



McLean HOSPITAL
HARVARD MEDICAL SCHOOL AFFILIATE

McLean Hospital

2019 Community Health Needs Assessment Executive Summary

McLean Hospital's 2019 community health needs assessment was reviewed and approved by the hospital's Board of Trustees on September 19, 2019. It will be prominently posted on the McLean website. (www.mcleanhospital.org). Partners HealthCare's filing of Form 990 on McLean's behalf will include the URL to this needs assessment on the McLean website.

McLean's implementation strategy will be updated to address the prioritized needs identified in this assessment. It will be reviewed by the McLean Hospital Board of Trustees and made publicly available by January 31, 2020.

The full McLean's 2019 community health needs assessment and the annual implementation strategy update based on McLean's 2016 community health needs assessment can be found on the McLean website.

Executive Summary

McLean Hospital has been meeting the needs of individuals and families with psychiatric illness since its founding in 1811. McLean offers a full spectrum of care spanning inpatient, acute and longer-term residential, partial hospitalization and outpatient services. McLean also offers an expanded array of specialized academic and clinical programs for children and adolescents, as well as dedicated services for older adults with Alzheimer's disease, other dementias and late onset mental illness. For nearly two decades, McLean has expanded its clinical reach beyond Belmont to communities throughout Massachusetts. McLean operates satellite programs in Boston, Cambridge, Lincoln, Middleborough, Petersham, Princeton, and Waltham, while providing emergency psychiatric coverage to hospitals in Attleboro and Plymouth and inpatient and ambulatory psychiatric consultative services in an Attleboro hospital.

Due to McLean's highly specialized mission and services, we rely on community, regional and state-wide public health and community needs assessments as well as feedback from CHNA 17 and Middleborough town officials. Needs assessments that were reviewed can be found in the appendix of the complete report (pages 18-20).



Across these community needs assessments, common themes related to mental health, behavioral health and substance abuse include:

- Mental health as a top health concern with specific foci on depression, anxiety, trauma, and suicide
- Concerns about substance abuse, including use of alcohol, prescription drugs and heroin, and the link between substance abuse and mental health issues
- Urgent need to address the opioid epidemic
- Significant waiting lists for adult mental health services
- Inpatient beds in freestanding psychiatric facilities and psychiatric units at general hospitals operating at or above full capacity, resulting in long stays and boarding in hospital emergency departments by people requiring inpatient levels of psychiatric care.
- Patient access to optimal continuum of mental health and substance abuse care seriously reduced by limited residential and community care capacity
- Inadequate services for children, adolescents and elders
- Complex flow of patients through the behavioral health care system in Massachusetts, with fragmentation and limited coordination of services across provider organizations
- Need for greater integration of mental health, substance abuse and primary care services
- Concerns about shortages of mental health professionals across the state
- Need for more public education and dialogue about mental health and substance abuse

McLean's implementation strategy will be informed by these prioritized needs that have been identified in this community health needs assessment. The implementation strategy, focusing on people and families affected by psychiatric illness and substance use disorders within CHNA 17 service areas and Middleborough, will include:

- Expanding psychiatric services to meet community needs and decrease lengths of stay in hospital emergency departments for patients with mental/behavioral health needs
- Improving community mental health through innovative programs
- Caring for uninsured and underinsured
- Strengthening behavioral health workforce to address access and quality
- Expanding public education and engagement to reduce stigma
- Providing community support and contributions