results, Crude Rate Per 100,000)	<b>Brazoria County</b>	<b>Galveston County</b>	<b>Harris County</b>	<b>Texas</b>
Child Mortality Rate (2017-2018 Per 1,000)	5.28	5.05	<b>6.10</b>	5.48
Malignant Neoplasms (C00-C97)	147.5	<b>182.7</b>	118.3	143.1
Breast Cancer (C50)	<b>11.0</b>	<b>13.7</b>	10.5	10.9
Colon Cancer (C18-C21)	<b>17.4</b>	14.6	11.6	14.1
Lung Cancer (C33-C34)	31.5	<b>45.6</b>	23.4	30.1
Prostate Cancer (C61)	6.9	<b>9.9</b>	5.8	7.1
Essential Hypertension (HTN) & HTN Renal Disease (I10, I12, I15)	Unreliable	7.6	6.9	8.3
Chronic Liver Disease and Cirrhosis (K70, K73-K74)	12.3	<b>20.5</b>	9.8	15.0
Alcohol Liver Disease (K70)	Unreliable	<b>10.2</b>	4.3	6.4
Septicemia (A40-A41)	12.0	<b>19.3</b>	11.4	10.5

Diseases of the Heart (I00-I09, I11, I13, I20-I51)	159.5	<b>181.5</b>	125.7	159.1
Ischemic Heart Disease (I20-I125)	90.0	<b>97.0</b>	70.1	88.3
Heart Failure (I50)	22.4	<b>24.8</b>	15.9	20.1
Cerebrovascular Disease (Stroke) (I60-I69)	32.3	<b>51.1</b>	32.1	37.3
Influenza and Pneumonia (J09-J18)	8.8	<b>14.0</b>	9.6	10.9
Kidney Disease (N17-N19)	8.6	<b>16.4</b>	13.8	14.0
Nutritional Deficiencies (E40-E64)	Unreliable	Unreliable	3.7	3.4
Diabetes Mellitus (E10-E14)	19.2	17.5	19.2	23.8
Chronic Lower Respiratory Diseases (J40-J47)	26.5	<b>43.3</b>	22.1	37.2
Other Chronic Lower Respiratory Diseases (COPD & Asthma) (J44, J47)	24.6	<b>37.7</b>	20.5	34.9
Motor Vehicle Accidents (V02-V04, V09.0, V09.2, V12-V14, V19.0- V19.2, V19.4-V19.6, V20-V79, V80.3-V80.5, V81.0-V81.1, V82.0- V82.1, V83-V86, V87.0-V87.8, V88.0-V88.8, V89.0, V89.2)	<b>14.4</b>	11.7	10.2	13.3
Falls (W00-W19)	Unreliable	Unreliable	7.3	7.5
Intentional self-harm (suicide) (*U03, X60-X84, Y87.0)	11.2	<b>15.5</b>	10.8	13.4
Intentional self-harm (suicide) by discharge of firearms (X72-X74)	6.9	<b>9.9</b>	5.8	7.7
Intentional self-harm (suicide) by other and unspecified means and their sequelae (*U03, X60-X71, X75-X84, Y87.0)	Unreliable	Unreliable	5.0	5.7
Assault (homicide) (*U01-*U02, X85-Y09, Y87.1)	5.3	Unreliable	<b>9.0</b>	5.8
Assault (homicide) by discharge of firearms (*U01.4, X93-X95)	Unreliable	Unreliable	<b>7.6</b>	4.5
HIV (rate)	271	422	<b>678</b>	393
Coronavirus (Covid-19) Deaths (actual count as if 7/4/2021^^31)	535	447	6,600	51,349

\*Rates are marks as Unreliable when the death count is less than 20.

Behavioral Health is a significant need in Brazoria and Galveston Counties. There is a lack of mental health providers in both counties. Gulf Coast Centers is the Mental Health Authority for both Counties. While UTMB and the VA Outpatient Clinic employs mental health providers, only CHN and Gulf Coast Center provide behavioral health services full-time in Brazoria County to the underserved population. The ratio of mental health providers to individuals in Texas is 990:1 compared to the ratio for Galveston County (1,040:1). Brazoria County's ratio is almost double the Texas ratio at 1,701:1. Thus, for every 1,701 individuals in Brazoria County, there is a single mental health provider to serve their behavioral health needs. The rate of death by suicide for residents of Galveston County is 16 per 100,000; the Brazoria County rate per 100,000 is 13.0, the same as the State of Texas' rate. Substance use issues contribute to the demand for behavioral health services. 34% of Brazoria County individuals and 32% of Galveston County residents who were identified with alcohol impaired driving died compared to Texas individuals at 28%

## Community Health Needs Identified

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

1. Lack of access to affordable and easily accessible health resources including physical and mental health services, especially for low-income and uninsured individuals.
2. Lifestyle issues – e.g., obesity, tobacco use, alcohol and opioid use exacerbate chronic health conditions and require professional intervention (dietitian counseling, tobacco cessation intervention, referrals to Medication Assistance Treatment and inpatient detoxification programs) to mitigate the impact to diabetes, hypertension, congestive heart failure, substance use, and other chronic conditions.
3. Survey results indicate a significant percentage of community members have diabetes, heart disease, high blood pressure, asthma, obesity, arthritis, etc. and are in need of quality specialty care.
4. Access to Healthcare (financial and or insurance resources) including screening and prevention resources, quality primary care, and medication remains critical to combat the impact of chronic disease.

(We don't address- let's leave it off this year)

5. Continuous need for enabling services such as organizations and programs to assist individuals who cannot financially afford their medications, utilities, rent/housing, healthy food, reliable transportation and clothing.
6. Interventions to address mental illness are critical.
  - Suicide rates among youth and young adults illustrate the continued demand for services.
  - The Covid-19 Pandemic forced social isolation on the most vulnerable, erecting barriers with friends, family and coworkers that was debilitating and even deadly.

## Recommendations / Areas of Focus

Recommendations for 2020-2021 are to continue integrating all services for improved outcomes and increasing the availability of quality preventive services for adults, women of childbearing age and children. The Center will move forward implementing the patient centered medical home at the remaining eligible sites and a significant effort will be made toward preventive care, centering on behavioral health depression and anxiety screens, social determinants of health and other preventive screens (tobacco use, cancer, etc.), child and adult immunizations including the Covid-19 vaccine, and the integration of care coordination and social support through medical and behavioral health case management.

CHN will continue building community partnerships to increase access to specialized health services (cardiology, podiatry, nephrology, ophthalmology, endocrinology, etc.) available to patients within CHN's clinic settings as well as within the community. These initiatives will improve the Center's ability to provide value-based care focused on improving the patient's health. Other associated enterprises include a focus on interventions based on the social determinants of health and looking for value-based funding opportunities and revenue streams through public and private funding.

The Center will enhance provision of primary care services to the western portion of Brazoria County, Galveston County and adjacent areas of high need. Options include telemedicine services, a clinic in Lake Jackson and Galveston Island to serve the general population, transportation from these communities to existing sites, and using the mobile health clinic to identify viable sites. The western portion of Brazoria County is the most rural and underserved population within Brazoria County. Galveston County, despite the strong medical infrastructure, has significant behavioral health and medical needs. New initiatives to improve services include expanding integration of oral health care and pharmacy into primary health care services to reduce adverse outcomes. CHN will focus on oral health being a part of overall health noting that good oral health is part of optimum well-being. Construction plans are underway to integrate oral care within the Women and Children's Center in Adoue by adding a dental operatory at the site for a hygienist to practice. A second renovation project is underway at the Victory Lakes location to integrate dental operatories in the existing women and children service clinic. And oral health services will soon open at the Scarsdale site to provide oral health options for a combined six (6) clinic locations. The final initiative for oral health will expand pediatric dentistry services with the addition of a sedation services when a pediatric dentist joins CHN in August 2021.

CHN recognizes the demand for dental care remains a high priority issue for the low-income population. CHN will focus on expanding the variety of dental services available Digital Lab Services (fix) New initiatives in oral health include bringing digital lab services inhouse to improve access to prosthodontic services (crowns, dentures and partials). CHN is also exploring and expanding radiology services, x-rays, MRI and ultrasound services on site to address new initiatives in oral health include bringing digital lab services inhouse to improve access to prosthodontic services (crowns, dentures and partials).

The Center will continue to expand substance abuse services, counseling and psychiatric services in Alvin, Pearland, League City, Clute, Freeport, Lake Jackson and the Scarsdale location by collaborating with social service organizations, schools, and through service expansion into existing facilities. The demand for behavioral health services increases each year and our approach to providing these services requires innovation. Integration of medical management of behavioral health back into primary care remains the primary directive. The Center has integrated PCMH into behavioral health along with value-based outcomes such as keeping patients out of hospitals, emergency rooms and the criminal justice system.

The Center will expand eligibility services to assist people enrolling in Medicaid, Medicare, SNAP, CHIP and the Health Insurance Exchange at all clinic locations and when feasible at community locations. Community Partner Program services are stressed at all clinic locations primarily serving women and children who are eligible for Medicaid and CHIP at larger numbers in Texas. Center eligibility staff will attempt to meet with all insured patients at least annually to ensure they are getting the most from their private or public insurance.

CHN will continue to work with the MD Anderson-University of Texas Medical Center, University of Houston Clear Lake, University of Houston Central Campus, Texas A&M AgriLife, the Houston Food Bank Food for Change and UTAM Diabetes Education collaborations and other organizations in an effort to provide support and specialty services that have an effect on patient outcomes related to chronic diseases (diabetes, hypertension and hyperlipidemia, asthma, etc.) and cancer prevention. These partnerships allow us to provide extended no cost services to our patients to create better outcomes. Opportunities exist to expand collaborations with new organizations into new communities in Angleton, League City, Pearland, Lake Jackson, Southeast Houston, and throughout Galveston County.

CHN will continue to reach out to Senior Centers, Assisted Living Complexes and area organizations that serve the senior population to expand services to patients on Medicare. Covid-19 testing and vaccinations are essential services CHN will offer to seniors at such locations in the next year as the virus continues to threaten the health of vulnerable populations. Further, Seniors 65 and older are being challenged to find access to primary health care due to a high rate of primary care doctors retiring or no longer accepting Medicare plans, and many face financial challenges that can be alleviated in part through Center services. CHN will continue to participate in the Buena Vista de Salud Accountable Care Organization or a comparable Medicare ACO to improve quality outcomes to the Medicare population.

CHN's Outreach and Eligibility team will continue to work with local small business to expand access to care for employees who do not receive employer sponsored healthcare. These individuals will have an opportunity to receive care at our sites either through programs, sliding fee scales or through private insurance through the ACA or other insurance vehicles.

CHN will seek collaborations with organizations such as Head Start, WIC, senior services organizations and others to ensure low-income individuals have access to primary care, general dentistry and behavioral healthcare services. CHN will work with Brazoria County ISD, Angleton ISD, Clear Creek, Dickinson ISD, Texas City/La Marque ISD, Pasadena ISD and other school districts to implement additional mental health school-based health centers or offer mental health services. CHN recognizes the need for integration of behavioral health into the school system through collaborative services using telehealth or on-site partnerships.

CHN will continue to expand the use of telehealth psychiatry and telemedicine services to increase access to care at remote locations and to special populations through collaborations. Telemedicine

extends care to these special populations for acute issues that most frequently send patients to the emergency room.

CHN will deploy the mobile clinic to provide medical, dental, and behavioral health services to individuals in CHN's service area to provide care to individuals adversely impacted by natural disasters and pandemics. Mobile services will continue responding to public health emergencies needs including Covid-on-the-Go testing and vaccinations at community events, schools, assisted nursing homes, health fairs,

CHN will continue to invest resources to address Social Determinants of Health (SDOH) needs for the patient population to improve health outcomes within its service area. CHN will maintain its partnership with the United Way of Brazoria County to support the Greater Gulf Coast Community Network (GGCCN) in Brazoria County, and seek partnerships with other community partners in Galveston and Harris County. The GGCCN utilizes a SDOH web-based platform to facilitate coordination and collaboration through a network of social service and health providers.

CHN will monitor referral reports from the network to identify the greatest needs for CHN's patients and use this information to build additional collaborations and seek grant funding to address specific issues. As of June 2021, 61.7% of all Network referrals were made by CHN. The top needs are for food, utilities, housing/shelter, health supportive services and clothing. The top five Network needs identified for all community partner clients are food, utilities, housing/shelter, health insurance/dental coverage, and health supportive services and health care referrals. CHN is tracking need and referral outcome information and seeks to increase the number of screens completed, extrapolate SDOH needs from the provider encounter documentation and correlate needs met to quality outcomes in the future.

## Sources:

- <sup>1</sup> SAMHSA, <https://www.samhsa.gov/medication-assisted-treatment/treatment>
- <sup>2</sup> Texas County Profiles, <https://txcip.org/tac/census/profile.php?FIPS=48039>
- <sup>3</sup> Texas County Profiles, <https://txcip.org/tac/census/profile.php?FIPS=48167>
- <sup>4</sup> Texas County Profiles, <https://txcip.org/tac/census/profile.php?FIPS=48201>
- <sup>5</sup> US Zip Codes <https://www.unitedstateszipcodes.org/77089/>
- <sup>6</sup> Pearland EDC, <https://www.pearlandedc.com/doing-business/demographics/>
- <sup>7</sup> US Census, <https://www.census.gov/quickfacts/fact/table/leaguecitycitytexas/PST045218#PST045218>
- <sup>8</sup> US Census, <https://data.census.gov/cedsci/profile?g=1600000US4835000>
- <sup>9</sup> US Census, [https://data.census.gov/cedsci/table?q=brazoria%20county,%20texas&g=0500000US48039&tid=ACSDP5Y2018.DP05&layer=VT\\_2018\\_050\\_00\\_PY\\_D1](https://data.census.gov/cedsci/table?q=brazoria%20county,%20texas&g=0500000US48039&tid=ACSDP5Y2018.DP05&layer=VT_2018_050_00_PY_D1)
- <sup>10</sup> US Census, <https://data.census.gov/cedsci/>
- <sup>11</sup> US Census, [https://data.census.gov/cedsci/table?q=galveston%20county,%20texas&tid=ACSDP1Y2019.DP05&layer=VT\\_2018\\_050\\_00\\_PY\\_D1](https://data.census.gov/cedsci/table?q=galveston%20county,%20texas&tid=ACSDP1Y2019.DP05&layer=VT_2018_050_00_PY_D1)
- <sup>12</sup> US Census, [https://data.census.gov/cedsci/table?q=veterans%20galveston%20county,%20texas&tid=ACSST1Y2019.B21001&layer=VT\\_2018\\_050\\_00\\_PY\\_D1](https://data.census.gov/cedsci/table?q=veterans%20galveston%20county,%20texas&tid=ACSST1Y2019.B21001&layer=VT_2018_050_00_PY_D1)
- <sup>13</sup> [https://data.census.gov/cedsci/table?q=77089&tid=ACSDP5Y2019.DP05&layer=VT\\_2018\\_050\\_00\\_PY\\_D1](https://data.census.gov/cedsci/table?q=77089&tid=ACSDP5Y2019.DP05&layer=VT_2018_050_00_PY_D1)
- <sup>14</sup> [https://data.census.gov/cedsci/table?q=veterans%2077089&tid=ACSST1Y2019.B21001&layer=VT\\_2018\\_050\\_00\\_PY\\_D1](https://data.census.gov/cedsci/table?q=veterans%2077089&tid=ACSST1Y2019.B21001&layer=VT_2018_050_00_PY_D1)
- <sup>15</sup> UDS Mapper, <https://maps.udsmapper.org/map/app.cfm>
- <sup>16</sup> Texas Association of Counties, <https://imis.county.org/iMIS/CountyInformationProgram>
- <sup>17</sup> UDS Mapper, <https://udsmapper.org/>
- <sup>18</sup> America's Health Rankings, <https://www.americashealthrankings.org/explore/annual/measure/HealthInsurance/state/TX>
- <sup>19</sup> US Data Census, <https://data.census.gov/cedsci/table?q=Brazoria%20County%20Health&tid=ACSST1Y2019.S2701>
- <sup>20</sup> US Data Census, <https://data.census.gov/cedsci/all?q=Income>
- <sup>21</sup> Workforce Solutions, <https://www.wrksolutions.com/>
- <sup>22</sup> <https://www.tmc.edu/about-tmc/>
- <sup>23</sup> "Greater disparities to emerge in Texas as unemployment benefits, protections against evictions and utility shutoffs end" The Texas Tribune, June 24, 2021 edition, <https://www.texastribune.org/2021/06/25/texas-federal-unemployment-benefits-evictions/>.
- <sup>24</sup> Health People 2020, ([www.healthypeople.gov/2020](http://www.healthypeople.gov/2020))
- <sup>25</sup> Texas Homeless Network, <https://www.thn.org/texas-balance-state-continuum-care/data/pit-count-and-hic/#pit-information>
- <sup>26</sup> County Health Ranking, <https://www.countyhealthrankings.org/>
- <sup>27</sup> UDS Mapper, 2015-2019 American Community Survey. Population Indicators.
- <sup>28</sup> County Health Rankings, <https://www.countyhealthrankings.org/>
- <sup>29</sup> UTMB Health, <https://www.utmbhealth.com/locations/hospitals-campuses/league-city-campus/league-city-campus-hospital>
- <sup>30</sup> CDC WONDER, <https://wonder.cdc.gov>
- <sup>31</sup> Fatalities by County, Texas Department of State Health .Serves, <https://dshs.texas.gov/coronavirus/additionaldata.aspx>