



Long Island Community Hospital

*Approved and Adopted by the Board of Directors December 15, 2022*

## Community Health Needs Assessment | 2022 - 2024

**Long Island  
Community Hospital**

## OUR PARTNERS

### **Suffolk County** **Community Health Needs Assessment and Improvement Plan** **2022-2024**

**Suffolk County Department of Health Services**  
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Great River, New York 11739-9006  
(631) 854-0100

#### ***Catholic Health***

Good Samaritan University Hospital	1000 Montauk Hwy, West Islip, NY 11795
St. Catherine of Siena Hospital	50 NY-25A, Smithtown, NY 11787
St. Charles Hospital	200 Belle Terre Rd, Port Jefferson, NY 11777

#### ***Long Island Community Hospital***

#### ***Northwell Health System***

Huntington Hospital	270 Park Ave, Huntington, NY 11743
Mather Hospital	75 N. Country Rd., Port Jefferson, NY 11777
Peconic Bay Medical Center	1300 Roanoke Ave. Riverhead, NY 11901
South Shore University Hospital	301 E. Main Street, Bay Shore, NY 11706

#### ***Stony Brook Medicine***

Stony Brook Southampton Hospital	240 Meeting House Ln, Southampton, NY 11968
Stony Brook University Hospital	101 Nicolls Rd, Stony Brook, NY 11794
Stony Brook Eastern Long Island Hospital	201 Manor Pl, Greenport, NY 11944

Veterans Affairs Medical Center	79 Middleville Rd, Northport, NY 11768
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**Coalition:** The Long Island Health Collaborative (LIHC) is a coalition of the region's hospitals, local health departments, academic institutions, community-based organizations, medical societies, health plans, clinics, and others dedicated to improving the health of all Long Islanders. The LIHC is overseen by the Nassau-Suffolk Hospital Council, the association that represents Long Island's hospitals. The LIHC provided oversight and management of the Community Health Needs Assessment processes, including data collection and analysis for the Long Island region (Nassau and Suffolk counties).

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## INTRODUCTION

This Community Health Needs Assessment (CHNA) represents a collaboration between Long Island Community Hospital, the Long Island Health Collaborative and its nearly 200 member organizations, the Suffolk County Department of Health Services, and patients/residents served by our hospital. It defines the health needs and barriers expressed by community members and the local community-based organizations that serve this region. It reflects primary data collected during January 2021 through August 2022. Secondary data from 2018 – 2021 was also examined. It is intended to serve as a blueprint for our hospital and collaborating partners to ensure that interventions and strategies address health needs and achieve health equity.

Long Island Community Hospital is a 306-bed acute-care, community hospital located in Patchogue, New York, which is in Suffolk County. We are a Level III Adult Trauma Center and designated Primary Stroke Center. We are known for our excellence in wound care and hyperbaric medicine, chemical dependency services, bariatric services and care, and renal dialysis, among other medical/surgical services. As our name implies, we are community-focused and highly accessible to all via our network of primary care centers, which also provide behavioral/substance misuse services.

## EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

Long Island Community Hospital worked with the Long Island Health Collaborative (LIHC) and the Suffolk County Department of Health Services (SCDOHS), and dozens of community-based organizations, libraries, schools and universities, local municipalities, and other community stakeholders to produce this CHNA. SCDOHS representatives offered input and consultation, when appropriate, regarding the data analyses conducted by the LIHC and DataGen. Top, high-level findings include a continued prevalence of chronic disease incidence, particularly heart disease, diabetes, obesity and cancer. Further, surging rates of mental health and substance misuse issues among all demographic categories was found, with disparity seen among youth, and low-income communities of color continuing to experience a higher burden of disease overall. In 2022, members of the LIHC reviewed extensive data sets selected from both primary and secondary data sources to identify and confirm New York State Prevention Agenda priorities for the 2022-2024 Community Health Needs Assessment cycle. Data analysis efforts were coordinated through the LIHC, which served as the centralized data return and analysis hub. As directed by the data results, community partners selected:

### 1. Prevent Chronic Disease

*Focus Area 4: Chronic Disease Preventive Care and Management*

### 2. Promote Well-Being and Prevent Mental and Substance Use Disorders

*Focus Area 2: Mental and Substance Use Disorders Prevention*

Primary data was obtained from a community health needs assessment sent to individuals and a similar survey to community-based organization leaders<sup>1</sup>. Additionally, we looked at results from two qualitative

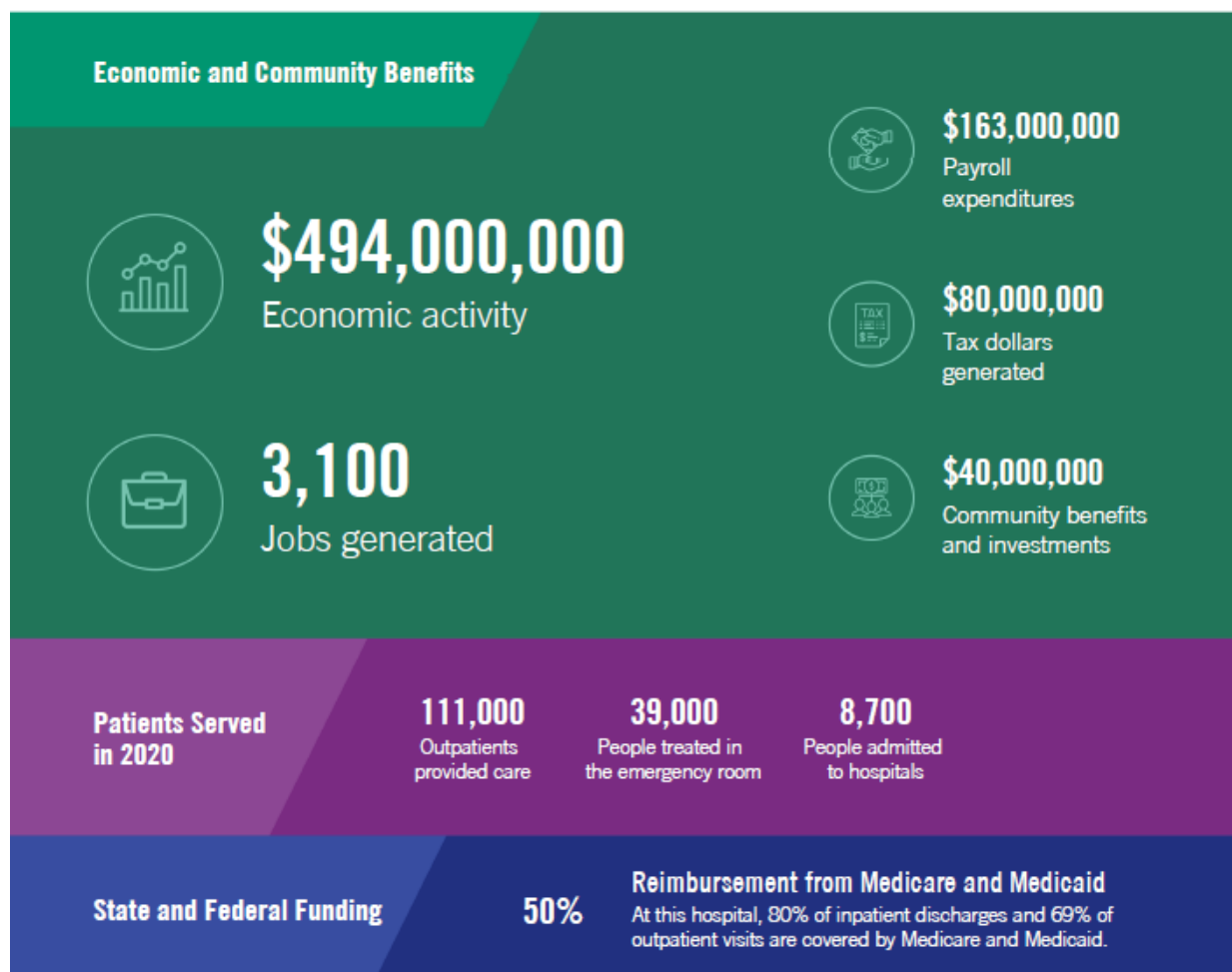
<sup>1</sup> Community Health Assessment Survey (CHAS) assessing responses from individuals, summary report and survey instrument (Appendix A)  
CBO Survey Analysis 2022, assessing responses from community-based organization leader, summary report and survey instrument (Appendix B)



studies to round out our primary data.<sup>2</sup> Secondary data was derived from publicly-available data sets curated by DataGen into its proprietary data analytics platform, CHNA Advantage™, offering 200 plus metrics to determine health issues within Suffolk County.<sup>3</sup> As such, priorities selected for the 2022- 2024 cycle remain unchanged from the 2019 – 2021 cycle selection, and the selected health disparities in which partners are focusing their efforts rests on the inequities experienced by those in historically underserved communities and communities of color. Additional Prevention Agenda priorities/disparities being addressed by Long Island Community Hospital are outlined in the 2022-2024 work plan (See Appendix E).



Long Island Community Hospital  
New York's Hospitals and Health Systems Improve the Economy and Community



Source: Healthcare Association of New York State (2020 Community Benefit)

<sup>2</sup> Qualitative Analysis of Key Informant Interviews Conducted among Community-Based Organization Leaders (Appendix C)

Long Island Libraries: Caretakers of the Region's Social Support and Health Needs: Qualitative Analysis (Appendix D)

<sup>3</sup> Statewide Planning and Research Cooperative System (SPARCS), New York State Prevention Agenda dashboard, Behavioral Risk Factor Surveillance System (BRFSS), Extended Behavioral Risk Factor Surveillance System (eBRFSS), New York State Community Health Indicators by Race/Ethnicity Reports, Community Health Indicator Reports, Prevention Quality Indicators, CDC Places, and U.S. Census Bureau. The CHNA Advantage™ data analytics platform includes these and other state and national level indicators. It also encompasses social risk measures offered by Socially Determined, Inc.

Long Island Community Hospital works with a broad range of partners to connect with the community, to assess their needs through distribution and promotion of data collection tools, and to provide interventions in collaborative settings, when appropriate. See page 7 for our extensive list of partners. We also rely on the LIHC and its role as neutral convener and regional leader, espousing the collective impact model and framework.<sup>4</sup> As such, the LIHC serves as a backbone organization, providing its diverse partners with data analytics and administrative support in the areas of community outreach and education, and media relations support. LIHC's networking capabilities, its programs around walking and chronic Hospitals and county health departments worked collaboratively on the CHNA.

In addition, our hospital maintains a Community Outreach Committee made up of a group of local community members who meet throughout the year with hospital leadership, offering input about community needs and learn about the services the hospital offers to the community. The committee includes civic leaders, clergy, school representatives, public health advocates, business leaders, service and fraternal club members, consumers, patients and friends of the hospital.

## DESCRIPTION OF COMMUNITY

### Demographics

Suffolk County's total population as of 2020 is 1,481,362 (47.2% male; 50.8% female). Those ages 15-44 represent 35.4% of females; 36.7% of males; ages 60 plus represent 23.7% of males and 25.6% of females; those 18 years and older represent 78.8% of males and 79.8% females. The region is predominately White at 65.3% with 7.7% Black/African American and 4.4% Asian. Hispanic or Latino represent 22.4% of the population,<sup>5</sup> about a four percent increase from the last report.

Interestingly, according to the Robert Wood Johnson Foundation's 2022 County Health Rankings, Suffolk County ranks 10th for health outcomes and eight for health factors<sup>6</sup>. Health factors represent health issues that can improve length and quality of life. Health outcomes represent how healthy a county is right now.

### Geographic description

Suffolk County is 2,373 square miles and is the second largest county in New York. Long Island Community Hospital services this easternmost county in New York State. The county is divided into 10 towns: Babylon, Huntington, Islip, Smithtown, Brookhaven, Southampton, Riverhead, East Hampton, Shelter Island and Southold.<sup>7</sup> Suffolk County is an area of growing diversity, cultures, and population characteristics.

### Socioeconomic information

<sup>4</sup> <https://collectiveimpactforum.org/>

<sup>5</sup> U.S. Census Bureau, 2020 Decennial Census

<sup>6</sup> <https://www.countyhealthrankings.org/app/new-york/2022/rankings/suffolk/county/outcomes/overall/snapshot>

<sup>7</sup> <https://www.ny.gov/counties/suffolk>

In terms of household income, 35.2% of the population earn less than \$74,999 with 15% of that group earning less than \$34,999 annually. Of the population, 8% of those under 18 years of age live in poverty, while 6% of those ages 18 to 64 live in poverty and for those ages 18 -34, 6.7% live in poverty.<sup>8</sup>

The percentage of the population (5 years and over) that speaks a language other than English at home is 30.3%, with Spanish the dominant other language spoken 14.7% followed by other Indo/European languages 8.7% and Asian languages 5.1%. In terms of education, for those age 25 and over, 89.4% are high school graduates or higher, 31.9% hold a bachelor's degree or higher. The percent of the total population uninsured is 4.2%. Of that percent, non-citizens represent 32% of the uninsured. Hispanic/Latino represent 42.1% of the uninsured followed by Black/African American 10%, White 63.9%, Asian 6.5%. Of the uninsured, 37.6% earn less than \$74,999 household income and 9.1% earn under \$25,000 household income. Approximately 9.6% of the total non-institutionalized population is disabled. By race/ethnicity, 10.6% of the Native Hawaiian/Pacific Islander population is disabled, 13.6% of the American Indian/Alaska Native population is disabled, 10% of the White population is disabled, 9.6% of the Black/African American population is disabled, and 7.2% Hispanic/Latino population is disabled. Interestingly, Native American/Pacific Islanders account for less than one percent of the county's population.<sup>9</sup>

Income – one social determinant of health – precludes individuals from low-income communities from accessing preventive and/or medical care due to their difficulty to afford co-payments/deductibles (if insured) or care at all if they are uninsured. The inability to afford co-pays and deductibles consistently rises to the top as a barrier to healthcare on LIHC's Community Health Assessment Survey year and after year. The median household income in the past 12 months by race is \$107,422 (White), \$85,840 (Black), \$91,711 (Hispanic/Latino). Mean income in the past 12 months, per capita by race is \$50,352, \$33,170 and \$28,414, respectively<sup>10</sup>. According to research conducted by the United Way of New York's ALICE report,<sup>11</sup> Long Island residents are earning wages that do not cover life's basic costs. As of 2020, **31.5% of Long Island households fall below the set income threshold needed to live and work**, which equates to 171,921 households in Suffolk County and 130,599 households in Nassau County and that are struggling to afford these basic needs.

### Municipalities in target community

Long Island Community Hospital attends to patients and residents throughout Suffolk County's 10 town ships. The hospital's primary service areas and secondary service areas, as defined by zip code and town, are noted below:

Primary Service Area	ZIPS
Bayport	11705
Bellport	11713
Blue Point	11715
Brookhaven	11719
Center Moriches	11934
Davis Park	11772
Holbrook	11741

<sup>8</sup> U.S. Census Bureau, 2016-2020 American Community Survey, Five-Year Estimates

<sup>9</sup> U.S. Census Bureau, 2016-2020 American Community Survey, Five-year Estimates

<sup>10</sup> U.S. Census Bureau, 2016 – 2020 American Community Survey 5-Year Estimates

<sup>11</sup> <https://www.unitedwayli.org/ALICE2020>



Holtsville	11742
Mastic	11950
Mastic Beach	11951
Medford	11763
Moriches	11955
Patchogue	11772
Sayville	11782
Shirley	11967
Yaphank	11980

**Secondary Service Area**

Bohemia	11716
Coram	11727
East Moriches	11940
Eastport	11941
Farmingville	11738
Islip	11751
Manorville	11949
Middle Island	11953
Oakdale	11769
Ridge	11961
Ronkonkoma	11779
Selden	11784
West Sayville	11796

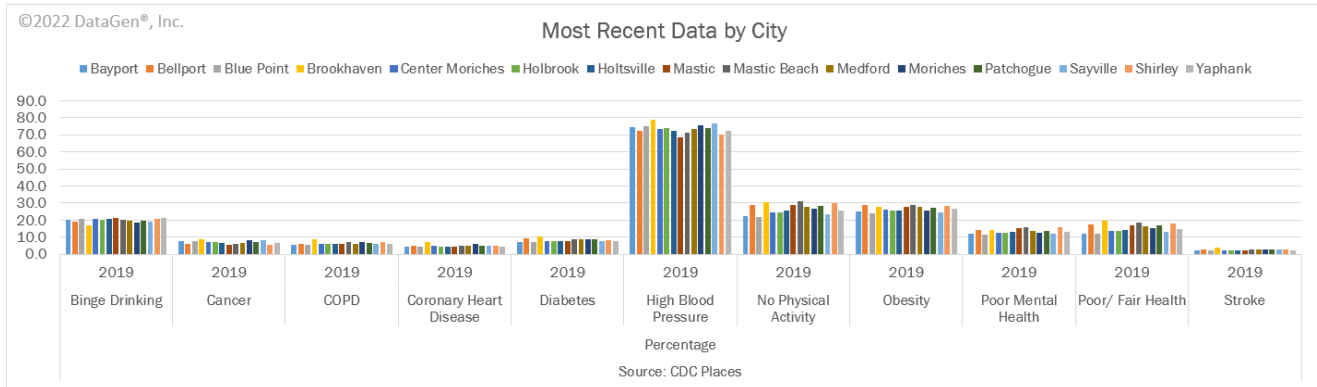
Throughout Suffolk County, there are 17 identified communities in which a variety of socioeconomic factors lead to vast health disparities. These identified communities were determined by the Suffolk County Department of Health Services with concurrence from hospital partners. These communities are: Wyandanch, Central Islip, Brentwood, Riverhead, Bay Shore, Copiague, Mastic, Mastic Beach, Bellport, Amityville, Calverton, Patchogue, Shirley, Greenport, Lindenhurst, West Babylon, and Ridge.



Source: <https://ontheworldmap.com/usa/state/new-york/long-island/>

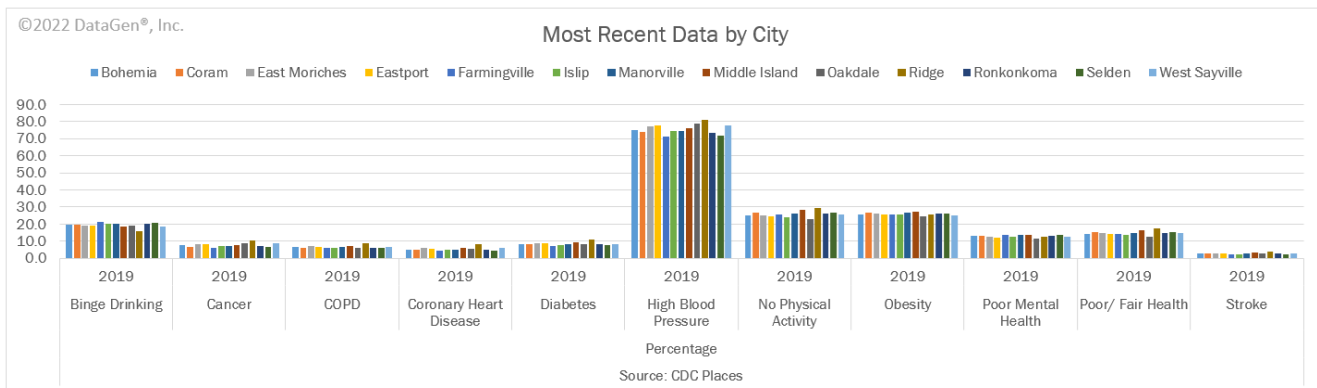
## Primary Service Area – Long Island Community Hospital

Measure Name	Year	City	National Benchmark*	State Benchmark*	Bayport	Bellport	Blue Point	Brookhaven	Center Moriches	Holbrook	Holtsville	Mastic	Mastic Beach	Medford	Moriches	Patchogue	Sayville	Shirley	Yaphank
Binge Drinking-Percentage	2019		17.86	18.60	20.30	19.20	20.60	18.90	20.60	20.30	20.80	21.20	20.10	19.70	18.60	19.50	19.10	20.50	21.50
Smoking-Percentage	2019		17.44	15.74	13.90	17.10	13.00	18.20	15.30	15.20	16.20	18.80	20.40	16.30	15.80	16.50	13.40	19.50	16.10
No Physical Activity-Percentage	2019		26.97	28.15	22.10	29.10	21.60	30.50	24.70	24.50	25.40	29.10	30.80	27.70	26.70	28.50	23.40	29.90	25.70
Cancer-Percentage	2019		6.56	6.53	7.40	6.10	7.70	8.80	7.10	6.90	6.50	5.40	5.90	6.60	8.40	6.90	8.30	5.70	6.60
COVD-Percentage	2019		6.81	6.61	5.60	6.10	5.50	9.00	5.90	5.90	5.90	6.20	7.20	6.30	6.90	6.60	6.20	6.90	5.90
Coronary Heart Disease-Percentage	2019		5.80	5.55	4.60	4.70	4.60	7.20	4.70	4.60	4.40	4.20	4.90	4.90	5.90	5.20	5.20	4.70	4.60
Diabetes-Percentage	2019		10.51	10.22	7.20	9.10	7.00	10.60	7.60	7.70	7.40	7.80	8.50	8.70	8.70	8.70	7.90	8.20	7.70
High Blood Pressure-Percentage	2019		71.95	74.35	74.30	72.50	75.20	78.70	73.60	73.80	72.20	68.50	71.10	73.30	75.70	74.00	76.50	70.30	72.00
Obesity-Percentage	2019		32.08	28.33	24.90	29.00	24.00	27.90	25.90	25.50	25.80	28.00	29.00	27.50	25.50	27.40	24.60	28.20	26.70
Stroke-Percentage	2019		3.27	3.14	2.40	2.80	2.30	3.70	2.50	2.40	2.30	2.40	2.70	2.70	3.00	2.80	2.70	2.60	2.50
Poor Mental Health-Percentage	2019		14.98	13.89	11.90	14.20	11.60	14.10	12.70	12.80	13.30	15.30	16.00	13.60	12.80	13.70	11.80	15.80	13.10
Poor Fair Health-Percentage	2019		19.30	18.72	12.20	17.70	11.80	18.60	13.90	13.70	14.10	17.10	18.60	16.20	15.30	16.90	13.30	17.90	14.60



## Secondary Service Area – Long Island Community Hospital

Measure Name	Year	City	National Benchmark*	State Benchmark*	Bohemia	Coram	East Moriches	Eastport	Farmingville	Islip	Manorville	Middle Island	Oakdale	Ridge	Ronkonkoma	Selden	West Sayville
Binge Drinking-Percentage	2019		17.86	18.60	19.80	19.50	19.00	19.80	21.20	20.10	19.90	18.40	18.90	15.80	20.10	20.60	19.50
Smoking-Percentage	2019		17.44	15.74	15.50	15.70	15.10	14.10	16.20	14.40	16.40	16.30	12.80	14.70	16.10	16.50	14.50
No Physical Activity-Percentage	2019		26.97	28.15	25.30	26.60	25.30	24.40	25.40	24.10	26.00	28.10	22.90	23.40	26.00	26.40	25.60
Cancer-Percentage	2019		6.56	6.53	7.60	6.60	8.40	8.30	6.20	7.20	7.30	7.70	8.70	10.50	7.00	6.40	8.80
COVD-Percentage	2019		6.81	6.61	6.50	6.00	7.00	6.70	5.80	5.90	6.60	7.10	6.20	8.70	6.30	6.10	6.80
Coronary Heart Disease-Percentage	2019		5.80	5.55	5.10	4.70	5.80	5.70	4.20	4.70	5.10	5.80	5.40	8.00	4.90	4.50	5.90
Diabetes-Percentage	2019		10.51	10.22	8.00	8.40	8.70	8.60	7.30	7.60	8.10	9.40	8.10	10.70	8.00	7.70	8.40
High Blood Pressure-Percentage	2019		71.95	74.35	75.10	73.70	77.30	77.70	71.40	74.30	74.30	76.20	78.80	81.20	73.60	71.70	77.50
Obesity-Percentage	2019		32.08	28.33	25.70	26.80	26.10	25.70	25.80	25.40	26.50	27.40	24.30	25.70	25.90	26.20	25.10
Stroke-Percentage	2019		3.27	3.14	2.70	2.60	3.00	2.90	2.30	2.50	2.70	3.10	2.70	4.00	2.60	2.40	3.00
Poor Mental Health-Percentage	2019		14.98	13.89	12.90	13.10	12.50	12.20	13.60	12.50	13.40	13.40	11.50	12.30	13.30	13.80	12.40
Poor Fair Health-Percentage	2019		19.30	18.72	14.30	15.20	14.80	14.10	14.30	13.60	14.90	16.60	12.80	17.70	14.60	15.00	14.50



The two previous tables and bar graphs compare Long Island Community Hospital's primary and secondary service areas against state and national benchmarks for 12 selected measures (outcomes, health behaviors). High blood pressure, binge drinking, obesity, no physical activity are all measures exceeding state benchmarks and, in some cases, the national benchmarks for almost all of the zip codes examined.

## Healthcare and other key institutions

Long Island Community Hospital is dedicated to the diverse needs of its many communities, with a special emphasis on diabetes management and mental health/substance misuse needs. We collaborate with a variety of community-based organizations, our local chambers of commerce, libraries and schools, and the Suffolk County Department of Health Services, among many others. The organizations listed below partner with us to reduce the incidence of chronic disease, mental health, and substance misuse in our communities.

- Bellport and Patchogue Head Start
- Bellport Hagerman East Patchogue Alliance
- Bellport Outreach
- Boys and Girls Club of Bellport
- Cornell Cooperative Extension of Suffolk County
- Family and Children's Association
- Family Service League
- Hagerman Fire Department
- Hunter Business School
- Bayport Bluepoint Library
- Lighthouse Mission
- Lions Club of Suffolk County
- NIH HEALing Communities Study (Opioid overdose reduction)
- Ovations Dance Studio
- Patchogue YMCA
- Patchogue-Medford Library
- Patchogue-Medford Union Free School District
- Sachem High School North
- Sachem Library
- Sayville Pantry
- Sayville Union Free School District
- Seaford Recovery Center
- St. Joseph's University
- Substance Abuse Agencies
- Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration (SAMSHA)
- Sun River Health Center Shirley
- The Diabetes Resource Coalition of Long Island
- Victory Recovery Center
- Village Walk at Patchogue (Assisted Living)
- William Floyd School District

Long Island Community Hospital relies on the LIHC to disseminate information about the importance of proper nutrition and physical activity among the general public to assist Suffolk residents in better managing their chronic diseases and/or preventing the onset of chronic diseases. The hospital also relies on the LIHC to disseminate information about mental health prevention and treatment services and programming, as well as relevant information about substance misuse. Dissemination of information is achieved through the bi-weekly *Collaborative Communications* e-newsletter, which is sent to 588 community-based organization leaders, and strategic use of social media platforms. These efforts are ongoing. The work plan (*see Appendix E*) outlines anticipated measures and activities for 2023 supported by the LIHC. Finally, the hospital participates in the LIHC's quarterly stakeholder meetings and avails itself of LIHC's extensive network. *See Appendix F for a list of partners.* A representative from the Suffolk County Department of Health also participated in the monthly 2022 CHNA Workgroup – September 2021 – April 2022. (*See Appendix G for list of workgroup members*)

## Existing health disparities

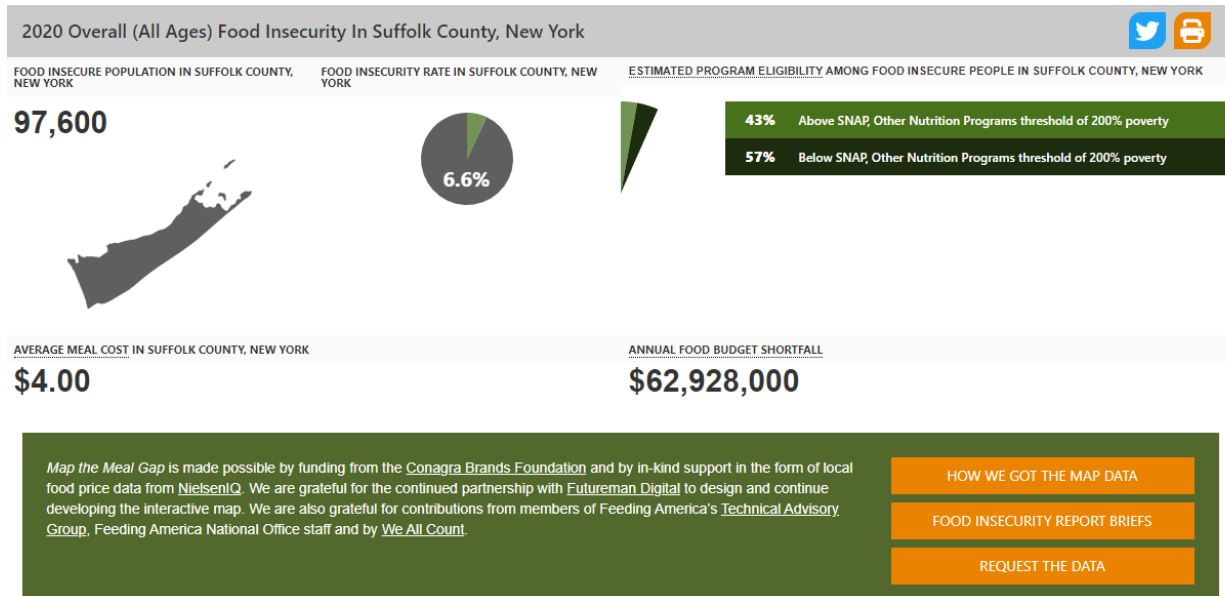
Low-income communities of color, especially those in the identified 17 communities, bear a greater burden of chronic disease, which is exacerbated by social determinant of health need factors.

Financially stressed individuals have difficulty affording nutritious foods, leaving them more vulnerable to poorer chronic disease management outcomes, since nutrition and diet play a pivotal role in every



chronic disease. Recognizing that a level of food insecurity exists among many of its service zip codes, Long Island Community Hospital holds food drives and works with local food pantries to ensure those most in need have access to food. Our hospital serves seven out of 10 communities with the lowest median income in Suffolk County.

According to Feeding America, **6.6% of Suffolk County residents are food insecure**, which represents 97,600 community members. Another Feeding America study, Map the Meal Gap 2020, examined the cost of food and cost of living in zip codes across the United States. Suffolk County's Annual Food Budget Shortfall represents \$62,928,000, according to the study, and 44% of adults are living above the 200% federal poverty level for SNAP.<sup>12</sup>



Source: Feeding America, Map the Meal Gap 2020, Suffolk County

Obesity is another health disparity disproportionately affecting Suffolk County. Overall, the county exhibits a higher rate of adult obesity compared to the state. Obesity is a leading indicator for chronic disease. According to the Robert Wood Johnson Foundation's County Health Rankings for Suffolk County,<sup>13</sup> 27% of the population (18 and older) reports a body mass index (BMI) greater than or equal to 30 kg/m.<sup>14</sup> In 2019, *The New England Journal of Medicine* studied what the projected adult obesity rate in the United States will be by 2030 based on today's obese and overweight adult populations.<sup>15</sup> By 2030, the obesity epidemic is projected to impact nearly 1 in 2 adults.

According to the New York State Department of Health, obesity is a significant risk factor for many chronic diseases including type 2 diabetes, high blood pressure, asthma, stroke, heart disease and certain types of cancer. The prevalence of chronic diseases is persistent in the county. Nationally, communities of color experience higher rates of chronic disease. Using diabetes as an example, the American Indian/Alaska Native population represents 14.5 percent of adults 18 or older who are diagnosed with diabetes followed by Black, non-Hispanic at 12.1% and Hispanic overall at 11.8% in the

<sup>12</sup> <https://map.feedingamerica.org/county/2020/overall/new-york/county/suffolk>

<sup>13</sup> <https://www.countyhealthrankings.org/app/new-york/2022/measure/factors/11/map>

<sup>14</sup> [https://www.health.ny.gov/statistics/prevention/injury\\_prevention/information\\_for\\_action/docs/2021-02\\_ifa\\_report.pdf](https://www.health.ny.gov/statistics/prevention/injury_prevention/information_for_action/docs/2021-02_ifa_report.pdf)

<sup>15</sup> <https://www.nejm.org/doi/full/10.1056/NEJMsa1909301>

United States. Asians and Whites experience the disease at 9.5% and 7.4% respectively.<sup>16</sup> Health providers report that many individuals delayed preventive care and routine screenings due to the pandemic, leading to more complicated cases and unfavorable outcomes. Chronic diseases are preventable conditions sensitive to lifestyle (diet/physical activity) habits but hampered by the obstacles presented by social determinant of health factors - income/employment, race/ethnicity, food access, housing/neighborhood location, and level of education. The county and hospitals identified in this report through collaborative efforts and facility-specific programming acknowledge and address these determinants regularly.

## OVERVIEW OF IDENTIFIED NEEDS

Reducing chronic diseases and mental health illness/substance misuse have been identified as the top two priorities in our communities. A Long Island Community Hospital representative was a member of the 2022 CHNA Workgroup convened by the Long Island Health Collaborative. The prevailing health/social support needs uncovered through primary and secondary data research were discussed with other workgroup members, one of whom was a local county health department executive, as part of the nine-month CHNA process. Members of the workgroup brought insight learned from the previous CHNA report cycle to the table, including relevant comments from community members. We then confidently and unanimously selected the priorities noted. Embedded within these priorities are areas of need, as revealed by the primary and secondary research.

### Areas of Identified Need

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*Access to care, mental health, health literacy, education, economic security (poverty), obesity and weight loss, food access, clean air and water.*

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Primary data and secondary data demonstrate that residents living in Suffolk County are experiencing poor mental health status. The 2021 Robert Wood Johnson Foundation County Health Rankings examining Suffolk County in Quality-of-Life Health Outcomes demonstrates an average of 4.0 poor mental health days per 30 days in Suffolk County.<sup>17</sup> Mental health issues have soared in the past two years spurred, in part, by the effects of the pandemic. Using data from the U.S. Census Bureau's COVID-19 Household Pulse Survey (April 23, 2020 – October 26, 2020), a New York State Health Foundation analysis found that more than one-third of adult New Yorkers reported symptoms of anxiety and/or depression, with racial and ethnic groups of color as well as low-income New Yorkers, reporting the highest rates of poor mental health. However, the 18 – 34-year-old age group reported the highest rates (49%) of poor mental health.<sup>18</sup> High school students (grades 9 through 12) fared just as badly. A number of studies found poor mental health along with suicide ideation intensified during the pandemic for high schoolers, especially among females. An April 2022 analysis of data from the 2021 Adolescent Behaviors and Experiences Survey revealed that 37.1% of students experienced poor mental health during the pandemic, and 31.1% experienced poor mental health during the preceding 30 days.<sup>19</sup> The pandemic

<sup>16</sup> <https://www.cdc.gov/diabetes/health-equity/diabetes-by-the-numbers.html>

<sup>17</sup> [https://www.countyhealthrankings.org/app/new-york/2021/compare/snapshot?counties=36\\_059%2B36\\_103](https://www.countyhealthrankings.org/app/new-york/2021/compare/snapshot?counties=36_059%2B36_103)

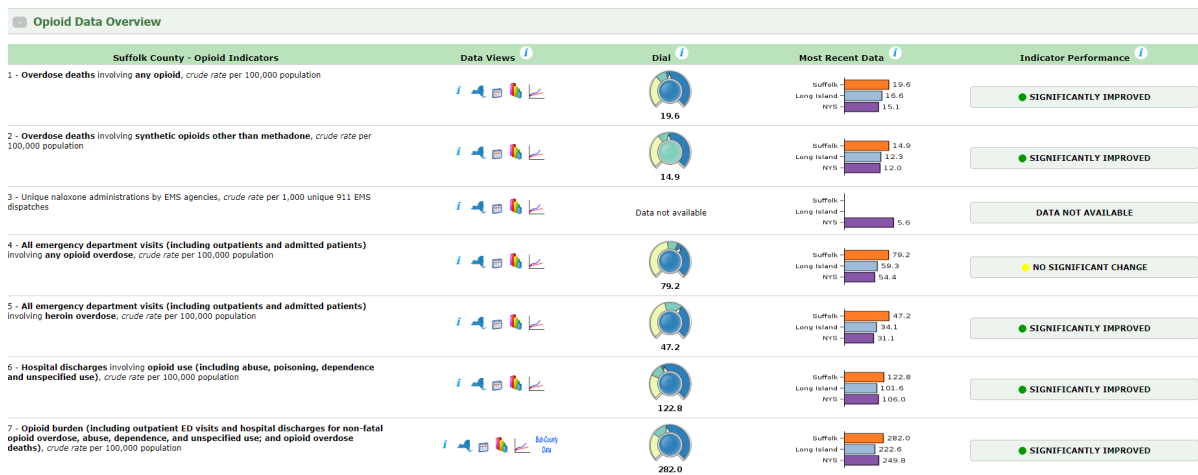
<sup>18</sup> <https://nyhealthfoundation.org/resource/mental-health-impact-of-the-coronavirus-pandemic-in-new-york-state/#:~:text=The%20proportion%20of%20New%20Yorkers,health%20throughout%20the%20survey%20period>

<sup>19</sup> [https://www.cdc.gov/mmwr/volumes/71/su/su7103a3.htm?s\\_cid=su7103a3\\_w](https://www.cdc.gov/mmwr/volumes/71/su/su7103a3.htm?s_cid=su7103a3_w)

made a bad situation worse, especially for youth, as mental health issues and suicides were already increasing prior to the COVID-19 pandemic.<sup>20 21 22 23</sup> With the shortage of mental healthcare workers and the lingering psychological effects of the pandemic, mental health services remain a top priority for the region.

The county also saw an uptick in opioid-related overdoses and deaths after having made some gains prior to the pandemic. **As of 2019, Suffolk County still exceeds the New York state benchmark of 15.1 in overdose deaths per 100,000 due to opioids.** According to data provided by Suffolk County's Department of Health, the rate of opioid overdoses is currently 19.6. In addition, emergency department visits involving heroin overdoses is extremely high in the county. As of 2019, the Suffolk County rate is 47.2 compared to New York State's benchmark of 31.1 per 100,000 population.<sup>24</sup>

The New York State Department of Health statistics report that for 2020 in Suffolk County there were 362 deaths from any opioid, 59 heroin overdose deaths, and 335 deaths involving opioid pain relievers (including illicitly produced opioids such as fentanyl).<sup>25</sup> For 2019, the numbers were 173, 47, and 163, respectively via categories listed above.<sup>26</sup>



Graphic Source: Suffolk County Department of Health data on opioid, deaths, hospital utilization

The above graph illustrates that Suffolk County has historically been above the state benchmark regarding a number of opioid measures. This remains the case to this day. The Town of Brookhaven has an especially high incidence of opioid use, overdose, and death and this is why the National Institutes of Health selected the 27 zip codes within the township of Brookhaven to participate in a two-year national study and effort to reduce opioid-related overdose deaths by 40 percent. Other goals of the study included increasing access to naloxone, expanding use of medications for opioid use disorder, such as buprenorphine, methadone, and naltrexone, as well as reducing high-risk opioid prescribing. A Long Island Community Hospital representative served on the study's local advisory board and participated in a treatment workgroup. During the study period, Long Island Community Hospital expanded its

<sup>20</sup> <https://www.cdc.gov/mmwr/volumes/66/wr/mm6630a6.htm>

<sup>21</sup> <https://www.cdc.gov/nchs/fastats/mental-health.htm>

<sup>22</sup> Weinberger, A. et al. (August 2017) Trends in depression prevalence in the USA from 2005 – 2015: widening disparities in vulnerable groups. *Psychological Medicine*, 1-10

<sup>23</sup> Bitsko, R et al. (2018) Epidemiology and impact of healthcare provider-diagnosed anxiety and depression among US children. *Journal of Developmental and Behavioral Pediatrics*, 1-9.

<sup>24</sup> [https://webb1.health.ny.gov/SASStoredProcess/guest?\\_program=/EBI/PHIG/apps/opioid\\_dashboard/op\\_dashboard&p=ch&cos=47](https://webb1.health.ny.gov/SASStoredProcess/guest?_program=/EBI/PHIG/apps/opioid_dashboard/op_dashboard&p=ch&cos=47)

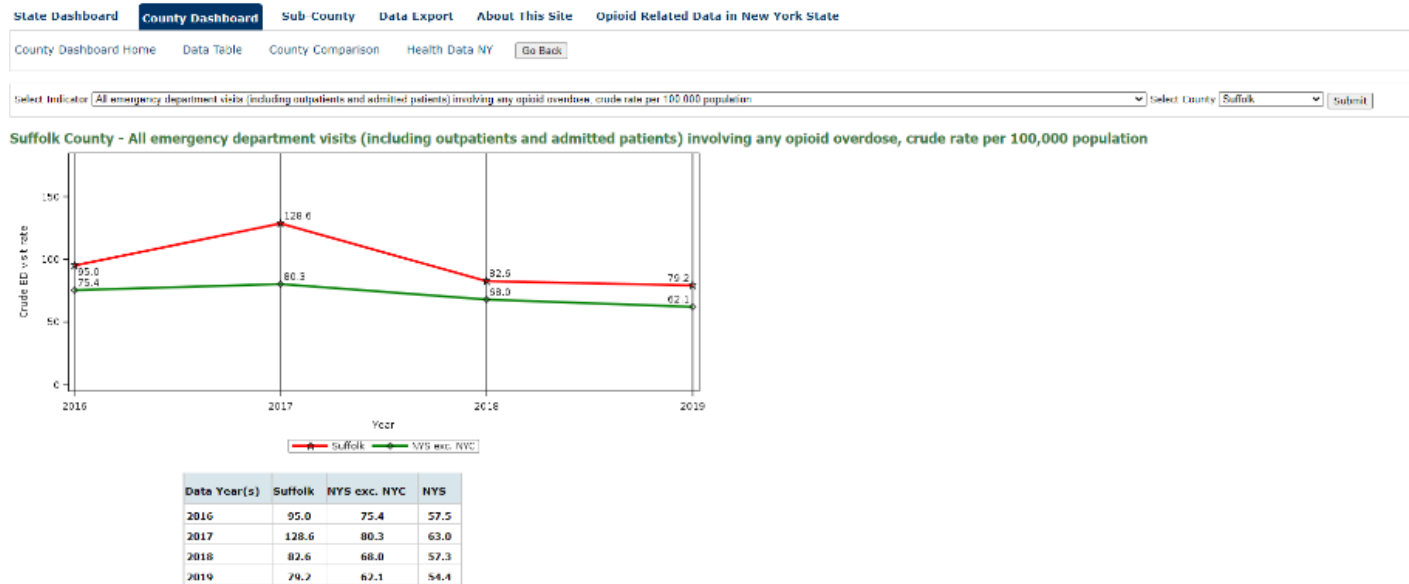
<sup>25</sup> [https://www.health.ny.gov/statistics/opioid/data/pdf/nys\\_apr22.pdf](https://www.health.ny.gov/statistics/opioid/data/pdf/nys_apr22.pdf)

<sup>26</sup> [https://www.health.ny.gov/statistics/opioid/data/pdf/nys\\_jan21.pdf](https://www.health.ny.gov/statistics/opioid/data/pdf/nys_jan21.pdf)



suboxone inductions given in the emergency room to include medical units. These interventions continue to this day. Also in line with the study goals and in sync with their work to reduce opioid use, the hospital provides NARCAN kits and training to community members and hospital staff on an ongoing basis. The HEALing Communities [Study](#) New York, part of the NIH Heal Initiative, concluded PHASE I – the portion of the study that included Brookhaven Town – in 2022.

### New York State Opioid Data Dashboard - County Level: Suffolk County



Source: New York State Department of Health, Opioid Data Overview, Suffolk County

Aligned with the HEALing Communities Study goals is our hospital's involvement in a Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration (SAMHSA) grant. We are implementing a five-year grant designed to increase access to medication assisted treatment for patients in the emergency room, inpatient units, and outpatient chemical dependency program.

These are the **main health challenges and contributing causes** affecting residents of the county, especially in low-income communities of color. Poverty, food insecurity, inability to access healthcare services and all the known social determinants of health are predictors of chronic disease, and this is well documented.<sup>27 28 29</sup> For our region, healthcare access issues are mostly tied to economics (quality of health insurance, employment, and cost of living). In the mental health/substance misuse space, access is further hampered by a dearth of providers. Fear, which includes immigration status, is also a detriment to healthcare access.

<sup>27</sup> Cockerham WC, Hamby BW, Oates GR. The Social Determinants of Chronic Disease. *Am J Prev Med.* 2017 Jan;52(1S1):S5-S12. <https://doi.org/10.1016%2Fj.amepre.2016.09.010>. PMID: 27989293; PMCID: PMC5328595.

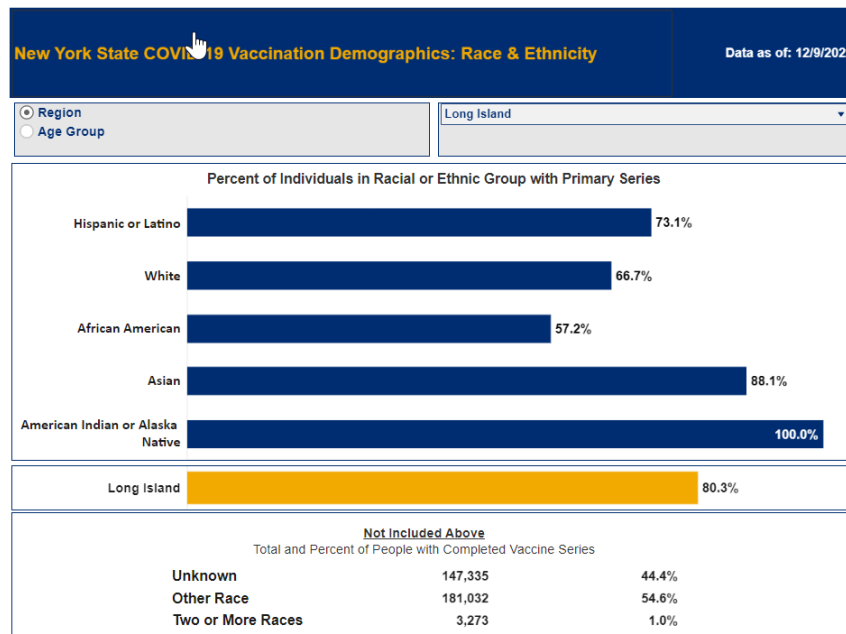
<sup>28</sup> Pantell MS, Prather AA, Downing JM, Gordon NP, Adler NE. Association of Social and Behavioral Risk Factors With Earlier Onset of Adult Hypertension and Diabetes. *JAMA Netw Open.* 2019;2(5):e193933. <https://doi:10.1001/jamanetworkopen.2019.3933>

<sup>29</sup> Vennu, V., Abdulrahman, T.A., Alenazi, A.M. *et al.* Associations between social determinants and the presence of chronic diseases: data from the osteoarthritis Initiative. *BMC Public Health* **20**, 1323 (2020). <https://doi.org/10.1186/s12889-020-09451-5>

## Pandemic's Toll Exacerbated Health Challenges and Disparities

As the pandemic revealed, Black and Hispanic individuals experienced higher rates of COVID-19 disease and death. These higher rates correlated to low-income areas and the higher rate of chronic disease seen in these communities. According to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC), chronic disease is a leading risk factor for COVID-19 morbidity and mortality. The 2021 National Healthcare Quality and Disparities Report<sup>30</sup> notes that significant disparities still exist among racial or ethnic minority groups. Although the report's most recent data reference is 2018, we can examine one chronic disease – hypertension – and extrapolate that in recent years the incidence has not improved. The report notes that the rate of hospital admissions for hypertension was 212.9 per 100,000 population for Black adults compared with 38.4 per 100,000 cases for White adults and just over 50 cases per 100,000 for Hispanics. The New York State COVID-19 Fatalities Tracker<sup>31</sup> shows that the number one COVID-19 co-morbidity was and is hypertension.

The Long Island Vaccination HUB, the entity charged by the state with ensuring equitable distribution of vaccines, tracked vaccine distribution by the week until the spring of 2022. Long Island Community Hospital participated in the HUB, holding point of distribution (POD) sites at the hospital and offsite hospital locations as soon as the vaccine became available to the hospital. Among patients who tested positive for COVID-19, Black, Hispanic, and Asian patients remained at higher risk for hospitalization and death compared to White patients with similar socioeconomic characteristics and underlying health conditions, suggesting racism and discrimination may affect outcomes.<sup>32</sup>



Source: [Demographic Vaccination Data](#) | [Department of Health \(ny.gov\)](#)

As of December 9, 2022, 76.5% of Suffolk County residents have received the primary series of vaccine.<sup>33</sup> Race and ethnicity data is available for vaccinated adults living on Long Island. The chart above shows

<sup>30</sup> <https://www.ahrq.gov/research/findings/nhqdr/nhqdr21/index.html>

<sup>31</sup> <https://coronavirus.health.ny.gov/fatalities-0>

<sup>32</sup> <https://www.kff.org/coronavirus-covid-19/issue-brief/covid-19-racial-disparities-testing-infection-hospitalization-death-analysis-epic-patient-data/>

<sup>33</sup> <https://coronavirus.health.ny.gov/vaccination-progress-date>

that 73.1% of Hispanic or Latino adults, 66.7% of White adults, and 57.2% of Black adults have received the primary vaccination series. Ongoing partner efforts will continue to promote vaccination, both initial series and boosters to eligible community residents.

**As of November 1, 2022, Long Island Community Hospital administered 22,471 COVID-19 vaccines.**



## SPECIFIC METHODOLOGIES FOR RESEARCH

Guided by the LIHC, Long Island Community Hospital and all regional partners reviewed results from the two qualitative analyses and two quantitative analyses, our sources of primary data, and a variety of secondary data analyses provided by DataGen, which were drawn from national, state, and county publicly available datasets.

The **engagement process** we used to select the two priorities was purposeful and collaborative. On April 5, 2022, at 8 a.m., the LIHC posted results of all its data analyses. The members of the 2022 CHNA Workgroup were asked to review the results in advance of the priority selection meeting, which occurred on April 5, 2022, at 1 p.m. via Zoom. The data analyst walked participants through screenshots of the relevant findings. Participants also viewed the Prevention Agenda dashboard, diving deep into the goals, objectives, and recommended interventions for each priority. Present at the meeting were representatives from Long Island's two health departments and representatives from Long Island's hospitals/health systems, as well as staff of the LIHC. Attendees discussed primary and secondary data results and based the selection of priorities on the following criteria:

- ✓ The overwhelming evidence presented by the data, especially the first two questions of the Community Health Assessment Survey
- ✓ The activities/strategies/interventions currently in place throughout the region
- ✓ The feasibility of achieving momentum and success with a chosen priority, taking into account the diversity of partners and community members served
- ✓ Comments from community members and others regarding the previous CHNA

After an official vote, the priorities were selected unanimously. The April meeting was a culmination of seven LIHC work group meetings held each month, beginning in September 2021 and concluding in April 2022. At these meetings, in addition to representatives noted above, community-based organization leaders from a range of sectors offered input.



## Broad Community Engagement

Engagement of the broader community, for **assessment purposes**, is achieved through the LIHC's and its partners' ongoing distribution of the Community Health Needs Assessment – the main primary research tool used to gauge community health needs, social support needs, and barriers to healthcare on an ongoing basis. This survey is offered online via a SurveyMonkey link and is available in paper format to residents at public events, workshops, educational programs, and interventions which are offered by Long Island Community Hospital and other LIHC partners. A paper version is also distributed among physician offices, hospital waiting areas, libraries, schools, federally qualified health clinics, insurance enrollment sites, and other public venues. The LIHC vigilantly promotes the survey through social media and asks LIHC participants to post the survey link on each of their websites. The LIHC provides a social media toolkit with an opportunity for co-branding to facilitate participation and Long Island Community Hospital has availed itself of this service. Long Island Community Hospital posts this survey and the SurveyMonkey link on its website and in electronic and print community newsletters. The survey can also be accessed via a QR code. Results from the Community Health Assessment Survey are analyzed yearly. Findings are shared with all LIHC participants, with the media, and posted on the LIHC website. A certified translation of the survey is available in the following languages: Spanish, Polish, and Haitian Creole. Large print copies are also available to those living with vision impairment.

Engagement of the broader community, for **implementation purposes**, is assisted by the LIHC's encouragement of community members to participate in programs, workshops, support groups and educational programs offered by Long Island Community Hospital and all LIHC partners. In addition, the LIHC offers limited programming itself, such as the Walk Safe with a Doc events and Talk with a Doc events (presented in collaboration with AARP-LI). All LIHC quarterly meetings are open to the public and recordings of the meetings are housed on its website. The LIHC, on behalf of all its participants and the community members each participant serves, supports the following evidence-based activities and programs:

- ✓ Awareness Campaign (Live Better) about chronic disease via social media and traditional media platforms (this campaign captures any mentions about chronic diseases and relevant programs/education efforts)
- ✓ Awareness Campaign about mental health prevention and treatment programs/education, as well as relevant treatment and prevention programming relative to substance misuse via social media and traditional media platforms (this campaign captures any mentions about mental health/substance misuse programs/events/workshops, etc.)
- ✓ Walk Safe with a Doc are community walking events that combine pedestrian safety education with chronic disease education all while walking. The LIHC maintains an active [Walk with a Doc](#) chapter for the region.
- ✓ Talk with a Doc are Zoom-delivered educational programs led by physicians from the region's hospitals covering a variety of chronic diseases.

When they first gathered in 2013, LIHC partners embraced walking as a simple, low-cost, easy activity that most anyone of any age can perform. Walking is an evidence-based intervention that offers proven benefits to one's physical and mental health. The Walk with a Doc chapter is the activity through which LIHC, and its partners promote the health benefits of walking. *See Research and Supporting Evidence in Appendix H.* Collaborative participants rely upon LIHC's use of social media and traditional media to cross-promote collaborative partners' programs, interventions, events, workshops, etc., as well as general

messaging about healthy lifestyle behaviors (physical activity and proper nutrition). Awareness campaigns use best practices for message conveyance. There is evidence as to the user engagement and sustainability effects of social media and mass media regarding health messaging. Investigation in this area is ongoing (*See Research and Supporting Evidence in Appendix H*). The Community Guide, a website that houses the official collection of all Community Preventive Services Task Force findings and the systemic reviews on which they are based, was also referenced.<sup>34</sup>

## SPECIFIC METHODOLOGIES FOR RESEARCH

Long Island Community Hospital obtained population level and zip code analyses on social determinant of health drivers and health/risk factors dominant in the hospital's service area from its data partner, DataGen. We also looked at hospital utilization data and emergency department data to discern top diagnoses. A survey completed by individual community members, a similar survey completed by community-based organization leaders, key informant interviews with selected leaders, and the results of qualitative research among public library personnel rounded out the research for this cycle's CHNA. The CHNA approach used both quantitative and qualitative research methods designed to evaluate the perspectives and opinions of stakeholders and healthcare consumers. The methodology helped develop a broad, community-based list of needs — in addition to prioritizing the needs and establishing a basis for continued community engagement.



### Primary Research

#### Quantitative Methods and Research Tools (*See appendix for full reports and tools*)

*Community Health Needs Assessment Survey (CHAS)* – measured individual and community level perception of health needs and barriers. A total of 1,143 were completed during the period of January 2021 – December 2021. A subsequent analysis particular to the zip codes in Long Island Community Hospital service area was completed by analyzing 439 surveys collected during the period January 2022 – August 2022. The CHAS provides a snapshot in time of the main health challenges facing communities. It uses the SurveyMonkey platform. Convenience sampling method.

*CBO Community Needs Assessment Survey* – community-based organization leader perception of health needs and barriers faced by their constituents/patients. A total of 44 surveys were completed (10 from Suffolk County, 25 from Suffolk County, 9 with no location specified). The survey was distributed to 400

<sup>34</sup> <https://www.thecommunityguide.org/>

plus leaders during the time period December 1, 2021 - January 15, 2022. It uses the SurveyMonkey platform. Purposeful sampling method.

### **Qualitative Methods and Research Tools** *(See appendix for full reports and tools)*

*CBO Key Informant Interviews* – of the 44 CBO leaders who completed the above-mentioned CBO community needs assessment, 23 agreed to a follow-up in-depth interview and 12 actually participated. The interviews were conducted February 23, 2022, to March 4, 2022, via Zoom and recorded. Atlas Ti version 22 web-based platform used for grounded-theory analysis.

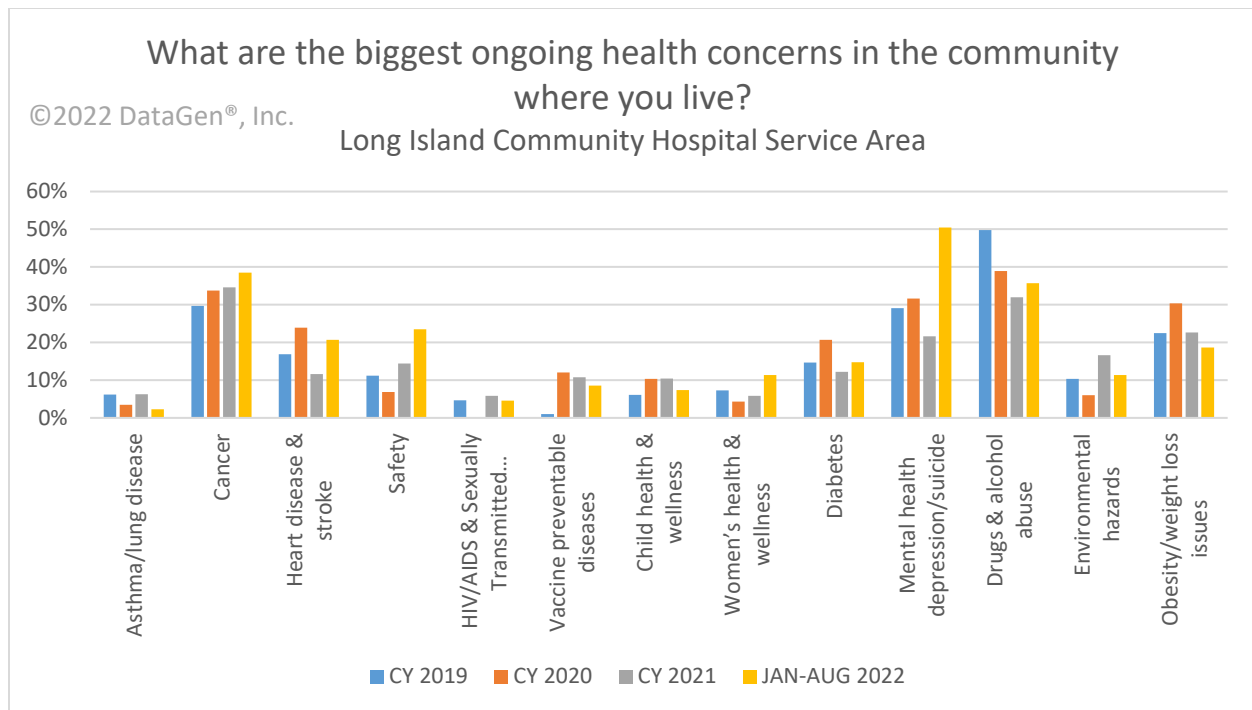
*Library Research Project* – a two-year study providing an insider look at the health and social support needs of patrons who frequent Long Island's public libraries. Library personnel at randomly selected libraries throughout Suffolk County were selected for this study. A total of 96 interviews (Nassau and Suffolk County libraries) were conducted during the time period December 2017 to February 2020. Interviews were recorded, then transcribed, and analyzed using Dedoose qualitative software (grounded theory) for recurring themes with the report "*Long Island's Libraries: Caretakers of the Region's Social Support and Health Needs*" issued July 2021. Stony Brook University Program in Public Health researchers and students completed the analysis. The analysis considered the socioeconomic differences of communities by location, the influence of social determinants of health, and the Prevention Agenda priorities.

### **Secondary Research**

- ✓ The secondary data research included a thorough analysis of previously published materials/metrics that provide insight regarding the community and health-related measures.
- ✓ *SPARCS (Statewide Planning and Research Cooperative System)* – analysis of hospitalization data 2018, 2019, 2020.

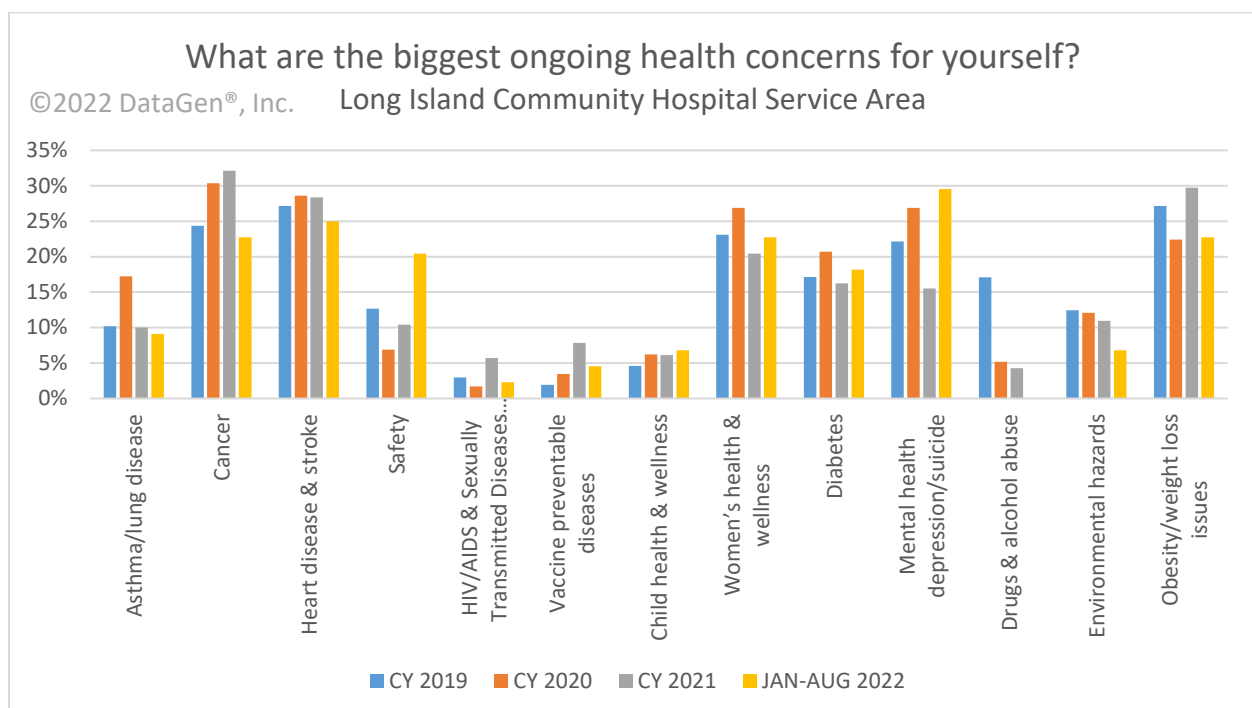
## **FINDINGS TO SUPPORT IDENTIFIED NEEDS**

Using data from both the primary and secondary data sources, the following key themes were revealed. Primary data survey results from hundreds of Suffolk County residents reveal cancer, safety issues, diabetes, mental health, drug and alcohol usage, and obesity/weight loss issues are some of the top concerns for 2022.

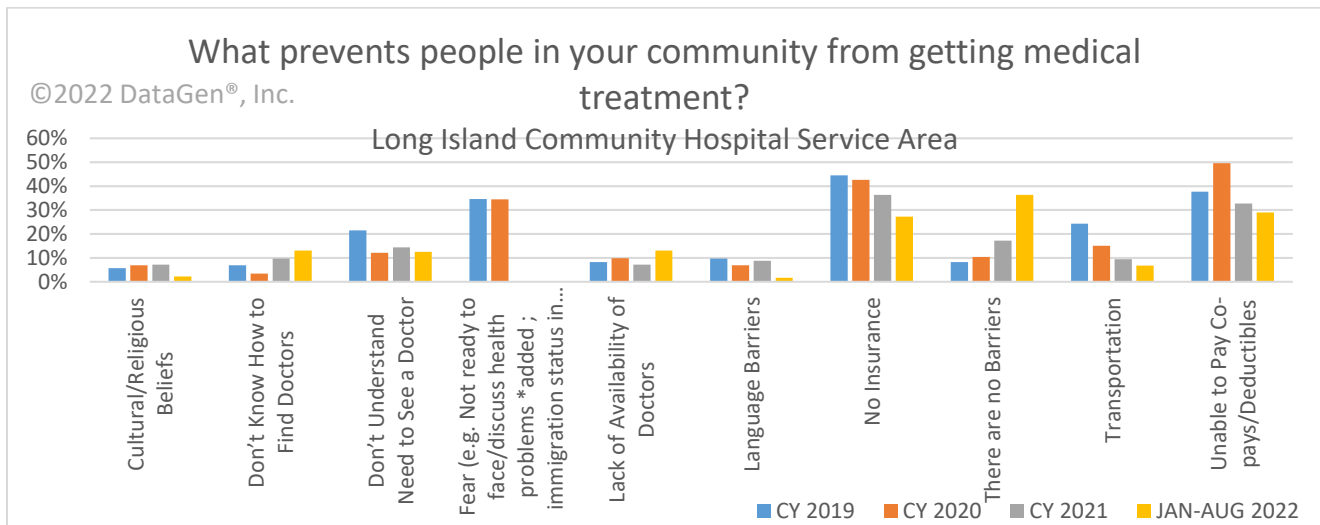


In the above chart, survey respondents answered what their biggest health concerns affecting their community are from their individual perspective. We then compared to annual results from 2019, 2020, 2021 and January – August 2022. The results represent survey responses over three years and eight months for identified health concerns. We focused on the most recent findings – 2022. Concern about mental health and drug and alcohol abuse has increased substantially from the previous year.

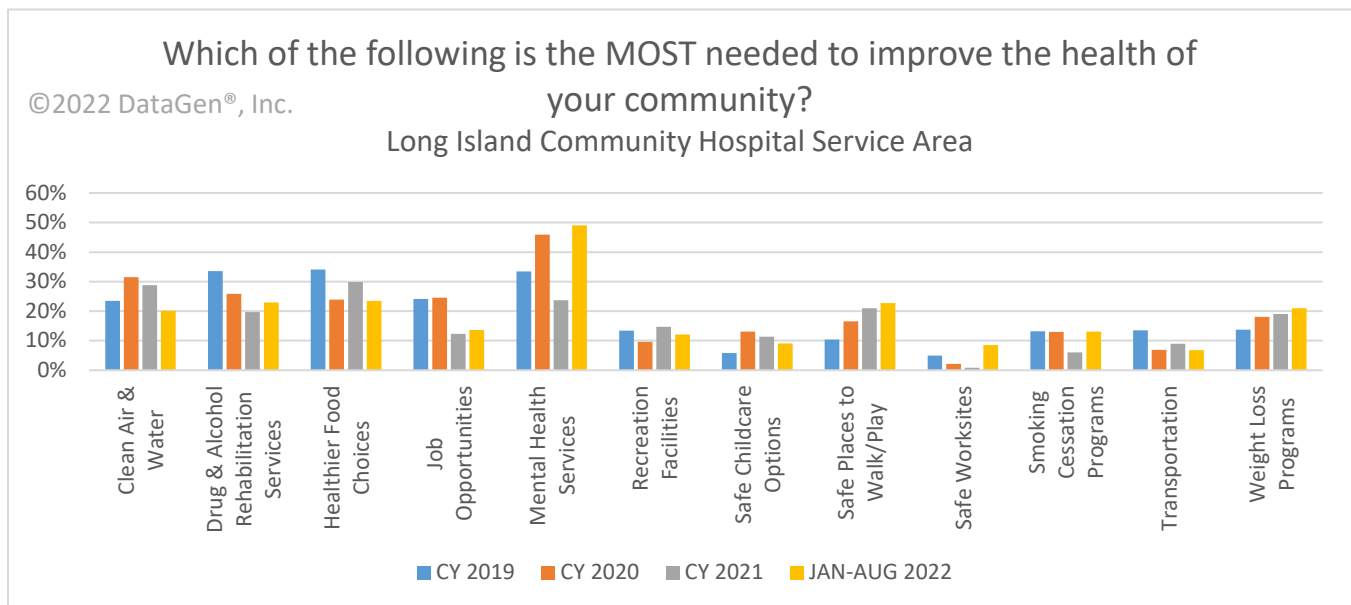
Further, when answering questions about individual health, survey takers indicated mental health issues, heart disease and stroke, cancer, safety, women's health, and obesity/weight loss as top concerns. That is illustrated in the chart below.



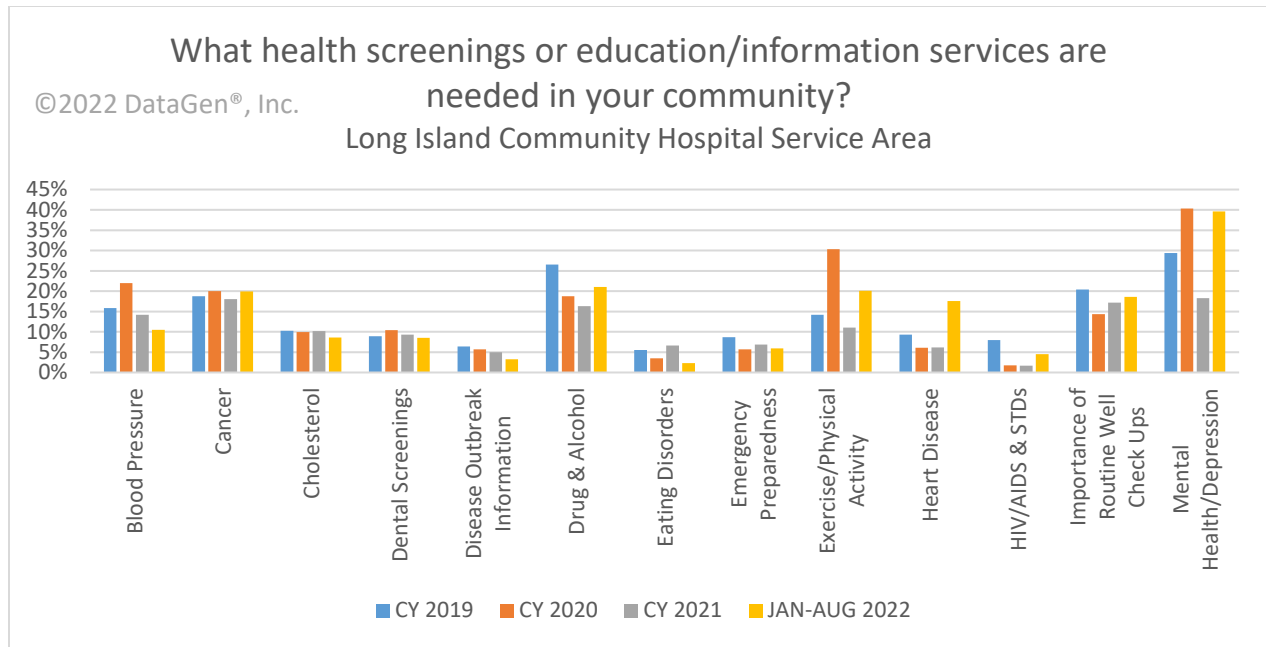
The responses below highlight perceived barriers to care. Interestingly, no insurance and inability to pay co-pays/deductibles are the top two barriers identified. But then no barriers rose as a top response, as well. This may be due to survey responders perceiving that there are adequate providers and services in the region, but cost remains a concern. Poverty and economic distress were also identified in community key informant interviews.



In the following two charts, the need for mental health services is glaringly illustrated. Services, screenings, and education related to heart disease, cancer, and drug/alcohol use are also noted. Healthier food choices, weight loss, safe places to exercise are indicated as important. Respondents also note more awareness around well visits and checkups would benefit the community.



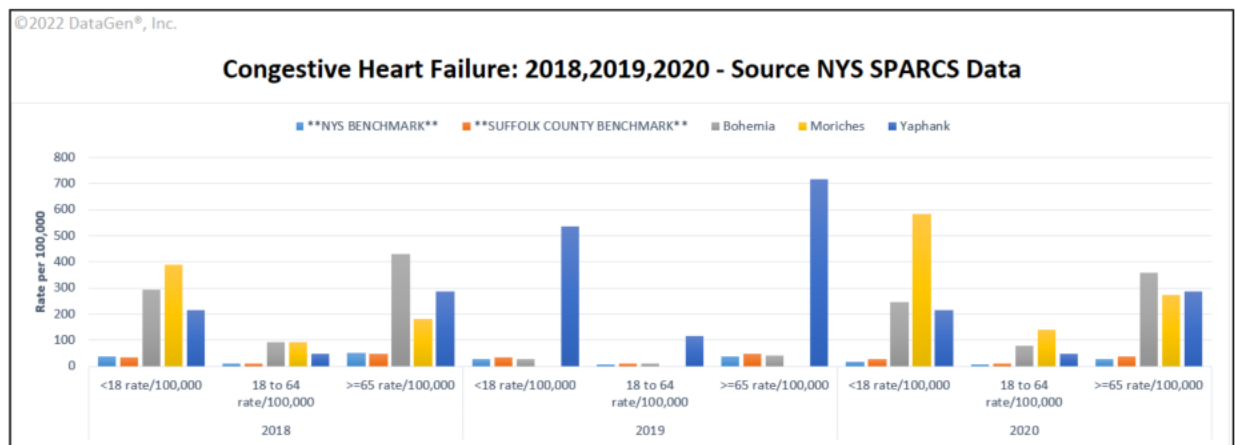




## SPARCS Analyses (Statewide Planning and Research Cooperative System), Suffolk County Hospitalization Data

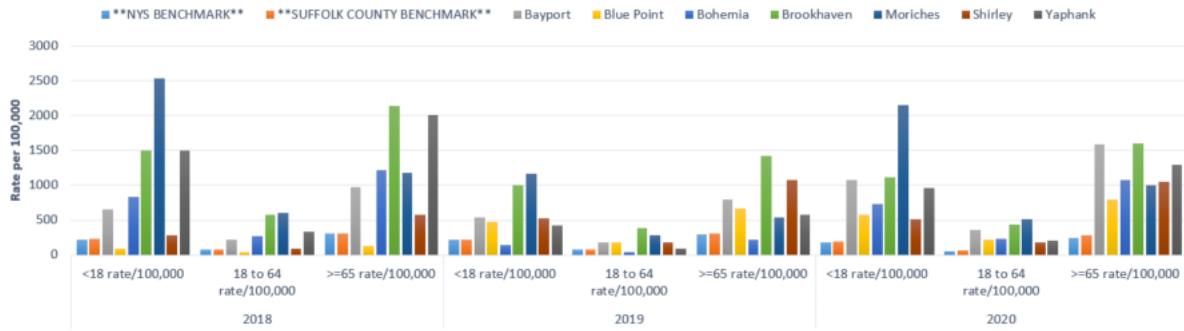
[SPARCS](#) is a comprehensive all-payer data reporting system established in 1979 as a result of cooperation between the healthcare industry and government. SPARCS currently collects patient level detail on patient characteristics, diagnoses and treatments, services, and charges for each hospital inpatient stay and outpatient (ambulatory surgery, emergency department, and outpatient services) visit; and each ambulatory surgery and outpatient services visit to a hospital extension clinic and diagnostic and treatment center licensed to provide ambulatory surgery services.

The following charts present selected towns from within Long Island Community Hospital's service region that show a higher rate of incidence compared to the state and county benchmarks for each measure.



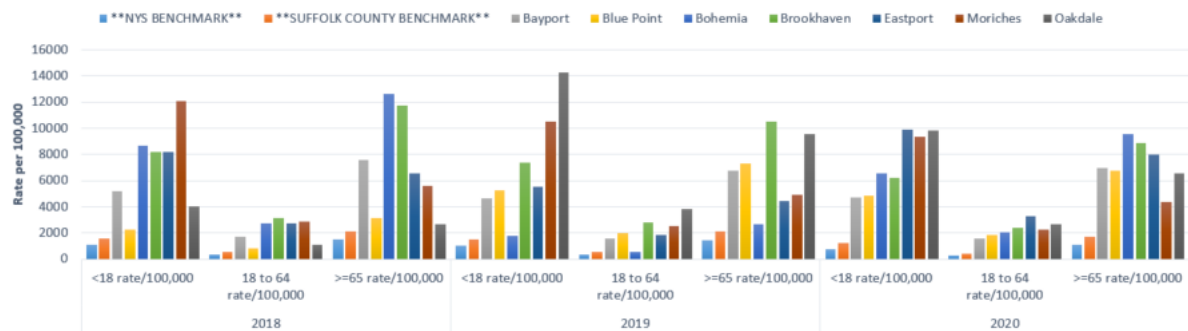
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### Diabetes: 2018,2019,2020 - Source NYS SPARCS Data



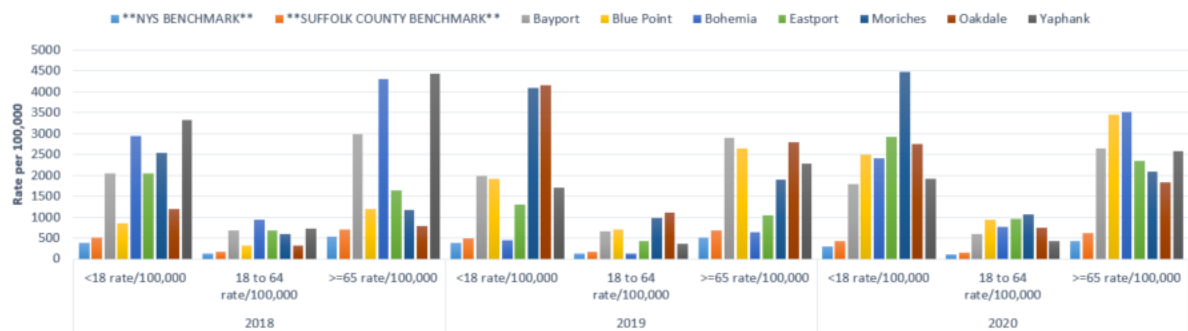
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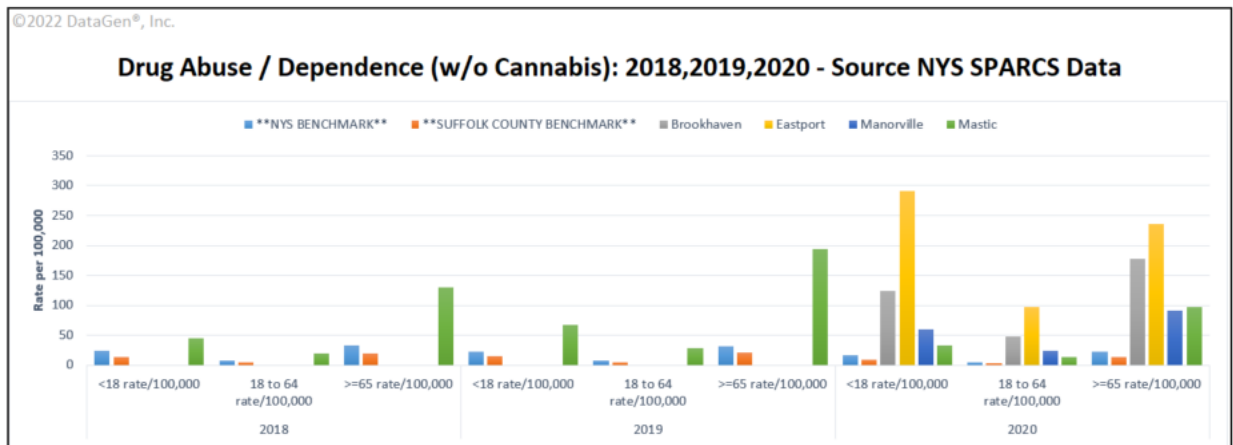
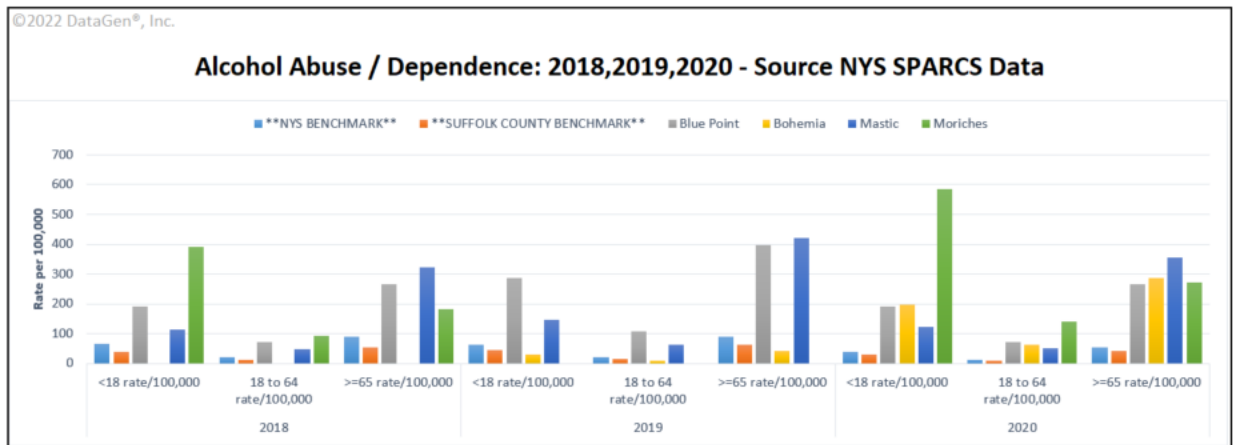
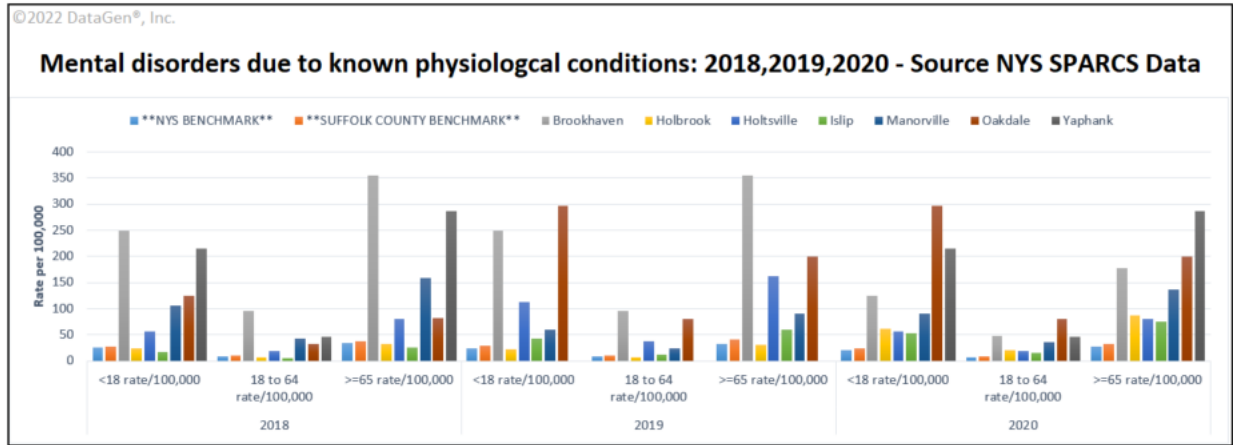
### Disease of the Heart: 2018,2019,2020 - Source NYS SPARCS Data

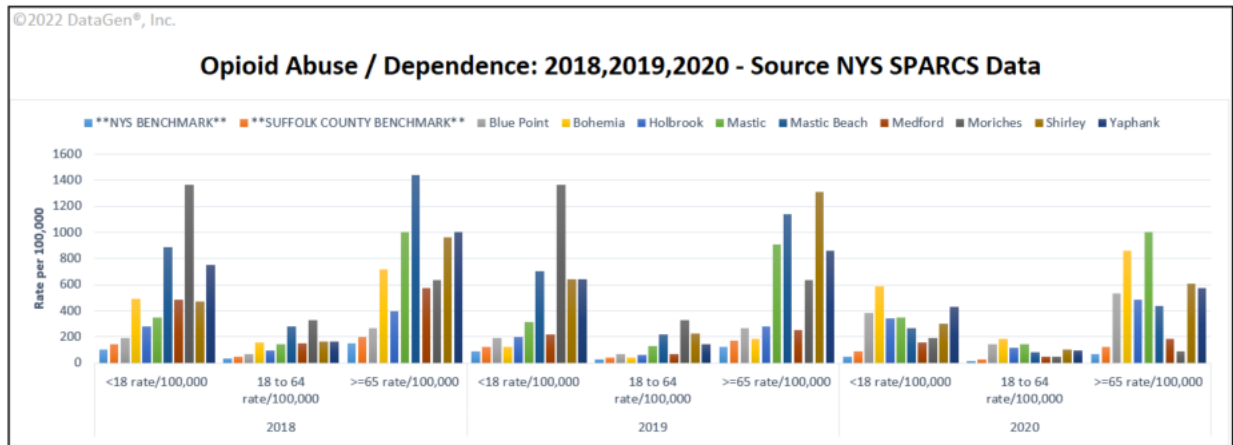


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### All Malignant Cancer: 2018,2019,2020 - Source NYS SPARCS Data







NARCAN training and administration is one way Long Island Community Hospital addresses the high rate of opioid use seen in its service area.

## Community-based Organization Needs Assessment Analysis

*What are the biggest health problems for the people/community you serve?"*

2022 Rank	Suffolk County	Percentage	Suffolk County	Percentage
1	Mental Health	16/25	Drugs and Alcohol Abuse	6/10
2	Drugs and Alcohol Abuse	14/25	Obesity and Weight Loss	5/10
3	Cancer	11/25	Nutrition/Eating Habits	5/10
4	Women's Health/Wellness	8/25	Mental Health	4/10
5	Care for the Elderly	8/25	Women's Health/Wellness	4/10

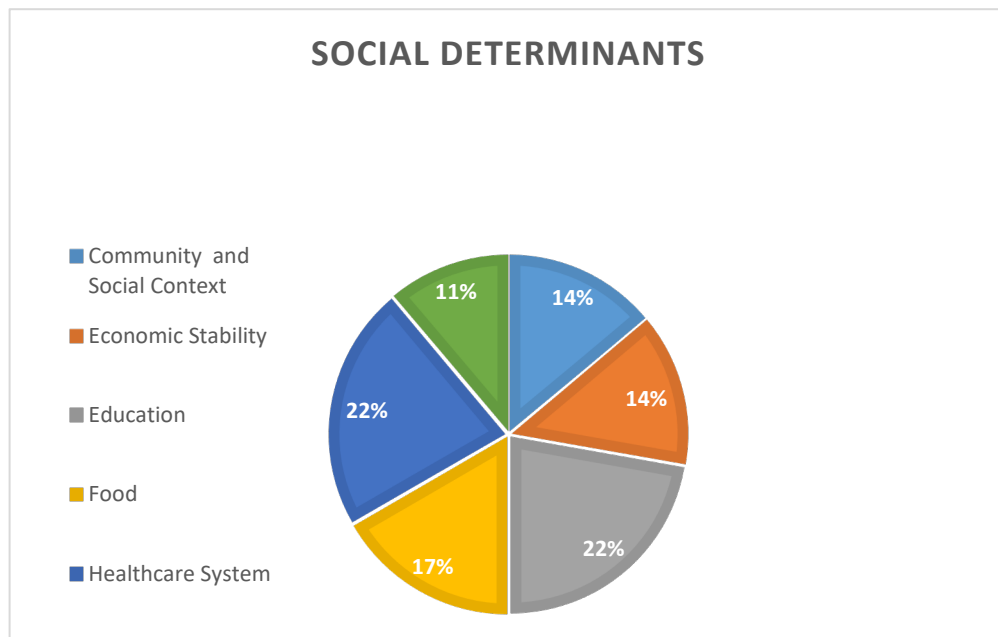
***What would be most helpful to improve the health problems of the people/community you serve?***

2022 Rank	Suffolk County	Percentage	Suffolk County	Percentage
1	Mental Health Services	18/25	Access to Healthier Food Choices	7/10
2	Drug and Alcohol Services	14/25	Mental Health Services	6/10
3	Health Education Programs	14/25	Affordable Housing	6/10
4	Affordable Housing	11/25	Transportation	5/10
5	Access to Healthier Food	8/25	Health Education Programs	5/10

The results from these two questions reveal that CBO leaders are concerned about food access for their clients and mental health services. They also continue to see drug and alcohol abuse, mental health, and issues related to nutrition and weight loss as major health concerns for their clients.

### Key Informant Interview Analysis

The top three social determinant of health factors found via this analysis are education, healthcare system (in terms of access) and food. Kaiser Family Foundation Social Determinant of Health domains used as reference.<sup>35</sup>

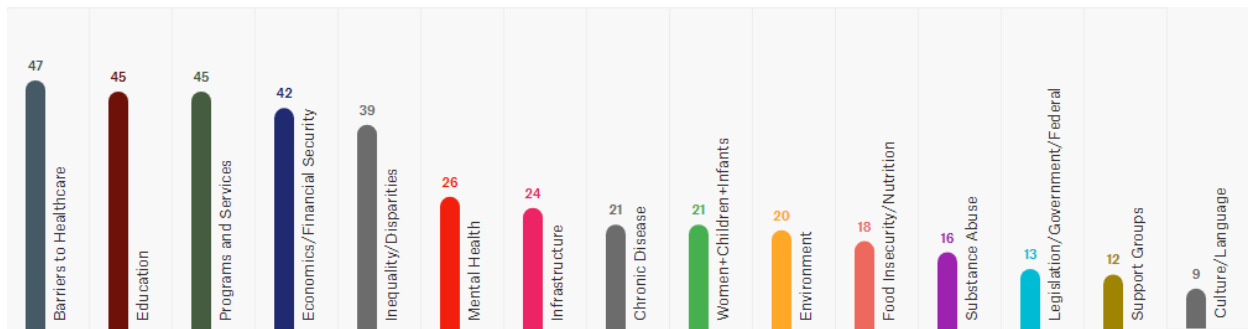


Healthcare access followed by education and programs/services were the top three codes that emerged from among the transcripts.

<sup>35</sup> <https://www.kff.org/racial-equity-and-health-policy/issue-brief/beyond-health-care-the-role-of-social-determinants-in-promoting-health-and-health-equity/>



## Coding Analysis



## Library Research Project, Qualitative Analysis

Top 5 identified health needs	Top 5 identified social needs
Mental Health	Homelessness
Exercise	Technology Literacy
Diet	ESL/LOTE
Opioid Use	Unemployment
Personal Health	Food

Library personnel at randomly selected public libraries throughout Suffolk County were interviewed for this study. Mental health is the top health need identified followed by exercise and diet, two lifestyle behaviors that exert a tremendous influence on the incidence of all chronic diseases. Homelessness took the top spot among social needs, possibly because public libraries, especially in low-income, high-need communities, are a haven for the disenfranchised.

## COLLABORATING PARTNERS

In addition to working directly with the Long Island Health Collaborative, Long Island Community Hospital has strong relationships with local and regional community-based organizations, libraries, schools, faith-based organizations, the local health department, and local municipalities that support and partner with us to reduce chronic disease, mental health and substance misuse, and to promote health equity. See page 7 for our extensive partner list of healthcare and other key institutions. A shortlist of available assets and resources includes:

- 22 hospitals
- 2 county health departments
- 110+ community-based and social service organizations
- 111 libraries
- 5 major academic institutions
- 2 health plans
- 2 school districts
- Media partners
- 27 state parks

- 65 county parks
- 9 YMCAs
- 41 farmer's' markers
- 100 plus food pantries
- 20 Federally Qualified Health Centers

Each partner offers unique programming and interventions that align with the goals and objectives of Long Island Community Hospital. These assets and resources can be mobilized and employed to address the health issues identified. See the work plan in the appendix E for a detailed description of interventions and our partners with whom we are working.

## **Community Service Plan and Progress Report**

In support of our Community Service Plan, during the past three years, Long Island Community Hospital partnered with community-based organizations in multiple communities to hold diabetes and other chronic disease management educational programs, NARCAN training, support groups, health screenings, and food drives, among other outreach activities. Due to the COVID-19 pandemic, many outreach activities traditionally held in the community were paused. However, as many programs as possible that could be delivered virtually were. In some cases, programs have returned to in-person and/or a combination of in-person and virtual.

## **PROPOSED INTERVENTIONS**

### **Evidence-based interventions**

Long Island Community Hospital remains committed to providing the community with evidence-based and promising practice programs that address chronic diseases and mental health/substance misuse. Our interventions are broad and far reaching. Refer to our work plan for specific interventions, measures, partners, goals and objectives.

### **Work plan**

See Appendix E

## **SUMMARY**

This report is a comprehensive study of the health needs and barriers experienced by the community members served in this region. After extensive research and interaction with partners and the public, the following priorities were selected:

### **1. Prevent Chronic Disease**

*Focus Area 4: Chronic Disease Preventive Care and Management*

### **2. Promote Well-Being and Prevent Mental and Substance Use Disorders**

*Focus Area 2: Mental and Substance Use Disorders Prevention*

This report is being made available to the public and will be posted on Long Island Community Hospital's website, as well as the website of the Long Island Health Collaborative.

## ATTESTATION OF STATE AND FEDERAL REQUIREMENTS

This CHNA and resulting implementation plan meet the 501(c)(3)(r) federal [requirements](#) for conducting a CHNA and implementation plan. The regulations are part of the Affordable Care Act and became effective in 2015. The document also meets New York State [guidelines](#) for community health needs assessments and community involvement.

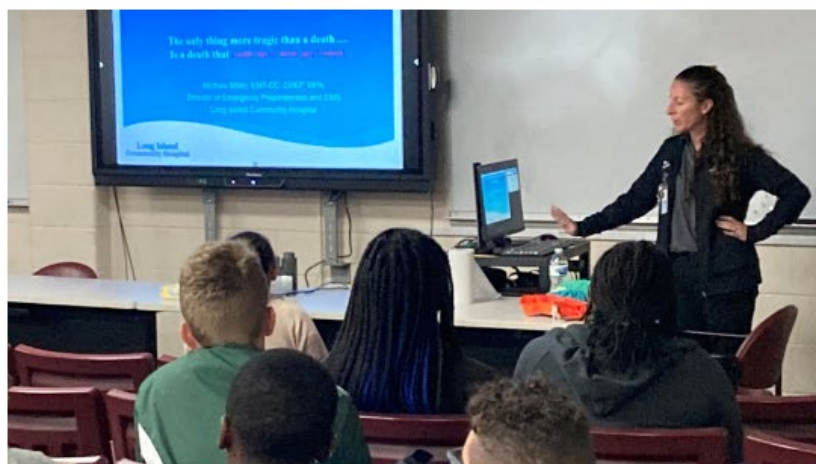
## CONCLUSION

Long Island Community Hospital is pleased to provide this comprehensive report to community members and the wider public. It reaffirms our hospital's commitment to meeting the health needs of our communities and working every day to mitigate health disparities. Targeted interventions and strategies, driven by the data outlined in this report, reflect meaningful and reasonable approaches to improving the health of our communities during the next three-year cycle, 2022 - 2024. We will report on the status of these interventions and strategies throughout the implementation period.

## SUPPORTING DOCUMENT AND/OR APPENDICES

Please see the appendix at the end of this report for the work plan, survey instruments used, and other supporting documents.





## Long Island Health Collaborative Community Member Survey Summary of Findings

### Methodology:

Surveys were distributed by paper and electronically, through Survey Monkey, to community members. The electronic version placed rules on certain questions; for questions 1-5 an individual could select three choices, and each question was mandatory. For question 6, individuals could choose as many responses as they'd like. Although the rules were written on the paper survey, people often did not follow them. On January 25, 2022, we downloaded the surveys from Survey Monkey. Data collected includes January - December 2021. We needed to add weights to the surveys which did not follow the rules - for each of the questions that had more than three responses. The weight for each response was  $3/x$ , where  $x$  is the count of responses. No weight was applied to questions with less than three responses because they had the option to select more and chose not to do so. With the weight determined, we applied the formula to the data and then added the remaining surveys to the spreadsheet.

### Analysis Results:

- When asked: ***What are the biggest ongoing health concerns in THE COMMUNITY WHERE YOU LIVE?***

Jan-Dec 2021 Rank	Suffolk County	Percentage	Nassau County	Percentage
1	Cancer	35.07%	Cancer	37.14%
2	Drugs & Alcohol Abuse	31.15%	Heart Disease & Stroke	34.41%
3	Mental Health Depression/Suicide	30.40%	Drugs & Alcohol Abuse	25.68%
4	Obesity/Weight Loss Issues	19.49%	Mental Health Depression/Suicide	24.70%
5	Vaccine Preventable Diseases	17.67%	Diabetes	24.02%
Sum of Column Percentages		133.78%		145.96%

- When asked: ***What are the biggest ongoing health concerns for YOURSELF?***

Jan-Dec 2021 Rank	Suffolk County	Percentage	Nassau County	Percentage
1	Cancer	27.70%	Heart Disease & Stroke	34.81%
2	Mental Health Depression/Suicide	25.53%	Women's Health & Wellness	34.01%
3	Heart Disease & Stroke	22.98%	Cancer	23.54%
4	Women's Health & Wellness	22.80%	Obesity/Weight Loss Issues	22.23%
5	Obesity/Weight Loss Issues	22.55%	Diabetes	20.05%
Sum of Column Percentages		121.55%		134.65%



Jan-Dec 2021				
Rank	Suffolk County	Percentage	Nassau County	Percentage
1	Fear (e.g. not ready to face/discuss health problem; immigration status)	30.76%	There are no Barriers	27.70%
2	Unable to Pay Co-pays/Deductibles	30.36%	No Insurance	26.94%
3	No Insurance	28.85%	Fear (e.g. not ready to face/discuss health problem; immigration status)	26.00%
4	Don't Understand Need to See a Doctor	25.03%	Unable to Pay Co-pays/Deductibles	23.42%
5	There are no Barriers	16.81%	Transportation	13.32%
Sum of Column Percentages		131.81%		117.37%

3. When asked: ***What prevents you and your family from getting medical treatment?***

4. When asked: ***Which is MOST needed to improve the health of your community?***

Jan-Dec 2021				
Rank	Suffolk County	Percentage	Nassau County	Percentage
1	Mental Health Services	33.58%	Mental Health Services	32.78%
2	Healthier Food Choices	28.67%	Clean Air & Water	30.53%
3	Clean Air & Water	23.37%	Healthier Food Choices	29.64%
4	Drug & Alcohol Rehabilitation Services	22.32%	Drug & Alcohol Rehabilitation Services	22.03%
5	Job Opportunities	17.30%	Job Opportunities	18.38%
Sum of Column Percentages		125.24%		133.36%

5. When asked: ***What health screenings or education/information services are needed in your community?***

Jan-Dec 2021				
Rank	Suffolk County	Percentage	Nassau County	Percentage
1	Mental Health/Depression	23.83%	Blood Pressure	24.31%
2	Cancer	21.01%	Mental Health/Depression	22.81%
3	Drug & Alcohol	17.42%	Cholesterol	20.62%
4	Importance of Routine Well Check Ups	16.58%	Cancer	17.66%
5	Blood Pressure	15.07%	Importance of Routine Well Check Ups	16.12%
Sum of Column Percentages		93.90%		101.52%

6. Finally, when asked: ***Where do you and your family get most of your health information?***

Jan-Dec 2021 Rank	Suffolk County	Percentage	Nassau County	Percentage
1	Doctor/Health Professional	84.71%	Doctor/Health Professional	80.75%
2	Family or Friends	35.90%	Internet	40.85%
3	Internet	32.39%	Family or Friends	30.52%
4	Social Media (Facebook, Twitter, etc.)	20.72%	Television	20.66%
5	Television	18.35%	Newspaper/Magazines	19.72%
Sum of Column Percentages		192.07%		192.49%

1143 surveys were collected between January 1<sup>st</sup> and December 31<sup>st</sup>, 2021. There were 213 respondents for Nassau, 883 for Suffolk.

For a full version of the spreadsheet that includes interactive tables to analyze results based on demographic factors you can visit: <https://www.lihealthcollab.org/data-resources.aspx>

#### **About the Long Island Health Collaborative**

The Long Island Health Collaborative is a partnership of Long Island's hospitals, county health departments, physicians, health providers, community-based health and social service organizations, human service organizations, academic institutions, health plans, local government, and the business sector, all engaged in improving the health of Long Islanders. The initiatives of the LIHC are overseen by the Nassau-Suffolk Hospital Council.

Long Island Health Collaborative | 1383 Veterans Memorial Highway, Suite 26, Hauppauge, NY 11788

[www.lihealthcollab.org](http://www.lihealthcollab.org) | [info@lihealthcollab.org](mailto:info@lihealthcollab.org) | (631) 257 - 6964

# **LONG ISLAND COMMUNITY HEALTH ASSESSMENT SURVEY**

***Your opinion is important to us!***

The purpose of this survey is to get your opinion about health issues that are important in your community. Together, the County Departments of Health and hospitals throughout Long Island will use the results of this survey and other information to help target health programs in your community. Please complete only one survey per adult 18 years or older. Your survey responses are anonymous. Thank you for your participation.

## **1. What are the biggest ongoing health concerns in THE COMMUNITY WHERE YOU LIVE? (Please check up to 3)**

- |  |  |   |
|--|--|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Asthma/lung disease     | <input type="checkbox"/> Heart disease & stroke                          | <input type="checkbox"/> Safety                       |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Cancer                  | <input type="checkbox"/> HIV/AIDS & Sexually Transmitted Diseases (STDs) | <input type="checkbox"/> Vaccine preventable diseases |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Child health & wellness | <input type="checkbox"/> Mental health                                   | <input type="checkbox"/> Women's health & wellness    |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Diabetes                | depression/suicide   | <input type="checkbox"/> Other (please specify) _____ |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Drugs & alcohol abuse   |  |   |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Environmental hazards   | <input type="checkbox"/> Obesity/weight loss issues                      |   |

## **2. What are the biggest ongoing health concerns for YOURSELF? (Please check up to 3)**

- |  |  |   |
|--|--|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Asthma/lung disease     | <input type="checkbox"/> Heart disease & stroke                          | <input type="checkbox"/> Safety                       |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Cancer                  | <input type="checkbox"/> HIV/AIDS & Sexually Transmitted Diseases (STDs) | <input type="checkbox"/> Vaccine preventable diseases |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Child health & wellness | <input type="checkbox"/> Mental health                                   | <input type="checkbox"/> Women's health & wellness    |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Diabetes                | depression/suicide   | <input type="checkbox"/> Other (please specify) _____ |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Drugs & alcohol abuse   |  |   |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Environmental hazards   | <input type="checkbox"/> Obesity/weight loss issues                      |   |

## **3. What prevents you and your family from getting medical treatment? (Please check up to 3)**

- |   |  |  |
|---|--|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Cultural/religious beliefs   | <input type="checkbox"/> Lack of availability of doctors | <input type="checkbox"/> Unable to pay co-pays/deductibles |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Don't know how to find doctors   | <input type="checkbox"/> Language barriers               | <input type="checkbox"/> There are no barriers             |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Don't understand need to see a doctor                                    | <input type="checkbox"/> No insurance                    | <input type="checkbox"/> Other (please specify) _____      |
|   | <input type="checkbox"/> Transportation                  |  |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Fear (e.g. not ready to face/discuss health problem; immigration status) |  |  |

## **4. Which of the following is MOST needed to improve the health of your community? (Please check up to 3)**

- |   |   |   |
|---|---|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Clean air & water                      | <input type="checkbox"/> Mental health services   | <input type="checkbox"/> Smoking cessation programs   |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Drug & alcohol rehabilitation services | <input type="checkbox"/> Recreation facilities    | <input type="checkbox"/> Transportation               |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Healthier food choices                 | <input type="checkbox"/> Safe childcare options   | <input type="checkbox"/> Weight loss programs         |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Job opportunities                      | <input type="checkbox"/> Safe places to walk/play | <input type="checkbox"/> Other (please specify) _____ |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Safe worksites                         |   |   |

## **5. What health screenings or education/information services are needed in your community? (Please check up to 3)**

- |   |  |   |
|---|--|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Blood pressure               | <input type="checkbox"/> Eating disorders                                | <input type="checkbox"/> Mental health/depression     |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Cancer                       | <input type="checkbox"/> Emergency preparedness                          | <input type="checkbox"/> Nutrition                    |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Cholesterol                  | <input type="checkbox"/> Exercise/physical activity                      | <input type="checkbox"/> Prenatal care                |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Dental screenings            | <input type="checkbox"/> Heart disease                                   | <input type="checkbox"/> Suicide prevention           |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Diabetes                     | <input type="checkbox"/> HIV/AIDS & Sexually Transmitted Diseases (STDs) | <input type="checkbox"/> Vaccination/immunizations    |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Disease outbreak information | <input type="checkbox"/> Importance of routine well checkups             | <input type="checkbox"/> Other (please specify) _____ |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Drug and alcohol             |  |   |

**6. Where do you and your family get most of your health information? (Check all that apply)**

- |   |   |   |
|---|---|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Doctor/health professional | <input type="checkbox"/> Library                | <input type="checkbox"/> Social Media (Facebook, Twitter, etc.) |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Family or friends          | <input type="checkbox"/> Newspaper/magazines    | <input type="checkbox"/> Television                             |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Health Department          | <input type="checkbox"/> Radio                  | <input type="checkbox"/> Worksite                               |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Hospital                   | <input type="checkbox"/> Religious organization | <input type="checkbox"/> Other (please specify)                 |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Internet                   | <input type="checkbox"/> School/college         | _____   |

*For statistical purposes only, please complete the following:*

**I identify as:** ☐ Male ☐ Female ☐ Other

**What is your age?** \_\_\_\_\_

**ZIP code where you live:** \_\_\_\_\_ **Town where you live:** \_\_\_\_\_

**What race do you consider yourself?**

- |   |   |   |
|---|---|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> White/Caucasian        | <input type="checkbox"/> Native American        | <input type="checkbox"/> Multi-racial           |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Black/African American | <input type="checkbox"/> Asian/Pacific Islander | <input type="checkbox"/> Other (please specify) |
- \_\_\_\_\_

**Are you Hispanic or Latino?** ☐ Yes ☐ No

**What language do you speak when you are at home (select all that apply)**

- |                                  |                                     |                                  |   |  |                                 |
|----------------------------------|-------------------------------------|----------------------------------|---|--|---------------------------------|
| <input type="checkbox"/> English | <input type="checkbox"/> Portuguese | <input type="checkbox"/> Spanish | <input type="checkbox"/> Italian        | <input type="checkbox"/> Farsi         | <input type="checkbox"/> Polish |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Chinese | <input type="checkbox"/> Korean     | <input type="checkbox"/> Hindi   | <input type="checkbox"/> Haitian Creole | <input type="checkbox"/> French Creole | <input type="checkbox"/> Other  |

**What is your annual household income from all sources?**

- |   |  |   |
|---|--|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> \$0-\$19,999         | <input type="checkbox"/> \$20,000 to \$34,999  | <input type="checkbox"/> \$35,000 to \$49,999 |
| <input type="checkbox"/> \$50,000 to \$74,999 | <input type="checkbox"/> \$75,000 to \$125,000 | <input type="checkbox"/> Over \$125,000       |

**What is your highest level of education?**

- |   |   |   |
|---|---|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> K-8 grade            | <input type="checkbox"/> Technical school | <input type="checkbox"/> Graduate school        |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Some high school     | <input type="checkbox"/> Some college     | <input type="checkbox"/> Doctorate              |
| <input type="checkbox"/> High school graduate | <input type="checkbox"/> College graduate | <input type="checkbox"/> Other (please specify) |
- \_\_\_\_\_

**What is your current employment status?**

- |   |  |   |
|---|--|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Employed for wages | <input type="checkbox"/> Self-employed | <input type="checkbox"/> Out of work and looking for work       |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Student            | <input type="checkbox"/> Retired       | <input type="checkbox"/> Out of work, but not currently looking |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Military           |  |   |

**Do you currently have health insurance?** ☐ Yes ☐ No ☐ No, but I did in the past

**What type of insurance do you have? (select all that apply)**

- |                                   |                                   |   |                                       |
|-----------------------------------|-----------------------------------|---|---------------------------------------|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Medicaid | <input type="checkbox"/> Medicare | <input type="checkbox"/> Private/Commercial | <input type="checkbox"/> No Insurance |
|-----------------------------------|-----------------------------------|---|---------------------------------------|

**Do you have access to reliable internet in your home?** ☐ Yes ☐ No

If you have health concerns or difficulty accessing care, please call the Long Island Health Collaborative for available resources at:  
**631-963-4767.**

Please return this completed survey to:  
LIHC  
Nassau-Suffolk Hospital Council  
1383 Veterans Memorial Highway, Suite 26  
Hauppauge, NY 11788  
Or you may fax completed survey to  
631-716-6920

All non-profit hospitals on Long Island offer financial assistance for emergency and medically necessary care to individuals who are unable to pay for all or a portion of their care. To obtain information on financial assistance offered at each Long Island hospital, please visit the individual hospital's website.

## Long Island Health Collaborative CBO Survey Summary of Findings

### Methodology:

Surveys were distributed electronically via Survey Monkey to community-based organization leaders. Data was collected December 1<sup>st</sup> 2021 - January 15<sup>th</sup> 2022. Survey responses were downloaded from Survey Monkey on March 12<sup>th</sup>, 2022. For questions prompting a maximum of five choices, the first five selected are included in the analysis. For the open-ended question “6”, key words/codes were selected, entered in the Excel search function and resulted in a tally for number of times they appeared in the responses. This method revealed top three key themes. 44 surveys were collected; 25 for Suffolk County, 10 for Nassau County and 9 with no location specified.

### Analysis Results:

- When asked “***What are the biggest health problems for the people/community you serve?***” (Maximum of 5 choices):

2022 Rank	Suffolk County	Percentage	Nassau County	Percentage
1	Mental Health	16/25	Drugs and Alcohol Abuse	6/10
2	Drugs and Alcohol Abuse	14/25	Obesity and Weight Loss	5/10
3	Cancer	11/25	Nutrition/Eating Habits	5/10
4	Women’s Health/Wellness	8/25	Mental Health	4/10
5	Care for the Elderly	8/25	Women’s Health/Wellness	4/10

- When asked “***What would be most helpful to improve the health problems of the people/community you serve?***” (Maximum of 5 choices):

2022 Rank	Suffolk County	Percentage	Nassau County	Percentage
1	Mental Health Services	18/25	Access to Healthier Food Choices	7/10
2	Drug and Alcohol Services	14/25	Mental Health Services	6/10
3	Health Education Programs	14/25	Affordable Housing	6/10
4	Affordable Housing	11/25	Transportation	5/10
5	Access to Healthier Food	8/25	Health Education Programs	5/10



3. When asked **“Do any people/communities you serve in Suffolk have problems getting needed health care? If yes, what do you think the reasons are?”** For Suffolk, 14 out of 25 answered **“Yes”** and the remainder answered **“No”**. For Nassau, 7 out of 10 answered **“Yes”** and the remainder answered **“No”** (Maximum of 5 choices).:

2022 Rank	Suffolk County	Percentage	Nassau County	Percentage
1	No Insurance/Unable to Pay for Healthcare	13/14	Misinformation/Health Illiteracy	6/7
2	Misinformation/Health Illiteracy	10/14	Transportation	5/7
3	Language Barriers	8/14	No Insurance/Unable to Pay for Healthcare	5/7
4	Transportation	7/14	Language Barriers	5/7
5	Unable to Pay Copays/Deductibles	7/14	Fear/Hesitancy	4/7

4. When asked **“What health issues do the people/community you serve need education about?”** (Maximum of 5):

2022 Rank	Suffolk County	Percentage	Nassau County	Percentage
1	Mental Health/Depression	15/25	Chronic Disease Management	7/10
2	Substance Misuse	11/25	Blood Pressure	6/10
3	Blood Pressure	11/25	Mental Health/Depression	5/10
4	Chronic Disease Management	9/25	Food Security	4/10
5	Suicide Prevention	7/25	Exercise/Physical Activity	3/10

5. When asked **“Where do the people/community you serve get most of their health information?”**

2022 Rank	Suffolk County	Percentage	Nassau County	Percentage
1	Family or Friends	22/25	Family or Friends	9/10
2	Internet	20/25	Internet	8/10
3	Facebook/Twitter	16/25	Church Group	8/10
4	Doctor/Healthcare Provider	16/25	Doctor/Healthcare Provider	5/10
5	Television	15/25	Facebook/Twitter	4/10

6. When asked ***“What do you think makes a community healthy?”*** (Open ended; summarized below).

“Access”, “Communication” and “Education” were the three most common themes for both the Nassau and Suffolk respondents. Access to healthcare (such as health insurance and transportation), communication (such as doctor-patient relationships and more community programs) and more available online resources to educate oneself and improve health literacy were the most pressing matters to responders.

7. When asked ***“How would you rate the health of the people/community you serve?”***:

2022 Rank	Suffolk County	Percentage	Nassau County	Percentage
1	Somewhat Healthy	12/25	Somewhat Healthy	8/10
2	Healthy	7/25	Unhealthy	2/10
3	Unhealthy	3/25	Healthy	0/10
4	Very Unhealthy	3/25	Very Unhealthy	0/10

8. When asked ***“What types of health screenings and/or services are needed to keep people healthy in the community you serve?”*** (Maximum of 5 choices):

2022 Rank	Suffolk County	Percentage	Nassau County	Percentage
1	Mental Health/Depression	12/25	Blood Pressure	8/10
2	Substance Misuse	9/25	Chronic Disease Management	8/10
3	Eating Disorders	8/25	Mental Health/Depression	6/10
4	Chronic Disease Management	7/25	Exercise/Physical Activity	5/10
5	Suicide Prevention	7/25	Heart Disease	4/10

### **About the Long Island Health Collaborative**

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## **HEALTH SURVEY FOR ORGANIZATIONS AND AGENCIES**

The county health departments (Nassau and Suffolk), local hospitals, and other community partners are in the process of deciding what health problems we will focus on for the next few years. We would like to find out **what problems are vital to the persons and community you provide care/services to**. We will use these results, along with other information, to plan to improve the health of persons in Nassau and Suffolk counties. Please give us your input by filling this out and sending it back by mail or email. **Or, complete the survey online (preferred method) through this link (insert link)**. The return information is listed at the end of this survey. Thank you.

### **1. What are the biggest health problems for the people/community you serve? (Please check up to 5)**

- |   |  |  |
|---|--|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Access to vaccinations                               | <input type="checkbox"/> HIV/AIDS & Sexually Transmitted Diseases (STDs) | <input type="checkbox"/> Smoking/Tobacco use             |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Asthma/lung disease                                  | <input type="checkbox"/> Infections                                      | <input type="checkbox"/> Teen pregnancy                  |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Cancer   | <input type="checkbox"/> Preventable Injuries                            | <input type="checkbox"/> Violence                        |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Care for the elderly                                 | <input type="checkbox"/> Car crashes                                     | <input type="checkbox"/> In the home or between partners |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Child health & wellness                              | <input type="checkbox"/> Pedestrian injuries                             | <input type="checkbox"/> Guns                            |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Memory loss  | <input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____                                    | <input type="checkbox"/> Murders                         |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Diabetes   | <input type="checkbox"/> Mental health (including depression & suicide)  | <input type="checkbox"/> Rape                            |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Drugs & alcohol abuse                                | <input type="checkbox"/> Nutrition / eating habits                       | <input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____                    |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Environmental problems (water, pollution, air, etc.) | <input type="checkbox"/> Obesity/weight loss issues                      | <input type="checkbox"/> Women's health & wellness       |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Falls in the elderly                                 | <input type="checkbox"/> Premature births                                | <input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____                    |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Heart disease & stroke                               |  |  |

### **2. What would be most helpful to improve the health problems of the people/community you serve? (Please check up to 5)**

- |   |  |   |
|---|--|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Access to healthier food | <input type="checkbox"/> Health education programs     | <input type="checkbox"/> Safer places to walk/play    |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Affordable housing       | <input type="checkbox"/> Health screenings             | <input type="checkbox"/> Safer work place             |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Better schools           | <input type="checkbox"/> Home care options             | <input type="checkbox"/> Transportation               |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Breastfeeding            | <input type="checkbox"/> Insurance enrollment programs | <input type="checkbox"/> Weight loss programs         |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Clean air & water        | <input type="checkbox"/> Job opportunities             | <input type="checkbox"/> Other (please specify) _____ |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Drug & alcohol services  | <input type="checkbox"/> Mental health services        |   |
| <input type="checkbox"/> More grocery stores      | <input type="checkbox"/> Parks and recreation          |   |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Farmers markets          | <input type="checkbox"/> Safer childcare options       |   |

### **3. Do any people/communities you serve have problems getting needed health care?**

- ☐ Yes (if 'yes', please answer question #4) ☐ No

### **4. If you answered 'yes' to question #3, what do you think the reasons are? (Please check up to 5)**

- |   |  |  |
|---|--|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Cultural/religious beliefs                           | <input type="checkbox"/> Lack of availability of doctors             | <input type="checkbox"/> Unable to pay co-pays/deductibles |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Don't know how to find doctors                       | <input type="checkbox"/> Language barriers                           | <input type="checkbox"/> Other (please specify) _____      |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Don't understand need to see a doctor                | <input type="checkbox"/> No insurance and unable to pay for the care |  |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Fear (e.g. not ready to face/discuss health problem) | <input type="checkbox"/> Transportation                              |  |

### **5. What types of health screenings and/or services are needed to keep people healthy in the community you provide care to? (Check up to 5)**

- |  |  |   |
|--|--|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Blood pressure                  | <input type="checkbox"/> Emergency preparedness          | <input type="checkbox"/> Nutrition                    |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Cancer                          | <input type="checkbox"/> Exercise/physical activity      | <input type="checkbox"/> Prenatal care                |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Cholesterol (fats in the blood) | <input type="checkbox"/> Falls prevention in the elderly | <input type="checkbox"/> Quitting smoking             |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Dental screenings               | <input type="checkbox"/> Heart disease                   | <input type="checkbox"/> Suicide prevention           |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Diabetes                        | <input type="checkbox"/> HIV/AIDS & STDs                 | <input type="checkbox"/> Vaccination/immunizations    |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Disease outbreak prevention     | <input type="checkbox"/> Routine well checkups           | <input type="checkbox"/> Weight loss help             |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Drug and alcohol                | <input type="checkbox"/> Memory loss                     | <input type="checkbox"/> Other (please specify) _____ |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Eating disorders                | <input type="checkbox"/> Mental health/depression        |   |

**6. What health issues do the people/community you provide care need education about? (Please check up to 5)**

- |  |  |  |
|--|--|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Blood pressure              | <input type="checkbox"/> Eating disorders                | <input type="checkbox"/> Mental health/depression  |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Cancer                      | <input type="checkbox"/> Emergency preparedness          | <input type="checkbox"/> Nutrition                 |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Cholesterol                 | <input type="checkbox"/> Exercise/physical activity      | <input type="checkbox"/> Prenatal care             |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Dental screenings           | <input type="checkbox"/> Falls prevention in the elderly | <input type="checkbox"/> Suicide prevention        |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Diabetes                    | <input type="checkbox"/> Heart disease                   | <input type="checkbox"/> Vaccination/immunizations |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Disease outbreak prevention | <input type="checkbox"/> HIV/AIDS & STDs                 | <input type="checkbox"/> Quit smoking              |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Drug and alcohol            | <input type="checkbox"/> Routine well checkups           | <input type="checkbox"/> Other (please specify)    |

**7. Where do the people/community you provide care to get most of their health information? (Check all that apply)**

- |  |  |   |
|--|--|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Doctor/health care provider | <input type="checkbox"/> Library             | <input type="checkbox"/> TV                     |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Facebook or twitter         | <input type="checkbox"/> Newspaper/magazines | <input type="checkbox"/> Worksite               |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Family or friends           | <input type="checkbox"/> Other social media  | <input type="checkbox"/> Other (please specify) |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Health Department           | <input type="checkbox"/> Radio               | _____   |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Hospital                    | <input type="checkbox"/> Church group        |   |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Internet                    | <input type="checkbox"/> School or college   |   |

**8. What do you think makes a community healthy?** \_\_\_\_\_

**9. How would you rate the health of the people/community you provide care to?**

- ☐ Very healthy    ☐ Healthy    ☐ Somewhat healthy    ☐ Unhealthy    ☐ Very unhealthy

---

***If you are able, please complete the following:***

Your organization: \_\_\_\_\_  
Where did you receive this survey: \_\_\_\_\_  
What is your sex: ☐ Male    ☐ Female

How old are you? : \_\_\_\_\_  
ZIP code or Town where you work: \_\_\_\_\_

Are you Hispanic or Latino?    ☐ Yes    ☐ No

What race do you consider yourself?

- |   |  |   |
|---|--|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> White                  | <input type="checkbox"/> Asian/Pacific | <input type="checkbox"/> Native American              |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Black/African American | <input type="checkbox"/> Islander      | <input type="checkbox"/> Other (please specify) _____ |

What is the highest grade you finished?

- |  |   |   |
|--|---|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> 8 <sup>th</sup> grade or less | <input type="checkbox"/> Technical school | <input type="checkbox"/> Graduate school              |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Some high school              | <input type="checkbox"/> Some college     | <input type="checkbox"/> Doctorate                    |
| <input type="checkbox"/> High school graduate          | <input type="checkbox"/> College graduate | <input type="checkbox"/> Other (please specify) _____ |

Your name: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone #: \_\_\_\_\_ Your email address: \_\_\_\_\_

Can we contact you so you can tell us more of your ideas regarding health problems in Nassau and Suffolk counties and what should be done about them?

- ☐ Yes    ☐ No

Email to [info@lihc.org](mailto:info@lihc.org) or mail to:

**Brooke Oliveri, LIHC, 1383 Veterans Memorial Highway, Suite 26, Hauppauge, NY 11788**  
**PREFERRED METHOD OF RETURN IS TO COMPLETE THE SURVEY VIA THIS LINK:**  
**[surveymonkey.com/r/CBO2022](https://surveymonkey.com/r/CBO2022). Questions: Please call 631-255-5678.**



# **Qualitative Research Analysis of Key Informant Interviews Conducted Among Community-Based Organizations on Long Island**

**Presented May 3, 2022**



## **EXECUTIVE SUMMARY**

The Long Island Health Collaborative (LIHC) is a partnership of Long Island's hospitals, county health departments, health providers, community-based social and human service organizations, academic institutions, health plans, local government, and the business sector, all engaged in improving the health of Long Islanders. Collaborative members are committed to improving the health of people living with chronic disease, obesity, and behavioral health conditions in Nassau and Suffolk counties.

The LIHC assists its members with their Community Health Needs Assessment by providing data for members to use in their final CHNA reports. Members are charged with this task by both the federal and state government, and they are required to obtain feedback from community-based organizations (CBOs) during the CHNA process. The LIHC performed the following to gain feedback from CBOs.

## **METHODOLOGY**

A purposeful sampling procedure was initiated: a form of non-probability sampling in which the researcher relies on their own discretion to choose variables for the sample population, deliberately selecting participants who have information in the phenomena being studied. As a first step, surveys were sent to 400+ community-based organization leaders, which yielded quantitative results about their observed health needs and barriers among the populations they serve. One question on this survey asked the CBO leaders if they would be interested in further discussion. 23 informants expressed interest in being interviewed and were contacted for further discussion. Consistent outreach (first two email correspondences,

then one phone call) and follow-through yielded 12 informants who were able to fully proceed to the interview stage. The interviews were conducted between February 23<sup>rd</sup>, 2022 and March 4<sup>th</sup>, 2022.

The interviews were conducted and recorded via Zoom with two different interviewers, reading from an interview instrument with five questions (Appendix A). Two of the five questions were closed-ended, and prior to the qualitative analysis, these two questions were analyzed separately. One asked about New York State Prevention Agenda topics, and the other asked about the most pressing social determinant of health needs (Appendix B). Audio recordings were transcribed and uploaded to Atlas TI Web software for analysis with interviewee permission. Participation in the interview was voluntary, with both interviewee identity and responses kept confidential.

The first necessary step of the data analysis was becoming informed on the history and goals of the Long Island Health Collaborative and the purpose of the Community Health Needs Assessment: to determine the health needs and barriers affecting Long Islanders at the individual and community level.

The interviews were revisited, reread and open-coded with a wide net. Atlast TI version 22 web-based software was used for the qualitative analysis. The variety in backgrounds and expertise of the key informants permitted an expansive open-coding format such as social interactions, personal accounts of the key informant's healthcare experiences on Long Island, the essential tasks and services their organizations provide, their thoughts on what are the most pressing health issues affecting Long Island's populace, and more were coded. The

interview instrument invited open-ended responses yet still kept the topic of discussion narrowly focused on Long Island's systemic health needs. These codes were then parsed through and related back to the interview transcripts, and several concepts reappeared frequently under these wide-ranging codes. These included economics, healthcare service infrastructure, burden of disease and systemic inequality. These frequent concepts shared a near identical level of abstraction yet remained exclusive enough in identity to be categorized separately and were then drafted as some of the initial focused codes. Open codes were read again alongside the interview transcripts to see if additional categories could be drafted, rearing a total of 15 categories to be established as the focused codes. The interviews were reread and aptly recoded with these 15 focused codes.

Borrowing classification schemes wholesale from external sources risks funneling the data through a biased filter, muddying levels of abstraction and running risk of trivializing crucial data points. The researcher defined the focused coding list and their meanings but still respected the Kaiser Family Foundation Social Determinants of Health (Merriam & Tisdell, 212). This was also the case for the five priorities identified in the [New York State Prevention Agenda](#). The focused codes aimed to encompass the entirety of the interview data featured, defined with apt exclusivity so several codes handled similar but not identical data points (Merriam & Tisdell, 213).

Across all 12 transcripts, the interviewees shared their professional background, organizational goals, social determinants and health issues most affecting Long Island and the communities they serve, along with personal stories on healthcare issues affecting their constituents. The process of establishing the focused codes was a gradient of transition from

inductive to deductive analysis, best defined as “grounded theory.” The process opened inductively, reading the transcripts and deriving tentative codes, then continuing to read additional transcripts and noting whether these early codes remained applicable. Proceeding through the data revealed some earlier codes to be of low value while others were only strengthened, and the latter half of the analysis process transitioned to a deductive stance of seeking data that supported the finalized set of codes. Viewing the transcripts through this complete set of parameters yielded several critical themes.

## **KEY FINDINGS**

Despite the key informants hailing from a variety of different yet highly specialized education, expertise, and management experience, several common themes were drawn between all 12 transcripts (with the interviewees remaining anonymous).

### **Barriers to healthcare**

Acknowledging and tackling barriers to healthcare was the strongest sentiment presented between the 12 transcripts. Health insurance tied to employment status or poor insurance options was the most outstanding healthcare access issue: many without insurance do not approach medical health services due to fear of extensive burden of costs, and many programs are trying to alleviate or outright eliminate this issue:

*“A lot of people end up in emergency rooms because they don’t have primary care; they don’t have access so they end up with a bill that they can’t pay so we work with them to negotiate with the hospitals and advocate for them to expunge bills.”*

Consistent marketing and outreach by healthcare services was also highlighted as being vital:

*“I think that is the best strategy that I have is just keep on connecting and reaching out to everyone letting them know that we’re here. Let’s work it out. Let’s find out what we can do what people would like to see, what people need to see.”*

## **Financial Insecurity**

Rising costs of living put enormous pressure on Long Island’s residents. Several informants have lamented the United States healthcare system and that many of the systemic issues start at the very top:

*“A fragmentation of funding for public health [...] and the barriers it creates to accessing whole care for individuals beyond demographics and beyond disease conditions, all of that is coming from our healthcare system that is broken. It is a barrier written, it is money driven exclusively if people are willing to admit it or not, that’s the underlying realities.”*

There is still both respect and a need for local, smaller-scale community programs and services, but many of these are seen as effectively Band-Aid fixes that are not tackling the issue of a healthcare system that is driven to maintain a reasonable profit margin at the absolute top level. In addition, wages are not keeping up with the costs of living:

*“It’s not true that people can live on \$15 an hour, I mean let’s just get right down to the basics [...] but if we look at the poverty uptick in Nassau County you know that the percentage of poverty in Nassau County is through the roof.”*

An informant expressed that financial insecurity can be a permanent stressor and stress itself can yield physical health consequences in line with chronic disease. Stress can also cause mental health issues, demonstrating how several of these shared themes throughout the interviews can be interconnected:

*“And in order to prevent cancer, you have to de-stress because yes stress is cancer causing, and it is a silent killer. So, and stress, little break you down mentally, so I think if you address those issues and find ways to, guess, alleviate. [...] Here in Suffolk County, most people have to work two to three jobs.”*

## **Education**

Education was a critical discussion point, with virtually all key informants cementing it as an absolute necessity. Multiple facets of education were strongly emphasized, including completion of K through 12, college education, vocational training and increased health and healthcare literacy:

*“I think that on all levels, both adult education and traditional K through 12 education is the key to both a community’s survival and personal success.”*

Creation of free and affordable programs that facilitate active learning and personal growth beyond a classroom was also emphasized, such as a six-week cooking and nutritional education program:

*“Being able to consistently have healthy food, cook it and compare it. Vegetables and fruits are foreign to them. Touch base on all these components and additional nutrition education.”*

Education leads to self-empowerment, which leads to making more informed choices and then proceeds to greater stability and income:

*“...she’s able to get a job or to go for training, education or some skill to become more independent and more stable. That would be one prong of the fork.”*



## **Mental Health**

Multiple key informants expressed large concern with tackling the stigma of mental health and providing better access to mental health services. Despite the difficulty the COVID-19 pandemic caused every individual, it did provide greater clairvoyance on the societal issues of mental health stigma and perhaps provided a cultural shift towards lessening it:

*“And it’s just that stigma that you need mental health care. However, when we move from that stigma and just say, you know, any small problem that you think you need to express your thoughts about and that we can listen, and perhaps together we can find a pathway to clear that.”*

*“People’s mental health needs to be supported and they need a helping hand. Tearing away at the stigma of mental health.”*

The link between mental health issues and substance abuse and how they cyclically fuel each other was also a discussion point:

*“And, you know, mental health, obviously substance use goes hand in hand, many times obviously people are using substances to mask the symptoms and the pain of the mental health issues.”*

## **CONCLUSION**

The key informants shared their expertise, personal histories and what social determinants of health are currently most important on Long Island’s healthcare landscape. The categorized codes were analyzed both on an individual level and across all collective interviews and yielded a narrative of rising economic pressure, infrastructure barriers to healthcare, a necessity in funding mental health awareness and a need to increase education endeavors at all levels. This analysis provided strong evidence that the themes of mental

health, education, economics, and barriers to healthcare most affect CBO leaders and the populations they serve. The primary domains and sub-domains uncovered through this inductive and deductive reasoning process provide a deeper understanding of the healthcare issues and barriers faced. The findings primarily align with results from the CBO quantitative assessment that asked closed-ended questions, and the [Community Health Assessment Survey](#) distributed to individuals. That survey sought to uncover individuals' perceptions about barriers to care and health concerns for themselves and their communities.

## **AUTHORS AND RESEARCHERS**

Michael Pape, Masters in Public Health Student, Stony Brook University Program in Public Health performed the qualitative analysis and wrote this report to fulfill his degree's practicum requirement.

Janine Logan, MS, APR, Vice President, Communications and Population Health; and Brooke Oliveri, Manager of Communications, Health Outreach, and Research—both principals of the Long Island Health Collaborative— conducted the interviews and designed the study.

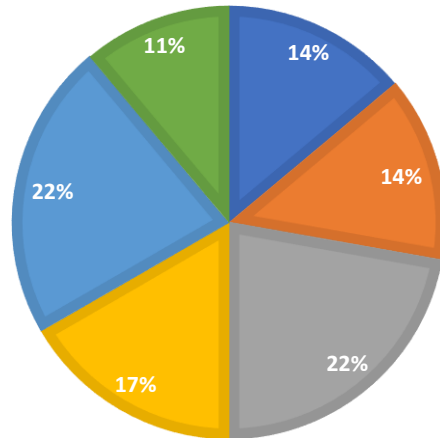
## **APPENDIX A - INTERVIEW INSTRUMENT**

1. Please describe your organization?
  - a. Describe your role in the organization
  - b. What specific services does your organization provide?
  - c. Who is the target population?
  - d. Describe services your organization provides to minority populations
  - e. ...to low-income
  - f. ...to uninsured
  - g. ...to other specific populations?
2. Many factors affect the health care community members receive. Of the Kaiser Family Foundation Social Determinants of Health, which 3 most affect the healthcare of the community members you serve?
3. Please elaborate on why you chose those three determinants, and elaborate on how they affect the community you serve.
4. Of the three social determinants you identified, which are essentially barriers to care, what strategies do you recommend for overcoming these barriers?
5. The current New York State Department of Health Prevention Agenda has identified 5 health issues to address. Please choose your top 2 priorities for the community you serve.

## **APPENDIX B**

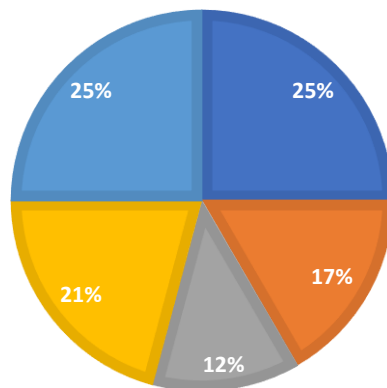
## SOCIAL DETERMINANTS

- Community and Social Context
- Economic Stability
- Education
- Food
- Healthcare System
- Neighborhood and Physical Environment



## PRIORITIES

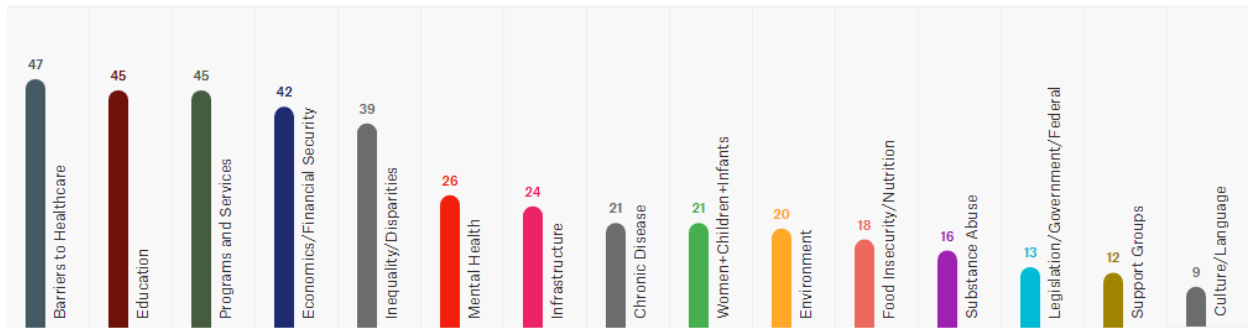
- Prevent Chronic Disease
- Prevent Communicable Diseases
- Promote a Healthy and Safe Environment
- Promote Healthy Women, Infants and Children
- Promote Well-Being and Prevent Mental and Substance Use Disorders



## CODES

<b>Primary Domain</b>	<b>Sub-domain</b>
Access/Barriers	Location, Quality, Transportation
Chronic/Communicable Disease	Cancer, Cardiovascular, HIV, HPV, Hypertension, Obesity, Oral Health, Immunization, Physical Activity, Vaccination
Culture/Language	Culture, Ethnicity, Language, Minority, Race, Similarity
Economics/Financial Security	Cost of living, Inflation, Economics, Expenditures, Expenses, Money, Unaffordable
Education	College, High School, Knowledge, Literacy, Vocational School
Environment	Air Quality, Biking, Injury, Physical Environment, Road Quality, Traffic, Safety, Walk
Food Insecurity/Nutrition	Cooking, Food Desert, Nutrition
Inequality/Disparities	Elderly, Homeless, Racism, Red-Lining, Unemployed, Veteran
Infrastructure	Healthcare, Hospital, Insurance, System, Tax, Technology
Legislation/Government/Federal	Federal, Government, Lobbying, Medicaid, Medicare
Mental Health	Depression, Hopeless, Mental illness, Psychiatric, Psychotic, Stigma, Stress
Programs and Services	Application, Initiative, Partnership, Program, Project, Service, Solution, Volunteer
Substance Abuse	Addiction, Alcohol, Heroin, Opioids, Treatment
Support Groups	Empowerment, Outreach, Support
Women+Infants+Children	Baby, Child, Childcare, Maternal Mortality, Mother, Women, Reproductive Health

## CODE DISTRIBUTION



## SOURCE INDEX

Merriam, S. B. & Tisdell, E. J. (2016). Qualitative Research: A Guide to Design and Implementation [4<sup>th</sup> Edition]. Jossey-Bass.





# Long Island's Libraries: Caretakers of the Region's Social Support and Health Needs

## Results of a two-year study

*Conducted by researchers at  
Stony Brook University, Program in Public Health  
Adelphi University, Master in Public Health program  
In partnership with the Long Island Health Collaborative (LIHC).*

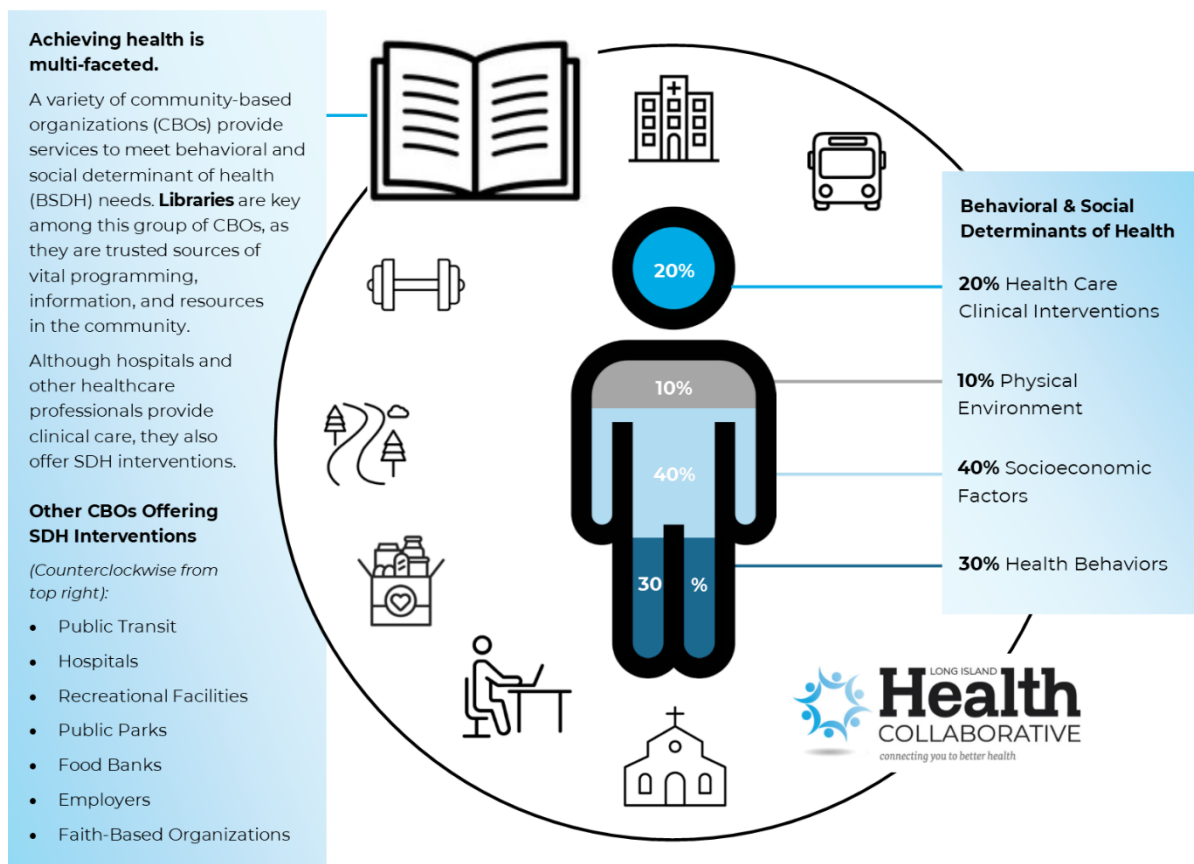
*July 2021*

### Introduction

During a two-year period, from December 2017 to February 2020, researchers from Stony Brook University and Adelphi University interviewed library staff at randomly-selected public libraries throughout Long Island to gather information about the breadth and scope of the health and social support needs of library patrons. They also sought to learn about library staff members' ability to address these needs and their level of preparedness to do so, how staff make decisions about types of programming offered, and what additional resources libraries need to improve the health of their communities. Increasingly, empirical evidence points to the key role that public libraries play in delivering some of the health and social support services an individual requires to live his/her best life. Public libraries are invaluable community health partners, especially in socioeconomically-distressed neighborhoods.

Social determinants of health – those factors outside of medicine that influence an individual's health – account for nearly 80 percent of health outcomes, according to a growing body of public health and medical research.<sup>1 2 3 4</sup> These factors include education, poverty, access to

transportation, safe and affordable housing, health insurance coverage, and access to nutritious and affordable foods, among others. Increasingly, it is these needs that public libraries often address in their community programming. In higher need communities, some libraries retain a full-time social worker. Others opt for part-time or per diem social workers to assist with meeting community health and social service needs.



Graphic: **Factors Influencing Health.** ©Nassau-Suffolk Hospital Council/Long Island Health Collaborative

Researchers found that there was a difference between the needs and program offerings based on the socioeconomic status of the neighborhood in which the library is located. Higher need communities (generally located in lower-income areas) sought programs assisting with more basic social service needs (such as unemployment, food scarcity, tech literacy, etc.) while in lower need communities (generally located in higher-income neighborhoods) patrons sought more enrichment assistance (such as cooking classes, art programs, etc.). But overall, when it

came to health needs, concerns related to **mental health/substance misuse, heart disease/diabetes, and cancer were consistent themes in most libraries.**

The research began when the New York State 2013 – 2018 [Prevention Agenda](#) and its priorities were in effect and so coding reflected themes embedded in that version of the state’s Prevention Agenda, as well as the Kaiser Family Foundation social determinants of health [rubric](#).

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*The research occurred prior to the start of the coronavirus pandemic, which was declared a national emergency on March 13, 2020. Library programming came to a halt as libraries were ordered to close before re-opening some months later for virtual programming only. The pandemic exacerbated the inequities in our social and health systems, and libraries, which had been an accessible resource for many communities, were shutdown perhaps at a time when they were needed the most. On June 24, 2021, New York State’s declaration of emergency was halted and many pandemic restrictions were lifted. As of this writing (July 2021), the federal public health emergency declaration remains in effect. Many of the region’s libraries have re-opened but with limited in-person services.*

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## Social Determinants of Health

Economic Stability	Neighborhood and Physical Environment	Education	Food	Community and Social Context	Health Care System
Employment	Housing	Literacy	Hunger	Social integration	Health coverage
Income	Transportation	Language	Access to healthy options	Support systems	Provider availability
Expenses	Safety	Early childhood education		Community engagement	Provider linguistic and cultural competency
Debt	Parks	Vocational training		Discrimination	Quality of care
Medical bills	Playgrounds	Higher education			
Support	Walkability				

### Health Outcomes

Mortality, Morbidity, Life Expectancy, Health Care Expenditures, Health Status, Functional Limitations

There are 113 public libraries on Long Island. Of these, 18 libraries in Suffolk County (from 26 randomly selected) and 14 libraries in Nassau County (from 27 randomly selected) consented to participate in the qualitative research study.

The Long Island Libraries Qualitative Research project grew out of a similar project that occurred among the public library system of Philadelphia known as the Free Library of Philadelphia. Investigators at the University of Pennsylvania published results of their research in [Health Affairs<sup>5</sup>](#) and this caught the attention of the Long Island Health Collaborative and its academic partners. After reading the article “*Beyond Books: Public Libraries as Partners for Public Health*,” Long Island researchers reached out to investigators at the University of Pennsylvania to learn more about the Philadelphia project. After sharing ideas, the Long Island researchers collaborated with the team at University of Pennsylvania, approved by the University of Pennsylvania’s Institutional Review Board (IRB), to conduct interviews among Long Island public librarians and staff.

### **Selection and Recruitment Methods**

The Long Island Health Collaborative staff worked with the researchers to develop a recruitment strategy that began with ensuring that a representative sample of public libraries was achieved. After a complete list of libraries was verified by the Nassau Library System and the Suffolk County Cooperative Library System each public library was sorted by zip code/location. Several towns had more than one zip code but only one library, and several different library locations were located within the same zip code. Researchers accommodated this by developing a selection process that (1) eliminated zip codes without library locations, and (2) included all libraries in the selection process, despite having multiple branches or more than one library in a single zip code.

Using the demographic factors pulled from 2014 American Community Survey, libraries were then sorted by county and categorized into need levels from “low-need” to “high-need” by the following demographic factors:

- **Education** – percentage of high school graduates or higher in the population that are 25 years and over and percentage of bachelor's degree or higher in the population that are 25 years and over.
- **Language** – percentage who speak only English
- **Unemployment** – unemployment rate for population 16 years and over
- **Poverty status** – percentage below poverty level (estimate) and population for whom poverty status is determined
- **Public assistance** – percentage of households with cash public assistance or food stamps/snap for the past 12 months
- **Income** – median household income (dollars)

- **Foreign born residents** – percentage of foreign born

Each demographic factor received a county score by using an inverse average formula used for: unemployment, poverty assistance, public assistance and foreign born and an average score determined for each zip code using the average of all demographic scores. Libraries were then sorted into need categories from highest need to lowest need. The top 20 percent of libraries were determined to be located in a “high need” area (quintile 5) and the bottom 20 percent of libraries were determined to be located in a “low need” area (Quintile 1). All other library locations were categorized as either “moderate high need,” “moderate need,” or “moderate low need” communities. (Appendix A) As a reference, there were 11 locations in Suffolk and 9 locations in Nassau that were categorized as high-need communities.

After the list of public libraries in each county was organized into “need” categories, the team used a simple block randomization strategy to select 50 percent of those in each category for an invitation to participate in the study. Using this method, on average there were five libraries from each quintile that were randomly selected to be recruited for participation in this study. The randomly selected list of libraries was sent to the outreach directors at the Suffolk Cooperative Library System and the Nassau Library System who then sent an email notification to each of the library directors from the selected list to inform them of the research project and encourage them to participate. Library directors were then contacted by the Long Island Health Collaborative for a more in-depth explanation of the research project, invite their participation, and to schedule the interview. Three attempts to connect (one email and two phone follow-ups) were made.

## **Interview Process**

Total interview time lasted from 1.5 to 2 hours, including time for further project explanation and signing informed consent documents. Interviews were audio recorded. The goal was to interview three staffers at each library – always the library director and then such staff members as front desk clerk, reference librarian, security officer, and custodian. Directors chose the staff members. Interviewees were given a participant number to ensure anonymity and confidentiality. Letters were assigned to each of the libraries to ensure facility anonymity. The interviewers used a standardized set of questions and prompts so that there was consistency in the themes explored across each site. Interview recordings were uploaded to a secure HIPAA-compliant website approved by the University of Pennsylvania’s IRB and an IRB-approved transcription service transcribed each interview into a separate word file for each interview. A total of 96 interviews were completed.

## Coding and Data Analysis

The transcribed interviews were reviewed by researchers at Stony Brook, and they trained and supervised a team of four research assistants to create a coding scheme for all of the interview files for both counties. The transcribed interviews were coded based on themes that emerged from the interviews across sites using a qualitative analyses software (DeDoose) licensed to Stony Brook's Program in Public Health. The analyses resulted in a robust coding schema with 11 categories and many subthemes within each category. A summary of primary findings is summarized below, and a peer-reviewed publication of more in-depth findings is expected to be available within the year (currently under review by a scholarly journal with LIHC included as a co-author). Once the journal publication of the more in-depth analyses is available for release, we will share it with all LIHC partners.

The overarching questions that were used to motivate the data analyses were:

- (1) What is the knowledge of library staff about the social support and health needs of their patrons?
  - What do the staff think are the most pressing health needs of the community they serve?
  - What do the staff think are the most pressing social support needs of the community they serve?
- (2) What do library staff feel about addressing the health/social support needs of their patrons?
- (3) How do libraries address the social determinants of health, if at all?
  - What do staff at libraries think is lacking in terms of addressing the social determinants of health in their library?
  - What do library staff wish they could do to address the social support and behavioral health needs of their community?
- (4) How do libraries make decisions about how to invest in their services?
- (5) How do libraries define and prevent/address/manage/respond to/resolve disturbances in the libraries?

## Summary of Findings

Top 5 identified health needs	Top 5 identified social needs
Mental Health	Homelessness
Exercise	Technology Literacy
Diet	ESL/LOTE
Opioid Use	Unemployment
Personal Health	Food



Differences in types of programming were identified and there were some trends that higher need communities tended to have programs focused on social service needs, such as assistance with unemployment, access to economic stability support services, hunger solutions, homelessness, ESL/LOTE classes, health insurance assistance and technology literacy. Programs in lower need communities tended to have programs focused on enrichment, such as cooking classes, adult art, yoga, and other wellness opportunities to address loneliness. The moderate-need communities tended to have a mix of programs. The emphasis on social support programs in high-need communities is consistent with the health disparities and inequities individuals in these communities face. This finding, in particular, confirms the key role behavioral and social determinants of health play in health outcomes.

The health topics most likely to be the focus of library programs included exercise, access to health insurance (which is also a social support need), information about diet/nutrition, mental health, and Alzheimer's Disease/Dementia.

## **Usefulness of Research**

Decisions about programs in libraries are largely based on community interests, access to content experts to deliver the programs at low or no cost to patrons, and scheduling. Interviewees' responses reflect the needs of the communities served by the libraries. The findings from the Long Island Libraries Qualitative Research project can be used to inform future health and social support service programming offered by libraries, including resource and staff allocation. This is also true of the partnering organizations with which many libraries work, such as the local hospital and health department, and the many community-based organizations that bring health and social support service programming to libraries.

In conjunction with the Long Island Qualitative Research project, graduate students from the Stony Brook University Program in Public Health and undergraduate students from the Hofstra University Community Health Degree program mapped the health and social support service programming at all of Long Island's libraries. Their efforts produced two interactive layered maps – one for use by [researchers](#) and one for the [public's](#) use. The latter map includes convenient links to library websites. The students reviewed data from 2016-2018 by analyzing publicly accessible newsletters, calendars, pamphlets, flyers, and websites. Content analysis was conducted for every program and coded by social determinants of health and Prevention Agenda (2013-2018) Priority Health topics and results were entered into an Excel spreadsheet.

## **Further Study**

As this research was conducted prior to the COVID-19 pandemic, it would be helpful to conduct a limited follow-up study asking specific questions related to how libraries responded to

community needs during the pandemic. Libraries pivoted to virtual programming. It is likely this new mode of delivery had an effect (positive or negative) on the scope and breadth of programs and community members' access to such programming. Results from such a follow-up could also be compared to the current study results to determine the change in volume and type of programming offered before, during, and after the pandemic.

## Acknowledgements

The Long Island Libraries Qualitative Research project is a good example of collaboration at its best. A public and a private university joined forces with local public libraries located in diverse communities under the organizational leadership of a multi-sector coalition – the Long Island Health Collaborative. The voluntary efforts of the academic researchers, public health students, and support staff who worked on this project are very much appreciated. Most importantly, we thank the individual library directors and each member of their staff for their time and graciousness in hosting the researchers and for participating in the study. Special acknowledgement goes to Valerie Lewis, the Administrator of Outreach Services for the Suffolk Cooperative Library System and Nicole Scherer, Assistant Director of the Nassau Library System. Without their assistance, this study never would have occurred.



Long Island's public libraries are led by exceptionally caring individuals with dedicated and compassionate staff. They are centers of community life and provide a place where patrons can go to learn, to be safe, and to be part of their community.

The LIHC acknowledges its partners in this research project.

## About the Long Island Health Collaborative

*The [Long Island Health Collaborative](#) is a partnership of Long Island's hospitals, county health departments, physicians, health providers, social service and health-related community-based organizations, academic institutions, health plans, local government, and the business sector, all engaged in improving the health of Long Islanders. The LIHC is overseen by the [Nassau Suffolk Hospital Council](#) (NSHC), the association that advocates for reasonable and rational healthcare legislation and regulation on behalf of Long Island's hospitals.*

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<sup>1</sup> <https://www.kff.org/racial-equity-and-health-policy/issue-brief/beyond-health-care-the-role-of-social-determinants-in-promoting-health-and-health-equity/>

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<sup>2</sup> Hacker KA, Alleyne EO, Plescia M. Public Health Approaches to Social Determinants of Health: Getting Further Faster. *J Public Health Manag Pract*. 2021 Sep-Oct 01;27(5):526-528. doi: 10.1097/PHH.0000000000001410. PMID: 34292912.

<sup>3</sup> Henize AW, Beck AF, Klein MD, Adams M, Kahn RS. A Road Map to Address the Social Determinants of Health Through Community Collaboration. *Pediatrics*. 2015 Oct;136(4):e993-1001. doi: 10.1542/peds.2015-0549. Epub 2015 Sep 21. PMID: 26391941.

<sup>4</sup> Bhattacharya D, Bhatt J. Seven Foundational Principles of Population Health Policy. *Population Health Management* vol. 20,5 (2017): 383-388. doi:10.1089/pop.2016.0148

<sup>5</sup> Morgan AU, Dupuis R, D'Alonzo B, Johnson A, Graves A, Brooks KL, McClintock A, Klusaritz H, Bogner H, Long JA, Grande D, Cannuscio CC. Beyond Books: Public Libraries as Partners for Population Health. *Health Affairs* 35, no.11 (2016):2030-2036 doi:10.1377/hlthaff.2016.0724.

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Priority	Focus Area (select one from drop down list)	Goal Focus Area (select one from drop down list)	Objectives through 2024	Disparities	Interventions	Family of Measures	By December 2023, we will have completed . . .	Implementation Partner (Please select one partner from the dropdown list per row)	Partner Role(s) and Resources
Prevent Chronic Diseases	Focus Area 4: Preventive care and management	Goal 4.4 In the community setting, improve self-management skills for individuals with chronic diseases, including asthma, arthritis, cardiovascular disease, diabetes and prediabetes and obesity	4.4.1 Increase the percentage of adults with chronic conditions (arthritis, asthma, CVD, diabetes, CKD, cancer) who have taken a course or class to learn how to manage their condition	Low-income communities of color have a higher burden of chronic disease overall	Chronic disease self-management education programs (aligned with intervention 4.4.2)	Number of programs, number of attendees, gauge change in attendees' knowledge (pre and post program survey), percentage of adults with chronic conditions (arthritis, asthma, CVD, diabetes, CKD, cancer) who have taken a course or class to learn how to manage their condition	3 chronic disease self-management programs	Community-based organizations	Lyons Club to host workshops
Prevent Chronic Diseases	Focus Area 1: Healthy eating and food security	Goal 1.1 Increase access to healthy and affordable foods and beverages	Objective 1.13 Increase the percentage of adults with perceived food security (among all adults)	Low-income communities of color have less access to healthy food and beverage choices	Food drives	Number of food drives, volume of food collected, volume of food distributed, percentage of adults with perceived food security	3 food drives	Community-based organizations	Community-based organizations who work in the food security space (food panies, etc.) will partner with us to hold and co-promote food drives
Prevent Chronic Diseases	Focus Area 4: Preventive care and management	Goal 4.4 In the community setting, improve self-management skills for individuals with chronic diseases, including asthma, arthritis, cardiovascular disease, diabetes and prediabetes and obesity	4.4.1 Increase the percentage of adults with chronic conditions (arthritis, asthma, CVD, diabetes, CKD, cancer) who have taken a course or class to learn how to manage their condition	Low-income communities of color have a higher burden of chronic disease overall, including diabetes	Diabetes prevention/management programs, <i>Living Well with Diabetes</i> (aligned with intervention 4.4.2)	Number of programs, number of attendees, gauge change in attendees' knowledge (pre and post program survey), Percentage of adults with chronic conditions (arthritis, asthma, CVD, diabetes, CKD, cancer) who have taken a course or class to learn how to manage their condition	2 <i>Living Well with Diabetes</i> programs	Community-based organizations	Provide space, co-promotion
Prevent Chronic Diseases	Focus Area 4: Preventive care and management	Goal 4.4 In the community setting, improve self-management skills for individuals with chronic diseases, including asthma, arthritis, cardiovascular disease, diabetes and prediabetes and obesity	4.4.1 Increase the percentage of adults with chronic conditions (arthritis, asthma, CVD, diabetes, CKD, cancer) who have taken a course or class to learn how to manage their condition	Low-income communities of color have a higher burden of chronic disease overall, including diabetes	Social media posts with diabetes prevention tips	Number of posts, post reach/engagement/clicks/shares	6 social media posts	Media	Social media (Facebook and Instagram) to provide platform for messaging
Prevent Chronic Diseases	Focus Area 4: Preventive care and management	Goal 4.4 In the community setting, improve self-management skills for individuals with chronic diseases, including asthma, arthritis, cardiovascular disease, diabetes and prediabetes and obesity	4.4.1 Increase the percentage of adults with chronic conditions (arthritis, asthma, CVD, diabetes, CKD, cancer) who have taken a course or class to learn how to manage their condition	Low-income communities of color have a higher burden of chronic disease overall, including CHF	Congestive heart failure prevention/management programs (aligned with intervention 4.4.2)	Number of programs, number of attendees, gauge change in attendees' knowledge (pre and post program survey), Percentage of adults with chronic conditions (arthritis, asthma, CVD, diabetes, CKD, cancer) who have taken a course or class to learn how to manage their condition	2 CHF prevention/management programs	Community-based organizations	Provide space, co-promotion
Prevent Chronic Diseases	Focus Area 4: Preventive care and management	Goal 4.4 In the community setting, improve self-management skills for individuals with chronic diseases, including asthma, arthritis, cardiovascular disease, diabetes and prediabetes and obesity	4.4.1 Increase the percentage of adults with chronic conditions (arthritis, asthma, CVD, diabetes, CKD, cancer) who have taken a course or class to learn how to manage their condition	Low-income communities of color have a higher burden of chronic disease overall, including CHF	Social media posts with heart healthy tips	Number of posts, post reach/engagement/clicks/shares	6 social media posts	Media	Social media (Facebook and Instagram) to provide platform for messaging
Prevent Chronic Diseases	Focus Area 2: Physical activity	Goal 2.1 Improve community environments that support active transportation and recreational physical activity for people of all ages and abilities.	1.7: Increase the percentage of adults 18 years and older who participate in leisure-time physical activity (among all adults)	Low-income communities of color have a higher burden of chronic disease overall, and typically have less access to community environments that promote active transportation and recreational physical activity	Walk Safe with a Doc (aligned with Interventions 2.3.1 and 2.1.1)	Process measures: Number of attendees; intermediate measures: Knowledge gained via pre/post survey; Outcome measures: change in % population walking	10 Walk Safe with a Doc events held and analyzed all pre/post data	Community-based organizations	The Long Island Health Collaborative's network of CBO partners
Prevent Chronic Diseases	Focus Area 4: Preventive care and management	Goal 4.3 Promote evidence-based care to prevent and manage chronic diseases including asthma, arthritis, cardiovascular disease, diabetes and prediabetes and obesity	4.3.11 Increase the percentage of adults with HTN who are currently taking medicine to manage their high blood pressure and 4.3.12 Increase the percentage of aduth arthrits who have been told be their doctor or health professional to be physically active/exercise to help with arthritis or joint symptoms by 5%	Low-income communities of color have a higher burden of chronic disease overall, including HTN	Talk with a Doc (aligned with intervention 4.3.2)	Process Measures: Number of talk events, number of attendees. Intermediate measures: Knowledge gained pre and post survey. Outcome measures: reduced blood pressure, reduced joint pain, more people walking for exercise	10 number of talk events held and analyzed all pre/post event data	Hospitals	Physician expertise
Prevent Chronic Diseases	Focus Area 1: Healthy eating and food security	Goal 1.2 Increase skills and knowledge to support healthy food and beverage choices	1.4 Decrease the percentage of adults 18 and older with obesity (among adults)	Low-income communities of color have a higher burden of chronic disease overall	Live Better Awareness Campaign	Process Measures: Number of clicks dedicated web page;number chronic disease video downloads; all relevant social media platform analytics (posts, egagements, mentions) and number earned media mentions.Intermediate measures: observed increase in social media traffic and media requests. Outcome measures: Region-wide reduction in hospital admissions for type 2 diabetes	Monthly posting of Live Better content on social media, blogs, and targeted media outreach to individual reporters	Media	Provi+J10+E14:J14+C14:J14+A14:J14+J10+E+E14:J14

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Priority	Focus Area	Goal	Objectives through 2024	Disparities	Interventions	Family of Measures	By December 2023, we will have completed . . .	Implementation Partner (Please select one partner from the dropdown list per row)	Partner Role(s) and Resources
Promote Well-Being and Prevent Mental and Substance Use Disorders	Focus Area 2: Prevent Mental and Substance User Disorders	Goal 2.2 Prevent opioid overdose deaths	2.2.1 Reduce the age-adjusted overdose deaths involving any opioid by 7% to 14.3 per 100,000 population. Additional Objective. Increase number of providers with buprenorphine waiver in the ED by 40%	Opioid misuse spans all socioeconomic categories	Naloxone kit distribution to eligible patients/family members upon discharge (aligned with Intervention 2.2.2)	Number of kits offered, number of kits actually distributed, number of eligible patients, number of patients/family members who accept kits	180 naloxone kits distributed to eligible patients/family members (15 per month)	Other (please describe partner and role(s) in column D)	ER physicians and hospitalists to enable/encourage patients to take advantage of naloxone kits
Promote Well-Being and Prevent Mental and Substance Use Disorders	Focus Area 2: Prevent Mental and Substance User Disorders	Goal 2.2 Prevent opioid overdose deaths	2.2.1 Reduce the age-adjusted overdose deaths involving any opioid by 7% to 14.3 per 100,000 population. Additional Objective. Increase number of providers with buprenorphine waiver in the ED by 40%	Opioid misuse spans all socioeconomic categories	Naloxone training for community members (aligned with Intervention 2.2.2)	Number of trainings, number of naloxone kits distributed, number of individuals trained	3 community naloxone trainings	Other (please describe partner and role(s) in column D)	Suffolk County DOH, Suffolk County EMS, Suffolk County School Districts, Colleges
Promote Well-Being and Prevent Mental and Substance Use Disorders	Focus Area 2: Prevent Mental and Substance User Disorders	Goal 2.2 Prevent opioid overdose deaths	2.2.1 Reduce the age-adjusted overdose deaths involving any opioid by 7% to 14.3 per 100,000 population	Opioid misuse spans all socioeconomic categories	Program to increase staff understanding of naloxone for overdose reversal. <i>Implement protocol for all pts to be d/c with script for naloxone if they are prescribed Opioids or who have an Opioid diagnosis</i> (aligned with Intervention 2.2.3)	Process Measure: Educate physicians on distribution of Narcan kits to patients and families. <i>Track number of naloxone kits distributed to ED and Inpatient upon discharge</i>	2 programs	Other (please describe partner and role(s) in column D)	Suffolk County DOH, Suffolk County EMS, Suffolk County School Districts, Colleges
Promote Well-Being and Prevent Mental and Substance Use Disorders	Focus Area 2: Prevent Mental and Substance User Disorders	Goal 2.2 Prevent opioid overdose deaths	2.2.4 Reduce all emergency department visits (including outpatients and admitted patients) involving any opioid overdose, age adjusted rate by 5% to 53.3 per 100,000 population	Opioid misuse spans all socioeconomic categories	Community based support system for opioid users or those at risk for overdose. Build support systems to care for opioid users or at risk of an overdose; PEER Services (aligned with Intervention 2.2.4)	Outcome Measures. Link 100% of patients with Certified Recovery Peers Advocates at time of discharge to assist with follow through of aftercare services . Process Measure: Percent reduction in ED admissions related to opioid	At least 50% of ED pts will be linked to PEER services	Providers	PEER Services provider to provide services
Promote Well-Being and Prevent Mental and Substance Use Disorders	Focus Area 2: Prevent Mental and Substance User Disorders	Goal 2.2 Prevent opioid overdose deaths	2.2.1 Reduce the age-adjusted overdose deaths involving any opioid by 7% to 14.3 per 100,00 population	Opioid misuse spans all socioeconomic categories	Increase availability of/access and linkages to help (aligned with Intervention 2.2.4)	Outcome Measure: Increase number of patients to be induced on Buprenorphine by 10% and provide outpatient care within 24 hours of induction .	Increase number of patients induced on Buprenorphine-- induce 20 patients between 9/30/2022 and 9/30/2023	Other (please describe partner and role(s) in column D)	In July, 2021 we Partnered with NY Matters, an electronic application sponsored by DOH to facilitate quick access to OP Providers who prescribe Buprenorphine .
Promote Well-Being and Prevent Mental and Substance Use Disorders	Focus Area 2: Prevent Mental and Substance User Disorders	Goal 2.2 Prevent opioid overdose deaths	2.2.2 Increase the age-adjusted Buprenorphine prescribing rate for substance use disorder (SUD) by 20% to 43.8 per 1,000 population. Baseline: 36.5 per 1,000	Opioid misuse spans all socioeconomic categories	Medication assisted treatment (MAT) including Buprenorphine (aligned with Intervention 2.2.1)	Outcome Measure: Increase number of patients to be induced on Buprenorphine by 10% and provide outpatient care within 24 hours of induction. Process Measures: Number of patients induced and referred to outpatient providers since the program began in the ED In June 2018: 5 patients Number of SBIRT screenings administered: 4000 per month, with 5% positive results. Additional evidence based screening tools employed; such as the Audit C, Mast, and DAST	Certified Recovery Peer Advocate will make contact with 50% of discharged patients from ED	Hospital	Partner hospitals with outpatient chemical dependence programs
Promote Well-Being and Prevent Mental and Substance Use Disorders	Focus Area 2: Prevent Mental and Substance User Disorders	Goal 2.2 Prevent opioid overdose deaths	2.2.1 Reduce the age-adjusted overdose deaths involving any opioid by 7% to 14.0 per 100,000 population.	Opioid epidemic spans all socioeconomic categories.	Promotion of all programs, events, education offered by collaborative members that speak to the prevention of mental and substance use disorders. Posts in LIHC weekly communications newsletter, social media postings, cross promotion of member events, programs on all media platforms.	<b>Outcome Measures.</b> Prevention Agenda Indicator (59) Percentage of adolescents (youth aged 12-17 years) reporting non-medical use of pain relievers in the past year; (60) Age-adjusted percentage of adults with poor mental health for 14 or more days in the last month <b>Process Measures.</b> Number of SUD/mental health-related programs, events included in LIHC weekly email communication; number of SUD/mental-health related posts on LIHC social media platforms.	Decrease in Prevention Agenda Indicators	Community-based organizations	Collaborative participants and media

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## APPENDIX F

Hospitals, Hospital Association and Hospital Systems	Website
Catholic Health	<a href="https://www.chsli.org/">https://www.chsli.org/</a>
Cohen Children's Medical Center	<a href="https://childrenshospital.northwell.edu/">https://childrenshospital.northwell.edu/</a>
Stony Brook Eastern Long Island Hospital	<a href="https://elih.stonybrookmedicine.edu/">https://elih.stonybrookmedicine.edu/</a>
Glen Cove Hospital Northwell Health	<a href="https://glencove.northwell.edu/">https://glencove.northwell.edu/</a>
Catholic Health Good Samaritan Hospital Medical Center	<a href="https://www.chsli.org/good-samaritan-hospital">https://www.chsli.org/good-samaritan-hospital</a>
Huntington Hospital Northwell Health	<a href="https://huntington.northwell.edu/">https://huntington.northwell.edu/</a>
Long Island Community Hospital (Formerly Brookhaven Memorial Hospital Medical Center)	<a href="https://licommunityhospital.org/">https://licommunityhospital.org/</a>
Long Island Jewish Valley Stream Northwell Health	<a href="https://valleystream.northwell.edu/">https://valleystream.northwell.edu/</a>
Mather Hospital Northwell Health	<a href="https://www.matherhospital.org/">https://www.matherhospital.org/</a>
Catholic Health Mercy Hospital	<a href="https://www.chsli.org/mercy-hospital">https://www.chsli.org/mercy-hospital</a>
Mount Sinai South Nassau	<a href="https://www.southnassau.org/sn">https://www.southnassau.org/sn</a>
Nassau-Suffolk Hospital Council	<a href="https://suburbanhospitalalliance.org/nshc/">https://suburbanhospitalalliance.org/nshc/</a>
Nassau University Medical Center	<a href="https://www.numc.edu/">https://www.numc.edu/</a>
North Shore University Hospital Northwell Health	<a href="https://nsuh.northwell.edu/">https://nsuh.northwell.edu/</a>
Northern Metropolitan Hospital Association	<a href="http://suburbanhospitalalliance.org/normet/">http://suburbanhospitalalliance.org/normet/</a>
Northwell Health System	<a href="https://www.northwell.edu/">https://www.northwell.edu/</a>
NYU Langone Hospital – Long Island	<a href="https://nyulangone.org/locations/nyu-langone-hospital-lo">https://nyulangone.org/locations/nyu-langone-hospital-lo</a>

Peconic Bay Medical Center Northwell Helth	<a href="https://www.pbmchealth.org/">https://www.pbmchealth.org/</a>
Plainview Hospital Northwell Health	<a href="https://plainview.northwell.edu/">https://plainview.northwell.edu/</a>
Catholic Health St. Catherine of Siena Medical Center	<a href="https://www.chsli.org/st-catherine-siena-hospital">https://www.chsli.org/st-catherine-siena-hospital</a>
Catholic Health St. Charles Hospital	<a href="https://www.chsli.org/st-charles-hospital">https://www.chsli.org/st-charles-hospital</a>
Catholic Health St. Francis Hospital & Heart Center	<a href="https://www.chsli.org/st-francis-hospital">https://www.chsli.org/st-francis-hospital</a>
Catholic Health St. Joseph Hospital	<a href="https://www.chsli.org/st-joseph-hospital">https://www.chsli.org/st-joseph-hospital</a>
St. Mary's Healthcare System for Children	<a href="https://www.stmaryskids.org/">https://www.stmaryskids.org/</a>
Stony Brook Southampton Hospital	<a href="https://southampton.stonybrookmedicine.edu/">https://southampton.stonybrookmedicine.edu/</a>
South Oaks Hospital Northwell Health	<a href="https://southoaks.northwell.edu/">https://southoaks.northwell.edu/</a>
South Shore University Hospital Northwell Health	<a href="https://ssuh.northwell.edu/">https://ssuh.northwell.edu/</a>
Stony Brook University Hospital	<a href="https://www.stonybrookmedicine.edu/">https://www.stonybrookmedicine.edu/</a>
Syosset Hospital Northwell Health	<a href="https://syosset.northwell.edu/">https://syosset.northwell.edu/</a>
Veterans Affairs Medical Center	<a href="https://www.va.gov/northport-health-care/">https://www.va.gov/northport-health-care/</a>
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Health Departments	Website
Nassau County Department of Health*	<a href="https://www.nassaucountyny.gov/1652/Health-Departme">https://www.nassaucountyny.gov/1652/Health-Departme</a>
Suffolk County Department of Health Services*	<a href="https://www.suffolkcountyny.gov/health">https://www.suffolkcountyny.gov/health</a>
New York State Department of Health	<a href="https://health.ny.gov/">https://health.ny.gov/</a>

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<b>Federally Qualified Health Centers</b>	
Advantage Care Health Centers	<a href="https://advantagecaredtc.org/">https://advantagecaredtc.org/</a>
Long Island FQHC, Inc.	<a href="https://www.lifqhc.com/">https://www.lifqhc.com/</a>
Long Island Select Healthcare, Inc.	<a href="https://www.lishcare.org/">https://www.lishcare.org/</a>
Hudson River Healthcare *	<a href="https://www.sunriver.org/?referer=hrhcare.org">https://www.sunriver.org/?referer=hrhcare.org</a>
	-
<b>Medical Societies and Associations</b>	<b>Website</b>
Long Island Dietetic Association	<a href="http://www.eatrightli.org">www.eatrightli.org</a>
Nassau County Medical Society	<a href="http://www.nassaucountymedicalsociety.org">www.nassaucountymedicalsociety.org</a>
New York State Nurses Association	<a href="http://www.nysna.org">www.nysna.org</a>
New York State Podiatric Medical Association	<a href="http://www.nyspma.org">www.nyspma.org</a>
Suffolk County Medical Society *	<a href="http://www.scms-sam.org">www.scms-sam.org</a>
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<b>Community-Based Organizations</b>	<b>Website</b>
AARP Long Island / NY	<a href="https://states.aarp.org/new-york/">https://states.aarp.org/new-york/</a>

Adelphi New York Statewide Breast Cancer Hotline and Support Program	<a href="http://www.breast-cancer.adelphi.edu">www.breast-cancer.adelphi.edu</a>
All Ability Wellness	<a href="http://www.allabilitywellness.com">www.allabilitywellness.com</a>
Alzheimer's Association, Long Island Chapter	<a href="http://www.alz.org">www.alz.org</a>
American Cancer Society	<a href="http://www.cancer.org">www.cancer.org</a>
American Diabetes Association	<a href="http://www.diabetes.org">www.diabetes.org</a>
American Foundation for Suicide Prevention	<a href="http://www.afsp.org">www.afsp.org</a>
American Heart Association *	<a href="http://www.heart.org">www.heart.org</a>
American Lung Association of the Northeast	<a href="http://www.lung.org">www.lung.org</a>
Arbors Assisted Living	<a href="http://www.thearborsassistedliving.com">www.thearborsassistedliving.com</a>
Association for Mental Health and Wellness *	<a href="http://www.mentalhealthandwellness.org">www.mentalhealthandwellness.org</a>
Asthma Coalition of Long Island	<a href="http://www.asthmacommunitynetwork.org">www.asthmacommunitynetwork.org</a>
Attentive Care Services	<a href="http://www.attentivecareservices.com">www.attentivecareservices.com</a>
Caring People	<a href="http://www.caringpeopleinc.com">www.caringpeopleinc.com</a>
Catholic Charities, Diocese of Rockville Centre	<a href="http://www.catholiccharities.cc">www.catholiccharities.cc</a>
Community Growth Center	<a href="http://www.communitygrowthcenter.org">www.communitygrowthcenter.org</a>
Cornell Cooperative Extension - Suffolk County *	<a href="http://www.ccesuffolk.org">www.ccesuffolk.org</a>
EPIC Long Island	<a href="http://www.epicli.org">www.epicli.org</a>

Epilepsy Foundation of Long Island	<a href="http://www.efli.org">www.efli.org</a>
Evolve Wellness	<a href="http://www.evolvewellness.net">www.evolvewellness.net</a>
Family & Children's Association	<a href="http://www.familyandchildrens.org">www.familyandchildrens.org</a>
Family First Home Companions	<a href="http://www.familyfirsthomecompanions.com">www.familyfirsthomecompanions.com</a>
Federation of Organizations	<a href="http://www.fedoforg.org">www.fedoforg.org</a>
Girls Inc, LI	<a href="http://www.girlsincli.org">www.girlsincli.org</a>
Health and Welfare Council of Long Island	<a href="http://www.hwcli.com">www.hwcli.com</a>
Health Education Project / 1199 SEIU *	<a href="http://www.healthcareeducationproject.org">www.healthcareeducationproject.org</a>
Helping Hands Across Long Island	<a href="https://hali.tccm.tv/#:~:text=Hands%20Across%20Long%20Island">https://hali.tccm.tv/#:~:text=Hands%20Across%20Long%</a>
Hispanic Counseling Center	<a href="http://www.hispaniccounseling.org">www.hispaniccounseling.org</a>
Hudson River Healthcare *	<a href="http://www.hrhcare.org">www.hrhcare.org</a>
Island Harvest	<a href="http://www.islandharvest.org">www.islandharvest.org</a>
JDRF	<a href="http://www.jdrf.org">www.jdrf.org</a>
Life Trusts	<a href="http://www.lifetrusts.org">www.lifetrusts.org</a>
Long Island Association *	<a href="http://www.longislandassociation.org">www.longislandassociation.org</a>
Long Island Association of AIDS Care *	<a href="http://www.liaac.org">www.liaac.org</a>
Long Island Council of Churches	<a href="http://www.liccny.org">www.liccny.org</a>
Long Island Community Foundation	<a href="http://www.licf.org">www.licf.org</a>

Make the Road NY	<a href="http://www.maketheroad.org">www.maketheroad.org</a>
Maria Regina Skilled Nursing Facility	<a href="http://www.mariareginaresidence.org">www.mariareginaresidence.org</a>
Maurer Foundation	<a href="http://www.maurerfoundation.org">www.maurerfoundation.org</a>
Mental Health Association of Nassau County *	<a href="http://www.mhanc.org">www.mhanc.org</a>
Music and Memory	<a href="http://www.musicandmemory.org">www.musicandmemory.org</a>
NADAP	<a href="http://www.nadap.org">www.nadap.org</a>
Nassau Region PTA	<a href="http://www.nassaupta.com">www.nassaupta.com</a>
National Aging in Place Council	<a href="http://www.ageinplace.org">www.ageinplace.org</a>
National Eating Disorder Association	<a href="http://www.nationaleatingdisorder.org">www.nationaleatingdisorder.org</a>
National Health Care Associates	<a href="http://www.nathealthcare.com">www.nathealthcare.com</a>
New Horizon Counseling Center	<a href="http://www.nhcc.us">www.nhcc.us</a>
New York City Poison Control	<a href="http://www.nyc.gov">www.nyc.gov</a>
New York Coalition for Transportation Safety	<a href="http://nycts.org">nycts.org</a>
NutriSense	<a href="http://www.nutri-sense.com">www.nutri-sense.com</a>
Options for Community Living	<a href="http://www.optionscl.org">www.optionscl.org</a>
People Care Inc	<a href="http://www.peoplecare.com">www.peoplecare.com</a>
The Pulse Center for Patient Safety Education & Advocacy *	<a href="http://www.pulsecenterforpatientsafety.org">www.pulsecenterforpatientsafety.org</a>
Retired Senior Volunteer Program *	<a href="http://www.rsvpsuffolk.org">www.rsvpsuffolk.org</a>



RotaCare	<a href="http://www.rotacareny.org">www.rotacareny.org</a>
SDC Nutrition PC	<a href="http://www.call4nutrition.com">www.call4nutrition.com</a>
Smithtown Youth Bureau	<a href="http://www.smithtownny.gov">www.smithtownny.gov</a>
Society of St. Vincent de Paul Long Island	<a href="http://www.svdpli.org">www.svdpli.org</a>
State Parks LI Regional Office	<a href="http://www.nysparks.com">www.nysparks.com</a>
Sustainable Long Island	<a href="http://www.sustainableli.org">www.sustainableli.org</a>
The Crisis Center	<a href="http://www.thecrisisplanner.com">www.thecrisisplanner.com</a>
Thursday's Child	<a href="http://www.thursdayschildofli.org">www.thursdayschildofli.org</a>
Town of Smithtown Horizons Counseling and Education Center	<a href="http://www.smithtownny.gov">www.smithtownny.gov</a>
TriCare Systems	<a href="http://www.tricareystems.org">www.tricareystems.org</a>
United Way of Long Island *	<a href="http://www.unitedwayli.org">www.unitedwayli.org</a>
Utopia Home Care	<a href="http://www.utopiahomecare.com">www.utopiahomecare.com</a>
Visiting Nurse Services & Hospice of Suffolk	<a href="http://www.visitingnurseservice.org">www.visitingnurseservice.org</a>
Walk with a Doc	<a href="https://walkwithadoc.org/">https://walkwithadoc.org/</a>
YMCA of LI *	<a href="http://www.ymcali.org">www.ymcali.org</a>
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<b>School and Colleges</b>	<b>Website</b>
Adelphi University *	<a href="http://www.adelphi.edu">www.adelphi.edu</a>

Farmingdale State College	<a href="http://www.farmingdale.edu">www.farmingdale.edu</a>
Hofstra University *	<a href="http://www.hofstra.edu">www.hofstra.edu</a>
Molloy College	<a href="http://www.molloy.edu">www.molloy.edu</a>
St. Joseph's College	<a href="http://www.sjcny.edu/long-island">www.sjcny.edu/long-island</a>
Stony Brook University *	<a href="http://www.stonybrook.edu">www.stonybrook.edu</a>
Western Suffolk BOCES	<a href="http://www.wsbores.org">www.wsbores.org</a>
Healthy Schools NY *	
	-
<b>Insurers</b>	<b>Website</b>
1199SEIU/Health Education Project	<a href="http://www.1199seiu.org">www.1199seiu.org</a>
EmblemHealth	<a href="http://www.emblemhealth.com">www.emblemhealth.com</a>
Fidelis Care	<a href="https://www.fideliscare.org/">https://www.fideliscare.org/</a>
United Healthcare *	<a href="http://www.unitedhealthcare.com">www.unitedhealthcare.com</a>
VSNY CHOICE Health Plans	<a href="http://www.vnsnychoice.org">www.vnsnychoice.org</a>
	-
<b>Regional Health Information Organizations</b>	<b>Website</b>
Healthix Inc.	<a href="http://www.healthix.org">www.healthix.org</a>
	-

<b>Businesses and Chambers</b>	<b>Website</b>
Air Quality Solutions	<a href="http://www.iagguy.com">www.iagguy.com</a>
Custom Computer Specialists	<a href="http://www.customtech.com">www.customtech.com</a>
Feldman, Kramer & Monaco, P.C.	<a href="http://www.fkmlaw.com">www.fkmlaw.com</a>
Greater Westhampton Chamber of Commerce	<a href="http://www.westhamptonchamber.org">www.westhamptonchamber.org</a>
Honeywell Smart GRID Solutions	<a href="http://www.honeywellsmartgrid.com">www.honeywellsmartgrid.com</a>
LIFE, Inc. Pooled Trusts	<a href="http://www.lifetrusts.org">www.lifetrusts.org</a>
Marcum	<a href="http://www.marcumllp.com">www.marcumllp.com</a>
PSEG of Long Island	<a href="http://www.psegliny.com">www.psegliny.com</a>
TeK Systems	<a href="http://www.teksystems.com">www.teksystems.com</a>
Temp Positions	<a href="http://www.tempositions.com">www.tempositions.com</a>
Time to Play Foundation	<a href="http://www.timetoplay.com">www.timetoplay.com</a>
Wisselman & Associates	<a href="http://www.lawjaw.com">www.lawjaw.com</a>
WSHU Public Radio (NPR News & Classical Radio)	<a href="http://www.wshu.org">www.wshu.org</a>
	-
<b>Municipal Partners</b>	<b>Website</b>
Nassau Library System	<a href="https://www.nassaulibrary.org/">https://www.nassaulibrary.org/</a>
New York State Association of County Health Officials	<a href="http://www.nysacho.org">www.nysacho.org</a>

New York State Department of Parks and Recreation	<a href="http://www.nyparks.com">www.nyparks.com</a>
NYC Poison Control Center	<a href="http://www1.nyc.gov">www1.nyc.gov</a>
Suffolk County Legislature	<a href="http://www.legis.suffolkcountyny.gov">www.legis.suffolkcountyny.gov</a>
Suffolk Cooperative Library System	<a href="https://portal.suffolklibrarysystem.org/">https://portal.suffolklibrarysystem.org/</a>
<b>* denotes a founding member of the Long Island Health Collaborative</b>	

## APPENDIX G

### CHNA 2022 Prep Work Group Participants

Organization	Individual
Catholic Health	Tish Gilroy
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Healthix	Thomas MacGinley
Long Island Community Hospital	Carolyn Villegas
Long Island Health Collaborative / NSHC	Brooke Oliveri
Long Island Health Collaborative / NSHC	Janine Logan
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Nassau County Department of Health	Tavora Buchman
Nassau County Department of Health	Lawrence Eisenstein
Nassau-Suffolk Hospital Council	Stacy Villagran
Northwell Health Mather Hospital	Stuart Vincent
Northwell Health	Jerald Chandy
Northwell Health	Taylor Klavans
Northwell Health	Stephanie Kubow
Northwell Health	Sabrina Lutchman
Northwell Health	Jack Tocco
Northwell Health	Erica Peralta
Northwell Health	Mitchell Corney
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NYU Langone – Long Island	Jennifer Norton
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Stony Brook University Hospital	Yvonne Spreckels
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Suffolk County Department of Health	Astha Muttreja
Suffolk County Department of Health	Gregson Pigott
Suffolk County Department of Health	Sarah Hennis
Suffolk County Department of Health	Christine Yeh
Stony Brook University Hospital	Yvonne Spreckels
Stony Brook University Hospital	Jennifer Jamilkowski
Suffolk County Legislature	Charvon Davis-Pierce
	A Predich
	Vincent Cunningham
	Courtney Freeman
	DM Baya

## APPENDIX H

### Appendix H - Research and Supporting Evidence

#### Social Media

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