



2022-2025 Community Health Needs Assessment

PeaceHealth Sacred Heart Medical Center at University District

Executive Summary



In this Community Health Needs Assessment from PeaceHealth Sacred Heart Medical Center University District, we present the story of our service to the Eugene downtown and surrounding communities. As of October 2021, our 117-bed medical center accommodated 16,347 clinic visits and 27,849 emergency department visits for the year. We are proud to serve this vibrant and engaged city working to promote equity, unity, and social justice.

Our residents can face significant health challenges. The rapidly growing population of Lane County and the Eugene area can make access to equitable healthcare difficult, especially with an increase in people experiencing homelessness and behavioral health crises and a pressing need for more healthcare providers to care for them.

These challenges have been made more acute by the COVID-19 pandemic. In response, we have stepped up work this year with community partners like Homes for Good to launch The Commons on MLK, a 51-unit community for people experiencing chronic homelessness; with ColumbiaCare to create a crisis stabilization center; with 4J School District to continue operating school-based health centers during the pandemic; and with Food for Lane County to ensure food access and food security for families in need.

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 Eugene’s top priority, with residents calling for a more equitable health system for people of color, LGBTQ+, and other at-risk communities
- Increasing housing 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 mental healthcare and substance abuse prevention and treatment access is a priority, especially for youth

HOME • HOPE • CARE • NOURISH

Our four pillars of community health ensure that we are contributing to a healthier community for all. Read on to learn about our work with partners in support of these pillars. They include Strides for Social Justice, the Commons on MLK, and the Guest House Crisis Stabilization Center—all projects that advance social justice and health equity for the most vulnerable.

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 and around Eugene—and how we came together in 2021 with this innovative and inspiring community to meet them.



HOME



HOPE



CARE



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