



## Champion Report

Theme Area: **Healthcare**

Champions: Bob McLean, Tim Rice, John Solheim, Gwen Anderson, Mike Larson

**REPORTING PERIOD: October 15, 2014 through January 13, 2015**

Goals/Strategies or Action Steps:	What NEW success have you had in moving your theme goals forward over the reporting period?
<p>Improve coordination of care between private &amp; public partners</p>	<p>Patient-centered care is important not only in terms of holistically structuring their plan but also working more effectively between the private &amp; public systems that often times create barriers, lack of access &amp; fragmentation in the delivery of services.</p> <p>Good foundation work has been completed, but the official launch in collaboration of case workers has been temporarily put on hold.</p>
<p>Susan G. Komen Collaborative Grant application</p>	<p>Essentia Health-St. Joseph’s Medical Center and Lakewood Health System are proposing to collaborate with the Susan G Komen Minnesota affiliate to deliver education and services to the identified priority populations of :</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- women in poverty</li> <li>- women of Native American descent</li> <li>- women in rural and agricultural areas of Aitkin, Cass, Crow Wing, Mille Lacs, Morrison, Todd, and Wadena and Counties.</li> </ul> <p>A joint grant application has been submitted to support breast cancer screening awareness and access to services.</p>
<p>Crow Wing Energized Update</p>	<p>Key Updates related to the Crow Wing Energized initiative include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Approved three mini grants (\$500 to \$5,000) to be distributed in early 2015.</li> <li>• Survey results from the Community Health Assessment completed end of 2014.</li> <li>• Steering Committee continues to meet every month along with 4 goal group meetings per month for a total 50 engaged community partners. The total effort including outside meetings exceeds 90 community partners.</li> <li>• Marketed website using bill boards and local newspaper. (<a href="http://crowwingenergized.org/">http://crowwingenergized.org/</a>)</li> <li>• Launched community health billboards throughout the County. Completed one cycle of health facts (1 in 4 adults obese) and intervention (Farm to School program). New cycle every two months.</li> <li>• Second annual summit held in Brainerd on 1/7/15 with over 120 individuals participating</li> <li>• Multiple initiatives in development with a few ongoing (tobacco free, food shelves, farm to school, walkable bikeable trails) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Hosted a walkable bikeable workshop on October 27<sup>th</sup>.</li> <li>○ Aging Coalition – Crow Wing Energized presented at the Senior Network Group with 15 community partners. MN Department of Health, Essentia Health, and MN Council on Aging will be offering the evidence based program in the future.</li> </ul> </li> </ul>

<p>HRSA grant opportunity</p>	<p>The health care theme group is also exploring a grant opportunity with multiple private &amp; public partners within the Region. The grant is a community-based targeted to improve outreach and service delivery in local and regional rural communities.</p> <p>After discussing a number of common themes, the group landed on putting our focus on evaluating the overall access for resources for behavior health services and we established the following problem statement and application focus and scope.</p> <p><b><u>Problem Statement:</u></b></p> <p><i>Across Resilient Region 5 we have a great deal of resources aimed at supporting the residents who have behavioral healthcare needs. We also know that the service providers in both the public and private sectors struggle with meeting the needs of these populations on a consistent basis. Part of the challenge is in understanding the scope of services already available before we can clearly understand the gaps and define the opportunities for care coordination or solutions for addressing the gaps which may exist in each of the communities we collectively serve.</i></p> <p><b><u>Grant Application Focus &amp; Scope:</u></b></p> <p><i>We have invited rural based health care providers and public health leaders from the five counties making up Region 5 plus Aitkin County to participate in a collaborative HRSA grant application.</i></p> <p><i>We would focus the grant at doing a comprehensive inventory of behavioral and chemical health services which are available in each County. The results of this work would be shared with all participating public health agencies and private healthcare systems. The collection of this data would then support the natural next steps in addressing high priority gaps in services and opportunities for collaboration with existing resources.</i></p> <p>While we ended up falling short of the grant application deadline, we garnered support from a broader group of public and private health care key stakeholders across Region 5 and would expect to continue the efforts on this initiative to be prepared for the next grant opportunity.</p>
-------------------------------	---

**How are you working with any of the other RR Theme areas?**

Collaboration with the Connectivity Theme on Telemedicine Grant for serving rural populations across Region 5.

**List any Goals or Recommendations within the plan that your team of theme Champions are struggling to address?**

# Health Care

## Health Care Issue I (HI)

**Health care:** A healthy workforce is important to future regional success. Healthy workers are more productive and lead to lower health care costs for workers and employers. Health care services must be accessible and sustainable for all residents.

## Health Care Issue I Goal

**Health care:** The number of primary care physicians and nurse practitioners per 1,000 people in the region increases slightly from 1.6/1000 (current trend) to 1.8/1000. The number increases because we invest in our local health care services to serve the growing elderly population and attract new residents to the region.

## Recommendation 1

**Active living:** Encourage a more active lifestyle by developing and promoting safe walking and biking options in the region; like Safe Routes to School. Develop and promote more trails/path connections between/within communities using white lines, sidewalks and signage.

### Action Step A

**Map trails:** Map and identify gaps in the region's existing and planned trails and paths.

### Action Step B

**Building standards:** Make building standards and permitting more uniform and more stringent to achieve all aspects of new housing and rehabilitation goals.

**Collaboration:** Work with local organizations to connect gaps in the region's trails and paths.

### Action Step C

**Funding:** Identify funding and resources to build needed trails and paths within region.

## Recommendation 2

**Access to affordable health care:** improve availability and access to affordable health care services throughout the region.

### Action Step A

**Mobile clinics:** Explore the feasibility of mobile clinics where permanent clinics are not feasible

### Action Step B

**Use emerging technologies:** Identify the emerging systems like Health Partner's

VirtuWell that allows online access to health care providers.

### Action Step C

**Care for vulnerable populations:** Research, understand, educate on the availability of health

care services for early childhood development, senior health and Senior Living, the vulnerable, the mentally challenged and the mentally/behaviorally ill.

#### Action Step D

**Map services:** Compile and map existing and planned health care services within the region, including clinics, service providers, home health care, meals on wheels and others

#### Action Step E

**Identify gaps:** Identify gaps in the region's health care services, programs, affordability, and geographic location.

#### Action Step F

**Collaboration:** Work with local health care organizations to come to consensus on how to fill gaps in services in each area of the region.

#### Action Step G

**Affordable Care Act:** Research, understand, and educate the public on how the Affordable Care Act will impact and/or improve health and health care in rural Minnesota.

### Recommendation 3

**Public health:** Respond to public health issues specific to the region, including smoking, farm safety, hazardous materials, and environmental health concerns. Nutrition is a key factor that directly impacts healthy living.

#### Action Step A

**Collaborative study and solutions:** Pursue collaborative participation in rural health studies with organization like the Institute of Rural Health on issues like diabetes, obesity, cardiovascular health, etc. Find more effective ways of identifying, tracking, and addressing trends (positive or negative)

#### Action Step B

**Education:** Use various media, schools, work places, and public policy to create and promote positive community health norms and affirm positive health choices (food choices, active life style). Continue to educate on activities that diminish health (food choices, smoking, etc.).

#### Action Step C

**Identify and remediate risks:** Use data to identify significant risks to public health. Keep Hazard Mitigation Plans current and submit applications annually for remediation of risks.

#### Action Step D

**Best practices:** Research models used by others to address the region's specific public health concerns. Select the best practices that apply to our local situation.

#### Action Step E

**Collaboration:** Gain support for mitigating the identified health risks from those best suited to take action.