2020 MUSKINGUM COUNTY COMPREHENSIVE PLAN

Compiled by: Muskingum County Planning Commission

Healthcare Report
Health Care Task Force Report

Introduction

Health Care Services are vital to the people of Muskingum County. Key elements for these services include:

- Appropriately located facilities
- Appropriate levels of competent, caring staff
- Collaboration among public and private partners in healthcare

Future planning must maintain focus and balance among each element.

Health Care

Health care in Muskingum County is a complex array of service providers that together creates a multi-county regional site for the delivery of primary, secondary, and tertiary health care services. These healthcare services include: Genesis HealthCare System, Muskingum Valley Health Center, physician offices, Zanesville-Muskingum County Health Department, Home Health, Pharmacies, Extended Care, Mental Health and Recovery Services, VA Clinic, Hospice Services and many other providers. Since the prior assessment, Muskingum County has added a new privately owned urgent care center, Value Care Ambulance Service, new MVHC locations, new drug treatment centers and additions to Genesis Hospital Campus.

Genesis HealthCare System came into existence in 1997 and represents merged operations from Bethesda Care System and Good Samaritan Medical Center. In July 2015, renovations at the Bethesda Campus were complete and the two campuses merged into one. For the past ten years, Genesis worked to enhance operational efficiency and expand/enhance clinical services. During this period, clinical service enhancements include: Level III Trauma Center, a dedicated inpatient oncology unit in collaboration with the James Cancer Center, and expanded emergency services through a free standing Emergency Department in Perry County (Somerset). The new single campus is able to meet the needs of the community through bed availability.

MVHC (Muskingum Valley Health Center) was founded in 2008 in Muskingum County and has grown to include three locations: MVHC Zanesville, MVHC South Zanesville and MVHC Allwell. They also provide services in Guernsey, Morgan and Coshocton County. MVHC is a patient centered medical home providing adult primary care, child health, women's health, mental health, patient education, podiatry, pharmacy services, and dental health. MVHC also has partnered with Maysville Local School District and Foxfire Schools to provide school based clinic services.

The Zanesville-Muskingum County Health Department (ZMCHD) provides comprehensive oversight and services of public health matters. Their programs address: environmental health issues, public health emergency preparedness and practice/exercise, communicable disease prevention and protections, and population health. ZMCHD is also the lead for the healthcare
coalition for Muskingum, Morgan and Perry County, since 2013. As the lead in the coalition they bring together the hospital, non-hospital healthcare providers, EMS, EMA and the community to work on planning for emergencies and meeting the needs of Muskingum County.

Overall, Muskingum County employs over 3,000 health care professional, support, and administrative personnel.

**Emergency Medical Services**

In most townships, a combined group of professionals provide fire protection and serve the Emergency Medical Services (EMS) needs of their area. Commitment remains strong among these professionals; however, time constraints and increased levels of required ongoing training is placing significant pressure on these primarily volunteer services.

Even though staffing levels create ongoing operational challenges for the volunteer squads, extraordinary cooperation and mutual aid among the providers assure Muskingum County is provided with prompt and high quality response.

The following list represents current squads providing EMS services to Muskingum County residents:

- Adamsville
- Dresden
- Falls Township
- Frazeysburg
- Harrison
- Licking
- Muskingum
- National Trail
- Newton
- New Concord
- Perry
- Roseville
- South Zanesville
- Washington
- Zanesville
- Community Ambulance
- Value Care Ambulance
Overview of Muskingum County

Population
Muskingum County has a population of 85,991. Our population continues to age with 32,190 persons at age 50 or older currently. The additional high needs population is the young (under 18) which accounts for 20,003.

Within our jurisdiction we have an estimated 13,724 (16.1%) persons with disabilities. These disabilities include hearing, vision, cognitive, ambulatory, self-care and independent living difficulties. In addition, we have an estimated 43,967 persons with at least one prescription, and 1,124 persons that are electric dependent.

Recommendations by the Health Care Task Force

Vision

The county will focus community resources to assure current and future land, facilities, and personnel are deployed in a manner to support emergency services, save lives, and enhance quality of life.

Efforts must be flexible in order to address population and demographic changes. The county must recognize and promote local coordination of emergency response and support agencies within Muskingum County.

Goals

1. Succession Planning
2. Increase E-visits and Telemedicine
3. Increase providers in Muskingum County

Zanesville/Muskingum County Health Department and Genesis HealthCare System is a part of the Southeast Ohio Public Health and Hospital region involving 21 counties and health departments and 20 hospitals. The regional planning has led to regional coordination of response and resources. The establishment of a Public Health Regional Coordination Center and Regional Hospital Coordination Center has been accomplished. Regional purchases of resources and regional exercises have been occurring for the past five years.

Due to the impacts of COVID19 on the ability to complete this plan section, this abbreviated report is submitted with the understanding that a more complete report will be filed on the next Comprehensive Plan Update.