

Community Health Needs Assessment

Chittenden and Grand Isle Counties, Vermont



2022

2022 CHNA Executive Summary

THE 2022 COMMUNITY HEALTH NEEDS ASSESSMENT

A Community Health Needs Assessment (CHNA) is a process that non-profit hospitals complete every three years in partnership with community-based organizations to learn more about the significant health needs in the greater community. These valuable insights inform strategic investment and guide community programming to improve the identified priorities.





The UVM Medical Center (UVMHC) and 37 members of the 2022 CHNA Steering Committee collaborated on the 2022 CHNA for its designated Health Service Area of Chittenden and Grand Isle Counties.

THE 2022 CHNA GOALS WERE:

1. To conduct an inclusive and high-quality assessment, through the lens of racial and health equity, of community health needs and assets in Chittenden and Grand Isle Counties.
2. To partner with diverse stakeholders resulting in: a) consensus of priority needs to address, b) shared buy-in for implementation strategies, c) support of complimentary community initiatives and assessments.

DATA GATHERING AND COMMUNITY HEALTH PRIORITIES

The 2022 CHNA process was the most inclusive and robust yet in our history of completing this assessment. We collected data through interviews, surveys, and focus groups held in our local community in addition to reviewing health indicators available for the two counties.

-  **KEY INFORMANT INTERVIEWS:** 32 community leaders interviewed
-  **SECONDARY DATA:** 70+ health indicators
-  **COMMUNITY SURVEY:** Offered in 12 languages with 3,771 survey responses [nearly twice last cycle's response rate]
-  **FOCUS GROUPS:** 5 sessions held with populations of focus

COMMUNITY HEALTH PRIORITIES SESSIONS:

- Two virtual sessions were held in January 2022 to engage community leaders and champions in prioritizing six health priorities that emerged from the data gathering phase.
- 140 participants from 57 different organizations and agencies participated and provided ratings by three criteria: Impact, Community Readiness, and Equity.

THE TOP 3 COMMUNITY HEALTH PRIORITIES, IN ALPHABETICAL ORDER,:

- **Cultural Humility and Inclusive Health Care**
- **Housing**
- **Mental Health and Wellbeing**

COMMUNITY HEALTH PRIORITIES AND KEY FINDINGS

<p>Accessible and Coordinated Care:</p> <p>Improving access to coordinated care that meets all people's health needs while addressing complexities in the system.</p>	<p>Cultural Humility and Inclusive Health Care:</p> <p>Access to inclusive, high-quality health care in settings where all community members feel safe, respected, and understood.</p>	<p>Food Access and Security:</p> <p>Families and individuals experience food security when they have reliable access to healthy, culturally appropriate foods.</p>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 46% of Community Survey respondents want increased coordination of care between providers • The region has seen a decline in the number of primary care providers, from 2010 to 2018 • There is a need for affordable care options outside of the "9-5" weekday hours 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Community leaders spoke to the importance of respecting how cultural, religious, and spiritual beliefs guide health and wellbeing • 2 out of 3 Community Survey respondents who have lived in the U.S. for less than one year do not feel their cultural identity is respected by health care providers 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 1 in 10 Community Survey respondents shared that they cannot access the foods they want to eat • However, only 1 in 3 Community Survey respondents who reported living in the United States for less than one year reported being able to access foods they want to eat
<p>Housing:</p> <p>Having safe, healthy, and affordable housing that meets the needs of all families and individuals in our community, while promoting equitable access.</p>	<p>Mental Health and Wellbeing:</p> <p>Supporting the mental health and wellbeing of all community members by offering timely services and promoting social connections.</p>	<p>Workforce Development:</p> <p>Supporting people to gain knowledge and skills that allow greater employment, financial stability, and opportunity.</p>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 1 in 6 households experience severe housing problems such as being overcrowded, having incomplete plumbing or kitchen facilities • 62% of Community Survey respondents said increasing affordable housing units will improve health and wellbeing • There are racial disparities in homeownership rates 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 65% of Community Survey respondents said increasing mental health services would strengthen health and wellbeing • Increased number of adults experiencing mentally unhealthy days • Increased number of 9th-12th grade students feeling sad or hopeless • COVID-19 pandemic has led to increased social isolation 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 71% of Community Survey respondents believe increasing jobs that pay a livable wage is important • More than 50% of Community Survey respondents reported that affordable childcare is not available • There are disparities in median income reported by race and ethnicity and sex

NEXT STEPS: MOVING FROM ASSESSMENT TO ACTION

- The CHNA findings will inform the development of the 2023-2025 Community Health Improvement Plan (CHIP) that UVMHC will develop in collaboration with key partners.

The CHIP process will:

- Facilitate inclusive community engagement to generate solutions that builds upon strengths and addresses inequities
- Communicate shared goals, strategies, and resources to make measurable improvements

To learn more about Community Health Improvement or the 2022 CHNA/CHIP process, please visit:

www.UVMHealth.org/medcenter/about-uvm-medical-center/the-community/needs-assessment

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