**2019 Community Benefits Plan Programs**

Our current 2018 Community Health Need Assessment Plan is now posted out our website.  <https://www.thorek.org/community/community-benefit>

Based on Prioritization of Community Healthcare needs submitted to Thorek Memorial Hospital, by PRC, Inc., here are the following resolutions Thorek will implement to meet the Healthcare needs of the community. These prioritizations are in no particular order.

**MENTAL HEALTH/SUBSTANCE ABUSE**

Currently Thorek has three outpatient Mental Health/Substance Abuse related clinics. In May 2019, we will be adding three other clinic days for coverage six days per week. These clinics include Psychiatrists, Psychiatric Nurse Practitioners, and a Social Worker. Coverage will be Monday through Saturday with morning and evening hours to accommodate patients.

**ORAL HEALTH**

Thorek Memorial Hospital will partner with Pristine Family Dental in an email campaign promoting not only Oral Health, but also all hospital services. This campaign is set to run in July 2019 and will continue yearly. For more information on Pristine Family Dental, please click link below.

<https://www.patientconnect365.com/Dentists/Illinois/Chicago/60613/Pristine_Family_Dentistry>

**ACCESS TO HEALTH SERVICES**

Thorek will be extending not only its Mental Health/Substance Abuse days and hours of clinic, but we will also be adding more Saturday and Evening Hours at the following locations:

 Lincoln Square Clinic - Hours now from 9am – 7pm (opening 2 hours earlier)

 from 1.7 FTE to 2.5 FTE

 China Square Clinic - from 2 FTE to 2.5 FTE

 Main Hospital Clinic - TBD

These will be Primary Care Clinics. In addition to more hours added, we will also have more availability of health care providers at these areas as well. This is an ongoing initiative, with the first availability of more providers starting in April 2019.

**HEART DISEASE AND STROKE**

The City of Chicago has an acute stroke diversion plan in place whereby Emergency Medical Services, with acute stroke patients, will bypass hospitals that are not Comprehensive Stroke Centers (CSCs). CSC status is not a realistic goal for Thorek Memorial Hospital give that our catchment already has several CSC. Furthermore, we are a small independent hospital that largely caters to a behavioral/substance abuse inpatient population of generally younger, non-stroke prone age, making it unrealistic to attempt to become a CSC. Thorek stroke volumes will never be high enough to qualify as a CSC. For patients in the middle of heart related crisis, these patients would be sent out to a Trauma center in the community. In relation to heart disease and stroke awareness, we will educate our surrounding community about the warning signs, manifestations, and preventatives for these diseases by providing a Thorek speaker for community education at appropriate neighborhood venues.

**NUTRITION**

Thorek Memorial Hospital started offering outpatient visits twice per week with our Certified Dieticians and Certified Diabetic Educator. This initiative started in January 2019. This will be ongoing and more days and times will be added as needed based on demand. Also, Dieticians, have been participating in community health fairs offering appointments and general information on dietary needs.

**VIOLENCE/INJURY**

Thorek will work with Sarah’s Circle, a battered/homeless women’s shelter in the Uptown Neighborhood to provide medical/behavioral treatment and resources to its residents. Currently Sarah’s Circle is expanding to house more of these women in need. For more information on Sarah’s Circle, please click link below.

<https://www.sarahs-circle.org/>

**CANCER**

Thorek will offer free skin cancer screening annually starting in July with our dermatologist. This event will take place on two half days in the month of July. Follow up appointments will be offered when needed. Also, our cancer center will be promoted through our summer health fairs and events. This is an ongoing initiative.