



2025 Community Health Needs Implementation Plan

A. Community Health Needs Assessment Process/Background

Our current 2025 Community Health Need Assessment (CHNA/Assessment) is posted on our website- <https://www.thorek.org/community/community-benefit>. This assessment was conducted on behalf of Thorek Memorial Hospital and Thorek Memorial Hospital Andersonville (Thorek) by Professional Research Consultants, Inc. (PRC), a nationally recognized health care consulting firm with extensive experience conducting Community Health Needs Assessments in hundreds of communities across the United States since 1994. The Assessment includes data from multiple sources, including health survey data, on-line informant survey information, and statistics and other health-related data.

B. Prioritization of Community Health Needs and Service Area

Based on Prioritization of Community Healthcare needs submitted through the Assessment, and taking into consideration the hospitals mission, goals, and available resources, Thorek plans to focus on the implementation of the following strategies and initiatives to meet the healthcare needs of the community in 2025-2027.

- 1. MENTAL HEALTH/SUBSTANCE ABUSE**
- 2. CANCER CARE**
- 3. ACCESS TO HEALTH SERVICES (Especially Elderly, Low income, and Homeless Populations)**
- 4. NUTRITION/DIABETES**

Thorek Memorial and Thorek Memorial Andersonville (TMHA), although located on the north-side of Chicago, treats patients from neighborhoods throughout the City of Chicago and beyond. The Thorek primary and secondary areas include the following zip codes:

60606	60625	60091	60626
60607	60634	60601	60630
60612	60640	60602	60632
60613	60641	60603	60639

60614	60647	60604	60642
60618	60657	60605	60644
60622	60660	60610	60646
60616		60651	
60624		60653	

Many of the ZIP Codes, while outside the immediate patient-care zone, are included because Thorek Memorial Hospital and Thorek Memorial Hospital Andersonville turn no patient away based on insurance. About 45% of the hospital's **outpatient** volume is driven from outside the immediate community based on patient insurance. Thorek Memorial Hospital and Thorek Memorial Hospital Andersonville work closely with Skilled Nursing Facilities (SNF) and Specialized Mental Health Rehabilitation Facilities (SMHRF) throughout the city of Chicago to improve access to healthcare services for elderly and disabled patients, and mental health patients in our community. This outreach and collaboration with long term care facilities constitutes 70% of the hospital's **inpatient** admissions.

C. Plans to Address the Community Health Needs Identified*

1. MENTAL HEALTH/SUBSTANCE ABUSE

Objective: Expand continuum of assessment and care to the community, especially related to crisis management, acute inpatient services, and follow-up outpatient care for low-income and uninsured behavioral health and substance abuse patients.

Key Actions and Activities

- 1. Provide crisis intervention, integrated assessments and treatment planning (IATP), behavioral health assessments, and navigation services in emergency room for mental health patients through community mental health clinic services.*
- 2. Establish a Medication Assisted Treatment Program at TMHA for opioid patients in the community that integrates medical care and substance abuse services to improve overall health of patients.*
- 3. Development of outpatient behavioral health services on the TMHA campus to improve coordination of care and address and provide post discharge care for inpatients as well as assist in meeting increased demand for access to these services in the community.*

Community Partners

Thresholds, NAMI, Family Guidance, Community Counseling Center of Chicago (C4), Local FQHCs (Heartland Health, local long-term care centers, and community centers and shelters)

2. CANCER CARE

Objective: Expand screening, diagnostic, and treatment and infusion services to primary care patients, especially those at higher risk to improve early detection, treatment, outcomes and overall care for patients diagnosed with cancer among our patient population in the community.

Key Actions and Activities

1. Educate patients, through primary care and specialty providers and visits, on importance of scheduling screening and diagnostic procedures to improve early detection of cancer.
2. Provide treatment for patients diagnosed with cancer through the Medical and Radiation Oncology services as well as surgical interventions through specialty surgeons which offer a continuum of treatments and services based on patient condition and care needed.
3. Communication and outreach to patients in the community of the availability of cancer services through hospital newsletter, social media postings, email campaign, and events
-Annual colorectal cancer awareness fair.

Community Partners

Asian Human Services and local primary care and specialty providers and community groups.

3. ACCESS TO HEALTH SERVICES (Especially Elderly, Low income, and Homeless Populations)

Objective: Offer hospital and physician services to populations that have difficulty obtaining care including elderly, low income, and homeless populations we serve. It is important to note that this extends well beyond the hospitals' primary service area as evidenced in the zip codes above. Integral to this outreach is Thorek's acceptance of all Medicaid plans offered by the State of Illinois.

Key Actions and Activities

1. Outreach and partnership with local FQHCs and community organizations (shelters, etc.) to offer access to primary care, specialty care, and hospital services to the elderly, low income, and homeless populations that struggle to access these services.
2. Renovation of the Thorek Hospital Andersonville Emergency Room to improve access for medical and behavioral health care (including crisis management) for populations that have difficulty accessing these services in the community.
3. Engagement and partnership with local community organizations (long term care facilities, shelters, and payors) to assist with the need for housing and access to medical and behavior health care for low-income seniors on the northside.

Community Partners

Heartland Health, LSSI, Vantage Health, and local community organizations and shelters.

4. NUTRITION/DIABETES

Objective: Provide nutrition education and services to patients to the communities we serve. Target the pre-diabetes and diabetes population of patients in our community and improve identification and management of diabetes compared to current performance.

Key Actions and Activities

1. Offer outpatient nutrition education and diet management via clinic staffed by a Registered Dietician (RD) on a weekly basis that offers onsite as well as virtual visits. Inpatient rounding by an RD is available on both hospital campuses on a daily basis.
2. Establish data registry of prediabetic and diabetic patients via Expanse EMR analysis for clinical metrics (A1C, clinic visits, etc.) which will be used to target this population for intervention by primary care and specialty providers. Enable early intervention and subsequent management of diabetes and improve outcomes.

*All services in this Implementation are offered to patients as Thorek accepts all insurances and also offers and provides visits, screening and diagnostic procedures, and other services at discounted amounts or free of charge depending on patient financial situation per hospital discount and charity care policies.

D. Other Community Needs and Limitations

Although, this Implementation Plan for 2025-2027 represents the priorities chosen by Thorek and is comprehensive in nature, it does not capture all the community benefit activities, partnerships, and outcomes provided by the two hospitals and all related off campus locations and providers. In addition, Thorek recognizes that it cannot measure all health needs or implement strategies in our communities identified in the CHNA Report, however, the results of this prioritization exercise will be used in the development of the hospitals' action plan to guide community health improvement efforts in coming years (1).

E. CONCLUSION

The Thorek Memorial Hospital & Thorek Memorial Hospital Andersonville Board of Trustees approved the 2025 CHNA on April 16, 2025. A copy of the complete report and this Implementation Plan can be found at <https://www.thorek.org/community/community-benefit>.

(1) Per 2025 Community Health Needs Assessment, April 2025 Provider Resource Consultants.