

DETAILED FINDINGS – RIVERTON HOSPITAL

Located in Riverton, Utah, a suburb of Salt Lake City, in Salt Lake County, Riverton Hospital has 88 staffed beds and offers a broad spectrum of inpatient and outpatient services. In 2022, they participated in a community health needs assessment to understand how to help people live the healthiest lives possible[®]. This hospital participated in a collaborative, system approach to identify health indicators, gather community input, and determine the significant health needs to address over the next few years. Riverton Hospital identified the significant health needs as: **Improve Mental Well-Being, Improve Chronic & Avoidable Health Outcomes, and Address & Invest in the Social Determinants of Health**.

What we heard from this community - participants in the community input meeting identified the following issues as key health needs in their community:

- Mental health affecting children:
 - o Isolation as a result of COVID-19 changes and stress;
 - o Long wait lists for providers;
 - o Lack of social skills and tolerance to trauma;
 - o Stigma in certain populations;
 - o Lack of culturally competent providers;
 - o Considered a top priority for community leaders;
 - o High level of motivation to remove barriers; and
 - o Unsure of resources and assets to remove barriers.
- Nutrition and food insecurity. Barriers discussed:
 - o Family resources being spent on housing costs rather than healthy food.
 - o "So if you're spending the biggest portion of your income, you're spending it on your rent that means paying for medication is going to be the least- the last thing to think about. Having healthy meals, you don't think about it. So all these other things that we see in health care are not going to be a priority for you. The first thing would be covering your rent, your utilities, and that's why housing is a big challenge. And also if you end up living on the street, you cannot be healthy. You cannot be homeless and healthy at the same time."
- Drugs and alcohol use and misuse:
 - o Meth, Cocaine, Opioid use; and
 - o Co-occurring with mental health.
 - o "I wouldn't have made it if it had not been for Alcoholics Anonymous or Fit to Recover...I think peer support is very valuable with individuals in the community because I'm very fortunate that I get to go out and work with individuals and help them with all of these, like go teach them public transportation, teach them how to food prep, teach them...Teach a man to fish, he can feed himself, but teach whatever and then they can feed an army. Really that educational piece with individuals."

• Chronic diseases associated with unhealthy weight and behaviors affecting physical health in all ages. Barriers discussed:

- o Language barriers among providers; and
- o Cost of health care.

- Other community concerns include:
 - o Homelessness
 - o Cost of housing;
 - o Lack of information resourced in other languages;
 - o Inflation; and
 - o Cost of healthcare.
- Community Strengths include:
 - o Parks and Recreation;
 - o Access to outdoor recreation; and
 - o Strong social connections.
- Community Opportunities
 - o Clean environment;
 - o Low crime and safe neighborhoods;
 - o Emergency Preparedness;
 - o More support for community resources; and
 - o Affordable, safe housing.

A snapshot of health-related indicators and outcomes can be accessed through this link: <u>https://ibis.health.utah.gov/ibisph-view/community/snapshot/report/AllIndicators/GeoLHD/4.html?PageName=</u>