



2022-2025 Community Health Needs Assessment

PeaceHealth Sacred Heart Medical Center at RiverBend

Executive Summary



In this Community Health Needs Assessment from PeaceHealth Sacred Heart Medical Center at RiverBend, we present the story of our service to Springfield, Eugene and Lane County residents. As of October 2021, our 353-bed medical center accommodated 454,859 clinic visits, 57,534 emergency department visits and 14,982 surgeries for the year. We are proud to serve as a comprehensive healthcare center and the regional referral center for people with urgent, severe medical needs.

Residents in the rapidly growing population of the Eugene-Springfield community can face significant health challenges. The increase in people experiencing homelessness and mental health crisis—coupled with a decrease in the number of healthcare providers to care for them—makes equitable access to medical, dental and mental healthcare an ongoing challenge.

These challenges have been made more acute by the COVID-19 pandemic. In response, we have collaborated with community partners like St. Vincent de Paul to provide shelters for unhoused RiverBend patients returning to the community, with HIV Alliance to support syringe exchanges and naloxone kit distribution, with Catholic Community Services to provide safety net support for at-risk and people of color, and with Food for Lane County to waive transportation costs for 34 county food banks delivering over 8 million pounds of food annually.

PeaceHealth is driven by our belief that good health, prevention and community well-being are fundamental rights. We support health justice for all and are especially called to be in service to the most vulnerable members of our community. We believe that every person should receive safe and compassionate care—every time, every touch. This deep commitment to equity echoes through the pages of this report.

IN 2022, OUR COMMUNITY IDENTIFIED THE FOLLOWING KEY PRIORITIES:

- Creating social justice is Springfield’s top priority, with residents calling for more equitable healthcare for Black, Indigenous and People of Color; Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, Transgender, Queer and Intersex; and other at-risk communities
- Increasing housing and childcare affordability and availability is a critical need
- Hiring more community health workers, patient navigators and peer support specialists is essential for improving equitable access to health and social services
- Improving access to mental healthcare and substance abuse prevention is a priority

HOME • HOPE • CARE • NOURISH

Our four pillars of community health ensure that we are creating a healthy community. Read on to learn about our work with partners in support of these pillars. This includes working with St. Vincent de Paul to create pallet shelters for recovering RiverBend patients and exploring a permanent medical respite facility with Occupy Medical and the Lane County Poverty and Homelessness Board.

This assessment is the result of a review of key government and nonprofit data and conversations with community leaders. As we move into the next three years, we will continue to address these needs through partnership and advocacy.

We invite you to read this report in full and learn about the challenges to health and well-being for people living in the Eugene-Springfield area and surrounding communities—and how we came together in 2021 with our passionate community to meet them.



HOME



HOPE



CARE



NOURISH