2019

University of Illinois
2019 Community Assessment of Needs
(UI-CAN): Toward Health Equity
Implementation Plan

UI Health | UIC
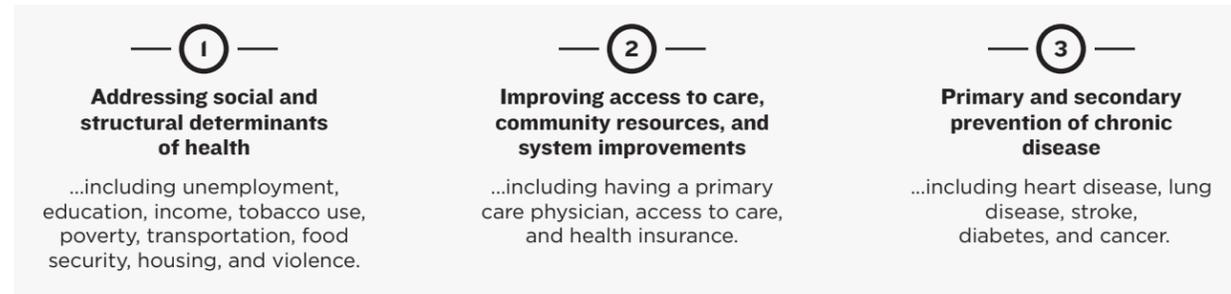
University of Illinois Hospital & Clinics (UI Health)

Introduction

The University of Illinois Community Assessment of Needs (UI-CAN) 2019: Toward Health Equity report was developed by the Office of the Vice Chancellor for Health Affairs (OVCHA) at the University of Illinois at Chicago (UIC) with input from residents and other community stakeholders gathered through community input surveys and focus groups in partnership with the Alliance for Health Equity. The UI-CAN 2019 report also leveraged publicly available data sources from the U.S. Census Bureau's American Communities Survey, Feeding America's Map the Meal Gap, Chicago Department of Public Health Healthy Chicago 2.0 Survey, Center for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC)'s Behavior Risk Factor Data, Illinois Department of Public Health Division of Vital Records, and CDC's Wide-ranging Online Data for Epidemiologic Research. The 2019 UI-CAN report identified three high priority health-related needs.

(1) Addressing social and structural determinants of health

...including unemployment, education, income, tobacco use, poverty, transportation, food security, housing, and violence.

(2) Improving access to care, community resources, and system improvements

...including having a primary care physician, access to care, and health insurance.

(3) Primary and secondary prevention of chronic disease

...including heart disease, lung disease, stroke, diabetes, and cancer.

The full 2019 UI-CAN report is available online at uican.uihealth.care

UI Health designed the Survey of Community Initiatives and Programs (SCIP) to collect information about existing UI Health efforts that support and partner with the communities we serve, to identify gaps in services, and to reflect on opportunities to have greater impact on community health-related needs. Three key take-aways of the assessment were:

1. **The need for greater alignment between initiatives and resources**
   Coordination (and possibly consolidation) of similar programs that address issues like health screening can result in more efficient utilization of resources, consistency in execution and data collection, and facilitate assessments of impact.

2. **The need to build measurement into all future programs and initiatives**
   Standard sets of measures tied to specific strategic goals should be built-in to all future programs. Such measures are needed to measure community impact.

3. **The need to make stakeholder engagement central to future community-based work**
   To evolve attitudes about new initiatives that moves from *for the community* to *with the community* such that community members become partners in how to most effectively address their priorities.

To address these needs, the 2019 UI-CAN Implementation Plan includes the following:

- Develop an organizational resource and structure to define and execute a Community Health Needs Strategy for the healthcare delivery system and proactively communicate with community members

- Convene UI Health clinicians, staff, and students with roles in community health to share findings of the 2019 UI-CAN, initiate community health needs strategy, and encourage response to future requests for proposals aimed at addressing one of the health-related priority areas in the 2019 UI-CAN

- Explore development of new initiatives and programs that address the priority health-related needs identified in the 2019 UI-CAN in partnership with community-based organizations

- Convene leaders of similar programs to coordinate efforts, increasing the impact on health-related community needs and meeting stated strategic goals of the healthcare system

- Draft and disseminate standardized guidelines on planning, execution, and measurement of existing or new programs to feed into a community-benefits reporting system

- Engage health science students and participants in the CHAMPIONs NETWork with training to carry out community engagements in a standard and consistent manner

- Utilize data collected from programs and initiatives benefitting the community to refine over time

Intermediate steps in Implementation Plan

The Implementation Plan will roll out over the next three-year UI-CAN period.

Develop community health needs strategy for external communication (July-August 2020)

Guidelines for how to plan, execute and evaluate programs released (January 2021)

Explore development of new initiatives (June 2021)

New initiatives launched (September 2021)

Convene UI Health community engagement professionals around 2019 UI-CAN report findings (September 2020)

Call for proposals to address community health-related priorities (April 2021)

Workshops to coordinate efforts and align with strategic goals (August 2021)

Follow-up community-benefits report generated (January 2022)

## Continuous steps in Implementation Plan

During the next three years, the implementation plan will operate according to a continuous cycle of engagement, evaluation, and refinement, ensuring stakeholders in the community and those in UI Health work collaboratively toward goals that meet SMART criteria (specific, measurable, actionable, relevant, and time-bound).

Next Steps

We will disseminate findings from the 2019 UI-CAN report to align internal and external stakeholders and promote discussions about current programs, existing gaps, and next steps. Development of guidelines for the creation of new programs and initiatives tied to UI Health's strategic goals will promote consistency in how they are deployed and measured. When paired with regular assessments, implementation of these steps will support UI Health's goal of achieving health equity in the communities we serve.

Adoption of Implementation Plan

This implementation plan, which supports the University of Illinois Community Assessment of Needs (UI-CAN) 2019: Toward Health Equity report, was reviewed and adopted by the Board of Trustees of the University of Illinois on November 14, 2019.

Engage **Evaluate** **Refine**
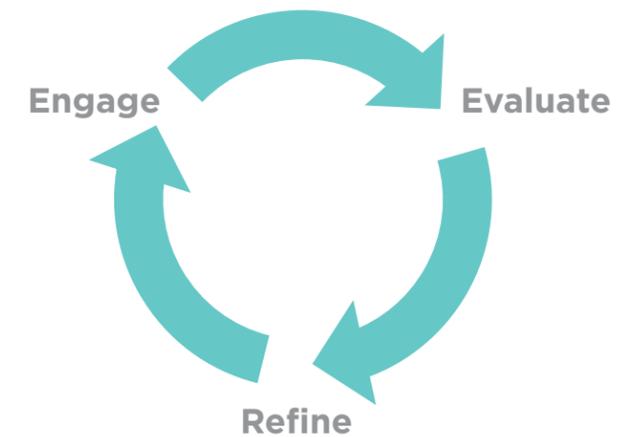
This is a QR Code. To use it, open your phone's camera app and point the camera at the code.

Add your program or initiative to our growing inventory of UI Health Community Health Programs. Scan this code to link to the Survey of Community Initiatives and Programs (SCIP).

Read about UI Health's Community Programs.
Access the 2019 UI-CAN at uican.uihealth.care.