



Intermountain[®]
Healthcare



Intermountain Healthcare Community Health Needs Assessment 2022

DETAILED FINDINGS – GARFIELD MEMORIAL HOSPITAL

Garfield Memorial Hospital is owned by Garfield County and is managed by Intermountain Healthcare. Located in rural Panguitch, Utah, Garfield Memorial Hospital has 14 staffed beds and a broad spectrum of inpatient and outpatient medical services. It is the only hospital in Garfield County. Although it is not owned by Intermountain, 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. Garfield Memorial 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:
 - o Lack of providers and training;
 - o Tied in with substance use-self medicating;
 - o Long wait lists; and
 - o Access issues.
 - o “We have very limited training, and the state of Utah right now has been taxed to come up with a mental health, I don’t even know what they’re going to call it, it’s a certification that they will actually do a 60, 120-hour certification that is only to deal with patients who are in crisis at the moment to try and get them to a safe place. It’s modeled a little after the police officer, the de-escalation that they do with the patients, and it will be modeled after that. It won’t be for every EMT, you will just-most agencies as we’ve talked about it amongst ourselves as directors, most agencies will try and get one or two in each one of their areas, so that if there is a problem with that they can actually just respond and help with that patient and really all we’re trying to do is to deescalate what’s going on and get them the help, get them to the hospital safely and get us to the hospital safely with them. And not have a crisis happen out there that now is a life threatening something that happens. So, it’s interesting, they’ve mandated that we do it. They haven’t mandated funds, so right now we’re still coming up with the funds to try and do that, but there is every agency in the state has a list of people that want to take this class.”
- Immunizations as a health need:
 - o Difficult to get vaccines in a rural community;
 - o Lack of nearby providers; and
 - o Distrustful of vaccines.
 - o “I think more people and we saw this actually with our COVID immunizations, they become very distrustful of authority and, and very more self-sufficient to a point of detriment sometimes. And so I think that they, it’s put an old fashioned word, they poo-poo the whole idea that mental health isn’t something that you just can’t say back up to.”
- Cancer. Barriers include:
 - o Lack of nearby providers; and
 - o Access.

- Other community concerns include:
 - o Cost of safe, quality housing;
 - o Airbnb interference with housing;
 - o Cost of gas in rural communities; and
 - o Lack of coping skills.

- Community Strengths include:
 - o Parks and recreation, access to the outdoors;
 - o Clean environment;
 - o Strong social connections and family life; and
 - o Low crime and safe neighborhoods.

- Community Opportunities
 - o Affordable, safe quality housing;
 - o Celebration of Diversity;
 - o Transportation;
 - o Emergency preparedness; and
 - o Good jobs, healthy economy.

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

<https://ibis.health.utah.gov/ibisph-view/community/snapshot/report/AllIndicators/GeoLHD/4.html?PageName=>