

December 18, 2014

Dear Friends,

Stamford Healthcare System invites you to review the following documents "Community Health Needs Assessment – Stamford Memorial Hospital" and our response. The Community Health Needs Assessment (CHNA) is a fundamental tool of public health practice in Jones County. This, our second CHNA, was completed in 2014 and the purpose is to assess the health of the community by presenting information on health status, community health needs, resources, and analysis of local health problems. The CHNA is the foundation for improvement planning in the local public health system.

Stamford Memorial Hospital was an active participant in this CHNA in collaboration with individual leaders and other organizations in Jones County. This collaborative approach enabled the group to identify areas where the various organizations' might work together to achieve needed improvements. Stamford Healthcare System will utilize this assessment as a guide in the coming years for assessing needed programs and services to address identified community health needs and within the mission of our organization - "We are Creating Outstanding Healthcare."

While we do not have adequate resources to solve each and every problem or need the CHNA identified we have made significant progress on several key needs. Some of the issues identified are well beyond the mission of the health system and any response to those items would be best addressed by others. Additionally, some needs will require personal actions and responsibility (for personal health care for example) by individuals rather than the response of this or any other organization. We view the attached response as providing guidance around how we, along with other area organizations and agencies, can collaborate to make the best medical care available to the citizens of our community.

Stamford Healthcare System will conduct or collaboratively engage in a community health needs assessment (CHNA) at least every three years. The next assessment will be done in 2017. The process will consist of development of the CHNA and also our action plan/response will be also provided in order to comply with federal requirements.

As you review this information, please consider how we might work together to improve the healthcare and related services in our area. We invite your response to this report. Together we can make life in Jones County healthier and more enjoyable.

Sincerely,



Rick DeFoore, CEO