



Health Care Advisory Board

Annual Work Plan and Accomplishments
2025-2026

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Overview

- Meetings are held bimonthly, and administrative support is given by Community Support Services.
- Representatives of HCAB organizations :
 - Mental health professional
 - Doctor/nurse
 - Dentist/oral health service provider
 - Department of Health representative
 - Non-Profit Healthcare Provider
 - Pharmacist
 - Representative of healthcare agency serving primarily low income patients

Major Accomplishments (2024-2025)

- **CHW Program:** reviews programmatic updates from CHW and provides feedback regarding goals, strategies, challenges and successes.
- **Community Health Assessment:** The advisory board continues to discuss the problems and challenges identified through the Community Health Assessment to prioritize initiatives to combat health and social issues in Alachua County.
- **Syringe Exchange Program:** The advisory board continues to monitor updates on and support the syringe exchange program.
- **Eastside Urgent Care Clinic:** The advisory board continues to monitor progress on the Eastside Urgent Care clinic.

Promoting Dental Therapy

- Promoted HB 21 AND SB 82 to expand dental access and improved overall health:

Allows the state to license qualified dental therapists, expanding access statewide. Requires all dental therapists to graduate from an approved education program. Requires dental therapists to work under the supervision of a Florida dentist and perform services limited to their accreditation standards set forth by American Dental Association Commission on Dental Accreditation (CODA). Creates the Council on Dental Therapy and requires Department of Health, in consultation with Board of Dentistry & AHCA, to submit reports to Legislature. Authorizes Medicaid to reimburse for dental services provided by certain mobile dental units.

Goals and Objectives 2025-2026

- Continue to support dental health care and related initiatives
- HCAB will explore initiatives to increase access to services and resources where residents live (services in place)
- Participate in quarterly review of the Community Health Improvement Plan
- Receive periodic updates from staff on Community Health Offering Innovative Care & Educational Services (CHOICES)
- Review the impacts of health care reform at the national, state, and local level
- and inform partners and stakeholders.
- Review the activities of county health programs based on reports received, including various community health assessments and initiatives
- Continue to serve as a liaison between the Board of County Commissioners and
- community-based health related coalitions and initiatives.