

Community Health Needs Assessment (CHNA) Implementation Plans Pasco County 2023–2025



A blue-tinted photograph of a park. In the foreground, there is a paved path and a wooden bench. In the background, there are large trees and a building. The overall scene is peaceful and natural.

BayCare's mission
is to improve the health
of all we serve through
community-owned services
that set the standard
for high-quality,
compassionate care.

Table of Contents

Letter from the Presidents	2
Listening to Pasco County	3
Identifying Priorities	5
Developing a Strategic Implementation Plan	7
Behavioral Health	9
Access to Health and Social Services	13
Exercise, Nutrition and Weight	17
Hospital Information	20

Letter from the Presidents

What you'll find in these pages is a manifestation of BayCare's mission to improve the health of all we serve.

For the second time in 2022, BayCare's Pasco County leaders joined with the All4HealthFL Collaborative to engage with our communities. The leaders for Morton Plant North Bay Hospital in New Port Richey and the leaders from the opening-in-2023 BayCare Hospital Wesley Chapel wanted to make sure, as we plan our Community Benefit investments for the next three years, we're directing them to where they'll make a difference.

The process is called conducting a Community Health Needs Assessment (CHNA). The Collaborative, including BayCare, AdventHealth, Bayfront Health St. Petersburg, Tampa General Hospital, Moffitt Cancer Center, Johns Hopkins All Children's Hospital and the Florida Department of Health in Hillsborough, Pasco, Pinellas and Polk counties, worked together to collect and review the region's health data and to also listen to our residents to develop collective impact goals to increase the chance of improving health outcomes.

In 2022, that listening involved hearing from Pasco County residents, community leaders and other key advocates. The listening helped further illuminate the health needs data, showing which needs were most pressing and where the greatest needs were so that BayCare's Pasco County hospitals could develop coordinated strategies to address those needs. This book lays out those implementation plans, including advancements in clinical service, education and policy interventions.

These plans build on BayCare's longstanding commitment to Community Benefit work, which in 2021 totaled more than \$497 million and included \$91 million in charity care to ensure high-quality, timely and appropriate care for those who otherwise couldn't afford it. Every day, we're working hard to improve the health and well-being of our communities, and we know there is more work to do.

We encourage you to use this summary to gain a better understanding of our community's needs and the commitment of BayCare Hospital Wesley Chapel and Morton Plant North Bay Hospital to address those most pressing unmet health needs.

Thank you to all who contributed to our 2022 CHNA process. We look forward to sharing successes of the implementation plan and continuing community conversations throughout the 2023–2025 CHNA cycle.

Sincerely,



Brandon May
*President, Morton Plant
North Bay Hospital*



Rebecca Schulkowski
*President, BayCare
Hospital Wesley Chapel*

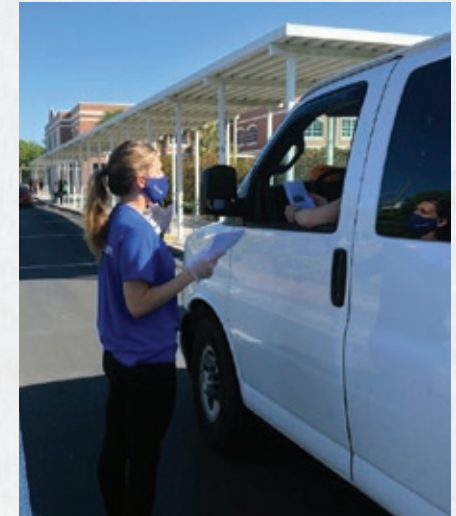
Listening to Pasco County

Morton Plant North Bay Hospital and BayCare Hospital Wesley Chapel recognize that Pasco County's health improvement plan must start with a deep understanding of the issues affecting health and the community resources available to improve related health outcomes.

To provide as complete an overview as possible of the health behaviors and perceptions of Pasco County, a 59-question community survey was developed. The primary purpose of using a community survey was to ensure that the voices of Pasco County residents were heard, engaging those most impacted by health issues where they live, work, play and raise families. The survey addressed health and lifestyle behaviors, quality of life and access to care.

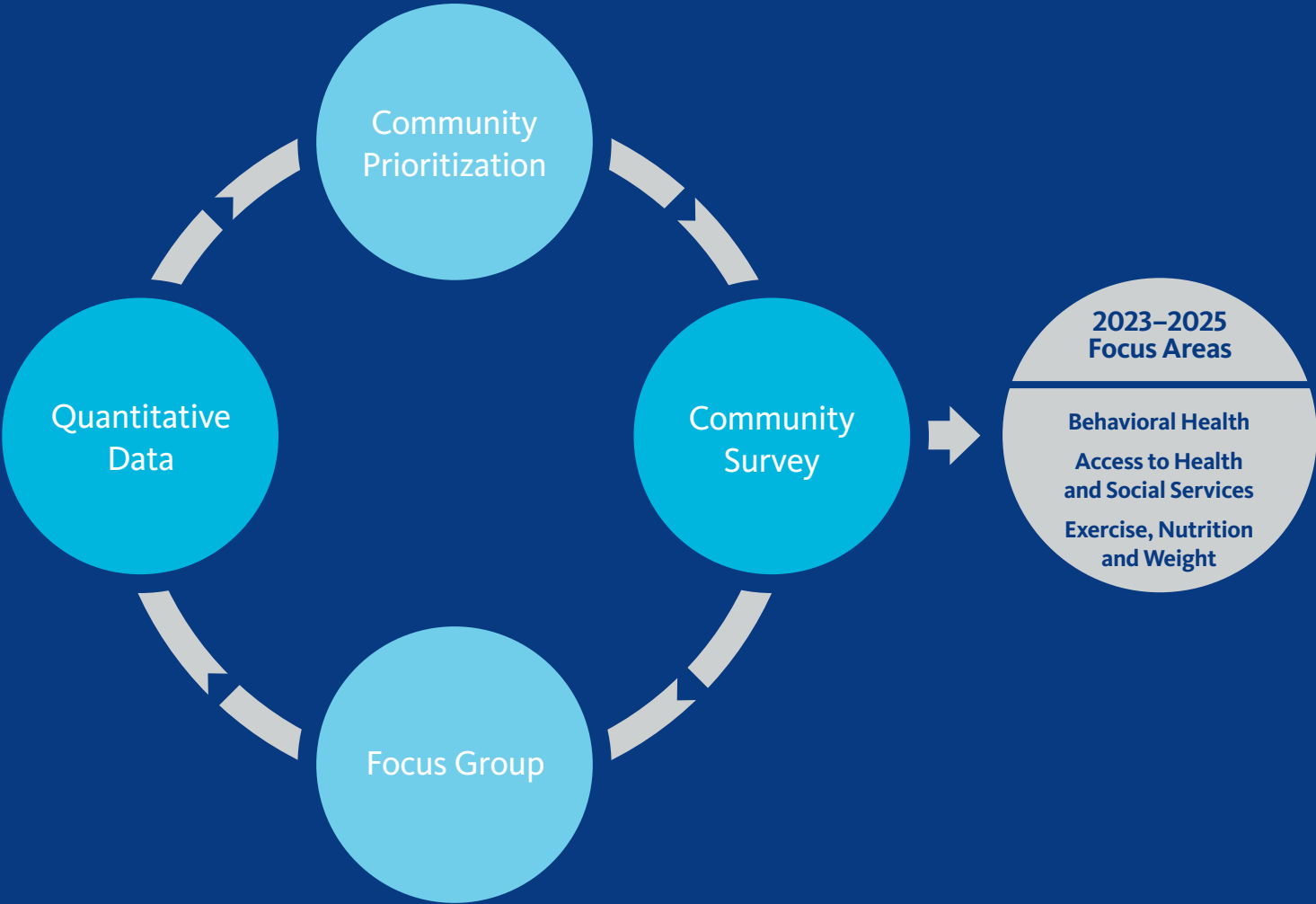
The community survey used validated and reliable questions obtained from state and national needs assessments, passed a rigorous literacy review and was available in English, Spanish and Creole. In addition, the All4HealthFL Collaborative engaged a health equity expert to validate the verbiage of survey questions and responses to ensure equity for all respondents.

Intentional and strategic outreach was integral in getting a robust and representative response rate. Due to the ongoing COVID-19 pandemic, surveys were primarily deployed electronically, using either a direct link or QR code for easy access. The collaborative was prepared for this and leveraged our partners across the county to ensure that the voices of our residents were heard. Even during the challenges the pandemic posed, the survey was disseminated in libraries, churches, food pantries and community centers. This strategy allowed for engagement of low-income, minority and medically underserved populations.



BayCare team member Krista Cunningham assists with a food distribution event to kick off the opening of the food pantry at Richey Elementary School.

Identifying Priorities



Identifying Priorities

Six health issues were identified after a review of local community opinions from the 2022 CHNA survey, focus groups and related secondary health statistics data analysis:

- Access to health and social services
- Behavioral health (*mental health and substance misuse*)
- Cancer
- Exercise, nutrition and weight
- Heart disease and stroke
- Immunization and infectious disease

In addition, focus groups comprised of advocates and community partners convened to gain greater insight into these health issues. Guided by facilitators, the focus groups used a participatory analysis technique that engaged participants in guided discussion around specific topics using data placemats. The placemats displayed thematically grouped data, charts and graphs in an easy-to-understand format. Discussions were guided by four general questions:

- What social determinants are impacting this health issue?
- From your perspective, what has caused this to improve/worsen/remain the same?
- What efforts have you experienced that are working and how?
- From your perspective, what community/systems-level aspects need to change to positively impact lives and improve data?

Following the guided discussions, Healthy Communities Institute (HCI) led the participants in a prioritization exercise. Each of the six health issues was presented for ranking based on the scope and severity of the issue and the ability to impact. Each attendee was provided a link to an online voting system and allowed a single vote in each category for each health issue. For both the adult and children's prioritization exercises, the top three focus areas for the 2023–2025 CHNA implementation plans were the same. They are:

- Access to health and social services
- Behavioral health (*including mental health and substance misuse*)
- Exercise, nutrition and weight

The three remaining health needs—cancer, heart disease and stroke, and immunization and infectious disease—are significant, but they aren't directly addressed in the 2023–2025 implementation plan strategies. However, these health issues will continue to be impacted through existing BayCare hospital strategies for clinical excellence as well as other efforts in the community, including collaborative efforts with partners such as the Florida Department of Health in Pasco County.

Improving Health Is More Than Just Accessing Health Care



Policies and Programs



Health Factors



Health Outcomes

Health Behaviors (30%)

- Tobacco Use
- Diet and Exercise
- Alcohol and Drug Use
- Sexual Activity

Clinical Care (20%)

- Access to Care
- Quality of Care

Social and Economic Factors (40%)

- Education
- Employment
- Income
- Family and Social Support
- Community Safety

Physical Environment (10%)

- Air and Water Quality
- Housing and Transit

Length of Life (50%)

Quality of Life (50%)

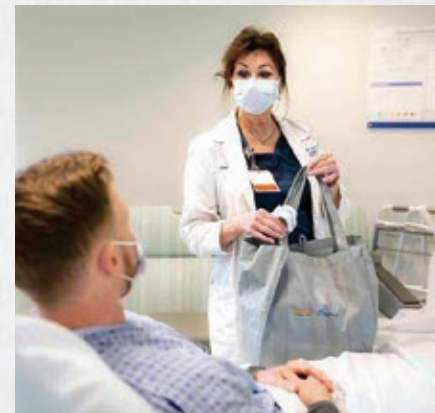
Source: Robert Wood Johnson Foundation, 2022. County Health Rankings Model.

Developing a Strategic Implementation Plan

Through the comprehensive CHNA process, BayCare Hospital Wesley Chapel and Morton Plant North Bay Hospital have a better understanding of the community's health and opportunities for improvement. In addition, we recognize that the CHNA isn't perfect, nor does it reflect each person's unique health experience. In many cases, the assessment validated some of what we already knew about the community, and in other cases we learned about significant shortfalls in the community's health. There are many needs in Pasco County, some of which are reflected in disparities of race, ethnicity, income, geography and education.

Because of our commitment to improving the health and well-being of our Pasco County residents, the BayCare Hospital Wesley Chapel Board of Directors and the Morton Plant North Bay Hospital Board of Directors approved strategies to drive health improvement and approved their respective 2023-2025 implementation plans.

The 2023–2025 implementation plans for BayCare Hospital Wesley Chapel and Morton Plant North Bay Hospital were thoughtfully developed to leverage hospital and community resources, while also working collaboratively across multiple sectors to engage new community partners. To align with population and public health best practices and acknowledge that improving health is more than just accessing health care, the plan includes a strong and directed focus on the social determinants that impact health.



Upon discharge, patients at BayCare hospitals who self-identify as food insecure are offered a “Healing Bag” which includes a two- to three-days’ supply of food plus information about other food resources in the community.



Photo by Susan Meloche, team member at Morton Plant North Bay Hospital

Behavioral Health

Behavioral health includes mental health, substance misuse and addiction intervention including prevention. Mental health is important at every stage of life, from childhood and adolescence through adulthood. Mental health is defined as a state of well-being in which every individual realizes his or her own potential, can cope with the normal stresses of life, can work productively and fruitfully, and is able to contribute to his or her community. Mental health problems and substance use disorders sometimes occur together. This is because:

- Mental health and substance use disorders share some underlying causes, including changes in brain composition, genetic vulnerabilities and early exposure to stress or trauma.
- Mental health problems can sometimes lead to alcohol or drug use, as some people with a mental health problem may misuse these substances as a form of self-medication.
- Certain illegal drugs can cause people with an addiction to experience one or more symptoms of a mental health problem.

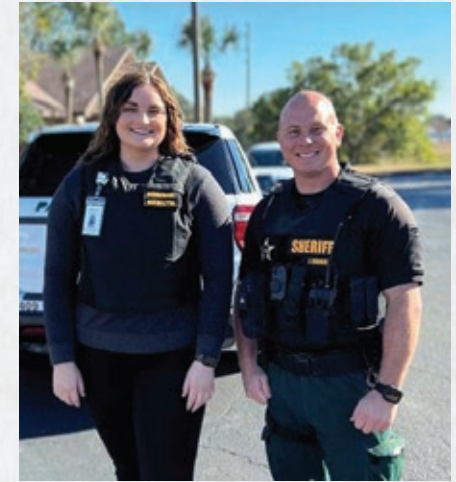
In Pasco County, mental health and substance use have consistently been identified in both the primary and secondary data as a top health priority. Domestic violence rates and unintentional injuries remain significantly higher than the state rate and are getting worse. Suicide rates remain steady and are higher than the state rate. Disparities of age and income exist in those seeking, but unable to get, mental health treatment in these communities.

Behavioral Health Goal

Work to elevate the community's understanding of behavioral health needs and support investment in appropriate and related services.

Objective:

By December 31, 2025, use an equity lens to implement a multifaceted, cross-sector behavioral health campaign to reduce stigma while increasing access to resources.



BayCare Behavioral Health therapist Leighanne Hanson and Pasco Sheriff's detective Jesse Graham team up to serve the community as part of the Mobile Response Team program.



1 in 5 American adults
will experience a mental illness
in a given year.

Behavioral Health in Pasco County

20%

Residents who report a depression diagnosis¹



56.2

Drug overdose deaths per 100,000 population (*higher than for Florida and the U.S.*)²



22%

Adults in Pasco County who are current smokers (*higher than for Florida and the U.S.*)⁴



Alzheimer's, Dementia and Depression

Rates in the Medicare population in Pasco are higher than the U.S.³

17.3

Suicide deaths per 100,000 population (*higher than for Florida and the U.S.*)⁵



25%

Teens who drank alcohol in the past 30 days (*higher than for Florida*)⁴



¹Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, 2019. Population Level Analysis and Community Estimates.

²FL CHARTS, 2020. Substance Use Dashboard: Overdoses.

³Centers for Medicaid and Medicare Services, 2021. Chronic conditions.

⁴FL CHARTS, 2019. Behavioral Risk Factor Surveillance Survey.

⁵FL CHARTS, 2020. Deaths from suicide.

Behavioral Health

Impact Objectives

- Launch a public awareness and resource campaign regionwide to break child mental health stigmas and educate families and advocates
- Implement strategies to educate on tobacco and vaping dangers in Pasco County
- Provide mental health first aid training to at least 100 community members annually
- Provide support for Metropolitan Ministries Miracles for Pasco, an emergency shelter that provides supportive services including counseling
- Continue to support the National Alliance on Mental Illness (NAMI) wellness coach to work one-on-one with individuals with mental health conditions in Pasco County
- Provide support for the prevention efforts of the Pasco Alliance for Substance Abuse Prevention (ASAP)
- Partner with One Community Now to support the behavioral health of veterans in Pasco County through peer mentorship and education

BayCare's Commitment to the Community

Behavioral health has trained providers who can help patients much like a physical health care provider would. In 1997, BayCare joined a rich community legacy for addressing mental health services. The Harbor (*originally founded as Pasco Mental Health Services, PMHS, in 1971*) joined BayCare and the tradition of caring for the community's mental health. BayCare is currently the largest provider of behavioral health services in West Central Florida and the Tampa Bay region and is continuing to expand its team. In 2022, BayCare welcomed its first participants in a new psychiatry residency program at Morton Plant North Bay Hospital to help address the region's provider deficit long-term. And BayCare continues to expand access through innovative programs such as the Mobile Response Team (MRT). MRT allows BayCare's counselors to partner with sheriff's deputies in Pasco County as they respond to calls when individuals express thoughts of causing harm to themselves or others. This collaboration has proven to be a success by reducing involuntary Baker Acts.



Access to Health and Social Services

Access to comprehensive, quality health care services is important for promoting and maintaining health, preventing and managing disease, reducing unnecessary disability and premature death, and achieving health equality for all Americans. Health and social services influence quality of life by addressing social needs related to education, workforce development, social welfare, housing, and reliable, high-quality health care.

Access to health care services can be disproportionately affected by variables such as race, ethnicity, socioeconomic status, geography, age, sex, gender identity, sexual orientation and/or disability status. It requires gaining entry into the health care system (*usually through insurance coverage*), geographic availability of needed health care services, ability to receive services when needed and finding a health care provider the patient can communicate with and trust. Access to health care impacts one's overall physical, social and mental health status and quality of life.

In Pasco County, both primary and secondary data indicate that access is a high health priority for the community. The county is a provider shortage area for primary care, dental and mental health providers, meaning there are too few providers compared to the number of residents.

Access to Health and Social Services in Pasco County

Increase access to timely, affordable and appropriate health and social services for all residents.

Objective:

By December 31, 2025, expand access to health and social services through identification, screening and referral of underserved community members to address social determinants of health and their impact on health outcomes.



A Community Health team member plants a flag to mark the location of screening services during Operation Stand Down, a three-day event at Morton Plant North Bay Hospital to provide services and resources for veterans.

Access to Health and Social Services in Pasco County

30%

Low-income residents who don't have a personal doctor, compared to 27.6% of all residents²



Barriers for those who can't get medical care:

61%

Cost



10%

Parents who reported they couldn't get medical care their child needed in the past year³



33%

Low-income residents who don't have insurance, compared to 17.8% of all residents (*higher than Florida and the U.S.*)¹

51%

Getting an Appointment³



1,110



Residents for every mental health provider (*250:1 among top U.S. performers*)⁴

46%

Survey respondents who went to the ER for a reason other than an emergency or life-threatening situation³



¹United States Census Bureau, 2021. Health insurance coverage status by ratio of income to poverty level in the past 12 months by age.

²FL CHARTS, 2019. Adults who have a personal doctor.

³Community Health Needs Assessment Community Survey, 2022.

⁴Robert Wood Johnson Foundation, 2022. County Health Rankings and Roadmaps.

Access to Health and Social Services

Impact Objectives

- Leverage partnership with FindHelpFlorida.com to improve connections to community resources and close the loop of referrals in Pasco County
- Expand access to affordable medications through support of the Medication Assistance Program
- Increase access to health care, health insurance options and community resources through support of health care navigator services
- Expand access to screening and educational opportunities through support of Faith Community Nursing and their congregational networks
- Improve access to health care through support of increased transportation resources through rideshare services
- Develop and support best practices for tracking social determinants of health to inform efforts to improve the community's health
- Continue to support the voucher program with Premier Community Health Clinic
- Continue to support the advanced registered nurse practitioner (ARNP) position at the Good Samaritan Clinic
- Support a licensed practical nurse (LPN) position for the State Attorney Mobile Medical Unit
- Support lab services for individuals seen by the Mobile Medical Unit, Good Samaritan Clinic and Community Aging & Retirement Services, Inc. (*CARES Clinic*)
- Increase access, education and awareness for migrant and seasonal farmworkers, and former farmworkers, by supporting Promotoras de Salud at Farmworkers Self Help
- Expand access to health care education and support for individuals age 55+ in Pasco through a Health Care Ambassador position at CARES Clinic
- Create an opportunity to improve long-term quality of life outcomes through a health care-focused workforce development program

BayCare's Commitment to the Community

BayCare's commitment to addressing barriers to health care and social services for Pasco County residents includes supporting free clinics, partnering with FindHelpFlorida.com, an online resource to connect individuals to services and resources, and offering transportation assistance for disadvantaged individuals to receive follow-up care, among other efforts. While several of the current activities will continue from the 2020–2022 implementation plans, BayCare is eager to incorporate additional opportunities to deepen the impact of our access to services work in Pasco County.



Exercise, Nutrition and Weight

Physical activity and proper nutrition are key drivers in achieving and maintaining a healthy weight. The combination of these drivers decreases the likelihood of stroke, high blood pressure, heart disease, type 2 diabetes, depression and some cancers, and is a contributing factor in the prevention of many other health problems.

Obesity affects one in five children and one in three adults and costs the U.S. \$173 billion (about \$530 per person) annually. In 2020, 11 percent of children lived in food insecure households. Research has shown that food insecure individuals are more likely to have a higher body mass index (BMI). Primary and secondary data sources elevated physical activity, nutrition and weight to be a high health priority for Pasco County. In 2020, 81 percent of teens didn't get sufficient physical activity.

Exercise, Nutrition and Weight Goal

Pursue policy, systems and environmental change to maintain or increase the number of residents with healthy behaviors and weight while ensuring access to nutritious and reliable food sources.

Objective:

By December 31, 2025, improve overall health through interventions that are inclusive of health and nutrition education, screenings, exercise initiatives and place-based food access.



Morton Plant North Bay Hospital leaders Daniel Shoby, patient services director, and Brandon May, president, help distribute food at Metropolitan Ministries.

Exercise, Nutrition and Weight in Pasco County

17%



Children who live in households at or below the poverty level³

81%

High school students in Pasco County who don't have sufficient vigorous physical activity⁵



28%

Adults who are obese (*higher than for Florida*)⁴



77%

Residents who don't eat enough fruits and vegetables every day¹



13%

Residents who report being food insecure (*higher than the rate for Florida*)²



50%

Those who have diabetes and are food insecure¹



¹Community Health Needs Assessment Community Survey, 2022.

²FL CHARTS, 2019. Food Insecurity Rates.

³FL CHARTS, 2020. Individuals Below Poverty Level (*age 0–17 years*).

⁴Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, 2019. Population Level Analysis and Community Estimates.

⁵FL CHARTS, 2020. Florida High School Youth Risk Behaviors.

Exercise, Nutrition and Weight

Impact Objectives

- Expand the Healing Bag program as a standard of care by screening every patient for food insecurity using the two-question validated USDA Food Insecurity screener and providing nonperishable food upon discharge
- Through a partnership with Feeding Tampa Bay, continue to provide access to food and other services for students and their families at nine schools across Pasco County
- Provide funding to support a position for health care partnerships at Feeding Tampa Bay
- Expand access to food insecure individuals with chronic medical conditions through tailored meals
- Continue the BayCare Kids Wellness and Safety team's work with children's obesity prevention programs, nutritional workshops and large-scale community events
- Deepen the BayCare Community Health team's multidisciplinary partnerships across the service area to include prevention-based screening and/or classes
- Improve health outcomes for community members with prediabetes or type 2 diabetes by partnering with local free clinics to increase diabetes education and support for Pasco County residents
- In partnership with the YMCA, use BayCare Kids Power curriculum for after-school youth nutrition and physical programming
- Partner with the YMCA to provide education, support and prevention strategies for diabetes through the Diabetes Prevention Program (DPP)
- Partner with the YMCA to provide education, support and physical activity strategies to prevent falls in at-risk populations through the Enhance® Fitness program
- Partner with Boys and Girls Club to provide education to youth on the importance of nutrition and physical wellness

BayCare's Commitment to the Community

BayCare has a unique and abiding commitment to addressing food insecurity across Pasco County. The Feeding Minds school-based pantry program in partnership with Feeding Tampa Bay supports nine school sites that provide food free of cost to students and their families. BayCare also has incorporated Healing Bags into our system of care, screening all patients for food insecurity and offering a two- to three-day supply of nonperishable foods and a connection to long-term food sources upon discharge. And questions about food insecurity are being incorporated into our system's routine patient screening questionnaires so we can help connect patients with resources through FindHelpFlorida.com. While these current activities will continue from the 2020–2022 implementation plans, BayCare is eager to incorporate additional opportunities to deepen the impact of our food insecurity and related work in Pasco County.

Hospital Information

Morton Plant North Bay Hospital *New Port Richey, Florida*


Established in 1965, Morton Plant North Bay Hospital, a 222-bed facility, is West Pasco's only not-for-profit community hospital. Since 1999, BayCare has invested more than \$100 million to expand and develop the hospital's programs, services and technologies to ensure the hospital provides high-quality health care to the growing community it serves. The hospital holds primary stroke center certification and is also a major provider for inpatient behavioral health services, including a system-sponsored psychiatry residency program. Morton Plant North Bay Hospital is located at 6600 Madison Street in New Port Richey. For more information: BayCare.org/MPNBH



BayCare Hospital Wesley Chapel *Wesley Chapel, Florida*

BayCare Hospital Wesley Chapel (BHCW) will open in early 2023 as an 86-bed, state-of-the-art hospital centrally located in the heart of a growing community on Bruce B. Downs Boulevard just south of State Road 54. Serving Pasco, Hernando and northern Hillsborough counties, the new hospital will contain comprehensive medical services and health care resources including emergency care, surgical services, GI endoscopy, imaging, intensive care, cardiac catheterization, interventional radiology and outpatient services such as a lab and a breast center. BHCW features all-private rooms and is specially designed to make patients and visitors as comfortable as possible during their hospital experience. For more information: BayCareWesleyChapel.org





The 2023–2025 implementation plan for Morton Plant North Bay Hospital and BayCare Hospital Wesley Chapel was thoughtfully developed to leverage hospital and current community resources, while also working collaboratively across multiple sectors to engage new community partners. To align with population and public health best practices and acknowledge that improving health is more than just accessing health care, the plans include a strong and directed focus on the social determinants that impact health.

