

# 2023 Community Health Needs Assessment



Kaiser Permanente San Marcos Medical Center

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Approved by Kaiser Foundation Hospitals Board of Director's Community Health Committee

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# Kaiser Permanente San Marcos Medical Center 2023 Community Health Needs Assessment

Kaiser Permanente opened San Marcos Medical Center on August 9, 2023. The San Marcos Medical Center produced a CHNA and IS report outside of the typical timeline used in Kaiser Permanente’s 2022 needs assessment process to ensure compliance with California state reporting laws.

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# Kaiser Permanente San Marcos Medical Center 2023 Community Health Needs Assessment

## Summary

Kaiser Permanente is an integrated health care delivery system comprised of Kaiser Foundation Hospitals, Kaiser Foundation Health Plan, and physicians in the Permanente Medical Groups. For 75 years, Kaiser Permanente has been committed to shaping the future of health and health care — and helping our members, patients, and communities experience more healthy years. We are recognized as one of America's leading health care providers and nonprofit health plans.

Every three years Kaiser Permanente San Marcos Medical Center conducts a community health needs assessment (CHNA). The CHNA process is driven by a commitment to improve health equity and is intended to be transparent, rigorous, and collaborative. Our Community Health team has identified and prioritized needs unique to our service area, based on community-level secondary data and input from those who represent the broad interests of the community. Wherever possible, we have applied a racial equity analysis to data collection and analysis.

For the 2023 CHNA, Kaiser Permanente San Marcos Medical Center has identified the following significant health needs, in priority order:

1. Access to care
2. Income & employment
3. Housing
4. Food insecurity
5. Mental & behavioral health
6. Education

To address those needs, Kaiser Permanente San Marcos Medical Center has developed an implementation strategy (IS) for the priority needs it will address, considering both Kaiser Permanente's and the community's assets and resources. The CHNA report and three-year IS are publicly available at <https://www.kp.org/chna>.

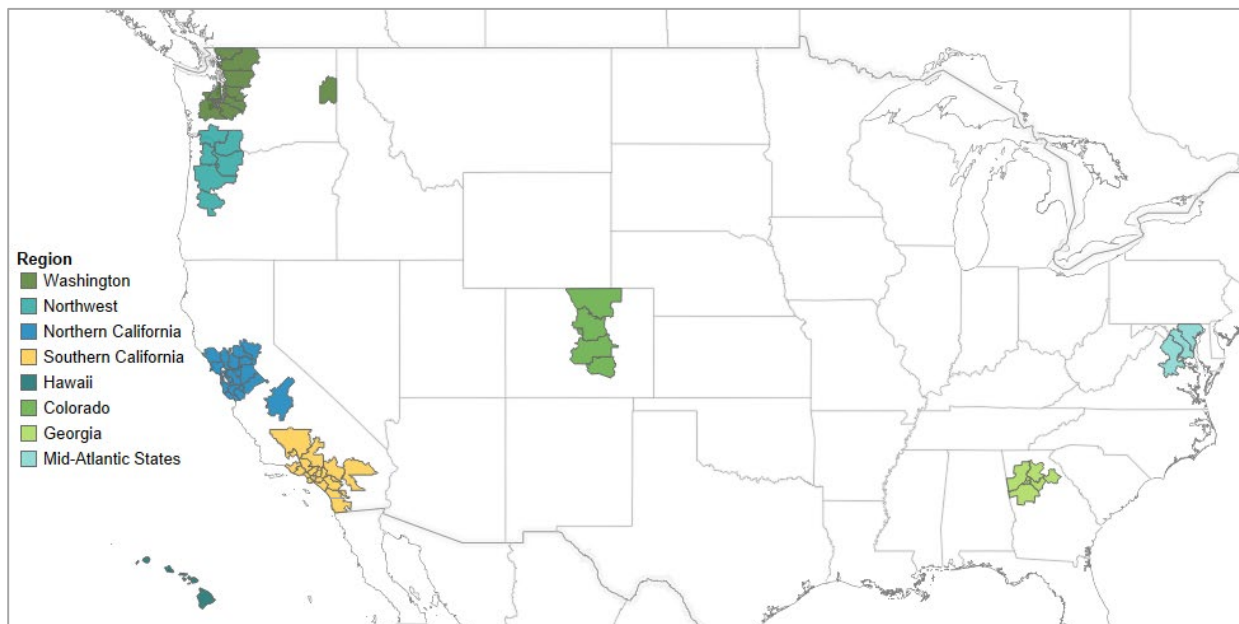
## Introduction/background

### About Kaiser Permanente

Kaiser Permanente is an integrated health care delivery system comprised of Kaiser Foundation Hospitals, Kaiser Foundation Health Plan, and physicians in the Permanente Medical Groups. For 75 years, Kaiser Permanente has been committed to shaping the future of health and health care — and helping our members, patients, and communities experience more healthy years. We are recognized as one of America’s leading health care providers and nonprofit health plans.

Kaiser Permanente is committed to helping shape the future of health care. Founded in 1945, Kaiser Permanente has a mission to provide high-quality, affordable health care services and to improve the health of our members and the communities we serve. We currently serve 12.5 million members in 8 states and the District of Columbia. Care for members and patients is focused on their total health and guided by their personal Permanente Medical Group physicians, specialists, and team of caregivers. Our expert and caring medical teams are empowered and supported by industry-leading technology advances and tools for health promotion, disease prevention, state-of-the-art care delivery, and world-class chronic disease management. Kaiser Permanente is dedicated to care innovations, clinical research, health education, and the support of community health.

Kaiser Permanente regions and CHNA service areas



## About Kaiser Permanente Community Health

At Kaiser Permanente, we recognize that where we live and how we live has a big impact on our health and well-being. Our work is driven by our mission: to provide high-quality, affordable health care services and to improve the health of our members and our communities. It's also driven by our heritage of prevention and health promotion, and by our conviction that good health is a fundamental right.

As the nation's largest nonprofit, integrated health system, Kaiser Permanente is uniquely positioned to improve the health and wellbeing of the communities we serve. We believe that being healthy isn't just a result of high-quality medical care. Through our resources, reach, and partnerships, we are addressing unmet social needs and community factors that impact health. Kaiser Permanente is accelerating efforts to broaden the scope of our care and services to address all factors that affect people's health. Having a safe place to live, enough money in the bank, access to healthy meals, and meaningful social connections is essential to total health. Now is a time when our commitment to health and values compels us to do all we can to create more healthy years for everyone. We also share our financial resources, research, nurses and physicians, and our clinical practices and knowledge through a variety of grantmaking and investment efforts.

As we reflect on how 2020 changed the world, we must recognize that communities everywhere are coping with unprecedented challenges magnified by the COVID-19 pandemic and a renewed struggle for racial equity and social justice.

Through our continued focus on expanding our community health approach we laid the foundation for an acceleration of work to meet the challenges posed by the public health crises we now face. We dedicated ourselves to improving the social health of our 12.5 million members and the millions of people who live in the communities we serve.

Learn more about Kaiser Permanente Community Health at <https://about.kaiserpermanente.org/community-health>.

## Kaiser Permanente's approach to community health needs assessment

The Affordable Care Act (ACA) was enacted in March 2010 to make health insurance available to more people, expand the Medicaid program, and support innovative medical care delivery to lower health care costs. The ACA also requires that nonprofit hospitals conduct a community health needs assessment (CHNA) every three years and develop an implementation strategy (IS) in response to prioritized needs.

Kaiser Permanente's CHNA process is driven by a commitment to improve health equity. Our assessments place a heavy emphasis on how the social determinants of health — including structural racism, poverty, and lack of access to health-related resources such as affordable housing, healthy food, and transportation — are affecting the health of communities. By analyzing community-level data and consulting individuals with deep and broad knowledge of health disparities, the Community Health team in each Kaiser Permanente service area has identified and prioritized needs unique to the community served. Each service area has developed an IS for the priority needs it will address, considering both Kaiser Permanente's and the community's assets and resources.

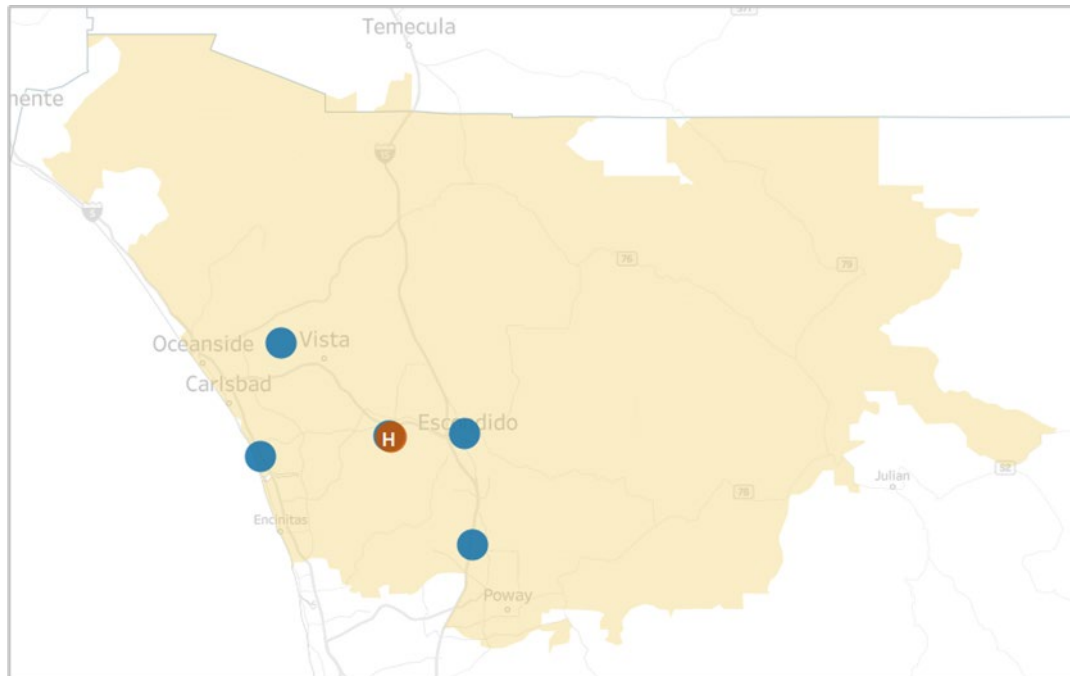
The Kaiser Permanente San Marcos Medical Center 2023 CHNA report and three-year IS are available publicly at <https://www.kp.org/chna>. In addition, the IS will be filed with the Internal Revenue Service using Form 990, Schedule H.

## Community served

Kaiser Permanente defines the community served by a hospital as those individuals residing within its hospital service area. The Kaiser Permanente San Marcos Medical Center hospital service area includes residents in a defined geographic area in north San Diego County surrounding the hospital and does not exclude low-income or underserved populations.

### San Marcos service area

**H** Kaiser Permanente hospital    **●** Kaiser Permanente medical offices



### San Marcos service area demographic profile

Total population:	1,074,541
American Indian/Alaska Native	0.5%
Asian	8.5%
Black	2.4%
Hispanic	32.8%
Multiracial	3.4%
Native Hawaiian/other Pacific Islander	0.4%
Other race/ethnicity	0.2%
White	51.8%
Under age 18	23.1%
Age 65 and over	15.0%

### Impact of structural racism in our communities

The American Public Health Association — along with hundreds of public health departments and other government agencies across the U.S. — has declared racism a public health crisis. By structuring opportunity and assigning value based on how a person looks, racism operates at all levels of society and denies many individuals and communities the opportunity to attain their highest level of health. Racism is a driving force in social determinants of health like housing, education, and employment, and is a barrier to achieving health equity.

The inequality and disparities that have existed for people of historically underrepresented groups, such as communities of color, women, and low-income communities, have been made more visible by the COVID-19 pandemic. Data show that Hispanic, Black, and Indigenous populations are disproportionately affected by the disease and its economic impacts. In addition to the health crisis and amplification of existing health disparities, COVID-19 has also brought troubling reports of bias and discrimination against Asian Americans and others.

Since summer 2020, we've witnessed a raising of the consciousness of Americans and the world to a reality that we can no longer ignore: the treatment of Black Americans in our country is unacceptable. This is a moment in time when we must stand together against the racism and social injustice that remain endemic in our society and create long-term trauma that damages individuals' and communities' physical, mental, and social health. By pairing an acknowledgment of history with community-level data, we can work together to address the impacts of racism and discrimination.

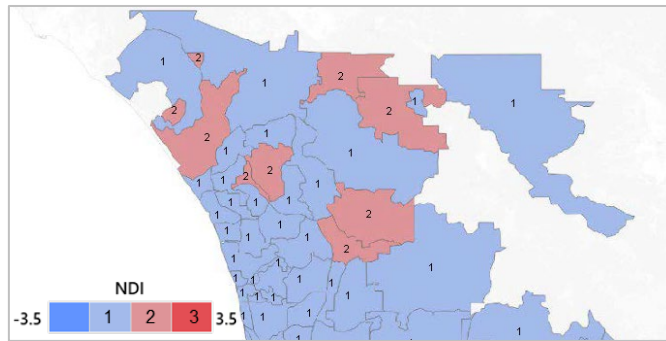
## Neighborhood disparities in the San Marcos service area

The Neighborhood Deprivation Index (NDI) is a validated scale comprised of several of the social factors associated with lack of opportunity to be as healthy as possible. These measures are proxies for underlying determinants that disproportionately affect communities of color, including lack of employment opportunities, racist policies and practices, and unequal treatment by educational and criminal justice systems.

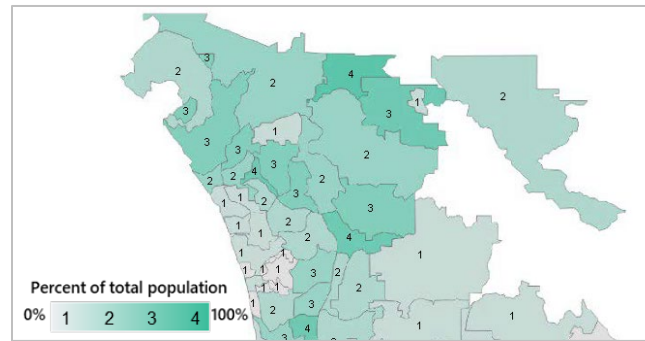
The map on the left shows the NDI for ZIP codes in the San Marcos service area. Areas with the highest NDI often are those with the highest proportion of people of color, shown in the map on the right.

### SAN MARCOS SERVICE AREA

Neighborhood Deprivation Index



People of color





## Kaiser Permanente's CHNA process

The CHNA process allows Kaiser Permanente to better understand the unique needs, stories, and opportunities to advance health and health equity in each of our communities. We are committed to gathering community perspectives on the disproportionate impacts of the COVID-19 pandemic as well as the impact of structural racism. Wherever possible, we have applied a racial equity analysis to data collection and analysis.

Identifying the highest priority needs for CHNA with an equity lens informs our community investments and helps us develop strategies aimed at making long-term, sustainable change, allowing us to deepen the strong relationships we have with other organizations that are working to improve community health. For the purposes of the CHNA, Kaiser Permanente defines a “health need” as a health outcome and/or the related conditions that contribute to a defined health need.

### Hospitals and other partners that collaborated on the CHNA

#### Hospitals

No other hospitals collaborated on this assessment.

#### Other organizations

The Hospital Association of San Diego and Imperial Counties (HASD&IC)

### Consultants who were involved in completing the CHNA

Harder+Company Community Research (Harder+Company) is a nationally recognized leader in high quality evaluation for learning and action with a team of over 45 researchers throughout California, reflecting the major regions of the state. The firm's staff offer deep experience assisting hospitals, health departments, and other health agencies on a variety of efforts: including conducting needs assessments, developing and operationalizing strategic plans, engaging and gathering meaningful input from community members, and using data for program development and implementation. Harder+Company offers considerable expertise in broad community participation which is essential to the CHNA processes. The firm is supporting in the following Kaiser Foundation Hospital service areas: Downey, Fontana and Ontario, Los Angeles, Redwood City, Roseville, Sacramento, San Diego, San Francisco, San Marcos, San Rafael, Santa Rosa, South Bay, South Sacramento, South San Francisco, Vacaville, Vallejo, and West Los Angeles.

### Methods used to identify and prioritize needs

#### Secondary data

Kaiser Permanente's innovative approach to CHNA includes the development of a free, web-based data platform. The data platform provides access to a core set of approximately 100 publicly available indicators to understand health using the County Health Rankings population health framework, which emphasizes social and environmental determinants of health. The data platform is available to the public at [kp.org/chnadata](https://kp.org/chnadata). Specific sources and dates of secondary data are listed in Appendix A.

## Community input

In addition to reviewing the secondary data available through the Community Health Data Platform and other local sources, each Kaiser Permanente service area collected primary data through key informant interviews with individuals and groups of individuals. To identify issues that most impact the health of the community, Kaiser Permanente San Marcos Medical Center Community Health reached out to local public health experts, community leaders with expertise on local health needs, and individuals with knowledge and/or lived experience of racial health disparities. If available, insights from community partners' data collection were also considered in the assessment of needs. For a complete profile of community input, see Appendix B.

## Written comments

Kaiser Permanente provides the public an opportunity to submit written comments on the service area's previous CHNA reports through [CHNA-communications@kp.org](mailto:CHNA-communications@kp.org). This email will continue to allow for written community input on the service areas' most recently conducted CHNA report.

As of the time of this CHNA report development Kaiser Permanente San Marcos Medical Center had not received written comments about the previous CHNA report. Kaiser Permanente will continue to track any submitted written comments and ensure that relevant submissions will be considered and addressed by the appropriate Kaiser Permanente San Marcos Medical Center staff.

## Identifying priority health needs

Each Kaiser Permanente service area analyzed and interpreted the primary and secondary data and used a set of criteria to determine what constitutes a health need in the community, including severity and magnitude of the need and evidence of clear disparities or inequities. Once all the community health needs were identified, they were prioritized, based on the criteria, resulting in a list of significant community health needs.

In conjunction with this report, Kaiser Permanente San Marcos Medical Center has developed an implementation strategy (IS) for the priority health needs it will address. These strategies will build on Kaiser Permanente's assets and resources, as well as evidence-based strategies, wherever possible. The IS will be filed with the Internal Revenue Service using Form 990 Schedule H. Both the CHNA and the IS will be posted publicly on our website, <https://www.kp.org/chna>.

# Identification and prioritization of the community's health needs

## Process for identifying community needs in the San Marcos service area

Before beginning the prioritization process, Kaiser Permanente San Marcos Medical Center Community Health chose a set of criteria to use in prioritizing the list of health needs:

- **Severity and magnitude of need:** Includes how measures compare to national or state benchmarks, relative number of people affected, impact of COVID-19 on the need.
- **Community priority:** The community prioritizes the issue over other issues
- **Clear disparities or inequities:** Differences in health factors or outcomes by geography, race/ethnicity, economic status, age, gender, or other factors

Measures in the Community Health Data Platform were clustered into 16 potential health needs, which formed the backbone of a prioritization tool to identify significant health needs in each service area. The prioritization tool aligned data collection methods with the set of criteria and could be customized to reflect important considerations in each community.

For secondary data, a score was assigned to each need (4: very high, 3: high, 2: medium, 1: lower) based on how many measures were more than 20 percent worse than national and/or state benchmarks. Themes from key informant interviews and other data sources were identified, clustered, and assigned scores on the same scale. Both the data platform and primary data informed scores for geographic, racial/ethnic, and other disparities.

Each data collection method was assigned a weight, based on rigor of the data collection method, relative importance in ranking of needs (such as clearly identified racial disparities), and other considerations. Weighted values for each potential need were summed, converted to a percentile score for easy comparison, and then ranked highest to lowest to determine the six significant health needs.

## Description of prioritized significant health needs in the San Marcos service area

**1. Access to care:** In the San Marcos service area, a smaller percent of the population is enrolled in Medicaid or public insurance compared to the state and there is a slightly higher percentage of uninsured children than the state average. There are also geographical and racial disparities in access to care. There are several communities in the San Marcos service area where over half the population is people of color and uninsurance rates are comparatively high. Community representatives share that many residents may delay or avoid accessing care because high costs or for fear of having to disclose their immigration status. Given the proximity of San Diego County to Mexico, individuals often seek more affordable care across the border.

**2. Income & employment:** In the San Marcos service area, the unemployment rate in 2020 was 14 percent, which was higher than the national average. There are also racial disparities in unemployment. Black residents of San Diego County report the lowest percentage of employment at 53 percent compared to white, and Latino/a communities at 63 percent. The median income in the San Marcos service area is \$87,367, which is higher than the state average, yet Black and American Indian residents in the county earn \$22,000 less than their white peers. Interviewed community representatives also emphasized the impact of the COVID-19 pandemic. Many people lost their main sources of income through company shutdowns or layoffs. Previous layoffs have now lent themselves to staffing shortages as businesses begin to reopen.

**3. Housing:** Access to affordable housing is a widespread issue across San Diego County. The average monthly cost of rent in San Diego County is \$1,822, higher than the average cost of rent in the state (\$1,689). The housing cost burden is also significantly greater for Latino/a and Black residents with nearly 60 percent of both populations experiencing high rent cost burden. Furthermore, interviewed community representatives shared that housing is becoming an even larger issue as there is a visible increase in the number of people experiencing homelessness in north San Diego County. Community representatives also expressed that the COVID-19 pandemic has exacerbated housing concerns. Individuals have less income to pay rent, there is an increase in the number of individuals experiencing homelessness. Young adults in particular struggle with

accessing housing as many do not have a sufficient credit history, credit score, or rental history needed to obtain housing. Community representatives shared the importance of coordination among community-based organizations to support individuals who are housing insecure.

**4. Food insecurity:** Many people do not have enough resources to meet their basic needs, including enough food to eat to lead an active and healthy life. In San Diego County, around 10 percent of residents experience food insecurity. According to a San Diego Community Information Exchange survey, one in three clients is concerned about not having enough to eat in the future, which is a 23 percent increase from 2020. Furthermore, communities of color are disproportionately food insecure. The onset of the COVID-19 pandemic exacerbated food insecurity for many communities despite an increase in food donations. Interviewed community leaders shared that donated food boxes are often a one-size-fits-all package that can lack utensils to support food preparation, which is a gap as nearly a quarter of low-income kitchens lack basic cooking equipment. Interviewed community leaders shared that the process for residents to obtain food donations is cumbersome as there are long lines and limited guidance on where to find support.

**5. Mental & behavioral health:** Mental health affects all areas of life, including a person's physical well-being, ability to work and perform well in school, and to participate fully in family and community activities. Across mental and behavioral health indicators such as number of poor mental health days, deaths of despair, and number of mental health providers, San Diego County generally performs better than state and national averages. However, there are continuous barriers to accessing mental and behavioral health services. Interviewed community representatives reported that the mental and behavioral health workforce has dwindled significantly during the COVID-19 pandemic due to staff burnout. Furthermore, communities of color have limited options to find culturally competent mental health services that have experience addressing history of discrimination and understand the historical trauma that communities of color experience. The onset of COVID-19 has been impactful in residents' mental and behavioral health, especially for youth.

**6. Education:** Overall, the San Marcos service area has a greater percentage of people who have attended some college compared to state and national averages. Similarly, there are comparatively more children enrolled in preschool in the San Marcos service area. However, there are gaps in education that are largely related to the demographics of the residents. For example, there is limited racial and ethnic diversity among educational staff in San Diego schools. Furthermore, communities in San Diego County with a higher percentage of communities of color also have higher dropout rates compared to communities with more white residents. Additionally, COVID-19 has introduced a new challenge with schools shifting classes to online platforms. Students reported competing priorities such as doing homework and caring for siblings that contributed to turning in late assignments and increased stress.

## Health need profiles

Detailed descriptions of the significant health needs in the San Marcos service area follow.

# Health need profile: Access to care

Access to comprehensive, quality health care services — including having insurance, local care options, and a usual source of care — is important for ensuring quality of life for everyone.

The Affordable Care Act (ACA) helped extend insurance coverage to many previously uninsured individuals and families, especially in Medicaid expansion states. Still, families with low income and people of color are more likely to be uninsured, and even with the ACA, many find insurance to be unaffordable.

Health insurance coverage increases use of preventive services and helps ensure people do not delay seeking medical treatment. Having an adequate number of primary care resources in a community also is important, including federally qualified health centers (FQHCs), which serve patients regardless of ability to pay.

Insurance by itself does not guarantee access to appropriate care, and many community members experience barriers related to language, transportation options, and differential treatment based on race, as well as access to fewer health care resources.

Furthermore, the COVID-19 pandemic has disrupted health care for millions of Americans as health care resources were diverted from primary and preventive care, with telehealth becoming an increasingly important source of care. Existing racial and health inequities have been brought to light by the pandemic, with people of color accounting for disproportionate shares of COVID-19 cases, hospitalizations, and deaths.

San Marcos service area residents experience challenges accessing needed care. San Marcos has a slightly higher percentage of uninsured children (3.5 percent) compared to the state average (3.2 percent). The service area has a lower percentage of people enrolled in Medicaid or public insurance (32.1 percent) compared to the state (37.9 percent).

Community representatives described access to care as a critical health need that is interwoven with social factors that impact health such as housing/homelessness and income and employment.

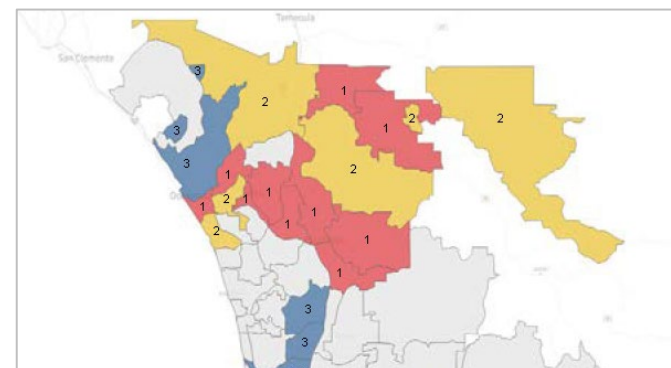
Furthermore, access to care is impacted by long wait times, limited provider capacity, and the cultural competency of providers. Community representatives noted that many San Diego County residents travel across the border into Mexico to seek more affordable health care.

### Ethnic and geographic disparities

Racial and ethnic disparities in access to care also exist throughout San Diego County. Findings from the Race Counts report indicate that the white population has the lowest percentage of uninsured individuals compared to Black/African American, Latino/a, Native American, Pacific Islander, and Asian residents. This is especially prominent for Native American communities where 16 percent of the population is uninsured. There are communities in north San Diego County where more than 50 percent of the population is people of color and a higher-than-average percentage is uninsured. Community representatives shared that undocumented community members may avoid care due to concerns about having to share personal information and fear of deportation.

### PERCENT UNINSURED, SAN MARCOS SERVICE AREA, 2015-2019

Areas shaded red (1) are ZIP codes with a population of people of color greater than 50% and more than 7.5% (state rate) of the population is uninsured.



- 1 Higher need and higher proportion of people of color
- 2 Higher need
- 3 Higher proportion of people of color
- Lower need and lower proportion of people of color

Source: Kaiser Permanente Community Health Data Platform

### Impact of the COVID-19 pandemic

The COVID-19 pandemic has also introduced unique challenges in accessing care in the San Marcos service area. The pandemic highlighted the “digital divide” or the disparity between those who have access to technology and those who don't. For individuals with sufficient access to and knowledge about technology, telehealth has been a successful alternative to in-person care during the pandemic. Individuals with no to little access to technology could not utilize telemedicine and therefore were less likely to seek care during the pandemic.

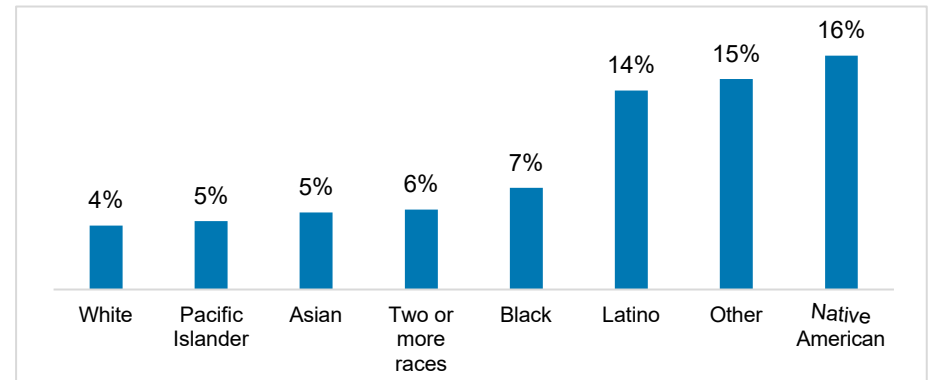
### Youth perspective

North County high school students also addressed access to care and how it impacts themselves and their families. Students highlighted the increasing costs of accessing care stating that some families don't seek care because it is so expensive. Furthermore, students reported that resources to support access to care (e.g., COVID-19 resources) are challenging to utilize because these supports are too far away from where they live. On the other hand, some regions of San Diego County have seen an increase in youth reaching out for mental health services. This was especially prominent following the onset of the pandemic when students were no longer able to thrive in their normal environments.

### Community assets and opportunities

Community representatives shared various opportunities in the community to improve access to care. Several community representatives noted the importance of bringing services directly into communities. This can include mobile health units or pop-up clinics. In addition, they discussed the importance of collaboration between organizations including health providers and service providers serving people experiencing homelessness to provide wrap-around and supportive care to those most in need.

UNINSURED by Race/Ethnicity, San Diego County, 2015-2029



Source: [Race Counts](#)

That's largely the Hispanic population that tends to be impacted the most there. And where we've seen that as even with just getting COVID-19 vaccinations, where there's been a real hesitancy to get vaccinated amongst the undocumented, because now they're going to be in the government database. We've really talked about 'we can just use initials and try to use minimal identification so that you're completely de-identified' but there's just such distrust in that space.

- Health care leader

# Health need profile: Income & employment



Economic opportunity provides individuals with jobs, income, a sense of purpose, and opportunities to improve their economic circumstances over time.

People with steady employment are less likely to have an income below poverty level and more likely to be healthy.

Currently around 11 percent of people living in Kaiser Permanente communities — and 14 percent of children — live in poverty. Those not having enough resources to meet daily needs such as safe housing and enough food to eat are more likely to experience health-harming stress and die at a younger age.

Americans with lower incomes are more likely to live in neighborhoods lacking access to healthy food and safe physical activity and have higher exposure to environmental pollutants. Compared to white Americans, those who identify as Black, Hispanic, or American Indian are more likely to have lower incomes, fewer educational opportunities, and shorter life expectancies.

Income inequality has been increasing over recent decades. During the first year of the COVID-19 pandemic, higher levels of economic inequality were associated with higher levels of COVID incidence and deaths.

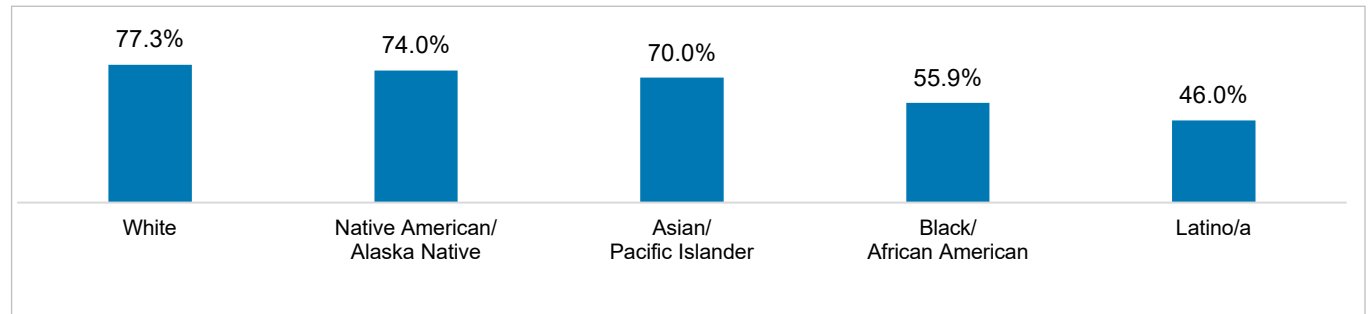
In the San Marcos service area, the unemployment rate in 2020 was 14.7 percent, which was lower than the state average (15.8 percent) and Southern California region average (16.4 percent). In addition, 35.2 percent of children receive free or reduced priced lunch in this service area, which is lower than the state average (44.2 percent) and Southern California region average (44.6 percent).

### Ethnic and geographic disparities

The San Marcos service area is racially/ethnically diverse — 48 percent of residents are people of color, and a third are Latino/a. Although the San Marcos service area has a median household income of \$87,367, which is greater than the state and national averages (\$82,053 and \$70,036), there are significant racial differences when it comes to per capita income. Black and Native American residents earn \$22,000 less than their white counterparts, and Latino/a communities earn \$29,500 less than their white counterparts. In addition, there are racial and ethnic disparities for the percent of people earning a living wage: 69 percent of white residents earn a living wage while that percentage is much lower for Latino/a (48 percent), Black/African American (54 percent), and Native American (55 percent) residents.

### Households above Cost-of-living Adjusted Poverty in San Diego County by Race/Ethnicity

White households are the most likely to have incomes that exceed the cost-of-living, while Latino/a households are the less likely to have income that is above the cost-of-living.



Source: [STRUGGLING TO STAY AFLOAT: THE REAL COST MEASURE IN CALIFORNIA 2021, UNITED WAYS OF CALIFORNIA](#)

**Impact of the COVID-19 pandemic**

Due to the COVID-19 pandemic, essential workers and those in the service sector faced multiple challenges. Interviewed community representatives shared that when businesses closed, many workers lost their jobs and could not afford housing. One community representative said, “People did lose their jobs, they lost income. We did try to connect them as much when we could, or they qualified for unemployment, but there were populations out there that did not have access to any type of government benefits because of their status. And, so in our affordable housing sites, I would say 10% in any month, people were falling behind on paying the rent.” In addition, community representatives shared that businesses such as restaurants and health care settings had staffing issues when they re-opened due to workers not going back to work or making career changes due to burn out and the added burden of COVID-19 prevention protocols.

Another community representative also described how working parents struggled with childcare as schools and childcare options were closed throughout the pandemic. This caused parents to lose hours of work and some even to lose their jobs.

**Community assets and opportunities**

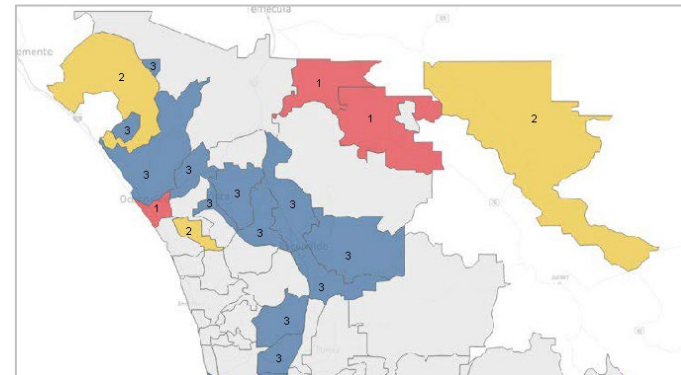
Community representatives identified opportunities for improving economic situations in the county. For example, one representative shared that their organization helps residents of color improve their resumes to support job searches.

We see a robust job market, but people not necessarily taking jobs, so it's a strange picture I would say. I think part of this is stemming from just a lot of fear and a lot of our patients who are the service workers, frontline people have a lot of anxiety with COVID and have had to make decisions of personal wellbeing versus financial wellbeing.

– Public health leader

**UNEMPLOYMENT RATE, SAN MARCOS SERVICE AREA, 2020**

Areas shaded red (1) are ZIP codes where more than 50 percent of the population is people of color and more than 13 percent of residents (national average) is unemployed.



- 1 Higher need and higher proportion of people of color
- 2 Higher need
- 3 Higher proportion of people of color
- Lower need and lower proportion of people of color

Source: Kaiser Permanente Community Health Data Platform



# Health need profile: Housing

Having a safe place to call home is essential for the health of individuals and families.

American families' greatest single expenditure is housing, and for most homeowners, their most significant source of wealth. Because of historic discriminatory lending policies and some current lending practices, people of color — especially Black community members— have been denied the opportunity to purchase a home, leading to enduring inequities.

Housing costs have soared in recent years, with many families experiencing difficulty paying for housing. Black and Latino/a renters in particular are more likely to live in cost-burdened households and face housing instability. Job loss associated with the COVID-19 pandemic, coupled with expiration of the national eviction moratorium, has made many renters' situation even more precarious.

Homelessness across the U.S. was on the rise before the pandemic, including for families with children. In 2020, the number of single adults living outdoors exceeded the number living in shelters for the first time, and even more moved outside because of the pandemic, leading to a crisis in street homelessness in many American cities.

Access to affordable housing is a widespread issue across San Diego County. The San Marcos service area has a lower housing affordability index (81.7) compared to the state (88.1) and the Southern California region (82.5). The average rental cost per month in San Diego County is 7 percent higher than California as a whole (\$1,822 compared to \$1,689).

Residents of several San Marcos service area communities spend more than 30 percent of their income on housing. Community representatives shared that for many in north San Diego County, it is increasingly difficult to sustain quality of life given these high housing costs. This is further amplified when residents experience employment challenges.

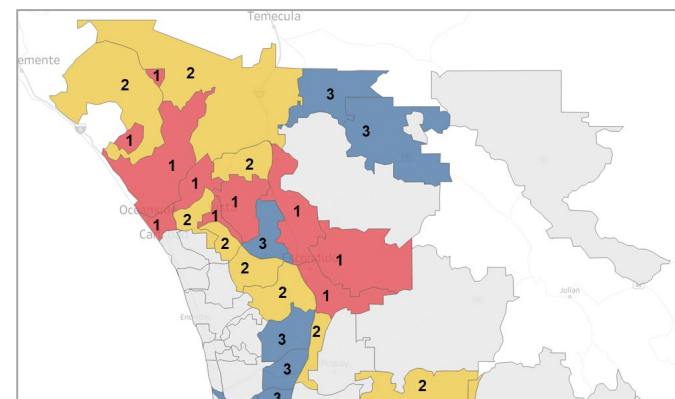
Together, these factors contribute to an increase in the number of families experiencing or at-risk for homelessness as well as families and individuals living in overcrowded housing.

### Ethnic and geographic disparities

According to Race Counts, in San Diego County, Latino/a, Pacific Islander, and Black residents are less likely to own a home compared to white and Asian residents. The housing cost burden is also significantly greater for Latino/a and Black residents with nearly 60 percent of both populations experiencing high rent cost burden. There is also a disproportionate number of youth from communities of color that are experiencing homelessness in San Diego County. In fact, 3 percent or nearly 16,000 Black students are experiencing homelessness. There are several communities in the San Marcos service area where more than half the population is people of color and a higher than average percentage lives in overcrowded housing.

### MODERATE HOUSING COST BURDEN, SAN MARCOS SERVICE AREA, 2020

Areas shaded red (1) are ZIP codes with a population of people of color greater than 50 percent and where more than 22 percent of residents (state average) spend over 30 percent of their income on housing.



- 1 Higher need and higher proportion of people of color
- 2 Higher need
- 3 Higher proportion of people of color
- Lower need and lower proportion of people of color

Source: Kaiser Permanente Community Health Data Platform

### Impact of the COVID-19 pandemic

It is also increasingly difficult for people to secure housing given increased costs and the added burden of COVID-19 safety. For example, a community representative indicated that many landlords only offered virtual tours during the height of the pandemic, making it difficult for people to see the space before committing. Community representatives also indicated that many landlords are increasing security deposits making it even more difficult for residents to have enough money to secure adequate housing. Many families struggled to pay rent during COVID-19 and are continuing to experience challenges today. Despite a moratorium on evictions in San Diego County, many families trying to keep up with their rent payments every month didn't have enough to cover other essential needs such as food, medical prescriptions, and utilities. Furthermore, families used their credit cards to make ends meet, accruing more debt. This provided an inaccurate picture of families' economic situation and limited their eligibility for other support programs.

### Youth perspective

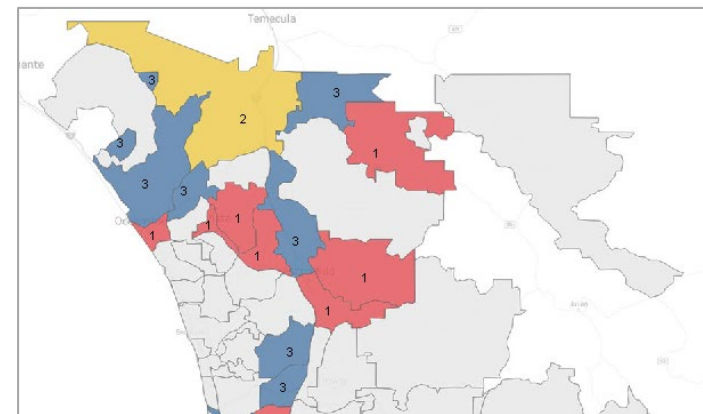
Young adults and adolescents in San Diego County are also experiencing housing challenges. For example, young adults who were at-risk for homelessness suddenly lost their housing, and those who previously had stable housing now find themselves in an unstable situation. Furthermore, access to homeless shelters was eliminated in the face of COVID-19 and many young people were left without a place to go. Young adults are also challenged with additional factors that contribute to their eligibility for housing. Many do not have a sufficient credit history, credit score, or rental history needed to obtain housing. Programs designed to support young adults experiencing homelessness or housing instability attempted to reach out to landlords. However, many landlords refused to communicate directly with these programs.

### Community assets and resources

Community representatives shared the importance of coordination among community-based organizations to support individuals who are housing insecure. One recommendation was to have a team of housing navigators based at hospitals, to help ensure continuity of care.

### OVERCROWDED HOUSING, SAN MARCOS SERVICE AREA, 2015-2019

Areas shaded red (1) are ZIP codes with a population of people of color greater than 50 percent and where more than 6.8 percent of the population (twice the national average) lives in overcrowded housing.



- 1 Higher need and higher proportion of people of color
- 2 Higher need
- 3 Higher proportion of people of color
- Lower need and lower proportion of people of color

Source: Kaiser Permanente Community Health Data Platform

The pandemic has actually made housing costs skyrocket throughout San Diego County. And so it's made it that much more difficult for folks with unstable income, or folks who are undocumented and maybe they are not able to actually receive a permit to work legally here, and so [we are] having difficulty even find places that those folks can stay.

– Community based organization leader

# Health need profile: Food insecurity



Many people do not have enough resources to meet their basic needs, including having enough food to eat to lead an active, healthy life.

Black and Latino/a households have higher than average rates of food insecurity; disabled adults may also be at higher risk because of limited employment opportunities and high health care expenses.

Many diet-related conditions, including diabetes, hypertension, heart disease, and obesity, have been linked to food insecurity. Having both Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP) benefits and convenient access to a supermarket can improve diet quality as well as food security.

Rates of food insecurity increased among families experiencing job loss because of the COVID-19 pandemic — as a result of the pandemic, there has been an estimated 60 percent increase in U.S. food insecurity. As the pandemic worsened, many who qualified for food assistance did not sign up for benefits, in part because of fear related to enrolling in government programs, uncertainty about eligibility, and worry about health risks of in-person appointments.

In San Diego County, 9.6 percent of residents experience food insecurity, which is slightly lower than the state average (10.6 percent). SNAP enrollment in the San Marcos service area is 5.3 percent, much lower than the state average of 9.7 percent. Local San Diego County information highlights additional food insecurity for some residents. According to data from the San Diego Community Information Exchange, one in three clients is concerned about not having enough to eat in the future, which is a 23 percent increase from 2020. The top barrier that clients cited was not having enough money for food (87 percent) followed by a recent loss of employment or income source (12 percent).

The San Diego Hunger Coalition reports that in June 2021 nearly one-third of San Diego County residents is nutrition insecure, meaning they are unable to “provide oneself or one’s family with three nutritious meals per day.”

- 31 percent of people in San Diego County experience nutrition insecurity (3,347,270 people).
- 39 percent of children in San Diego County experience nutrition insecurity (284,518 children).

## Food security disparities

There are disparities in food security and access to food across San Diego County. According to the San Diego Hunger Coalition, in 2019, 25 percent of the county population was nutrition insecure. However, this rate was higher for Black residents (44 percent), Indigenous residents (37 percent), and Latino/a residents (44 percent). Additionally, according to a report by Serving Seniors, 49 percent of seniors who had experienced homelessness had gone without food or medication.

Geographic disparities also exist across the San Marcos service area. The SNAP enrollment map shows areas where more than 50 percent of the population is people of color, and a higher-than-average proportion of residents relies on SNAP.

### Impact of the COVID-19 pandemic

Food security was also impacted by the COVID-19 pandemic because of job losses and other financial stressors. Community representatives noted that there was an increase in need in clients asking how to access food services. According to the San Diego Hunger Coalition, 28 percent of people were newly food insecure in 2020. During this time, the hunger relief sector increased the total amount of food assistance by 85 percent. Interviewed community leaders shared that donated food boxes are often a one-size-fits-all package that can lack utensils to support food preparation which is a gap as 23 percent of all low-income kitchens lack basic cooking equipment.

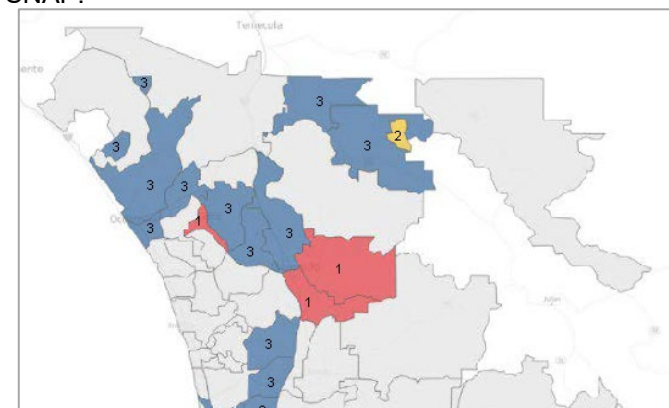
Despite this increase in access to food relief, many San Diego County residents remained food insecure. Interviewed community representatives expressed concern that food insecurity will increase once resources that were expanded during the pandemic run out, such as Cal Fresh emergency allotments, rental assistance programs or prescription cost programs. Despite the influx of food resources during the pandemic, the San Diego Hunger Coalition estimates that the county needs to acquire an additional 13.8 million meals per month in March 2021 to meet basic needs, which highlights a need to further support access to food across San Diego County. Additionally, interviewed community leaders also shared that the process for residents to obtain food donations is cumbersome as there are long lines and limited guidance on where to find support.

People who are struggling with food insecurity are often also struggling with chronic illness, and food, in so many ways, is medicine. Unfortunately, the charitable response to hunger is one size food box fits all. And the food is often not healthy or it's an over-abundance of produce and food that needs to be prepared. And keep in mind that 23% of all low-income kitchens lack the basic cooking equipment. They don't have knives for chopping or cutting boards or stock pots or roasting pans. So, the least dignified way to alleviate hunger is through a charitable response.

– Food insecurity nonprofit representative

### SNAP ENROLLMENT, SAN MARCOS SERVICE AREA, 2015-2019

Areas shaded red (1) are ZIP codes with a population of people of color greater than 50 percent and where more than 9.7 percent (state average) of the population is enrolled in SNAP.



- 1 Higher need and higher proportion of people of color
- 2 Higher need
- 3 Higher proportion of people of color
- Lower need and lower proportion of people of color

Mental health affects all areas of life, including a person’s physical well-being, ability to work and perform well in school and to participate fully in family and community activities.

Anxiety, depression, and suicide ideation are on the rise due to the COVID-19 pandemic, particularly among Black and Latino/a Americans.

Those facing challenges related to lower economic opportunity often experience high levels of stress in their daily lives, coupled with fewer resources for coping. Children and youth experiencing stress have an increased likelihood of poorer mental and physical health.

Deaths of despair — those due to suicide, drug overdose, and alcoholism — are on the rise, and males, Native American/Alaska Native people, and those who are unemployed are at greater risk.

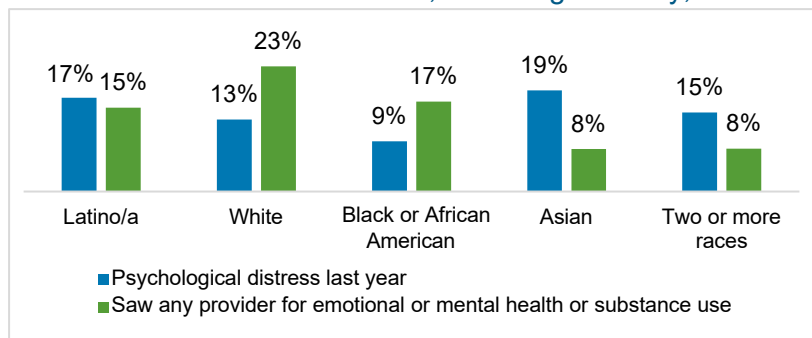
Communities across the country are experiencing a critical lack of capacity to meet the increased demand for mental health services. At the same time, rapid adoption of digital platforms for behavioral health services has helped reduce barriers to in-person mental health care.

San Diego County residents, like many across the state, face mental and behavioral health challenges that were further exacerbated during the COVID-19 pandemic. San Diego County residents report 3.5 poor mental health days per month, compared to 3.7 days across California, and 4.0 days nationwide. San Diego has similar age adjusted rate of deaths of despair (death due to suicide, alcohol related disease, and drug overdoses) compared to California as a whole (33.3 and 34.3 per 100,000 respectively). Although San Diego County has a higher rate of mental health providers (371.1 per 100,000) than California (352.3 per 100,000) and the Southern California region (305.9 per 100,000), there continues to be stigma and barriers to accessing care. Since 2016, there has been increase in the percentage of Access & Crisis Line calls that are crisis calls (from 26 percent in 2016 to 53 percent in 2020; see chart on next page).

### Ethnic disparities

Although San Diego County mental health data are comparable to or better than the state, at the national level, racial and ethnic differences in rates of suicidal ideation, suicide attempts, and suicide deaths exist. According to the Suicide Prevention Resource Center, American Indian/Alaska Native adults are at the highest risk for past-year suicide-related thoughts, followed by Latino/a and white adults equally. For past-year suicide attempts, Black adults are at the highest risk, followed by Latino/a then white and AI/AN adults equally. According to the Suicide Prevention Resource Center, racial and ethnic groups differ in their access to culturally appropriate behavioral health treatment, experiences of discrimination and historical trauma, and other factors that may be related to suicide risk. In San Diego County, Asian and Latino/a residents were more likely to say they had psychological distress in the past year.

PSYCHOLOGICAL DISTRESS, San Diego County, 2020



Source: [California Health Interview Survey, 2020](#)

### Impact of the COVID-19 pandemic

Interviewed community representatives noted the extreme impact that the COVID-19 pandemic has had on mental/behavioral health across San Diego County. They highlighted the needs of teens in particular. In addition, data show that older adults in San Diego County reported struggling with mental health issues, which were also exacerbated during the pandemic. According to the Serving Seniors report, 27 percent of older adults surveyed said they struggled with mental health and of those struggling with mental health, only about half (56 percent) reported receiving treatment.

Community representatives shared that communities of color have limited options to find culturally competent mental health services that have experience addressing history of discrimination and understand the historical trauma that communities of color experience. Additionally, community representatives reported that the mental and behavioral health workforce has dwindled significantly during the COVID-19 pandemic due to staff burnout.

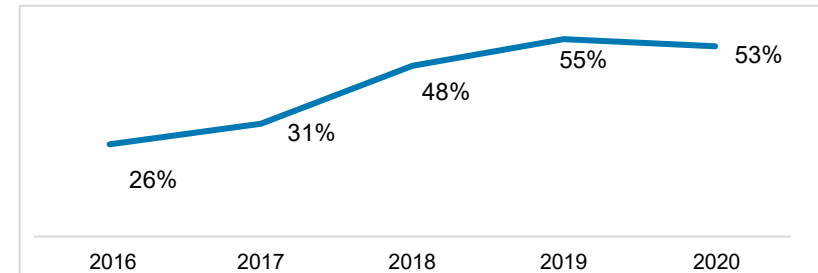
### Substance use

In San Diego County, the rate of opioid deaths is 7.8 compared to 5.7 per at the state level and 5.8 in the Southern California region (rates per 100,000 population). In addition, in San Diego County, the proportion of residents who drink excessively is 21.6 percent compared to 19.5 percent for the state and the Southern California region. Community representatives also noted the connection between mental/behavioral health and substance use, especially during the pandemic.

We have an extremely long wait list at this point of patients requesting assistance for mental health needs and we cannot meet the need. Last year, we actually hired more staff than we actually had physical space for, so more therapists. Just in this past month we've brought on three more psychiatrists as well, to try to meet this growing need, but it seems insurmountable to be honest with you at this point. We're really trying to figure out how much of this can we do, recognizing that we can't solve this problem.

– Health care leader

### PERCENTAGE OF ACCESS & CRISIS LINE CALLS THAT WERE CRISIS CALLS, 2016-2020, SAN DIEGO COUNTY



Source: [San Diego County Suicide Prevention Council](#)

I think because of the pandemic, we have seen absolutely a sharp increase in people's mental health needs as far as concerns around depression because of isolation throughout the pandemic, because of an inability to engage in certain wellness activities that may have been more helpful to them in the past, or coping skills that were more helpful. In addition to that, we've also seen, from the mental health aspect, we have seen several folks relapse substances over the last year and a half because of difficulty feeling connected and engaged with recovery-based communities or mental health services not being available, and we have actually lost clients to fentanyl in the last year and a half as a result of relapse to substances.

– Nonprofit representative

# Health need profile: Education



The link between education and health is well known — those with higher levels of education are more likely to be healthier and live longer.

Having a high school diploma is correlated strongly with healthy behaviors, improved quality of life, and higher life expectancy. Adults with at least a high school education are more likely to be employed and earn more than those with less education.

Children from families with low incomes are less likely to experience the numerous benefits of attending preschool, including higher rates of high school graduation and college attendance and lower levels of juvenile incarceration, particularly for boys. Another strong predictor of high school graduation and career success is reading proficiency by third grade, yet more than 80 percent of low income children do not achieve this milestone.

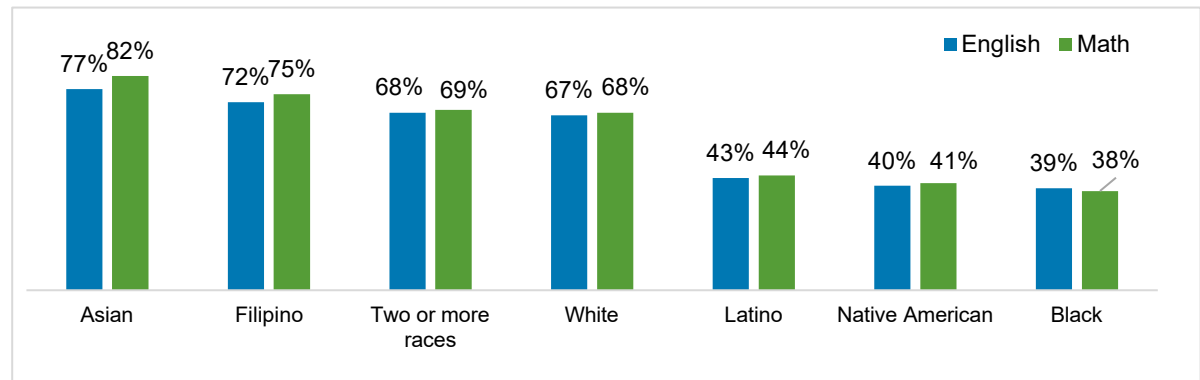
Disruptions in schooling from the COVID-19 pandemic particularly affected Black and Hispanic students and those from low income households, who suffered the steepest setbacks in learning and achievement. These disparities likely reflect less access to technology for remote learning, higher rates of unemployment in low-income communities and communities of color, and urban schools delaying return to in-person instruction.

The San Marcos service area has a slightly higher rate of adults who have attended college (22.9 percent) compared to state (21.1 percent) and the Southern California region (20.9 percent) averages. Furthermore, 53.5 percent of young children are enrolled in preschool, higher than state (51.0 percent) and Southern California region (50.6 percent) averages. There also is a higher percentage of adults who complete high school on time (88.3 percent) compared to rates across the state (82.4 percent) and Southern California region (80.7 percent). However, there are some communities where more than half the population is people of color and the proportion of adults without a high school education is above the state average, as shown on the map on the next page.

### Ethnic and geographic disparities

Across San Diego County, there are racial and ethnic disparities in educational indicators. Filipino and Asian students have the highest 3<sup>rd</sup> grade Math and English proficiency, highest high school graduation rate and the lowest rate of chronic absenteeism. Black and Native American students have the lowest rate of 3<sup>rd</sup> grade math and English proficiency, lower high school graduation rates and highest rates of chronic absenteeism. Race Counts data also show that there is a lack of diversity among educators across San Diego County. Interviews with community representatives elaborated on this point and highlighted the historic disparity in the representation of persons of color in higher education as well. This lack of diversity in higher education can spill over into lack of representation in professional settings such as the medical field. Communities with a higher percentage of persons of color in north San Diego County had lower graduation rates compared to areas with a higher proportion of white residents.

3<sup>rd</sup> GRADE PROFICIENCY by Race/Ethnicity, San Diego County, 2015-2029



Source: [Race Counts](#)

**Youth insights**

Local high school students shared the challenges of attending high school during the COVID-19 pandemic. Students shared the social difficulties of being away from school stating that they have been losing connections with friends. Furthermore, students struggled with an initial lack of flexibility to online learning that required students to sustain classroom rules even though they were learning from home. For example, students were still required to do group work, despite the challenges of coordinating to connect with peers remotely online. Lastly, keeping up with school while also supporting family during the pandemic was especially stressful for students.

Virtual learning was a challenge for many families in the San Marcos service area. Throughout the pandemic, inequities in the virtual learning space emerged as some families struggled to support their children with at-home learning while others did not have access to stable internet. Interviews with community representatives highlighted that many students were trying to learn in overcrowded housing and spaces that made it difficult to concentrate. This was common among families with lower income.

Well, in my family, I'm the oldest sibling of six. So sometimes my mom leaves and goes for the groceries or does anything. And then sometimes I'll have to take care of my little siblings while I'm in class. I've been failing with homework sometimes because I take care of my siblings as well. And I don't finish homework. I wasn't finishing homework until like 10 or 12 o'clock in the night.

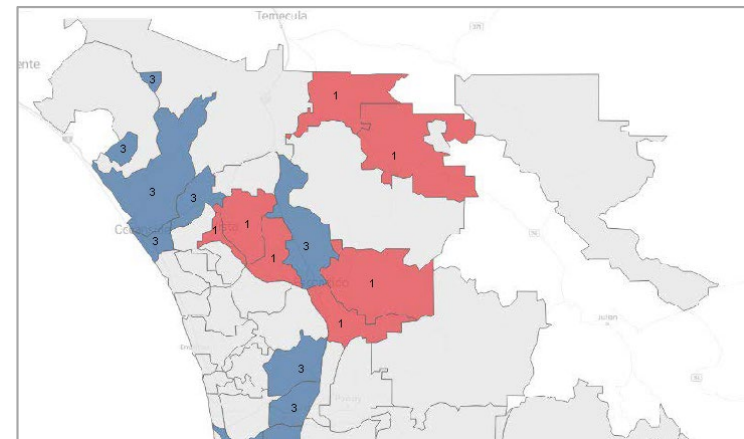
– Public school student

Again, going back to research, 14 percent of Latinos in the county of San Diego are going to college, 14 percent. There are about 40 percent of the population that are college-age Latinos in the county of San Diego. Yet only 14 percent of us are going to college, big inequities. And so that is a determinant of your future economic earning power if you're not able to move on to higher education or you don't have access to higher education.

– Community leader

**ADULTS WITHOUT A HIGH SCHOOL DIPLOMA, SAN MARCOS SERVICE AREA, 2015-2019**

Areas shaded red (1) are ZIP codes with a population of people of color greater than 50 percent and more than 17.6 percent (state average) of the adult population does not have a high school diploma.



- 1 Higher need and higher proportion of people of color
- 2 Higher need
- 3 Higher proportion of people of color
- Lower need and lower proportion of people of color

Source: Kaiser Permanente Community Health Data Platform



### Community resources potentially available to respond to health needs

The CHNA process included an identification of existing community assets and resources to address health needs. The San Marcos service area includes community-based organizations, government departments and agencies, hospital and clinic partners, and other community members and organizations that address many community health needs.

Key resources available to respond to the identified health needs of the community are listed in Appendix C.

## Kaiser Permanente San Marcos Medical Center 2019 Implementation Strategy evaluation of impact

In the 2019 IS process, all Kaiser Permanente service areas planned for and drew on a broad array of resources and strategies to improve the health of our communities, such as grantmaking, in-kind resources, and partnerships, as well as several internal Kaiser Permanente programs including Medicaid, the Children's Health Insurance Program (CHIP) and other government-sponsored programs, charitable health coverage, medical financial assistance, health professional training, and research. In addition to our direct spend, we also leveraged assets from across Kaiser Permanente to help us achieve our mission to improve the health of communities. This comprehensive approach includes activities around supplier diversity, socially responsible investing, and environmental stewardship.

Kaiser Permanente opened San Marcos Medical Center on August 9, 2023. Strategies described in the Kaiser Permanente 2019 San Diego and Zion medical centers Implementation Strategy (IS) report included activities to address significant health needs prioritized in the 2019 CHNA report, which covered the San Marcos service area. The impact of those activities in the San Marcos service area is described in this section; the complete 2019 IS report is available at <https://www.kp.org/chna>.

### Kaiser Permanente San Marcos Medical Center's 2019 Implementation Strategy priority health needs

1. Access to health care
2. Economic security
3. Mental health and wellness

### 2019 Implementation Strategy evaluation of impact by health need

Grants to community-based organizations are a key part of the contributions Kaiser Permanente makes each year to address identified health needs, and we prioritize work intended to reduce health disparities and improve health equity. Kaiser Permanente also serves the community through programs to improve access to care, including Medicaid, charitable health coverage, and medical financial assistance. At the time this CHNA report was completed, Kaiser Permanente San Marcos Medical Center Community Health had information on the impact of these activities from 2020 and 2021 and will continue to monitor strategies implemented.

Kaiser Permanente San Marcos Medical Center addresses community health needs in multiple ways, including grantmaking, access to care programs, and socially responsible investing. Several of those activities during 2020-2021 are highlighted in the table below.

Additionally, the Kaiser Permanente Southern California Region has funded significant contributions to the California Community Foundation in the interest of funding effective long-term, strategic community benefit initiatives. During 2020-2021 a portion of money managed by this foundation was used to award 38 grants totaling \$3,486,420 in service of 2019 IS health in San Diego County.

Two examples of key accomplishments in response to our 2019 IS includes support for our community partners who helped accelerate efforts to broaden the scope of our care and services to address individuals and their families who have been disproportionately impacted by COVID-19 or

who are at high infection risk. Kaiser Permanente’s partner, TrueCare, ensures vaccine distribution sites are accessible through multiple modes and are open during hours that accommodate a variety of work schedules. TrueCare connected with Latinx, Black, NHPI, and AIAN individuals, essential workers who must work in-person and live in multi-generational/multi-family households, and individuals living in congregate settings. They build trust and leverage trusted messengers in impacted communities to facilitate vaccine access and uptake.

As the health and economic toll of COVID-19 continued to mount, in 2020 Kaiser Permanente provided grants totaling \$6.3 million to strengthen COVID-19 prevention and response for people experiencing homelessness across our regions and service areas. In addition, the San Marcos Medical Center partnered with the Vista Community Clinic to increase vaccination rates among members of Hispanic and African American populations. Through their efforts they were able to increase COVID-19 vaccination rates in San Diego County.

### Kaiser Permanente San Marcos Medical Center IS priority health needs and strategies

#### Access to health care

**Care and coverage:** Kaiser Permanente San Marcos Medical Center ensures health access by serving those most in need of health care through Medicaid, the Children’s Health Insurance Program (CHIP) and other government-sponsored programs, charitable health coverage, and medical financial assistance. The values reported below reflect the San Diego service area at the time, which includes the San Diego, Zion, and San Marcos medical centers.

	Individuals served		Amount	
	2020	2021	2020	2021
Medicaid, CHIP and other government-sponsored programs	54,807	61,191	\$30,050,466	\$5,566,255
Charitable Health Coverage	195	168	\$15,054	\$16,605
Medical Financial Assistance	14,977	12,231	\$16,286,598	\$11,311,332
<b>Total care &amp; coverage</b>	<b>69,979</b>	<b>73,590</b>	<b>\$46,352,118</b>	<b>\$16,984,192</b>

**Other access to care strategies:** During 2020-2021, 19 grants were awarded to community organizations, for a total investment of \$2,241,908 to address access to care in the San Diego service area, which includes the San Diego, Zion, and San Marcos medical centers.

#### Examples and outcomes of most impactful other strategies

##### Core Operating - Capacity Building

Community Health Association Inland Southern Region has collaborated with community-based health center members to strengthen the healthcare safety net by providing capacity building, technical assistance and quality improvement activities designed to address access barriers, build local workforce, and elevate staff skills. The initiative is expected to serve 200 individuals through quality improvement initiatives, advocacy, access to care projects, and technical assistance.

##### CPCA Core Support Grant

California Primary Care Association has supported the organization’s core services, including training, technical assistance, conferences, and peer networks. The grant is expected to serve 35,000 California community health center staff and leadership, policy makers, and stakeholders

##### Improving Health Coverage and Affordability for Low Income Seniors

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San Diegans for Healthcare Coverage was awarded \$40,000 to identify and assist low income seniors with retaining or gaining Medi-Cal eligibility so that not only are medical care, prescription drugs and wellness programs affordable and accessible to this vulnerable population, but income insecurity is mitigated. The project is expected to reach 750 low income seniors served by community health centers in San Diego, North County (Vista/Oceanside) and Imperial Beach who are already on Medicare or are 64 (3-6 months before they turn 65).

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### Economic security

During 2020-2021, 28 grants were awarded to community organizations, for a total investment of \$944,012 to address economic security in the San Diego service area, which includes the San Diego, Zion, and San Marcos medical centers.

#### *Examples and outcomes of most impactful strategies*

#### California Housing Services & Operating Subsidy Fund for Project Homekey

Enterprise Community Partners has established a public-private partnership fund to support operating costs and wraparound services for vulnerable populations. The partnership is expected to provide housing for about 1,500 individuals and technical assistance to 20 housing projects across California.

#### North County Lifeline

North County Lifeline's "The Homeless Youth Project" was awarded \$60,000 to support vulnerable youth and young adults who are experiencing a high rate of job-loss, housing insecurity, and homelessness. This project expands services offered through the LifeSpring housing program for transition aged foster youth and the youth Drop-in Center, a component of the LifeSpring program. Further, project activities will expand to meet the unique needs of homeless LGBTQ youth through services provided by the North County LGBTQ Resource Center. The partnership is expected to reach 50 youth and young adults match them to social services and housing.

#### Inner City Capital Connections Program

Initiative for a Competitive Inner City, Inc. was awarded \$180,000 to support business owners in under-resourced communities to build capacity for sustainable growth. The initiative is expected to provide training and resources for 50-75 local businesses in the Kaiser Permanente Southern California Region.

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## Mental health and wellness

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During 2020-2021, 17 grants were awarded to community organizations, for a total investment of \$533,529 to address mental health and wellness in the San Diego service area, which includes the San Diego, Zion, and San Marcos medical centers.

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### *Examples and outcomes of most impactful strategies*

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#### Child Behavioral Health Agenda

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Children Now was awarded \$300,000 over 2 years to lead the development of a California Child Behavioral Health Agenda outlining specific policy priorities that will ensure California's workforce is prepared to support and treat children. The Child Behavioral Health Agenda is expected to serve 9,200,000 by encouraging the State to incorporate the evidence-based models to support the whole-child and educating policymakers on ways to transform workforce programs to benefit children.

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#### Building Capacity to Support Maternal Mental Health

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Post-Partum Health Alliance was awarded \$40,000 over to partner with the San Diego Breastfeeding Center Foundation and other key organizational partners to implement a multi-pronged approach for improving knowledge, capacity and infrastructure in the community as it relates to maternal mental health and breastfeeding. This includes education and training for families and health providers, the development of online training modules and scholarships for mental health providers to receive much needed certification in maternal mental health. The Post-Partum Health Alliance is expected to serve 176 by providing 100 percent of women and family participants with breastfeeding support and PMADS education, increasing the number of mental health clinicians in San Diego region with specialized training in PMADS and 2 trainings completed in an online format and refreshed materials that have been updated with increased cultural sensitivity.

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## Appendix A: Secondary data sources

### Kaiser Permanente Community Health Data Platform

<b>Source</b>	<b>Dates</b>
1. American Community Survey	2015 - 2019
2. Behavioral Risk Factor Surveillance System	2020
3. CDC, Interactive Atlas of Heart Disease and Stroke	2016 - 2018
4. Center for Medicare & Medicaid Services	2018
5. CMS National Provider Identification	2019
6. Dept of Education ED Facts & state data sources	Varies
7. EPA National Air Toxics Assessment	2014
8. EPA Smart Location Mapping	2013
9. Esri Business Analyst	2020
10. Esri Demographics	2020
11. FBI Uniform Crime Reports	2014 - 2018
12. Feeding America	2018
13. FEMA National Risk Index	2020
14. Harvard University Project (UCDA)	2018
15. HRSA Area Resource File	2019
16. HUD Policy Development and Research	2020
17. National Center for Chronic Disease Prevention and Health Promotion	2018
18. National Center for Education Statistics	2017 - 2018
19. National Center for Health Statistics	2018
20. National Center for HIV/AIDS, Viral Hepatitis, STD, and TB Prevention	2018
21. NCHS National Vital Statistics System	2015 - 2019
22. NCHS US Small-area Life Expectancy Estimates Project	2010 - 2015
23. NCI State Cancer Profiles	2013 - 2017
24. NCI United States Cancer Statistics	2013 - 2017
25. NHTSA Fatality Analysis Reporting System	2014 - 2018
26. US Geological Survey; National Land Cover Database	2016

27. USDA Food Environment Atlas 2016

Additional secondary data sources

Source	Dates
1. Race Counts	2019
2. Community Health Interview Survey	2019
3. San Diego Suicide Prevention Council Report	2020
4. United Ways of California Real Cost Measure	2021
5. Suicide Prevention Resource Center	2010-2019
6. Serving Seniors, Senior Homelessness: A Needs Assessment	2021
7. San Diego Hunger Coalition	2021

## Appendix B. Community input

	Data collection method	Affiliation	Number	Perspectives represented	Role	Date
1	Small group interview	YMCA Youth & Family Services	3	Housing, behavioral health, LGBTQ homelessness, youth homelessness	Leaders	8/12/2021
2	Key informant interview	Dreams for Change	1	Housing, behavioral health, family homelessness, economic security	Leader	8/18/2021
3	Key informant interview	Kitchens for Good	1	Food insecurity, economic security, career readiness	Leader	8/24/2021
4	Key informant interview	Neighborhood Health FQHC	1	North County, chronic illness, women's health, behavioral health, food insecurity, seniors, migrant workers	Leader	8/30/2021
5	Small group interview	North County Lifeline – Club Crown Heights	3	Education, youth perspective	Leaders	9/9/2021
6	Key informant interview	County of San Diego HHSA	1	Countywide access to care	Leader	9/23/2021
7	Small group interview	North County Lifeline – Staff who work with homeless and foster youth, young adults, and victims of trafficking	2	Countywide, youth and families, behavioral health, family violence, economic security, youth, housing	Leaders	9/24/2021



## Appendix C. Community resources

Identified need	Resource provider name	Summary description
Access to care	Community Health Systems Federally Qualified Health Center (FQHC)	Community Health Systems is an FQHC serving in San Bernadino, Riverside, and San Diego counties. Their mission is not to compete with other clinics that provide healthcare services, but to serve the indigent population and meet their healthcare needs.
	Vista Community Clinic Federally Qualified Health Center (FQHC)	For more than four decades, Vista Community Clinic's mission has been to provide affordable, high-quality health care and support services to all people, with a special commitment to the uninsured, low-income and medically underserved.
	TrueCare Federally Qualified Health Center (FQHC)	In 1971, TrueCare began as North County Health Services, a grassroots effort to serve migrant farmworkers in the rural areas and farming communities of north San Diego County. Today it operates multiple clinic sites in five cities offering medical, dental, behavioral health and OB/GYN services to its 62,000 patients.
Income & employment	Alliance for Regional Solutions	The Alliance for Regional Solutions includes over 60+ nonprofit organizations throughout North County. Member organizations include educational entities, healthcare providers, social service agencies, government agencies, and philanthropic bodies and work with almost every community of concern, including low-income, minority, disabled, senior populations, and other under-represented groups, serving thousands of individuals and families dependent on this network of support. Together, they manage the Winter Shelter Network, including shelters in Carlsbad, Vista, Oceanside and Escondido.
	Jewish Family Service	Jewish Family Service is a client-centered, impact-driven organization working to build a stronger, healthier, more resilient San Diego. They provide food resources and social, behavioral and economic support services to children and youth, adults and families, older adults, refugees and immigrants and military families throughout San Diego County.
Housing	YMCA Youth & Family Services (YFS)	YFS provides direct service and support to over 15,000 individuals in the San Diego County community each year. Since 1970, they have consistently provided unique programming that addresses San Diego's most pressing social issues and adapts to its ever-changing communal needs. By ensuring everyone has a safe place to live, a reliable support system, encouragement to pursue their goals, and access to the resources they need to flourish, YFS's staff, volunteers and donors continue to help bring about meaningful and lasting change for the youth and families in the community.
	North County Lifeline	North County Lifeline is a community-based human services organization that serves low-income and underserved populations in San Diego County. Every year Lifeline serves more than 5,000 members of the community through clinically strong and evidence-based programs that focus on positive youth development, child abuse prevention and domestic violence intervention, housing and self-sufficiency, behavioral health, and human trafficking victim and survivor services.

Identified need	Resource provider name	Summary description
	Interfaith Community Services	Interfaith Community Services has been providing those experiencing homelessness with the necessary resources to relieve them from ongoing hardships and move them toward life-changing independence. Their continuum of care provides clients with wrap-around services to access every area of support and ensure personalized care.
Food insecurity	Neighborhood Health Federally Qualified Health Center (FQHC)	Neighborhood Health defines community health as more than just vaccines and checkups, but giving people the resources they need to live their best lives. Their mission is to improve the health and happiness of the communities they serve by providing quality care to all, regardless of situation or circumstance. As a private, nonprofit 501(C) (3) community health organization, they provide 355,930 medical, dental, and behavioral health visits to 76,630 people annually.
	Kitchens for Good	Kitchens for Good is dedicated to helping job seekers access careers and the fresh start they deserve. Through their apprenticeship program, apprentices gain the knife skills and life skills they need to launch a meaningful career in the culinary and hospitality industry, so they can move forward in life and make a positive impact on their communities. Apprentices — who are overcoming the impacts of incarceration, homelessness, and foster care — hone their skills while making nutritious meals for food-insecure San Diegans.
	Mama’s Kitchen	With the tremendous support from our caring community, Mama’s Kitchen prepares and delivers nutritious meals for those struggling with AIDS, cancer, or diabetes. Mama’s Kitchen strives to help their clients stay healthy, preserve their dignity, and keep their families together by providing free, culturally appropriate home-delivered meals, along with pantry services and nutrition education.
	The Great Plates (AIS)	Aging & Independent Services (AIS), part of the County of San Diego Health and Human Services Agency, provides programs and services to help older adults and persons living with disabilities to stay safe, healthy, engaged, and as independent as possible. The AIS Call Center is the gateway to information and assistance about AIS programs, as well as other community services for older adults, those living with disabilities, caregivers, and family members. Call Center Specialists also take reports of suspected elder and dependent adult abuse.
Mental & behavioral Health	North County Lifeline	North County Lifeline’s mission is to build self-reliance among youth, individuals and families through problem solving, skill-building and accessible community-based services. Their programs include youth development, housing and stability, child abuse, prevention and intervention, and behavioral health.
	San Diego Center for Children	The San Diego Center for Children is committed to a Continuum of Behavioral Healthcare for children and families to access better health, improved relationships and greater quality of life. Their programs include prevention, assessment, transition, outpatient therapy, school-based therapies, education, wrap around and residential services and foster care.
	McAlister Institute	McAlister Institute has grown into one of San Diego County’s largest alcohol and other drug treatment providers. Together, McAlister Institute’s 25 programs represent a continuum of care which spans prevention, outreach, intervention, deferred entry programs, outpatient treatment, short-term residential, long-term residential, and sober living.

Identified need	Resource provider name	Summary description
	Social Advocates for Youth	SAY San Diego partnerships and services address the comprehensive needs of the entire individual or family rather than focusing on one symptom or problem. Their Alcohol, Tobacco and Other Drug Prevention Program is designed to incorporate the concept of community partnerships, the application of new, science-based knowledge of alcohol, tobacco and other drug problem reduction, and the development of a system-wide, outcome-driven prevention strategy to address the increasing trend of alcohol, tobacco, and other drug use among adolescents in San Diego County. Mobilizing residents of the community is essential to affect environmental and systems change.
Education	The San Marcos Promise	The San Marcos Promise helps students gain essential work skills and expand their professional networks, to shift more workforce-bound high school graduates to higher paying careers with benefits and growth potential and away from common jobs that pay lower wages, are part-time, and lack benefits, and has students participate in grade-specific college and career readiness activities.