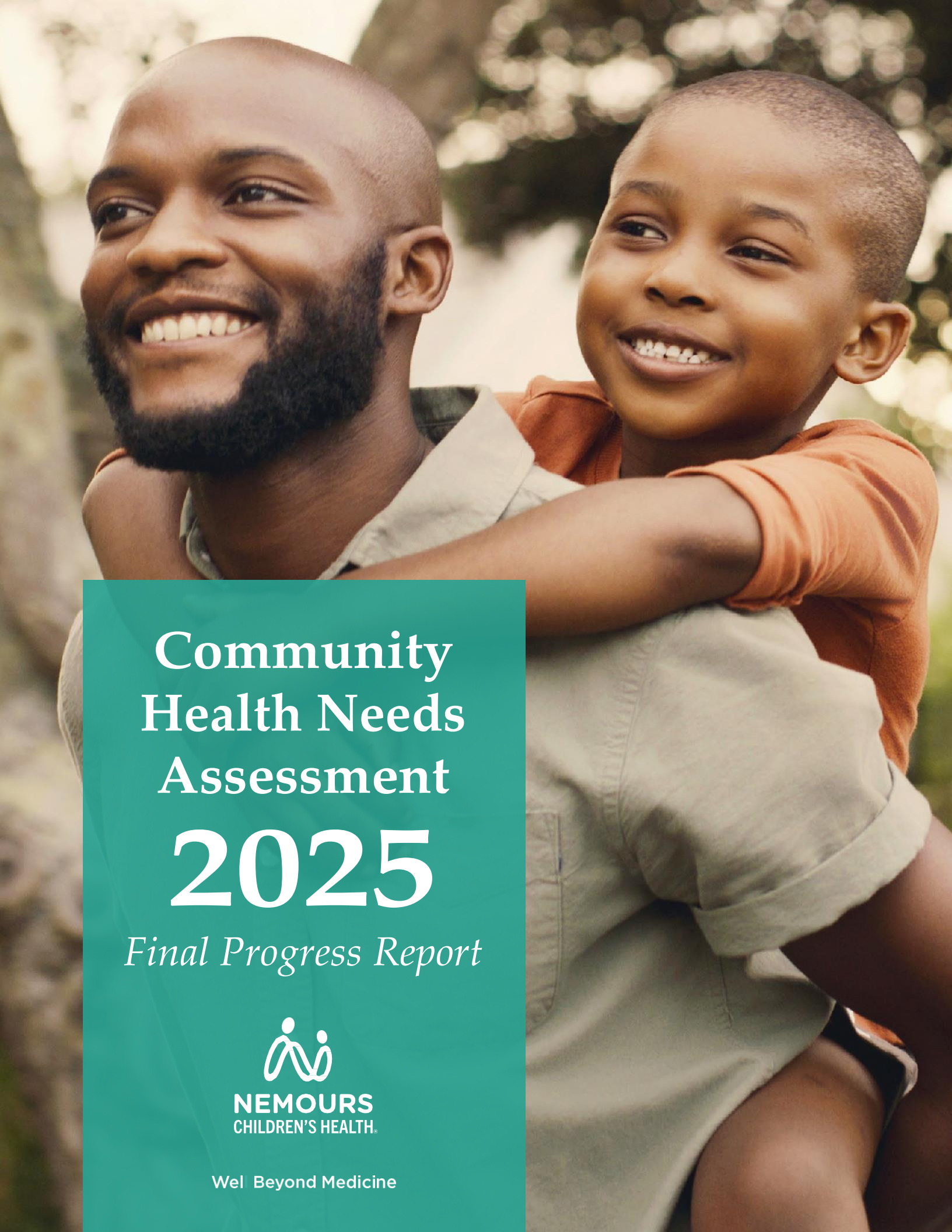


A photograph of a smiling man with a beard carrying a young boy on his shoulders. They are outdoors, with trees in the background. The man is wearing a light-colored shirt, and the boy is wearing an orange shirt and light-colored shorts.

Community Health Needs Assessment

2025

Final Progress Report



NEMOURS
CHILDREN'S HEALTH.

Well Beyond Medicine

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About Nemours Children's Health



About Nemours Children's Health

Nemours Children's Health is one of the nation's largest multistate pediatric health systems, which includes two free-standing children's hospitals and a network of 80 primary and specialty care practices. Nemours Children's seeks to transform the health of children by adopting a holistic health model that utilizes innovative, safe, and high-quality care, while also addressing children's needs well beyond medicine. In producing the highly acclaimed, award-winning pediatric medicine podcast *Well Beyond Medicine*, Nemours underscores that commitment by featuring the people, programs and partnerships addressing Whole Child Health. Nemours Children's also powers the world's most-visited website for information on the health of children and teens, [Nemours KidsHealth.org](https://kidshealth.org).

The Nemours Foundation, established through the legacy and philanthropy of Alfred I. duPont, provides pediatric clinical care, research, education, advocacy, and prevention programs to the children, families and communities it serves. For more information, visit Nemours.org.

In the Delaware Valley, we provide comprehensive pediatric care at our nationally ranked Nemours Children's Hospital. We also offer families access to primary, specialty, and or urgent care in Delaware, Pennsylvania, and New Jersey and Maryland. In 2025, we provided nearly 950,000 outpatient visits at these locations. As Delaware's only Level 1 Pediatric Trauma Center, we have reduced child deaths from injuries and contributed to statewide injury prevention initiatives.

Our mission is to provide leadership, institutions, and services to restore and improve the health of children through care and programs not readily available. We offer one high standard of quality and distinction, regardless of the recipient's financial status. We are committed to providing patient- and family-centered health care; educating the next generation of healthcare providers through a variety of education affiliations; offering extensive online and in-person continuing medical education; providing health and wellness information for kids, teens, parents, and educators via KidsHealth.org; and offering families 24/7 access to video visits with our healthcare providers via computers and mobile devices using the Nemours Children's MyChart app.

We have been recognized as a model of, and an advocate for, transforming the pediatric healthcare system from a focus on sickness to a focus on wellness, often in collaboration with community and healthcare partners. Our leaders and associates serve on numerous boards of organizations addressing health and children's issues, and a wide range of community organizations also receive sponsorship support as part of our commitment to support those who support children. We are also focused on bringing our standard of care — and better health — to local communities. We do this not only by providing both primary and specialty care at various locations throughout the region, but also by continuously seeking answers to the most vexing problems in children's health.

Our researchers look for and find novel treatments for complex childhood conditions while our population health and prevention specialists work to reverse long-standing patterns of unhealthy behavior across our communities. Our Community Health Needs Assessment (CHNA) provides an opportunity to survey community members and systematically address their concerns. This report details the strategies we employed in 2022 to address the top concerns identified, as well as the ongoing work to be conducted in these areas.

Community Health Needs Assessment



Community Health Needs Assessment

Every three years, we conduct a CHNA in compliance with requirements in the Affordable Care Act. Since 2016, the CHNA has allowed us to obtain a comprehensive data set on the health status, behaviors, and needs of children in our community, which for this assessment includes the three counties in the state of Delaware (New Castle, Kent, and Sussex). This data is used to inform a multi-year strategic plan to address community health needs.

Nemours Children's associates analyzed secondary data sources from the most up-to-date national, state, and local sources to assess the health needs of the community, while considering input from members of the community, stakeholders, and patient families. In 2022, our associates approached primary data collection differently than in years past. Instead of only asking the community "what" is wrong, we took the opportunity to draw from multidisciplinary expert panel discussions, in conjunction with information collected from over 30,000 Social Drivers of Health (SDOH) screenings in primary care locations across the region, to develop a more robust community-facing survey that leverages existing knowledge of the issues that persist with solution-driven questions related to their upstream causes and potential intervention strategies.

By expanding the scope of questions at the survey development stage, we ensured the community voice was not only present in the prioritization phase but also included in the implementation process and plan. Engagement with other internal and external networks involved in this work further bolstered our efforts in crafting a CHNA in 2022 that was truly responsive to the health landscape of our region. Our CHNA team remains in regular contact with the CHNA team at our Florida hospital as well as other health systems across the state to facilitate alignment, awareness of data-driven approaches, and partnership opportunities where appropriate. To download our 2022 CHNA Report, please visit [Nemours.org/about/community-health-needs.html](https://nemours.org/about/community-health-needs.html).

During the prioritization process, we asked survey participants to identify the:

- Two most important characteristics of a healthy community
- Top three needs when thinking about the health of children, teens, and adolescents in their household and their community

Participant feedback was aggregated to create the prioritization list below. This is the second iteration (2019, 2022) for which Healthcare Access, Behaviors, and Outcomes are ranked separately from SDOH. The goal in having two distinct categories of need is to remain focused on a more comprehensive model, treating symptoms and diseases while also shifting focus to further upstream strategies.

Ranking	Healthcare Access, Behaviors & Outcomes	Totals (n 537)	Social Drivers of Health	Totals (n 481)
1	Access to Mental Health Care	297	Youth Activities and Opportunities	226
2	Mental Health/Trauma	206	Affordable Healthy Homes	180
3	Access to Medical Health Providers	188	Community Crime or Violence	174
4	Access to Dentists	142	Education	163
5	Substance Use/Misuse	125	Economic Development/Jobs	154
6	Not Enough Assistance/Resources to Health With Basic Needs	122	Environment/Air Quality	151
7	Nutrition	101	Transportation	122
8	Sexual/Reproductive Health	58	Food Insecurity	105
9	Asthma/Other Respiratory Conditions	51	Lack of Access to Affordable/ Reliable Internet	37
10	Access to Necessary Rx/Med Devices/Therapies (\$\$\$)	41	–	–

Senior leaders at Nemours Children’s examined this information to identify the top two focus areas to be incorporated into our 2023–2025 CHNA Implementation Plan. In addition to considering the magnitude and severity of issues, the impact of these issues on the most vulnerable populations, available resources, areas where we should partner with other key stakeholders, and the feasibility of addressing these issues over the next three years, our leadership also reviewed key SDOH screening tool data from thousands of patient families. This is in alignment with the 2020–2022 CHNA Implementation Plan, which included a specific goal around the use of SDOH screening tool data to inform strategy and recommendations in future iterations. Food insecurity remained a top-three identified need based on screening results over the previous 12 months. Based on these results, coupled with food insecurity landing within our top-ten community-identified needs, Nemours Children’s decided to incorporate food insecurity into the implementation plan for the 2023–2025 period.

The final top two areas chosen were:

- Violence Prevention
- Food Insecurity

The remaining issue areas continue to be important to us, and we will work to improve these aspects of children’s health through our patient care, research, and population health management efforts. Our commitment — in communities where we have a physical presence and beyond — is to be an important leader in designing the future of caring for children. As part of our journey to create the healthiest generations of children, we joined the Healthcare Anchor Network (HAN) to develop and implement a healthcare anchor strategy that leverages our economic impact on local communities to help address economic, social, and racial inequities. Momentum behind efforts like these directly aligns with the CHNA work and is key to ensuring meaningful investment in the community is built into everything we do.

Violence Prevention



Violence Prevention

According to the CDC, youth homicides and nonfatal physical assault-related injuries result in an estimated \$100 billion annually in costs including medical, lost work, and quality and value of life. This estimate does not include costs to the criminal justice system. Children and adolescents exposed to violence are at risk for poor long-term behavioral and mental health outcomes regardless of whether they are victims, direct witnesses, or hear about the crime. Exposure to violence in a community can be experienced at various levels, including victimization, directly witnessing acts of violence, or hearing about events from other community members. This exposure can have long-term effects on a child's physical, mental, and emotional health, including an increased risk of chronic diseases, mental health disorders, and substance abuse. Delaware (6.9 per 100,000 population) does not meet the Healthy People 2030 goal of reducing the homicide rate to 5.5 per 100,000 population. In addition, more than 50% of the 2022 CHNA survey respondents have witnessed violence in their neighborhood or community on more than one occasion. Community members ranked community crime or violence as one of the top priorities for Nemours Children's to address in its implementation plan.

Firearms are the leading cause of death for children and teens ages 1 to 19 years in the United States. Delaware ranks number five in highest rate of gun violence per capita. The department of Population Health Management established a violence prevention task force, comprised of experts in the field, to advise on the most effective plan to address these staggering statistics. The group evaluated existing efforts and resources to identify opportunities for strategic partnerships, reviewed evidence-based best practices to understand how to address gaps, and leveraged established infrastructure to shape a CHNA violence prevention implementation plan reflective of the following key points:

- While many violence intervention programs exist in the state of Delaware, there are significant gaps in primary prevention-based programs and initiatives.
- Secure gun storage is critical to prevent unintended death or injury and suicide.
- Hospital systems with trauma centers have a unique opportunity to develop data-driven, impactful programs that support gunshot wound/assault victims in their care to prevent future victimization, retaliation, and death.
- The trust relationship between a physician and family needs to be leveraged to broker information and resources designed to prevent violent injury and death in youth.
- A focus on parents/caregivers in high-quality violence prevention education programs is key.
- Successful violence prevention programs center on health and safety vs. polarizing statements that take a firm stance on gun ownership/rights.

The health and safety of our patients and families has always been our top priority, and health and safety are not possible without gun safety. Suicide and community violence each contribute to nearly half of all annual gun deaths in the state. There are 4.6 million children living in homes with access to unlocked or unsupervised guns. In 75% of youth firearm suicides for which the gun storage method could be identified, the gun was stored loaded and unlocked. What's more, 32% of firearm suicides and unintentional firearm fatalities among youth could be reduced through safe storage alone. These realities, coupled with a wealth of research on the opportunity health providers have to broker safety discussions and resources, informed the strategic direction of the 2023–2025 Implementation Plan.

Implementation Plan

Initiative

Implement a referral pathway to an evidence-based violence intervention program that incorporates support services for youth who experience violence to promote healing and prevent future confrontation.

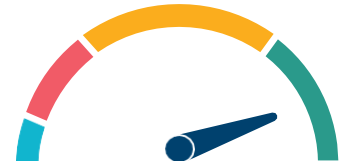
Goals, Metrics, and Progress

Goal: Establish a Hospital-Based Violence Intervention Program (HVIP) partnership with ChristianaCare Health System (CCHS) by the end of Y2, Q2 (6/30/24).

Metric:

- A fully executed Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) between Nemours Children's and ChristianaCare.
- ✓ **Progress: Complete.** An MOU was fully executed in April 2024.

Status: Complete



Goal: Develop a pathway that triggers patient referral to the CCHS HVIP program based on established eligibility criteria by the end of Y2 (12/31/24).

Metric(s):

- Expressed written approval of defined eligibility criteria for referral.
- ✓ **Progress: Complete.** Leadership at both organizations reviewed the HIPAA-compliant referral pathway, which utilizes the direct message inbox systems of EPIC (Nemours Children's) and CERNER (CCHS) to communicate pertinent patient information. Receipt of approval was provided via the delivery and filing of an executed MOU signature page.
- Expressed written approval of the patient referral pathway.
- ✓ **Progress: Complete.** Leadership at both organizations reviewed the HIPAA-compliant referral pathway, which utilizes the direct message inbox systems of EPIC (Nemours Children's) and CERNER (CCHS) to communicate pertinent patient information. Receipt of approval was provided via the delivery and filing of an executed MOU signature page. The pathway was adopted and fully operational by Q3 of 2024.

Status: Complete



Goal: Refer at least 75% of eligible patients to the CCHS HVIP program in Y3 (1/1/25 – 12/31/25).

Metric(s):

- Total number of patients seen at Nemours Children's who meet eligibility criteria for referral.
- Total number of patient referrals to CCHS HVIP program.
- ✓ **Progress: Complete.** In 2025, 100% of eligible patients were referred to the CCHS HVIP. Of the three (3) total patients reviewed for referral eligibility, two (2) met eligibility criteria. Both patients were referred to the CCHS HVIP where services were initiated.

Status: Complete



Final report: Through its partnership with ChristianaCare Health System's Hospital-Based Violence Intervention Program, Nemours Children's established a referral pathway to connect eligible patients and families with community-based violence intervention services designed to support healing and reduce the risk of future violence. During the implementation period, Nemours Children's identified a dedicated member of the social work team to manage the referral process, executed the partnership agreement and referral criteria, and successfully referred all eligible patients to the program. Although eligible patient volume was limited, the initiative provided important insight into patient needs, feasibility, and the role of pediatric care settings in connecting families to violence intervention supports. The partnership also expanded access to training, consultation, and shared learning opportunities that strengthened Nemours Children's violence prevention infrastructure. Together, these efforts demonstrated the value of collaboration between pediatric and adult trauma centers and will inform future strategies.

Initiative

Identify opportunities in education for patients, families, and providers that promote evidence-based health and safety measures for the reduction of preventable death and injury due to gun violence.

Goals, Metrics, and Progress

Goal: Develop and disseminate parent/caregiver secure storage education materials in 12 Delaware practice locations and on at least one digital platform by the end of Y2 (12/31/24).

Metric(s):

- Receipt of final approval of the Nemours Children's brand-compliant education content and design from leadership.
 - ✓ **Progress: Complete.** A safe storage education campaign was developed in partnership with Coalition for a Safer Delaware and submitted to the Nemours Children's MARCOM team to facilitate brand-compliant design. A final mockup was produced, reviewed, and approved by the appropriate governing bodies at each organization, and the joint campaign was published in October 2024.
- Secure storage education materials printed and delivered to all 12 Delaware primary care practices.
 - ⇒ **Progress: Near Completion.** Following leadership transitions that delayed the original distribution plan, Nemours Children's formally launched implementation in primary care settings in Y3. To date, the Coalition's Executive Director, Traci Murphy, conducted practice-level education sessions with staff across nine (9) Delaware primary care locations in New Castle, Kent, and Sussex counties, are providing secure storage campaign materials, discussing implementation strategies, and supporting integration of firearm safety education into clinical settings. Materials have also been distributed broadly throughout the community, and practices began receiving campaign resources, QR-code-linked educational materials, and initial supplies of universal gun locks to support patient and family education. Rollout to all 12 practices remains ongoing.
- Secure storage education materials adapted and published on one or more digital platforms.
 - ✓ **Progress: Complete.** Materials were adapted to provide an interactive graphic on the Coalition for a Safer Delaware's Secure Storage landing page. Campaign materials link to this page via QR code. Webpage visitors can hover over the graphics to learn more information or be directed to relevant tools and resources. We have also broken out components of the larger infographic format into smaller, stand-alone visuals for adapted distribution across multiple channels such as social media.

Status: Near Completion



Goal: Operationalize a supply pathway for the distribution of universal gun locks to eligible patient families by the end of Y2, Q2 (6/30/24).

Metric(s):

- Identification of a gun lock repository.
 - ✓ **Progress: Complete.** A repository partner was identified in Q2 of 2024.
- Approval of a gun lock distribution pathway.
 - ✓ **Progress: Complete.** The Coalition for a Safer Delaware has agreed to intake/triage public requests for gun lock resources in partnership with Nemours Children's via their secure storage webpage. Their organization is experienced in gun-lock distribution in the community, and, therefore, well-positioned to take over this component while Nemours Children's works toward policy changes that will facilitate distribution in our care locations.

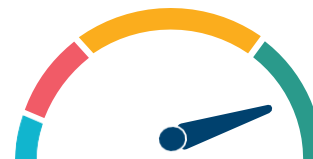
Status: Complete



Goal*: Identify an avenue to offer trauma-informed violence prevention training and education to Nemours Children's associates to support the implementation of secure storage screening and resource distribution in our care locations by the end of Y3 (12/31/25).

**This goal was revised in 2024 due to significant leadership changes that impacted key areas of implementation. The revision preserves the original intent and aligns with other violence prevention efforts that require associate training and support.*

Status: Complete



Metric(s):

- Identify a content expert to develop and facilitate secure storage education/training to clinical and nonclinical associates.
 - ✓ **Progress: Complete.** Traci Murphy, Executive Director of the Coalition for a Safer Delaware, was identified to develop and facilitate secure firearm storage education and training to support implementation of the initiative.
- Determine at least three (3) associate groups to receive secure storage education/ training in 2025.
- Complete at least three (3) training sessions with three (3) unique associate groups in 2025.
 - ✓ **Progress: Complete.** Secure firearm storage education was delivered to multiple primary care and ambulatory practice teams across Delaware markets, providing associates with the knowledge, tools, and resources needed to support implementation of the secure storage initiative in care locations.

Final Report: The secure firearm storage initiative advanced Nemours Children's violence prevention efforts by integrating education, safety resources, and community partnership into pediatric care settings across Delaware. Although implementation was affected by system-level challenges, important progress was achieved during the reporting period. The passage of Delaware House Bill 154 removed a key barrier by establishing legal protections for nonprofit organizations distributing firearm safety devices, enabling Nemours Children's to begin offering these resources in care locations. In partnership with the Coalition for a Safer Delaware, Nemours Children's provided secure storage education to primary care and ambulatory teams across multiple practice sites, equipping associates to support family-centered safety conversations and resource distribution. The initiative also expanded community awareness through digital outreach and online tools that connected families to secure storage information and resources. Together, these efforts strengthened the infrastructure needed to support firearm injury prevention in clinical and community settings. Nemours Children's will continue refining the initiative through feedback from care teams and patient representatives, with the goal of expanding implementation to additional clinical settings and sustaining practical, prevention-focused supports for children and families.

Additional Investments in Violence Prevention

Nemours Children's continues to explore opportunities to support community priorities as we remain committed to advancing the physical, social, and emotional well-being of our patients with the same vigor applied to medical care.

Nemours Children's invests in strategic partnerships that address the root causes of violence and support prevention, intervention, and healing across Delaware communities. Through collaboration with trusted community organizations, healthcare providers, advocates, and public agencies, these partnerships help strengthen community capacity, expand access to resources, and advance evidence-based approaches to violence prevention.

- **Community and Structural Violence:** The Center for Structural Equity (CFSE) works to address the systemic and social factors that contribute to violence through youth development, workforce training, community engagement, research, and advocacy. Through this partnership, Nemours Children's supports efforts that elevate community voice, strengthen protective factors for youth, and advance equitable approaches to violence prevention.
- **Mental Health and Suicide:** SL24 UnLocke the Light Foundation (Sean's House) provides critical mental health support, suicide prevention programming, peer support services, and community education for young people and families. This partnership expands access to mental health resources, reduces stigma surrounding mental illness, and creates opportunities for youth, caregivers, and professionals to engage in education and prevention efforts.
- **Firearm Injury:** The Coalition for a Safer Delaware and its sister organization, the Delaware Coalition Against Gun Violence, advance evidence-based approaches to firearm injury prevention through education, community engagement, and policy advocacy. This partnership supports secure firearm storage education, resource distribution, provider and community training, and policy initiatives that promote safer environments for children and families. Through collaboration across healthcare, advocacy, and community sectors, these efforts help increase awareness, strengthen prevention infrastructure, and expand access to safety resources.
- **Generational Trauma:** Partnerships with organizations such as the Wilmington Alliance and The Hope Commission support community-based approaches that foster healing, resilience, and positive youth development. Through mentorship, trauma-informed programming, safe community spaces, family engagement opportunities, and supportive services, these organizations help address the long-term impacts of trauma and violence while strengthening connections that promote well-being.

In addition to these investments, Nemours Children's continues to expand injury prevention and community education efforts through initiatives such as our Trauma Center's Stop the Bleed training, equipping youth, families, educators, and community members with life-saving skills and knowledge. Together, these partnerships strengthen the region's capacity to prevent violence, support intervention and recovery efforts, and create healthier, safer communities where children and families can thrive. The information on this page is not exhaustive. Rather, it provides a snapshot of Nemours Children's ongoing commitment to violence prevention through strategic community partnerships, evidence-based programming, advocacy, education, and systems-level collaboration. By utilizing the CHNA as a framework for action, Nemours Children's continues to invest in solutions that address community-defined needs and advance Whole Child Health.

Food Insecurity



Food Insecurity

Children exposed to food insecurity are of particular concern given the implications posed to the child's health. Malnutrition during the first 1,000 days of life can have irreversible effects on a child's physical and cognitive development. In addition to immediate health impacts, food insecurity can also have long-term consequences for a child's overall well-being. Children who experience food insecurity may be at a higher risk for chronic health conditions, such as obesity and diabetes, later in life. The 2022 CHNA revealed that approximately 50% of households in Delaware with children under the age of 18 participate in the Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP). Additionally, 1 in 4 (22%) of survey participants report having to cut the size of meals because there was not enough money in the budget for food. Therefore, it is important for Nemours Children's to address food insecurity to help mitigate the negative impacts it has on children in the communities we serve.

To address the identified needs reflected in the 2022 CHNA, a series of meetings was held with external stakeholders and key Nemours Children's staff (i.e., social workers/care coordinators) to determine a path forward. During these discussions, information routinely collected from patients and families around specific barriers to securing food was utilized in conjunction with assessment results and professional expertise to ensure an effective and responsive action plan. These planning sessions yielded the following themes aligned with evidence-based best practices:

- Recognition that there is food available via the Food Bank of Delaware and other resources.
- Access to food bank locations is a challenge (i.e., food pickups that are approximately 3/4 of a mile away from the bus stop).
- Items are difficult to transport long distances if a patron does not have access to a vehicle and is either walking or using public transportation.
- Food boxes from some organizations can be prepacked with items that are not culturally appropriate (e.g., pork products) and thus, go unused.
- Food boxes can often contain items unfamiliar to families who do not know how to prepare items.

We used these five points of information to begin shaping CHNA interventions in this area, as well as a call to action regarding the additional stakeholders needed at the table for implementation to be possible. For example, we reached out to the Food Bank of Delaware to secure stops at several of our community practices centrally located near the populations we serve. The proximity to these locations ensures community members can easily access the services offered, including Food Bank drops and an on-site pantry, and transport the items back to their homes without additional means of transportation. Moreover, with the on-site pantry, families can select items they wish to take home, alleviating challenges related to culturally inappropriate or unfamiliar preselected foods. We believe that bringing services closer to our patients' front doors can promote the ease and accessibility needed to get them food they will use.

As we continue to embrace more community-facing, patient-driven work, it is imperative that we elevate the community voice when developing strategies and interventions for the CHNA and beyond. These objectives are reflected in the goals and initiatives laid out in the 2023–2025 CHNA Implementation Plan.

Implementation Plan

Initiative

Expand Nemours Children's Cares Closets to additional primary care practice sites throughout the Delaware Valley.

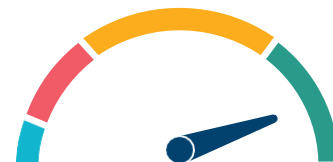
Goals, Metrics, and Progress

Goal: Identify at least two additional practice sites to host a Cares Closet at their location by the end of Y1, Q1 (3/30/25).

Metric(s):

- Total number of additional practice sites identified for the Cares Closet program.
✓ **Progress: Complete.** In the first quarter of 2023, a total of 10 additional practice locations were identified for expansion in the Delaware Valley, joining the two existing sites slated for transition.

Status: Complete



Goal: Stock Cares Closet food pantries based on need at each participating practice site by Y1, Q3 (9/30/23).

Metric(s):

- Total number of Cares Closet sites stocked with food.
✓ **Progress: Complete.** A total of 6 Cares Closet sites (4 new + 2 existing) were fully stocked as of May 2023.
Note: All Cares Closet sites opened since Y1, Q3 have also been fully stocked.

Status: Complete



Goal: Monitor the Cares Closet program throughout the implementation period to provide recommendations for additional Cares Closet locations by the end of Y3 (12/31/25).

Metric:

- Receipt of final approval from leadership of Cares Closet expansion plan.
✓ **Progress: Complete.** By the end of year 3 (2025), all primary care sites had a designated Cares Closet space at their location. With 100% of sites operational, recommendations centered around process improvement vs. growth. As a result, an Epic flowsheet was added to allow sites to document items distributed to each patient, and a reliable method was developed and implemented to support a consistent distribution and documentation process for Cares Closets in Delaware Valley Primary and Specialty Care. A designated ordering lead manages site supply orders so spending can be tracked against distribution data, creating a continuous process evaluation mechanism for future recommendations and improvements.

Status: Complete



Final Report: The Cares Closet initiative strengthened Nemours Children's ability to respond to food insecurity identified through Social Drivers of Health screening in primary care settings. Building on screening data and CHNA findings that elevated food insecurity as a persistent need among patient families, Nemours Children's expanded access to nutritious food resources at the point of care. During the implementation period, additional Delaware Valley primary care sites were identified, participating locations were stocked, and designated Cares Closet space was ultimately established across all Delaware Valley primary care sites. As the initiative matured, Nemours Children's shifted from expansion to sustainability by strengthening processes for ordering, distribution, documentation, and ongoing review. Together, these efforts helped translate screening data into a practical, accessible resource for families and reinforced the role of primary care as a setting where social needs can be identified, addressed, and connected to broader strategies that support child health.

Initiative

Partner with a mobile food pantry to coordinate regular stops at primary care practice locations across the Delaware Valley.

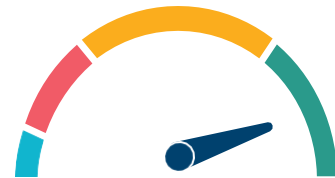
Goals, Metrics, and Progress

Goal: Identify at least two practice sites to receive regular mobile food pantry stops by the end of Y1, Q1 (3/31/23).

Metric(s):

- Total number of practice sites identified for mobile food pantry stops
- ✓ **Progress: Complete.** In the first quarter of 2023, a total of two Delaware Valley practices were identified for pantry stops with the potential for additional expansion opportunities.

Status: Complete



Goal: Finalize a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) with the Food Bank of Delaware by the end of Y3, Q1 (3/30/25).

- ⊗ **Deferred.** In the first and second quarters of 2023, an MOU with the Food Bank of Delaware reached the final signature stage, and internal processes were established to aid pantry operations. However, in July 2023, the mobile food pantry program was placed on an indefinite pause. While implementation did not occur during the 2023–2025 CHNA cycle, the initiative may be revisited as part of future planning efforts.

Status: Deferred



Goal: Implement the mobile food pantry program at identified Nemours Children's practice locations and begin tracking visit data by Y3, Q3 (9/30/25)

- ⊗ **Deferred.** In July 2023, the mobile food pantry program was placed on an indefinite pause. While implementation did not occur during the 2023–2025 CHNA cycle, the initiative may be revisited as part of future planning efforts.

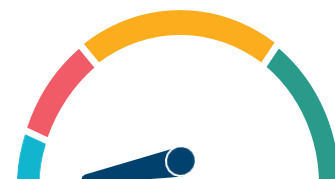
Status: Deferred



Goal: Utilize mobile food pantry visit tracking data to assess the feasibility of expansion to additional practice locations across the system and provide at least five recommendations for spread and scale based on findings by the end of Y3 (12/31/25).

- ⊗ **Deferred.** As of July 2023, the mobile food pantry program has been placed on an indefinite pause. As a result, visit tracking data were not available to assess utilization, feasibility, or opportunities for expansion. Evaluation of utilization and future expansion opportunities may be considered should the initiative move forward in a future implementation period.

Status: Deferred



Final Report: Nemours Children's pursued a strategy to partner with the Food Bank of Delaware to bring mobile food pantry services directly to practice locations. Two sites were identified and an MOU reached the final signature stage in 2023. However, the initiative was paused prior to launch and ultimately deferred at the close of the 2023–2025 implementation cycle. Despite challenges beyond the scope of the initiative, Nemours Children's continued to address food insecurity through alternative Food Bank of Delaware partnerships, Cares Closets, school garden programming, food kit distribution, and broader community food access initiatives.

Additional Investments in Food Insecurity

Nemours Children's continues to invest in strategic community partnerships that address food insecurity through multiple pathways, recognizing that access to nutritious food is a critical driver of child health and well-being. By collaborating with trusted community organizations, Nemours Children's supports a continuum of approaches that address both immediate nutritional needs and the underlying factors that influence long-term food security for children and families.

- **Emergency Food Access:** Partnerships with organizations such as the Food Bank of Delaware help ensure children and families have reliable access to nutritious food during periods when school meals may be unavailable, including weekends, holidays, school breaks, and summer months. These efforts provide a critical safety net for families experiencing food insecurity while helping reduce barriers to healthy nutrition.
- **Nutrition Education and Food Systems Awareness:** Through its partnership with Healthy Foods for Healthy Kids (HFHK), Nemours Children's supports hands-on nutrition education that connects children to healthy foods through school gardening experiences. These programs promote healthy eating habits, increase exposure to fresh fruits and vegetables, and provide opportunities for students to participate in growing, harvesting, and consuming nutritious foods while strengthening school wellness environments.
- **Community-Based Food Distribution:** Partnerships with organizations such as the Latin American Community Center (LACC) help increase access to culturally responsive food resources and other basic needs supports for families experiencing economic hardship. Through trusted community-based distribution models, families can access nutritious foods, household necessities, and supportive services in environments that reflect and respond to the needs of the communities they serve.

In addition to these community investments, Nemours Children's associates continue to support regional food security efforts through initiatives such as **Feeding Hope** (formerly 'Food Fight'), an annual associate-led campaign that benefits local food banks and food assistance organizations throughout the communities Nemours Children's serves. Together, these efforts help expand access to nutritious food, strengthen community food resources, and advance healthier outcomes for children and families.

The information in this section is not exhaustive. Rather, it provides a snapshot of Nemours Children's ongoing commitment to addressing food insecurity through strategic community partnerships, education, resource distribution, and community investment. By utilizing the CHNA as a framework for action, Nemours Children's can make informed investments that address community-defined needs, improve access to healthy foods, and advance Whole Child Health.



Progress reports are posted annually on
[Nemours.org/about/community-health-needs](https://nemours.org/about/community-health-needs)

Please direct all CHNA-related inquiries to:

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Well Beyond Medicine