

# Implementation Strategy

## 1) Improvement/Replacement of Hospital Facility

- Activities to Date
  - February 2011- Southwest Healthcare Services (SWHS) investigated the possibility of replacement of the hospital building
  - June 2012 SWHS hired an architect to help with hospital building feasibility study
  - April 2013 SWHS started their capital campaign to raise funds for the building project
  - August 2013 SWHS sent in their application to USDA for a rural development loan
  - September 2013 SWHS sent in their application to Bank of ND for a building loan
- Expected Activities
  - Conducted by hospital
    - November 1, 2013 Approval of loans
    - Summer of 2014 SWHS will start construction
    - Winter of 2015 completion of building project
  - Conducted in collaboration with others
    - Project approval from North Dakota Department of Health
    - Southwest Healthcare Services participates in Vision West which is a group of community leaders that have developed a strategic plan to address the future needs of our community. Providing healthcare is one of those incentives and SWHS CEO is in charge of this focus group in this community.
- Measurable Outcomes
  - Completion of the Hospital Building Project

#### 2) Shortage of Healthcare Staff

- Current activities
  - Conducted by hospital
    - Advertise jobs in print and online
    - Work with the UND Center for Rural Health for recruitment
    - Review all 3RNet Candidate Referrals
    - SWHS continually offers CNA classes
- Proposed activities
  - Conducted in collaboration with others
    - Work with the EDC on housing availability
    - Work with the EDC on their recruitment plan which is a part of the Vision West initiative
- Measurable Outcomes
  - Reduced contract nursing staff at hospital and long term care facility



# Implementation Strategy

### 3) Access to Mental Health Services

- At this time Southwest Healthcare Service chose not to address mental health services. Although this need is important to SWHS and the community, it was not chosen based on our prioritization process. This process included the following questions: 1) the number of people affected, 2) the severity of the problem, 3) the health system's ability to impact, 4) the cost and 5) the extent to which other organizations were meeting the needs.
  - We will continue to monitor and look for more availability for this service.

### 4) Awareness of Services Provided and Access to Specialty Services

- Current activities
  - Conducted by hospital
  - Advertise in print and web about services and specialty services
  - Information regarding services in our semi-annual newsletter
- Proposed activities
  - Conducted by hospital
    - Create a "Current Happenings" on the front page of local paper with dates of certain specific services and specialty services
    - Provided MRI every week instead of bi-weekly
    - Market to surrounding communities about services
  - Conducted in collaboration with others
    - Work with St. Alexius for other specialty services
    - Work with other facilities in our region to maintain needed services (for example, Speech therapy)

#### 5) Education and Implementation of Health Lifestyle Program

- Current activities
  - Conducted by hospital
    - Education provided through our semi-annual newsletter
    - Provides a gym to the community through our Physical Therapy department
    - Provides health vouchers for discount at local gyms for staff of SWHS
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- Proposed activities
  - Conducted by hospital
    - Recruit more people to our e-newsletter written by our physicians on a weekly basis which gives great advice and education.
    - Provide more marketing on SWHS exercise equipment available to the community.
    - Provide for a monthly educational article in local paper



# **Implementation Strategy**

## 6) Percentage of Population Considered Obese

Current activities

- Conducted by hospital
  - Southwest Healthcare Services provides a weight loss program through one of our physician that is board certified in Obesity Medicine.
- Conducted by others
  - Bowman, ND has two exercise gyms and a weight watchers program
- Proposed activities
  - Conducted by hospital
    - Provide more education on weight loss
  - Conducted in collaboration with others
    - Will work with Bowman's Parks and Rec. to help coordinate fitness classes once the new recreational center is built.

#### 7) Percentage of Population Reporting a Lack of Exercise

The lack of exercise is a risk factor for many diseases and conditions including obesity. By choosing obesity as a priority area, we feel we will be addressing physical activity.