Located in the rural community of Richfield in central Utah, Sevier Valley Hospital has 24 staffed beds and a broad spectrum of inpatient and outpatient medical services; it is the only hospital in Sevier County. 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. Sevier Valley 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 and adults:**
  - Isolation as a result of COVID-19 changes and stress;
  - Affordability of mental health care;
  - Tied in with substance use and misuse;
  - Not enough law enforcement to transport children to the Children’s Justice Center; and
  - Stigma.
  - Not considered a top priority for community leaders;
  - Lack of motivation to remove barriers; and
  - Lack of resources and assets to remove barriers.
  - “People are probably using substances to deal with just coping because at the Children’s Justice Center, our forensic interview, so this isn’t just for cases that are open, but cases that are bad enough that require a forensic interview. They’ve doubled since COVID.”

- **Nutrition and Hunger:**
  - “As someone who receives the Meals on Wheels and meals at the centers, I can attest to the nutrition and hunger figure there in terms of the great need in our community, and it doesn’t seem to be subsiding in any way. I think that’s been an increase with COVID and inflation and whatever else in terms of feeding people with the proper nutrition.”

- **Chronic diseases associated with unhealthy weight and behaviors affecting physical health in all ages.**
  - Access to health care via transportation; and
  - Cost of health care.

- **Other community concerns include:**
  - Domestic violence;
  - Cost of housing;
  - Intergenerational poverty;
  - Adverse Childhood Experiences and trauma;
  - Social media pressures; and
  - Access to dental care.
• Community Strengths include:
  o Education;
  o Clean environment;
  o Strong social connections; and
  o Low crime, safe neighborhoods.

• Community Opportunities
  o Affordable, safe quality housing;
  o Celebration of Diversity;
  o Arts and cultural events;
  o Transportation;
  o Childcare/after school programs; and
  o Connecting people to resources available.

A snapshot of health-related indicators and outcomes can be accessed through this link: