

# ISSUE BRIEF: ACCESS TO HEALTH CARE

## MUNSON 2015/16 COMMUNITY HEALTH NEEDS ASSESSMENT

Regular and reliable access to health services can prevent disease and disability, detect and treat illnesses or other health conditions, increase quality of life, reduce the likelihood of premature death, and increase life expectancy.

<b>Severity</b> <i>Risk of mortality and morbidity associated with the problem</i>	<b>Magnitude</b> <i>Number of people impacted by the problem</i>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Almost 1 in 4 Americans do not have a regular primary care provider or health center where they can receive routine medical services.</li> <li>• 16% of adults under age 65 and 4% of children are uninsured in Michigan.</li> <li>• About half of older adults in the US are not up-to-date on a core set of clinical preventive services, including cancer screenings and immunizations.</li> <li>• Nationally, 55.5% of people age 2 and older have not had a dental visit in the past 12 months, a rate that has remained unchanged for the past decade.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• An estimated 42,722 residents in the five-county region do not have a regular primary care provider or health center (25% of total population of 170,887).</li> <li>• An estimated 16,337 adults (16% of the 102,104 residents age 18 to 64) and 1,390 children (4% of the 34,744 residents and 17 and younger) are uninsured in the five county region.</li> <li>• An estimated 5,446 older adults (16% of the 34,039 residents age 65+) in the region are not up-to-date on a core set of clinical preventive services.</li> <li>• An estimated 92,700 residents in the five-county region have not had a dental visit in the past 12 months (55.5% of the 167,027 residents age 2+).</li> </ul>
<b>Impact</b> <i>Improving this problem would have a positive impact on health, quality of life, or health disparities</i>	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Lacking access to health services—even for just a short period—can lead to poor health outcomes over time.</li> <li>• People without medical insurance are more likely to lack a usual source of medical care, and are more likely to skip routine medical care due to cost, increasing their risk for serious and disabling health conditions. When they do access health services, they are often burdened with large medical bills and out-of-pocket expenses.</li> <li>• Clinical preventive services, such as routine disease screening and scheduled immunizations, are keys to reducing death and disability and improving the Nation’s health. These services both prevent and detect illnesses and diseases—from flu to cancer—in their earlier, more treatable stages, significantly reducing the risk of illness, disability, early death, and medical care costs.</li> <li>• Community programs can play a role in promoting the use of clinical preventive services and assisting clients in overcoming barriers to transportation, child care, and navigating resources.</li> <li>• A lack of medical services in some communities, coupled with a shortage of primary care providers, negatively affects people’s ability to access health services. Living in a rural area in itself is a determinant health. Geographic isolation, fewer transportation options, and limited community resources compounds access barriers.</li> </ul>	
<b>Sustainability</b> <i>Resources are available and barriers are surmountable</i>	<b>Achievability</b> <i>Achievable and measureable outcomes are possible within three years</i>
<p>Resources in the community include (among others):</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Munson Healthcare, Munson Medical Center</li> <li>• Munson Family Practice and other primary care providers, including FQHCs, student health centers, and tribal health services</li> <li>• Munson specialty practices and other specialists</li> <li>• CMH agencies and other behavioral health providers</li> <li>• Dentists, Dental Clinics North, tribal dental clinic, U of M dental students</li> <li>• Health Departments</li> <li>• Commercial health insurers and Healthy Michigan Plan</li> </ul>	<p>Metrics include indicators collected by Community Health Solutions:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Adults with health insurance</li> <li>• Children with health insurance</li> <li>• Physician primary care provider rate</li> <li>• Non-physician primary care provider rate</li> </ul>

## HIGHLIGHTS FROM THE MUNSON 2015/16 COMMUNITY HEALTH NEEDS ASSESSMENT

### *Antrim, Benzie, Grand Traverse, Kalkaska and Leelanau Counties*

<b>Grand Traverse Region Access to Health Care Statistics</b>						
<b>Health Professions Shortage Areas (HPSAs):</b> The US Health Resources and Services Administration designates HPSAs in Antrim, Benzie, Grand Traverse, Kalkaska and Leelanau for primary care, mental health and/or dental health.						
<b>Supply of primary care providers:</b> Ratios of population to primary care providers exceeds State rate (1,246:1) in all counties except for Grand Traverse (665:1), ranging up to 3,087:1 in Leelanau County.						
<b>Supply of mental health providers:</b> Ratios of population to mental health providers are below State (487:1) in all counties except for Grand Traverse (274:1), ranging up to 2,718:1 in Leelanau County.						
<b>Supply of dentists:</b> Ratios of population to dentists are below State (1,485:1) in all counties except Grand Traverse (1,125:1), ranging up to 2,905:1 in Benzie County.						
<b>Uninsured adults:</b> The proportion of uninsured adults age 18 to 64 exceeds State rate (13%) in all counties in the five-county region, ranging from 15.3% in Grand Traverse County to 19.4% in Kalkaska County.						
<b>Uninsured children:</b> The proportion of uninsured children (age 0-17) exceeds State rate (4%) in all counties in the five-county region, ranging from 4.4% in Grand Traverse County to 8.1% in Leelanau County.						
<b>Community Conversations</b>			<b>Major Forces of Change in the Community</b>			
<p>111 community residents and stakeholders participated in one of five Community Conversations sponsored by local multipurpose collaborative bodies.</p> <p>Each one answered the question, “What can we do here to move closer to our vision of a healthy community?”</p> <p>Addressing access to health care services, including primary care, behavioral health, and dental care, was part of the collective answer to this focus question in each of the five counties in the region:</p>			<p>16 members of the Munson CHNA Advisory Committee participated in a facilitated discussion to identify forces of change in the community. The following forces impact access to care in the region:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Munson programs and services</li> <li>• Increase in aging population</li> <li>• Improvement in the economy</li> <li>• State Innovation Model designation of a Northern Michigan Community Health Innovation Region</li> <li>• Elections and implications for the Affordable Care Act</li> <li>• Healthy Michigan Plan and Enroll Northern Michigan</li> <li>• Aging population</li> <li>• Increases in substance use, depression and anxiety</li> <li>• Formation of the Northern Michigan Public Health Alliance and expansion of community linkage models</li> <li>• Availability of technology</li> <li>• Easy access to information</li> </ul>			
Antrim	Benzie	GT	Kalkaska	Leelanau		
✓	✓	✓	✓	✓		
<b>What Matters to You? Survey</b>			<b>Health Care Provider Survey</b>			
<p>246 residents of Antrim, Benzie, Grand Traverse, Kalkaska and Leelanau counties completed the “What Matters to You?” Survey.</p> <p>Overall, they ranked “lack access to health care” as the fifth most important community health issue in their county, behind “substance use”, “lack of affordable housing”, “overweight and obesity”, and “mental health issues”. Adults in the region experience financial barriers to accessing health care, such as high deductibles and co-pays, limited insurance coverage, and inability to pay for visits.</p>			<p>50 physicians, nurse practitioners, and physician assistants from Kalkaska Memorial Medical Center, Munson Medical Center and Paul Oliver Hospital completed a brief Health Care Provider Survey.</p> <p>Overall, they ranked “lack of access to health care” as the fourth most important community health issue in their county of residence, behind “overweight and obesity”, “substance use”, and “mental health issues”.</p>			