

Labette Health Center

Parsons, KS

Community Needs Assessment Recommendations

March 25, 2011

- Cost of Health Care
 - Market the Community Clinic – Supported by Labette Health
 - Market availability of services and cost comparisons vs. larger communities
 - Education regarding affordable health screening tools
 - Review target of educational tools
 - Education regarding risk factors
 - Build on successful examples
 - Create a Culture of Health
 - Market quality of care vs. stereotyping of rural providers/facilities

- Smoking/tobacco use is seen as a significant health issue for the Labette Health Center community
 - Focus on education regarding the effects of tobacco use on health
 - Market Smoking Cessation classes

- Cardiovascular heart disease and stroke are seen as significant health problems for the Labette Health Center community
 - Focus education on the benefits of screening and early detection
 - Focus education efforts on behavioral changes proven to help
 - Smoking cessation programs
 - Healthy eating and weight reduction
 - Exercise programs

- Diabetes is seen as a significant health problem for the Labette Health Center community
 - Build on success of the Rector Center
 - Market services of the Rector Center

- Educational programs
 - Review who we are trying to educate and how we are trying to reach them
 - Focus on improving what we currently have:
 - Hospital newsletter
 - Hospital website
 - Focus on new methods of contacting citizens:
 - Look for more electronic methods of informing citizens
 - Look for more focused communication, i.e.: Facebook, Twitter, text messaging to reach local people

- Teen Pregnancy is seen as a significant issue in the community Labette Health Center serves.
 - Provide leadership to engage community factors to discuss and work on this issue including:
 - Faith Community
 - Parents groups
 - Community civic leadership
 - Social service agencies
 - Discuss parental responsibility and ways to enhance it

Note: This is not a problem that Labette Health Center can solve. This is a problem where Labette Health Center can provide leadership to engage various community groups to understand the problem and engage it as their own.

There was good discussion about the Labette Health Center community and the health problems facing them. The consensus of the group was that Labette Health Center was 'community conscious' regarding health issues facing the community. Labette Health Center has a unique opportunity to become more focused in their educational programs as it celebrates fifty years of service to the community. These efforts can become more successful by focusing on the community they are trying to reach and then reviewing different methods to reach them. This can include upgrading current efforts including newsletters and websites and employing other communication methods such as Twitter, Facebook, and e-news for example.