



Health Service Access

Action: Improve access to mental and physical health and wellness services.

DESCRIPTION OF ACTION	Increase the accessibility of health and wellness services at and around Devens, especially for vulnerable populations.
CHAMPION	Nashoba Associated Boards of Health

IMPLEMENTATION STEPS	PLANNING CONSIDERATIONS	
	Timeframe ¹	Key Partners
Inventory current health and wellness services and providers in the region and identify gaps, especially for low-income, minority, elderly residents, and those with limited accessibility	Short	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Nashoba Valley Medical Center Transitions at Devens TaraVista Behavioral Health Clear Path for Veterans U.S. Army Senior care facilities Surrounding towns Dragonfly Wellness Center Devens Fire Department Businesses State Department of Public Health Montachusett Regional Planning Commission
Create recruitment and retention strategies to attract and maintain primary care providers at and around Devens, including strategies to create more satellite locations of existing providers	Medium	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> MassDevelopment Nashoba Valley Chamber of Commerce Neighboring communities' Boards of Health Nashoba Valley Medical Center Department of Public Health
Build on existing partnerships between health and wellness providers and institutions serving vulnerable populations (low-income, seniors, youth, chronically ill, etc.) to increase access to free or affordable health and wellness programs	Short	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> See key partners listed in step #1
Actively promote healthy lifestyle programming in the community	Medium/Ongoing	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Recreation Division Dragonfly Wellness Center Schools Clear Path for Veteran Senior care facilities Natural Café U.S. Army Businesses State Department of Public Health Montachusett Regional Planning Commission

¹ Short = less than 1 year; Medium = 1-3 years; Long = 4-5years

HEALTH SERVICE ACCESS (CONT.)

FUNDING RESOURCES	TECHNICAL RESOURCES
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • New England Healthy Communities Grant • Massachusetts Special Initiatives Grants • MA Department of Public Health • Health Care Insurance Providers 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • MA Department of Public Health Bureau of Community Health and Prevention • APA Plan 4 Health • Montachusett Regional Planning Commission
LINKS TO OTHER PLANS & ACTIONS	EQUITY CONSIDERATIONS
<p>How does this action connect to other Devens goals?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Supports Economic Development goals of this plan • Relevant STAR Objectives: Equitable Service & Access, Community Health, Health Systems • Relevant LEED Credits: Distributional Equity, Environmental Justice 	<p>How can the community incorporate equity into the implementation of this action?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Consider affordability of health care services when identifying gaps • Remove barriers to entry for receiving quality medical care for low-income residents • Consider transportation barriers for elderly, those with disabilities, and low-income residents
MEASURING SUCCESS	ENGAGING THE COMMUNITY
<p>How can we measure the progress and success of this action?</p> <p>Outputs</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Inventory of local health and wellness service providers • Recruitment and retention strategies <p>Outcome</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Reduced rates of obesity, reported mental health issues, and disease • # of primary care providers in a 15-mile radius • % of residence reporting having a checkup in the last year 	<p>How can we engage the populations that benefit from implementing this action?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Health units in schools • Education through shelters, elderly housing, veterans' organizations, etc. • Surveying the public on health service needs • Publicizing wellness services and programs