

2023 Community Health Needs Assessment

Implementation Plan Summary

St. Luke's Magic Valley

The following implementation plan illustrates the strategies St. Luke's and its community partners will employ in fiscal years 2024-2026 to address the most important health needs identified in our 2023 Community Health Needs Assessment for Magic Valley/Jerome.

Cost of Living—Including Housing, Child Care and Education

Community members were concerned about the costs of housing, child care and education in the region. Due to rapid growth and limited housing, residents report that it is increasingly difficult to find and pay for housing. Many also struggle to obtain and pay for child care. These and other expenses can put households at an increased risk of financial instability. A lack of educational opportunity may also limit a household's ability to improve its financial situation.

STRATEGIES

Increase affordability of early learning and child care opportunities.

- Support the Early Learning Collaborative and child care expansion.

Support caregivers.

- Integrate Idaho Caregiver Alliance supports with the Magic Valley Center for Community Health.

Support households that are cost burdened (spend more than 30% of income on housing costs).

- Participate in the Workforce Housing Initiative.

Support families and individuals experiencing homelessness.

- Support the Point-in-Time Count and the Warming Center.

Increase affordable housing options.

- Support assessment of a tiny home village.

Support services that assist people in remaining successfully housed.

- Promote awareness of the Center for Community Health to local service providers.

Address food and nutrition security.

- Support food and nutrition security in food desert zip codes.
- Provide school supports addressing nutrition and physical activity.





Mental Health and Well-Being—Including Suicide

Many residents, including youth, worry about access to affordable mental health care and substance misuse treatment in Magic Valley. A lack of these services can lead to worsening mental health outcomes.

STRATEGIES

Support awareness, education and skill building.

- Support availability of mental and behavioral health educational resources.
- Promote and support existing gatekeeper trainings.
- Increase awareness and advocacy around adverse childhood experiences to mitigate and/or prevent them.

Increase access to mental and behavioral health services.

- Support ways to increase school-based mental and behavioral health services in coordination and collaboration with community partners.
- Develop a Get Help guide for Magic Valley.
- Increase supports for first responders with access to behavioral health services.

Identify, intervene and measure outcomes in populations.

- Support the Communities for Youth model.

Access to Health-Related Services—Including Language and Cultural Barriers

Community members reported several difficulties accessing health care and oral health care: long waits for appointments, trouble paying for services, language and cultural differences, and lack of insurance coverage or not enough coverage. These challenges are even more difficult for people relying on Medicaid or Medicare, and for immigrants without access to insurance and non-native English speakers who require language support.

STRATEGIES

Address transportation barriers to care.

- Support and financially contribute to transportation-related programs.

Support mobile, telehealth and on-site health services.

- Utilize St. Luke's mobile mammography.
- Support school nurses in Twin Falls School District.
- Fund and collaborate with the Mexican Consulate.

Support community health worker models, resource navigation services and engagement with vulnerable populations.

- Support and expand the community school model.
 - Collaborate with FindhelpIdaho.org on a community-facing and an internal patient community resource directory.
 - Maximize awareness and navigation to service providers in the community.
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