

Lee County 2026 – 2028 *Community Health Implementation Plan*

-Lee County, North Carolina

CENTRAL CAROLINA
HOSPITAL

A Duke LifePoint Hospital



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Overview

Central Carolina Hospital, the sponsor of the assessment, participated in a partnership with other community organizations to complete the CHNA. Members of the partnership include the Lee County Health Department and LeeCAN. Throughout the document, they will be designated as “The Partnership”.

The Community Health Needs Assessment (CHNA) defines priorities for health improvement, creates a collaborative community environment to engage stakeholders, and an open and transparent process to listen and truly understand the health needs of the community served by The Partnership (Lee County, NC).

This document will serve as the Partnership’s Implementation Plan outlining how the respective partners plan on addressing significant health needs in the community.

See pages 9-11 for initiatives specific to Central Carolina Hospital specific, as well as those specific to Lee County Health Department.

Note- the CHNA is contained in a separate document.

Paper copies of this document may be obtained at:

1. Central Carolina Hospital: 1135 Carthage Street, Sanford, NC 27330
 - Phone 919-774-2100 or centralcarolinahosp.com
2. Lee County Health Department: 106 Hillcrest Drive, Sanford, NC 27330
 - Phone 919-718-4688 or leecountync.gov/departments/public_health/index.php
3. LeeCAN: 106 Hillcrest Drive, Gordon Wicker Room, Sanford, NC 27330, Phone 919-718-4640
 - leecountync.gov/departments/public_health/community_action_network_leecan.php

About Central Carolina Hospital

Nestled in the heart of central North Carolina, Central Carolina Hospital is a 137-bed acute care hospital, with nearly 200 providers and 550 employees.

Central Carolina Hospital has been providing quality, compassionate healthcare for the residents of Lee County at its current location since 1981. But our roots run much deeper than that, dating all the way to 1909, when the first Central Carolina Hospital opened its doors. We are neighbors caring for our neighbors, friends and family members, and we deliver personalized, compassionate care with a hometown touch.

At the same time, we offer a high degree of medical expertise usually found only in larger cities. As a Duke LifePoint Hospital, we have the experience and commitment to strengthen care at home.

CCH offers a wide range of specialties, including cardiology, orthopedics, ophthalmology, general surgery, obstetrics, gynecology, emergency medicine, gastroenterology, hospitalist services, intensivists, nephrology, hematology, urology, podiatry, pulmonary medicine and wound care.

CCH's Emergency Department sees more than 26,000 patients each year. We have more than 2,500 inpatients and more than 26,000 outpatient visits annually, with 375 births.

We are certified by the Joint Commission as a Primary Stroke Center and by the American College of Cardiology as a Chest Pain Center. We have also earned Heart Failure Accreditation from the American College of Cardiology. In 2024, we received the American Heart Association's Get With The Guidelines Stroke Rural Recognition Silver Award.

Mission

Making communities healthier®

Vision

We want to create places where people choose to come for healthcare, physicians and providers want to practice, and employees want to work.

Values



Champion Patient Care



Do the Right Thing



Embrace Individuality



Act with Kindness



Make a Difference Together

About Lee County Health Department

Mission

Promoting better health and a safe environment for all Lee County residents. Since its origins in 1907, Lee County is estimated to have grown to house almost 68,000 residents. The Lee County Health Department is based in the county seat, Sanford, North Carolina. Over the years, the department has included five divisions to cover community needs: Clinical Services, Environmental Health, Community Health Education and Promotion, Women, Infants, and Children, and Public Health Preparedness. Each of these serve county residents in some way through daily duties and community event engagement.

Vision

The Community Health Needs Assessment identifies priority health concerns of Lee County, as well as gives insight into the current assets that are in place throughout the county. The surveys included questions about community perceptions concerning safety, community health interests, education, poverty, income, employment, mental health, success to care, housing, and more. For 2026, the Lee County Health Department partnered with long-term partners LeeCAN, and Central Carolina Hospital.

Values

The Lee County Health Department is committed to providing an inclusive, respectful, and welcoming environment for all members of the community, clients, employees, and applicants seeking employment.

Community Health Needs Assessment (CHNA) Overview

In 2025, The Partnership performed a Community Health Needs Assessment (CHNA) in partnership with Strata Decision Technology (“Strata”) to determine the health needs of the local community and develop an accompanying implementation plan to address the identified health needs of the community.

CHNA Purpose

A CHNA is part of the required hospital documentation of “Community Benefit” under the Affordable Care Act for 501(c)(3) hospitals. It uses systematic, comprehensive data collection and analysis to provide information about the community including health status, needs, and disparities. The CHNA also offers a targeted action plan to address areas of need and allows the hospital to truly understand the health needs of the community it serves.

CHNA Facility Benefits



- Identify health disparities and social determinants to inform future initiatives, programs, and outreach strategies
- Identify gaps in healthcare
- Develop an understanding of perceptions and ideas among community members
- Form collaborations with community organizations to address local health needs

The core elements of a CHNA include:

- a definition and description of the community served
- a description of the process and methods used to conduct the CHNA
- a description of how the hospital facility solicited and took into account input received from community members
- a description of the identified significant health needs of the community, including selection process and criteria
- a description of resources available to address the significant health needs
- an evaluation of the impact of any actions that were taken to address the significant health needs identified in the immediately preceding CHNA

Community Health Needs Assessment (CHNA) Overview

The CHNA Process

The process to conduct the CHNA included the following:



Lee County’s health priorities identified through the 2025 process are:

- 1 Access to Care
- 2 Mental Wellness
- 3 Nutrition & Access to Healthy Food

This report was approved by the Central Carolina Hospital Board of Trustees on 11.19.25
This report was approved by the Consolidated Human Services Agency Board on 12.3.25

Implementation Plan Framework

The Partnership including Central Carolina Hospital’s executive leadership and Lee County Health Department leaders gathered to discuss plans to address the identified health priorities. The leaders grouped health needs related to Primary Care and selected two of the identified significant health needs to create action plans to make positive community impacts. The next three pages outline the implementation plan for each identified health need seen below.

Lee County Health Need Evaluation

	Severity or urgency	Feasibility and effectiveness	Impact on health disparities	Importance identified by community
Access to Care	✓	✓	✓	✓
Mental Health	✓	✓	✓	✓
Nutrition & Access to Healthy Food	✓	✓	✓	✓

This implementation plan was approved by the Central Carolina Hospital Board of Trustees on 11.19.25

Implementation Plan: Access to Care

Initiative: Primary Care

Goal: Increase number of primary care providers

Strategies Actions facility plans to implement	Goal Completion Date	Accountable Organization/Team	Community Resources & Partnerships
Strategy 1: Continue recruiting providers specifically for Primary Care	Ongoing	➤ Central Carolina Hospital Physician Recruiting Team	➤ Local Real Estate ➤ Downtown Sanford Inc.
Strategy 2: Continue participating in community events to promote local services	Annually	➤ Central Carolina Hospital Marketing ➤ Lee County Health Department	➤ Sanford Area Growth Alliance (SAGA) ➤ Downtown Sanford Inc. ➤ El Refugio
Strategy 3: Continue marketing new providers at Central Carolina Hospital	Ongoing	➤ Central Carolina Hospital Marketing	➤ Local newspapers ➤ Local radio
Strategy 4: Continue educating community on Health Department Services	Ongoing	➤ Lee County Health Department Community Outreach Team	➤ Christian United Outreach Center of Lee County (CUOC) ➤ Helping Hand Clinic ➤ Partnership for Children and Families ➤ El Refugio
Strategy 5: Utilizing grant funding to better serve underserved populations	Ongoing	➤ Lee County Health Department Preparedness Coordinator	➤ Office of Rural Health ➤ Helping Hand Clinic
Strategy 6: Explore partnership opportunity with Buzz Line	Ongoing	➤ Central Carolina Hospital Executive Leadership	➤ El Refugio
Strategy 7: Strengthen partnership with Lee County Enrichment Center	Quarterly	➤ Central Carolina Hospital Marketing ➤ Lee County Health Department	➤ Lee County Enrichment Center

Anticipated Impact:

- Improved patient-to-provider ratio for Lee County
- Decreased outmigration from Lee County for healthcare services

Implementation Plan: Mental Wellness

Initiative: Awareness and access

Goal: Improve awareness and access to mental health services

Strategies <small>Actions facility plans to implement</small>	Goal Completion Date	Accountable Organization/Team	Community Resources & Partnerships
Strategy 1: Explore opportunity for Community Mental Health Collaborative	Ongoing	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Central Carolina Hospital 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Trillium ➤ Daymark ➤ Meaningful Minds ➤ Other outpatient providers ➤ Lee County Health Department
Strategy 2: Market and educate community on renovated Emergency Department with added rooms for treatment of mental health crisis patients	Quarter 2, 2026	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Central Carolina Hospital Marketing 	
Strategy 3: Explore partnership opportunity with Daymark	Quarter 1, 2027	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Lee County Health Department 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Daymark

Anticipated Impact:

- Increased awareness of mental health services
- Increased access to mental health services

Implementation Plan: Nutrition & Access to Healthy Food

Initiative: Education and access

Goal: Improve community’s nutritional health

Strategies <small>Actions facility plans to implement</small>	Goal Completion Date	Accountable Organization/Team	Community Resources & Partnerships
Strategy 1: Community education campaign	Quarterly 2026 – 2028	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Lee County Health Department 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Local food banks ➤ El Refugio
Strategy 2: Explore opportunity for partnership with Farmers Market in accepting SNAP	Ongoing	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Lee County Health Department 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Local farmers’ market ➤ Lee County Cooperative Extension Service
Strategy 3: Conduct local food drives to gather healthy foods to donate to local food banks (i.e. diabetic or heart disease safe foods)	Annually	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Central Carolina Hospital Marketing & Nutrition Team ➤ Lee County Health Department 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Local churches ➤ Christian United Outreach Center of Lee County (CUOC) ➤ El Refugio
Strategy 4: Continue local cooking classes and explore partnership opportunity with Sanford Farmers’ Market	Ongoing	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Lee County Health Department 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Lee County Cooperative Extension Service ➤ Lee County Enrichment Center
Strategy 5: Add Nutrition as an offered service on the Central Carolina Hospital website with media packet regarding nutritional information	Q1 2026	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Central Carolina Hospital Marketing & Nutrition Team 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Lee County Health Department ➤ Lee County Cooperative Extension Service

Anticipated Impact:

- Improved nutritional health
- Decreased food insecurity
- Improved mental health