Hospital and Health Department Relationships

- James Kravec, M.D.
- Chief Clinical Officer, Mercy Health Lorain and Youngstown
- Medical Director, Mahoning County Public Health
- September 23, 2025

Ways to think of Medicine in 2005

Inpatient Units

Emergency Departments

A few medical practice sites

New ways to think of Medicine in 2025

All of that from 2005 plus…..

A lot more medical practice sites

Palliative Care

And…

- Population Health
- Community Health
- Public Health

Population Health

- The overall health and well-being of a specific group of people, such as a community, city, state, or country.
- Focuses on understanding and improving the health outcomes of these populations by addressing the factors that influence their health
  - Social Determinants of Health
  - Behavioral Factors
  - Environmental Factors
  - Healthcare Access and Quality

Community Health

- The overall health and well-being of a group of people who share a common geographic area or social identity.

- Encompasses:
  - Physical health: Access to healthcare, disease prevention, and treatment
  - Mental health: Emotional well-being, mental health services, and support systems
  - Social health: Community cohesion, social support, and access to education
  - Environmental health: Clean air and water, safe housing, and protection from hazards

Public Health

- Focus on protecting and improving the health of populations and communities
- Encompasses:
  - Disease prevention: Identifying and controlling the spread of infectious and chronic diseases.
  - Health promotion: Encouraging healthy behaviors and lifestyles, such as physical activity, healthy eating, and smoking cessation.
  - Environmental health: Ensuring safe air, water, and food supplies.
  - Injury prevention: Reducing the incidence of accidents, violence, and other injuries
  - Policy development and advocacy: Working to create laws and regulations that promote health
  - Surveillance and evaluation: Monitoring health trends and evaluating the effectiveness of public health interventions.

CHA/CHIP

Basic requirements of the Community Health Needs Assessments and Community Health Improvement Plan

- Impact on public health
- Impact on hospitals/health systems

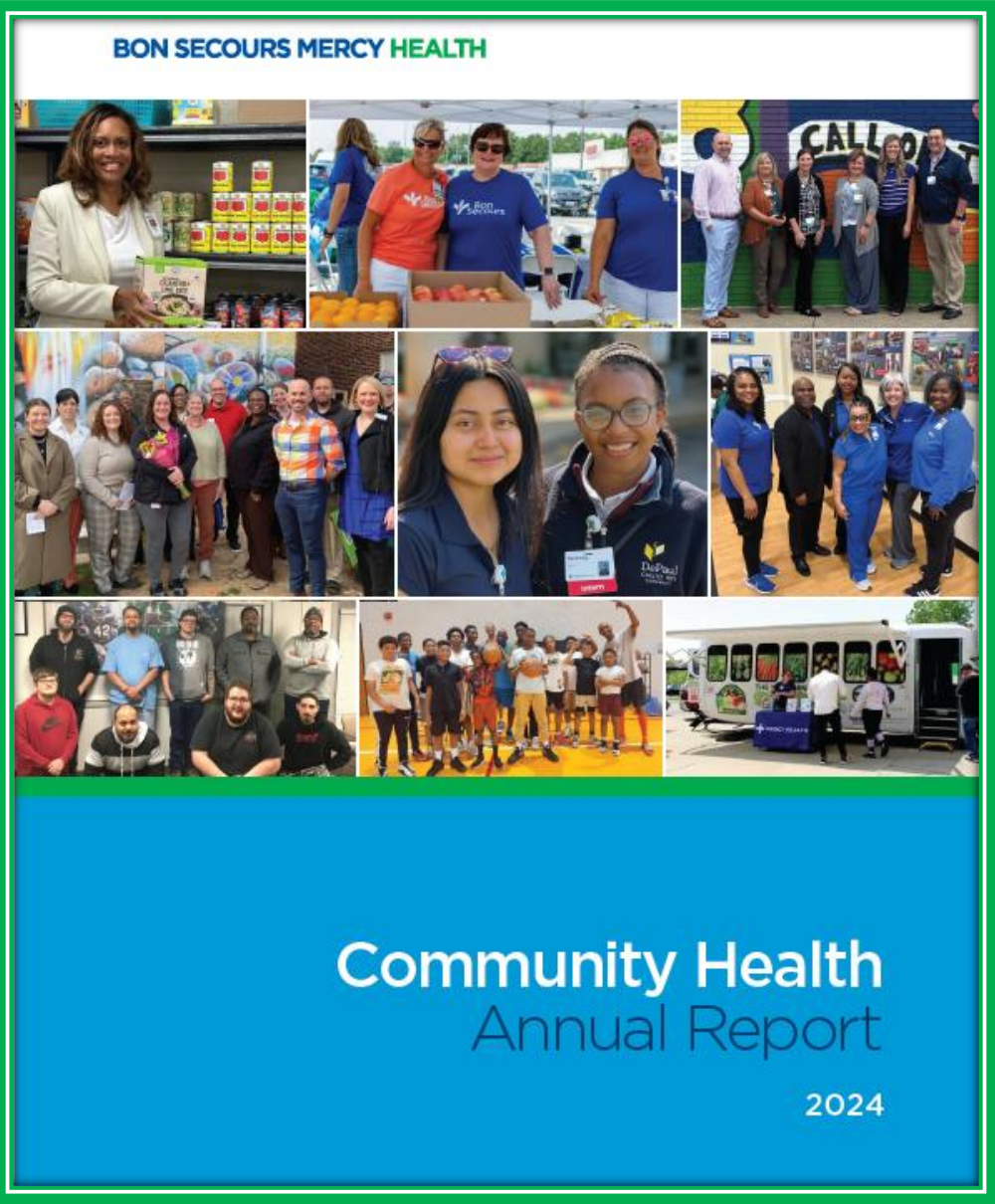**Hospitals/health systems work with public health**

- Assessment
- Plan

Community Health Implementation Plan (CHIP)

- The CHIP is also a triennial IRS requirement, due May 15th in the year after the CHNA is due.

- Hospitals must adopt an Implementation Plan to meet the identified & prioritized community health needs in each CHNA

- Describe the actions/strategies the hospital intends to take to address the health need and the anticipated impact of these actions

- Identify the resources the hospital plans to commit to address the health need

- Describe any planned collaboration with internal or external partners

- Explain why, if any, health needs will not be addressed
  - Not required to address all identified & prioritized needs
  - Ex: Community partner may be better able to meet a given need.

Summary: 2024 Community Health Programs

BON SECOURS MERCY HEALTH

Community Health
Annual Report

2024

2024 Reporting

142 Health & Social Programs

300+ Community Partners

230,000 Individuals Served

$1M in Philanthropy Provided

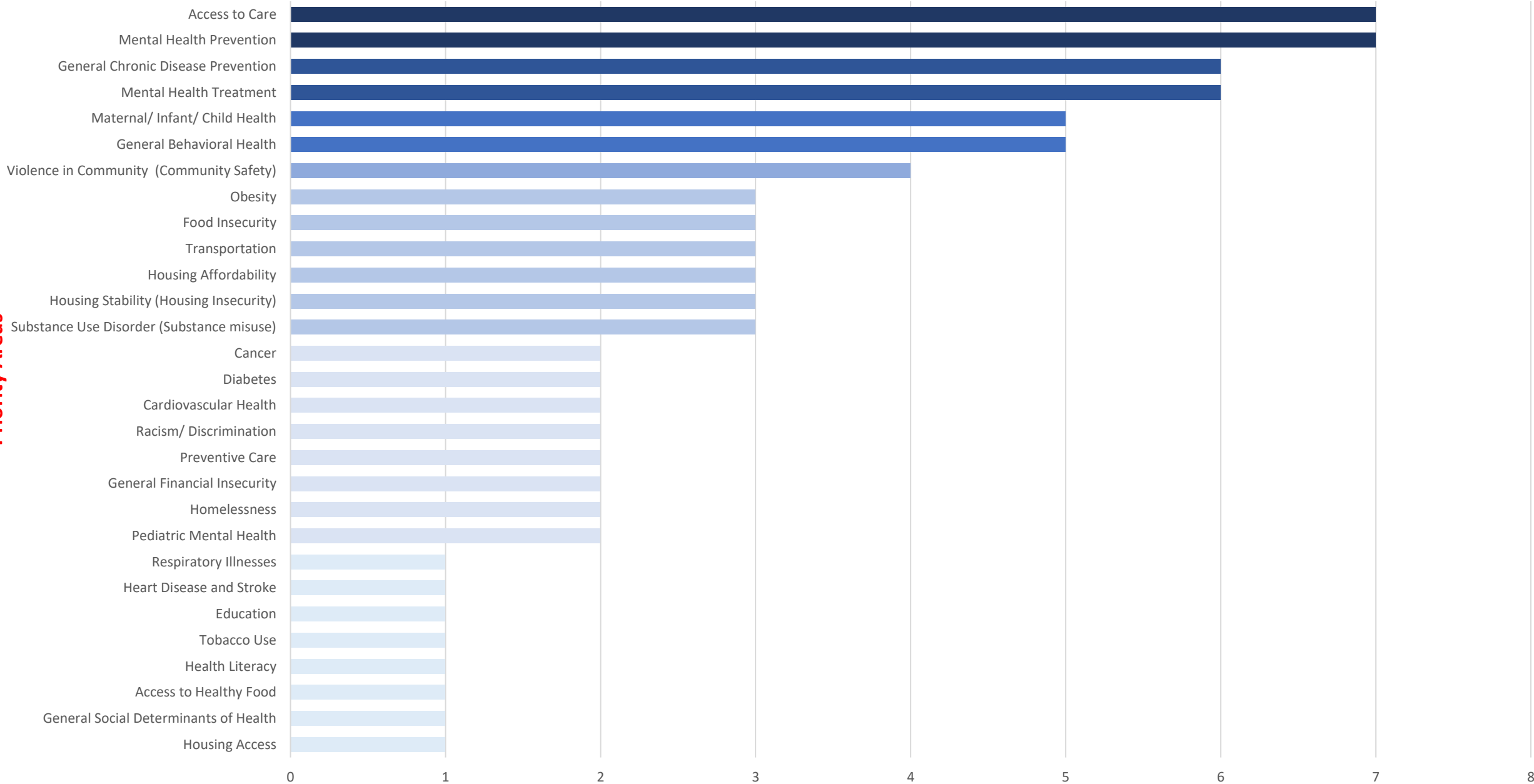$7.5M in Loan Capital Invested

2025 CHNA Engagements Across BSMH

- Surveys:
  - 15,000+ survey responses

- Focus Groups:
  - 87 Focus Groups conducted
  - 900+ Focus Group Participants

- Interviews:
  - 150+ Key Informant Interviews conducted

- **Total Engagements: 16,000+**

2025 CHNA Priorities

Priority Area	# of Markets Selecting the Priority
Access to Care	7
Mental Health Prevention	7
General Chronic Disease Prevention	6
Mental Health Treatment	6
Maternal/ Infant/ Child Health	5
General Behavioral Health	5
Violence in Community (Community Safety)	4
Obesity	3
Food Insecurity	3
Transportation	3
Housing Affordability	3
Housing Stability (Housing Insecurity)	3
Substance Use Disorder (Substance misuse)	3
Cancer	2
Diabetes	2
Cardiovascular Health	2
Racism/ Discrimination	2
Preventive Care	2
General Financial Insecurity	2
Homelessness	2
Pediatric Mental Health	2
Respiratory Illnesses	1
Heart Disease and Stroke	1
Education	1
Tobacco Use	1
Health Literacy	1
Access to Healthy Food	1
General Social Determinants of Health	1
Housing Access	1

Graduate Medical Education

Core Curriculum

Next level "practical" education

- Public health
- Community health

Primary Care

WIC OFFICES

INFECTION PREVENTION

EPIDEMIOLOGIST INTERACTIONS

VACCINE SHARING

Physician Leadership in Health Systems/Hospitals

CCO

CMO

VPMA

Medical Director

What is a day like for a CCO?

Hospital	ACO	Medical Group	Quality
Recruitment	GME	Public Health	Media

How are these differences reconciled?

- How can a hospital work with a public health department?