



COMMUNITY HEALTH ACTION PLAN

2024 - 2026

2025 PROGRESS REPORT

B Bozeman Health
Deaconess Regional
Medical Center

B Bozeman Health
Big Sky Medical Center

EVERY THREE YEARS,

in accordance with the requirements established by the Affordable Care Act and in alignment with our identity as a community hospital, both Bozeman Health Deaconess Regional Medical Center and Big Sky Medical Center conduct a Community Health Needs Assessment (CHNA). The CHNA identifies the greatest areas of opportunity to support improving the health of our communities. Those opportunities then drive development of a three-year Community Health Action Plan (CHAP). The CHAP outlines how Bozeman Health intends to address the identified health priorities to support our commitment to our mission to improve community health and quality of life.

The CHAP health priorities identified for 2024-2026 are: **behavioral health, access to healthcare, chronic disease prevention, and socio-economic and health measures.**

BEHAVIORAL HEALTH

STRATEGY 1:

Expand access to ambulatory behavioral health services within all Bozeman Health primary care sites.

- Maintained expansion of integrated Behavioral Health (IBH) services within our primary care sites from 2024.
- Went live with Women's Clinic Collaborative Care IBH program, which includes a Care Manager and nurse navigators. We also have a psychiatric nurse practitioner available to support the women's clinic with perinatal/postpartum behavioral health care.
- Increased access to outpatient psychiatric services by relocating and expanding the clinic, increased provider access with a new physician and a full-time Psychiatric Nurse Practitioner, and initiated recruiting for outpatient therapy positions.

STRATEGY 2:

Enhance access to acute behavioral health services.

- Opened 14-bed inpatient psychiatric unit at Deaconess Regional Medical Center in Bozeman on September 16, 2025, and coordinated a contract with Gallatin County to offer emergency detention (civil commitment) services within our organization. Served 120 patients in IPU in the 14 weeks at the end of 2025 that the IPU was open.
- Offered walk-in psychiatric care January through August 2025. In August, the walk-in clinic was converted to same-day acute appointments within the outpatient clinic.

STRATEGY 3:

Explore outpatient alcohol and substance use disorder services with both Gallatin County and community authorities and resources.

- Explored options to connect patients with psychiatric care options, inpatient psychiatric placement, youth inpatient psychiatric placement, and alcohol and substance use services

GOAL:

Increase access to behavioral health services across the care continuum.

BEHAVIORAL HEALTH continued

and strengthened connections with several local, state, and regional referral services for patients.

- Spent more than 1,500 hours in 2025 on community-based behavioral health initiatives, including Gallatin Behavioral Health Coalition and Gallatin County Local Advisory Council (LAC) meetings, activities, and initiatives as well as collaborative initiatives throughout Gallatin, Park, and surrounding counties.

Grants and Partnerships to support Behavioral Health goal:

Partners in Health - \$20k:

- **Big Sky Youth Empowerment** - Youth Mental Health Support Program expanding



access to in-house mental health counseling and therapeutic support for vulnerable

teens in grades 7-12. The program provides one-on-one support for youth experiencing suicidal ideation, anxiety, depression, and other elevated mental health needs, while ensuring ethical clinical practices, parent engagement, and professional supervision.

Community Collaboration – \$5k:

- **Suffer Out Loud** – Mental healthcare scholarships
- **Big Brothers Big Sisters of Big Sky Country** – Community-based mentoring
- **Montana Mindfulness Project** – Mindfulness education
- **Befrienders** – Senior Engagement and support
- **Roots Family Collaborative** – Peer Support Program and resource guide

- **Windhorse Equine Learning** – Behavioral health programming

- **Bozeman Children's Theatre** – Mental health programming

Partnerships:

- **Bozeman School District** – Supporting employee wellness through site-based Wellness Champion Program to improve educator wellbeing. Peer-led initiatives tailored to each school increased morale, belonging, and workplace climate indicators. Programming included mental health workshops, physical wellness activities, and opportunities for social connection.

- **One Health** – Integrated Behavioral Health addresses both clinical and social determinants of health, helping patients attend appointments, manage medications, access psychiatric care, and navigate housing or financial barriers. The program has improved patient engagement, reduced behavioral health crises, and strengthened coordination with community partners.

- **Wellness in Action** - Expanding affordable behavioral health through sliding-scale assistance and scholarship programs that reduce cost barriers for working families and educators. Also, a Community Health Worker expanded no-cost navigation support for mental health, financial assistance, and social connection.

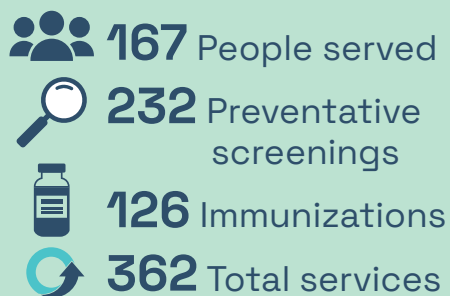
- **Lighthouse Ranch** - Awarded \$550K to support Lighthouse Ranch, which will provide crisis stabilization, residential care, day treatment programs, case management, and outpatient therapy services for youth ages 12-18 needing mental health and chemical dependency support at its Belgrade campus.

ACCESS TO HEALTHCARE

STRATEGY 1:

Redesign the HealthCare Connections (HCC) mobile screening program to ensure better alignment of services targeted to under-resourced populations.

- In October 2025, the HCC program was fully redesigned and relaunched to bring preventive health screenings to underserved populations across Gallatin County. Services include diabetes, cholesterol, lipid, and blood pressure screenings, vaccinations, and a touchpoint with a provider.
- From October – December 2025:



STRATEGY 2:

Expand support to organizations in Big Sky working to coordinate services to benefit populations not currently engaged within the local healthcare system.

- We have increased our support to Wellness in Action (WIA) that not only offers behavioral health services for individuals but also provides connections to other resources via their Community Health Workers. Nearly 10% of Big Sky's full-time population accesses affordable services through WIA.
- Big Sky Medical Center partners closely with service providers in Big Sky, including WIA, Be Well Big Sky, Big Sky School District, and the Big Sky Food Bank.

STRATEGY 3:

Expand the Medical Respite program at the new HRDC shelter, Homeward Point. Collaborate on planning for the design and provision of primary care and behavioral health services at Homeward Point.

- In 2025, Homeward Point opened to the Gallatin community. Dedicated medical respite rooms were built into the new shelter to accommodate the program. Bozeman Health and HRDC continue planning for medical respite services at the new shelter.
- HealthCare Connections hosts monthly clinics at Homeward Point to support the health and wellness of their customers.



STRATEGY 4:

Provide leadership and coordination for new countywide Health Transportation Coalition.

- Bozeman Health was an active member of the Streamline Stakeholder Committee planning meeting, where we shared feedback and ideas on the community transportation needs as they relate to health care. Feedback included

GOAL:

Increase access to care for patients affected by health equity challenges.

ACCESS TO HEALTHCARE continued

additional bus stop locations, times of bus service, and potential expansion ideas for Galavan services.

- We are also part of the Transportation Advisory Committee where leaders across the valley come together to share resources and ideas on how to support transportation concerns for residents in our community.
- We began planning for a new Bozeman Health patient transportation service line to support patient transport from Bozeman Health Deaconess Regional Medical Center and Big Sky Medical Center (BSMC) to higher-level acute care facilities, skilled nursing and assisted living facilities, critical access hospitals, behavioral health facilities, and home.

STRATEGY 5:

Expand the number of recreational vehicle (RV) parking spaces on the Deaconess Regional Medical Center campus.

- Additional RV parking spots were opened at the end of 2025 during the Lot E expansion project. Six RV spots are now available for patients needing somewhere to park their RV during treatment at Bozeman Health.

STRATEGY 6:

Expand the work of the Bozeman Health DEIB committee. Continue work on wayfinding in Spanish.

- The DEIB committee continues to support the mission of Bozeman Health to improve community health and quality of life. Focus areas include: translation service audits, policy advisory, and employee and community education.

- All wayfinding signs on Bozeman Deaconess Regional Medical Center have been updated with Spanish translations, and we continue to audit additional signage for updates.

Grants and partnerships that support Access to Healthcare goal

Partners in Health - \$20k:

- **Bridgercare:** Removing Barriers to Healthcare for Spanish-Speaking Patients by expanding access to affordable, culturally responsive sexual and reproductive healthcare for Spanish-speaking and Limited English Proficiency (LEP) patients. Bridgercare is strengthening translation services, medical interpretation, and bilingual staffing to ensure all patients can navigate care.

Community Collaboration – \$5k:

- **World Language Initiative** - Spanish for Healthcare program
- **Catalyst for Change** – Community Health Workers
- **Eating Disorder Center of Montana** – Housing for Patients
- **Bienvenidos a Gallatin Valley** – Resource navigation

Partnerships:

- **Haven:** Strengthening Trauma-Informed Care through healthcare coordination and medical access for survivors of domestic violence. Hospital orientations for Haven advocates, system-wide strangulation response training, and CPR certification for staff strengthened emergency response capacity.



CHRONIC DISEASE PREVENTION

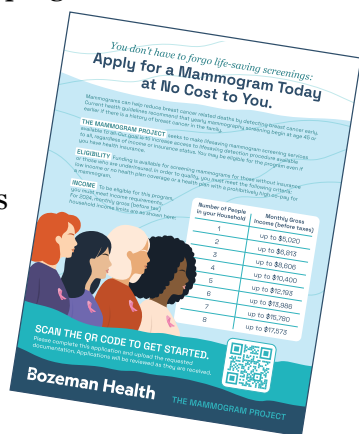
STRATEGY 1:

Coordinate with the Gallatin City-County Health Department and One Health to increase the provision of free early detection screening services for breast, cervical and colorectal cancer.

- We have worked closely with the GCCHD to increase awareness of all cancer screening resources available in our service area.

This includes the state programs, as well

as Bozeman Health resources, such as the Mammogram Project. In 2025, 27 mammogram vouchers were distributed to individuals in eight towns across our service area.



STRATEGY 2:

Continue supporting the Cancer Support Community in an integrative partnership to provide supportive and wrap-around services to adults and children with cancer within the Bozeman Health service area.

- Bozeman Health has a long history of supporting the Cancer Support Community (CSC). We continued to expand our partnership in 2025, to include using Bozeman Health grant funds to support the creation of a men's retreat and the hiring of an in-house mental health provider at CSC.
- Bozeman Health continues to support CSC events, such as the Pink Party, Stronger

than Cancer barbecue, and Cruisin' on Main. These events bring awareness to the many cancer support offerings for residents in our primary and secondary service areas.

STRATEGY 3:

Leverage partnerships between Bozeman Health Lifestyle Medicine, the Gallatin City-County Health Department, Bozeman Public Library, HRDC, and the Cancer Support Community to teach healthy meal preparation at multiple locations.

- Bozeman Health's Lifestyle Medicine provider, Dr. Joe Sofianek, partnered with local organizations across the Bozeman community to provide no-cost cooking classes. In 2025, Dr. Sofianek hosted 10 cooking demonstrations at the Bozeman Library test kitchen as well as presentations to Highgate Assisted Living on healthy lifestyles to prevent dementia.




10
Cooking
classes


200
People
participated

GOAL:

Reduce the impact of chronic disease and cancer by promoting healthy lifestyles and access to low cost or free prevention activities.

CHRONIC DISEASE PREVENTION continued

STRATEGY 4:

Reinvigorate partnership with Gallatin Valley Land Trust to promote the TrailsRX program within all Bozeman Health Primary care settings. In addition, Bozeman Health will be a trusted resource as partner organizations explore trail creation to promote wellness initiatives in areas with diminished trail access.

- Conversations on reinvigorating the TrailsRX program are ongoing. Suggestions from GVLТ include moving the program fully to Bozeman Health, so we are working to evaluate what implementation would look like in our primary care clinics.



STRATEGY 5:

Provide public education through health promotion-focused signage within gateways to the Highland Glen Trail system to promote multi-modal usage of Highland Glen.

- We partnered with GVLТ and BSF regarding joint messaging and marketing to better promote the use of Bozeman Health land to enhance a healthier lifestyle and translate how the use of the trails equates to specific chronic

disease reduction and prevention. Signs were printed and hung up at the Highland Glen trailheads at the end of 2025.

Grants and partnerships that support Chronic Disease Prevention:

Community Collaboration - \$5k:

- **Crosscut Mountain Sports** – Ski Education Program
- **Gallatin Valley YMCA** – Rock Steady Boxing Program



Partnerships:

- **Bridger Ski Foundation (BSF):** Winter Trails and Mental Health - advancing chronic disease prevention and youth behavioral health by maintaining 80 kilometers of free winter trails, including Highland Glen adjacent to the hospital. BSF's Mental Health Initiative also supported 600 youth athletes through coach training, mindfulness tools, and accessible resources.
- **Gallatin Valley Land Trust (GVLТ):** Sunset Hills Project supported accessibility enhancements at the Sunset Hills trail system adjacent to the hospital. Improvements included widened gravel pathways for adaptive mobility devices, a reconstructed all-abilities bridge, and accessibility data collection to inform signage.

SOCIOECONOMIC & HEALTH MEASURES

GOAL:

Bolster existing work on local affordable housing options while investigating new pathways forward to promote “Housing is Healthcare.”

STRATEGY 1:

Engage in the activities of the Regional Housing Coalition (RHC) to identify opportunities to support regional housing affordability efforts.

- Bozeman Health is an active member of the RHC and financially supports the coalition to ensure that the important work continues to move forward.

STRATEGY 2:

Perform a health assessment, including pre- and post- outcomes, of the Housing First Village permanent supportive housing to determine what additional resources may be necessary to keep this a viable health intervention for our community’s most vulnerable residents.

- Bozeman Health and HRDC pulled preliminary data on Housing First Village outcomes in 2025. We continue to partner with HRDC to determine the best path forward for evaluating the program.

STRATEGY 3:

Explore the expansion of the Care Cottage on the Hillcrest campus to house patients and family members during ongoing healthcare treatment at Deaconess Regional Medical Center.

- Five respite apartments are available on the Hillcrest campus to support transitional care

for patients, typically between the hospital and home.

Grants and partnerships supporting Socioeconomic and Health Measures

Partners in Health - \$20k:

- **Family Promise of Gallatin Valley** - Housing Continuum Program provides comprehensive services to prevent and end family homelessness. The Housing Continuum includes prevention, diversion, emergency shelter, transitional housing, workforce housing, stabilization services, and case management to address both housing crises and long-term self-sufficiency.

Community Collaboration - \$5k:

- **Bozeman Library** – Summer Lunch program
- **Greater Impact** – First 30 Day Fund
- **Thrive** - Spanish Speaking Parent Liaison program
- **AbilityMT** – Youth Independence and Life Skills

Partnerships:

- **Greater Gallatin United Way** - KidsLink afterschool programming provides an affordable out-of-school-time program, helping 147 families remain employed during the school year and 40 families access summer camp care.
- **HRDC** - Support for the opening of HRDC’s Path to Stability program and strengthening other community-based HRDC services to connect community members to the services they need to achieve stability and improved health.