



ADVENTIST HEALTH
TEHACHAPI VALLEY

IMPLEMENTATION STRATEGY
Year Two Update, FY 2024
Period 1/1/24 – 12/31/24

2024

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Purpose & Summary

Non-profit health systems, community-based organizations, and public health agencies across the country all share a similar calling: to provide public service to help improve the lives of their community. To live out this calling and responsibility, Adventist Health Tehachapi Valley conducts a Community Health Needs Assessment (CHNA) every three years, with our most recent report completed in 2022. Part of that process is engaging our communities through focus groups, key informant interviews and surveys. Represented and vulnerable populations included: Agricultural workers, civic government, community-based healthcare workers focusing on behavioral health, children, domestic abuse, early education, education, families, formerly incarcerated, higher education, law enforcement, low-income, medically underserved, men, minority populations, older adults, providers, public health, students, unhoused and women populations.

Now that our communities' voices, stories, and priority areas are reflected in the CHNA, our next step is to complete a Community Health Improvement Plan (CHIP), or as we refer to it in this report, a Community Health Implementation Strategy (CHIS).

The CHIS consists of a long-term community health improvement plan that strategically implements solutions and programs to address our health needs identified in the CHNA. Together with the Adventist Health Well-Being team, local public health officials, community-based organizations, medical providers, students, parents, and members of selected underserved, low-income, and minority populations, Adventist Health Tehachapi Valley intentionally developed a strategic plan to address the needs of our community.

In this Implementation Strategy Year One Update, FY 2023 also known as the Community Health Plan Update, FY 2023 you will find strategies, tactics and partnerships that address the following health needs identified in the 2022 Adventist Health Tehachapi Valley CHNA:

Access to Care

Health Conditions

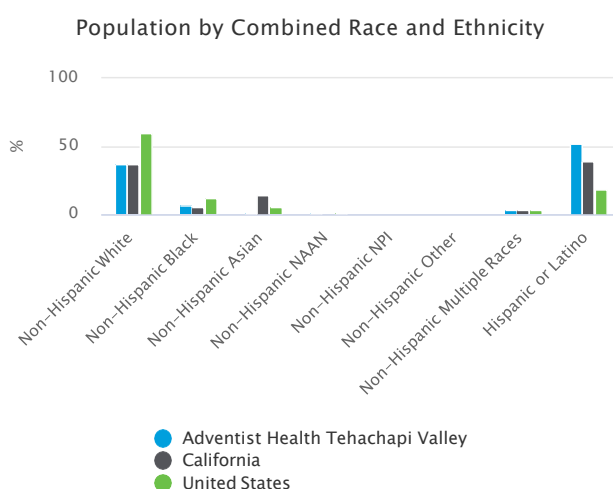
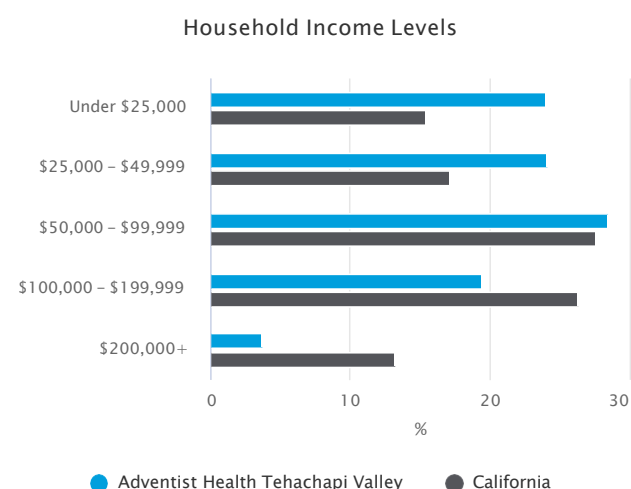
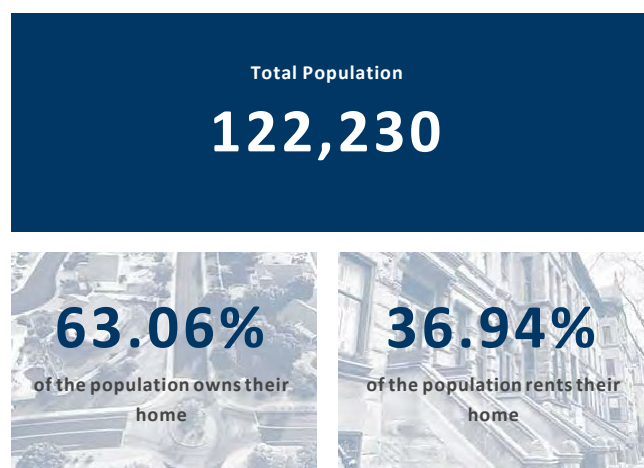
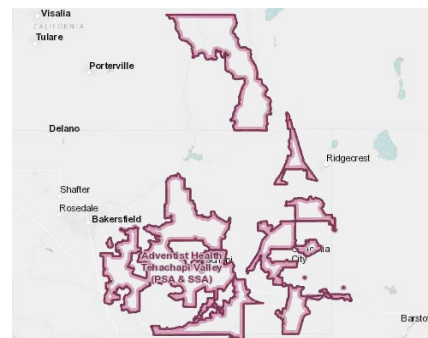
Health Risk Behaviors

Who We Serve

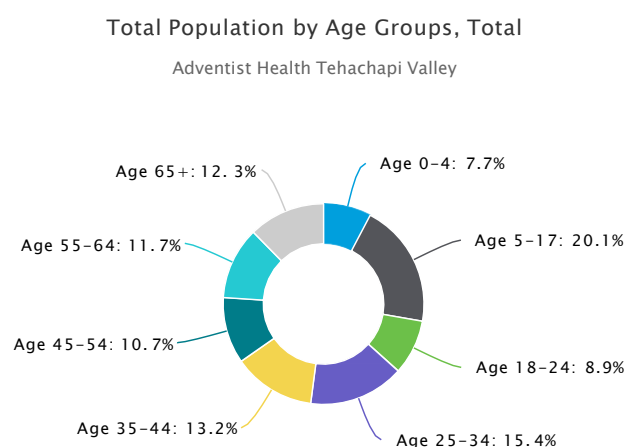
DEMOGRAPHIC PROFILE

The following zip codes represent Adventist Health Tehachapi Valley's primary service area (PSA), accounting for 75% of hospital discharges. Additionally, we took a collaborative approach and expanded our PSA by inviting Steering Committee members to include the zip codes of those they serve.

The Adventist Health Tehachapi Valley CHNA market has a total population of 122,230 (based on the 2020 Decennial Census). The largest city in the service area is Arvin, with a population of 19,304. The service area is comprised of the following zip codes: 93528, 93558, 93501, 93519, 93518, 93516, 93531, 93554, 93241, 93560, 93561, 93203, 93505, 93523, 93527, 93524.



Note: NAAN = Native American or Alaska Native, NPI = Native Hawaiian or Pacific Islander.



About Us

Adventist Health Tehachapi Valley

Nestled in the Tehachapi Valley, the city of Tehachapi is surrounded by mountains and scenery on all sides, with a significant and meaningful history of Native American tribes. Its high elevation, desert landscape, and near by popular Pacific Crest Trail attract the ultimate adventurer. Our geographically distinctive Tehachapi Valley service area consists of a population of 122,230.

As a critical access hospital, Adventist Health Tehachapi Valley is designed to provide the healthcare services needed right here in our community, and we stand at the ready when you need them. With nearly 11,000 visits last year, many of our Tehachapi Valley neighbors chose the hospital's emergency department and each day more are discovering all we have to offer.

Today it is easier than ever to keep your family well with our 25-bed hospital, wide range of outpatient services, 24/7 emergency department, three rural health clinics and our Adventist Health Physicians Network Tehachapi medical office.

Adventist Health

Adventist Health is a faith-inspired, nonprofit integrated health system serving more than 80 communities on the West Coast and Hawaii. Founded on Adventist heritage and values, Adventist Health provides care in hospitals, clinics, home care agencies, hospice agencies and joint-venture retirement centers in both rural and urban communities.

Our compassionate and talented team of 34,000 includes associates, medical staff physicians, allied health professionals and volunteers driven in pursuit of one mission: living God's love by inspiring health, wholeness and hope. Together, we are transforming the American healthcare experience with an innovative, yet timeless, whole-person focus on physical, mental, spiritual and social healing to support community well-being.



Adventist Health's Approach to CHNA & CHIS

Adventist Health prioritizes well-being in the communities we serve across our system. We use an intentional, community centered approach when creating our hospital CHNA's to understand the health needs of each community. After the completion of the community assessment process, we address health needs such as mental health, access to care, health risk behaviors, and others through the creation and execution of a Community Health Implementation Strategy (CHIS) for each of our hospitals and their communities.

The following pages highlight the key findings the Adventist Health Tehachapi Valley CHNA Steering Committee identified as their top

priority health needs, or as we refer to them in this report, their 'High Priority Needs'. The High Priority Needs are addressed in the Community Health Implementation Strategy and are reported on a yearly basis through the Annual Community Health Plan Update. This is year two, of a three-year strategy to improve the health of our community. We invite you to learn about the actions, activities and programs that have been implemented in 2024.

Action Plan for Addressing High Priority Needs

The following pages reflect the goals, strategies, actions, and resources That Adventist Health Tehachapi Valley provided in 2024 to address each selected High Priority Need.

ADDRESSING HIGH PRIORITY: Access to Care

GOAL	Collaborate with community partners to provide access to care to underserved communities.
Strategy 1:	Provide and partner with organizations to promote access to care via mobile health units.
Actions: Program/Activity/Tactic/Policy	
Provide opportunities to reach underserved populations through utilization of primary care and children's immunization mobile health units in eastern Kern County.	
FY 2024 YEAR TWO	
Increase awareness of the importance of primary care services among rural areas of eastern Kern County.	

COMMUNITY IMPACT SUMMARY/ALL STRATEGIES:
<p>In 2024, Adventist Health Tehachapi Valley continued efforts to expand access to care via a mobile rural health clinic, providing healthcare services in the communities of Tehachapi and Kern County, removing barriers for local families. In addition, Adventist Health, in partnership with First 5 of California, expanded access to year-round immunizations such as the flu vaccine and additional seasonal immunization needs.</p> <p>The mobile health team attended several community-based events, providing health information and seasonal immunizations for underserved communities in Eastern Kern County. These events expanded access to community members with limited means of transportation and resources. The goal of the events was to connect the community to primary care services for ongoing preventative wellness. Once services were received, community members were encouraged to continue with preventative services and annual visits with health care providers. Information was provided upon request.</p> <p>Through community partnerships, including a partnership with Kern Family Healthcare, Adventist Health Tehachapi Valley and affiliated clinics participated in numerous community-wide initiatives providing education, resources, and support, connecting the community to local medical services.</p>

ADDRESSING HIGH PRIORITY: Health Conditions

GOAL	Reduce chronic health conditions by providing education and support services in the community.
Strategy:	Expand and leverage existing partnerships to promote health education and support for Tehachapi community.
Actions: Program/Activity/Tactic/Policy	
Partner with Kern County Public Health and community partners on opportunities for resources/support services to reduce common health conditions related to social determinants and/or family health history. Programs include but are not limited to: Know your Numbers, Grounded in Health, etc.	
FY 2024 Year Two	
Increase community participation in health promotion programming through strategic partnerships and outreach.	

COMMUNITY IMPACT SUMMARY/ALL STRATEGIES:

In 2024, Adventist Health Tehachapi Valley sponsored and participated in six monthly community farmers' markets with the goal of connecting with residents and sharing wellness information related to chronic diseases and preventive care. In total, over 15,000 residents receive information and materials at the local farmers' markets. Specific disease and management and education focused on diabetes, cardiovascular disease and stroke prevention. Education and awareness are valuable tools for community members and lead to better health outcomes.

Adventist Health maintained a partnership with Kern County Public Health and the Community Action Partnership of Kern to expand the reach of wellness lifestyles and healthy eating through social determinants of health screenings and referrals. Through outreach and referrals, Adventist Health Tehachapi was able to refer over 200 families to local organizations and resources to support family health needs in the community.

[ADVENTISTHEALTH:INTERNAL]

ADDRESSING HIGH PRIORITY: Health Risk Behaviors

GOAL	Partner with local organizations on education and resources contributing to health risk behaviors.
Strategy:	Participate in local community programs to educate people about lifestyle changes contributing to health risks.
Action: Program/Activity/Tactic/Policy	
Expand partnership with local community gardens to provide platform on health education and resources (i.e. Fresh produce, healthy eating, exercising).	
FY 2024 YEAR TWO	
Provide opportunities for Adventist Health Clinical/Nutritional Team to facilitate educational workshops for participants of garden projects.	

COMMUNITY IMPACT SUMMARY/ALL STRATEGIES:

<p>In 2024, Adventist Health Tehachapi Valley (AHTV) continued the support of local community gardens in Tehachapi, California City, and Mojave. These partnerships expand access to local fresh fruits, vegetables, and healthier food alternatives to community members. Also, due to the community gardens, AHTV was able to collaborate with local community resources such as Community Action Partnership of Kern and local school districts to provide access and referrals for additional wrap-around services in addition to food access.</p> <p>Through partnerships with local community resource centers, AHTV connected local patients and community members to food access points and education on the importance of nutritional meals. For example, AHTV partnered with the Cal Fresh Healthy Living to support nutrition education at the Tehachapi Senior Center, serving over 300 local seniors. Seniors' health is complicated and delicate, so having access to nutritional information to benefit one's health at such an age is very important.</p>

[ADVENTISTHEALTH:INTERNAL]

Significant Identified Health Needs

The Adventist Health Community Well-Being team and community partners collectively reviewed all relevant significant health needs identified through the CHNA process. Using a community health framework developed for this purpose, 12 significant health needs were initially considered. The list of significant needs are as follows:

- Access to Care
- Community Safety
- Community Vitality
- Education
- Environment & Infrastructure
- Financial Stability
- Food Security
- Health Conditions
- Health Risk Behaviors
- Housing
- Inclusion & Equity
- Mental Health

From this group of 12, several high priority health needs were established for Adventist Health Tehachapi Valley. High priority health needs were chosen as they had demonstrated the greatest need based on severity and prevalence, intentional alignment around common goals, feasibility of potential interventions, and opportunities to maximize available resources over a three-year period.

Using the criteria mentioned above, we were able to determine which needs were high priority, as compared to those that were significant needs. The High Priority Needs are the focus of the community health implementation strategy and this accompanying Community Health Plan Update, FY 2024. The remaining significant health needs are not addressed directly but will likely benefit from the collective efforts defined in this report.

TABLE OF SIGNIFICANT IDENTIFIED HEALTH NEEDS

Access to Care
Health Conditions
Health Risk Conditions
Lower Priority Needs that will not be addressed directly by Adventist Health Tehachapi Valley due to limited resources, expertise and feasibility of viable interventions
Housing
Financial Stability
Mental Health
Food Security
Environment & Infrastructure
Inclusion and Equity
COVID
Education
Community Vitality
Community Safety



Scan the QR code for the full Secondary Data Report



Community Health Financial Assistance for Medically Necessary Care Commitment

Adventist Health understands that community members may experience barriers in paying for the care they need. That is why we are committed to providing financial assistance to those who may need support in paying their medical expense(s).

Community members can find out if they qualify for financial aid in paying medical bills by completing a financial assistance application. Applications can be filled out at the time care is received or after the bill has been administered. To access the financial assistance policy for more information or contact a financial assistant counselor, please visit us at: [Adventist Health - Help Paying Your Bill](#).



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Thank you for reviewing our Implementation Strategy Year One Update, FY 2024. We are proud to serve our local community and are committed to making it a healthier place for all. To provide feedback on this community benefit report or other reports referenced, please email community.benefit@ah.org. You may also request a copy free of charge.

To review this report as well as our most recent Community Health Needs Assessment and Community Health Implementation Strategy, please visit:

<https://www.adventisthealth.org/tehachapi-valley/about-us/community-benefit/>

or

<https://www.adventisthealth.org/about-us/community-benefit/>