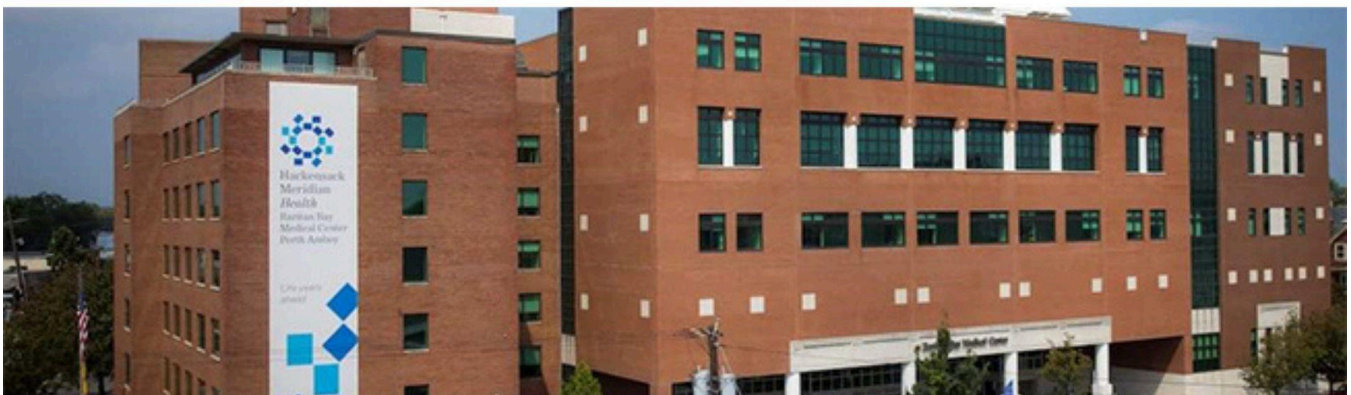


Long Term Acute Care Hospital at Raritan Bay



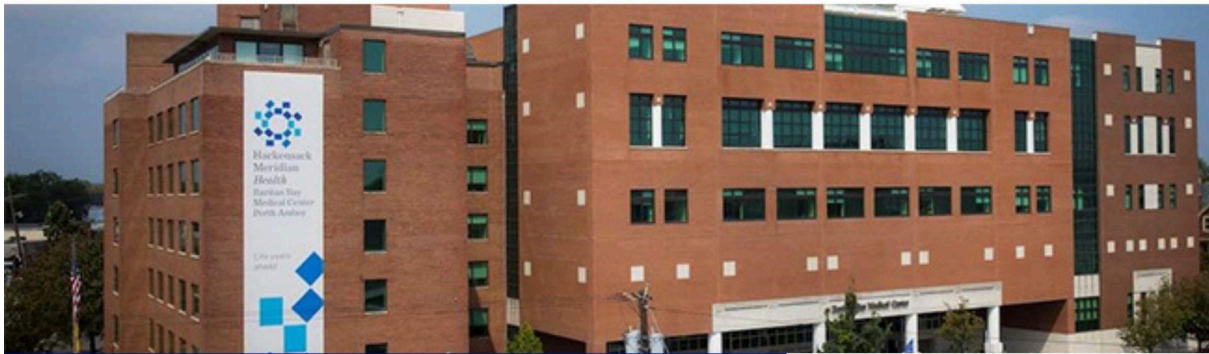
LONG TERM ACUTE CARE
HOSPITAL AT RARITAN BAY



Hackensack Meridian
Long Term Acute Care Hospital

Community Health Improvement Plan

2024-2027



LONG TERM ACUTE CARE HOSPITAL AT RARITAN BAY

The Hackensack Meridian Long Term Acute Care Hospital at Raritan Bay

The Hackensack Meridian Long Term Acute Care Hospital (LTACH) opened its doors in September, 2022 occupying one floor within Raritan Bay Medical Center. It provides specialized care for patients with complex needs who require a longer length of stay in an acute care hospital. Committed to providing compassionate care, our private rooms on a dedicated floor allow for more personalized support. Our interdisciplinary care team includes physician specialists, certified registered nurses and technicians, certified respiratory therapists, dietitians, social workers and rehabilitation therapists. With daily physician visits, 24/7 emergency physician coverage and access to all hospital services, patients receive around the clock care. The LTACH saw its first patient in September 2022 and has an average length of stay of 25 days.

LTACH offers a variety of specialty programs to address unique patient care needs, including:

State-of-the-Art Pulmonary Program

- Ventilator weaning
- High flow weaning
- Bipap weaning
- Chest tube management
- Respiratory rehabilitation
- Daily visits by Pulmonologists
- Continuous 24/7 monitoring by Respiratory Therapists
- Advanced Cardiac Care Program

Congestive heart failure management and education

- Post-care for open heart patients
- Antiarrhythmic IV infusions
- Telemetry monitoring
- Extensive Wound Care Program

Treatment of non-healing surgical wounds, pressure ulcers and diabetic ulcers

- Surgical debridements
- Wound vacs
- Wound care management

Sepsis Treatment

- Early intervention
- Sepsis protocol
- Fluid resuscitation
- Vasopressor therapy
- Antibiotic therapy
- Thorough monitoring by infectious disease specialists

Dialysis

- Bedside hemodialysis
- Dialysis nurses

About Hackensack Meridian *Health* - Keep Getting Better

Hackensack Meridian *Health* is a leading not-for-profit health care organization that is the largest, most comprehensive and truly integrated health care network in New Jersey, offering a complete range of medical services, innovative research and life-enhancing care. Hackensack Meridian *Health* comprises 18 hospitals throughout New Jersey, from Bergen to Ocean counties. Hackensack Meridian *Health* has more than 36,000 team members, and over 7,000 physicians and is a distinguished leader in health care philanthropy, committed to the health and well-being of the communities we serve.

CHNA Background

In alignment with the Affordable Care Act (ACA), the Internal Revenue Service (IRS) and applicable federal requirements for not-for-profit hospitals, Hackensack Meridian *Health* LTACH at Raritan Bay completed a comprehensive Community Health Needs Assessment (CHNA) that was adopted by the Hackensack Meridian *Health* Board of Directors on December 7, 2022.

The Long Term Acute Care Hospital at Raritan Bay 2024 CHNA was conducted by Professional Research Consultants, Inc. (PRC) for Hackensack Meridian *Health* to identify the health needs within the hospital's service area. The assessment incorporates data from multiple sources, including primary research (through the PRC Community Health Survey and PRC Online Key Informant Survey) as well as secondary research (vital statistics and other existing health-related data). The complete CHNA report can be found at <https://www.hackensackmeridianhealth.org/en/About-Us/community-health-needs-assessment>

In addition to assessing health indicators, the 2024 CHNA took a close look at social determinants of health (SDoH) such as food insecurity, housing, transportation, education, and other factors. Furthermore, lessons learned about inequities in opportunity, access, education, and trust revealed by COVID-19 were taken into consideration.

Determining Community Health Priorities

In reviewing the data from the 2024 CHNA, it is evident that the priorities identified in 2019 remain

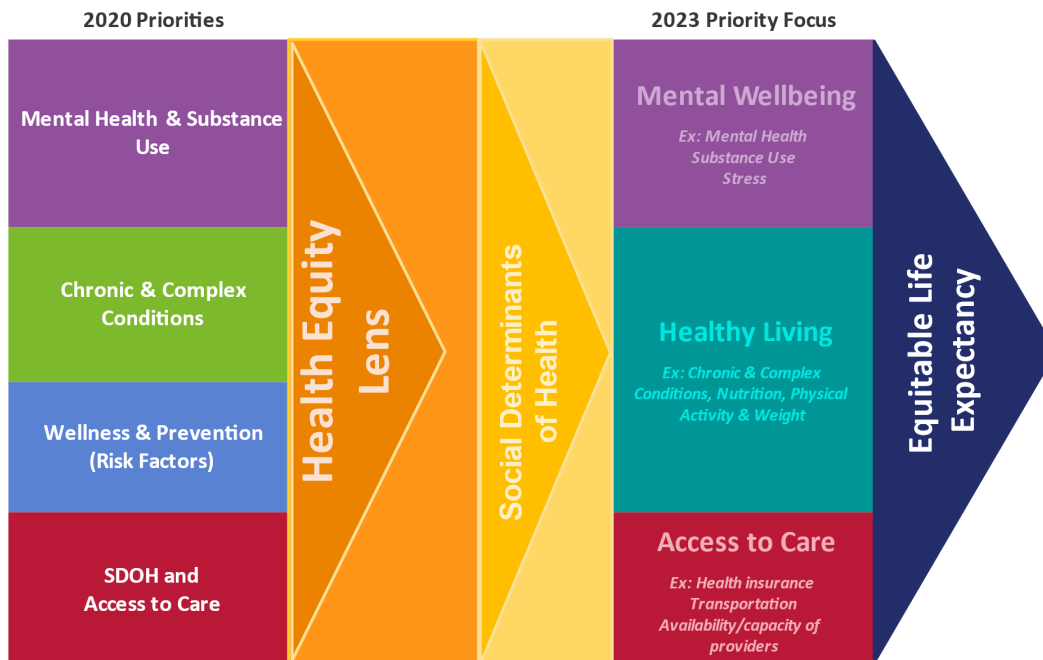
pressing needs but in different ways due to the myriad impacts of the COVID-19 pandemic. Existing inequities in opportunity, access, education, and trust were exacerbated by the pandemic. The inequities highlighted by the pandemic elevated health equity as a lens in which health priorities were redefined from 2019 for Hackensack Meridian *Health* as a network, and the LTACH at Raritan Bay in particular.

Hackensack Meridian *Health* conducted virtual community forums in the Northern, Central, and Southern regions of the network service areas with representatives from each hospital and key community stakeholders during August 2022. During the forums, an overview of the findings from the 2024 CHNA report for each region was shared by PRC, Inc. Following the data presentation, 35th Street Consultants presented the proposed framework for this CHIP and led the prioritization discussion in the breakout groups. Sixty-seven people participated in the Central Region Community Partner Forum on August 16, 2022, representing agencies and institutions throughout the region, representing diverse perspectives. During discussion, there was overwhelming support for the health equity strategy and endorsed the reframed priority areas for 2023-2025.

Using a health equity lens, the goals were reframed to achieve equitable life expectancy for all people, regardless of their zip code, race, ethnicity, preferred language, gender identity, or other factor. When the needs, priorities, and activities from 2024 are viewed through a health equity lens, it becomes clear that social determinants of health (SDoH) have an impact on every identified area and are incorporated in each rather than as a distinct priority.

The final network priority areas are – **Mental Wellbeing, Healthy Living, and Access to Care.**

Prioritized Health Needs Summary



Community Health Improvement Plan (CHIP)

The intent of our CHIP is to be responsive to community needs and expectations and create a plan that can be effectively executed to leverage hospital and network resources, as well as community partners.

A CHIP is a dynamic rather than a static plan and should be modified and adjusted as external environmental factors change, including market conditions, availability of community resources, and engagement from community partners. Furthermore, a CHIP should build on and leverage prior success while simultaneously adjusting strategies and actions as obstacles are encountered.

The following defines the types of programmatic strategies and interventions that guided the development of the Community Health Improvement Plan.

- **Prevention and Awareness:** Health promotion and disease prevention programs focus on keeping people healthy. These initiatives aim to engage and empower individuals and communities to choose healthy behaviors and make changes that reduce the risk of developing chronic diseases and other morbidities.
- **Build Capacity:** Efforts which aim to help individuals navigate the healthcare system and improve access to services when and where they need them.
- **Strengthen Community Partnership:** Includes collaborations, partnerships, and support of providers and community organizations across multiple sectors (e.g., health, public health, education, public safety, and community health).

Significant Health Needs That Will Not Be Addressed

LTACH at Raritan Bay acknowledges the wide range of health issues that emerged from the 2022 CHNA process. It is important to note that there are community health needs identified through LTACH at Raritan Bay's 2024 CHNA process that were not prioritized for inclusion in this CHIP. As a specialty rehabilitation hospital, LTACH at Raritan Bay's CHIP includes priorities from the 2024 CHNA that are the most pressing and under-addressed, and within its ability to influence. Therefore, the priority areas of Mental Wellbeing and Access to Care, while a network-wide priority, is not included as a priority area for LTACH at Raritan Bay. Additionally, based on the LTACH at Raritan Bay's limited scope of services, there are several needs identified under the priority area, healthy living, which will not be addressed. The following mental wellbeing, access to care, and healthy living needs were identified in the 2024 CHNA process for LTACH at Raritan Bay, but are not prioritized for this CHIP:

- Mental Health
- Substance Abuse
- Nutrition, Physical Activity & Weight
- Diabetes
- Heart Disease and Stroke
- Cancer
- Access to Healthcare Services
- Injury & Violence

- Potentially Disabling Conditions

Because the LTACH at Raritan Bay is a specialty hospital with limited resources, it does not have the clinical expertise to have meaningful direct and positive impact on the range of mental wellbeing, healthy living, and access to care needs identified in the CHNA in the short or long term. LTACH at Raritan Bay remains open and willing to continue to work with hospitals across the HMM network and other public and private partners to address issues impacting mental wellbeing, healthy living, access to care, and other facets of health and wellbeing as opportunities arise.

The 2024 CHNA for LTACH at Raritan Bay identified the following sub-priority within the Healthy Living priority area. The LTACH at Raritan Bay is a long-term acute care facility located on one floor of its host hospital, Raritan Bay Medical Center. Based on the LTACH at Raritan Bay’s status as a long term acute care facility, the hospital has chosen to focus its capabilities on this sub-priority, which was determined based on areas of opportunity uncovered through the CHNA process.

Priority Area: Healthy Living

The 2024 CHNA for LTACH at Raritan Bay identified the following sub-priority within the Healthy Living priority area.

Sub-priority identified from the 2022 CHNA:

- Respiratory Disease

2025-2027 Community Health Improvement Plan

Priority Area: Healthy Living		
Goal: All people will have access to chronic disease education, screening, and management services to achieve an optimal state of wellness		
	Objectives	Strategies/ Action Steps
Prevention and Awareness	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Continue to provide education and health promotion and increase participation among diverse and vulnerable populations 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Conduct or support community-based education with a focus on diverse and vulnerable populations
Build Capacity	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Continue to engage, monitor and coordinate care for patients with chronic/complex conditions 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Support case management and patient navigation programs to support those with chronic/complex conditions and their caregivers



Strengthen Community Partnerships	<ul style="list-style-type: none">▪ Increase, strengthen and evaluate partnerships with community-based organizations	<ul style="list-style-type: none">▪ Participate in local and regional health coalitions and task forces to support activities promoting equitable healthy living for all▪ Identify and deepen partnerships with community-based organizations that serve diverse and vulnerable populations
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