



Mount
Sinai
South
Nassau

Community Service Plan **2021 Update** *(for plan years 2019-2021)*



**MOUNT SINAI SOUTH NASSAU COMMUNITY SERVICE PLAN
UPDATE 2021
FOR PLAN YEARS 2019-2021**

In the third year of the Community Service Plan (CSP), Mount Sinai South Nassau planned to continue evidence-based interventions chosen specifically for the identified priorities of *Prevent Chronic Diseases* and *Promote Well Being and Prevent Mental and Substance Use Disorders*. However, as 2020 ended, it was clear that strategies for addressing the COVID-19 pandemic should continue to be implemented and further developed and expanded.

In regard to the *Prevent Chronic Diseases* priority, a key measure is the number of individuals contacted by the breast screening patient navigator. A total of 732 patients were contacted; 492 followed up with a mammogram after navigator intervention.

A no-cost mammography day was held in collaboration with local New York State elected officials including Senator Todd Kaminsky and screened close to 70 uninsured, underserved and underinsured members of our surrounding community.

This partnership with community leaders has proven beneficial because of the number of patients in our service area that we are able to reach through mailings and other joint outreach efforts, including social media. These patients receive periodic mailings for Mount Sinai South Nassau's community health screenings and events.

Partnerships with the American Heart Association and the Long Beach AWARE coalition remain intact as they continue to have active roles within our community service plan.

Long Beach AWARE is our community partner for the *Promote Well Being and Prevent Mental and Substance Use Disorders* priority. This partnership allows us to glean information regarding evidence-based substance abuse prevention programs implemented in the school system. The evaluation component provides feedback regarding the effectiveness of the program for students who violate substance abuse laws. Mount Sinai South Nassau maintains active membership on the committee and provides expert speakers and ED data to support their mission.

The American Heart Association's Check, Change, Control™ initiative is an evidence-based community blood pressure program. This intervention was included in the community service plan to provide self-management skills for individuals with cardiovascular disease whose condition is not well- controlled with guideline-based medical management alone. Unfortunately, we were unable to continue providing this service in 2021 due to ongoing challenges with COVID-19 restrictions at various community-based organizations.

In light of these circumstances, we used our mobile vaccination bus as a means to deliver community health programs. Blood pressure screenings were provided to community members in outdoor settings while observing safety protocols. Blood pressure screening opportunities were made available to 1350 community members. A total of 140 community members were screened. Approximately 70% of those screened recorded elevated readings, received onsite counseling and a follow-up phone call 4 weeks after the screening event.

A third priority, *Prevent Communicable Diseases*, was included as part of the existing community service plan. As the demand for vaccine grew, discussions regarding a mobile vaccination unit ensued between Mount Sinai South Nassau and the Town of Hempstead.

Utilizing federal CARES Act funding via the Town of Hempstead, the hospital purchased a mobile unit, known as the “Vaxmobile”, that has traveled up to six days a week for eight months to hard hit communities to distribute first and second dose and booster COVID-19 vaccines to all eligible age groups, including seniors, adolescents and pediatric patients.

The Vaxmobile has established a highly visible presence on Long Island and its’ success reflects the efforts of the strong collaboration between the hospital and our community partners to remove language, transportation and mobility barriers while offering ease and accessibility in receiving the COVID-vaccine.

The measurements of the Vaxmobile’s success are listed below.

- More than 10,000 vaccines administered
- A total of 7 disparate communities received multiple visits from the Vaxmobile
- A total of 27 communities hosted the Vaxmobile with requests for return visits

We encouraged local and regional media coverage at nearly every stop of the Vaxmobile, allowing hospital experts to speak directly to potential patients via electronic and print media. Media outlets, including News12, Channels 2,4,7,11,5, Newsday, the Herald Newspapers, Newsradio 880 and 1010 WINS, all covered the Vaxmobile’s efforts at various points in 2021. MSSN also maintained a strong presence on social media, posting daily, including the weekly schedule of stops. These efforts drew thousands to the Vaxmobile.

Community leaders in all Town of Hempstead councilmatic districts were receptive to scheduling Vaxmobile visits in convenient and trusted locations, including faith-based organizations, recreation centers, senior centers and schools. MSSN Community Education and External Affairs leadership worked to establish and maintain relationships with school and community leaders to pave the way for Vaxmobile visits and ensure a good turnout for each community stop.