

**LODI MEMORIAL HOSPITAL
2004 COMMUNITY-NEEDS ASSESSMENT
EXECUTIVE-SUMMARY REPORT**

OVERVIEW

Every three years, Lodi Memorial Hospital conducts an assessment of the community it serves to determine the community's health status and seek suggestions on how the hospital may better meet community-health needs within the realm of its resources. The state considers community benefits to fall into these categories:

- *Medical-care services*
- *Benefits to vulnerable populations*
- *Benefits to the broader community*
- *Health research and education*
- *Non-quantifiable benefits*

This was the **fourth needs assessment conducted by Lodi Memorial**, as required by SB 697. Additionally SB 697 mandates that the hospital develop and submit to OSHPD an annual community-benefit plan detailing the hospital-planning process; how the hospital develops, prioritizes and monitors planning goals; and how the hospital consults and works with the community in its planning process, prioritization, goal setting and monitoring.

The primary impetus of SB 697 was to have non-profit hospitals in the state of California – all of which have tax-exempt status – **quantify and report the benefits** they provide to their communities in exchange for their non-profit status. The secondary impetus was for hospitals to **show how community members are included in the strategic-planning process and the development of new programs and services.**

METHODOLOGY

In its 2004 needs assessment, **Lodi Memorial Hospital surveyed more than 700 community members** via:

- Its network of **clinics**;
- Key **community locations and health fairs** throughout the LMH service area;
- Visitors to the hospital's **web site**.

Additionally:

- **Demographic and health-status reviews** of the residents of LMH's service area were conducted;
- And a **needs index** was applied.

GENERAL ASSESSMENT FINDINGS

Health

Overall, **most respondents self reported their health as good** (65 percent); average health status was self-reported at 32 percent; and poor health was reported at three percent.

Access

Access to health-care services continues to improve with each needs assessment, an indicator that the hospital's network of clinics has increased access especially to the low and no income members of our community.

Alternative medicine

Four of 10 respondents report that they seek or treat themselves with alternative methods (herbs, massage, acupuncture); which is **lower than when last asked**, (six out of 10 reported seeking alternative treatment).

Need

Based on the need-index survey of the LMH service area, the zip code **95240 possesses a need index of 4.2 out of a possible five**; 95240 was found to rank highest in need of all zip codes in the hospital service area. It is the east side of Lodi and the area east of Ham Lane. The next highest need areas were Isleton and Walnut Grove.

WHAT IS DONE WITH THE FINDINGS/NEXT STEPS

Findings from the 2004 needs assessment will be shared, **reviewed and discussed with a variety of stakeholders** and community groups. **Planning assumptions will be developed** based on input from stakeholders and community groups.

The input from this process will be directed to the hospital's Strategic-Planning Committee for evaluation, **integration into the strategic plan**, and presented to the Lodi Memorial Hospital Board of Directors Governance-and-Planning Committee for recommendation of approval to the full hospital board.

Some of those reviewing the needs-assessment findings, planning assumptions and key initiatives include:

External stakeholders

The Lodi Memorial Hospital Community-Advisory Board

Internal stakeholders

Lodi Memorial Hospital Board of Directors, planning retreat
Lodi Memorial Hospital Governance-and-Planning Committee
Lodi Memorial Hospital Management Team
Lodi Memorial Hospital Strategic-Planning Committee