

Good Samaritan Regional Medical Center

### **Introduction**

#### **Samaritan Health Services, Inc.**

Samaritan Health Services, Inc (SHS) is a non-profit network of hospitals, clinics and other healthcare facilities that support the healthcare needs of the more than 265,000 residents in the mid-Willamette Valley and on the central Oregon Coast. We work together to provide innovative and world-class healthcare in a way that supports the evolving needs, and the values of the communities we serve.

#### **Samaritan Health Services, Inc. includes:**

Five hospitals that includes 3 critical access hospitals in rural communities.

Nearly 90 specialty clinics

Over 7,000 employees

#### **Good Samaritan Regional Medical Center**

Good Samaritan Regional Medical Center (GSRMC) is a non-profit hospital that is part of the SHS healthcare network. GSRMC, the largest of the five hospitals within SHS, is a 188-bed Level II trauma center. GSRMC provides cancer care, cardiac surgery, cardiology services, vascular surgery, and orthopedics services among others. More than 2,000 employees and 200 volunteers support its operations and the SHS mission of “building healthier communities together.” In alignment with SHS’ values of Passion, Respect, Integrity, Dedication and Excellence, GSRMC supports the social and physical environments that promote good health for everyone.

#### **Service Area**

The GSRMC service area covers all of Benton County. This includes the city of Corvallis, classified as a metropolitan service area, and home of Oregon State University. Additionally, GSRMC serves the cities of Philomath, Monroe, Adair Village and Alsea along with the rural and frontier communities of Wren, Blodgett, Summit, Bellfountain, and Kings Valley. GSRMC also serves portions of Polk County (Monmouth and Independence).

#### **1. The year of publication for the current community health needs assessment.**

The 2020-2023 GSRMC Community Health Needs Assessment was approved by the GSRMC board of directors and the SHS board of directors in December 2019.

#### **GSRMC Community Health Needs Assessment**

The 2019 GSRMC community health needs assessment was conducted in conjunction with the Benton County Health Department, the Benton County Federally Qualified Health Center, the Corvallis School District, Linn Benton Community College, United Way of Benton, Linn, and Lincoln Counties, the Benton County Early Childhood Team, the Regional Health Assessment Team, and other community partners. The process includes examining primary data collected through surveys, focus groups, community forums, listening sessions and personal interviews with community members who reside throughout Benton County. These included low-income persons, people of color, pregnant women, non-English speaking persons, and unhoused and

substance use disorder populations. Over 500 people participated in the surveys. Nearly 60 people participated in 10 focus groups and 21 personal interviews were conducted throughout the region. Secondary data was gathered from federal, state, and local agencies that address the health needs of children and families. The information was reviewed by SHS staff members, partners, and community members to prioritize the health care needs for Benton County residents. Each year the GSRMC board of directors and various internal and external committees review the priorities to ensure we are continuing to address the needs of the community.

The overall population of Benton County based on race and ethnicity is listed in the chart below.

<b>Race/Ethnicity</b>	<b>Population</b>
White/Caucasian	79.2%
Black/African American	1.4%
American Indian/Alaska Native	1.1%
Asian	6.6%
Native Hawaiian/Pacific Islander	0.3%
Latino/Hispanic	8.6%
Reporting two or more races	4.2%

Source: U.S. Census Bureau, 2022 Census Quick Facts, Public Law 94-171 Summary File

Benton County is designated as a metropolitan service area and experiences many healthcare related challenges in the rural portions of the county. Transportation and distances required to travel to receive healthcare services are two of the environmental factors that impact the community. Language barriers for some community members impacts health as Benton County has seen an increase in Mam speaking populations as well as Spanish speakers.

**2. The top health needs identified in the hospital’s most recent community health needs assessment. Include information on geographies, populations or demographic groups affected.**

The top health needs assessment identified in the 2020-2023 GSRMC Community Health Needs Assessments are:

- Housing/Homelessness
- Child Abuse/Neglect
- Poverty
- Food Insecurity
- Mental Health/Behavioral Health
- Substance Use Disorders

The targeted populations with the top health needs identified through the CHNA are as follows:

GSRMC community benefit activities address both social determinants of health and health related needs. Our initiatives to address housing / homelessness focus on the social determinants of health while our initiatives to prevent and reduce child abuse/neglect, substance use disorders, mental health/behavioral health challenges, poverty, and food insecurity address the health-related needs in the community.

**Housing/Homelessness** - Severe housing problems include overcrowding, high housing costs, a lack of kitchen facilities, and/or the lack of plumbing facilities. Renters in Benton County spent the largest proportion of their household income on rent, with 54.1% of households spending more than 30% and 32.7% of households spending more than 50% of their total income on rent. Homelessness in Benton County and particularly in Corvallis and Philomath continues to be a primary concern in the community, especially during the winter. The latest information for the homeless population data from the Oregon Housing and Community Services indicates that Benton County residents experienced a 14% homeless rate.

**Child Abuse/Neglect** - Child abuse/neglect are violations against children that results in imminent risk or serious harm to a child's health and welfare. The offense is committed by a parent, caregiver or a person who is responsible for the child's safety and protection. According to the American Community Survey, in 2020, Benton County had a rate of 9% founded child abuse/neglect cases.

**Poverty** - Poverty can be directly linked to poor health outcomes. Poverty is related to and derived from having limited income, a lack of economic stability, limited choices in education and employment, and poor living conditions. The 2022 U.S. Census Quick Facts lists Benton County as having a poverty level of 17.3%.

**Food Insecurity** - Food security is defined as not having enough to eat and not being able to purchase or obtain healthy food in socially acceptable ways. Adequate nutrition is particularly important for children, as it affects their cognitive and behavioral development. Children from food insecure, low-income households are more likely to experience irritability, fatigue, and difficulty concentrating on tasks, especially in school, compared to other children. The most recent data shows that Benton County has a 15% food insecurity rate.

#### **Mental Health/Behavioral Health**

The complexity of the regional health care system can be daunting, especially for lower-income people, people with mental health issues, migrant workers, and people with specific linguistic or cultural needs and expectations. People with limited English skills face additional barriers in receiving one-on-one care and in navigating the healthcare system, as do people with disabilities. The latest CHNA identifies 4.2% of Benton County residents suffer from mental health/behavioral health challenges.

#### **Substance Use Disorders**

Oregon has one of the nation's highest rates of misuse and abuse of prescription and illicit drugs. Drug overdoses are a leading cause of injury and death. On average, five Oregonians die each week from opioid overdose, often in combination with other drugs. During 2021, GSRMC reported nearly 140 overdoses.

**3. The significant community benefit activities the hospital engaged in that addressed the health needs identified above.**

During 2022, GSRMC invested \$175,000 through grant awards to local agencies in Benton County that directly addressed housing/homelessness, child abuse, poverty, food insecurity, mental health/behavioral health challenges, and substance use disorders.

**Housing/Homelessness** – GSRMC provided \$15,000 to Benton County government, \$10,000 to Benton Habitat for Humanity, and \$5,500 to DevNW to provide temporary housing services to unhoused populations in Benton County. Over 85 people received housing vouchers, rental assistance, and support services during 2022. GSRMC also funded the Center Against Rape and Domestic Violence (\$5,000) and Vina Moses (\$10,000) to provide support to homeless individuals and families in Benton County. Approximately 700 people received emergency shelter, utility assistance, and transportation support.

**Child Abuse/Neglect** –GSRMC funded the ABC House (\$10,000) in 2022 to support a medical director to conduct child abuse assessments and forensic exams for 155 children in Benton County.

**Poverty** – GSRMC provided \$5,000 to Oregon Cascades West Council of Governments Senior Corps Poverty Prevention Project and \$5,000 to the Boys & Girls Club of Corvallis to address poverty. The OCWOG Senior Corps project provided support to low-income seniors in Benton County to help them remain in their homes. The project also provided transportation to appointments, counseling, support services, volunteer training, and mileage reimbursement to community volunteers. Nearly 30 seniors were served through the project. The BGCC provided support services to eliminate barriers for children living in poverty. Over 360 children were served by the BGCC project.

**Food Insecurity** – GSRMC provided \$27,500 to agencies addressing food insecurity in Benton County. Agencies funded included the Corvallis Environmental Center, Oregon Cascades West Council of Government Meals on Wheels, the Philomath School District, and Stone Soup Corvallis, Inc. Over 10,000 children and adults benefited from these programs in Benton County.

**Mental Health/Behavioral Health** – GSRMC provided \$47,500 to agencies addressing Mental Health/Behavioral Health challenges in the community. The Corvallis Daytime Drop-In Center, the Grace Center for Adult Services, Jackson Street Youth Services, the Old Mill Center for Children and Families, and the Pathfinder Clubhouse provided counseling, street outreach, crisis intervention, therapeutic classroom services, and life skills training for over 1,900 children and adults in Benton County.

**Substance Use Disorders** – GSRMC provided \$9,500 in funding to Faith, Hope and Charity. FHC offered peer support services, counseling, education information, access to community resources to children struggling with substance use disorders as well as children transitioning out of the justice system. FHC provided services to 100 children and their families.