



2022

PEE DEE REGION

COMMUNITY HEALTH NEEDS ASSESSMENT REPORT

McLeod Health

 **MUSC Health**
Medical University of South Carolina

Florence Medical Center

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INTRODUCTION FROM MCLEOD REGIONAL MEDICAL CENTER CEO

Earlier in 2021, McLeod Health was given the opportunity to partner with MUSC Health, local healthcare organizations and community members to identify and analyze community health needs. After conducting a Community Health Needs Assessment (CHNA) for Florence, Darlington, Marion and Williamsburg counties, our organizations have now accumulated qualitative and quantitative data that will help us all prioritize, plan and respond to those health needs where possible.

In reviewing this report, it is important to start where health begins. Every person in our community should have the opportunity to make good healthy choices (e.g. regarding smoking, diet, alcohol use, physical activity) as this has the largest impact on future health outcomes. Wherever possible, through programs, services, public policy or other means, emphasis should be placed on addressing healthy choices and prevention, before there is a medical need. Research estimates that the healthcare system represents only 10 to 20 percent of determining health status, while individual health behaviors account for 40 percent or more.

There have been major strides to mitigate health risks and make it easier for people to make healthy choices. However, we believe more can be done. Success should be linked to collaboration where collective efforts build a healthy community that nurtures its families and communities. McLeod Health and MUSC Health encourage partnerships with volunteers, businesses, government, civic and religious institutions to join us in this work.

Together, our health systems will make use of the CHNA findings to address local health care concerns. Collaborations with regional agencies will also help provide medical solutions and education to the service area. We may not be able to eradicate every illness, yet much can be accomplished with education, fostering good health, and addressing community health gaps. Our goal to improve the health needs of our communities will be met as we make this concerted effort to work as one for the betterment of those we are privileged to serve.



Will McLeod

*Chief Executive Officer
McLeod Regional Medical Center
Senior Vice President, McLeod Health*

INTRODUCTION FROM MUSC HEALTH – FLORENCE DIVISION CEO



The community we live in has much to celebrate. We should celebrate growth in several areas such as industry, agriculture, and healthcare. With this growth comes a tremendous responsibility to ensure our community is as healthy as possible. As health care providers, we are obligated to focus on your needs and make the best care available to everyone. We are proud of the progress made toward building a healthier community, but we can't fully understand health care needs without input from you. To get a better idea, MUSC Health Florence Division launched a Community Health Needs Assessment (CHNA) survey in partnership with McLeod Health.

Over the past several months, the survey engaged community stakeholders and organizations, and we made sure to include people in underserved populations in our data collection. The information gathered will help us better understand health issues, health behaviors, social issues, and other risk factors affecting health and wellness in our community and in turn help us take action to build a healthier Pee Dee.

The CHNA survey named four health-related priorities in Florence, Darlington, Marion, and Williamsburg counties to focus on. Understanding each of the four priority areas helps us better serve you and identify opportunities for collaboration to address the needs.

I am optimistic and energized as a healthcare partner and personally as a community member about what we have learned. The assessment is complete, but this is only the beginning of good things to come and the hard work we can do together to make the Pee Dee a healthier place for everyone.

Jay Hinesley, MHA, FACHE

*Chief Executive Officer
MUSC Health Florence Division*

MUSC HEALTH AND MCLEOD HEALTH

In 2019, MUSC Health acquired two community hospitals in the Pee Dee region of the state. The two hospitals that were acquired are MUSC Health Florence Medical Center (formerly Carolinas Hospital System-Florence) and MUSC Health Marion Medical Center (formerly Carolinas Hospital System-Marion). MUSC Health provides patient care at 14 hospitals with approximately 2,500 beds and five additional hospital locations in development; more than 350 telehealth sites, with connectivity to patients' homes; and nearly 750 care locations situated in all regions of South Carolina. MUSC Health is the only comprehensive academic medical center in the state.

MUSC Health Florence Medical Center an acute care facility comprised of 396 patient beds and more than 1,500 employees and nearly 425 physicians representing all major specialties. An extensive range of services includes heart and vascular care, cancer treatment, minimally invasive orthopedic, general and robotic surgeries, diagnostics, women's health, rehabilitation services and emergency services, and stroke care services.

MUSC Health Marion Medical Center is a 124-bed, acute care facility and is the only hospital in Marion. Marion Medical Center includes Mullins Nursing Center — a 92-bed, long term care facility.

McLeod Health is the region's destination for medical excellence serving more than one million people. The McLeod Health network is comprised of seven hospitals totaling 938 acute licensed beds in Florence, Darlington, Dillon, Manning, Cheraw, Loris, and Little River. Founded over a century ago, McLeod is a locally owned, not-for-profit healthcare system which features the strength of more than 800 physicians and 2,000 registered nurses, and more than 8,500 employees. McLeod constantly seeks to improve patient care with efforts that are physician led, data-driven and evidence-based. McLeod Health has started an expansion into Carolina Forest (Myrtle Beach, SC) with two medical office buildings and a free-standing Emergency Department completed and 5 more buildings planned.

METHODOLOGY

PURPOSE

This report provides an overview of the Pee Dee region’s health landscape as captured by the 2021 CHNA conducted by McLeod Regional Medical Center and MUSC Health – Florence Division. This report is designed for use by various audiences and provides data we hope is useful in supporting community health improvement efforts.

GOALS

The goals of the assessment were to:

- Engage community members and key stakeholders from the Pee Dee that represent or serve low-income, historically-excluded and other underserved populations
- Assess and understand the community’s health issues and needs of the region
- Understand the health behaviors, risk factors and social determinants that impact health and wellness
- Identify existing community resources and explore opportunities for collaboration

Healthy People 2020

The health topics included in the CHNA survey and referenced during qualitative data collection efforts were drawn from Healthy People 2020, a 10-year health improvement agenda developed by the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services. Healthy People 2020 sets data-driven national objectives to improve health and well-being over the next decade. The topics considered were:

- Access to Care
- Clinical Preventive Services
- Injury & Violence
- Maternal, Infant & Child Health
- Mental Health
- Obesity, Nutrition & Physical Activity
- Oral Health
- Reproductive & Sexual Health
- Substance Misuse
- Tobacco

How to Use this Report

The Examining the Issues sections of this report explore the top four of 10 health issues prioritized in the 2021 CHNA survey from national, state and local perspectives and include data to help drive action. Community Assets provide an overview of local organizations offering unique programs and services impacting the Pee Dee region health outcomes. Did You Know snapshots highlight existing efforts of CHNA partner organizations that address prioritized health topics impacting our region identified through the needs assessment. This information is intended to help make you a better advocate for our community and its needs.

CHNA Data Collection Process

The primary data collection process began in April 2021 and concluded in May 2021 through a robust process including a community survey, focus group meetings, and interviews with key stakeholders. Data was synthesized to identify and prioritize the top healthcare issues perceived by the residents of the region using the US Department of Health and Human Services’ Healthy People 2020 as a framework. Secondary data included demographic and public health statistics provided by US Census and SC Department of Health and Environmental Control (SCDHEC).

- Community surveys were collected throughout four counties and were made available in both English and Spanish.
- Key informant interviews were conducted with community stakeholders throughout four counties.
- Three focus groups were held in each county and included a diverse group of community members. The focus group locations were McLeod Regional Medical Center, Coker University, and Marion Fire Department.
- Interviews and focus group recordings were transcribed and coded for common themes.

Data Overview

COMMUNITY SURVEYS

1,330

KEY INFORMATION INTERVIEWS

7

FOCUS GROUP PARTICIPANTS

20

COMMUNITY DESCRIPTION & DEMOGRAPHICS

MUSC Health and McLeod Health serve patients from four counties in the Pee Dee region: Darlington, Florence, Marion, and Williamsburg Counties. Demographics and associated social determinants of health statistics for each will be clustered within its respective region.



A total of 265,936 people live in the 2,785 square mile area assessed according to the US Census Bureau. Compared to the state, the Pee Dee region has a higher percentage (9%) of people of color and older residents.



Source: US Census, 2021

LAND AREA IN SQ. MILES		DARLINGTON	FLORENCE	MARION	WILLIAMSBURG	SOUTH CAROLINA
POPULATION PER SQ. MILE		122.4	171.1	67.6	36.8	153.9
TOTAL POPULATION		66,618	138,293	30,657	30,368	5,148,714
GENDER (%)	MALE	47.1	46.7	45.8	47.5	48.4
	FEMALE	52.9	53.3	54.2	52.5	51.6
RACE/ETHNICITY (%)	WHITE	56.0	53.3	54.2	33.0	68.6
	BLACK	41.7	43.2	56.8	64.5	27.0
	AMERICAN INDIAN AND ALASKAN NATIVE	0.4	0.4	0.7	0.6	0.5
	ASIAN	0.5	1.6	0.7	.09	1.8
	OTHER	1.4	1.5	1.5	1.0	2.1
	HISPANIC/LATINO	2.2	2.8	2.9	2.3	6.0
PERSONS 65 YEARS AND OVER (%)		19.5	17.4	20.7	21.7	18.2

Compared to the state, the Pee Dee region has greater economic, environmental and healthcare instability.

SOCIAL DETERMINANT OF HEALTH INDICATOR		INDICATOR DEFINITION	PEE DEE REGION	SOUTH CAROLINA
Economic Stability	Poverty	% population below 100% FPL	20.6	13.8
	Employment	percentage of the county's civilian labor force, ages 25 and older, that is employed	53.2	59.7
Neighborhood and Physical Environment	Homeownership	% occupied housing units that are owned	68.6	73.6
	Median Household Income	income where half of households in a county earn more and half of households earn less	\$37,513.50	\$53,199.00
	Broadband Internet Subscription	% households with broadband internet subscription	60.6	78.2
	Violent Crime	# violent crimes reported per 100,000 population	627.3	511.3
Education	High School Graduation	% high school graduate or higher	81.6	87.5
Food	Food Insecurity	% population who did not have access to a reliable source of food during the past year	15.0	12.0
Healthcare System	Disability	% persons with a disability under age 65	12.5	10.2
	Uninsured	% population without health insurance	13.2	13.2
	Life Expectancy	Average number of years a person can expect to live	72.9	77.1
	Physical Inactivity	% adults ages 20 and over reporting no leisure-time physical activity in the past month	34.0	26.0
	Primary Care Physicians Ratio	the ratio of the population to primary care physicians	2915:1	1490:1

Sources: US Census, 2021; County Health Rankings and Roadmaps, 2021

COMMUNITY SURVEY & DEMOGRAPHICS

The community survey was launched online via Survey Monkey on April 19, 2021 to identify a general overview of the most concerning health topics. Paper surveys were made available through community partners to ensure individuals without access to internet or a smart phone could participate. Below is a summary of respondent demographics.

Demographics		Pee Dee (%)
Race/Ethnicity	White	67.6
	Black	24.1
	American Indian or Alaska Native	1.0
	Asian	1.0
	Native Hawaiian or Pacific Islander	1.0
	Multiracial	1.0
	Hispanic/Latino	2.0
Gender	Female	79.8
	Male	19.1
Age	Persons 65 years and older	25.9
Veteran Status	Yes	5.5
Sexual Orientation	LGBTQIA+	3.4
Disability	Disabled (under age 65)	3.8
Education	Less than High School Graduation	0.8
	Bachelor's Degree or Higher	78.0
Income	Median Income	\$37,513.50
	Uninsured	2.5
Language	English as Primary Language	98.7
Occupation	Medical, Social Service or Non-Profit Provider	52.5

SURVEY PARTICIPANTS BY RACE/ETHNICITY

67.60% White or Caucasian
 26.93% Black or African American
 2.34% Prefer Not to Answer
 1.01% Hispanic or Latino
 0.78% Other / Multiracial
 0.70% American Indian or Alaska Native
 0.55% Asian or Asian American

SURVEY PARTICIPANTS BY COUNTY

74.84% Florence
 11.25% Darlington
 7.73% Other
 4.53% Marion
 1.64% Williamsburg

SURVEY PARTICIPANTS BY EDUCATION

43.09% Graduate degree
 26.46% Bachelor's Degree
 11.32% Some college but no degree
 8.74% High school degree or equivalent (e.g. GED)
 8.43% Associate Degree
 1.17% Prefer Not to Answer
 0.78% Less than high school degree

SURVEY PARTICIPANTS BY INCOME

3.60% Under \$15,000
 7.67% Between \$15,000 and \$29,999
 15.66% Between \$30,000 and \$49,999 (Median Income - \$37,513.50)
 19.19% Between \$50,000 and \$74,999
 15.97% Between \$75,000 and \$99,999
 13.94% Between \$100,000 and \$149,999
 8.93% Over \$150,000
 15.04% Prefer Not to Answer

HEALTH TOPIC RANKINGS

The 2021 CHNA respondents were asked to rank health topic areas from the Healthy People 2030, a 10-year health improvement agenda developed by the US Department of Health and Human Services. Healthy People 2030 sets data-driven national objectives to improve health and well-being over the next decade. The top four topics from the survey results will be the focus of health improvement efforts in the Pee Dee region.

Obesity, Nutrition and Physical Activity: Diet, exercise and weight management are the foundations of health and wellness. A healthy balance of each greatly contributes to long-term health outcomes and decreased health risks. The need to lower obesity rates by increasing physical activity as well as access to healthier food is evident based on input from the community.

Access to Care: Access to care impacts all aspects of a person's overall health. Three elements influence access: knowledge and ability to gain entry into the health care system (education and insurance coverage); available transportation services and geographic proximity; and trust and good communication with a provider (personal relationship).

Clinical Preventative Services: Routine physical exams, disease screenings and immunizations have been highlighted as critical preventive services to reduce premature death and disability. Still, thousands of South Carolinians forgo preventive services.

Mental Health: Research conducted in development of Healthy People 2030 has shown that adults and children with undiagnosed and untreated mental health issues are at higher risk for unhealthy and unsafe behaviors. Behaviors like alcohol or drug misuse, violent or self-destructive behavior and suicide have been noted as measurable indicators of a community's mental health.

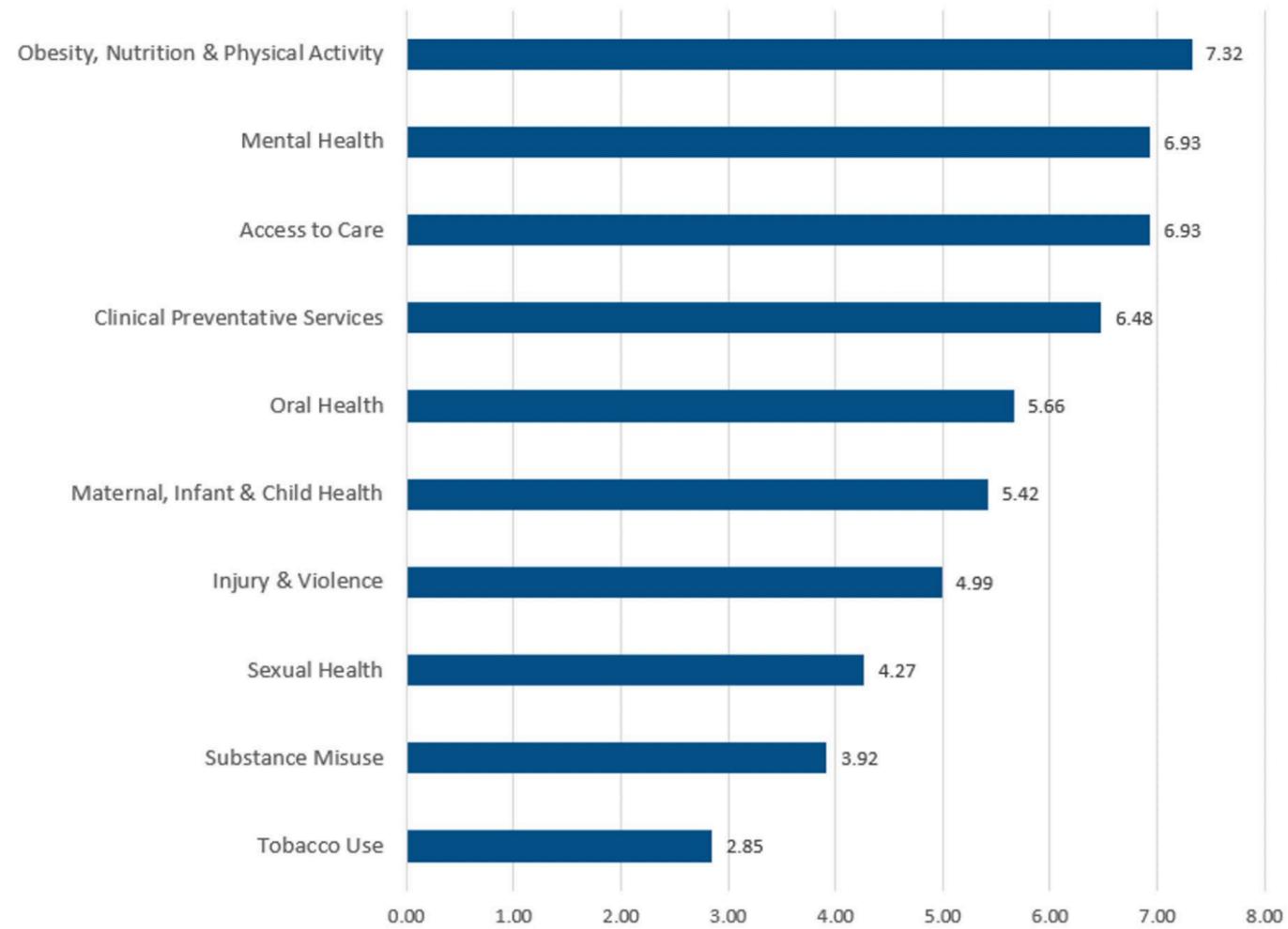
Sources:

County Health Rankings, 2021
<https://www.countyhealthrankings.org/>

Healthy People 2030
<https://health.gov/healthypeople>

SC Department of Health and Environmental Control, Public Health Statistics and Information Services, 2021
<https://apps.dhec.sc.gov/Health/scan/scan/index.aspx>

HEALTH ISSUE PRIORITIZATION (ALL RESPONDENTS)



COUNTY HEALTH RANKINGS

The United Health Foundation ranks the overall health of each county.

Health Outcomes

(Length and Quality of Life)

Darlington County #31

Florence County #29

Marion County #42

Williamsburg #46

Health Factors

Health Factors

(Clinical Care, Social, Economic and Physical Environment)

Darlington County #28

Florence County #21

Marion County #43

Williamsburg County #41

EXAMINING THE ISSUE – OBESITY, NUTRITION & PHYSICAL ACTIVITY

Diet, exercise and weight management are the foundations of health and wellness. A healthy balance of each greatly contributes to improved health outcomes and decreased health risks. According to County Health Rankings, 34% of adults in South Carolina are obese – 2% lower than the Healthy People 2030 target. However, all of the Pee Dee counties exceed the state’s average and national goal: Darlington (37%), Florence (39%), Marion (41%) and Williamsburg (46%).

OBESITY PERCENTAGE

DARLINGTON	FLORENCE	MARION	WILLIAMSBURG
37%	39%	41%	46%

Only 45.4% of respondents reported exercising or being physically active outside of work/school three or more times in the past week. Time (25.1%) and safety (4.0%) were cited as barriers. Respondents that are physically active choose to do so independently (71.0%) or use some type of gym or community center membership (33.0%).

Physical Activity (Age 20+)

Percentage of adults with no leisure-time / physical activity

County	%	Population Age 20+
Darlington	30.6%	50,310
Florence	31.2%	102,125
Marion	33.7%	23,368
Williamsburg	33.0%	23,939
South Carolina	25.1%	3,782,817
United States	22.1%	243,068,284

Food Environment – Food Desert

Food desert is defined as any neighborhood that lacks food sources

County	Population	Food Desert Population
Darlington	68,681	18,867
Florence	136,885	20,517
Marion	33,062	0 (no data)
Williamsburg	34,423	5,402

Data source: US Department of Agriculture, Economic Research Service, USDA-Food Access Research Atlas. 2019.

The Pee Dee region percentage of adults with no leisure time / physical activity is above the South Carolina and United States average.

Data source: Centers for Disease and Prevention, National Center of Chronic Disease Prevention and Health Promotion. 2017

COMMUNITY SPOTLIGHT HARVEST HOPE



“Harvest Hope is committed to not only supplying our neighbors with food but giving them nutritious and healthy options to aid in their long-term health. We believe by addressing the root causes of hunger, we can build a healthy and hopeful hunger-free tomorrow in the communities we serve.”



HARVEST HOPE



“ Our obesity here is much higher than it should be. And largely that’s, again, not completely genetic. It also has to do with eating habits and a lack of exercise.

- Community Voice

EXAMINING THE ISSUE – ACCESS TO CARE

According to Healthy People 2030, “a person’s ability to access health services has a profound effect on every aspect of his or her health”. South Carolina is one of the 20 states that failed to expand Medicaid, and 13% of South Carolinians are still uninsured. Many South Carolinians do not have a primary care provider or health center where they can receive routine medical care. When routine medical care and preventive measures are neglected, risk for serious, acute conditions and medical expenses rise considerably. Although the Pee Dee region matches the uninsured rate of the state, there is room to improve.

TOP 5 BARRIERS TO ACCESSING SERVICES

1. Work schedule (12.7%)
2. Cannot afford co-pay or deductibles (10.0%)
3. Fear (4.1%)
4. Lack of local healthcare services (2.5%)
5. No insurance or ability to pay (2.3%)

TOP BARRIERS TO ACCESSING SERVICES (NON-PROVIDER RESPONDENTS)

1. I do not have any issues accessing health care screenings or services. (72.59%)
2. Work schedule (12.74%)
3. I have insurance, but I cannot afford the co-pay or deductibles (10.04%)
4. Fear (4.05%)
5. Lack of available health care services (2.51%)
6. I do not have insurance and cannot pay for services (2.32%)

TOP BARRIERS TO ACCESSING SERVICES (PROVIDER RESPONDENTS FOR CLIENTS)

YOUR SERVICES

1. Lack of transportation (23.80%)
2. Other (18.34%)*
3. Being uninsured (9.61%)
4. Having insurance but not being able to afford copays or deductibles (9.39%)
5. Cultural issues (8.73%)

OTHER SERVICES

1. Lack of transportation (27.49%)
2. Having insurance but not being able to afford copays or deductibles (15.58%)
3. Being uninsured (15.37%)
4. Other (15.15%)
5. Cultural issues (8.23%)

COMMUNITY SPOTLIGHT Marion County Branch NAACP #5570

As an organization, we are committed to ensuring our communities have an inclusive culture of health and equitable social health systems, a fair and just representation for everyone by standing up for our rights in congress and in courts as well as raising next generation leaders by providing support to young leaders and change agents.



Make it easier for people, and make sure that they’re not overwhelmed because of technology. We quickly say go online and fill out this form, and people are intimidated by technology. - **Community Voice**

COMMUNITY SPOTLIGHT The Darla Moore Foundation



The Darla Moore Foundation’s mission is to improve the lives of the Pee Dee region and South Carolina residents. We take actions to expand access to higher education and improve workforce development, economic development, artistic vitality, and environmental conservation.

EXAMINING THE ISSUE – MENTAL HEALTH

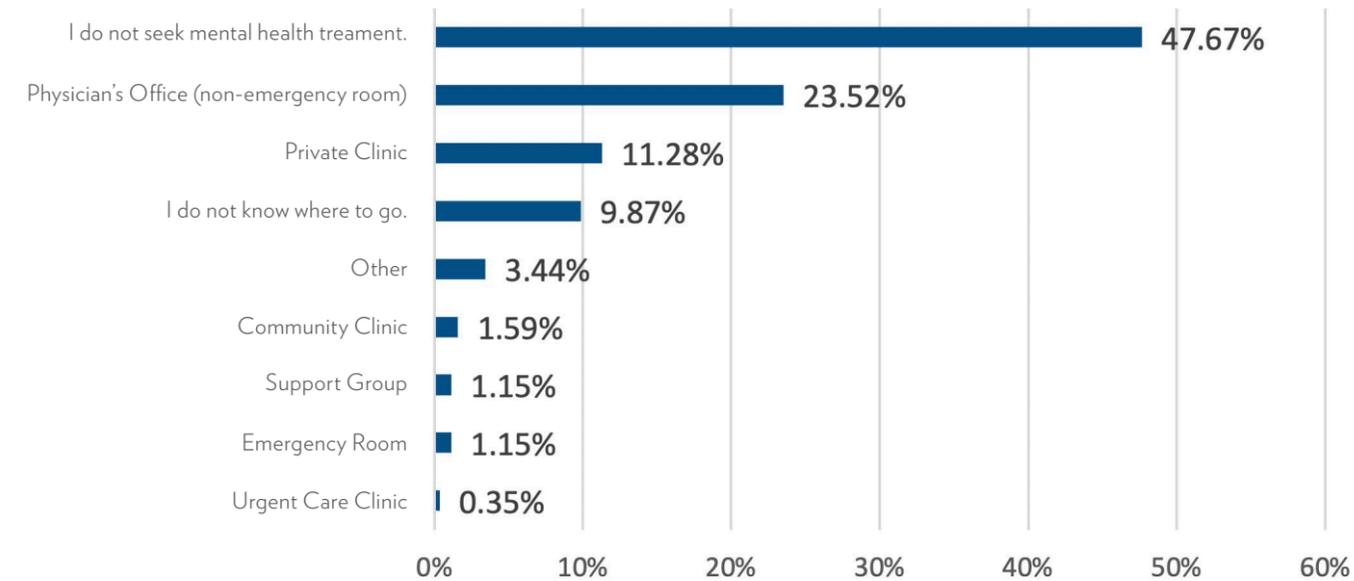
About half of all people in the United States will be diagnosed with a mental disorder at some point in their lifetime (Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, 2018). In 2019, an estimated 4.89% of South Carolina adults, over the age of 18, suffered from a serious mental illness (National Survey on Drug Use & Health, 2019).

For states with higher rates of access to care for mental health, there are 270 people for every mental health provider. In South Carolina, that number ranges from 7,280 to 280 people per mental health provider. Pee Dee has a less significant range of 1,020 to 440 people per mental health provider (County Health Rankings, 2021). Research has proven that adults and children with undiagnosed and untreated mental health issues are at higher risk for unhealthy and unsafe behaviors. Behaviors like alcohol or drug abuse, violent or self-destructive behavior, and suicide have been noted as measurable indicators of a community’s mental health.

Ratio of Mental Health Providers by County, 2021

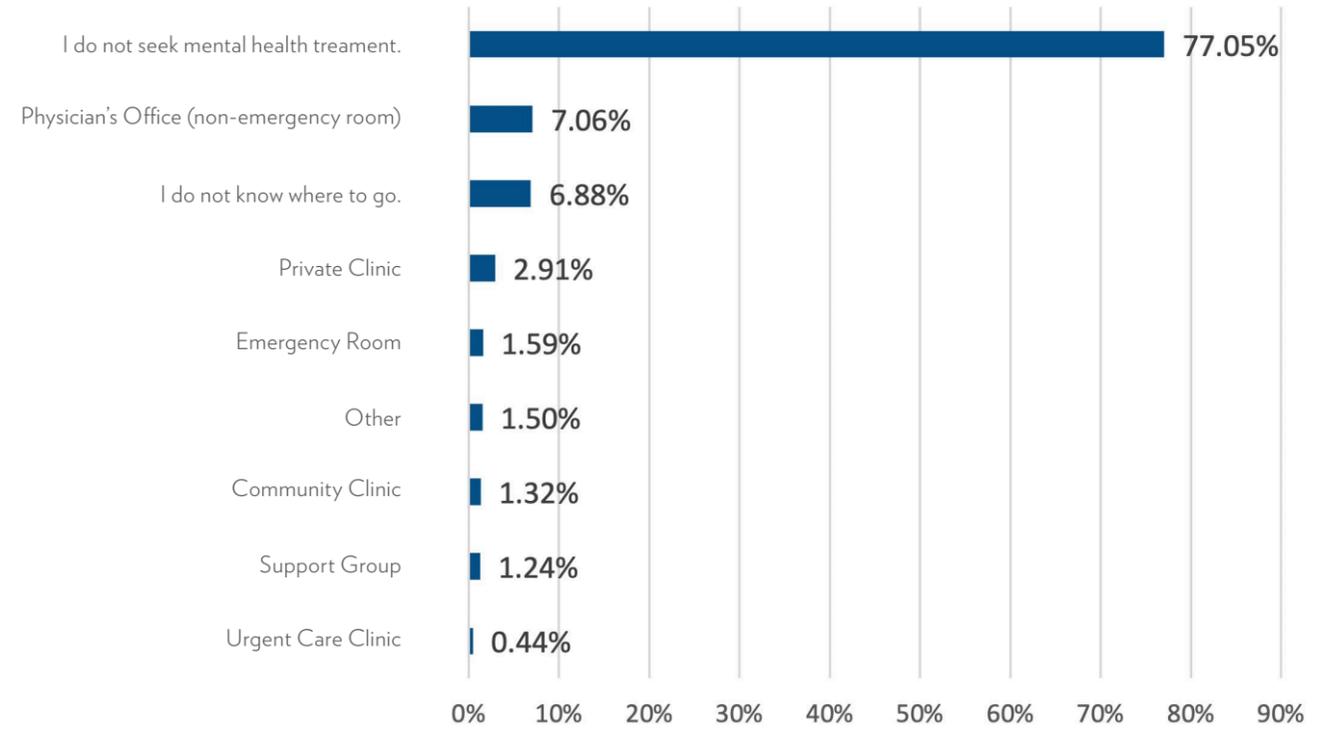
Darlington:	770:1
Florence:	440:1
Marion:	1,020:1
Williamsburg:	820:1
South Carolina:	550:1
National	380:1

Where would you go for routine mental health care/treatment? (All respondents)



EXAMINING THE ISSUE – MENTAL HEALTH

Where would you go for routine substance misuse health care/treatment? (All respondents)



COMMUNITY SPOTLIGHT Mercy Medicine



“Mercy Medicine provides free medical, dental, and medication support for qualified patients of Florence and Williamsburg Counties primarily for chronic diseases such as diabetes, hypertension, COPD, and other non- life- threatening conditions. In addition to primary care the clinic also offers mental health, dietary, podiatry, physical therapy, and pain management services.”

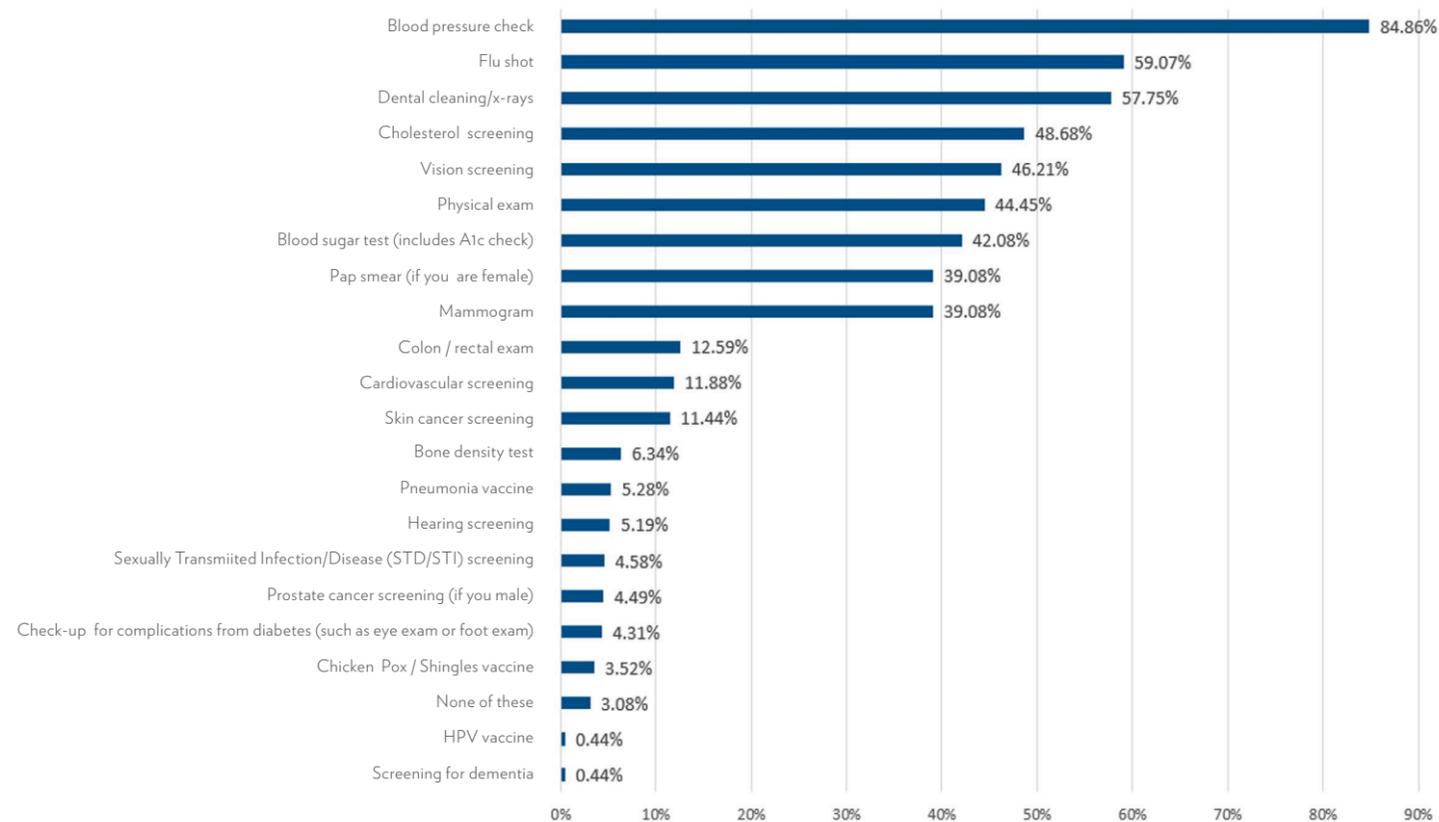
“ I would like to see the state invest more funds in psychiatric facilities. Plenty of days we hold patients in our emergency rooms. [...] So, if there were more beds available on the state level, patients would get better care.

EXAMINING THE ISSUE – CLINICAL PREVENTATIVE SERVICES

Eighteen percent of South Carolinians rate their health as poor or fair. In Pee Dee, the percentage is elevated at 24% (County Health Rankings, 2021). Pee Dee includes four of the state’s least healthy counties based on how long people live and how healthy people feel while alive. Of 46 counties, Florence ranks 29, Darlington ranks 31, Marion ranks 42, and Williamsburg ranks 46 of 46. Routine physical exams, disease screenings and immunizations have been highlighted as critical preventive services to reduce premature death and disability. Yet, thousands of South Carolinians forgo preventive services due to a list of barriers.

TOP 5 PREVENTATIVE SCREENING SERVICES RECEIVED BY RESPONDENTS IN PAST 12 MONTHS

1. Blood pressure checks (84.8%)
2. Flu shots (56.1%)
3. Dental cleanings/x-rays (52.2%)
4. Vision screenings (47.6%)
5. Cholesterol screenings (47.6%)



COMMUNITY SPOTLIGHT HopeHealth



As one of the state’s largest Federally Qualified Health Centers, more than 50,000 patients receive consistent and trusted primary and specialty care services to help prevent and manage conditions such as diabetes, hypertension, obesity, HIV/AIDS, depression, and more.

“ The education piece is missing. [...] I think we make a lot of assumptions that everybody knows what long-term uncontrolled hypertension does. Not everybody knows that. - **Community Voice**

COMMUNITY SPOTLIGHT Carolina Pines Regional Medical Center



We look forward to continuing our partnership with various community organizations as we strive to create a healthier community for us all. We are honored to contribute to the research that will assist in improving the quality of care for those that we serve.”

EXAMINING THE ISSUE – COVID-19

Since March 2020, the COVID-19 pandemic has had a major impact on everyone around the world. Like many rural counties, residents of the Pee Dee region have been impacted by COVID-19, including challenges to their health and wellness access points. McLeod Health and MUSC Health has taken steps to ensure patients are able to manage their healthcare needs while minimizing the spread of COVID-19. Some of these steps include access to physician appointments through telehealth, COVID-19 testing, vaccine administration, monoclonal antibody treatment or hospitalization. McLeod Regional Medical Center and MUSC Health Florence Division are committed to serving our community throughout the COVID-19 pandemic.

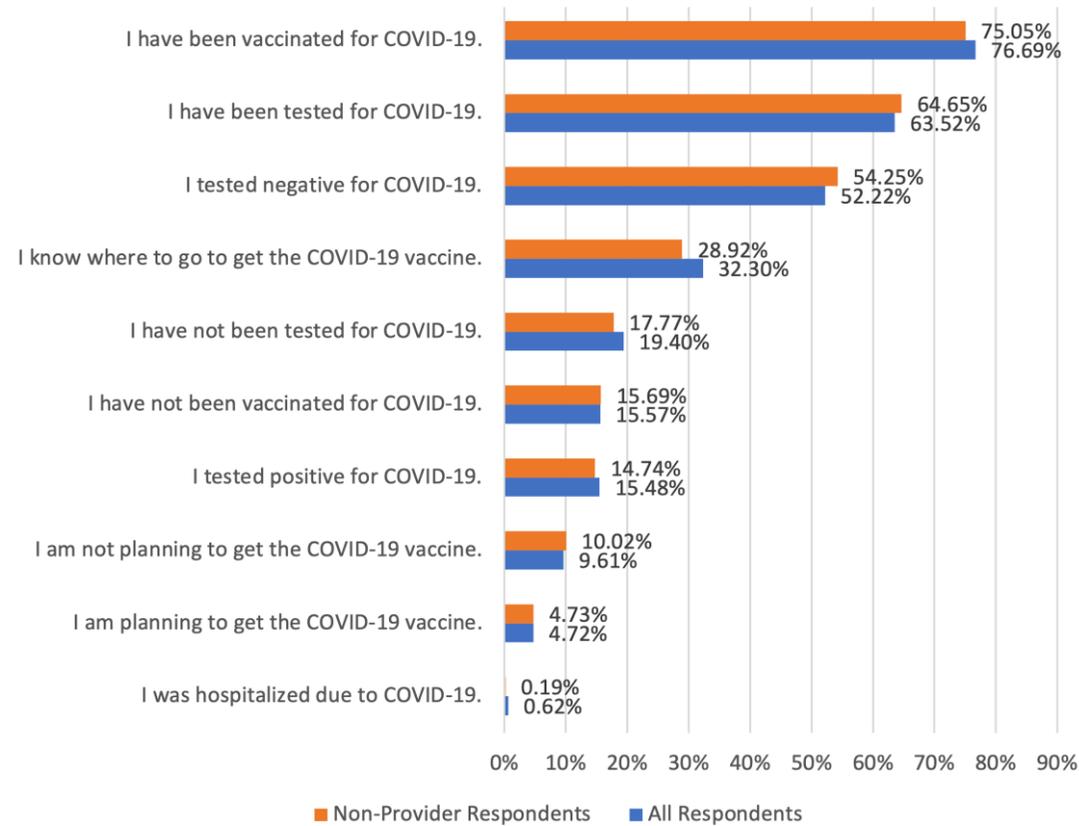
As for COVID-19, 76.7% reported being vaccinated and an additional 4.7% have intentions to do so.

Covid 19 Fully Vaccinated Adults

County % of Adults fully Vaccinated

Darlington:	58.1%
Florence:	58.5%
Marion:	51.6%
Williamsburg:	59.9%
South Carolina:	54.5%
National	63.6%

Which of the following statements about Covid-19 apply to you?



Data source: Centers for Disease Control and Prevention and the National Center for Health Statistics, CDC-GRASP 2021

MUSC HEALTH FLORENCE DIVISION IMPLEMENTATION PLAN

Access to Care

MUSC Health’s mission is to improve health and maximize quality of life through education, research, and patient care. Working alongside our health care and community partners, we will improve access to care, help eliminate health disparities and improve the health of our region. Initiatives that we will continue to enhance:

- Recruitment of primary and specialty care providers
- Continuous collaboration with community agencies, such as FQHC and local partners
- Community Outreach and Education

Continue to offer an extensive range of services, including heart and vascular care, cancer treatment, minimally invasive orthopedic, general and robotic surgeries, diagnostics, women’s health, rehabilitation services and emergency services, and stroke care services. As well as a specialty care clinic that includes kidney transplant, lung transplant, liver transplant, GYN oncology, telehealth services for palliative, inpatient psychiatry, neurology, and acute rehab care. MUSC Health Florence Division is part of the Medical University of South Carolina Health family, a nationally recognized and respected academic medical institution in Charleston, South Carolina. As members of the MUSC Health family, we can fully enrich our communities’ growth and quality of life. Working together, we continue to enhance our services and offer additional access to advanced technology and specialty care not previously available in the Pee Dee.

Obesity, Nutrition, and Physical Activity

MUSC Health will promote health and fitness through free nutrition classes, social media live events, educational speaking engagements across the Pee Dee with expert health care providers. Provide health education virtual sessions to schools, churches, businesses, and organizations through MUSC Health’s Back 2 Business Program and support community outreach programs that promote health and wellness programs. MUSC Health provides specialty care through our physician specialists, specialty care clinics and services, telemedicine, and other programs.

Clinical Preventative Services

MUSC Health partners with local, regional agencies and organizations to support health education through community outreach events. Programs include educational lunch and learns/speaking engagements, American Heart Association Heart Walk, MUSC Health Lung Cancer Walk, Sista Strut – breast cancer awareness, MUSC Health Back 2 Business educational seminars. MUSC Health’s special programs include smoking cessation, lung cancer screening, cardiac/pulmonary rehabilitation, inpatient and outpatient rehabilitation, alcohol and drug rehabilitation, wound care, sleep center, prenatal classes, support groups, health screenings, and more.

In Our DNA SC

The Medical University of South Carolina (MUSC) and Helix have announced the next phase of their first-of-its-kind population genomics initiative in South Carolina called In Our DNA SC. The large-scale research program is designed to improve health care outcomes by integrating genetic insights into clinical care and research. The statewide initiative will enroll 100,000 patients in genetic testing over the next four years at no cost to patients. <https://web.musc.edu/inourdna>

Mental and Behavioral Health

MUSC Health aims to provide quality behavioral health and mental health services to the patients and communities we serve through our telehealth inpatient psychiatry services, alcohol and drug services program, and partnering with local, regional, and state organizations. Partners include the SC Department of mental Health, local law enforcement agencies, and other health care partners.

Research

MUSC Health Florence Medical Center’s research center will provide our community access to clinical trials and cutting-edge treatments.

MCLEOD HEALTH IMPLEMENTATION PLAN

Access to Care

The mission of McLeod Health is to improve the overall health and well-being of people living within South Carolina and eastern North Carolina by providing excellence in health care.

Collaborating with our health care and community partners, we will improve access to care, help eliminate health disparities and improve the health of our region. Initiatives that we will continue to enhance:

- Recruitment of primary and specialty care providers
- Continuous collaboration with community agencies, such as FQHC and local partners
- Distribute community resource guide in the ED to inpatients and within the community
- Exploring implementation of same-day and next-day appointments in primary care physician offices

McLeod Regional Medical Center continues to provide access through the diverse array of services offered that allows McLeod to meet the unique healthcare needs of the region. From an accredited Cancer Center and Stereotactic Radiosurgery program to three dedicated open heart surgery suites and two vascular hybrid ORs within the Heart & Vascular Institute as well as a dedicated Neuro-interventional Biplane X-ray Suite for thrombectomy procedures and endovascular coiling. All of these are added to the hospital's Centers of Excellence in Surgery, Neurosurgery, Trauma, Orthopedics and Women's Services in addition to the Diabetes Center, Rehabilitation and Sports Medicine Services, and the Center for Advanced Surgery, which all deliver an unmatched level of care and experience to people in the region. One of only five state-designated regional perinatal centers, McLeod Regional Medical Center also offers the region's only Children's Hospital which includes a 48-bed Neonatal Intensive Care Unit and six-bed Pediatric Intensive Care Unit.

As well as specialty services such as Behavior Health, McLeod Nurse Family Partnership program, Hope Fund and Lift Program, McLeod Dental Clinic and McLeod Health & Fitness Centers.

Obesity, Nutrition, and Physical Activity

Through promotion of membership to the McLeod Health and Fitness Center, the region's largest and only medically based health and wellness center, McLeod Health remains committed to helping our community obtain a healthy lifestyle and improve overall health.

Medically trained in the areas of fitness and nutrition, the McLeod Health and Fitness Center staff can help members reduce the risk of certain diseases and live a long, healthy life. With nearly 100,000 square feet of facilities, the Center offers an array of amenities, a comprehensive choice of workout options including group fitness and aquatic programs. In addition, the team of McLeod Sports Medicine therapists, trainers and physicians meet the needs of a very active region.

MCLEOD HEALTH IMPLEMENTATION PLAN CONTINUED

Clinical Preventative Services

McLeod Regional Medical Center partners with local regional agencies, civic groups and organizations to support health education through community outreach events. Programs include:

- Participate in community group presentations and outreach activities.
- Offer hands only CPR training classes.
- Health Fairs, AHA Heart Walk and McLeod Lunch and Learns
- Publish educational information around the signs and symptoms of heart disease and stroke, evidence shows health communication and social marketing are effective (Healthy People 2020).
- Ongoing support recovery from heart attacks by providing Cardiac Rehab Program through the McLeod Health and Fitness Center. Offer scholarships to those that are uninsured and need to continue cardiac rehab program.

Mental and Behavioral Health

McLeod Health provides access to behavioral health services and providers through McLeod Behavioral Health and communities partners. Partnering with local law enforcement agencies, McLeod Regional Medical Center is focused on increasing education on substance use treatments, prevention and recovery services by offering drug take back programs and distributing community resource guides to hospital patients and the community.



Florence 1 Schools prides itself on being an integral part of the Florence community. Our employees serve as leaders and pillars dedicated to improving the quality of life for all of our students and their families.

Whenever the opportunity arises for our Florence 1 Schools family to contribute to our community's overall health and success, we are eager and excited to extend support. Florence 1 Schools looks forward to continuing our work with community partners to ensure a healthier Florence for our attendance zones. It is our privilege to contribute to research that further improves our area's quality of health care.

COMMUNITY SPOTLIGHT
**Florence 1
Schools**

OPPORTUNITIES FOR ACTION

A combination of time, resources and dedicated community members will be necessary to address the various issues that have been identified in this report. Collaborative partnerships will be key to address these issues and ensure healthier counties in the Pee Dee region.

WHAT YOU CAN DO

- Share data findings from the 2021 CHNA with local elected officials, community leaders and within your social networks.
- Use the Examining the Issue sections to guide specific actions that you or your organization can address.
- Participate in community networks and coalitions that are working towards improving the health outcomes of counties in the Pee Dee region.
- Seek additional input from community members and engage them in developing appropriate materials and programs.
- Request the 2021 CHNA data file from McLeod Regional Medical Center or MUSC Health so that you or your organization can analyze the data further and determine health strategies and programming to offer in the community.

THE WAY FORWARD

McLeod Regional Medical Center and MUSC Health Florence Division view the 2021 CHNA as a demonstration of our commitment and support of the community to improve health outcomes for the residents of the Pee Dee region. We work hard every day to be a place of healing, caring, and connection for patients and families in the community we call home. McLeod Regional Medical Center and MUSC Health Florence Division looks forward to playing a critical role in the next steps and action plan the community develops as a result of this report.

MONITORING ACTIVITIES & PROGRESS

McLeod Regional Medical Center and MUSC Health Florence Division are seeking partnering organizations that will be committed to sharing and monitoring the progress of activities that are implemented both independently and collaboratively in response to the 2021 CHNA findings. It is our hope that the CHNA data will inform the activities that are selected in connection with the strategic priorities of each respective organization. McLeod Regional Medical Center and MUSC Health Florence Division are committed to sharing progress, identifying and addressing challenges and continuously improving the quality of activities being conducted within our organizations as well as through community partnerships.

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

A combination of time, resources and dedicated community members will be necessary to address the various issues that have been identified in this report. Collaborative partnerships will be key to address these issues and ensure healthier counties in the Pee Dee region.

This process was led by GOODSTOCK Consulting, LLC with guidance and support from the following MUSC Health and McLeod Health employees:

- Caroline Brown, MBA, Chief External Affairs Officer, MUSC MUSC Health
- Olubukola Durojaiye, Administrative Fellow, MUSC Health Florence Division
- Tracie Foster, Community Outreach Coordinator, McLeod Health
- Kim Geiger, Director of Marketing, MUSC Health Florence Division
- Susan Johnson, PhD Director of Health Promotion, MUSC
- Ann Collins Josey, External Affairs Coordinator, MUSC Health
- Aaron Mabry, MBA, Graphic Design, MUSC Health
- Christina O'Malley, External Affairs & Strategic Engagement, MUSC Regional Health Network
- Michelle Logan-Owens, DHA, RN-Chief Operating Officer, McLeod Regional Medical Center
- Jumana Swindler - VP Communications and Public Information, McLeod Health
- Stephanie Taylor, Director of Operations, MUSC Health
- Quenton Tompkins, Government Affairs Manager, MUSC Health

Community partners are essential to the work we do and strive to do in the Pee Dee region. Data collected was done collaboratively with their assistance and commitment to improve health outcomes in the region together. This assessment could not have been successfully completed without the support and assistance of the organizations listed below:

Florence County:

Florence County Chamber of Commerce
Florence School District One
Florence YMCA
Francis Marion University
Harvest Hope
HopeHealth
McLeod Health
Mike Reichenbach Dealerships
Mercy Medicine Clinic
SCDHEC
United Way

Marion County:

Marion County Coordinating Council
Marion Foundation
NAACP Marion County Branch

Darlington County:

Carolina Pines Regional Medical Center
Coker College
Pee Dee Mental Health
Mayo High School

Lake City:

Darla Moore Foundation
Florence School District 3
Lake City Chamber of Commerce
Lake City Continuum

ABOUT MCLEOD HEALTH

Founded in 1906, McLeod Health is a locally owned and managed, not for profit organization supported by the strength of approximately 850 members on its medical staff and more than 2,700 licensed nurses (Registered Nurses; Advanced Practice Nurses – including Certified Nurse Anesthetists, Nurse Practitioners and Certified Nurse Midwives; as well as Licensed Practical Nurses).

McLeod Health is also composed of approximately 9,000 employees and more than 90 physician practices throughout its 18-county service area. With seven hospitals, McLeod Health operates three Health and Fitness Centers, a Sports Medicine and Outpatient Rehabilitation Center, Hospice and Home Health Services. The hospitals within McLeod Health include: McLeod Regional Medical Center, McLeod Health Dillon, McLeod Health Loris, McLeod Health Seacoast, McLeod Health Cheraw, McLeod Health Clarendon and McLeod Behavioral Health.

McLeod Regional Medical Center

The flagship hospital of the McLeod Health organization is McLeod Regional Medical Center in Florence, South Carolina. This regional referral tertiary care center serves patients and families living in the northeastern region of South Carolina. The medical center includes an accredited Cancer Center, a Stereotactic Radiosurgery program, three dedicated open heart surgery suites and two vascular hybrid ORs within the Heart & Vascular Institute as well as a dedicated Neuro-interventional Biplane X-ray Suite for thrombectomy procedures and endovascular coiling.

The McLeod Centers of Excellence include Surgery, Neurosurgery, Trauma and Women's Services in addition to a Diabetes Center, Rehabilitation and Sports Medicine Services, and the Center for Advanced Surgery, which all deliver an unmatched level of care and experience to people in the region. One of only five state-designated regional perinatal centers, McLeod Regional Medical Center also offers the region's only Children's Hospital which includes a 48-bed Neonatal Intensive Care Unit and six-bed Pediatric Intensive Care Unit.

A teaching facility since 1980, McLeod supports a three-year Family Medicine Residency Program and a new Family Medicine Rural Residency, a one-year Pharmacy Practice Residency Program, a one-year Nurse Residency Program and the McLeod School of Medical Technology. A new McLeod Regional Emergency and Chest Pain Center was completed in spring of 2021.

McLeod Health

ABOUT MUSC | MUSC HEALTH

Founded in 1824 in Charleston, MUSC is home to the oldest medical school in the South as well as the state's only integrated academic health sciences center, with a unique charge to serve the state through education, research and patient care. Each year, MUSC educates and trains more than 3,000 students and nearly 800 residents in six colleges: Dental Medicine, Graduate Studies, Health Professions, Medicine, Nursing and Pharmacy. MUSC brought in more than \$271 million in biomedical research funds in fiscal year 2020, continuing to lead the state in obtaining National Institutes of Health funding, with more than \$129.9 million. For information on academic programs, visit muscd.edu.

As the clinical health system of the Medical University of South Carolina, MUSC Health is dedicated to delivering the highest quality and safe patient care while training generations of compassionate, competent health care providers to serve the people of South Carolina and beyond. Close to 25,000 care team members provide care for patients at 14 hospitals with approximately 2,500 beds and 5 additional hospital locations in development, more than 300 telehealth sites and nearly 750 care locations situated in the Lowcountry, Midlands, Pee Dee and Upstate regions of South Carolina. In 2021, for the seventh consecutive year, U.S. News & World Report named MUSC Health the No. 1 hospital in South Carolina. To learn more about clinical patient services, visit muschealth.org.

MUSC and its affiliates have collective annual budgets of \$4.4 billion. The more than 25,000 MUSC team members include world-class faculty, physicians, specialty providers and scientists who deliver groundbreaking education, research, technology and patient care.

MUSC Health Florence Medical Center is a leading regional acute care facility consisting of 396 patient beds, 1,500 employees, and more than 425 physicians representing all primary specialties. We dedicate ourselves to serving the health care needs of people living in northeastern South Carolina.

MUSC Health Florence Medical Center's specialty care clinic includes kidney transplant, lung transplant, liver transplant, Greenwood Genetics, GYN oncology, telehealth services for palliative, inpatient psychiatry, neurology, and acute rehab care. These are just a few of the benefits our patients and communities are experiencing by being a part of the MUSC Health family.

MUSC Health Florence Medical Center combines advanced technology, medical innovation, and proven treatment methods to benefit our patients. Our extensive range of services includes heart and vascular care, cancer treatment, minimally invasive orthopedic, general and robotic surgeries, diagnostics, women's health, rehabilitation services and emergency services, and stroke care services.

MUSC Health Marion Medical Center is a 124-bed, acute care facility and is the only hospital in Marion. Marion Medical Center includes Mullins Nursing Center — a 92-bed, long term care facility.



Florence Medical Center

PEE DEE REGION

COMMUNITY HEALTH NEEDS ASSESSMENT REPORT

2021

McLeod Health

 **MUSC Health**
Medical University of South Carolina

Florence Medical Center