

Shodair Children's Hospital

Fiscal Year 2022-24

Community

Health

Improvement

Plan



Shodair
CHILDREN'S HOSPITAL

To heal, help and inspire hope

**Shodair Children's Hospital
Community Health Improvement Plan
FY2022-24**

In the early months of 2021 Shodair Children's Hospital conducted its every three years Community Health Needs Assessment. This Assessment identified five key areas of mental health needs within its primary service area, three of which are listed below. The other 2 identified needs are being addressed in Shodair's Strategic Plan as follows:

- 1. Study and propose to the 2023 Montana State Legislature of creating a sustainable young child residential treatment unit**
- 2. Expand services to include substance abuse and addiction counseling**

The remaining three needs are being addressed in this FY2022-24 Community Health Improvement Plan as follows:

- 1. Improving ER services for pediatric patients in a mental health crisis**
- 2. Provide gender dysphoria education to Shodair's staff**
- 3. Provide trauma-informed education and support to community leaders, educators, and peer support groups**

As in the past year with the challenges of navigating through a pandemic, addressing the needs listed above may be postponed or changed in response to the overriding safety and concerns of patients, staff, and community residents.

Every effort will be made to be flexible and innovative in finding ways to address these needs without compromising safety. What has been found in the past year is that in times of long-term crisis and stress, not only does the mental health of our patients and families deteriorate but so does our staff if we are not intentional in our giving out grace and encouraging self-care.

Priority Area 1 Improving ER services to pediatric mental health patients

Overall Goal	To ensure pediatric mental health patients are evaluated by a mental health professional shortly after admission to the hospital Emergency Room
Activities: <i>Year 1:</i> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Identify hospital ERs with no or limited access to pediatric mental health professionals for consultative services (in person or by tele-video)• Identify current companies in Montana offering hospitals access to mental health professionals in a timely manner (via tele-video) <i>Year 2-3:</i> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Support companies providing high-quality and reasonably priced hospital ER psych consults by contracting Shodair provider services to them for their services to expand and sustain its high quality in Montana	

Priority Area 2 Provide gender dysphoria education to Shodair's staff

Overall Goal	To prepare Shodair's staff, particularly its mental health professionals, in the provision of informed, evidence-based services to patients experiencing gender dysphoria
Activities: <i>Year 1:</i> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Identify expert educators in the field of gender dysphoria training• Select and contract with an expert trainer• Schedule on-site and in-person training workshops to providers, therapists, and teachers <i>Year 2:</i> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Follow up with stakeholders, especially colleges and universities, on the availability of Shodair providers and therapists who are trained in providing services to patient and students struggling with gender dysphoria issues• Include in Shodair marketing brochures the availability of trained providers and therapists specialized in gender dysphoria treatment	

Priority Area 3 Provide trauma-informed education to communities

Overall Goal	Become a valuable resource to Montana communities and families with providing trauma-informed tools of resiliency
Activities: <i>Year 1:</i> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Identify potential support groups that could benefit from learning trauma-informed tools to build resilient youth• Obtain grant funding to continue existing peer and parent support groups and expansion of new support groups <i>Year 2-3:</i> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Continue to grow the number and diversity of support groups• Look at the feasibility of creating statewide peer support groups• Obtain grant funding for new support groups• Create outcome measures to track the program success	

