



ADVENTIST HEALTH
TEHACHAPI VALLEY

YEAR ONE UPDATE, FY 2023
Community Health
Implementation Strategy

2023

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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. 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 Year One Update, FY 2023 of the Community Health Implementation Strategy 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

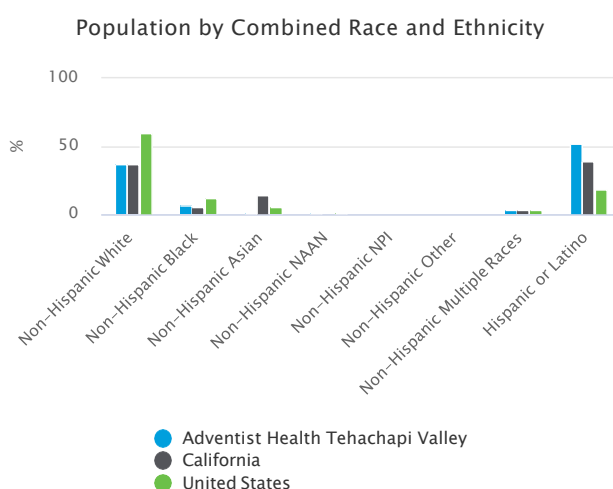
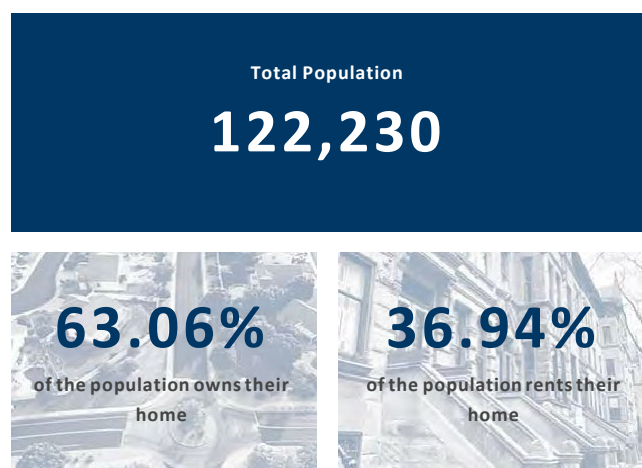
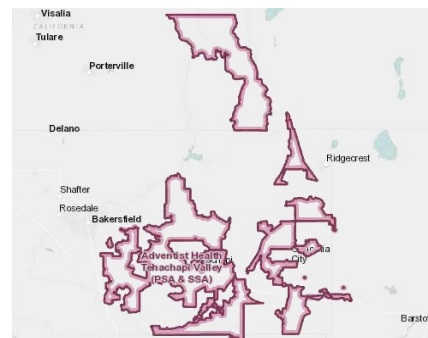
Health Risk Behaviors

Who We Serve

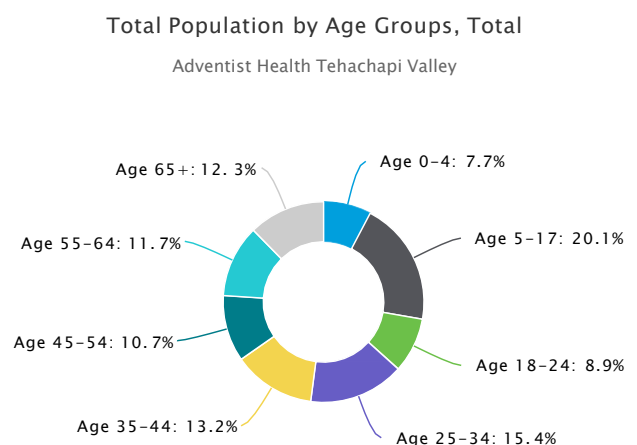
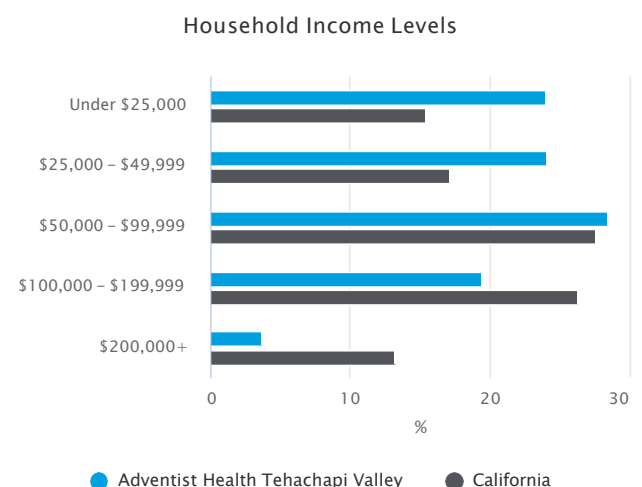
DEMOGRAPHIC PROFILE

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 one, 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 2023.

Action Plan for Addressing High Priority Needs

The following pages reflect the goals, strategies, actions, and resources that Adventist Health Tehachapi Valley Provided in 2023 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 2023 YEAR ONE	
Initiate quarterly mobile health unit events and participation.	

COMMUNITY IMPACT SUMMARY/ALL STRATEGIES:

Adventist Health Tehachapi Valley expanded access to care via a mobile health rural health clinic. The clinic provided primary care services in the communities of Tehachapi and McFarland removing barriers for local families. In addition, the Mobile Health Unit expanded access to year-round immunizations such as the flu vaccine and additional seasonal immunization needs.

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. Goal of events was connecting the community to primary care services for ongoing preventative wellness. Services provided included vaccinations for covid and flu and vitals.

Adventist Health Tehachapi Valley partnered with Parallon and Elevate to assist community members in the enrollment and approval process for individual or family medical insurance coverage.

Adventist Health Tehachapi partnered with Kern Family Healthcare to provide 33 free school and sports physicals – creating a pathway for families to gain access to care. Services included general immunizations, vaccines, and wellness checks.

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 2023 YEAR ONE	
Participate in partnership opportunities to raise awareness of chronic health conditions and lifestyle changes as contributing factors at the Tehachapi Farmers Market events.	

COMMUNITY IMPACT SUMMARY/ALL STRATEGIES

In 2023, 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 10,000 residents were reached through the local farmers markets.

In 2023, Adventist Health initiated a partnership with Kern County Public Health and Community Action Partnership of Kern to expand reach of wellness lifestyles and healthy eating through social determinants of health screenings and referrals of local residents in need.

Once again participated in National Night Out in Tehachapi where over several hundred individuals were seen and provided with healthcare prevention information along with information addressing behavioral health.

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 2023 YEAR ONE	
Provide partnership and support to local community gardens to expand resources provided to the community.	

COMMUNITY IMPACT SUMMARY/ALL STRATEGIES

In 2023, Adventist Health Tehachapi Valley continued to support local community gardens in Tehachapi and California City. Through these partnerships, Adventist Health was able to provide access to local fresh fruits and vegetables and healthier alternatives. Through support of local community gardens, AHTV was also 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.

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 2023. 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 Year One Update, FY 2023 of the Community Health Implementation Strategy. 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.

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