

CHNA Implementation Strategy Completed FY2025

Community Needs Assessment Narrative

The Community Health Assessment group was made up of representatives from Salina Regional Health Center and area agencies for the prioritization of these health needs.

Several tools and frameworks have been developed to guide communities through the CHNA process.

The framework selected by the CHNA Core Group is the Institute of Medicine Community Health Improvement Process. An important initial step in the process is the preparation, analysis, and interpretation of data describing the community: the Community Profile. The Community Profile describes the factors that contribute to the health and health status of the community.

List of Other Hospital Facilities Included in CHNA

- Salina Surgical Center

List of Organizations Other Than Hospital Facilities Included in CHNA

- Salina–Saline County Health Department
 - United Way of Salina
 - DVACK
 - North Central Kansas Area on Aging
 - Central Kansas Mental Health
 - Central Kansas Foundation
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Implementation Strategy Narrative

This Implementation Strategy and Community Benefit Analysis Report summarizes **Salina Regional Health Center's (SRHC)** plans to address the prioritized needs identified in the **2025 Community Health Needs Assessment (CHNA)** and to evaluate progress in meeting previously identified needs. The hospital recognizes that the implementation strategies outlined in this report serve as a guide and framework for addressing the community's most significant health priorities. As SRHC moves forward, many resources, ongoing commitments, and community partnerships will be necessary to effectively support healthier communities throughout **Saline County and the surrounding region**.

SRHC provides funding to **Salina Regional Health Foundation, Inc. (SRHF)**. In turn, the Foundation supports the identified needs of SRHC and the broader community by making distributions to tax-exempt organizations, including the Health Center and other organizations and initiatives that are related to, affiliated with, or cooperate in the achievement of its charitable purposes. The Foundation also serves as a corporate member of SRHC.

This Implementation Strategy outlines SRHC's plans to address the prioritized needs identified in the **2022 Community Health Needs Assessment**, while also incorporating additional needs identified in the **2025 CHNA**. The strategies described in this report provide a structured approach for addressing community health priorities and demonstrate SRHC's continued commitment to improving health outcomes through collaboration, investment, and community engagement.

Saline County Community Health Needs 2025 Prioritized

- 1 Heart Disease related Indicators
- 2 Depression / Mental Health
- 3 Aging Population
- 4 Overweight/ Obesity and Child Obesity
- 5 Cancer
- 6 Diabetes
- 7 Trauma/Falls
- 8 Drug Poisoning
- 9 Pregnancy Related Indicators
- 10 Domestic Violence
- 11 Stroke
- 12 Immunizations
- 13 Smoking, Percent of Adults Who Currently Smoke Cigarettes
- 14 Sexually Transmitted Disease

Aging Population

Supporting the needs of an aging population remains a priority for Salina Regional Health Center and its community partners. Several initiatives focus on improving care coordination, expanding access to services, and strengthening the healthcare workforce needed to care for older adults.

One important initiative is the **Meds to Beds program**, which provides patients with their medications before leaving the hospital and includes enhanced education at discharge. This program helps ensure patients—especially older adults managing multiple prescriptions—better understand their medications, reducing confusion and improving adherence once they return home.

Recognizing that a growing senior population requires a strong healthcare workforce, Salina Regional Health Center also plays an active role in supporting nursing education. The hospital provides clinical training opportunities and internships for students from several regional nursing programs, including **KU School of Nursing, Cloud County Community College, Colby Community College, Hutchinson Community College, Kansas Wesleyan University, North Central Kansas Technical College, North Central Kansas Technical College–Beloit, and Salina Area Technical College**. These partnerships help prepare the next generation of healthcare professionals to serve the region.

Salina Regional Health Center is also investing in expanded access to care by supporting the **Salina Family Healthcare Center's capital campaign** for a new state-of-the-art facility. SRHC has committed **\$1 million over three years** to help expand clinical space, increase patient care capacity, bring services under one roof, and enhance healthcare education opportunities for the region.

Community partnerships further support programs that improve quality of life for older adults. The **Salina Regional Health Foundation** provided **\$10,000 to the North Central–Flint Hills Area Agency on Aging** to support the 2025 Sunflower Fair, an event that promotes resources, services, and engagement opportunities for seniors. The Foundation also supported dementia education by contributing **\$1,000 to the Alzheimer's Support and Education Group** for its Dementia Symposium.

Additionally, the Foundation awarded **\$7,216 to the Salina Family YMCA** to purchase a **T6 Recumbent Cross Trainer**. This specialized equipment is designed to support individuals with limited mobility, balance challenges, or those transitioning from rehabilitation to independent exercise, helping older adults remain active and maintain their health.

Through workforce development, community partnerships, and targeted health initiatives, Salina Regional Health Center continues to address the growing needs of the region's aging population.

Cancer

Salina Regional Health Center is committed to providing comprehensive, high-quality cancer care for the region. The organization's cancer program holds prestigious accreditation from the American College of Surgeons Commission on Cancer and the American College of Radiation Oncology, reflecting a strong commitment to clinical excellence and quality patient care. In addition, the Tammy Walker Cancer Center is affiliated with the Midwest Cancer Alliance, which expands patient access to the latest treatment options and clinical research studies.

SRHC maintains a full range of cancer services, including medical oncology and radiation oncology. Patients also have access to comprehensive support services such as nutrition counseling, an appearance center, spiritual support, and a cancer registry that helps track outcomes and improve cancer care in the region.

The Tammy Walker Cancer Center continues to be recognized for excellence in patient care. The Center was named a Human Experience Pinnacle of Excellence Award winner by Press Ganey for the second consecutive year. This recognition places the Center in the top 5 percent of healthcare providers nationally for patient experience for three consecutive years.

Prevention and early detection are also key components of the Center's community outreach efforts. Throughout the year, the Tammy Walker Cancer Center hosted several cancer screening events, including screenings for prostate, skin, breast, and colon cancer, and participated in community health fairs and educational presentations.

The Salina Regional Health Foundation also supports community initiatives that benefit cancer patients and their families. The Foundation awarded a **\$5,000 grant to Rolling Hills Zoo** to support Dream Night at the Zoo, which provides a free evening for children with cancer or chronic illnesses and their families. In addition, a **\$20,000 grant was awarded to the American Red Cross of Kansas** to support community blood drives in Saline County, including donor recruitment, collection, testing, and delivery of blood products.

Transportation can be a significant barrier to treatment for cancer patients. To address this need, the Salina Regional Health Foundation provides **\$110,000 annually to OCCK** to support transportation services through the Med-Van program, helping Tammy Walker Cancer Center patients travel to and from their treatments.

Salina Regional Health Center also supports the **Salina Family Healthcare Center's capital campaign** for a new state-of-the-art facility, which will expand access to care and strengthen healthcare services for the region.

Through advanced treatment options, community outreach, and strong partnerships, Salina Regional Health Center continues to work to improve cancer prevention, treatment, and support services for the communities it serves

Death Rate Due to Drug Poisoning

Addressing substance misuse and reducing deaths related to drug poisoning remain important priorities for Salina Regional Health Center and its community partners. Through collaboration with local organizations, SRHC supports prevention, treatment, and recovery services that help individuals and families affected by substance use disorders.

Salina Regional Health Center continues to partner with the **Central Kansas Foundation**, the leading organization for substance abuse prevention and treatment services in north-central Kansas. In addition to ongoing collaboration, SRHC provides financial support through a contract totaling **\$13,000 per month** to help fund drug counseling and educational services. These services provide individuals with access to treatment resources, counseling, and recovery support within the region.

Salina Regional Health Foundation also supports programs that expand access to substance use education and recovery resources. A **\$15,000 grant** was awarded to the **Saint Luke's Foundation** Tuition Scholarship Fund to assist individuals seeking substance abuse education and recovery support. The scholarship funding helps cover costs for individuals who may not have the resources to attend an inpatient treatment program and also assists with transitional housing for those successfully discharged from treatment as they work toward long-term recovery.

In addition, the Foundation provided **\$60,000 in support for addiction treatment initiatives through the Central Kansas Foundation** to help establish **The Nest at Pathfinder Recovery Center**, a program designed to expand treatment and recovery resources for individuals battling substance use disorders.

Through partnerships that support prevention education, treatment access, and recovery services, Salina Regional Health Center remains committed to addressing substance misuse and helping reduce drug poisoning deaths within the communities it serves

Depression / Mental Health

Improving access to mental health services and reducing stigma associated with behavioral health conditions remain important priorities for Salina Regional Health Center. Through clinical services and community partnerships, SRHC works to expand mental health resources across central Kansas.

A key component of this effort is **Veridian Behavioral Health**, a comprehensive, multidisciplinary center providing high-quality mental health care throughout the region. Veridian offers services addressing depression, anxiety, marital and family concerns, parent–child conflicts, and grief in a private and accessible setting. Psychiatrists at Veridian provide outpatient care and are actively involved in intensive outpatient programs, inpatient behavioral health services, and nursing home care, ensuring continuity of care across multiple levels of treatment.

In partnership with the **Salina Regional Health Foundation**, Salina Regional Health Center also supports several community initiatives focused on reducing mental health stigma and expanding access to counseling and supportive services. Funding was provided to **Blessed Hope Family** to support its Mental Health Counseling Services Program, helping provide program supplies, therapeutic resources, expanded counseling services, and respite childcare for families seeking support.

SRHC also provided **\$9,800 to the Smoky Hill Education Foundation** to host two **Educator Recharge Retreats**, which offer local educators an opportunity to focus on stress management, self-care, and mental wellness—an important effort given the increasing mental health challenges faced by those working in education.

Additional support was provided to **Resilience Clubhouse** in the amount of **\$26,000** to assist with the development of a new Salina mental health program. Funding helped purchase a passenger van and commercial-grade kitchen equipment, supporting programming designed to promote social connection, life skills, and recovery for individuals living with mental health challenges.

The Foundation also awarded **\$50,000 to Blessed Hope Family** for the **Expanding Roots of Hope Project**, which provides scholarships for foster and adoptive families. These scholarships help ensure families have access to mental health support, educational programming, and childcare services so they can participate in programs that strengthen family stability and emotional well-being.

Through clinical care, community partnerships, and targeted funding initiatives, Salina Regional Health Center continues working to expand mental health resources and improve emotional well-being throughout the communities it serves.

Diabetes

Salina Regional Health Center remains committed to improving the prevention and management of diabetes through specialized care, education, and ongoing community support programs.

A key resource for patients managing diabetes and other endocrine disorders is the **Salina Regional Endocrinology Clinic**, led by board-certified endocrinologist **Richard Gomendoza**. The clinic provides specialized diagnosis, treatment, and long-term management for patients living with diabetes and other hormone-related conditions, helping patients better control their health and reduce the risk of diabetes-related complications.

In addition to clinical care, Salina Regional Health Center offers **quarterly diabetes support group programs** designed to provide patients with education and peer support. These programs bring together expertise from SRHC's Pharmacy, Dietary, and Organizational Development teams to help individuals better understand diabetes management, including medication use, nutrition, lifestyle adjustments, and self-care strategies.

These support group programs are offered **free of charge**, with costs underwritten by the **Salina Regional Health Foundation**. By removing financial barriers and providing accessible education opportunities, SRHC helps empower individuals living with diabetes to better manage their condition and improve their overall quality of life.

Through specialized clinical services and ongoing patient education initiatives, Salina Regional Health Center continues to support individuals and families in managing diabetes throughout the communities it serves.

Domestic Violence

Salina Regional Health Center is committed to supporting individuals and families affected by domestic violence and abuse through both direct services and partnerships with community organizations that provide advocacy, education, and support.

SRHC partners with **Domestic Violence Association of Central Kansas** to help ensure victims have access to critical resources. DVACK provides free and confidential services to individuals experiencing domestic violence, sexual assault, stalking, teen dating violence, elder abuse, and human trafficking. These services include advocacy, crisis intervention, safety planning, and support programs that help survivors rebuild their lives.

Within the hospital, Salina Regional Health Center operates the **Sexual Assault Nurse Examiner/Sexual Assault Response Team (SANE/SART) Forensic Nursing Department** in the Emergency Department. This program provides **24/7 access to specially trained forensic nurses** who care for victims of sexual assault and other forms of violence. These professionals are trained to provide compassionate medical care, collect forensic evidence, and work

collaboratively with law enforcement and advocacy organizations to support survivors through the reporting and recovery process.

Salina Regional Health Foundation also supports community programs that help prevent violence and support families. A **\$28,346 grant** was awarded to **Child Advocacy and Parenting Services** to support the CAPS Education Program, including the Happy Bear program, bullying prevention education, and parenting classes. These programs serve students and families throughout the region, including schools in Salina, Southeast of Saline, Ell-Saline, St. Mary's, Minneapolis, Bennington, and Lindsborg.

In addition, the Foundation provided **\$10,000 to Big Brothers Big Sisters of Salina** to support its Community-Based Mentoring Program. Funding helps recruit and screen volunteers, conduct background checks, and support staff who work with mentors, youth participants, and their families. Mentoring relationships can play an important role in providing positive support systems for young people and helping prevent cycles of violence and instability.

Through clinical services, survivor support programs, and partnerships focused on prevention and mentorship, Salina Regional Health Center continues working to address domestic violence and promote safer, healthier communities throughout the region.

Heart Disease–Related Indicators

Salina Regional Health Center is committed to improving cardiovascular health and reducing heart disease–related complications through advanced clinical care and community education initiatives.

A key component of this effort is the hospital's **Chest Pain Center**, which has earned **Primary PCI Accreditation** from the **American College of Cardiology**. This accreditation recognizes the Center's ability to rapidly diagnose and treat patients experiencing heart attacks and other serious cardiac events. The program focuses on providing timely, evidence-based care for patients presenting with chest pain.

The Chest Pain Center provides advanced cardiac services, including rapid evaluation and treatment as well as **percutaneous coronary intervention (PCI)** procedures. These minimally invasive procedures help restore blood flow to blocked coronary arteries, significantly improving outcomes for patients experiencing heart attacks.

In addition to clinical services, Salina Regional Health Center participates in community outreach efforts focused on heart health education and prevention. Staff provide **blood pressure screenings and CPR/AED demonstrations** at community events such as the Sunflower Senior Fair, helping educate residents about recognizing cardiac emergencies and taking steps to reduce cardiovascular risk.

Through advanced cardiac care and community-based prevention initiatives, Salina Regional Health Center continues working to improve heart health and reduce heart disease–related risks throughout the region.

Immunizations

Salina Regional Health Center supports community health and disease prevention through vaccination initiatives and education programs.

At the **Tammy Walker Cancer Center**, efforts focus on **HPV vaccinations**, helping protect adolescents and young adults from vaccine-preventable cancers. These initiatives are part of the Center's broader commitment to preventive care and patient education.

The **Saline County Health Department** also plays a critical role in maintaining high immunization rates in the community, offering routine vaccinations for children, adults, and at-risk populations to prevent the spread of communicable diseases.

In addition, **COMCARE** has implemented patient notification programs to ensure individuals are reminded about screenings and vaccinations. These programs are supported by the **Meditech system**, which helps track patient needs and facilitates timely preventive care across the region.

Through partnerships with local public health organizations and the use of technology to engage patients, Salina Regional Health Center helps ensure community members have access to recommended immunizations and preventive services that protect long-term health

Obesity (Child and Adult)

Salina Regional Health Center actively supports programs that promote healthy lifestyles and combat obesity among children and adults through education, physical activity, and community engagement.

SRHC provides ongoing support for the **School Marathon Program**, funding up to **\$50,000 annually** to encourage children to engage in regular physical activity. The program promotes long-term healthy habits while fostering teamwork, goal-setting, and perseverance. Specifically, a **\$45,000 grant** was awarded to the **School Marathon Foundation** to support the **Fall 2025 School Marathon**, a 26.2-mile group running event designed to inspire children to stay active and pursue fitness goals.

In addition, SRHC and the **Salina Regional Health Foundation** support **Center Street Park**, a community space featuring an inclusive playground, walking path, and outdoor exercise equipment. The park encourages physical activity for individuals of all ages and abilities, providing a safe and accessible environment to stay active.

SRHC also supports youth-focused physical activity programs through partnerships with organizations like **ScoutReach**, **Coronado Area Council**, **Scouting America**. A **\$16,530 grant** funds the **ScoutReach After School Program**, which runs twice weekly at the YMCA and once weekly at three area elementary schools. The program combines fun and educational activities to promote physical health, teamwork, and personal growth. Through hands-on learning and

character development, participants build essential life skills such as problem-solving, communication, and leadership, while engaging in regular exercise.

Through these initiatives, Salina Regional Health Center encourages healthy behaviors, increases access to safe physical activity, and supports the development of lifelong wellness habits for children and adults throughout the community.

Pregnancy-Related Indicators

Salina Regional Health Center is dedicated to supporting maternal and infant health through clinical programs, community partnerships, and initiatives that promote safe pregnancies and healthy newborns.

SRHC offers the **Becoming a Mom Program** in partnership with the **Saline County Health Department**, providing prenatal education, resources, and support to expectant mothers throughout pregnancy. These services help families prepare for childbirth, infant care, and early parenting, supporting positive health outcomes for both mother and baby.

The hospital's **Birth Center** has earned "**Best of the Best**" recognition for excellence in metabolic and newborn screening, reflecting SRHC's commitment to early detection and preventive care. SRHC also operates a **Breast Milk Depot** in collaboration with the **Oklahoma Mothers' Milk Bank**, providing donor breast milk to infants in need and supporting optimal neonatal nutrition.

SRHC maintains its recognition through **High 5 for Mom & Baby Premier**, which highlights hospitals and programs demonstrating high-quality care for mothers and newborns.

In addition, the Salina Regional Health Foundation provided a **\$5,000 grant to the Salina Public Library** to support the construction of a new **Nursing Mother's Room** as part of the Re-Imagining Our Library Project, ensuring breastfeeding mothers have a private, comfortable space in a public setting.

Through a combination of clinical excellence, community partnerships, and maternal support initiatives, Salina Regional Health Center continues to promote healthy pregnancies, safe deliveries, and strong starts for newborns throughout the region.

STD Rate

The Saline County Health Department focuses on STD prevention and treatment. SRHC collaborates with the department on related programs.

Smoking

SRHC continues to offer smoking cessation classes.

Stroke

SRHC maintains designation as a Primary Stroke Center and operates a dedicated stroke response team.

Public education includes FAST stroke awareness initiatives and community outreach.

Trauma/Falls

SRHC is a Level III Trauma Center and participates in regional and statewide trauma councils. The trauma team provides fall risk assessments at the Sunflower Senior Fair.

SRHF awarded a \$20,000 grant to the American Red Cross of Kansas to fund community blood drives within Saline County, including donor recruitment, collection, testing, and delivery of blood products.

Saline County Emergency Management training (\$1,000.00) CPR and AED traing
