

# **2022 Community Health Needs Assessment**



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## Introduction - BOARD ACTION

Sioux Center Health has developed a community health needs assessment (CHNA) as a requirement for hospitals to retain non-profit status. The process includes review and approval of the qualitative and quantitative data by the Sioux Center Health governing board. After approval in the June 9, 2022 meeting, an implementation plan will be prepared and presented for approval at the August 2022 Executive Board meeting.

## Executive Summary

### Purpose

The Community Health Needs Assessment (CHNA) is a federal requirement for 501(c)(3) hospitals once every three taxable years. The information must be disclosed in its annual information report to the IRS (i.e., Form 990 and related schedules). While the CHNA is a federal requirement, we must remember that assessing our communities and providing community benefit programs are more than a nonprofit obligation. Conducting a needs assessment and responding to those community health needs allows us to live our mission and make a significant difference in the communities we serve.

### Methodology

As part of the assessment, each hospital is required to collect input from individuals representing the community as well as those with public health expertise. The following report outlines the process undertaken by Sioux Center Health in Sioux Center, IA to fulfill these requirements. Sioux Center Health conducted this Community Health Needs Assessment (CHNA) partly as a collaborative process with three other hospitals and the public health agency in Sioux County, Community Health Partners of Sioux County. This group collaborated on the previous assessment conducted in 2019. Sioux Center Health, along with Community Health Partners, gathered quantitative and qualitative data to determine the best suitable health initiatives that will make a lasting impact for our communities. In order to avoid duplication of effort, the four critical access hospitals in Sioux County worked collaboratively with Community Health Partners to complete this community health needs assessment with a process that began in October of 2021.

### Summary of Health Needs

The following prioritized health needs were identified for all of Sioux County with the collaborative:

1. Mental Health
2. Social Determinates of Health – Ongoing Assessing and Addressing
3. Heart Disease – Prevention
4. Health Care Access

Using the above identified areas and focusing on the needs of the community, Sioux Center Health concurred with the collaborative on the following focus areas for the next three years. The four that were chosen are:

1. Mental Health
2. Social Determinates of Health – Ongoing Assessing and Addressing
3. Heart Disease – Prevention
4. Health Care Access

### Summary of Method and Process

The CHNA was conducted using a collaborative planning and data collection process integrating secondary data and primary data collected from community stakeholders through attending existing

community meetings and through a web-based questionnaire. The following outlines, in brief, the steps taken:

1. Identify desired data indicators
2. Review, analyze and compile available data from a variety of existing data sets from national, state, and local sources
3. Collect primary data through community groups and stakeholder web-based questionnaire
4. Convene planning group to identify county priorities
5. Identify health system priorities

## Community Health Needs Assessment

### Introduction and Background

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#### Purpose

A community health needs assessment (CHNA) provides an opportunity for non-profit hospitals to identify needs and resources within the community. With the passage of the Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act (ACA) on March 23, 2010, conducting a CHNA is now part of the requirement for hospitals to retain tax exempt status. The CHNA must be conducted at least once every three years. As part of the CHNA, each hospital is required to collect input from individuals representing the community as well as those with public health expertise. The following report outlines the process undertaken by Sioux Center Health in Sioux Center, IA to fulfill these requirements. This process will enable the health system to develop a plan to respond to community needs fitting with the mission to bring hope, health, and healing to life. Our health system is pleased to serve as a leader in promoting the health of our community.

#### About Sioux Center Health

Sioux Center Health is a 19-bed critical access hospital located in Sioux Center, Iowa. The not-for-profit community hospital is governed by a local Board of Directors and has a management agreement with Avera McKennan Hospital and University Health Center, which provides shared administrative support to hospitals throughout the region in Iowa, South Dakota, and Minnesota. Sioux Center Health includes the hospital, three medical clinics located in Sioux Center, Hull and Hawarden, a skilled nursing facility and independent and assisted living facilities.

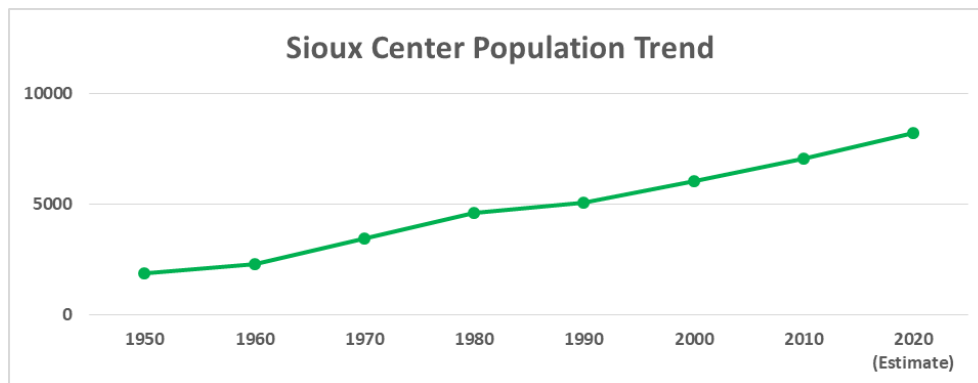
Sioux Center Health conducted this Community Health Needs Assessment (CHNA) as part of a collaborative process with three other hospitals, Promise Community Health Center, and the public health agency in Sioux County, Community Health Partners of Sioux County. This collaborative process included joint planning, identification of common data indicators, and county-wide stakeholder engagement. Although the process was collaborative, each individual hospital reviewed both community level and county level data and input. Sioux Center Health presents this community health needs assessment as an individual assessment and will develop an implementation plan based on this assessment.

## Our Community

Sioux Center Health serves the residents of Sioux County, Iowa. Sioux Center Health serves the residents of Sioux County, Iowa. Nearly 90 percent of the hospital's discharges originate from Sioux County. The majority of the hospital's patients (58.3 percent) came from Sioux Center and Hull, IA in calendar year 2021. An additional 10.8% of patients originate from the Rock Valley zip code (51247). For the purposes of this community health needs assessment, the service community for Sioux Center Health includes Sioux County and specifically the community of Sioux Center and includes low-income and underserved populations. For the purposes of this community health needs assessment, the service community for Sioux Center Health includes Sioux County and specifically the community of Sioux Center and includes low-income and underserved populations.

### Total Population and Growth

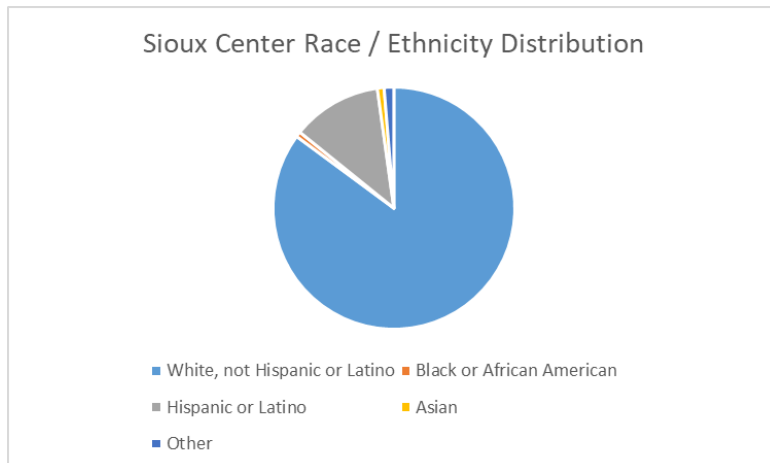
The community of Sioux Center is located in the center of Sioux County, Iowa. The 2020 population of Sioux Center is 8229 as reported by the U. S. Census Bureau. Between 2010 and 2020 the population increased by 16.76%, higher than the Sioux County growth of 6.43% and the state of Iowa growth at 4.73%. Sioux Center's population is predominantly white, but between 2010 and 2020 there was a decrease in the percentage of the population that identifies as white. During that time, the percentage of population that identifies as of Hispanic origin grew from 13.1% to 21.0%.



Source: U.S. Census Bureau

Age group	Percentage
Persons under 5 years	11.0%
Persons under 18 years	27.8%
Persons 19-64 years	52.2%
Persons 65 years and over	13.4%
Female persons	48.1%

Source: 2020 U.S. Census Bureau



Source: American Community Survey Estimates 2020, U.S Census Bureau

Compared to Sioux County as a whole, the median household income is slightly higher at \$76,580 compared to \$73,260 and the median value of owner-occupied housing is also higher at \$223,700 in Sioux Center and \$182,500 countywide. In Sioux Center, 25% of housing units are renter occupied and there are no vacant housing units. The median gross rent in Sioux Center is \$699.

The workforce in Sioux Center includes management, business, science, and arts comprising the largest percentage of workers. Of the population above age 16, 73.5% are in the workforce and the percentage of those unemployed is negligible. 5.1 % of the population lives below poverty level and 5.4% of the population has no health insurance.

## Process and Methods

The community health needs assessment was conducted using a modified MAPP (Mobilizing for Action through Planning and Partnerships) process through collaboration among the local public health department and the four critical access hospitals located within Sioux County, Iowa. Steps in the process included 1)Planning – called “Organizing for Success and Partnership Development” in the MAPP framework, 2)Data collection – called “Assessments” in MAPP framework language, and 3)Prioritization – “Identify Strategic Issues” in the MAPP framework.



## Timeline



### Planning

Community Health Partners of Sioux County, the local public health agency for Sioux County, Iowa convened a group of representatives from Sioux County health care organizations to conduct a collaborative community health needs assessment. Partners in the collaborative process included four critical access hospitals: Sioux Center Health, Hegg Memorial Health System, Orange City Area Health System, Hawarden Regional Healthcare, as well as Promise Community Health Center and Community Health Partners of Sioux County.

The planning phase of the project included identifying data indicators that should be included in the data review and considering community stakeholders to be included in outreach efforts. After reviewing the 2019 assessment report and County Health Snapshot, the group identified additional data indicators that should be included in the updated snapshot.

The collaborative group decided to focus on existing community groups and a web-based questionnaire since a county-wide survey and extensive focus group interviews were completed in 2019. In the interim, COVID-19 impacted many community organizations, especially healthcare organizations and Community Health Partners collected ongoing community needs data throughout the pandemic in an effort to respond quickly to community needs. Recognizing this ongoing assessment, the group did not want to burden organizations with extensive data collection processes.

### Assessment

Community Health Partners identified available sources for relevant data to include in a **community health status report** using secondary data sources. Priority was given to data identified through the Iowa Department of Public Health Public Health Tracking System, County Health Rankings, and the U.S. Census Bureau. The 2022 “Community Health Status” report describes the health status of Sioux County through Demographics, Social Determinants of Health, Death, Injury and Illness, Mental Health, Maternal and Child Health, Environmental Health, Health Care Access and Health Behaviors. This Community Health Status Report was reviewed by the

collaborative and areas where Sioux County was unfavorable compared to state or comparison county data were specifically considered.

**Community Input** was gathered throughout Sioux County through participation in existing community meetings and through a web-based questionnaire. A community health consultant attended community meetings and facilitated discussion about priority health needs in the community following the “Three Key Questions for Partners” provided by the Iowa Department of Public Health. This community input was collected between November 2021 and March 2022. Of these community groups, three were comprised of a cross section of providers who serve a variety of roles throughout the county including school nurses, social service providers, mental health providers, the Board of Health and public health providers. A web-based questionnaire using the same questions was sent to mailing lists that included health care providers, pastors, social service providers, and community care coordinators. A total of 43 web-based responses were received. The following table outlines participants who represented specific low-income, minority and underserved populations.

Participants	
Organization / Individual	Representative Group
Early Childhood Iowa / Decategorization	Low income, underserved
ATLAS	Low-income
Elderbridge	Underserved and older adults
Love, Inc.	Low income
Lutheran Social Services of Iowa	Low income
School nurses	Underserved
Community care coordinators	Underserved, low-income, minority
Habitat for Humanity	Underserved, low-income
Parent Partners	Underserved
Promise CHC	Underserved, low-income

## Summary of Input from Community

Priority needs identified in web-based questionnaire:

Community health partners provided a link to a web-based questionnaire through SurveyMonkey that included three key questions for stakeholders. There were 43 responses received.

1. Based on your interactions with the people you serve, what are the 3 most important issues/topics we need to focus on to improve health in our community?
2. What reasons led you to choose each?
3. Are there things that already exist in our community that we can capitalize on to make/sustain improvement?

### Mental health

Mental health was identified as the top priority by 14 of the respondents and as the second priority for 11. Within this category, specific areas of need were family and individual stress, destigmatizing

mental health, the need for more mental health services and providers, anxiety, mental health resources for minorities, the need for ongoing support, and identifying the connection between physical health and mental health. Others identified increasing use of social media (2) and family structure and parenting (2) connecting to the wellbeing of youth.

Rationale for including this a top priority included the prominence of mental health issues across age and demographic profiles, the lack of providers, the lack of nearby inpatient services, the need to better care for ourselves and others from a prevention standpoint, the increase in depression and other mental health disorders throughout the COVID-19 pandemic, the increasing levels of anxiety in middle school, the hesitation to seek help or talk about stresses and anxiety, a lack of resources for those seeking support, and the long wait times for existing services. One response specifically noted a 2-3 day wait time for placement for those in crisis and a 3+ month wait for outpatient services.

Resources noted include existing providers, a regional hospital, and capable local agencies with experience providing a spectrum of ongoing support, churches, concerned community members and teachers, school counselors, and county coordination.

### **Obesity, Nutrition, and Physical Activity**

Six respondents identified needs related to obesity, nutrition, and physical activity as the most important issue to address, while ten identified this as the second more important issue and four as the third. Within this category, specifically mentioned were diet and nutrition, promotion of health habits, opportunities and spaces for physical activity especially those that are available year-round and at low or no cost, and outdoor spaces such as parks.

Rationale for inclusion connected nutrition and exercise habits to overall health and an increase in diabetes, hypertension, and cardiovascular disease, noted challenges with accessing places for physical activity in the wintertime and the importance of spaces like parks for activity, a need for low cost options for activity and the need for learning about healthier ways to cook and eat.

Resources available include existing parks, recreation centers, fitness centers, places that could host cooking classes such as schools, libraries, and gyms, groups for weight loss support, clinics, prevent diabetes groups, community centers and walking paths.

### **Healthcare Access**

Seven respondents identified health care access issues as the most important issue; two identified this as the second most important and three as the third most important. Specific needs include staffing, positive attitude, senior care services, Alzheimer's services, specific clinic needs, specialty care, screening exams and understanding existing coverage, creating a welcoming and friendly environment for patients, and improving healthcare funding and financing access.

Rationale for including this a top priority include the desire to have services available close to home because family care is important, the wait times for care in local clinics, lack of knowledge about

financial coverage, challenges with access for minority groups, and the added stress that comes from financial aspects of accessing health care.

Resources to address this issue include bilingual staff, insurance availability and assistance for enrollment.

### **Social Determinates of Health**

Social determinants of health were mentioned either as a general category of need or specific social determinants such as housing (6) transportation (2) and daycare availability (2).

Rationale for inclusion included the inadequacy of existing transportation services to meet the needs of some community members who rely on it, the cost of housing, the challenges of hiring employees when daycare access is limited, the number of families in shared housing or housing that does not meet housing codes or is rodent infested, the lack of housing availability.

Resources noted were specific programs such as Family Crisis Center homelessness unit, HUD, ATLAS, and Mid-Sioux Opportunity as well as employers who have an interest in increasing available housing.

### **Community ethos**

A number of respondents included needs such as trust (1), honesty and transparency (1), empathy (1), respect(1), privacy(1), and sense of community support (1) that indicate an overall need relating to the general ethos of the community.

Rationale for these was limited, but included statements about becoming individualistic, the growing diversity of the population, the desire to see coworkers who are happier and more productive, and the connection between demonstrating care and openness to discussing health issues.

### **Healthcare response to Covid-19**

Issues that either directly relate to COVID-19 or with an implied connection included the needs for improved immunization practices (1), a desire to decrease the use of masks in patient settings (1), personal choice (1), COVID-19 pandemic resources (1), changing COVID regulations and safety (1), and addressing the needs of those impacted by COVID (1).

The rationale for inclusion included the number of people impacted by COVID-19, the challenge of providing care, and a lack of education about vaccines.

No specific resources were noted aside from vaccine locations and web information.

## Substance Use

Substance use, including alcohol and cannabis use was highlighted by four respondents' total.

The rationale included a note that heavy drinking impacts communities, vaping nicotine is high in Sioux County, cannabis use among youth is rising and cannabis is increasingly available in multiple forms, and substance use is seen at all ages.

Rosecrance Jackson, Seasons Crisis and Celebrate Recovery were noted as specific resources to address substance use.

## Stakeholder meeting identified themes:

Similar to the questions asked in the web-based questionnaire, stakeholders at existing community groups or coalitions were asked to identify the top three issues, the reasoning for selecting the issue, and resources that are available to address the issue.

*Mental health* emerged as a need in stakeholder meetings, specific the challenges related to recruiting enough providers in rural areas, the challenge of asking for help, a growing need among children and teens and increasing challenges with generational issues such as intense family dynamics. Additionally, there was recognition of a growing challenge of co-occurring mental health and substance use disorders and the need for trauma education. It was specifically noted that there was a 17% increase in alcohol sales in Sioux County between 2018—2020.

Resources identified include Elderbridge, Love, Inc, Parent Partners, Mental Health First Aid training, churches, engaged school nurses, trauma informed care trainings, a 24/7 text or chat line [www.yourlifeiowa.org](http://www.yourlifeiowa.org) and outreach through radio, newspapers, and social media.

*Financial needs* were also noted as a need, specifically stakeholders have noted an increased number of clients with transportation challenges including loss of ability to drive due to aging and increasing costs of transportation. A general challenge for many clients is managing money, especially when price increases occur – these clients are hardest hit by financial challenges. The cost of healthcare services also impacts finances and more low cost or sliding scale services are needed.

*Physical activity and nutrition* was also identified by stakeholder groups, especially the need for options in the winter months.

The *healthcare workforce* was also identified as an area of need, with recognition that long-term care facilities and the behavioral health workforce (as noted above) are areas of particular need.

The issues identified by stakeholder groups are similar to those identified in the stakeholder survey and additional resources or community assets were identified.

No written feedback was received related to the previous CHNA.

**Prioritization** – A summary of the health issues raised through community input was presented to the collaborative planning group along with the secondary data report.

On May 11, 2022, Community Health Partners convened a stakeholder meeting with attendees representing the participating healthcare organizations. Participants reviewed a summary of all assessments (community input, secondary data), identified and prioritized key issues. To determine priorities that healthcare systems will address collaboratively, the collaborative team used the Stakeholder Survey Results, Community Health Status Report, and stakeholder meeting input to generate a list of health needs / issues. Identified issues were:

- \*Health care access – can include recruiting employees and connecting to providers
- Connecting patients to providers
- Recruiting long term care employees
- \*Heart disease – prevention factors
- Melanoma – potential connection to agricultural work
- \*Mental health access
  - Prescribing providers
- \*Social determinants – assessing and addressing on an ongoing basis
- Cancer screenings
- Dental services for Medicaid
- Exercise and nutrition
- Substance use/abuse
- Routine screenings
- Social determinants – housing, transportation, daycare

The collaborative team used a multi-voting technique to narrow the list of health needs/ issues to a priority list after discussion, determining that the identified issues were supported by data, important to the community, and broad enough to have potential for a variety of community actions to address.

- Mental health
- Social determinants of health – assessing and addressing on an ongoing basis
- Heart disease
- Health care access

Criteria considered:

- 1) **Can we impact the issue** – Do we have the resources to address it, including financial, human, and infrastructure?
- 2) **How does it fit with our mission?**
- 3) **Is there buy-in or passion to address this need?**

## Summary of Priority Needs

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For the purposes of this assessment, a health need includes requisites for the improvement or maintenance of health status in both the community at large or in particular parts of the community (such as a specific group experiencing disparities). Requisites for improvements or maintenance of health status include underlying factors that influence health such as transportation or housing.

### **Mental Health:**

#### ***Description of the issue***

Mental health is part of overall health and refers generally to emotional, psychological, and social well-being (mentalhealth.gov). Challenges related to mental health can occur at any age and can be transient or long-standing. Healthcare related to mental health is provided by a variety of providers including those who specialize in diagnosis, medical treatment, therapy, and rehabilitation.

*Statistical Data (Secondary Data):* Sioux County adults reported an average of 3.8 days of poor mental health over the past 30 days. This is slightly lower than the Iowa overall, where 4.1 days were reported. The suicide death rate (per 100K) is 11.5 compared to the state of Iowa rate of 10. Among youth in grades 6, 8, and 11 participating in the Iowa Youth Survey, 17% seriously thought about killing themselves in the past 12 months.

*Related Data Indicators:* The ratio of mental health providers to the population in Sioux County is 800:1, lower than the state ratio 570:1.

*Community Input (Primary Data):* Survey respondents and stakeholder groups, alike, identified mental health as one of the top issues. Both an increase in the experiences of poor mental health and the need for additional providers were noted as important aspects of this need, indicating that there are needs along the continuum from prevention to treatment.

#### ***Potential resources to address the issue***

Resources and Programs available in Sioux County to address this issue include:

Resources noted include existing providers, a regional hospital, and capable local agencies with experience providing a spectrum of ongoing support, churches, concerned community members and teachers, school counselors, and county coordination. Elderbridge, Love, Inc, Parent Partners, Mental Health First Aid training, engaged school nurses, trauma informed care trainings, a 24/7 text or chat line [www.yourlifeiowa.org](http://www.yourlifeiowa.org) and outreach through radio, newspapers and social media were also noted as available resources.

A full listing of mental health resources in Sioux County can be found on the county resource guide: <https://siouxcountychp.org/resource-category/mental-health-counseling-support-groups/>  
Resources and programs available in Sioux Center to address this issue include:

In Sioux Center, these additional resources address Mental Health.

- Strong collaborative commitment to this issue.
- Area mental health providers – several sizeable agencies serve Sioux County
- NAMI support group for mental illness
- On staff Board Certified Psychiatric-Mental Health Nurse Practitioner
- On staff Licensed Master Social Workers who specializes in behavioral health counseling for individuals, couples and families.
- Sioux Center Health has expanded the Behavioral Health department with the addition of two more providers as well as expanded space for all providers to see their patients.
- Life After Loss support group is hosted by Sioux Center Health on a monthly basis to provide grief support to individuals who have experienced losing a spouse, partner, family member, etc.

## **Social Determinates of Health – Assessing and Addressing**

### ***Description of the issue***

Social determinants of health refer to underlying conditions that influence health including the built environment, education, health care access, community context, and socioeconomic status (CDC, 2022).

*Statistical Data (Secondary Data):* In Sioux County, 6% of children under age 18 live below the poverty level, which is lower than the state rate 12%; however, 41% of students are eligible for free and reduced lunch, which is slightly lower than the state percentage of 42%. Additionally, 7% of families spend 50% or more of their income on housing and 5% report food insecurity. While the median income in Sioux County (\$74,900) is higher than the state (\$62,400) there are income disparities when comparing median household income by ethnicity where the median income for those identifying as Hispanic is \$42,900 compared to \$68,300 for those identifying as American Indian or Alaska Native and \$75,800 for those identifying as White.

The high school graduation rate in Sioux County (91%) is the same as the state, but there is a higher rate of adults age 25+ who have completed less than 9th grade (3.6%) in Sioux County than across the state (2.9%).

*Community Input (Primary data):* Focus group participants noted the need for ongoing assessment and addressing social determinants of health. This type of assessment can occur at both the community and individual level and strategies for addressing them are similarly both at the community and individual level.

### ***Potential resources to address the issue***

Resources and Programs available in Sioux County to address this issue include:

- Care coordination resources in health care systems and at Community Health Partners
- PRAPARE assessment used at Promise CHC

- Unite Us referral platform

Resources and programs available in Sioux Center to address this issue include:

- Sioux Center Health provides a bilingual Care Coordinator to ensure education for how to navigate the health care system, including financial assistance and programs.
- Financial counselors on staff at Sioux Center Health to address financial aspects of health care with patients.
- Sioux Center Health provides on-site certified medical interpreters to provide fluid, transparent, and accurate communication. Our interpreter services are provided free of charge to the individuals being served available from 8:00 AM to 5:00 PM on weekdays and also provide 24-hour video remote interpretation using SpectraCorp and CyraCom.
- Sioux Center supports All Kids Can, an organization whose mission is to make healthy living activities accessible to children of all ages through monetary assistance and to provide consistent support and encouragement along the way.

## **Heart Disease**

### ***Description of the issue***

Heart disease is a term that refers to a number of heart conditions, the most common of which is coronary artery disease, which can lead to heart attack. Other types include heart rhythm problems, heart valve diseases, and heart muscle diseases. Risk factors for heart disease include high blood pressures, high cholesterol, and smoking ([cdc.gov/heartdisease/about.hm](http://cdc.gov/heartdisease/about.hm))

*Statistical Data (Secondary data):* Although the mortality rate for heart disease in Sioux County (113.5 per 100,000) is lower than the state (165.5 per 100,000), it is the leading causes of death.

*Community Input (Primary data):* Although heart disease itself was not identified as a specific theme in the stakeholder groups, it was mentioned as a key reason for including obesity prevention, physical activity, and nutrition as a priority issue. In other words, preventing cardiovascular disease is one of the drivers for addressing physical activity and nutrition. The prioritization team specifically identified issues related to awareness of heart disease as a leading cause of death and the need for prevention messaging related to heart disease, especially for women.

### ***Potential resources to address the issue:***

Existing programs that address obesity, physical activity, and nutrition can be connected more broadly to heart disease. These resources include Prevent Diabetes Northwest Iowa, Healthy Sioux County's 5-2-1-0 activities and outreach, and community education activities. Additionally, all county health care organizations regularly provide heart disease and heart health messaging in February.

Resources and programs available in Sioux Center to address this issue include:

- Sioux Center Trails Council is actively developing new trails, Sioux Center Health has worked closely with this community group and has a representative that sits on this committee to provide valuable input.

- Sioux Center Health is a partner for Siouxperman Triathlon, Harvest Half Marathon and 10k run, and Healthy Heros Family Fun 5k run, 2k run, family fun walk, and community health fair.
- Sioux Center Summer Recreation programs include multiple opportunities for kids to be active.
- The Sioux Center Recreation program also offers multiple programs for adults such as soccer, co-ed sand volleyball, basketball, line dance, softball, and pickle ball.
- There are several fitness facilities available in the community.
- The City of Sioux Center and Dordt University of Sioux Center have entered a partnership to construct an indoor turf facility for athletic programs and multi-purpose indoor space.
- Sioux Center Health employs a diabetic educator and a registered dietician who work with patients and community members to manage obesity related issues and provide education surrounding effective weight management and the associated health benefits.

## **Health Care Access**

### ***Description of the issue***

Access to health care is a determinant of health that impacts the ability to detect and treat illness and other health conditions. Access can be related to both the availability of health care services and the ability of people to connect to those services, which may include convenience and affordability.

*Statistical Data (Secondary data):* There are four critical access hospitals and one federally qualified community health center in Sioux County. Total number of available inpatient beds 96, which is 20th in rank in Iowa [5]. There are 4 nursing facilities in the county with 288 facility beds. There is one physician for every 1200 people in Sioux County, which is a slightly better ratio than the state as a whole, where there is one physician for every 1350 people.

*Community Input (Primary data):* Stakeholder groups and the survey respondents identified healthcare staff as an important need related to access to health care. Service availability is limited when there is not adequate staff for facilities. This is especially noted in the area of nursing facilities in the county. Other areas noted were specialty care, financial aspects, creating a welcoming and friendly environment for patients including minority groups, and improving healthcare funding and financing access

### ***Potential resources to address this issue:***

Resources and Programs available in Sioux County to address this issue include:

Resources include bilingual staff within the health care systems, existing programs for enrollment into insurance programs, care coordination programs, and recruiting incentives.

Resources and programs available in Sioux Center to address this issue include:

- Sioux Center Health ensures a healthcare provider at each of its locations.
- Medical providers from Sioux Center Health visit Crown Pointe Estates (independent, assisted, and care center) on a regular basis; as well as Hillcrest

- Sioux Center Health provides translation services through in-person interpreters,
- Financial counselors on staff at Sioux Center Health to address financial aspects of health care with patients.
- During the COVID-19 pandemic, Sioux Center Health began offering virtual appointments with healthcare providers in order for patients to still access essential healthcare appointments.
- Sioux Center Health partnered with Sioux Center Christian School and the Sioux Center High School to offer virtual appointments to students in schools with parent's consent. Parents also able to join the virtual appointment remotely if they chose.

The leadership team for Sioux Center Health met to review the county level priorities and data and identified the following priorities for Sioux Center:

- Mental Health
- Social Determinates of Health – Ongoing Assessing and Addressing
- Heart Disease – Prevention
- Health Care Access

## Evaluation of progress from prior CHNA

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Since the previous CHNA, the participating health care organizations have worked jointly to address the priority issues of healthy living, mental health, and coordinating access to services. Many of the planned actions from the previous implementation plan were put on hold due to efforts related to the COVID-19 pandemic.

Specific achievements of efforts undertaken are below:

### ***Healthy Living***

Community Health Partner's CHW is working with the Newcomer class at Sioux Center High School. She is presenting weekly health and wellness education for the students who are learning English and about community and cultural practices and expectations of Sioux County in addition to the normal school subjects. Health topics include both physical and mental health and wellness.

Prevent Diabetes Northwest Iowa (NDPP) is a CDC recognized diabetes prevention program that is a county-wide partnership. No new cohorts were started during the pandemic, but the program successfully completed existing cohort programs despite the pandemic challenges. A new, web-based platform is being piloted this fall through OCAHS and Sioux Center Health. Sioux Center Health is covering the cost of employee participation in HALT. Sioux Center Health has also added nutrition services to employees on their insurance plan that includes dietician consulting on weight management.

Diabetes in home pilot was tested, but was determined to not be sustainable on a wide-scale without extensive collaboration and/or risk of duplication of other community services. Community Health

Center began providing diabetes education services/health coaching which has resulted in reduced need for diabetes education services.

### ***Mental Health***

Healthy Sioux County – This county coalition has continued to meet on a monthly basis, moving to zoom meetings during the COVID-19 pandemic. The multidisciplinary group (librarians, school nurses, health care professionals, social services, behavioral health, veteran’s affairs, area agency on aging, public health) has worked on promoting the sack pack program, offered mental health training for agencies’ staff members and planned special events during Mental Health Month in May including disseminating a calendar with mental health activities for each day and a Chalk the Walk event in several of our communities.

Several school districts, including private schools, have added mental health counseling services in schools. Sioux Center School joined the Unite Us platform to assist in making community referrals.

### ***Access to Services***

A county-wide translation and interpretation work group continues to meet with the goal of looking for how to bridge the gap for Spanish speakers in our community. Interpreters from each local healthcare center/hospital collaborate to ensure that each facility is following interpreting ethics as well as identifying where each facility can serve their LEP patients better. There have been bilingual and interpreting proficiency tests established for facility use. This group will be meeting with local school interpreters to ensure interpreter standards are met in the school setting.

Community Care Coordination – Community Health Partners has continued to provide community care coordination services, a program that began as a joint project through the Sioux County SIM, a grant funded project that wrapped up in 2020. During the COVID-19 pandemic response, care coordination continued with a focus on meeting needs related to pandemic response in addition to other needs.

Assessing resources needed during the pandemic – Related to the goals of increased access to services, during early stages of the pandemic, a county-wide assessment of ongoing needs was conducted on a quarterly basis and results shared with the provider community. As a result, needs such as transportation, housing, and food resources were identified and shared with Sioux County provider organizations so they could respond appropriately.

CHP hired one additional bilingual community health worker and increased the FTE’s of existing bilingual staff. Community Health Partner’s website and Community Resource guide is now available in multiple languages.

Promise CHC began routine use of PRAPARE SDOH screening tool. Sioux Center Health Jessica Diaz will begin implementing in her new role. CHP staff will begin to use it on new admissions.

Many community partners began using Unite Us platform for referrals. Promise, Sioux Center Health, Mid Sioux, Hope Food Pantry, Hands Up Communication, All Kids Can, Family Crisis Center, and CCR&R.

Preschool navigation program: CHP is collaborating with Mid Sioux Opportunity on a pilot program funded by Early Childhood Iowa to assess the number of children eligible for preschool who do not enroll and to work with families to address the barriers that prevent their children from enrolling in, and attending, preschool. Our Community Health Worker is taking the lead in working with families, identified in various community settings, to assist them in the preschool enrollment process. CHP developed a guide to preschools in Sioux County --posted on the CHP website: <https://siouxcountychnp.org/preschool/>

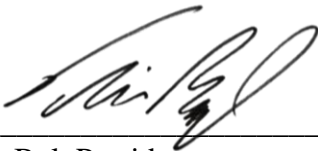
CHP partnered with the Sioux Center Health Early Childhood Center in Sioux Center. Weekly classes were held to help equip low literacy Spanish speaking parents to work with their children to enhance literacy and language acquisition and prepare them for pre-school and kindergarten. Each week's themed session includes a story, an activity, health education, and a backpack filled with learning activities to take home for the week. We will offer Summer Boost Family Literacy sessions this summer in five Sioux County towns including Hawarden, Hull, Orange City, Sioux Center, and Rock Valley. CHP secured DeCat Funding for FY23 to continue the program and provide ongoing support for expanding this service area.

## Board Approval

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The Sioux Center Health Fiscal Year 2022 Community Health Needs Assessment report was presented to the Sioux Center Health Board of Directors on Thursday, June 9, 2022. The Board of Directors reviewed, approved, and adopted the report at that meeting.

Sioux Center Health Board of Directors Approval:



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Tim Byl, President  
Sioux Center Health Board of Directors

6/9/22

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Date