

# **AdventHealth Porter**

## **2025-2027 COMMUNITY HEALTH PLAN**

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# Acknowledgements

This community health plan was prepared by AdventHealth’s Rocky Mountain Region Community Health Improvement Team with contributions from members of AdventHealth Porter’s Hospital Health Needs Assessment Committee, a group of hospital leaders from various departments.

We are especially grateful for the internal and external partners who helped guide the development of the community health plan which will enable our teams to continue fulfilling our mission of *Extending the Healing Ministry of Christ*.

# Executive Summary

Portercare Adventist Health System dba AdventHealth Porter will be referred to in this document as AdventHealth Porter or the “Hospital.”

## Community Health Needs Assessment Process

AdventHealth Porter in Denver, Colorado, conducted a community health needs assessment in 2025. The assessment identified the health-related needs of the community including low-income, minority and other underserved populations. The priorities were defined in alignment with Healthy People 2030, the national initiative aimed at improving the health and wellbeing of people in the United States.

In order to ensure broad community input, AdventHealth Porter participated in a Collaborative which included two subcommittees (the Denver Department of Public Health and Environment (DDPHE) Steering Committee and the DDPHE Assessment Design Team) to help guide the Hospital through the assessment process. The Collaborative included representation from the Hospital, public health experts and the broad community. This included intentional representation from low-income, minority and other underserved populations.

AdventHealth Porter also convened a Hospital Health Needs Assessment Committee (HHNAC) to help select the needs the Hospital would most effectively address to support the community. The HHNAC made this decision by reviewing the priority needs selected by the Collaborative and the internal Hospital resources available.

The Collaborative and HHNAC met throughout 2024-2025. The members reviewed the primary and secondary data, helped define the priorities to be addressed, and helped develop the Community Health Plan (CHP) to address those priorities. Learn more about Healthy People 2030 at <https://health.gov/healthypeople>.

## Community Health Plan Process

The Community Health Plan (CHP), or implementation strategy, is the Hospital’s action plan to address the priorities identified by the CHNA. The plan was developed by the Collaborative, HHNAC, and input was received from stakeholders across sectors including public health, faith-based, business, and those individuals directly impacted.

The CHP outlines targeted interventions and measurable outcomes for each priority noted below. It includes resources the Hospital will commit and notes any planned collaborations between the Hospital and other community organizations and hospitals.

The defined goals and activities were carefully crafted, considering evidence-based resources and sought to align with AdventHealth's organizational and strategic plans. AdventHealth Porter is committed to addressing the needs of the community, especially the most vulnerable populations, to bring wholeness to our communities.

## Priorities Addressed

The priorities addressed include:

1. Drug and Alcohol Use
2. Health Care Access and Quality
3. Neighborhood and Built Environment: Food Security

*See page 8 for the defined strategies and next steps for each priority selected to be addressed.*

## Priorities Not Addressed

The priorities not addressed include:

1. Child and Adolescent Development: LGBT+
2. Violence Prevention: Focus on Men
3. Transportation
4. Economic Stability: Housing
5. Economic Stability: Unemployment or Low Income
6. Education Access and Quality: Children and Adolescents
7. Social and Community Context: Racism

*See page 12 for an explanation of why the Hospital is not addressing these issues.*

The Community Health Plan is a three-year strategic plan and may be updated during implementation based on changing community needs and priorities. AdventHealth recognizes community health is not static and high priority needs can arise or existing needs can become less pressing. The Hospital may pivot and refocus efforts and resources to best serve the community.

## Board Approval

On May 15, 2025, the AdventHealth Porter Board approved the Community Health Plan goals, activities and next steps. A link to the 2025-2027 Community Health Plan was posted on the Hospital's website on May 15, 2025.

## Ongoing Evaluation

AdventHealth Porter's fiscal year is January – December. For 2025, the Community Health Plan will be deployed beginning May 15, 2025, and evaluated at the end of the calendar year. In 2026 and beyond, the CHP will be evaluated annually for the 12-month period beginning January 1<sup>st</sup> and ending December 31<sup>st</sup>. Evaluation results will be attached to the Hospital's IRS Form 990, Schedule H. The collective monitoring and reporting will ensure the plan remains relevant and effective.

## For More Information

Learn more about the Community Health Needs Assessment and Community Health Plan for AdventHealth Porter at <https://www.adventhealth.com/community-health-needs-assessments>.

## About AdventHealth

AdventHealth Porter is part of AdventHealth. With a sacred mission of Extending the Healing Ministry of Christ, AdventHealth strives to heal and restore the body, mind and spirit through our connected system of care. More than 100,000 talented and compassionate team members serve over 8 million patients annually. From physician practices, hospitals and outpatient clinics to skilled nursing facilities, home health agencies and hospice centers, AdventHealth provides individualized, whole-person care at more than 50 hospital campuses and hundreds of care sites throughout nine states. Committed to your care today and tomorrow, AdventHealth is investing in new technologies, research and the brightest minds to redefine wellness, advance medicine and create healthier communities.

In a 2020 study by Stanford University, physicians and researchers from AdventHealth were featured in the ranking of the world's top 2% of scientists. These critical thinkers are shaping the future of health care. Amwell, a national telehealth leader, named AdventHealth the winner of its Innovation Integration Award. This telemedicine accreditation recognizes organizations that have identified connection points within digital health care to improve clinical outcomes and user experiences. AdventHealth was recognized for its innovative digital front door strategy, which is making it possible for patients to seamlessly navigate their health care journey. From checking health documentation and paying bills to conducting a virtual urgent care visit with a provider, we're making health care easier — creating pathways to wholistic care no matter where your health journey starts.

AdventHealth is also an award-winning workplace aiming to promote personal, professional and spiritual growth with its team culture. Recognized by Becker's Hospital Review on its "150 Top Places to Work in Healthcare" several years in a row, this recognition is given annually to health care organizations that promote workplace diversity, employee engagement and professional growth. In 2024, the organization was named by Newsweek as one of the Greatest Workplaces for Diversity and a Most Trustworthy Company in America.

## About AdventHealth Porter

AdventHealth Porter is a 368-bed facility in the heart of Denver, Colorado. Previously known as Porter Adventist Hospital, AdventHealth Porter is proud to have 'come home' to AdventHealth in 2023. AdventHealth is one of the nation's largest faith-based health care systems with more than 100,000 employees, 52 hospitals, and hundreds of care sites across nearly a dozen states.

With the mission of Extending the Healing Ministry of Christ, AdventHealth Porter supports our community with expert medical care and uncommon compassion. We have proudly served the Denver area and surrounding communities

for 90 years and counting, specializing in advanced surgical procedures, life-saving emergency care, and much more.

### **Services**

- Orthopedic and Spine
- AdventHealth Porter Transplant Institute
- Gastrointestinal / Digestive Health

### **Behavioral Health**

- Cancer Care
- Cardiac – Vascular & Complex Electrophysiology
- Emergency and Trauma Care
- Sports Medicine and Rehabilitation
- Wound Care
- Hospice Care

### **Awards & Recognition**

- AdventHealth Porter has been Magnet designated since 2009, placing it among the approximately 10% of US hospitals with Magnet designation. Magnet hospitals demonstrate excellence in nursing practice, quality patient care, and interprofessional collaboration for ongoing improvement and innovation.
- AdventHealth Porter is one of ten hospitals in Colorado that have achieved both a CMS 5-Star Rating and Leapfrog A.
- AdventHealth Porter was named as a 2024 top cardiology hospital for Medicare members.

### **Community Programs**

- AdventHealth Porter offers their community and patients with a wide variety of support groups for people of all ages. Support groups include breast cancer support, grief support, and KidsAlive supporting kids of parents who are battling cancer.
- Additionally, AdventHealth Porter offers a Hospitality House which provides a safe, comfortable place for patients and families with short or extended hospital stays. This Hospitality House is primarily medical housing for a patient and their caregiver.

## Priority 1: Drug and Alcohol Use

Drug overdose deaths per year are on the rise in the Hospital's community, increasing from 370 to 467 from 2022 to 2023. Substance use is a prevalent health issue among people experiencing homelessness, with the Homeless Management Information System listing substance use as the fourth most common cause of homelessness and housing instability. Substance use in people experiencing homelessness may exclude them from existing housing resources in addition to the health concerns created by unsafe substance use. With a 39% increase in homelessness in the last year, this health concern is rapidly growing in the Hospital's community.

Expanding services that prevent harmful substance use to people experiencing homelessness has the potential to dramatically decrease deaths by overdose in this population, as well as open avenues to housing resources.

**Goal:** Increase encounters of MOUD (Medication for Opioid Use Disorder) in the Emergency Department (ED) by administering and prescribing opioid alternatives.

<b>Activity</b>	Increase access to ED Medications for Opioid Use Disorder (MOUD) and ED Alternatives to Opioids (ALTOs) and Naloxone distribution tools to advance care and outcomes for individuals with Opioid Use Disorders at risk of overdose.	
<b>Output</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Number of ALTOs provided to eligible community members (<b>&gt;= 75% of ALTOs provided to eligible community members</b>)</li> <li>Establish referral pathways with treatment partners to provide continuity of care and improve transitions back to community for individuals with Opioid Use Disorders. (<b>&gt;= 1 referral pathway established</b>)</li> </ul>	
<b>Outcome</b>	Offer administration and prescription of alternatives to opioids.	
<b>Hospital Contributions</b>		<b>Community Partnerships</b>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The Psych Assessment Team - staff time to train and screen eligible community members.</li> <li>ED Physicians and Pharmacy – staff time to screen and provide interventions.</li> </ul>		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>ED Physician Groups</li> <li>MOUD Providers</li> <li>United Way 211 Colorado</li> </ul>



## Priority 2: Health Care Access and Quality

Healthcare access continues to be a top priority for individuals in Colorado. In addition to the number of individuals who may not be able to access healthcare due to cost reasons (4.6% of Colorado individuals are uninsured), healthcare access issues can also be compounded by lack of transportation, prohibitive work schedules, lack of childcare, and limited English proficiency. Only 65% of individuals visited a general care provider for a routine checkup in the last year.

Expanding healthcare access has wide-reaching impacts for the Hospital's community, including reducing mortality rates, increasing use of preventive care services, and reaching populations that struggle to access healthcare services.

**Goal:** Increase identification of suicide risk by implementing Zero Suicide, an evidence-based mental health & suicide prevention training that will result in improved post-discharge patient and community member outcomes, including reducing community risk of deaths by Suicide.

<b>Activity</b>	Provide clinical and non-clinical trainings to associates and offer community trainings in suicide prevention or mental wellness.	
<b>Output</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Number of hospital and community presentations provided (<b>&gt;= 5 unique training opportunities</b>)</li> <li>Number of participants attending classes and training (<b>&gt;= 400 combined community members and hospital staff trained</b>)</li> </ul>	
<b>Outcome</b>	Offer Zero Suicide training and best practices to clinicians and caregivers.	
<b>Hospital Contributions</b>		<b>Community Partnerships</b>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The Hospital's Psych Assessment Team – staff time to deliver presentations and strengthen relationships with community-based organizations.</li> <li>Hospital Volunteer hours to partner with mental health and suicide prevention programs.</li> </ul>		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>LivingWorks</li> <li>Colorado Mental Health First Aid</li> <li>Rocky Mountain Crisis Services</li> <li>Community Mental Health Centers</li> <li>CO's Office of Suicide Prevention</li> <li>Colorado National Alliance on Mental Illness</li> <li>Faith-based partners</li> </ul>

## Priority 3: Neighborhood and Built Environment: Food Security

Food insecurity is on the rise in Colorado, as indicated by an 8% increase in SNAP benefits claimed from 2020 – 2022, representing an additional 41,829 individuals who could not afford food without SNAP benefits. In the Hospital's community 12.5% of individuals report an inability to afford food. For newcomers, food is one of the basic needs that they struggle to meet. Older adults also report struggles to accommodate rising grocery prices on a fixed income that has not expanded to meet that need.

Addressing this priority can make a significant and life-changing difference for families and individuals in the community who struggle to meet the basic need of having adequate meals and nutrition. Increasing the number of people who can eat well and often will have far-reaching effects on the overall health of the community.

**Goal:** Increase access to affordable, fresh produce and federal food assistance programs and enhancements.

<b>Activity #1</b>	Administer a Social Determinants of Health screening for patients which determines food insecurity.	
<b>Output</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Number of SDoH Food Security screenings completed (<math>\geq 75\%</math> of inpatient patients screened for SDoH)</li> <li>Establish referral pathways for food insecurity screenings (<math>\geq 4</math> referral pathways established)</li> </ul>	
<b>Outcome</b>	Screen and provide referrals for unmet social risks, including food insecurity.	
<b>Hospital Contributions</b>		<b>Community Partnerships</b>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Hospital Case Management Team to administer SDoH screenings.</li> <li>In-kind donations for seasonal food drives.</li> </ul>		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Colorado Blueprint to End Hunger</li> <li>Nourish Meals on Wheels</li> <li>Family Connects</li> <li>Hunger Free Colorado</li> <li>United Way 211 Colorado</li> </ul>

<b>Activity 2</b>	Support local food businesses' acceptance of and or maintenance of the Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP), Special Supplemental Nutrition Program for Women, Infants, and Children (WIC), or their program enhancements by supporting technology, technical assistance, outreach and promotion through community food advocates/navigators.	
<b>Output</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Number of organizations funded that increase access to public assistance benefits programs (<math>\geq 1</math> organization funded)</li> </ul>	
<b>Outcome</b>	Partner with community-based organizations and businesses to increase utilization of benefits that promote food security.	
<b>Hospital Contributions</b>		<b>Community Partnerships</b>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Community Health and Mission staff time to attend coalition meetings.</li> <li>Hospital in-kind hours to collaborate with Food Bank of the Rockies on food security campaigns.</li> </ul>		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>GoFarm</li> <li>Nourish Colorado</li> <li>Hunger Free Colorado</li> </ul>

## Priorities Not Addressed

AdventHealth Porter also identified the following health needs during the CHNA process. In reviewing the CHNA data, available resources, and ability to impact, the Hospital determined these needs will not be addressed.

### **Child and Adolescent Development: LGBT+**

In the Hospital's community, 37% of high schoolers identify as transgender have considered suicide in the last 12 months, compared to 7.6% of cisgender high schoolers. The difference in mental health and stress in this population is dramatic, although these individuals make up a small overall portion of the population. The Hospital elected not to pursue this health issue, as AdventHealth Porter has robust anti-suicide programming in place, including ample resources and warm hand-offs to local organizations who can provide support to this group. The City of Denver also has resources for providing clinical and social care coordination services to this group.

### **Violence Prevention: Men**

Men of color in the Hospital's community experience high levels of gun violence, making it the second leading cause of death for this group. Although this is a pressing and worsening issue, the Hospital is not well-positioned to make a significant impact on gun violence. AdventHealth Porter will continue to pursue a safe environment on its campus, and work with community organizations to understand the health needs of this population.

### **Transportation**

In the Hospital's community, 8% of families do not have access to a vehicle, compounding concerns about transportation and healthcare accessibility. The Hospital provides transportation options for appointments as needed, along with Charity ambulance rides for those in need. While transportation continues to be a need for this community, the Hospital and community will need to collaborate further to identify scalable solutions that will impact this health priority.

### **Economic Stability: Housing**

Access to safe and affordable housing continues to be a concern in this community. The second most frequently reported reason for experiencing homelessness is an inability to pay rent or a mortgage. Despite this, the Hospital did not select this as a priority since there are existing resources in the Denver community that are working to decrease rent costs and increase access to affordable housing. Social determinants of health are already screened for in the Hospital, including resource navigation for housing as needed.

### **Economic Stability: Unemployment or Low Income**

Unemployment and low income are significant predictors of health and healthcare access. In the Hospital's PSA 9.9% of the community lives under the federal poverty line, compared to the state average of 16%. However, the unemployment rate in Denver County has decreased and is currently at 4%, mirroring the state's unemployment rate. In addition to this, the average yearly salary in the Hospital's community is \$107,000 per year, compared to Colorado's \$95,800. Compared to the other top needs that arose during the assessment process, the rates of employment and average income are not factors that the Hospital has a high level of impact on.

### **Education Access and Quality: Children and Adolescents**

Education access for adolescents is an important predictor of health and wellbeing. Certain groups are more likely to leave school without attaining a high-school certificate, including children of migrant families, newcomers, and foster youth. The high school graduation rate in the Hospital's community is high at 91%. The Hospital did not select this as a priority since it does not have an impactful influence on school attendance or enrollment.

### **Social and Community Context: Racism**

Racism is a deeply rooted systemic issue that significantly affects access to and quality of healthcare for marginalized communities. This is reflected in a lower life expectancy for people of color in the Hospital's community, especially those who are Non-Hispanic Black with a life expectancy that is six years less than Non-Hispanic White individuals, and Native American individuals who have a life expectancy of 10 years less. Addressing its impact is crucial. While the Hospital recognizes this challenge, it will concentrate on strengthening evidence-based programs targeted at at-risk populations. By focusing on this approach, the Hospital can directly improve health outcomes for these marginalized groups without explicitly categorizing racism as a specific priority in our Community Health Needs Assessment (CHNA). This targeted strategy will enable the Hospital to create meaningful change and foster a healthier, more equitable community for everyone.