



Central Oregon's Regional Health Assessment

Community Themes and Strengths Overview

*Not listed in order of importance

Our Strengths and Values

The outdoors

Friends and family

A strong sense of community and philanthropy

Western heritage and values including independence

Safe communities

Youth and support services for youth

Health

Our Concerns

Unequal distribution of wealth and poverty

Failure to focus on prevention and preventive care

Lack of access to health care and affordable resources including transportation, housing, food

The growing burden of chronic disease, substance abuse and addictions and mental health issues

Difficulty navigating the health system

Low health literacy

Summary

There were not notable differences in the themes in Crook, Deschutes, and Jefferson counties, however, some issues discussed varied by location, especially in rural vs. urban areas.

Overarching concepts from these meetings include the importance of social determinants on health, the need to focus on prevention and preventive care, and emphasizing the use of our assets and resources to leverage change.



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Forces of Change Overview

*Not listed in order of importance

Forces of Change
Health care reform has increased health insurance coverage, but there are still gaps in access
Integration, collaboration and leadership are critical to improve the health of the community
Critical issues to address include: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • chronic and infectious disease prevention and control • mental health, substance use and abuse, and • continuing to increase access to dental care
Health system workforce development efforts are needed
Use of data and increasing accountability will continue to drive our system
The child health continuum, including mental health, needs to be strengthened
Socioeconomic status, housing and the social determinants greatly influence health status

Summary

Similar to the Community Themes and Strengths Assessment, overarching concepts in the Forces of Change Assessment include the importance of social determinants on health and the need to focus on prevention and preventive care.

The Forces of Change Assessment also identified the importance of integration, collaboration and leadership within the health system, and the need to focus on coordination of care for clients and the community.

For a more in depth view of the Community Themes and Strengths and Forces of Change Assessments, please refer to the full report