



Bluestone

Child & Adolescent Psychiatric Hospital

● ● ● COMMUNITY HEALTH NEEDS ASSESSMENT 2026

IMPLEMENTATION STRATEGY



TRANSFORMING MENTAL HEALTH



METHODOLOGY

Bluestone Child & Adolescent Psychiatric Hospital offers its Community Health Needs Assessment (CHNA) Implementation Strategy for 2026. The implementation strategy is the result of the hospital's CHNA adopted by the Bluestone Board of Directors on June May 12, 2026. A total of 15 possible needs and issues were identified by the Steering Committee. In most cases, these areas overlapped with those being addressed in the 2023 Implementation Plan, and others were added for inclusion in the Implementation Strategy. A total of 4 goals will be addressed in the 2026 Implementation Strategy. These areas were determined after consideration of various criteria, including: standing in comparison with benchmark data (particularly national data); the preponderance of significant findings within topic areas; the magnitude of the issue in terms of the number of persons affected; and the system capacity to implement effective strategies.

Complete details are available within the Bluestone 2026 CHNA, which may be viewed on the hospital's website (<https://www.bluestone.org/>).

The Steering Committee reviewed the possible priority areas, progress made towards the 2023 Implementation Plan and recommended Bluestone continue to address the 2023 goals, with a few modifications based on the unique needs identified in the 2026 CHNA. The leadership of Bluestone reviewed the draft Implementation Strategy and signed off on the 4 goals.

OUTCOMES AND IMPACT WILL BE MEASURED BY:

- » Employee Retention and Job Satisfaction
- » Program Referrals and Acceptance
- » Utilization of Patient Support Resources
- » Staff Trainings and Overall Impact of Training
- » Patient and Family Satisfaction/Experience
- » Number, Type and Impact of New Patient Programs and Services
- » Provider Retention
- » Relationships with Emergency Departments and Other Agencies
- » Providers offering Medical Clearances for Bluestone
- » Recidivism



KEY FINDINGS

COMPARISONS TO BENCHMARK DATA

	Ashtabula	Cuyahoga	Lake	Lorain	Stark	Summit	Trumbull	Ohio	US
Social Determinants of Health									
Adult Excessive Drinking	19.4%	21.0%	19.8%	20.9%	ND	19.8%	ND	21.2%	18.1%
Uninsured Children	6.3%	4.6%	3.8%	4.4%	3.1%	3.3%	5.8%	4.4%	ND
Children Living Below Poverty	27.9%	23.0%	15.1%	14.9%	16.8%	19.7%	25.4%	17.5%	
Youth Not in School or Working	10.8%	7.6%	5.1%	8.3%	6.4%	6.3%	9.6%	6.3%	
Teen Birth Rate	7.1	7.3	1.2	5.5	ND	4.6	ND	6.1	5.6
Child Food Insecurity	17.6%	16.6%	13.4%	15.4%	ND	14.8%	ND	15.3%	14.5%
Mental Health									
7-12 Grade Students with Anxiety Warranting MH Professional	ND	27.3%	ND	25.2%	31.7%	29.0%	31.9%	31.4%	ND
7-12 Grade Felt Sad or Hopeless Every Day for 2 Weeks and Stopped Doing Usual Activities	ND	25.9%	ND	32.2%	28.5%	39.8%	44.0%	28.0%	ND
7-12 Grade Students Seriously Considered Attempted Suicide	ND	12.5%	ND	10.6%	12.8%	14.5%	20.2%	13.2%	ND
Substance Use									
7-12 Grade Students Alcohol Use	ND	7.3%	ND	7.0%	7.6%	6.9%	12.0%	8.7%	ND
7-12 Grade Marijuana Use	ND	3.8%	ND	5.7%	7.2%	5.6%	8.6%	5.9%	ND

KEY COMMUNITY STAKEHOLDER TOP PRIORITY NEEDS

01

Crisis stabilization/respite beds for youth with behavioral dysregulation who do not meet psychiatric admission criteria

02

Specialized placements for high-acuity youth (aggression, Autism/IDD, co-occurring SUD, juvenile justice involvement)

03

Family support, advocacy, and education to navigate systems and support youth at home

04

Workforce expansion and improved reimbursement

05

Stronger care coordination, communication, and continuity across systems

06

Earlier intervention and prevention, especially in schools and primary care

07

Community-based and intensive home-based services to prevent crises

08

Solutions tailored to geographic disparities, especially rural counties



IMPLEMENTATION STRATEGY

ACTION PLAN

This Implementation Strategy Action Plan has been formulated based on the findings and priorities established by the needs assessments. The Action Plan delineates the focus of Bluestone’s community outreach and health improvement efforts over the next three years. Below are the high-level goals and objectives being addressed. Bluestone has an internal document that details the key action steps and a timeline to accomplish each. Appropriate resources will be allocated to achieve health improvement goals related to the priority issues.

**GOAL 1: Workforce Shortage:
Continue to develop internal strategies to employee retention, recruitment, job satisfaction**

- A. Continue to increase employee retention
- B. Continue to improve recruitment activities
- C. Increase employee job satisfaction ratings
- D. Ensure staff receive ongoing training to meet the changing needs of our population as well as learn strategies to prevent burnout

GOAL 2: Access to mental health services: Work to address barriers and explore service gaps

- A. Continue to expand relationship with outside Emergency Departments to support medical clearances
- B. Explore possibility of offering crisis stabilization services
- C. Strengthen internal discharge planning

GOAL 3: Community education/outreach on available services at Bluestone

- A. Educate community on existing and new programs and services at Bluestone
- B. Ensure Bluestone is represented in the local, state and national youth mental health arena
- C. Establish relationships with area Psychiatrists
- D. Ensure MRSS programs across the State are aware of Bluestone and available services

GOAL 4: Autism services: Access to inpatient care for this population as well as outreach to providers

- A. Develop a sensory room/soft padded room/sensory room for patients
- B. Establish safe communication system for patients (i.e. visuals, storyboards)
- C. Establish referral process that allows Bluestone to better gauge acuity level
- D. Strengthen relationship with regional and early intervention autism providers