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## **COMMUNITY HEALTH NEEDS ASSESSMENT REPORT AND IMPLEMENTATION PLAN**

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### **EXECUTIVE SUMMARY**

#### **INTRODUCTION**

Barnes-Jewish Hospital is a 1200 bed quaternary academic facility located in the city of St. Louis and is a member of BJC HealthCare. It is the largest safety net hospital in the city of St. Louis. Located on the campus of Washington University Medical Center, Barnes-Jewish Hospital provides inpatient, outpatient, emergency and ambulatory clinic services to the patient population it serves. It serves a patient population that is far reaching, comprising eight counties in Missouri and eight counties in Illinois.

Barnes-Jewish Hospital has historically engaged in health needs assessments around specific health concerns prior to implementing community based interventions and service planning. In addition, leaders at Barnes-Jewish Hospital have participated on regional governmental and non-governmental teams looking at broader assessments of the region or of specific populations or conditions. This Community Health Needs Assessment is the first Barnes-Jewish Hospital has conducted as required by the Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act (PPACA). Passed in March 2010, the Act mandates non-profit hospitals to conduct a community-based needs assessment every three years. The Healthy Future Act (S. 1796, Sec. 6007), requires hospitals with 501(c)(3) tax-exempt status to conduct community health needs assessments and implement strategies to meet needs identified by the community. Under the IRS community benefit standard, tax-exempt hospitals are required to provide sufficient health benefits to the community.

For the purposes of this report, Barnes-Jewish Hospital has focused its community health needs assessment on the city of St. Louis. As the major safety net provider in the city, we recognize that we serve a larger community. We are the largest of the 13 hospitals that comprise BJC HealthCare, and through coordination, the collective needs of the greater community will be addressed through the strategies derived from the community health needs assessments of the 13 BJC HealthCare hospitals and other non-profit hospitals in the region.

Our community needs assessment was conducted in two phases. The first phase was comprised of focus group discussions with key leaders and stakeholders of the St. Louis community in which we obtained primary data on the perception of community health needs (see methodology). The second phase consisted of the review and analysis of secondary data to support the community health needs expressed by focus group members. For comparison purposes, the city of St. Louis comprises our community health needs assessment geography and has been divided by zip code into three regions: North, Central and South. Where applicable, findings are presented in tandem with city of St. Louis and St. Louis County level comparisons.

## **OBJECTIVES**

The Barnes-Jewish Hospital Community Health Needs Assessment objectives are as follows:

1. Gather a diverse team of key stakeholders to identify perceived community health needs.
2. Use secondary data to explore and expand on the stakeholders' perspectives of community health needs.
3. Determine how community health needs impact the community within designated regions of the city of St. Louis.
4. Engage an expert internal working group to build on the assessed needs and provide recommendations on the priority needs for Barnes-Jewish Hospital to use in determining community benefit resource allocation. See Appendix A for the list of internal workgroup members.