
SANTA FE COUNTY



ACCOUNTABLE HEALTH COMMUNITY

We are building a system that helps residents navigate community services and offers providers access to data and information to better serve residents, improve health and reduce health care costs.



THE GAP ANALYSIS: What did we learn?

As part of the Accountable Health Community, Santa Fe County Community Services Department contracted with Hyde & Associates Policy and Practice Consulting, LLC to provide an analysis of the County's population demographics and needs, while highlighting gaps in existing services to meet those needs. The following excerpts are some of the highlights from the Gap Analysis Report, Executive Summary.

Population Data and Disparities – Highlights

The combination of age and sex with race, ethnicity, and poverty – along with housing costs, transportation challenges, the rate of uninsured, and food insecurity – creates a unique mix of social determinants that represent assets as well as challenges impacting health in Santa Fe County.

Santa Fe County is facing a “Silver Tsunami,” with the largest concentration of the 147,108 population being adults 50 – 70 years of age. The growth rate of adults 65 years and older is expected to grow by 62 percent by 2030, with the fastest growing group being the very old. This expected growth is even higher than those of the state and the nation.

English is the primary language spoken in 62 percent of the County's households; Spanish is the primary language spoken in 33 percent of households. Neighborhoods with higher than average poverty rates have higher proportions of individuals who are Hispanic, immigrant, and individuals not born in the U.S. and not citizens, and also have the highest proportion of persons paying up to 50 percent or more for rent/housing.

Neighborhoods with the highest proportion of individuals and families with lower incomes have average to above average percentages of people in the workforce.

Provider and System Issues – Highlights

Santa Fe County has significant Health Profession Shortage Areas in primary care, behavioral health, institutional and hospital care, dental care, and care for specific populations. The aging of the healthcare workforce, limited educational opportunities and the cost of health care education, along with lack of diversity, and funding and policy challenges create considerable concern for the future healthcare workforce.

Collaborative efforts are significant, but are often experienced as unfocused with multiple activities drawing on limited provider capacities.

Provider Survey – Highlights

Community needs identified include expanded provider locations and hours of operation, streamlining of services, housing for low-income individuals and

workforce, behavioral health services, transportation and basic needs, before and after school programs, and more preventive upstream services.

Provider challenges identified include services in certain geographic areas and population groups; housing, quality of care issues, the fast pace of change, and inadequate funding.

Priorities recommended by providers include expansion of services, especially behavioral health services; addressing social determinants like housing, transportation, employment, and child care; shifting the service delivery system to focus on upstream targeted prevention activities; and using current services more efficiently by addressing high utilizers, assisting with public benefits, more navigation, and better information and referral capacity.

Town Halls, Key Informants, and Provider Groups – Highlights

Priorities for services include: a) affordable housing for all residents, including those with low incomes, seniors, and non-profit staff as well as City and County first responders; b) behavioral health care of all kinds; c) services and supports for seniors, including use of volunteers and more in-home care; and d) information about and navigation of existing resources and supports.

Selected Recommendations – Highlights

Create a comprehensive coordinated capacity for on-line and person-to-person real time up- to-date crisis assistance and information for law enforcement, providers, and the public.

Coordinate navigation resources to assure efficiency and effectiveness.

Embrace, prioritize, and work to support creation of expanded affordable housing units county-wide and housing subsidies for low-income households, critical practitioners, and first responders.

The entire Gap Analysis is available on the Santa Fe County website santafecountynm.gov.

Join us as we prioritize, focus efforts and collaborate with residents and community partners to create a healthier Santa Fe County.

For more information on the development of the Accountable Health Community please contact:

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