

2024

Community Health Needs Assessment



SSM Health Ripon Community Hospital

845 Parkside Street, Ripon, WI 54971

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Executive Summary

Introduction

The SSM Health Ripon Community Hospital is pleased to present the 2024 Community Health Needs Assessment (CHNA). This CHNA report provides an overview of the health needs and priorities associated with our service area. The goal of this report is to provide individuals with a deeper understanding of the health needs in their community, as well as to help guide the hospital in its community benefit planning efforts and development of an implementation strategy to address evaluated needs. The SSM Health Wisconsin Regional Board of Directors approved this CHNA on November 12, 2024. SSM Health Ripon Community Hospital last conducted a CHNA in 2021. The Affordable Care Act (ACA) requires 501(c)(3) tax-exempt hospitals to conduct a CHNA every three tax years and adopt a strategic implementation plan for addressing identified needs.

Purpose

The purpose of the CHNA process is to identify and address health needs in order to improve the health status of residents. The CHNA includes a comprehensive collection and analysis of data and community perspectives to identify health issues of primary concern. The CHNA serves as the basis for the Community Health Improvement Plan. This process is key to developing strategies to address the community's health needs, continue to monitor health trends, and building strong communities.

Background

SSM Health Ripon Community Hospital has been proud to serve as an active Healthy Fond du Lac County Steering Committee participant since 2008, when the first CHNA process began. SSM Health Ripon Community Hospital partnered with the Fond du Lac County Health Department and Healthy Fond du Lac County Steering Committee to develop the 2024 CHNA. Because all the primary data is captured with the Fond du Lac County Health Department and Healthy Fond du Lac County, all the primary data in this report will feature Fond du Lac County data only.

Priorities

SSM Health Ripon Community Health - Ripon determined priorities for the 2025-2027 Community Health Implementation Plan (CHIP). The priorities chosen include:

- **Mental Health:** Local resources include NAMI of Fond du Lac County, Pathways to Care Tool, FONDY CARES, Church Health Services, Fond du Lac Area Mental Health Providers, Fond du Lac Family YMCA, Boys and Girls Clubs
- **Substance Use:** Local resources include FACT, Drug Free Communities, Drug Court, Fond du Lac County Department of Human Services, East Central Alliance for Nicotine Prevention
- **Health Care Access:** Local resources include SSM Health Samaritan Clinic, Save A Smile Program, Bridging Brighter Smiles and Church Health Services

President's Message to Our Community

SSM Health Ripon Community Hospital has delivered exceptional, compassionate care to Ripon community for more than 85 years. We are guided by our Mission – Through our exceptional health care services, we reveal the healing presence of God, and our values of compassion, respect, excellence, stewardship, and community.

This community health needs assessment cycle is comprised of key interviews, community conversations, and surveys highlighting health-related themes.

During community conversations, we saw that Ripon cares deeply about their resident's health, not only the body, but hearts and minds, as well. Our community members shared about the hardships they experience highlighting the increase in cost of living, finding transportation to and from the hospital is hard, and the desire to feel safe in their community.

Ripon Community Hospital is committed to continued collaboration with community partners to increase the health outcomes for our patients. We are proud to work toward the identified needs that were prioritized based on the level of importance to community members and the hospital's ability to truly make an impact.

Sincerely,

DeAnn Thurmer

President

SSM Health Ripon Community Hospital

SSM Health Waupun Memorial Hospital

SSM Health St. Clare Hospital



About SSM Health & Ripon Community Hospital

SSM Health

SSM Health is a Catholic not-for-profit health system serving the comprehensive health needs of communities across the Midwest through a robust and fully integrated health care delivery system. Headquartered in St. Louis, SSM Health has care delivery sites in Missouri, Illinois, Oklahoma, and Wisconsin. The health system includes 24 hospitals, more than 300 physician offices and other outpatient care sites, 10 post-acute facilities, comprehensive home care and hospice services, a pharmacy benefit company, an insurance company, a technology company and an accountable care organization. With more than 10,000 providers and 40,000 employees in four states, SSM Health is one of the largest employers in every community it serves.

Through our exceptional health care services, we reveal the healing presence of God.



Highlight of Services

Located in Ripon, Wisconsin, SSM Health Ripon Community Hospital has been providing quality health care with a personalized approach for more than 85 years. The facility features 16 private patient rooms — 13 are medical/surgical rooms and three are part of the Intensive Care Unit (ICU). Surgical services are available on the hospital's first floor, immediately by the main entrance, and feature three surgical suites and one endoscopic procedure room. Care at SSM Health Ripon Community Hospital is complemented by hospitalists — physicians that specialize in taking care of patients while they are hospitalized. Emergency care and urgent care services are available 24 hours a day, seven days a week through highly-qualified physicians and nurses in the Emergency Department.

Community Benefit

In 2023, SSM Health Ripon Community Hospital provided more than \$400,000 in net community benefit, comprised of charity care/Samaritan Clinic, community services and an unpaid costs of Medicaid and other public programs. Examples of our community benefit programs include:

- Community based health education
- Staff time on community coalitions and service to local non-profits
- Financial contributions to local community partners

Hospital at a glance

Admissions	436
ER visits	9,628
Beds	16
Employees	155
Medical staff	138
Volunteers	76

Healthy Fond du Lac County

Background

Since 1995, communities throughout Wisconsin have developed and implemented local health plans to address health conditions impacting their residents. This process has been referred to as the “Community Health Improvement Process.”

The Area Council for Healthy Communities serving Fond du Lac County was the founding organization that assessed health data, identified health concerns, and implemented community strategies to address those concerns. Since then, Fond du Lac County has been working with various organizations through unique partnerships and formed the Healthy Fond du Lac County Steering Committee to assess the health needs of the community. Every three years a Community Health Assessment is conducted, and priorities identified. Local health departments are required to conduct community health assessments regularly and systematically per Wisconsin State Statute and not-for-profit hospitals every three years per affordable care act and internal revenue services.

Mission and Vision Statements

The Healthy Fond du Lac County Steering Committee has a mission to assess, identify, address and monitor priority health needs through community collaboration. The steering committee holds a vision, which is a community where all Fond du Lac County children and adults can reach their highest potential for health.

Community Partnership Goals

- *Develop a three to five year Fond du Lac County Health Improvement Plan with goals, measurable outcomes and strategies to address the health concerns.*
- *Guide the implementation of the plan.*
- *Reassess health needs on a regular basis.*
- *Represent the broad interest of their organization and the residents of Fond du Lac County.*
- *Take an active role in the development and implementation of Fond du Lac County’s Health Improvement Plan.*
- *Be an advocate and community spokesperson promoting the plan and its implementation.*
- *Determine the measures for evaluating the impact of the health improvement plan and monitor progress, through data collection and obtaining regular feedback from the community.*
- *Support and guide the work of the Health Priority Working Committees.*
- *Identify and commit resources to support the planning, implementation, and evaluation of the plan.*
- *Provide annual community updates on the accomplishments, impacts and progress of the health improvement plan, and new policies being developed or being considered.*



Collaborating for a Healthier Tomorrow

Healthy Fond du Lac County

Healthy Fond du Lac County Steering Committee

Raine Bleecker, Fond du Lac County Health Department
Jeff Butz, Fond du Lac Area Business of Health
Aaron Goldstein, Fond du Lac Police Department
Erin Gerred, Fond du Lac County
Sarah Gradinjan, Fond du Lac County Health Department
Rebecca Guynn, Fond du Lac County Human Services
Dan Hebel, Boys and Girls Club of Fond du Lac
Jill Irving, Fond du Lac School District
Sachin Jogal, MG, SSM Health
Nicole Johnson, Fond du Lac County Health Department
Debbie Kapp, Aurora Health Care
Amber Kilawee, Fond du Lac Area United Way
Christine Laurent, Marian University
Amanda Miller, UW-Madison Extension, Fond du Lac County
Sue Mitchell Metz, NAMI of Fond du Lac County
Jeanette Morales, Drug Free Communities of Fond du Lac
Kim Mueller, Fond du Lac County Health Department
Laura Nakielski, SSM Health
JJ Raflik, Fond du Lac YMCA
Marty Ryan, Rotary
Cheryl Seeling, Marian University
Jolene Schatzinger, Fond du Lac Area Women's Fund
Heather Schmidt, DO, SSM Health
Jennifer Sciuti, Aurora Healthcare
Marian Sheridan, Fond du Lac County Board of Health
Ellen Sorensen, Ripon City Board
Kristen Theisen, Moraine Park Technical College
Jennifer Walters, Aurora Health Care



HEALTHY
FOND DU LAC COUNTY



Collaborating for a Healthier Tomorrow

Community Acknowledgements

SSM Health Ripon Community Hospital worked with Fond du Lac County Health Department within the Healthy Fond du Lac County Steering Committee to develop the 2024-2027 Fond du Lac County Community Health Needs Assessment (CHNA). Community perspectives and data gathered were incorporated into the hospital's Needs Assessment. Special thanks to Community Health Intern through the North-Western Area Health Education Center: Alayna Wilderman for their contribution in identifying best practice and analyzing secondary data for an unbiased, inclusive community health needs assessment.

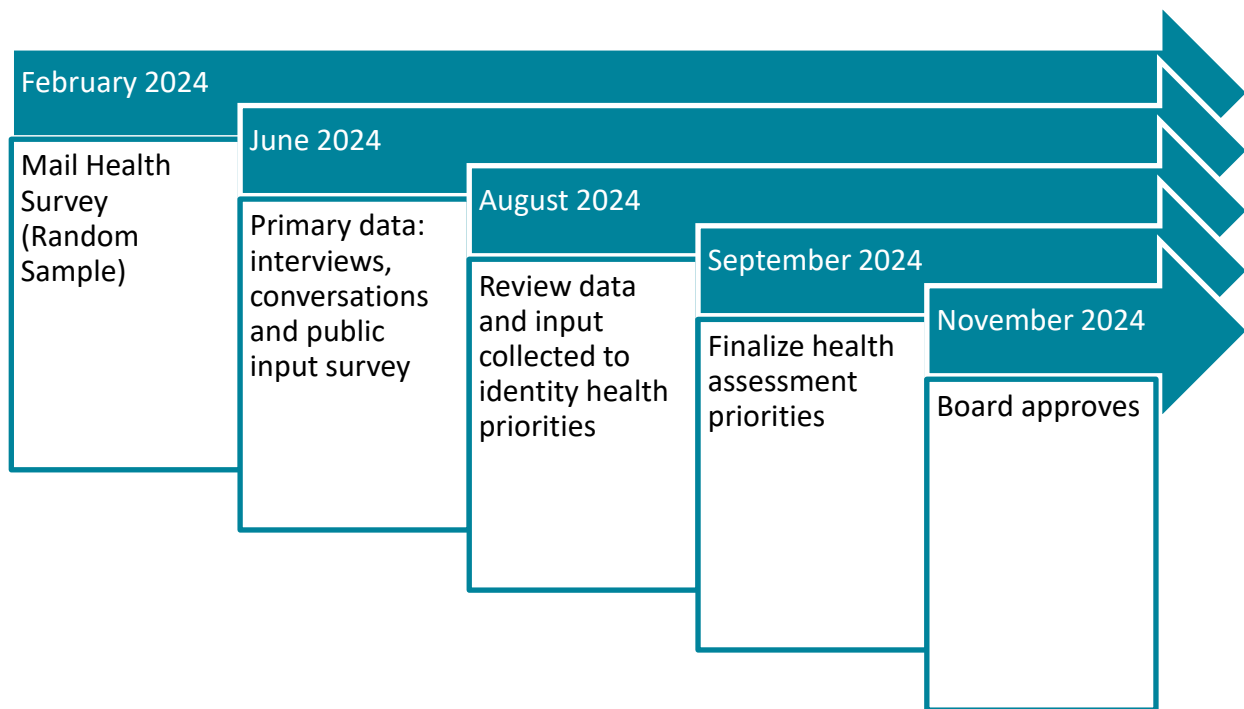
Community Conversation Hosts

Berry Drop-In Center, Fond du Lac
Broken Bread, Fond du Lac
Boys and Girls Club of Fond du Lac
Fond du Lac Senior Center
Open Circle Unitarian Universalist
NAMI of Fond du Lac County
Ripon High School
Ripon Senior Center
SSM Health
St. Katherine Drexel Homeless Shelter
The ARC of Fond du Lac
Waupun Public Library
Waupun Senior Center

Key Informant Interviews

Amy Bayer, SSM Health - Supervisor Behavioral Health Operations
Amy Loof, Solutions & St Katherine Drexel Homeless Shelter - Executive Director
Chelsea Monroe, Fond du Lac County Department of Human Services, Clinical Services Division Manager
David Tellefsen, Fond du Lac County - CVSO
DeAnn Thurmer, SSM Health - President of Baraboo, Waupun & Ripon Hospitals
Erin Cobb, Holy Family Catholic Community - Director of Human Concerns
Jaclyn Jaekels, Fond du Lac ADRC
Jessica Kimball, Fond du Lac ARC - Director of Programs
Sadie Howell, Envision Greater Fond du Lac - President
Tony Beregszazi, ADVOCAP - Deputy Director

Timeline



Impact of Previous Priorities

2022-2024 Community Health Priorities

Chronic Disease Prevention

- Increase number of those living at a health weight in Fond du Lac County.
- Increase physical activity.
- Increase fruit and vegetable consumption
- Increase breastfeeding



Mental Health

- Decrease the number of deaths by suicide in Fond du Lac County.
- Increase behavioral health services



Substance Use Prevention

- Decrease underage drinking and binge drinking.
- Decrease the misuse and abuse of opioids/prescription drugs.
- NOTE: Drug Free Communities of FDL County was disbanded during the COVID-19 pandemic and did not reestablish until early 2024.

SSM Health Ripon Community Hospital collects on average 30 of pounds prescription medications every month in the drug drop box located in the lobby.



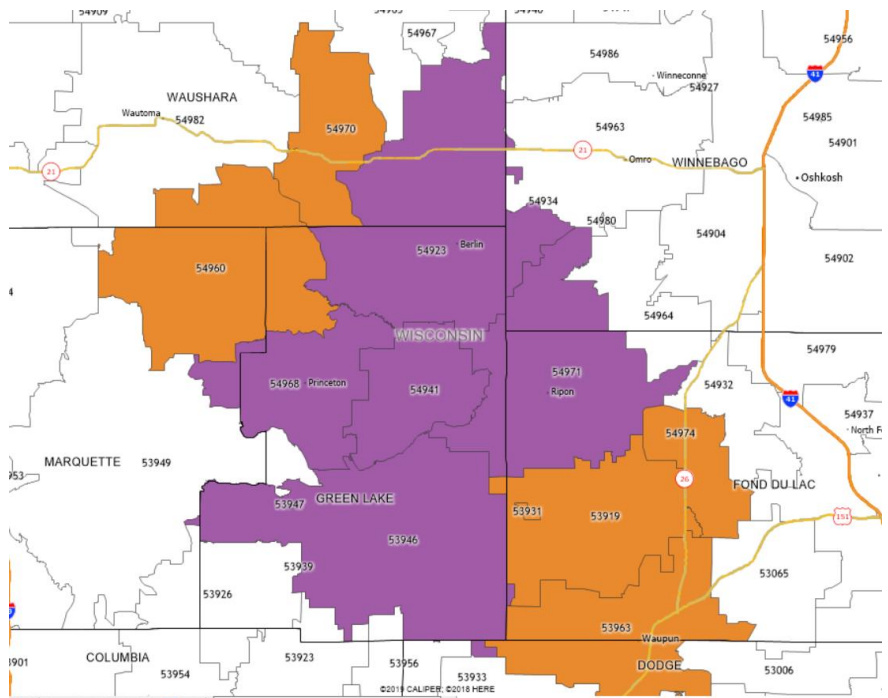
SSM Health Ripon Community Hospital offers chair yoga in partnership with Ripon College to seniors to participate in for two 6-week series and was brought back by high demand of community members.

The Behavioral Health Walk in Clinic was opened November 2023 at Ripon Community Hospital, offering same day care for patients in need of urgent care while in transition to establishing long-term care with intentions to avoid emergent situations.



Definition of Community

For the purposes of this community health needs assessment (CHNA), Ripon Community Hospital defines its community as an area similar to its primary service delivery area. This includes the Ripon area, the west portion of Fond du Lac County, much of Green Lake County and small portions of Winnebago and Waushara counties. The hospital's secondary service area includes portions of Fond du Lac County, and small portions of Dodge, Green Lake, Marquette and Waushara counties. Given the Ripon Community Hospital's location, in Fond du Lac County, but the close proximity and much of the services provided to Green Lake County, the CHNA will focus on these counties and the various communities within them. Additionally, partnership with the Fond du Lac County Health Department was instrumental for coordinated collaboration to help identify the needs of populations within their counties.



Why Place Matters

Place — where a person lives, works, learns, plays, and grows — matters when it comes to health outcomes. Place determines what resources and opportunities are available for good health, including safe streets, good schools, and well-paying jobs. Place can also influence exposure to factors that harm health, including crime and violence, air pollution, and access to healthy foods. Health outcomes are greatly shaped by the opportunity to live in a community that has resources and amenities to support optimal health.

Geography

Ripon Community Hospital is in Ripon, Wisconsin. The City of Ripon is a thriving community of 7,833 residents located just 20 miles west of the Fox Valley. The community offers the advantages and conveniences of living near a metropolitan area, plus the peacefulness and safety of a small town. Ripon is home to charter and public-school systems and Ripon College. Ripon is also home to a large blue-collar workforce, employing many people at large manufacturing businesses, such as Alliance Laundry Systems, J.M. Smucker, and the Pickle Factory. The City of Ripon is five square miles, is in the northwest corner of Fond du Lac County and is also near the City of Green Lake and Green Lake County border. The surrounding areas around Ripon consists of rural, rich farmland which has a diversity of farming operations, rural residential developments, and wetlands with Silver Creek running through to Green Lake. To the north lies Rush Lake, the largest "Prairie Pothole" east of the Mississippi River. It is a great area for duck hunters and bird watchers. There are a wide variety of recreational opportunities throughout and around Ripon, including Riggs County Park, Northwestern Trail, Mascoutin Valley Trail, and the Southwood's Nature Preserve.

About Our Community – Fond du Lac County

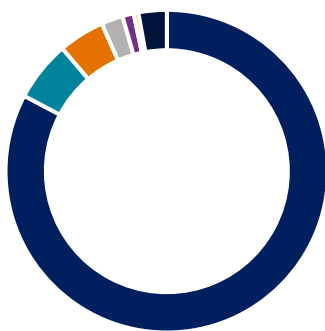
Demographics

When compared to Wisconsin and the United States, Fond du Lac County's population is slightly older and less diverse with 87.7% of the population being white. Additional ethnicities that make up the population in Fond du Lac County include, 6.4% Hispanic/Latinx, 2.3% Black/African American and 1.2% Asian. The percentage of Fond du Lac County adults with a high school education is 51% compared to the state of 42%. Fond du Lac County has a significantly lower population with a college education at 15% compared to the state at 23%. The percent of persons living in poverty is comparable in Fond du Lac County at 9.6% and the state at 10.7. Fond du Lac County's population is 50.4% female and 49.6% male. Full population table can be found on Appendix A.

Underserved and/or Vulnerable Populations

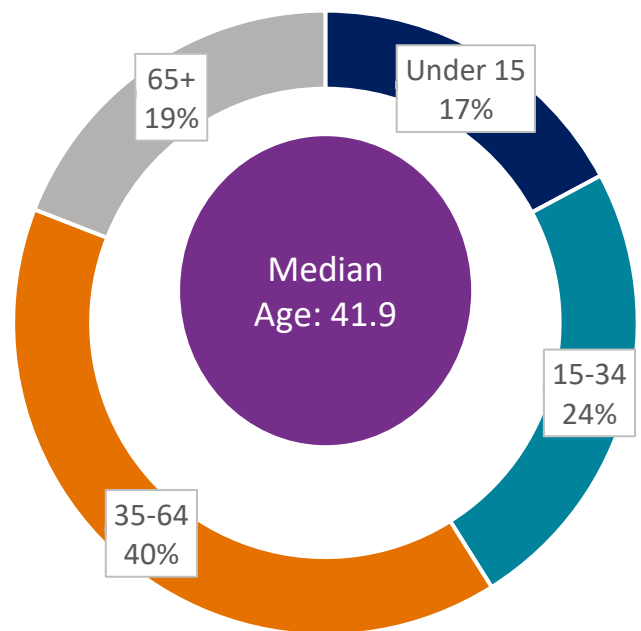
Fond du Lac County and SSM Health Ripon Community Hospital service area include people who are high risk of not receiving adequate medical care due to being uninsured/underinsured, are experiencing health disparities, or facing barriers related to geography, language, financial circumstances, transportation, stigma, accessibility to technology or knowledge of technology, medication compliance due to cost or coverage, access to healthy foods, and low-income housing. Potentially medically underserved populations include the rural, poor, and older adults who may be without adequate transportation; Black, Indigenous and other Persons Of Color (BIPOC) individuals who may be experiencing discrimination and racial or ethnic health disparities; non-English (primarily Spanish) speaking individuals who may also be undocumented; low socio-economic status (SES) and homeless individuals; lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender and queer (LGBTQ+) residents; and incarcerated individuals or people in the criminal justice system. The Fond du Lac County community health assessment process included an equity plan to ensure that the needs of more vulnerable populations were considered.

Population by Race and Ethnicity



- White 87.7%
- Hispanic / Latinx 6.4%
- 2 or more races 4.9 %
- Black 2.3%
- Asian 1.2%
- American Indian 0.5%
- Other 3%

Population by Age



About Our Community – Green Lake County

Demographics

When compared to Wisconsin and the United States, Green Lake County's population is slightly older and less diverse with 90.4% of the population being white. Additional ethnicities that make up the population in Green Lake County include, 5.6 % are Hispanic/Latinx, 5.4% identify as 2+ races, 2.4% are some other race, 0.6% Black/African American 0.7% Asian. The percentage of Green Lake County adults with a high school education is 52% compared to the state of 42%. Green Lake County has a significantly lower population with a college education at 11% compared to the state at 23%. The percent of persons living in poverty is comparable in Green Lake County at 12.8% and the state at 10.7. Green Lake's population is 49.7% female and 50.3% male. Full population table can be found on Appendix A.

Underserved and/or Vulnerable Populations

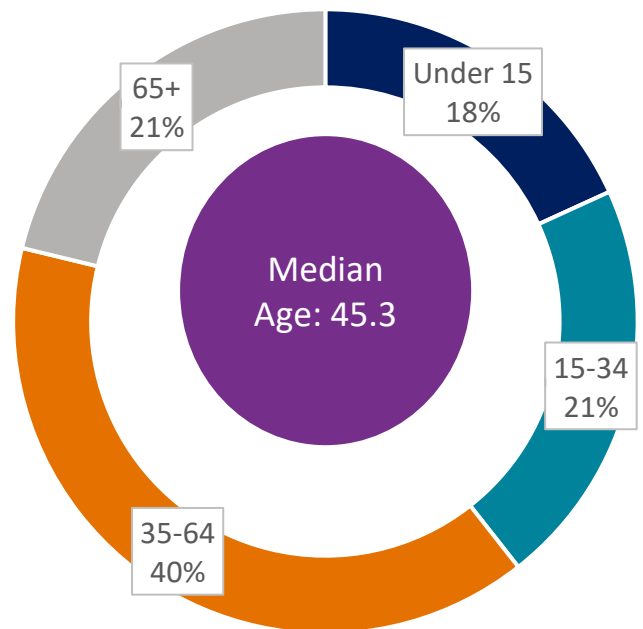
Green Lake County and SSM Health Ripon Community Hospital service area include people who are high risk of not receiving adequate medical care due to being uninsured/underinsured, are experiencing health disparities, or facing barriers related to geography, language, financial circumstances, transportation, stigma, accessibility to technology or knowledge of technology, medication compliance due to cost or coverage, access to healthy foods, and low-income housing. Potentially medically underserved populations include the rural, poor, and older adults who may be without adequate transportation; Black, Indigenous and other Persons Of Color (BIPOC) individuals who may be experiencing discrimination and racial or ethnic health disparities; non-English (primarily Spanish) speaking individuals who may also be undocumented; low socio-economic status (SES) and homeless individuals; lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender and queer (LGBTQ+) residents; and incarcerated individuals or people in the criminal justice system.

Population by Race and Ethnicity



- White 90.4%
- Hispanic / Latinx 5.6%
- 2 or more races 5.4 %
- Black 0.6%
- Asian 0.7%
- American Indian 0.3%
- Other 2.4%

Population by Age



Hospital's Role in Conducting the Assessment

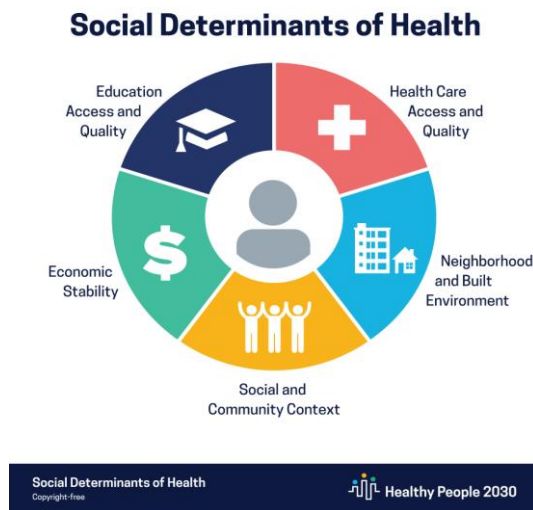
SSM Health Ripon Community Hospital worked closely with the Fond du Lac County Health Department to develop the 2024-2027 Fond du Lac County Community Health Assessment (CHA). The hospital was an active member in the Healthy Fond du Lac County Steering Committee and, has a representative serving as an advisor to and assisted in inviting community members to conversations to gather and collect community perspectives.

Primary Data

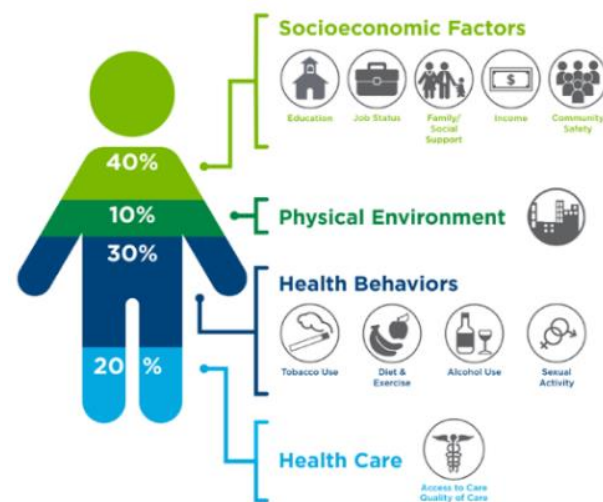
SSM Health Ripon Community Hospital sought and received input from the Fond du Lac County Public Health Department. The hospital also worked closely with Healthy Fond du Lac County Steering Committee to develop the 2024-2027 Fond du Lac County Community Health Assessment (CHA). Community perspectives and data gathered during this endeavor were incorporated into the SSM Health Ripon Community Hospital - Ripon's Community Health Needs Assessment. Community perspectives were gathered from multiple activities, including a community survey, public input survey, key informant interviews, and focus groups (community conversations).

Secondary Data

In addition to a review of demographics, data from broad sources was gathered and reviewed to set the initial direction and priorities of the community health needs assessment. The secondary data was derived from a variety of unbiased sources including the Wisconsin Hospital Association's CHNA Dashboard, County Health Rankings, Youth Behavioral Risk Survey, Community Commons, Area Deprivation Index and Opportunity Atlas, and the Wisconsin Department of Health Services.



What Goes Into Your Health?



Institute for Clinical Systems Improvement. Going Beyond Clinical Walls. Solving Complex Problems (October 2014). The BridgeSpan Group

Factors that Influence Health

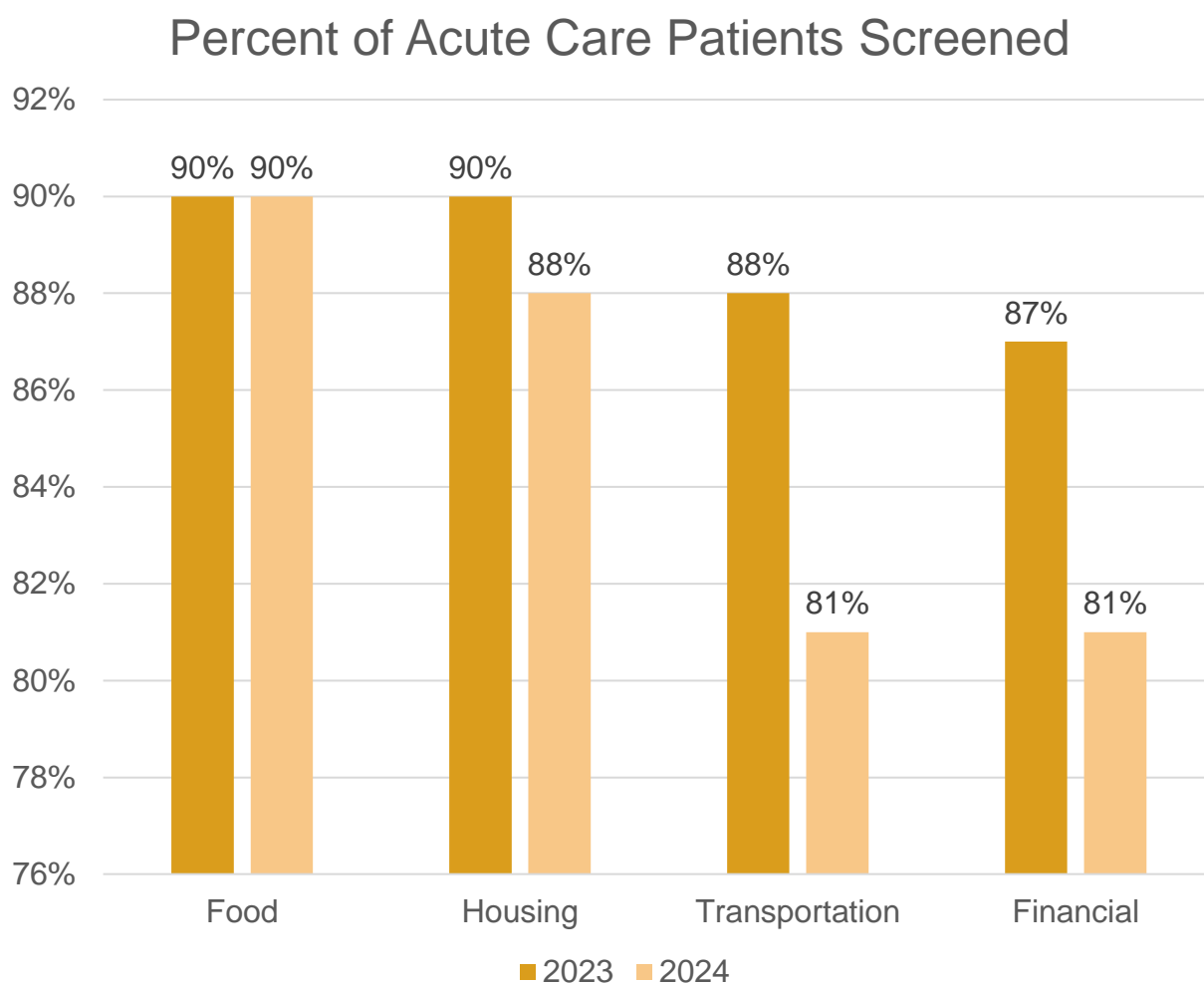
The conditions and the environments where people are born, live, learn, work, play, worship, and age are all factors that influence health. Things like one's financial situation, education, neighborhood, relationships and health care options have an impact on health and can contribute to the quality and length of life, health outcomes, and contribute to disparities and inequities.

Social Determinants of Health (SDoH)

Non-medical factors that affect health outcomes. They include the conditions in which people are born, grow, work, live, and age. SDoH also include the broader forces and systems that shape everyday life conditions.

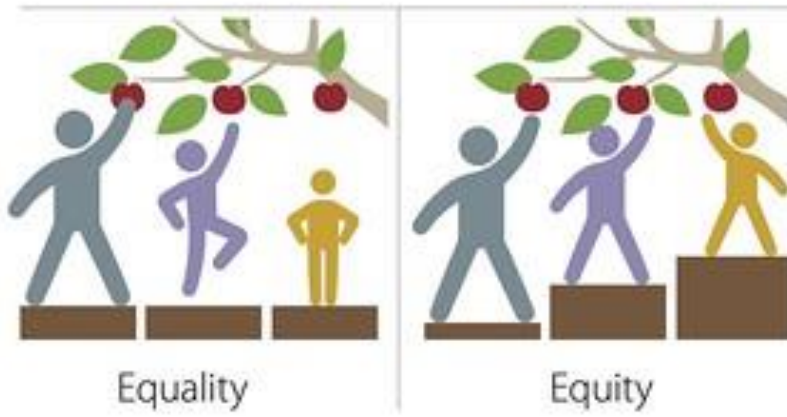
Social Determinants of Health at Ripon Community Hospital

SSM Health Ripon Community Hospital began screening acute care patient for the social determinants of health in January 2023. These social determinants, including food security, housing stability, transportation access, and overall financial stability, all make a considerable impact on a patient's health. By screening and providing resources for all patients experiencing a strain on these basic needs we live out our mission of providing exceptional health care services for the whole person. This averages to 385 patients in each category every year.



Sources: Epic SDoH Dashboard

Health Equity Spotlight



Health Equity: Equity is the absence of unfair, avoidable or remediable differences among groups of people, whether those groups are defined socially, economically, demographically, or geographically or by other dimensions of inequality (e.g. sex, gender, ethnicity, disability, or sexual orientation). Health is a fundamental human right. Health equity is achieved when everyone can attain their full potential for health and well-being. - World Health Organization

Health Disparity: Health disparities include differences in health outcomes, such as life expectancy, mortality, health status, and prevalence of health conditions. Health care disparities include differences between groups in measures such as health insurance coverage, affordability, access to and use of care, and quality of care. Disparities occur across multiple factors including race and ethnicity, socioeconomic status, age, geography, language, gender, disability status, citizenship status, and sexual identity and orientation. Reflecting the intersectional nature of people’s identities, some individuals experience disparities across multiple dimensions.

Community Health Worker

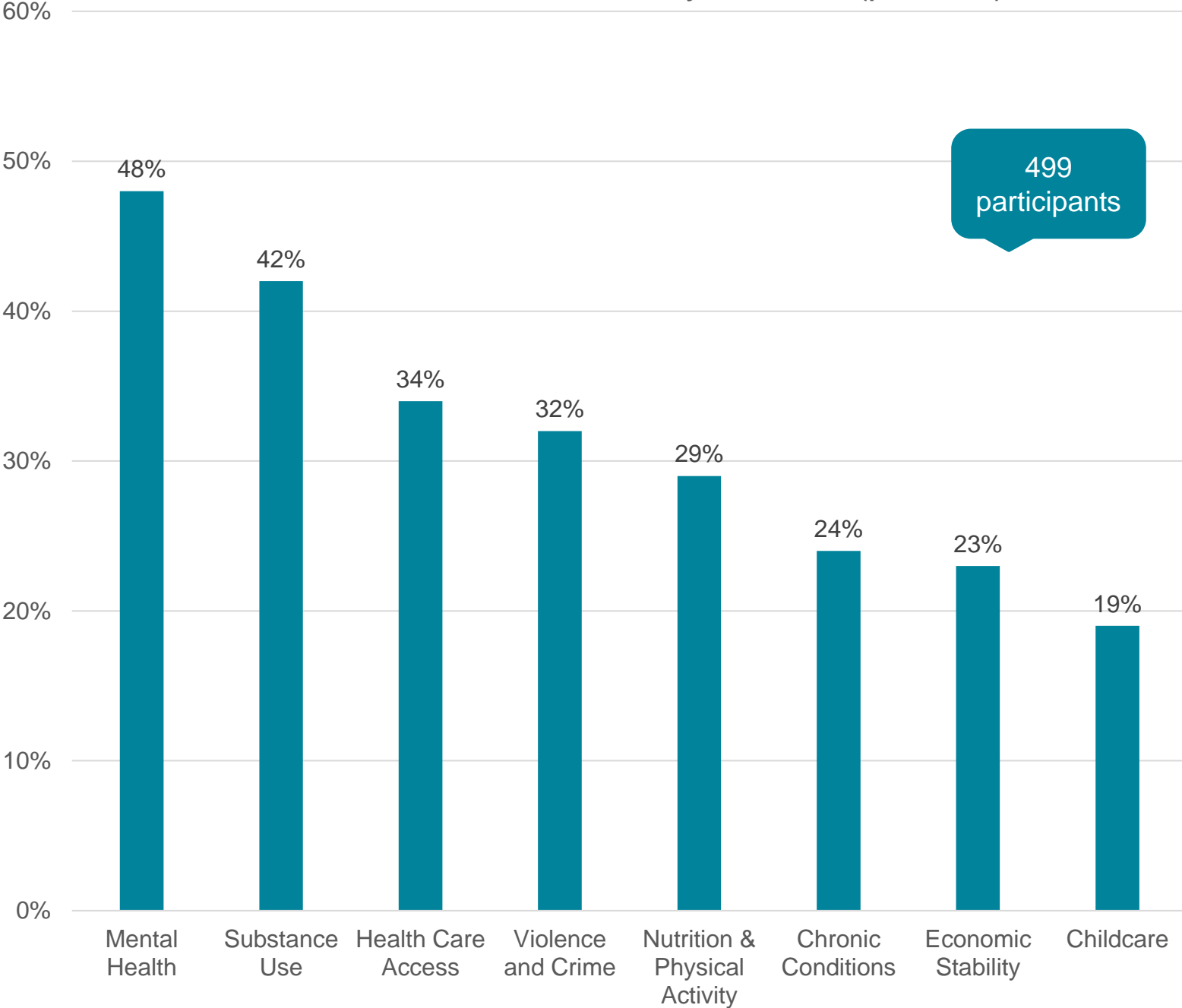
SSM Health Ripon Community Hospital was able to hire a community health worker in through the Wisconsin Department of Administration Equitable Recovery Grant in March 2022. This community health worker was tasked with decreasing health care access barriers for the Spanish speaking patient population that is increasing in the greater Fond du Lac area. The community health worker was influential in their work in the SSM Health Samaritan Clinic which services those unable to get insurance and do not qualify for state health insurance. Additionally, the community health worker advocated for the Spanish speaking population at community coalitions, events and spaces in Fond du Lac County.



Community Health Survey: Primary Data

The Community Health Survey, conducted by JKV Research, LLC., provides primary, quantitative data collected from Fond du Lac County residents. The data provides an overview of behavioral and lifestyle habits, as well as prevalence of risk factors and disease conditions existing within the Fond du Lac County adult population. The survey was mailed out to a random sample and 499 adults participated. Aggregate data from six school districts in Fond du Lac County is included in the Community Health Survey report to provide student data when available. For a preliminary summary of the Community Health Survey see Appendix B, or view the complete report, including survey methodology, on the Fond du Lac County website at www.fdlco.wi.gov.

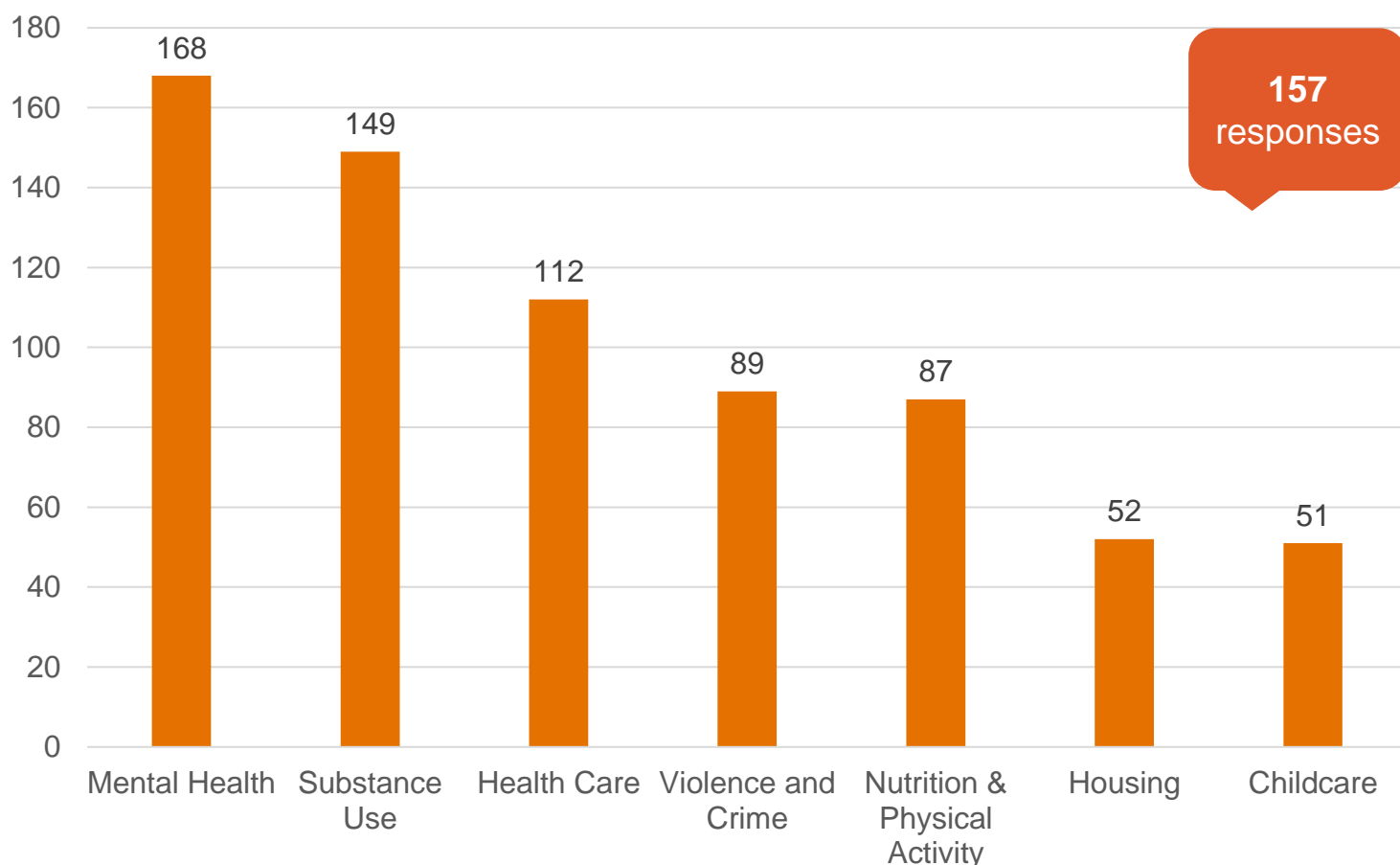
Health Concerns Most Commonly Ranked (percent)



Public Health Input Survey: Primary Data

The Priority Health Issues Survey was conducted to provide an outlet for the community at large to provide additional input and voice their concerns regarding the most pressing county health issues. The survey was available in hard copy at the health department and online on the health department's website. The survey was available to take in English and Spanish. Residents were encouraged to review key findings from the 2024 Community Health Survey beforehand to provide additional feedback. A total of 157 Fond du Lac County residents completed the survey. The health focus areas ranked most consistently in the top five by respondents were: mental health, alcohol and other drug use, healthcare, violence and crime, nutrition physical activity and obesity. See Appendix C for the tool and a complete summary.

Health Concerns Most Commonly Ranked (responses)



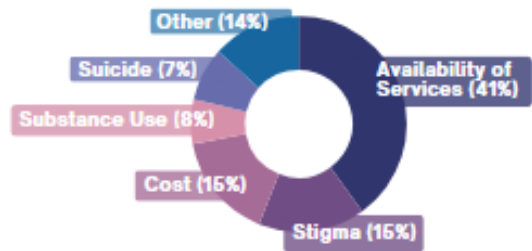
Public Input Survey Results: Primary Data



MENTAL HEALTH

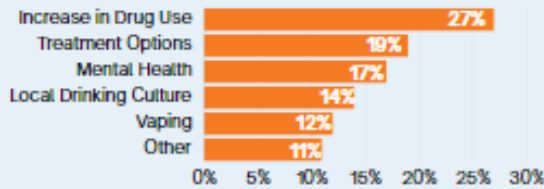
Challenges Respondents (71) Mentioned:

- Availability of Services / Long Waitlist
- Stigma
- Cost of Mental Health Services
- Underlying use of Substances
- Increase in Suicide



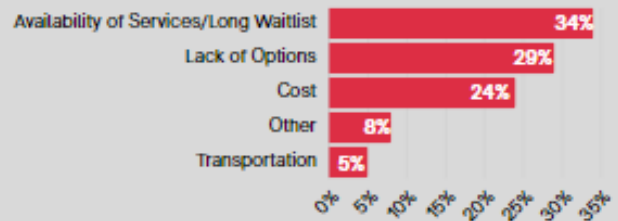
ALCOHOL, DRUG USE, TOBACCO/VAPING

Challenges Respondents (59) Mentioned:



HEALTH CARE ACCESS

Challenges Respondents (59) Mentioned:



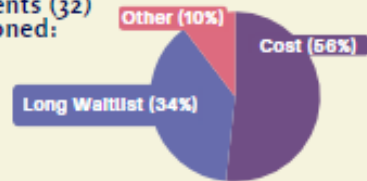
VIOLENCE & CRIME

Top Challenges Respondents (41) Mentioned:



CHILDCARE

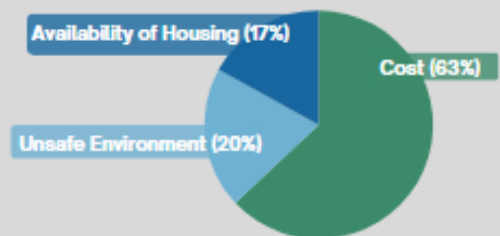
Challenges Respondents (32) Mentioned:



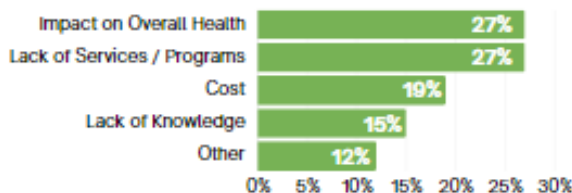
SAFE & AFFORDABLE HOUSING

Challenges Respondents (41) Mentioned:

- Cost
- Unsafe Environment
- Availability of Housing



NUTRITION, PHYSICAL ACTIVITY & OBESITY



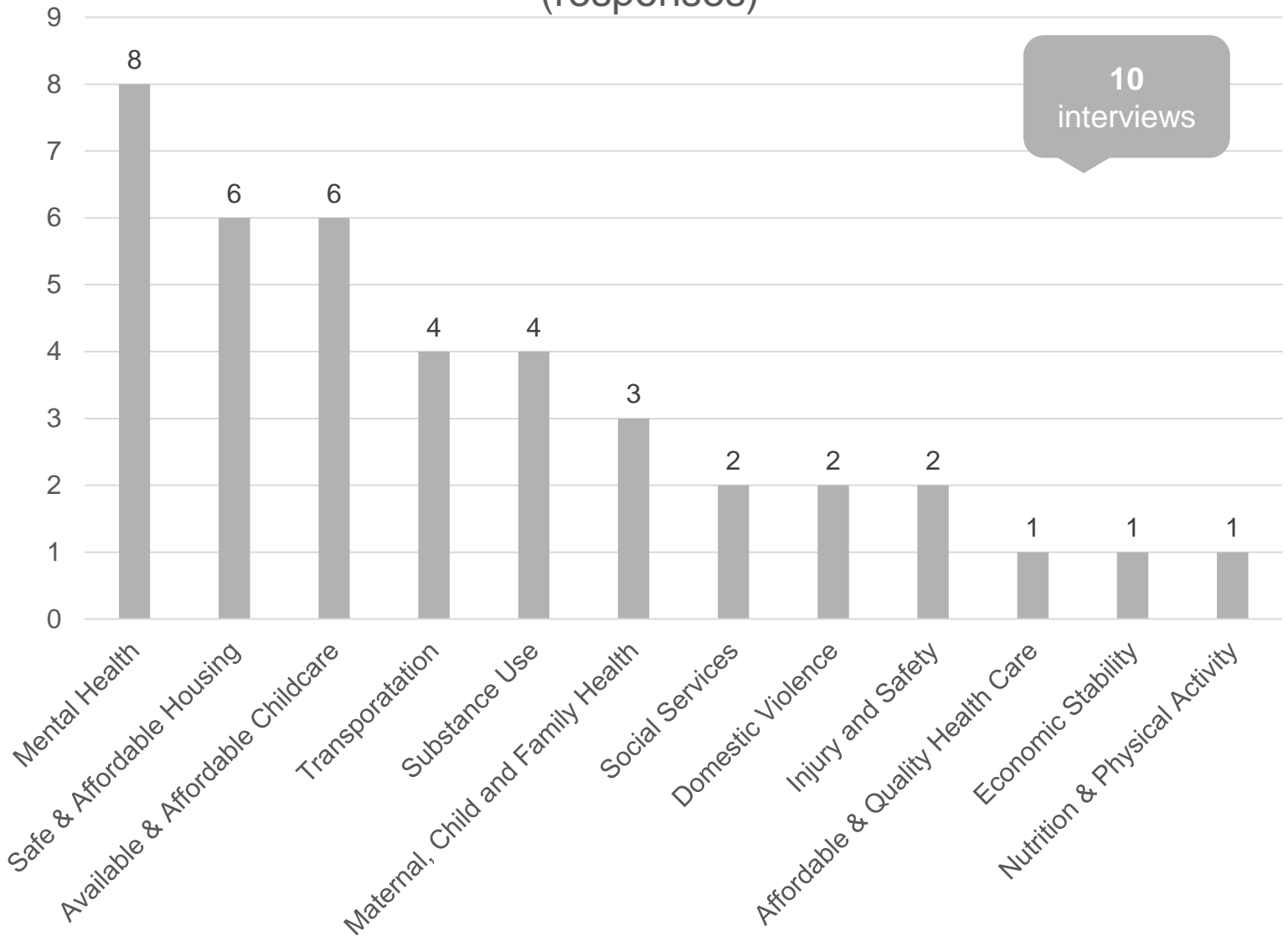
Challenges Respondents (26) Mentioned:

- Impact on Overall Health
- Lack of Services / Programs
- Cost
- Lack of Knowledge

Key Informant Interviews: Primary Data

A total of ten Key Informant Interviews were conducted to provide further qualitative data regarding community needs. Key informants identified were considered community experts who can provide valuable insight on pressing health issues in the Fond du Lac County community. The top health focus areas ranked most consistently by key informants were mental health, childcare, housing, alcohol and other drug use, transportation and maternal, infant, child health. See Appendix D for the Key Informant Interview tool and a complete summary.

Two Largest Social / Economic Issues (responses)



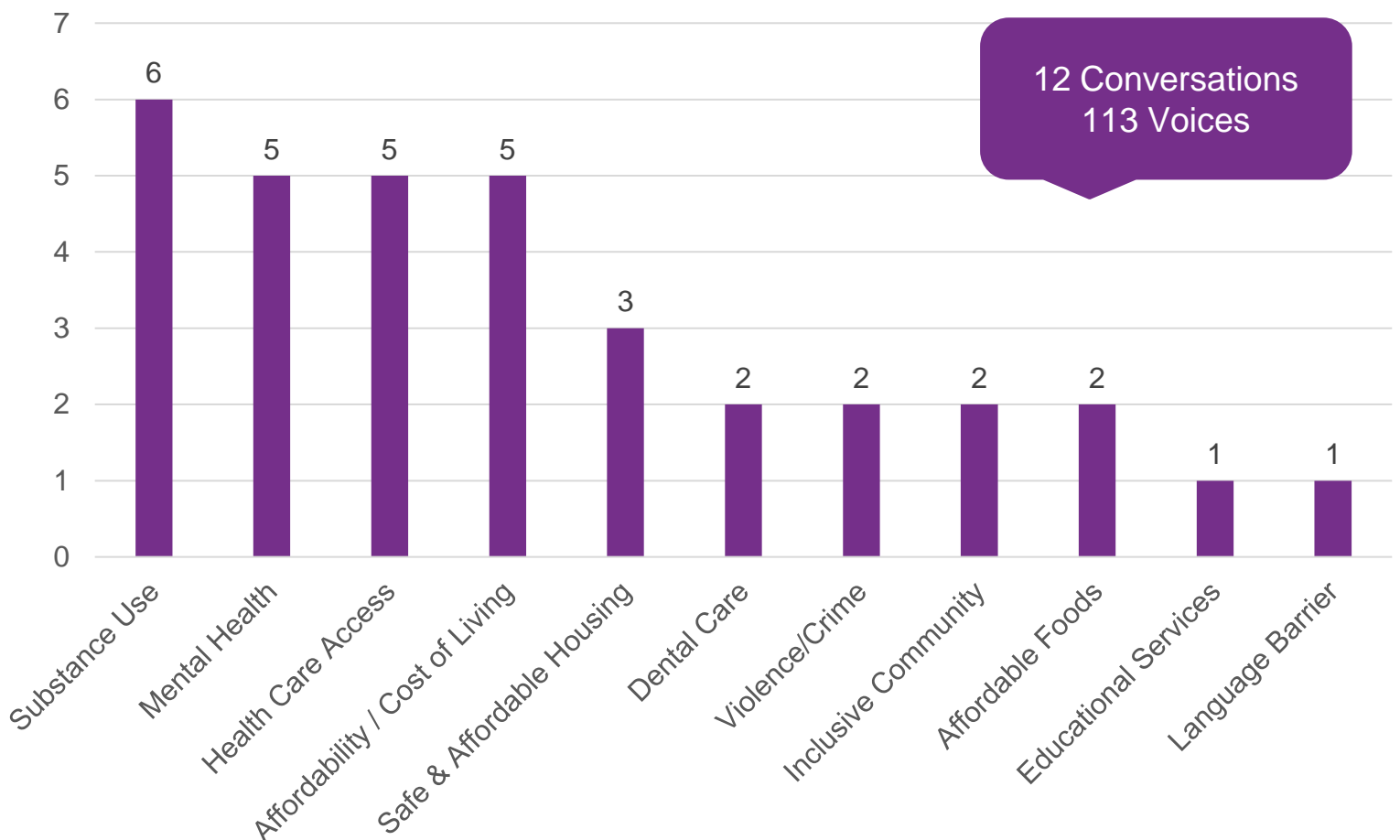
Community Conversations: Primary Data

Community conversations were organized by members of the SSM Health Ripon Community Hospital, Fond du Lac County Health Department and other entities that served as host locations for these events. The purpose of these community conversations was to further engage the public and provide an opportunity for various populations to voice their input that may otherwise have not been heard. Twelve community conversations with 113 participants were held across the county, providing further information regarding the health needs of residents in Fond du Lac County. Highlights and themes from these conversations can be found throughout the report. See Appendix E for the community conversations tool and for a complete summary.

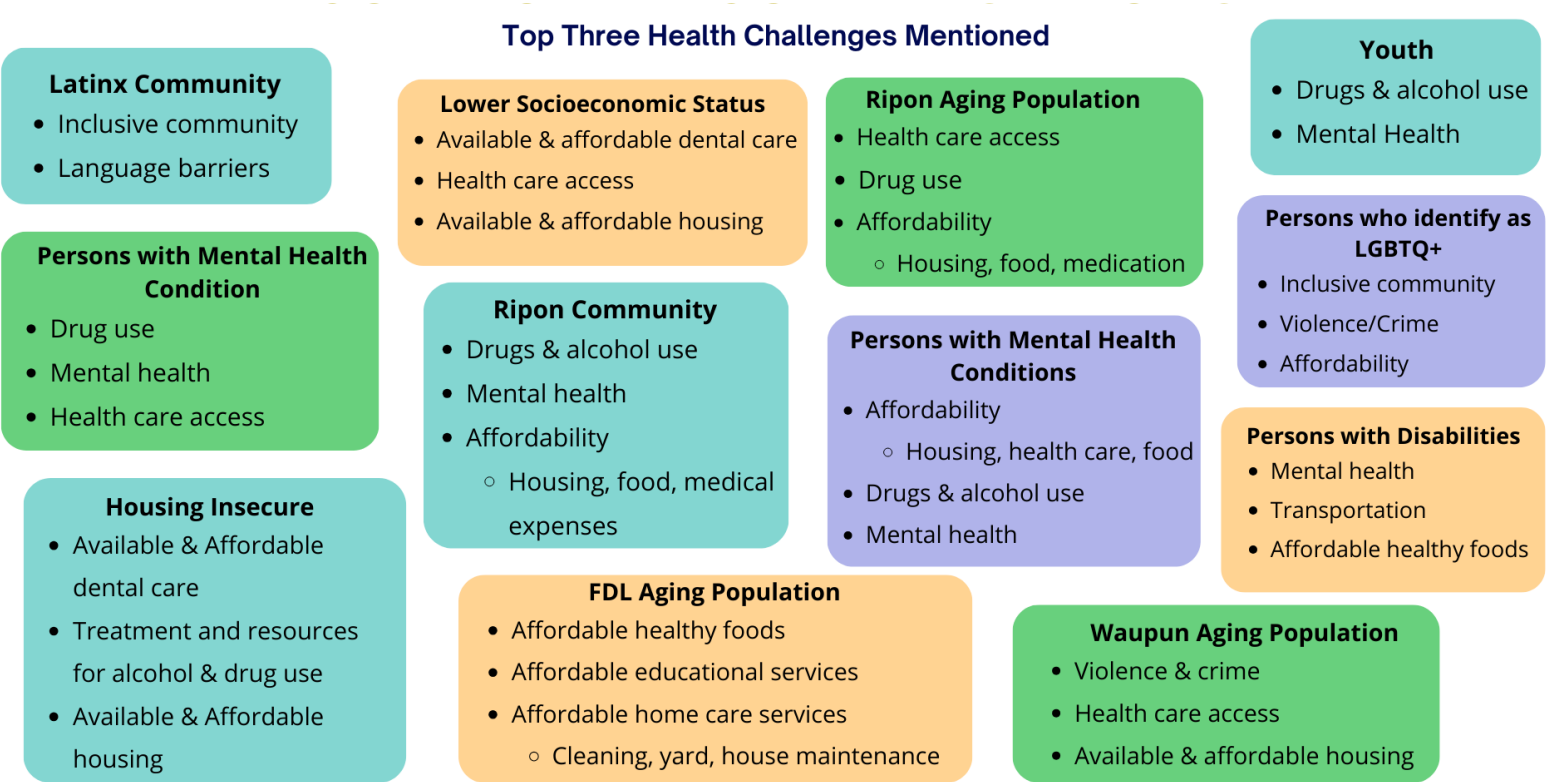
Questions we asked:

1. What makes a community healthy?
2. What prevents your community from being healthier?
3. What strengths does your community have?
4. What are the top three health challenges for people in your community and why?
5. What do you like most about living in your community.

Health Concerns Most Commonly Mentioned (conversations)



Community Conversations: Primary Data



What participants liked the most about their community



Community Highlights: Fond du Lac County Secondary Data

Education

92% of adults in FDL County age 25+ with a High School Diploma

62% of adults aged 25-44 in FDL County with some post-secondary education



Income

\$71,200 FDL County Median Household Income

24% of households in FDL County that are ALICE (Asset Limited, Income Constrained, Employed)



Poverty

7.3% of FDL County population living below the Federal Poverty Line

% of children (under 18 years old) in FDL under Federal poverty line

- 15% Asian
- 61% Black
- 14% Hispanic
- 10% White



Free & Reduced Lunch

43% FDL County of children eligible for free or reduced lunch (2022)

- 46.35% FDL School District
- 42.6% Ripon School District
- 42.8% Waupun School District



Sources: US Census, County Health Rankings, WI Dept of Public Instruction

Community Highlights: Green Lake County Secondary Data

Education

85% of adults in Green Lake County age 25+ with a High School Diploma

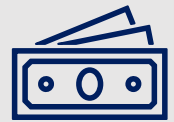
54% of adults aged 25-44 in FDL County with some post-secondary education



Income

\$67,038 FDL County Median Household Income

32% of households in FDL County that are ALICE (Asset Limited, Income Constrained, Employed)



Poverty

9.2% of FDL County population living below the Federal Poverty Line

12% of children (under 18 years old) in Green Lake under Federal poverty line



Free & Reduced Lunch

43% Green Lake County of children eligible for free or reduced lunch (2022)



Sources: US Census, County Health Rankings, WI Dept of Public Instruction

Mental Health: Secondary Data

Mental Health Condition

20% of adults in FDL County reported a mental health condition (last 3 years)

49% of students in FDL County reported significant problems with feelings (anxious, nervous, tense, scared that something bad was going to happen)



Suicidal Ideation

4% of FDL County adults reported to consider suicide.

6% FDL County students of students reported to consider suicide.



Self Harm

21% of FDL County students and less than 1% of FDL County adults reported they did something to purposely hurt themselves without wanting to die (cutting / burning) themselves in the past year.



Mental Health Opinion

67% of adults in FDL County strongly agree mental health concern can as serious as a physical concern

23% of adults in FDL County strongly agree that anyone can develop a mental health issue.



Mental Health Opinions

35% of FDL County adults strongly disagree that successful people rarely struggle with mental health issues

54% of FDL County adults strongly disagree that people who are happy/have it all cannot be depressed.



Unmet Needs

14% of FDL County households reported not receiving mental health care as needed.

Reasons:

- 47% long wait
- 39% not able to take off work
- 35% unable to get insurance
- 34% insurance didn't cover it
- 15% co-payments too high

Sources: 2024 Fond du Lac County Community Health Survey

Substance Use: Secondary Data

Alcohol Use

71% of FDL County adults reporting to drink alcohol.

16% of FDL County youth reporting to drink alcohol in the past month



Binge Drinking

27% of FDL County adults reporting to binge alcohol in the past month

7% of FDL County youth reporting to binge alcohol in the past month



Tobacco Use / Exposure

13% of FDL County adults reporting to currently be smoking in the past month

10% of FDL County students reporting to currently vape in the past month



Mortality

24.3 drug overdoses per 100,000 population
Fond du Lac County

17.6 suicides per 100,000 population
Fond du Lac County

Fatal Overdoses

Drug (all) overdoses

- 2021 – 20
- 2022 – 21
- 2023 - 25

Opioid overdoses

- 2021 – 19
- 2022 – 19
- 2023 - 20



Morbidity

20% of FDL County adults reporting poor or fair health

9.3% of FDL County adults with a disability under age 65 (2018-2022)

Sources: 2024 Fond du Lac County Community Health Survey
Wisconsin Interactive Statistics on Health (WISH)
Fond du Lac County Medical Examiner's Office
County Health Rankings
U.S. Census Bureau QuickFacts

Health Care Access: Secondary Data

Unmet Health Care Needs

32% of FDL County adults reporting someone in their household did not receive health care needed in the past year

- 16% Medical
- 23% Dental
- 14% Mental Health



Affordability

23% of FDL County adults reporting someone in their households delayed or did not seek medical care because of cost



Transportation

106 (5.6%) 211 Call for help finding low-cost public transportation & long-distance travel options; help paying for auto repairs; transportation to medical appointments

- 53 (50%) automobile assistance
- 20 (18%) medical transportation
- 14 (13.2%) public transportation



Leading Causes of death per 100,000 population, age adjusted (2020-2022)

Fond du Lac County	Rate	Wisconsin	Rate
1. Heart Disease	267.8	1. Heart Disease	219.9
2. Cancer	199.5	2. Cancer	195.1
3. COVID-19	80.3	3. Accidents	82.2
4. Accidents	75.9	4. COVID-19	69.1
5. Cerebrovascular Disease	51.9	5. Cerebrovascular Disease	45.8
6. Chronic Respiratory Disease	47.6	6. Chronic Respiratory Disease	43.8
7. Alzheimer's Disease	38.5	7. Alzheimer's Disease	40.2
8. Diabetes	26.4	8. Diabetes	26.7
9. Kidney Disease	23.6	9. Chronic Liver Disease	15.6
10. Chronic Liver Disease	23.1	Suicide	15.6

Sources: 2024 Fond du Lac County Community Health Survey
211 WI Counts, Wisconsin Interactive Statistics on Health (WISH)

Violence/Crime: Secondary Data

Adult Personal Safety

11% of FDL County adults who say one of the three safety issues happened in the past year.

- Physical
- Sexual
- Verbal
- Emotional

1% of FDL County adults who say someone harmed or threatened to be harmed because of the following:

- Race
- Ethnicity
- Gender Identification
- Sexual Orientation

Youth Personal Safety

18% of FDL County Students who experience sexual dating violence (of dating respondents) in the past year

11% of FDL County students who experience physical dating violence (of dating respondents) in the past year

18% of FDL County Students who were electronically threatened in the past year

Public Input

27% of respondent mentioned there has been an increase in crime in FDL County

30% of respondent mentioned that mental health or substance use as an underlying factor in FDL County



Fond du Lac County's overall crime grade is A-.

Overall Crime Rate: 31.74 per 1,000 residents during a standard year.

Chances of being a victim of crime:

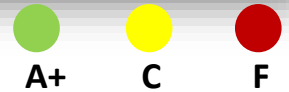
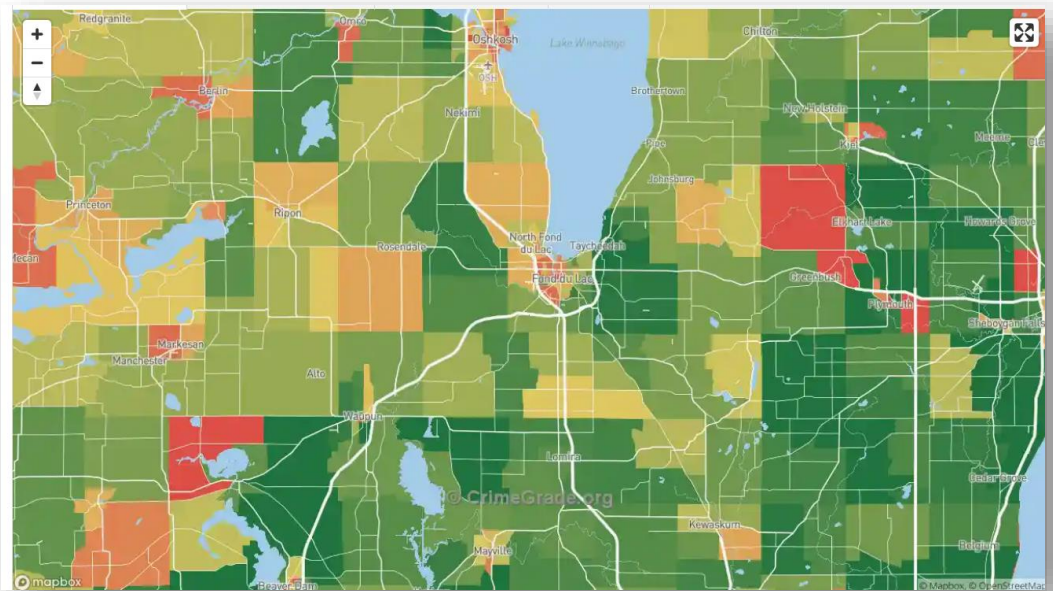
- 1 in 26 in central neighborhoods
- 1 in 38 in northeast section

Property Crime:

- 1 in 53 in central neighborhoods
- 1 in 128 in southern section

Violent Crime

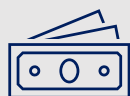
- 1 in 356 in north neighborhood
- 1 in 732 in northeast sections



Housing: Secondary Data

Cost

- 7% of FDL County adults were worried/concerned about stable housing in the next two months
- 6% of adults who the utility company threatened to shut off services in the past year
- 8% of households spend half or more of their income on housing



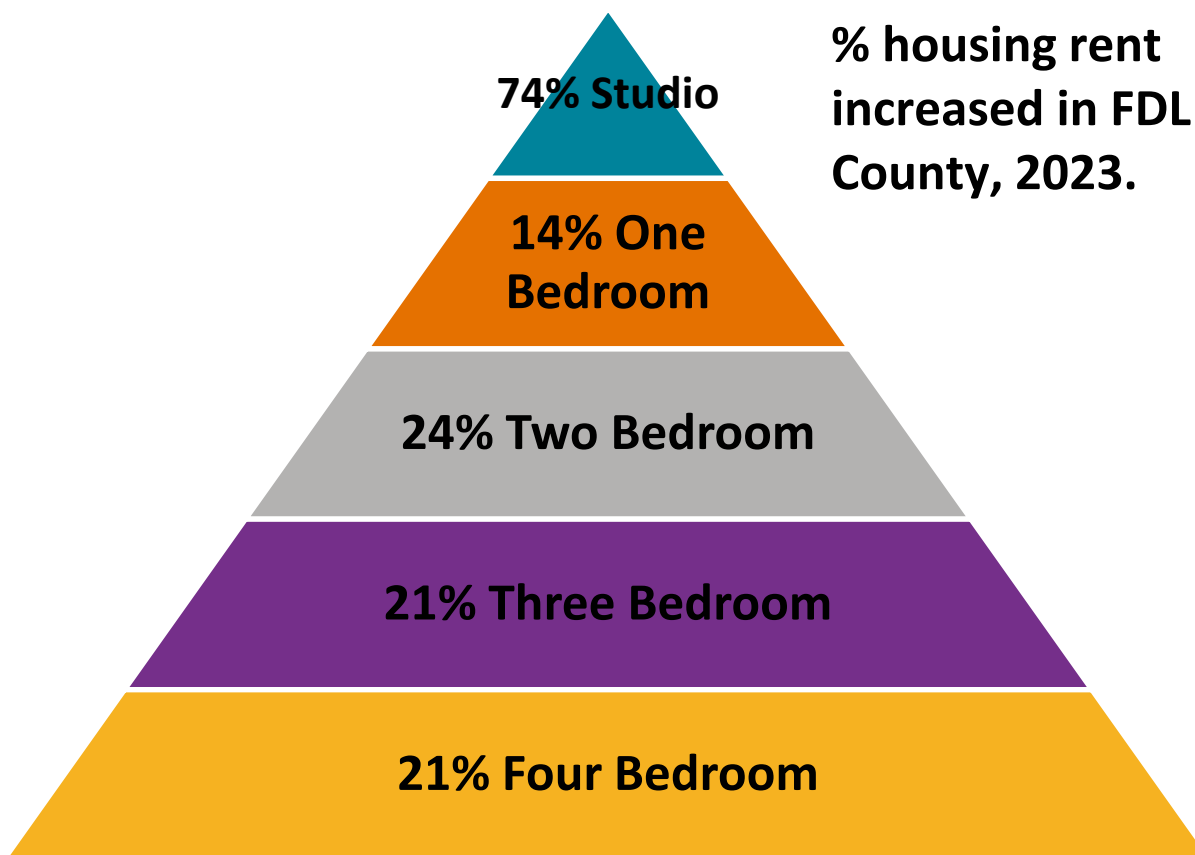
Resources

- 681 (36%) of 211 calls received (2023) for Housing and Shelter
- 337 (50%) Rent assistance
 - 142 (21%) Shelters
 - 100 (15%) Low-cost housing
 - 53 (8%) landlord/ tenant issues



Public Input

- Housing challenged mentioned by FDL County residents
- 63% said cost
 - 20% said unsafe environment
 - 17% said availability of housing



Source: Zumper, 2024 Public Input Survey

Childcare: Secondary Data

Needs

- 5% of FDL County adults who were unable to get childcare when really needed it in the past year



Public Input

- FDL County adults responded with the following childcare challenges
 - 56% said cost
 - 34% said waitlist



Envision Greater FDL

- 26% said limited availability of providers offering services at the needed times & days, not available in rural areas, and limited capacity of existing facility
- 21% said cost is a reason for gaps in care



50% of WI is in a childcare desert



Only 1 in 3 slots is available for every child under the age of 5 in WI

Source: Envision Greater FDL, Child Care Task Force

Analyzing and Ranking Health Priorities







Once all primary data was collected, it was then organized into six key health areas: mental health, substance use, health care access, violence/crime, housing and childcare.

Analyzing and Determining Priorities:

In September 2024, Healthy Fond du Lac County hosted two sessions (one in person and one virtual) to review data collected and identify health priorities. The presentations were available for the public to join and in total 56 community members participated. At the end of the session, participants were asked to rank their top three health areas that they felt should be prioritized to address in a Community Health Improvement Plan based on the data that was reviewed. For the voting process, there were six health areas featured as options based on the key areas that shape health and preliminary results of the data. Participants voted for their top three health areas utilizing the prioritization criteria outlined below:



- Alignment: the degree to which health issue aligns with our mission and strategic priorities
- Feasibility: the degree to which the community can address the need through direct programs, clinical strengths, and dedicated resources
- Partnerships: the degree to which there are current or potential community partners or coalitions
- Health Equity: the degree to which disparities exist and can be addressed
- Measurable: the degree to which measurable impact can be made to address the issue
- Upstream: the degree to which the health issue is upstream from and a root cause of other health issues

Top Health Areas

Mental Health <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Access to services• Stigma• Social Support 	Substance Use <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Drinking culture• Prevention• Access to services 	Healthcare Access <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Transportation• Affordability• Unmet care needs 
Violence and Crime <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Increase in violent crimes• General concern for safety 	Housing <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Navigating resources• Transitional living options 	Childcare <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Affordability• Availability 

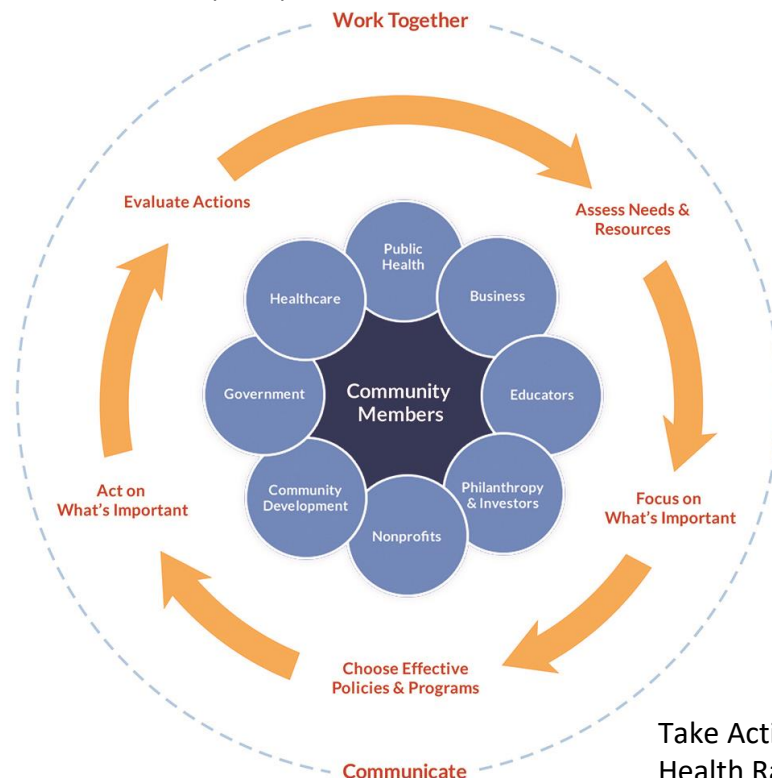
Analyzing and Ranking Health Priorities

2025-2027 Community Health Priorities

Mental Health	Substance Use Prevention	Healthcare Access
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Increase access to mental health services • Reduce stigma in accessing mental health counseling, • Increase social supports for those struggling with mental health. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Increase community awareness of drinking culture and its negative impact on health outcomes • Increase substance use prevention strategies and programming for community members. • Increase awareness and access to services for those needing treatment. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Increase transportation options for community members to get to and from medical services. • Develop healthcare services navigation tools that outline affordable options • Decrease unmet care needs for community members 

Analyzing and Determining Priorities

in September 2024, Healthy Fond du Lac County voted to approve the above health priorities with plans to meet in October and November 2024 to develop strategies and plans for these health areas in the 2025-2027 Community Health Improvement Plan (CHIP).



Take Action Cycle, County Health Rankings & Roadmaps



SSMHealth.

2024

Appendices

SSM Health Ripon Community Hospital

845 Parkside Street, Ripon, WI 54971

Collective Language

Mental Health: Mental health includes our emotional, psychological, and social well-being. It affects how we think, feel, and act. It also helps determine how we handle stress, relate to others, and make healthy choices. Mental health is important at every stage of life, from childhood and adolescence through adulthood. - CDC

Substance Use: refers to the use of alcohol, commercial tobacco, and drugs or the misuse of medications. It involves using substances in a way that can lead to negative effects. These may include health problems, impaired functioning in daily life, relationship difficulties, or legal issues. Substance abuse often involves a pattern of behavior marked by continuous use despite the negative effects it has on a person's life.

Chronic Conditions: health conditions that last one year or more and require ongoing medical care and/or impact daily activities. Many chronic diseases can be caused by behaviors such as smoking, poor diet, lack of physical activity, and excessive alcohol use. Major chronic diseases include cancer, heart disease, stroke, and diabetes.

Injury and Safety/Violence and Crime: Includes trauma related to falls in older adults, traffic accidents, poisonings, firearm injuries and exposure to crime and violence which negatively impacts mental, emotional, physical and social-wellbeing.

Maternal, Child and Family Health focuses on the health of women, infants, and children before, during, and after pregnancy. A mother's health largely influences a child's long-term development and wellness. Prenatal care, breastfeeding, and preventing infants' and children's deaths are key to analyzing the health of families. Children who have strong parental, family, and caregiver support are better equipped in handling adversity.

Nutrition and Physical Activity: Eating nutritious foods along with regular physical activity can improve both physical and mental health. People can make better choices when healthy foods and places to exercise are easy to access. Healthy behaviors increase quality and length of life.

Education: the foundation for many opportunities in life. In general, those with more years of schooling live longer and healthier lives. A high-quality education can support people to get better jobs. This enables people to afford basic needs that can improve health and well-being. Higher education levels are also related to having positive social and behavioral factors that lead to good health. Access to quality education is not as easy to attain for some groups of people. This can be due to a lack of resources, translation services, or school funding.

Economic Stability: the ability to earn enough income to support basic health needs. Access to affordable healthy food, safe childcare and quality healthcare services support health. Income and employment rates can show how easy it is for people to afford basic needs that support a healthy life.

Health Care and Quality: The ability to access timely health services for the best health results possible. The key components of health care are:

- Health care coverage
- Convenience and timeliness of care
- Availability of the health care workforce

When a person can access quality, affordable routine care, health is positively influenced. Data around insurance, providers, quality of life, and health outcomes helps to show the quality and ease of reaching health care services.

Neighborhood and Built Environment: Where people spend their time can have significant impacts on health and well-being. The built environment includes all the man-made, physical attributes of a surrounding area. This includes the ability for people to walk where they need to go, recreate, and access healthy foods and health services. This includes housing affordability and availability, access to green space and broadband access.

Social and Community Context: Refers to the places where people spend their time and who they interact with. The connections people have can influence both mental and physical health. When there is limited contact or involvement with others, it can shorten one's lifespan. Having good relations at home, work, and in the community where someone lives can improve health. Looking at household make-up, social clubs, voting rates, and crime data can inform how the community interacts together.

Appendix A: Population Data Table-Fond du Lac County

Demographic Category	Demographic Factor	Fond du Lac County	FDL Co Percent	Wisconsin	WI Percent
Population	Total Population	104,514		5,871,711	
	Total Male Population	51,551	49.30%	3,023,954	51.50%
	Total Female Population	52,963	50.70%	2,847,757	48.40%
Age	Females, Child Bearing Age (15-50)	22,108	21.10%	1,301,817	22.20%
	0-9	11,181	10.70%	682,937	11.60%
	10-19	13,364	12.80%	767,715	13.00%
	20-29	12,573	12.00%	763,246	13.00%
	30-49	24,930	23.90%	1,442,680	25.00%
	50-64	22,174	21.20%	1,218,055	20.70%
	65+	19,805	19%	997,078	17.00%
Household Income	<\$14,999	-	8.40%	-	8.10%
	\$15,000 - \$34,999	-	14.70%	-	14.70%
	\$35,000 - \$49,999	-	12.00%	-	12.00%
	\$50,000 - \$74,999	-	18.40%	-	18.10%
	\$75,000 - \$99,999	-	14.80%	-	13.70%
	Over \$100,000	-	31.70%	-	33.70%
	Education Level (population age 25+)	Less than high school and some high school	-	6.20%	-
High school graduate (include equivalency)		-	39.00%	-	30.00%
Some college and associate's degree		-	33.30%	-	31.00%
Bachelor's degree or higher		-	21.50%	-	33.20%
Race & Ethnicity ²	Hispanic or Latino	6,717	6.40%	447,290	7.60%
	Not Hispanic or Latino	90,150	86.20%	4,634,018	79.00%
	American Indian and Alaskan Native (one race)	506	0.50%	60,428	1.00%
	Asian (one race)	1,256	1.20%	175,702	3.00%
	Black (one race)	2,416	2.30%	376,256	6.40%
	2+ Races	5,159	4.90%	359,534	6.10%
	Other Race (alone)	3,152	3.00%	182,054	3.10%
	White (one race)	91,639	87.70%	4,737,545	81.00%
Language (population age 5+)**	Speak only English	-	93.50%	-	90.80%
	Speak a language other than English	-	6.50%	-	9.20%
	Spanish	-	3.40%	-	4.60%
	Other Indo-European language	-	1.80%	-	0.80%
	Asian and Pacific Island languages	-	1.30%	-	1.00%
	Other languages	-	0.10%	-	0.30%
Poverty	Persons in poverty	-	9.60%	-	10.70%

CONSIDERATIONS FOR UNDERSERVED AND/OR VULNERABLE POPULATIONS

When assessing the health of the population in Fond du Lac County, we must consider the health of people who are high risk of not receiving adequate medical care due to being uninsured/underinsured, are experiencing health disparities, or facing barriers related to geography, language, financial circumstances, transportation, stigma, accessibility to technology or knowledge of technology, medication compliance due to cost or coverage, access to healthy foods and low-income housing.

Potentially medically underserved populations include the rural, poor and older adults who may be without adequate transportation; Black, Indigenous and other Persons Of Color (BIPOC) individuals who may be experiencing discrimination and racial or ethnic health disparities; non-English (primarily Spanish) speaking individuals who may also be undocumented; low-socio-economic status (SES) and homeless individuals; lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender and queer (LGBTQ) residents; and incarcerated individuals or people in the criminal justice system.

This community health assessment process included an equity plan to ensure that the needs of more vulnerable populations were considered.

Sources:

- 1) 2023 US Census Data (American Community Survey)
- 2) 2023 US Census Data (Decennial Census Redistricting Data)
- 3) 2023 US Census Data (Small Area Income and Poverty Estimates)

Appendix A: Population Data Table – Green Lake County

Demographic Factor	Green Lake County	Green Lake Percent	Wisconsin	WI Percent	
Total Population	19,018		5,871,711		
Total Male Population	9,640	50.3%	3,023,954	51.50%	
Total Female Population	9,378	49.7%	2,847,757	48.40%	
Females, Child Bearing (15-50)	Age	3,411	17.9%	1,301,817	22.20%
0-9		2,115	11.12%	682,937	11.60%
10-19		2,466	12.96%	767,715	13.00%
20-29		1,883	9.9%	763,246	13.00%
30-49		4,063	21.36%	1,442,680	25.00%
50-64		4,205	22.11%	1,218,055	20.70%
65+		4361	22.96%	997,078	17.00%
<\$14,999		-	3.2%	-	8.10%
\$15,000 - \$34,999		-	17.4%	-	14.70%
\$35,000 - \$49,999		-	11.3%	-	12.00%
\$50,000 - \$74,999		-	20.6%	-	18.10%
\$75,000 - \$99,999		-	14.3%	-	13.70%
Over \$100,000		-	29.6%	-	33.70%
Less than high school and some high school		-	8.9%	-	5.80%
High school graduate (include equivalency)		-	37.6%	-	30.00%
Some college and associate's degree		-	31%	-	31.00%
Bachelor's degree or higher		-	22.5%	-	33.20%
Hispanic or Latino		979	5.15%	447,290	7.60%
Not Hispanic or Latino		18,039	94.85%	4,634,018	79.00%
American Indian and Alaskan Native (one race)		68	0.4%	60,428	1.00%
Asian (one race)		103	0.5%	175,702	3.00%
Black (one race)		117	0.6%	376,256	6.40%
2+ Races		806	4.2%	359,534	6.10%
Other Race (alone)		407	2.1%	182,054	3.10%
White (one race)		17,505	92.04%	4,737,545	81.00%
Speak only English		-	92.6%	-	90.80%
Speak a language other than English		-	7.4%	-	9.20%
Spanish		-	2.7%	-	4.60%
Other Indo-European lanuge		-	4.6%	-	0.80%
Asian and Pacific Island languages		-	0.1%	-	1.00%
Other languages		-	0%	-	0.30%
Persons in poverty		-	12.8%	-	10.70%

Sources:

- 1) 2023 US Census Data (American Community Survey)
- 2) 2023 US Census Data (Decennial Census Redistricting Data)
- 3) 2023 US Census Data (Small Area Income and Poverty Estimates)

Appendix B: Community Health Survey Results

Fond du Lac County Community Health Survey Summary

This research provides valuable behavioral data, lifestyle habits, and the prevalence of risk factors and disease conditions of county residents. This summary was prepared by JKV Research for Aurora Health Care, Fond du Lac Area United Way, Fond du Lac County Health Department and SSM Health.

	Fond du Lac County				WI	US
	2014	2017	2020	2024	2022	2022
Overall Health						
Excellent/Very Good	54%	49%	48%	43%	52%	50%
Good	34%	33%	39%	37%	32%	33%
Fair or Poor	12%	18%	13%	20%	16%	17%
	Fond du Lac County				WI	US
	2014	2017	2020	2024	2022	2022
Did Not Receive Care Needed in Past Year						
Delayed/Did Not Seek Care Due to Cost	--	17%	23%	23%	8%	10%
Prescription Medication Not Taken Due to Cost [HP2030 Goal: 6%]	--	8%	11%	10%	NA	5% ¹
Unmet Need/Care in Household						
Medical Care [HP2030 Goal: 6%]	--	9%	12%	16%	NA	NA
Dental Care [HP2030 Goal: 19%]	--	19%	24%	23%	NA	19% ²
Mental Health Care	--	9%	7%	14%	NA	NA
Alcohol/Drug Abuse Treatment	--	--	--	6%	NA	NA
Unmet Care Overall	--	26%	27%	32%	NA	NA
	Fond du Lac County				WI	US
	2014	2017	2020	2024	2022	2022
Economic Hardships in Household						
Household Went Hungry Because They Couldn't Afford Enough Food (Past Year)	--	6%	6%	8%	NA	NA
Utility Company Threatened to Shut Off Services in Home (Past Year)	--	--	--	6%	NA	NA
Unable to Get Childcare When Really Needed (Past Year)	--	--	--	5%	NA	NA
Worried/Concerned about Stable Housing in Next Two Months	--	--	--	7%	NA	NA
At Least One Problem with Current Place	--	--	--	14%	NA	NA
	Fond du Lac County				WI	US
	2014	2017	2020	2024	2022	2022
Health Services						
Have a Primary Care Physician [HP2030 Goal: 84%]	--	86%	87%	89%	76%	84%
	Fond du Lac County				WI	US
	2014	2017	2020	2024	2022	2022
Vaccinations						
Household Not Up-to-Date with Vaccines	--	--	--	13%	NA	NA
	Fond du Lac County				WI	US
	2014	2017	2020	2024	2022	2022
Physical Activity in Usual Week						
Moderate Physical Activity (5 Times/30 Min)	41%	43%	43%	35%	NA	NA
Vigorous Physical Activity (3 Times/20 Min)	33%	32%	33%	25%	NA	NA
Recommended Moderate or Vigorous Physical Activity [HP2030 Goal: 53%]	55%	54%	52%	44%	NA	48%
Muscle Strengthening Activity (2 Days or More) [HP2030 Goal: 37%]	--	37%	34%	39%	36% ³	36% ³
	Fond du Lac County				WI	US
	2014	2017	2020	2024	2022	2022
Body Weight						
Overweight Status						
At Least Overweight (BMI 25.0+)	69%	73%	75%	76%	71%	68%
Obese (BMI 30.0+) [HP2030 Goal: 36%]	34%	37%	41%	38%	33%	34%

--Not asked. NA-WI and/or US data not available.

¹2021 data.

²2020 data.

³2019 data.

Appendix B: Community Health Survey Results

	Fond du Lac County				WI	US
	2014	2017	2020	2024	2022	2022
Nutrition						
Fruit Intake (2+ Servings/Average Day)	61%	51%	52%	52%	NA	NA
Vegetable Intake (3+ Servings/Average Day)	32%	25%	23%	21%	NA	NA
At Least 5 Fruit/Vegetables/Average Day	43%	32%	26%	25%	NA	NA
	Fond du Lac County				WI	US
	2014	2017	2020	2024	2022	2022
Cigarette Smoking						
Current Smoker [HP2030 Goal: 6%]	20%	20%	12%	13%	14%	14%
Of Current Smokers in Past Year...						
Quit Smoking 1 Day or More Because Trying to Quit [HP2030 Goal Quit Smoking: 66%]	62%	53%	40%	13%	NA	55%
	Fond du Lac County				WI	US
	2014	2017	2020	2024	2022	2022
Exposure to Cigarette Smoke in Past 7 Days						
Nonsmokers Exposed to Second-Hand Smoke [HP2030 Goal Nonsmokers: 17%]	18%	18%	9%	5%	NA	24% ¹
	Fond du Lac County				WI	US
	2014	2017	2020	2024	2022	2022
Electronic Vapers						
Current Vaper (Past Month)	7%	4%	5%	6%	7%	8%
Of Current Vapers in Past Year...						
Quit Vaping 1 Day or More Because Trying to Quit	--	25%	19%	16%	NA	NA
	Fond du Lac County				WI	US
	2014	2017	2020	2024	2022	2022
Exposure to Electronic Vapor in Past 7 Days						
Nonvapers Exposed to Second-Hand Vapor in Past 7 Days	--	8%	6%	9%	NA	NA
	Fond du Lac County				WI	US
	2014	2017	2020	2024	2022	2022
Other Tobacco Products in Past Month						
Smokeless Tobacco Use	9%	5%	5%	6%	3%	3%
Cigars, Cigarillos or Little Cigars Use	6%	5%	3%	6%	NA	NA
	Fond du Lac County				WI	US
	2014	2017	2020	2024	2022	2022
Alcohol Use in Past Month						
Drank Alcohol	67%	68%	74%	71%	61%	54%
Binge Drinker* [HP2030 Goal 5+ Drinks: 25%]	28%	26%	37%	27%	20%	17%
	Fond du Lac County				WI	US
	2014	2017	2020	2024	2022	2022
Other Substance Use in Past Year						
Marijuana or THC-Containing Products	--	--	--	8%	NA	NA
Cocaine, Meth or Other Street Drugs	--	--	--	0%	NA	NA
Heroin, Prescription Drugs or Opioids	--	--	--	2%	NA	NA
	Fond du Lac County				WI	US
	2014	2017	2020	2024	2022	2022
Vehicle Safety in Past Month						
Driver/Passenger When Driver Perhaps Had Too Much to Drink	4%	<1%	5%	6%	NA	NA
Driver/Passenger When Driver Used Marijuana or Other THC Containing Products	--	--	2%	4%	NA	NA
Driver/Passenger When Driver Texted/Emailed While Driving	--	--	--	25%	NA	NA

--Not asked. NA-WI and/or US data not available.

¹2017 – 2020 data.

*Binge drinking is defined as “4 or more drinks on an occasion” for females and “5 or more drinks on an occasion” for males.

Appendix B: Community Health Survey Results

	Fond du Lac County				WI	US
	2014	2017	2020	2024	2022	2022
Mental Health						
Mental Health Condition (Past 3 Years)	17%	20%	22%	20%	NA	NA
Self-Harm (Past Year)	--	--	2%	<1%	NA	NA
Felt Sad, Blue or Depressed Always/Nearly Always (Past Month)	3%	6%	7%	4%	NA	NA
Felt Lonely or Isolated Always/Nearly Always	--	--	--	7%	NA	NA
Considered Suicide (Past Year)	3%	5%	7%	4%	NA	NA
Attempted Suicide (Past Year)	--	--	3%	<1%	NA	NA
	Fond du Lac County				WI	US
	2014	2017	2020	2024	2022	2022
Opinions about Mental Health						
Strongly Agree					NA	NA
Mental Health Concern Can be as Serious as Physical Health Concern	--	--	--	67%		
Anyone Can Develop Mental Health Issue	--	--	--	62%	NA	NA
Effective Treatments for People with Mental Health Issues	--	--	--	23%	NA	NA
Strongly Disagree						
Easy to Tell if Someone has Mental Health Issue	--	--	--	24%	NA	NA
Successful People Rarely Struggle with Mental Health Issues	--	--	--	35%	NA	NA
Person Who is Happy/Have it All Cannot be Depressed	--	--	--	54%	NA	NA
	Fond du Lac County				WI	US
	2014	2017	2020	2024	2022	2022
Human Trafficking						
Personally Know Someone Who Experienced Human Trafficking	--	--	--	1%	NA	NA
	Fond du Lac County				WI	US
	2014	2017	2020	2024	2022	2022
Personal Safety Issues in Past Year						
Someone Physically Hurt You	--	--	3%	<1%	NA	NA
Someone Forced You to Perform Sexual Acts Against Your Will	--	--	0%	0%	NA	NA
Someone Verbally or Emotionally Abused You	--	--	7%	10%	NA	NA
At Least One of the Safety Issues	--	--	8%	11%	NA	NA
Used Health Care or Community Resources (Of Those Who Reported at Least One Safety Issue)	--	--	21%	2%	NA	NA
Harmed/Threatened to be Harmed Because of Race/Ethnicity/Gender Identity/Sexual Orientation	--	--	--	1%	NA	NA
	Fond du Lac County				WI	US
	2014	2017	2020	2024	2022	2022
Top County Social or Economic Issues						
Accessible, Affordable and Quality Health Care	--	--	--	34%	NA	NA
Community Violence and Crime	--	--	--	32%	NA	NA
Economic Stability, Including Employment and Income	--	--	--	23%	NA	NA
Affordable Childcare	--	--	--	19%	NA	NA
Safe and Affordable Housing	--	--	--	16%	NA	NA
Access to Healthy Food	--	--	--	7%	NA	NA
Environmental Health	--	--	--	7%	NA	NA
Access to Social Services	--	--	--	7%	NA	NA
Education Access and Quality	--	--	--	4%	NA	NA
Racism and Discrimination	--	--	--	4%	NA	NA
	Fond du Lac County				WI	US
	2014	2017	2020	2024	2022	2022
Top County Health Conditions or Behaviors						
Mental Health, Mental Conditions and Suicide	--	--	--	48%	NA	NA
Alcohol, Drug/Substance Use and Tobacco/Vaping	--	--	--	42%	NA	NA
Nutrition, Physical Activity and Obesity	--	--	--	29%	NA	NA
Chronic Diseases	--	--	--	24%	NA	NA
Maternal, Infant and Child Health	--	--	--	6%	NA	NA
Communicable Diseases	--	--	--	5%	NA	NA
Intimate Partner and Domestic Violence	--	--	--	5%	NA	NA

--Not asked. NA-WI and/or US data not available.

Appendix C: Public Input Survey Questions

About the Survey This survey is being conducted to better understand health concerns in Fond du Lac County and how to address them. This survey is part of a larger community health assessment for Fond du Lac County. Participation is voluntary and answers are anonymous, confidential, and will be combined with those of all other survey respondents to identify common themes and issues. A summary of survey results will be available as part of the Fond du Lac County Community Health Assessment report. This survey should take about 5 minutes to complete. Thank you for sharing your input.

1. Do you live, work, or go to school in Fond du Lac County?

Yes / No

TOP AREAS FOR IMPROVEMENT - Social and Economic

2. What are the two largest social or economic issues in our community that must be addressed?

Check your top 2.

- Access to social services, including welfare programs, housing assistance, etc.
- Access to healthy foods Accessible, affordable, and quality health care (including mental, dental, and physical)
- Accessible and affordable transportation
- Availability and affordability childcare
- Community violence and crime
- Economic stability including employment and income
- Education access and quality
- Environmental health (clean air, safe water, etc.)
- Racism and discrimination Safe and affordable housing
- Social connectedness and belonging
- Other, please specify: _____
- Other, please specify: _____

Based on the top 2 you selected, share why you feel these are top areas for improvement in Fond du Lac County. For example, share what you've experienced including barriers what you think should be done about it.

3. Area for Improvement #1: _____

Please explain:

4. Area for Improvement #2: _____

Please explain:

Appendix C: Public Input Survey Questions

TOP AREAS FOR IMPROVEMENT - Health Conditions and Behaviors

5. What are the two largest health conditions or behaviors that must be addressed in order to improve the health of county residents? Check your top 2.

- Alcohol, drugs/substances use and tobacco/vaping
- Chronic diseases including cancer, diabetes, heart disease
- Communicable diseases including COVID-19, flu, RSV
- Intimate partner and domestic violence
- Maternal, infant, and child health
- Mental health, mental conditions and suicide
- Nutrition, physical activity, and obesity
- Reproductive, sexual health, STIs
- Unintentional injury, including falls and motor vehicle accidents
- Other, please specify: _____
- Other, please specify: _____

Based on the top 2 you selected, share why you feel these are top areas for improvement in Fond du Lac County. For example, share what you've experienced including barriers what you think should be done about it.

6. Area for Improvement #1: _____

Please explain:

7. Area for Improvement #2: _____

Please explain:

STRENGTHS OF FOND DU LAC COUNTY

8. What are 3 things you enjoy about Fond du Lac County? For example, what makes this a nice place to live, learn, work or play?

- 1)
- 2)
- 3)

Appendix D: Key Informant Interview Questions

Key Informant Definition: A stakeholder in the community, representing their organization which serves the community

Purpose

Where you live is an important part of your health. The Fond du Lac County Health Department and SSM Health Ripon Community Hospital in partnership with Healthy Fond du Lac County Steering Committee want to hear from you about what is going well in your community and what needs improvement.

Your input will help us gather more in-depth information and valuable insight on pressing health issues in the Fond du lac County communities. Your responses will help us accomplish the 2024 Community Health Assessment and assist in identifying strategies to incorporate in the 2025-2027 Community Health Improvement Plan.

This interview should take about 20 minutes. Your participation is voluntary, and your responses will be confidential and anonymous. A final report with a summary of responses will be publicized but your name and title will be listed separately. You will have the opportunity to review notes for accuracy following the interview. Thank you for your participation!

Interviewee

Name:

Title: Organization:

Primary Population Served/representing: (*i.e. general public, medically underserved, low-income, Spanish-speaking*)

Demographics Sex: Male Female Gender Diverse/Non-binary Prefer not to respond

Race/Ethnicity: African American Asian Hispanic/Latino Native American/Alaska Native

Native Hawaiian/Other Pacific Islander White/Caucasian Other

Interviewer:

Name:

Title: Organization:

I give permission for my responses to these questions to be shared with the organization who interviewed me and the Healthy Fond du Lac County Steering Committee for the purpose of completing the 2024 Fond du Lac County Community Health Assessment. I understand that my responses will be combined in anonymity and in summary with other interviews and published in a summary report. Complete responses to the survey tool will be filed and secured at the Fond du Lac County Health Department.

Interviewee Signature

Title & Organization

Date

Appendix D: Key Informant Interview Questions

Section 1: About our Community

1. Discuss how you and your organization serve your community and any specific populations. Tell us how you feel you can contribute to identifying pressing health issues and solutions in your community.

2) The World Health Organization states the definition of health as “Health is a state of complete physical, mental and social well-being and not merely the absence of disease or infirmity.” What do you believe are the 3 most important characteristics of a healthy community?

- 1.
- 2.
- 3.

3. What are the two largest **social or economic issues** in our community that must be addressed? There will be follow up questions for the two areas you select. **Check your top 2.**

- Access to social services, including welfare programs, housing assistance, etc.
- Access to healthy foods
- Accessible, affordable, and quality health care (including mental, dental, and physical)
- Accessible and affordable transportation
- Availability and affordability childcare
- Community violence and crime
- Economic stability including employment and income
- Education access and quality
- Environmental health (clean air, safe water, etc.)
- Racism and discrimination
- Safe and affordable housing
- Social connectedness and belonging
- Other, please specify: _____
- Other, please specify: _____

What are the two largest **health conditions or behaviors** that must be addressed in order to improve the health of county residents? There will be follow up questions for the two areas you select. **Check your top 2.**

- Alcohol, drugs/substances use and tobacco/vaping
- Chronic diseases including cancer, diabetes, heart disease
- Communicable diseases including COVID-19, flu, RSV
- Intimate partner and domestic violence
- Maternal, infant, and child health
- Mental health, mental conditions and suicide
- Nutrition, physical activity, and obesity
- Reproductive, sexual health, STIs
- Unintentional injury, including falls and motor vehicle accidents
- Other, please specify: _____
- Other, please specify: _____

Why is this an issue? (**Root/local causes**) (i.e. access, availability, social norms, education, transportation, environment, safety, stigma, workforce/employment, poverty, etc.)

What are existing strategies to address this health issue? What is working well? (Strengths)

What are the barriers in addressing this health issue? (Challenges) What could be done differently?

Who are the key groups in the community that could work together to improve this health issue?

Is there a subgroup or population that this health issue affects more than others? (i.e. age, gender, race, ethnicity, low-income, elderly, disabled, neighborhoods, etc.) If so, how could we focus efforts toward this subgroup?

Appendix D: Key Informant Interview Results

This section summarizes the findings from 10 key informant interviews that were conducted as part of the 2024 Fond du Lac County Community Health Assessment (CHA). Interviews were completed in-person from late March to July 2024. Key informants consisted of community members from various areas of expertise and involvement within Fond du Lac County. Key informants were identified and interviewed to supplement other quantitative and qualitative data included in the 2024 CHA. The purpose of these interviews was to gather feedback from a variety of community members throughout the county to help further identify top health concerns in Fond du Lac County. These interviews were conducted by members of the Healthy Fond du Lac County Steering Committee.

All key informant interviewees were informed that their participation is voluntary, that their responses will have anonymity, and responses will be summarized with other interviews and published in a summary report.

Limitations: Ten key informant interviews were conducted in Fond du Lac County. The report relies on the opinions and experiences of a limited number of community experts identified as being well-connected to the community. However, responses may not be representative of the overall perception of community strengths, needs, and challenges. It is possible that the results could have been considerably different if a different set of informants had been interviewed. Results should be interpreted with caution and in conjunction with other Fond du Lac County data (e.g. community health surveys and secondary data).

Key Informants

Key Informants from a variety of organizations participated, gathering an array of perspectives from community experts who serve low-income, minority, and underserved populations and the general public:

Jaclyn Jaeckels, Fond du Lac County ADRC
Connie Gens and Jessica Kimball, The ARC of Fond du Lac, Inc
Tony Beregszazi, ADVOCAP
Erin Cobb, Holy Family
Deann Thurmer, Waupun Memorial Hospital and Ripon Community Hospital
Chelsea Monroe, Fond du Lac County Human Services Department
Amy Loof, St Katherine Drexel Homeless Shelter
Sadie Howell, Envision Greater Fond du Lac
Amy Bayer, Behavioral Health Walk-in Clinic, SSM Health Ripon Community Hospital
David Tellefsen, Fond du Lac County Veterans Services

Appendix D: Key Informant Interview Results

Word cloud generate by what key informants mentioned the following as important characteristics of healthy community:



Focus Area Rankings

The chart below displays the overall rankings of the 12 health focus areas completed by the 10 key informants. Health focus areas are listed in descending order from most-pressing to least-pressing based the number of times it was ranked in informants' top three.

Top Five Health Issues

The health focus areas ranked most consistently as top three health issues for Fond du Lac County were:

1. Mental Health
2. Safe and Affordable Housing
3. Available and Affordable Childcare
4. Transportation
5. Alcohol and Drug Abuse

Appendix D: Key Informant Interview Results

Health Focus Areas Summaries

This section include a summary of response by the health focus areas. The summaries are based on 10 key informant interviews and are not necessarily a complete list of Fond du Lac County assets and barriers.

MENTAL HEALTH

EXISTING STRATEGIES (STRENGTHS AND ASSETS):

- Youth & adult screening programs in schools and healthcare settings
- School-based programs (e.g. Fondy CARES)
- YMCA, Boys & Girls Club programs
- National Alliance on Mental Illness (NAMI) Fond du Lac County center and programming
- Comprehensive Service Integration (CSI) of Fond du Lac County's committees and initiatives
- Destination Zero, Pathways to Care
- Fond du Lac Area Mental Health Providers (e.g. SHARDS, Inc, Doll & Associates, Treffert Center)
- Expanding the conversation and reducing stigma

BARRIERS AND CHALLENGES:

- Lack of providers
- Accountability taking medication
- Coping skills
- Access/transportation to treatment
- Social isolation
- Lack of youth therapy
- Stigma of embarrassment
- Not understanding services
- Long waits

KEY PARTNERS TO WORK TOGETHER:

- Department of Community Programs (DCP)
- First responders (e.g. EMS, law enforcement)
- School districts
- Senior center
- NAMI
- Coalitions
- Churches, faith based community
- Lakeland Care
- Fond du Lac County Health Department

Additional Comments:

Informants noted that anyone can suffer from mental illness, though groups including individuals with limited income, individuals facing alcohol or drug addiction, and individuals experiencing homelessness may be at a higher risk. People who are uninsured, unemployed, or low income have more difficulty accessing and affording treatment. Children, the elderly population, individuals who identify as LGBTQ+, and minority populations may struggle to find appropriate or culturally competent providers and services. Other specific populations who may experience disparities in mental health outcomes are rural farmers, postpartum individuals, and non-English speakers. To increase opportunities to these groups, key informants mentioned increasing youth mental health services, engaging the faith community, and expanding the mental health coalition that can increase outreach to these populations and gain community input. Key informants noted the importance of engaging those experiencing mental illness to ensure that strategies to address disparities take lived experiences into account.

Appendix D: Key Informant Interview Results

SAFE AND AFFORDABLE HOUSING

<p>EXISTING STRATEGIES (STRENGTHS AND ASSETS):</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Task force • Administrators priorities • St. Katharine Drexel Shelter • Brooke St. Lofts – 90 day programs • Workforce housing • Tenant-based rental assistance • Zoning and funding efforts 	<p>BARRIERS AND CHALLENGES:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Current market • Lack of available houses • Impacts on economic profile • Cost • Waitlist • Lack of community support • Stigma against homeless • Not enough city attention 	<p>KEY PARTNERS TO WORK TOGETHER:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • St. Katharine Drexel Shelter • DNR • City of FDL survey • Public housing authority • Blandine House • Mahala’s Hope • Community stakeholders • Private sector developers
--	---	--

Additional Comments:

Additional Comments: Key informants mentioned that minorities, people of color, and members of the LGBTQ+ community are more affected by the social, economic, and educational factors than others. Additionally, those who are elderly, have disabilities, are veterans, undocumented immigrants, incarcerated, have received less education, single parent families, or individuals defined as ALICE (Asset Limited, Income Constrained, Employed), are more often impacted by social determinants. People who may fall into these categories can face racism, lack of representation, limited access to childcare, transportation barriers, healthcare challenges, and affordable housing issues.

AVAILABLE AND AFFORDABLE CHILDCARE

<p>EXISTING STRATEGIES (STRENGTHS AND ASSETS):</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • ADVOCAP–Program Winnebago • Shelter Childcare • Public discourse • Family connections • WICA • YMCA drop in daycare 	<p>BARRIERS AND CHALLENGES:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Staffing • Pay • 3rd shift workers needing childcare • Lack of providers • Stigma of bringing children to work • Sustainability • Lack of businesses offering drop in daycare • Finding childcare during appointments 	<p>KEY PARTNERS TO WORK TOGETHER:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Private employers • Hospitals and clinics • ADVOCAP • Headstat • Churches • Childcare agencies • Non-profits • Government • Schools • YMCA
--	---	--

Additional Comments:

Key informants mentioned that because of the lack of staffing for childcare facilities, it is hard to get into a facility, or find hours that work for you, leaving more women unable to enter the workforce. More than one also noted the need of childcare hours outside of normal workplace hours

Appendix D: Key Informant Interview Results

TRANSPORTATION

EXISTING STRATEGIES (STRENGTHS AND ASSETS):

- Taxi start-up
- EMS Waupun program
- Ride share
- ARC transport
- Medical Transit
- Driver stability
- Amount of options

BARRIERS AND CHALLENGES:

- Limited public transit in rural areas
- Finding information on transit options
 - outdated information on websites
 - hard to understand programs
- Tough to find transportation for mental health emergencies

KEY PARTNERS TO WORK TOGETHER:

- City admins
- ARC
- Stakeholders
- Hospitals
- FDL city transit
- Ride share programs
- County transportation

Additional Comments:

Key informants mentioned the need for rural transit services as well as the lack of bus hours on the weekends. FDL Transit runs from Monday through Friday and does not offer weekend services.

ALCOHOL AND DRUG USE

EXISTING STRATEGIES (STRENGTHS AND ASSETS):

- Organizations
 - Mahala's Hope
 - Bladine House
 - Beacon House
 - Gratitude Club
- Police Department
- Non-alcoholic options and public events
- School outreach
- DFC Coalition involved with community events

BARRIERS AND CHALLENGES:

- Drinking culture in Wisconsin
- Resources are unaffordable
- Advertising
- Lenient laws
 - OWI laws
 - Drug court system
- Legalization of marijuana in neighboring states
- Availability of treatment

KEY PARTNERS TO WORK TOGETHER:

- Agencies
- DFC Coalition
- Drug court
- Schools
- DHS
- SSM
- NAMI and other mental health organizations

MATERNAL INFANT AND CHILD HEALTH

EXISTING STRATEGIES (STRENGTHS AND ASSETS):

- Staff partnerships
- Nutrition programs
- Immunization programs

BARRIERS AND CHALLENGES:

- Limited resources
- No early head start program

KEY PARTNERS TO WORK TOGETHER:

- Employers
- WIC
- SSM

Additional Comments:

Key informants mentioned that socioeconomic factors, such as poverty and lack of insurance, are frequently cited as barriers to receiving necessary care. Additionally, some may express concerns about the availability of mental health support for new mothers and the need for better workplace policies to support maternal health and parental leave.

Appendix D: Key Informant Interview Results

SOCIAL SERVICES

EXISTING STRATEGIES (STRENGTHS AND ASSETS):

- Support of resources
- Assistance guiding people to the right resources

BARRIERS AND CHALLENGES:

- People getting access to programs--specifically online
- Lack of prevention
- Only one homeless shelter

KEY PARTNERS TO WORK TOGETHER:

- SSM
- United Way
- Case Workers
- Elderly Caretakers

Additional Comments:

Key Informants mention there are frequent mentions of insufficient funding and resources, leading to understaffed agencies and limited availability of essential services like housing assistance, food programs, and mental health support. Individuals often express concerns about the stigma associated with seeking help, which can deter people from utilizing available resources.

DOMESTIC VIOLENCE

EXISTING STRATEGIES (STRENGTHS AND ASSETS):

- Prevention education
- DART
- Perpetrators being addressed
- SSM DV services

BARRIERS AND CHALLENGES:

- Financial reliance
- Funding
- Awareness
- Stigma for accusers
- Lack of community engagement

KEY PARTNERS TO WORK TOGETHER:

- No comments received

Additional Comments:

Informants mentioned there is a call for greater public awareness and education about domestic violence to reduce stigma and encourage more victims to come forward.

UNINTENTIONAL INJURY

EXISTING STRATEGIES (STRENGTHS AND ASSETS):

- Fall coalition
- Lakeland Care
- Referrals from fire department
- EMS
- Cross-reporting

BARRIERS AND CHALLENGES:

- Prevention
- Lack of trained leaders
- Accessible resources
- Physical attributes
 - grip strength
 - unhealthy individuals
 - mental blocks
 - changing older individuals habits is hard

KEY PARTNERS TO WORK TOGETHER:

- Falls coalition
- ADRC
- SMS
- EMS
- YMCA
- MCO

Additional Comments:

Informants noted the need for two trained leaders , as well as the need for preventative care through monitoring health earlier.

Appendix D: Key Informant Interview Results

AFFORDABLE AND QUALITY HEALTH CARE

EXISTING STRATEGIES (STRENGTHS AND ASSETS):

- No comments received

BARRIERS AND CHALLENGES:

- Education to providers
- Not enough education in schools

KEY PARTNERS TO WORK TOGETHER:

- ADRC
- Senior resources
- ASTOP

ECONOMIC STABILITY

EXISTING STRATEGIES (STRENGTHS AND ASSETS):

- Medication coverage
- Local Resources

BARRIERS AND CHALLENGES:

- Wait lines
- Wages
- Poor management of money

KEY PARTNERS TO WORK TOGETHER:

- No comments received

Additional Comments:

Informants mentioned the long wait lines, specifically at the food pantry, as a reason why some people may not receive the proper help that they need.

NUTRITION AND OBESITY

EXISTING STRATEGIES (STRENGTHS AND ASSETS):

- YMCA access
- Inclusive classes
- SSM Cooking classes

BARRIERS AND CHALLENGES:

- Stigma
- Lack of education
- Transportation

KEY PARTNERS TO WORK TOGETHER:

- Farmers market
- Meals on wheels

Appendix E:

Community Conversation Notetaking Guide

Overview

Over the course of the summer, 12 community conversations were held with small groups of two to 15 participants. The goal of these conversations was to hear from various areas and populations within the county whose voices may otherwise not be heard. Conversations were held in both rural and urban parts of the county and with underserved populations.

Below are the four questions we would like to ask:

1. In your opinion, what makes a community healthy?
2. Now think about your community. What do you think prevents your community from being healthier?
3. What strengths does your community have that could make it a healthier place?
4. What do you see as the top three health challenges for people in your community and why?

Prompting/follow up questions to keep conversation flowing or generate additional ideas

Question 1: Healthy Community

- Optional prompt: Imagine you are designing a healthy community. What would it look like? What would make it a healthy place to live?
- When conversation is coming to a close on this topic, *if* social determinants have not yet been addressed by the group participants: What about issues like housing, good-paying jobs, and social connection—how big of a role do these issues play in making a community healthy?

Question 2: Barriers Preventing Healthy Community

- What are the barriers to good health in your community?
- What prevents people in your community from being healthy, making healthy decisions, and accessing healthcare?
- What do you think are some of the changes related to health and health care that could be made in your community?
- Where do you get information about healthcare services and resources? (medical, mental health, dental, economic support, health education programs, etc.) Is there a better way to get information?
- Required prompt, when conversation is coming to a close on this topic, *if* equity has not yet been addressed by the group participants: In your community, do you think all people have an equal opportunity for good health? Why or why not?

Question 3: Strengths of Community

- What is working well in your community? How does that contribute to the health of the community? What keeps people in your community healthy? (enough services, grocery stores, dentists, physical activity locations, etc.)? Where do you go for these? How easy is it to access these?

Question 4: Top Health Challenges

- What are the biggest health problems? (alcohol, drugs, mental health, obesity, heart disease, dental, racism, etc.)

Wrap-Up (Approximately 10 minutes) Question 5 can be used as a wrap-up question, as the session is coming to an end.

5. What do you like most about living in your community?

Appendix E: Community Conversation Results

Themes by community conversation host location

LOWER SOCIOECONOMIC STATUS - FOND DU LAC, WI

Barriers:

- Affordable housing
- Drug use
- Transportation
 - Limited availability for buses
- Access to health care
 - Limited amount of providers
- Lack of childcare
- Increase in violence and crime
- Limited job opportunities

Strengths:

- Food pantries
- Involved community
 - People are willing to help
 - People are accepting of others
- Berry Drop In Center

Top Three Health Challenges

1. Available & affordable dental care
2. Health care access
3. Available & affordable housing

PERSONS WITH A MENTAL HEALTH CONDITION - FOND DU LAC, WI

Barriers:

- Substance use
 - Accessibility of drugs and alcohol
 - Lack of knowledge about resources and organizations
 - Stigma
- Cultural and Racial differences
 - Lack of knowledge on different cultures
- Language barriers
- Social support

Strengths:

- Friendly community
- Availability of resources to support community
- Focus on mental health
 - Mental health days
 - Support in education system

Top Three Health Challenges

1. Affordability
 - a. Healthy foods, housing, health care
2. Drugs & Alcohol use
3. Mental Health
 - a. Lack of resource awareness

PERSONS WITH A MENTAL HEALTH CONDITION - FOND DU LAC, WI

Barriers:

- Transportation
 - Limited access to bus passes
 - Pedestrian safety in the winter time for sidewalk snow removal
- Access to Health Care
 - Long waitlist
 - Limited number of health care providers

Strengths:

- Community Events
 - Concerts, Walleye Weekend, County Fair
- Job opportunities
- Food assistance
 - Fondy Food Pantry, Broken Bread
- Support services
 - ADVOCAP
- Library Services
 - Programs available

Top Three Health Challenges

1. Drug use
2. Mental Health Resource Navigation
 - a. Long waitlist
 - b. Hard to find a new provider
3. Health care access

YOUTH - FOND DU LAC, WI

Barriers:

- Increase in violence and crime
- Cleanliness
 - Individuals not disposing their trash
- Social attitudes
- Alcohol use

Strengths:

- Community events
 - County Fair, Farmers market
- Involved community members
- Lakeside park

Top Three Health Challenges

1. Drugs & Alcohol
 - a. Peer pressure, smoking, vaping
2. Mental Health
 - a. Stigma
3. N/A

LATINX COMMUNITY - FOND DU LAC, WI

Barriers:

- Difficulty navigating resources
- Language Barriers
- Health care access
- Non-inclusive environment

Strengths:

- YMCA
 - Resources for families

Top Three Health Challenges

1. Inclusive Community
2. Language Barriers
3. N/A

PERSONS WITH DISABILITIES - FOND DU LAC, WI

Barriers:

- Cost of healthy foods
- Medicare/Medicaid issues
- Transportation
- Health care access
- Mental health

Strengths:

- Friendly community
- Parks
- Gyms/YMCA
- The ARC

Top Three Health Challenges

1. Mental health
2. Transportation
3. Affordable healthy foods

Appendix E: Community Conversation Results

Themes by community conversation host location

PERSONS WHO IDENTIFY AS LGBTQ+ - FOND DU LAC, WI

Barriers:

- Non-inclusive environment
 - Not everyone feels welcomed
- Cleanliness
 - Trash on the streets & at the parks
- Affordability
 - Stores are increasing prices
 - Goodwill
- Politics

Strengths:

- Progressive Police Department
- Parks
- Lighthouse
- Historic Buildings

Top Three Health Challenges

1. Inclusive community
 - a. Pressured into beliefs
2. Violence/crime
3. Affordability
 - a. Thrift stores, health care

RIPON COMMUNITY - RIPON, WI

Barriers:

- Accessible walking paths year-round
 - Specifically in the winter
- Cost of living
 - Housing, childcare, health care
- Access to services
 - Limited access to exercise facilities
 - Limited daycare facilities
 - Transportation to medical appointments
- Local hospital not having maternity services
- Mental Health in schools

Strengths:

- Community facilities
 - Senior center, parks, public library, hospital,
- Education and employment
 - Strong K-12 System, Ripon College
 - Job opportunities
- Community engagement and Relations

Top Three Health Challenges

1. Drugs & Alcohol
2. Mental Health
 - a. Stigma
 - b. Multi-generational
3. Affordability
 - a. Housing, food, medical expenses

AGING POPULATION - FOND DU LAC, WI

Barriers:

- Access to health care
 - Long waitlist
 - Finding new providers
 - Lack of communication between different healthcare systems
- Community relationships
- Lack of communication for resources and services
- Economic challenges for elderly

Strengths:

- Senior Center
 - Programs and activities available
- Friendly community
- Active churches
 - Provide social support
- Minimum traffic

Top Three Health Challenges

1. Affordable healthy foods
2. Affordable educational services and activities
3. Affordable of home care services
 - a. Cleaning, yard, house maintenance

AGING POPULATION - RIPON, WI

Barriers:

- Access to health care and mental health services
 - Lack of providers
 - Long waitlist
 - Lack of support groups
- Cost of living
 - Food, medication, housing
- Lack of communication for resources and health information
- Transportation
 - Insufficient transportation options

Strengths:

- Police Department
- Parks and outdoor recreational areas
- Senior Center
- Active churches
- K-12 Education system & Ripon college

Top Three Health Challenges

1. Health care access
 - a. Long waitlist
 - b. Lack of providers available
2. Drug use
3. Affordability
 - a. Housing, food, medication

AGING POPULATION - WAUPUN, WI

Barriers:

- Affordable housing
- Transportation
 - Lack of cab services
- Limited sit down restaurants
- Access to health care
 - Lack of providers available
 - Long waitlist

Strengths:

- Clean water
- Senior Center
 - Programs and activities available
- Nature trails & paths

Top Three Health Challenges

1. Violence/Crime
2. Health care access
 - a. Lack of providers available
 - b. Long waitlist
 - c. Lack of communication between previous appointments
3. Available & Affordable housing

HOUSING INSECURE - FOND DU LAC, WI

Barriers:

- Available & affordable housing
- Health & Wellness
 - Lack of workout facilities for aging population
 - Lack of activities for kids
- Access to resources
 - Lack of communication about programs
 - Long waitlist
- Stigma around homelessness
- Transportation
 - Limited availability for buses
 - Limits access to health care services

Strengths:

- Community environment & Engagement
 - Parks, quiet atmosphere
 - Police & Fire department
- Programs and Resources
 - The Getting Ahead Program, Farmers Market, Food Pantry

Top Three Health Challenges

1. Dental Care
2. Treatment for Drugs & Alcohol use
3. Available and affordable housing

References

Data Source	Description
American Community Survey (US Census Bureau)	The American Community Survey (ACS) helps local officials, community leaders, and businesses understand the changes taking place in their communities. It is the premier source for detailed population and housing information about our nation.
County Health Rankings and Roadmaps	The annual Rankings provide a revealing snapshot of how health is influenced by where we live, learn, work and play. It provides a starting point for change in communities.
Area Deprivation Index (Neighborhood Atlas)	The Area Deprivation Index (ADI) is based on a measure for primarily county-level use, but refined, adapted, and validated to the Census block group/neighborhood level. It allows for rankings of neighborhoods by socioeconomic status disadvantage in a region of interest. https://www.neighborhoodatlas.medicine.wisc.edu
Youth Risk Behavior Surveillance System (YRBSS)	The Youth Risk Behavior Surveillance System (YRBSS) monitors six categories of health-related behaviors that contribute to the leading causes of death. YRBSS also measures the prevalence of obesity and asthma and other health-related behaviors such as vaping and alcohol use. https://dpi.wi.gov/sspw/yrbs
Center for Applied Research and Engagement Systems (Community Commons)	Community Commons is a site that holds curated tools, resources, and inspirational stories to drive public health work forward. Data tools, maps, and tables on this site are created to build healthy, equitable, and sustainable communities.
Wisconsin Dept of Health Services – Data and Statistics	Health-related data from over 100 federal and state data tracking and database systems.
211 Wisconsin	2-1-1- Counts offers data about the top requests- the most important basic needs of callers such as food, shelter, and clothing. The WI Social Determinants of Health Dashboard allows users to access 2-1-1 Counts by category for each county. https://211wisconsin.communityos.org/social-determinants-dashboard
United for ALICE	ALICE, an acronym for Asset Limited, Income Constrained, Employed, is a new way of defining and understanding the struggles of households that earn above the Federal Poverty Level, but not enough to afford a bare-bones household budget.
SSM Health Social Determinants of Health Epic Dashboard	SSM Health began screening for the social determinants of health for admitted patients in January 2023. Through the electronic health record system, SSM Health can monitor percent of patients screened, percent of patients at risk and percent of patients receiving resources for those social determinants.
Healthy People 2030	Healthy People provides 10-year, measurable public health objectives — and tools to help track progress toward achieving them. https://odphp.health.gov/healthypeople