

Downtown San Bernardino Community Health Needs Assessment

January 2025

Prepared by



Background

San Bernardino County created and updates Community Vital Signs (CVS), a Community Health Needs Assessment that covers the entire county. The last update was completed in 2024. Dignity Health conducts a Community Health Needs Assessment for the area St. Bernardine’s Hospital and San Bernardino Community Hospital covers. The service area goes from Grand Terrace in the south to Adelanto in the north, and Ontario in the west to Calimesa in the east. The last one was completed in 2022.

CCS-FSASB engaged in a process to identify community wellness and social services needs within a one mile radius around our San Bernardino clinic. Our buildings on North “E” Street and 17th are underutilized. We want to use the space to provide services the community identifies as most needed.

CCS-FSASB’s mission is to empower people to heal, grow, and thrive by providing comprehensive behavioral health and supportive services. Almost all our clients’ supportive service needs are provided by other agencies via referral.

Summary

Local community members identified the following services as most needed in their neighborhood.

Identified Need	Rank	Percent
Housing & Homelessness	1	9.5%
Job Training	2	6.3%
Substance Use	3	5.3%
Poor Eating Habits	3	5.3%
Community Center	3	5.3%
Employment Center	3	5.3%
Alcohol Abuse	4	4.2%
A Place for Kids to Hang Out	4	4.2%
Resource Center	4	4.2%
Mental Health	5	3.2%
Big Brother/Sister Mentor	5	3.2%
Women’s Center	5	3.2%
Affordable Housing	5	3.2%
Case Management	5	3.2%
AA/NA Meetings	5	3.2%

Some of these services are provided by other non-profit agencies near the CCS-FSASB San Bernardino clinic. Some examples include:

- Housing by Lutheran Social Services, Valley Star, and Nuevo Amenercer Latino Children’s Services
- Job Training by Inland Career Education Center (San Bernardino City Unified School District) serving adults ages 18 and older
- Substance Use Disorder Treatment by Inland Behavioral and Health Services, Inc.

Some identified services can be naturally combined.

- Housing & Homelessness with Affordable Housing
- Job Training with Employment Center
- Substance Use with AA/NA Meetings
- Community Center with A Place for Kids to Hang Out
- A Resource Center with Case Management and almost all the other services

There are also organizations who provide the needed services in the area, but with locations outside the area. These organizations may want to use the available space to make their services more accessible to this neighborhood.

Methodology

CCS-FSASB hosted four open house events at our San Bernardino clinic. The events occurred on Wed, 10/23/24 at 3:00; Wed, 11/6/24 at 6:00; Saturday, 11/16/24 at 11:00; and Wednesday, 12/4/24 at noon. Different week days and times were selected to accommodate people's work and school schedules. An in-person Spanish speaking interpreter was provided by IEHP.

Invitations were mailed to every resident and business within a one mile radius from the clinic. We also posted the events on social media and physically handed invitations to nonprofits, schools, businesses, and residents within walking distance. The invitations stated that we would provide screenings for free services, food, a facility tour, and the opportunity to provide input on future services to be provided at that location.

Each visitor was offered a screening, fed, and given a tour. We also provided hygiene kits to those experiencing housing insecurity. After the tour, we told guests that we want to use the space to provide additional services and desired their input on what should be offered. They were provided a summary of CVS's and Dignity Health's community health needs assessments. The summary is below.

CVS

Top 3 Community Needs Identified

- 1) Behavioral Health
- 2) Injury and Violence Prevention
- 3) Chronic Disease

What three things are most important to you to improve your health and well-being where you live?

- Access to healthcare providers (e.g. family doctors, pediatricians, etc.)
- Access to mental health services (e.g. counselors, psychiatrist, etc.)
- Low crime and safe neighborhoods
- Low rate of infant deaths
- Affordable housing
- *What else should be on the list?*

What three things do you think are the most damaging to the health of your community?

- Bullying or cyber bullying

- Lack of exercise
- Unfair treatment because of gender or gender identity
- Poor eating habits (i.e. regularly eating fast food, not eating fresh fruit or vegetables, etc.)
- Alcohol misuse or abuse
- *What else should be on the list?*

What three things do you think are most damaging to the health of people in your community?

- Chronic health conditions like diabetes, heart disease, and high blood pressure
- Car accidents related to driver behaviors (texting, aggressive, distracted, or impaired driving)
- Rape and sexual assault
- Community violence (i.e. gang violence, homicide)
- Homelessness
- *What else should be on the list?*

Dignity Health

Significant Health Needs Rank

- Access to healthcare
- Chronic diseases (Alzheimer's disease, asthma, cancer, diabetes, liver disease, stroke, etc.)
- Preventative practices
- COVID-19
- Housing and homelessness
- Mental health
- Birth indicators (teen births, prenatal care, low birth weight, etc.)
- Substance use
- Violence and injury
- Economic insecurity
- Overweight and obesity
- Food insecurity
- Sexually transmitted infections
- Dental Care

The CVS and Dignity Health Community Needs Assessment summaries were posted on walls. We asked guests to let us know if anything else should be added to the identified needs. Those services were added to the list. Each guest was given three adhesive "dots" and asked them to place a dot on what they feel are the three highest needs. The attached table provides the tabulated data.

Next Steps

Everyone screened and eligible for free services has been contacted to schedule initial appointments.

This report will be made available to everyone on our website. It will also be sent to every stakeholder we can identify. The stakeholders include the nonprofit agencies who serve the City of San Bernardino, local schools, and government agencies.

We will host at least one meeting with stakeholders in January/February 2025 to review the data and determine what service(s) could be provided in the available space. Our goal is to answer the following questions:

- Based on identified needs, which can be met using the existing buildings?
- Based on what needs can be met in the current space, which can be most effectively offered given available resources?
- What agencies are best able to use the space? Note: CCS-FSASB has extensive experience in specialty mental health services. There is nothing to prevent us from providing supportive services that complement our traditional services. But, we believe it is better to partner with an organization that already has expertise.

In February 2025, we would like to develop and design a program(s) plan to use this available space. The design will include a budget and action plan for implementation.

In March 2025, we would like to initiate the plan. We have budgeted \$20,000 for initial startup.

We would like to begin the new services by May 2025.

Acknowledgements

CCS-FSASB thanks the San Manuel Band of Mission Indians and Inland Empire Health Plan for their generous support. Without their contributions, this would not be possible. It is our hope and intention that the information in this report will be used by local government, schools, and local nonprofits to better serve the people who live in Downtown San Bernardino.

Community Service Needs Identified By Rank and Percent

Identified Need	Count	Rank	Percent
Housing & Homelessness	9	1	9.5%
Job Training	6	2	6.3%
Substance Use	5	3	5.3%
Poor Eating Habits	5	3	5.3%
Community Center	5	3	5.3%
Employment Center	5	3	5.3%
Alcohol Abuse	4	4	4.2%
A Place for Kids to Hang Out	4	4	4.2%
Resource Center	4	4	4.2%
Mental Health	3	5	3.2%
Big Brother/Sister Mentor	3	5	3.2%
Women's Center	3	5	3.2%
Affordable Housing	3	5	3.2%
Case Management	3	5	3.2%
AA/NA Meetings	3	5	3.2%
Chronic Diseases	2	6	2.1%
Violence and Injury	2	6	2.1%
Unfair Treatment Because of Gender	2	6	2.1%
Educational Center	2	6	2.1%
Child Care Center	2	6	2.1%
Access to Mental Health Services	2	6	2.1%
Access to Healthcare	1	7	1.1%
Birth Indicators	1	7	1.1%
Economic Insecurity	1	7	1.1%
Overweight/Obesity	1	7	1.1%
Sexually Transmitted Diseases	1	7	1.1%
Dental Care	1	7	1.1%
Behavioral Health	1	7	1.1%
Unaffordable Housing	1	7	1.1%
Community Garden	1	7	1.1%
Bullying/Cyberbullying	1	7	1.1%
Lack of Exercise	1	7	1.1%
Temp Agency	1	7	1.1%
Recording Studio	1	7	1.1%
Food Bank	1	7	1.1%
Safe Neighborhoods	1	7	1.1%
Utility Assistance	1	7	1.1%
Co-Dependent Anonymous Meetings	1	7	1.1%
Senior Citizens Center	1	7	1.1%