

STRENGTHENING TEAMWORK THROUGH THE COMMUNITY HEALTH ASSESSMENT PROCESS

BJC HealthCare uses an innovative collaborative approach to help create healthier communities in Missouri and Southern Illinois.

The health system serves communities spanning urban, suburban and rural areas with diverse populations that often face health disparities, inequities and other social barriers to health.



Headquartered in St. Louis, BJC is the largest health system in the region and now includes 28 hospitals as a result of a recent merger with Saint Luke's Health System of Kansas City, Mo.



Informed by its community health assessment, BJC launched a systemwide office of community health improvement to inspire people to prioritize health every day.



BJC's community health improvement program includes four priorities:

1. Financial Health and Well-being

3. Infant and Maternal Health

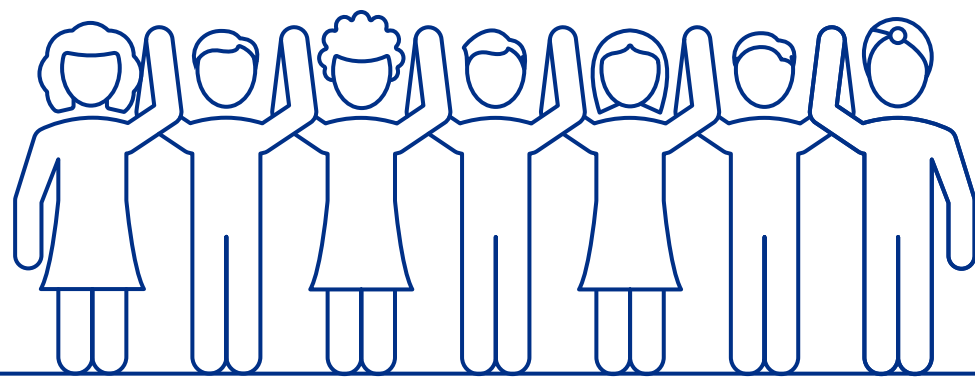
2. School Health and Wellness

4. Diabetes and Healthy Food Access

BJC collaborates with community organizations on classes, events, advocacy and outreach programs to advance these areas of focus.

BJC embraced a systems approach to bring community health improvement efforts to life.

It engaged a wide range of community stakeholders with the experience and knowledge to better represent populations in need.

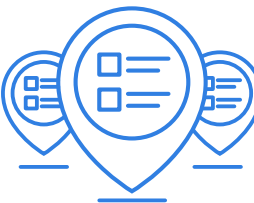


Community health improvement collaborations led to greater long-term community involvement in the CHA.

► **A growing network of resources and information emerged, including:**



Increased diversity and representation within focus groups



In-depth surveys that reveal insights and data by specific zip codes



An expanded network to forge greater community connections

BJC and other hospitals are conducting surveys together and sharing data to determine priorities and solutions that will improve the community's health in the future.

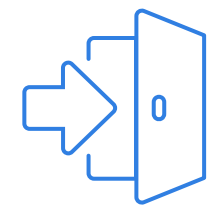
► **This forward-thinking approach is reflected in many new pursuits:**



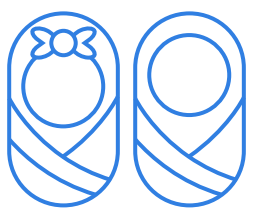
Including more bilingual focus groups and surveys to ensure every voice is heard.



Strengthening community ties by meeting with residents where they work and live.



Developing initiatives that will provide better access to nutritious foods, active living, and mental health and well-being.



Engaging with doulas and providing workshops to address the high infant and maternal mortality rates in the region.



Engaging more BJC team members to support meaningful volunteer opportunities in the community.

► **BJC demonstrates the power of collaboration at work.**

"We're making sure this is a co-creation effort. We're not building this for the community – we're building it with community."



Deidre Griffith
Vice President
Community Health Improvement