PARKVIEW
MIRRO CENTER
FOR RESEARCH AND INNOVATION

2025 Community Health Needs Assessment

Park Center

PARKVIEW
HEALTH

Foreword

This report shares the results of the 2025 Community Health Needs Assessment (CHNA) for Parkview Health. The Health Services and Informatics Research (HSIR) team at the Mirro Center for Research and Innovation led data collection and analysis efforts for this report. HSIR worked with Parkview and community leaders to prioritize health needs, reflecting the voice of community members.

This report is divided into sections identified by orange banners for headings. The report will first give context about the CHNA process, how primary data was collected from the community, how secondary data was analyzed to support the report and a demographic overview. Next, the report integrates primary and secondary data focused on social drivers of health and key health behaviors. Finally, the outcomes from the community prioritization sessions are presented.

It is important to note that the data presented in this report is just a snapshot and there may be supplemental data about the county not presented. While every effort was made to thoroughly understand the health of the community, information gaps may persist due to variations in geography and time span of data collection across different sources.

The Parkview team hopes that the findings from this report help to identify current needs to support the health and well-being of the community. Past and current reports for all counties, along with prioritization session presentations and implementation strategies, can be found on the Parkview website. Detailed data for each county included in the Parkview Health service area can be found on our Community Data Hub: https://parkview.metop.io.

Table of Contents

ABOUT PARKVIEW HEALTH

Parkview Health is a not-for-profit, community-based health system. It serves a population of more than 1.3 million in northeast Indiana and northwest Ohio. With more than 16,000 employees, Parkview is the region's largest employer. Parkview started as Fort Wayne City Hospital and has been serving the community since 1878. Parkview Health formed in 1995, and the heritage of care and compassion continues today with 14 hospitals and over 200 outpatient centers and physician offices.

Parkview Health has a mission to improve health and inspire well-being in the communities we serve.

For the purposes of this Community Health Needs Assessment, the Parkview Health service area consists of the counties where a full-service Parkview hospital is located. This includes Allen, DeKalb, Huntington, Kosciusko, LaGrange, Noble, Wabash and Whitley Counties in Indiana and Williams County in Ohio.
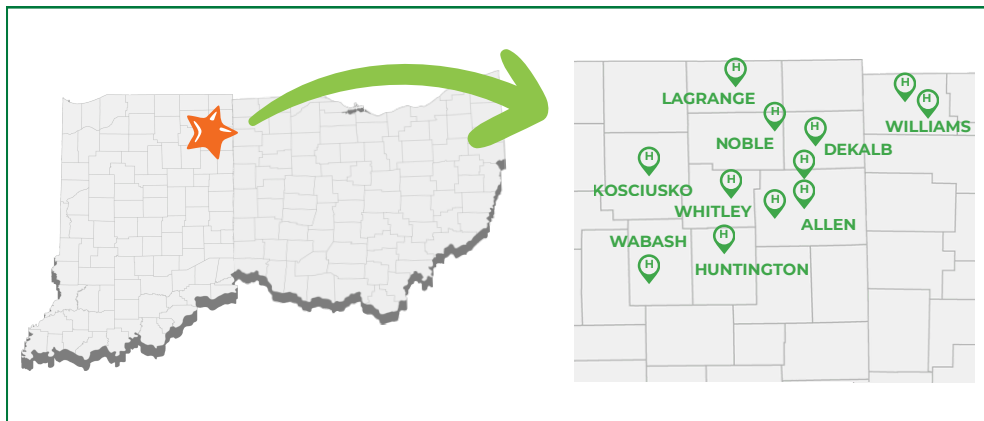
ABOUT PARK CENTER

Park Center, an affiliate to Parkview Health, is a private, not-for-profit community mental health center in northeast Indiana. The center offers comprehensive mental health care services designed for all age groups. As a community mental health center, Park Center offers community-based and office-based mental health services focusing on prevention, treatment and rehabilitation.

Park Center's mission is to restore lives. By partnering with consumers, they strive to support and facilitate their journey toward health.

Park Center services include:

- Inpatient, outpatient and home-based services
- Child, adolescent and adult services
- Psychiatric emergency services (PES)
- Substance use disorder (SUD) services
- Medication-assisted treatment (MAT)
- Intensive outpatient programs (IOP)
- Individual and group therapy
- Case management
- Care coordination

The Park Center service area consists of the four counties where a Park Center facility is located. This includes Adams, Allen, Huntington and Wells Counties.

INTRODUCTION TO CHNA PROCESS

The goals of the Community Health Needs Assessment (CHNA) are to learn about the health needs of the community and create plans to address those needs. In this CHNA for Parkview Health, several types of data were gathered to accomplish this:

- Surveys
- Focus groups
- Secondary data (through Metopio, a health data tool)

These data sources were chosen to broadly understand the community's health. We looked at needs across income level, race, ethnicity, age (18 years and older) and rural and urban areas. After all data was gathered and analyzed, the top health needs were shared with each community. Representatives selected the most important needs to address from 2025 to 2028.

Attention was given to learning the needs of specific groups, major health concerns and service gaps based on feedback from the community and key informants.

Priority Health Needs

Through a step-by-step process, we identified the top needs in each county.

Park Center's Top Five Health Concerns

- Access to Mental Health Care and Addiction Services
- Housing Affordability
- Insurance for Health Care
- Mental Health and Mental Disorders
- Substance Use Disorder

Community and hospital leaders took part in a prioritization process to select the needs that were most pressing, widespread and fit for intervention. The top needs chosen for Park Center were Access to Mental Health Care and Addiction Services and Mental Health and Substance Use. Mental Health was selected as the Parkview systemwide priority.

The CHNA identifies the greatest health needs in the region. It also helps find ways to address those needs in a manner that aligns with Parkview's mission, expertise and resources.

Since 2012, the CHNA has taken place every three years in accordance with the Affordable Care Act. It has helped Parkview Health understand the community's changing health needs. Since 2022, the CHNA has been led by the Health Services and Informatics Research (HSIR) group at Parkview's Mirro Center for Research and Innovation.

The CHNA helps Parkview learn more about what health concerns are important to the communities we serve in three ways:

1. Understand Community Needs

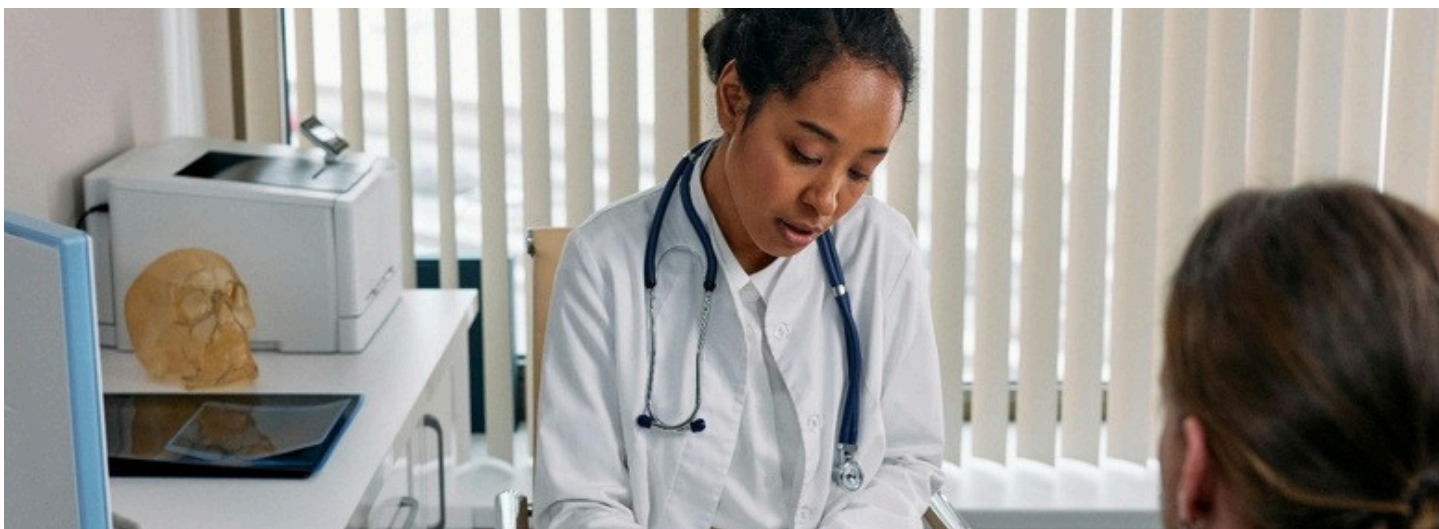Pinpoint the health and social problems that each community faces.

2. Prioritize Needs

Guide strategic plans based on what each community needs most.

3. Identify Resources and Challenges

Determine what is available and what is missing to address needs.

Conducting the Assessment

Parkview Health's HSIR team carried out the CHNA from February 2024 to September 2025. By using various data sources, we identified the top health needs in the community. We compared needs at the county level with those of the Parkview Health service area and the entire state. Findings were shared with the community and hospital partners to determine which health needs were most pressing.

Primary Data

Data were collected from the community using **surveys** and **focus groups**. The survey included questions aimed at both the respondent's personal health problems as well as their perceptions about top health concerns and other aspects impacting community well-being. Survey data was gathered from both people living in the community and individuals ("key informants") working for organizations that serve the community (e.g., schools, hospitals). Focus groups were held with a subset of community members and were used to gather deeper insights and experiences through conversation, allowing people to share thoughts that might not be mentioned in survey answers.

Community Survey Overview

- Carried out from September 2024 to December 2024
- Completed by 5,030 residents and 960 key informants in the Parkview Health service area, including 2,807 residents and 446 key informants in the Park Center service area
- Collected from residents aged 18 and older
- Available online and on paper in English, Spanish, Burmese, Karen and Arabic
- Shared through MyChart patient portal, mail, in-person, press release and blog posts
- Collected at in-person events: festivals, sporting events, health fairs for seniors, families and those experiencing homelessness, food banks, YMCAs, public libraries & markets
- Twenty questions for residents and nine questions for key informants
- Assessed demographics, top health concerns, top quality of life concerns, health care access, mental health and digital access
- Aimed to include people of all ages (18+), races, ethnicities, income levels and the urban-rural continuum

Focus Group Overview

- Carried out from March 2025 to May 2025
- Thirty-four focus groups held during local Community Forums across the Parkview Health and Park Center service areas
- Five to 15 people in each focus group
- Participants were 18 years and older, from diverse backgrounds and provided a range of services to community members
- Each hospital's community health leaders sent email invites to participants
- Aimed to understand top community health needs, related barriers and available resources and solutions for addressing health needs

Secondary Data

The Metopio platform helped us gather data from several public sources. Combined with survey and focus group findings, this data helped us better understand each community's health landscape. We used Metopio to examine health behaviors, outcomes and social factors across groups. This allowed us to pinpoint the areas of greatest need within the Parkview Health service area. For each health theme, data is reported using the most recent five-year average or single year of data.
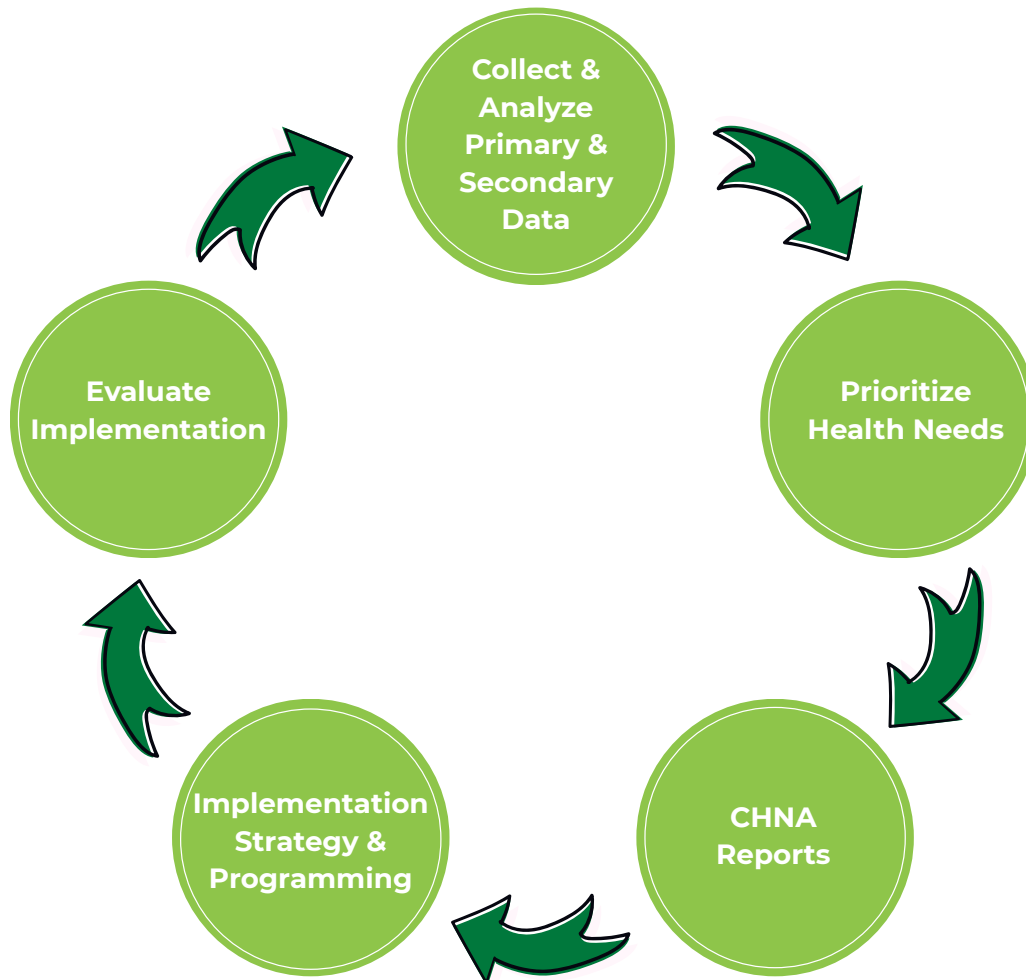
To learn more about each community in the Parkview Health system, please visit our **Parkview Health Community Data Hub**: https://parkview.metop.io

Closing the Loop

The CHNA is not just one report. Instead, it is a continuous three-year cycle where Parkview:

- Collects and analyzes community-based data
- Pinpoints needs within each county and within the health system
- Implements action plans to address those needs

Three-year CHNA Cycle; Parkview Health CHNA Process

Collect & Analyze Primary & Secondary Data

Prioritize Health Needs

CHNA Reports

Implementation Strategy & Programming

Evaluate Implementation

Priority Health Needs & Impact from 2022 CHNA

During the 2022 CHNA prioritization session, Park Center chose Mood Disorders, Child Trauma and Substance Abuse as their top health needs, along with Mental Health, the Parkview Health systemwide priority. The Impact Report for Park Center can be found in Appendix A. Parkview did not receive written comments in response to the 2022 CHNA. For comments on the 2025 CHNA, please email Community.Health@Parkview.com.

DEMOGRAPHIC FACTORS

Who Lives in Park Center's service area?

Demographic factors impact a person's ability to lead a healthy life. Understanding these factors helps shape plans to improve community health. These data represent the four counties where a Park Center facility is located: Adams, Allen, Huntington, and Wells.

Population

489,804

residents[1]

Sex

241,719

(49.4%) males[1]

248,085

(50.6%) females[1]

Age

Age[1]	Population	Percentage
0 - 4 years	33,460	6.8%
5 - 17 years	92,141	18.8%
18 - 39 years	140,288	28.6%
40 - 64 years	146,762	30.0%
65 and older	77,153	15.8%

Different age groups and racial or ethnic groups may have unique needs to consider when looking at health

Race and Ethnicity

Race/Ethnicity[1]	Population	Percentage
Non-Hispanic White	368,468	75.5%
Hispanic or Latino	37,956	7.8%
Two or more Races	19,288	4.0%
Non-Hispanic Black	42,396	8.7%
Asian	19,691	4.0%
Native American	259	0.1%
Pacific Islander	218	0.0%

8.7%

of residents in the Park Center service area identify as Non-Hispanic Black[1]

Rural-Urban Continuum Code[2]

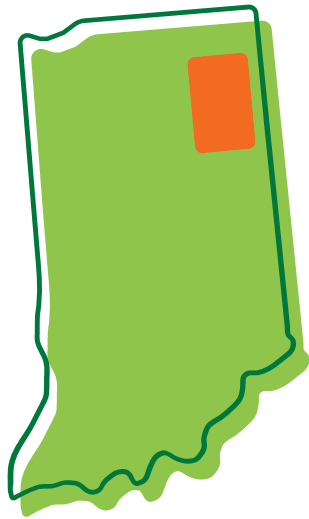Codes range from 1-9
1 = highly-populated metro areas
9 = fully rural areas

4

1. US Census Bureau, American Community Survey (2019-2023)
2. US Department of Agriculture (USDA) - Economic Research Service (2023)

Park Center Service Area

Park Center Service Area

67 zip codes[2]

1,747 square miles[1]

53 townships[3]

predominantly **URBAN**[4]

Counties in the Park Center Service Area:

Allen   Adams   Huntington   Wells

1. US Census Bureau, American Community Survey (2019-2023)
2. United States Zip Code Database (2025)
3. Indiana Department of Local Government Finance (2023)
4. US Department of Agriculture (USDA) - Economic Research Service (2023)

SOCIAL DRIVERS OF HEALTH (SDOH)

Healthy People 2030 defines social drivers of health (SDOH) as the conditions in the environments where people are born, live, learn, work, play, worship and age. These conditions affect a wide range of health, functioning and quality-of-life outcomes and risks. The five domains of SDOH include economic stability, education access and quality, health care access and quality, neighborhood and built environment and social and community context. For this report, the primary and secondary data are presented in order of the SDOH topics.

Access to care refers to the resources a community has to meet a range of health needs. Examples include having insurance and available health care providers.

9.1% of residents in the Park Center service area have **no health insurance**[1]

8.7% lack access to **the internet**[1]

28.1% lack access to **non-ER medical care**[2]

The uninsured rate in Adams County is **more than twice** the rates of the rest of the Park Center service area[1]

What we heard from the community[3]

- There are **not enough providers and services**, especially for mental health. This leads to **long wait times and limited access** to care.
- **Health care is expensive** even if you have insurance. It is often **out of reach** for those who don't have or cannot afford insurance.
- Changes in health policy and funding have **cut services** that were once covered by Medicaid.
- Health care is **confusing and hard to navigate.**
- There is a **lack of providers who understand the different languages and cultural backgrounds** of individuals in the community.
  "[People are] reluctant to seek help as they aren't seeing people who look like them."
- Lack of community transportation **impacts people's ability to access and continue care.**
- Clinics often do not offer evening or weekend hours. This makes it **hard for working individuals and families to get to appointments**.
  "Parents that need the most help are those that are working two jobs just to stay afloat."
- Some people are **afraid to seek medical help** because of legal issues, like immigration status.

1. US Census Bureau, American Community Survey (2019-2023)
2. Parkview Community Health Survey - Park Center service area (2024)
3. Parkview Community Forum - Park Center service area (2025)

PER CAPITA INDICATORS
Rates per 100,000 residents

75.7	23.3	75.1
Primary Care Providers	Pharmacies	Specialty Physicians

People in the Park Center service area have a **similar amount of access** to primary care providers / specialty physicians (similar rate per 100,000 residents) compared to Indiana (75.8 / 77.8) and **more access** than those living in the Parkview Health service area (62.8 / 50.3).[1] People in the Park Center service area have a **similar amount of access** to pharmacies as those living in the Parkview Health service area (23.5), but **less access** than those across Indiana (25.9).[2]

PROBLEMS GETTING CARE

19.9%	15.7%	29.7%
Primary Care Providers	Pharmaceutical Care	Specialty Care

CHNA survey respondents in the Park Center service area said they had a hard time getting the health care they needed. Nearly **1 in 3** had a hard time getting in to see a provider who specializes in a particular illness (e.g., heart conditions), while **1 in 5** had a hard time getting an appointment with a primary care provider.[3]

1. Health Resources & Services Administration, Area Health Resources Files (2022)
2. Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services, National Provider Identifier Files (2025)
3. Parkview Community Health Survey - Park Center service area (2024)

Many factors can affect access to fresh, healthy and affordable food. These include how far someone lives from a grocery store, the presence of school lunch programs and if fruits and vegetables are available.

Access to food is an important social factor that affects health. 'Food Access' can be measured by many factors, such as the number of residents who are food insecure, households receiving SNAP (food stamp) benefits and those who are in poverty not receiving SNAP.

*The **rate of food insecurity** in the Park Center service area (14.1%) is **similar** to the Parkview Health service area (13.9%), but is **lower** than in Indiana (15.1%). Park Center service area rates are highest in the Hispanic/Latino community (24.8%).[1]*

8.7%
of households receive SNAP (food stamp) benefits[2]
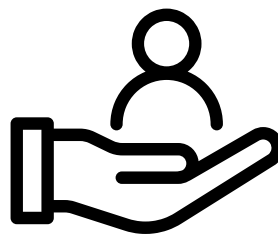
62.0%
of households in poverty do not receive SNAP benefits[2]

1. Feeding America, Map the Meal Gap (2023)
2. US Census Bureau, American Community Survey (2019-2023)

The quality and cost of housing directly impact well-being. If housing is too expensive or if there are too many empty or crowded homes, it can lead to problems like losing one's home or becoming homeless. These issues can affect a person's health.

What we heard from the community[1]

- **High upfront costs** like deposits and down payments make it hard for people to obtain housing. This is **especially true for those with lower incomes or those experiencing homelessness**.
- People with criminal records or poor credit often **struggle to find housing**.
- There isn't **enough safe, good quality, low-cost housing** in the community.
- Many people in the area **don't earn enough money** to afford the housing that is available.

Housing Cost Burden

The percent of households spending more than 30% of their income on housing.[2]

22.1%

Housing Insecurity

The percent of adults who were not able to pay their mortgage, rent or utility bills in the past 12 months.[3]

11.7%

The housing cost burden in the Park Center service area is **slightly above** the Parkview Health service area average of 21.3% and **slightly below** the state average of 24.3%.[2]

Housing insecurity in the Park Center service area is **the same** as the Parkview Health service area rate (11.7%) and **slightly below** the Indiana rate (12.2%).[3]

1. Parkview Community Forum - Park Center service area (2025)
2. US Census Bureau, American Community Survey (2019-2023)
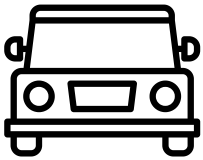3. CDC, PLACES Project (2022)

Not having transportation can make it difficult for people to get to the doctor, work, school and grocery stores that have healthy food options. This can lead to poor health outcomes and social isolation.

What we heard from the community[1]

- Community transportation, especially in rural areas, is **hard to find, expensive and does not include evening and weekend hours**.
- Some local programs do have **limited funds for transportation**. Most of this support comes from grants which can be **difficult to obtain**.
- **More communication is needed** about what services are available.

Lack of Transportation

8.3%
of adults lack transportation

The lack of transportation in the Park Center service area is **similar to** that of Indiana (8.5%) and the Parkview Health service area (8.2%).[2]

1. Parkview Community Forum - Park Center service area (2025)
2. CDC, PLACES Project (2022)

Socio-economic factors strongly impact community health and well-being. These include things like how many people graduate from high school, how much money they earn and whether they have jobs.

90.5%
graduate high school[1]

● Park Center

88.5%
graduate high school[1]

● Parkview Health

90.2%
graduate high school[1]

● Indiana

Factor	Park Center	Indiana
Childcare Cost Burden Childcare costs for a household with two children as a percent of median household income.[2]	34.0%	30.8%
Median Household Income Income in the past 12 months.[1]	$68,010	$70,051
Poverty Rate Percent of residents in families that are below the Federal Poverty Level.[1]	11.8%	12.2%
Unemployment Rate Percent of residents 16 and older in the civilian labor force who are actively seeking employment.[1]	4.2%	4.3%

1. US Census Bureau, American Community Survey (2019-2023)
2. University of Wisconsin Population Health Institute, County Health Rankings (2024)

Violent crime includes homicide, criminal sexual assault, robbery, aggravated assault and aggravated battery.

258.4 crimes per 100,000 residents

Park Center's service area has a **lower** rate compared to Indiana (323.3) and a **higher** rate when compared to the Parkview Health service area (197.3).[1]

Please note that county-level crime totals may appear lower than expected due to changes in reporting systems, resulting in incomplete crime data reported to the FBI.

Built Environment   Park Center

The built environment refers to the man-made places around us. This includes things like buildings, streets, parks and transportation systems.

Walkability Index
8.7/20

Access to Exercise
80.5%

Park Center's service area is **easier to walk around** compared to the Parkview Health service area and Indiana (both 7.7).[2]

Park Center's service area has **more places to exercise** compared to the Parkview service area (70.8%) and Indiana (76.2%).[3]

1. Federal Bureau of Investigation, FBI Crime Data Explorer (2017-2021)
2. US Environmental Protection Agency, National Walkability Index (2024)
3. University of Wisconsin Population Health Institute, County Health Rankings (2024)

KEY HEALTH THEMES

Overall Health

Chronic Disease

Behavioral Health

Maternal/Child Health

Elder Health

Infectious Diseases

Oral/Dental Care

STD/STI/HIV

Health Behaviors

For this CHNA report, primary and secondary data were gathered and analyzed around the top health themes and concerns listed above. The report highlights the county's key statistics from surveys and secondary data. Key insights gathered through focus groups are also included. A closer look at the data for each of these themes will be provided in this report.

Overall health refers to how well people feel both physically and mentally. This includes factors like how long people live, self-reported health and quality of life.

Life Expectancy   75.7 years

Average age at death of all people born in this place, or all people who have lived to the start of the specified age bracket.[1]

Self-Reported Poor Physical Health   13.2%

Percent of resident adults aged 18 and older who report 14 or more days during the past 30 days during which their physical health was not good.[2]

Visited Doctor for Routine Checkup   75.9%

Percent of resident adults aged 18 and older who report having been to a doctor for a routine checkup (in the previous year).[2]

- In the Park Center service area, people tend to **live about the same** length as those in the Parkview service area (76.0 years) and Indiana (75.1 years).[1]
- 13.2% of adults in the Park Center service area say they have **poor physical health**, which is **about the same** as Indiana (12.9%)[3] and the Parkview Health service area (13.0%).[2]
- **A similar** number of adults in the Park Center service area **visit the doctor regularly** compared to those in Indiana (76.9%)[3] and the Parkview Health service area (75.6%).[2]

1. University of Wisconsin Population Health Institute, County Health Rankings (2020-2022)
2. CDC, PLACES Project (2022)
3. CDC, Behavioral Risk Factor Surveillance System-BRFSS (2022)

Chronic diseases and related factors often cause the greatest burden on health in a community. This includes conditions like diabetes, heart disease, asthma and obesity. The following conditions are highlighted due to prevalence, mortality trends and concern from community and key informant survey respondents.
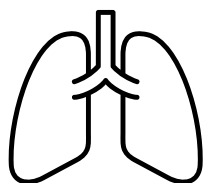
8.0% of residents have been diagnosed with **chronic obstructive pulmonary disease (COPD).**[1]

6.6% of residents have been diagnosed with **coronary heart disease (CHD).**[1]
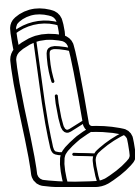
10.9% of residents have been diagnosed with **asthma.**[1]

Metabolic & Cardiovascular Health	Diagnosed % Park Center	Diagnosed % Indiana
Diabetes	11.5%[1]	11.1%[2]
High Blood Pressure	32.5%[1]	32.2%[2]
Obesity	38.6%[1]	37.9%[2]
High Cholesterol	30.7%[3]	30.6%[4]

1. CDC, PLACES Project (2022)
2. CDC, Behavioral Risk Factor Surveillance System (2022)
3. CDC, PLACES Project (2021)
4. CDC, Behavioral Risk Factor Surveillance System (2021)

Chronic Disease Mortality[1]	Deaths Per 100,000 Park Center Residents	Deaths Per 100,000 Indiana Residents
Heart Disease	190.5	184.3
Cancer	191.9	163.9
Lower Respiratory Disease	58.2	53.1
Stroke	52.6	41.9
Diabetes	42.4	28.5
Kidney Disease	17.5	17.7

In the Park Center service area, the diagnosis rates for many chronic diseases are **similar to** the rates of diagnosis in the Parkview Health service area and Indiana. However, for many chronic diseases, such as heart disease, cancer, chronic lower respiratory disease, stroke and diabetes, **mortality rates** in the Park Center service area are **higher** than in Indiana, though **lower** than in the Parkview Health service area.[1] Data for Parkview service area can be found here: https://parkview.metop.io

1. CDC, National Vital Statistics System-Mortality (2019-2023)

Behavioral health refers to a state of mental, emotional and social well-being or behaviors and actions that affect wellness. It also includes how people get support and treatment. Behavioral health is an overarching term that refers to mental health (well-being, mental health conditions), suicidality and substance use disorders.

Mental Health Conditions

24.6% of adults living in the Park Center service area have depression, which is **similar to** both Indiana (24.4%) and the Parkview Health service area (24.9%).[1]

14.8 is the suicide mortality rate (deaths per 100,000 residents) in the Park Center service area, which is **similar to** the Parkview Health service area (14.7), but **slightly below** the Indiana state average (15.8).[2]

Substance Use Disorders

Drug Overdose Mortality

Park Center has a rate of 29.7 drug overdose deaths (per 100,000 residents), which is **higher** than the Parkview Health service area (25.7) but **lower** than the overall rate for Indiana (36.3).[2]

Alcohol-Related Mortality

Park Center's rate of alcohol-related mortality is 14.5 (per 100,000 residents), which is **similar to** the Parkview Health service area (14.6) but **higher** than the overall rate for Indiana (13.3).[2]

1. CDC, PLACES Project (2022)
2. CDC, National Vital Statistics System-Mortality (2019-2023)

What we heard from the community[1]

- There is **stigma** with seeking care for mental health and addiction. People often report feeling **ashamed to ask for help**.

- **Certain cultural groups have even more stigma** around accessing mental health care. This can lead to **less awareness** of where to go for help.

- There are **not enough providers or programs** to meet treatment and recovery needs. It takes **too long** to get help.

- Mental health and substance use **treatment is expensive** and often not covered by insurance. Some people **can't afford to get or continue treatment**.

- People seeking treatment **need more support**. They need help **finding appropriate treatment** and **navigating follow-up care**.
  "People trying to get help are calling place after place after place [with no luck]."

- There is **not enough timely, emergency mental health care** available when urgent help is needed.

- Children and youth need **more access to treatment and follow-up care**. Their **parents also need support** throughout the process.
  "[Depression is] often brushed aside by parents with adolescents who don't want to come to terms with the truth."

- Addiction and severe mental illness are **often treated like crimes**. People are **punished instead of being offered treatment**.
  "We are seeing people who can't get help until they are arrested and put into the mental health system."

- Addressing addiction and mental health can be hard due to **how easy it is for kids to get vapes, drugs and alcohol.**
  "They are marketing [substances] to our kids."

- The availability of Narcan is **helping to decrease deaths but not overall drug use**. More programs are needed to **address the behaviors driving use**.

- **There is a need for more education** on mental health, addiction and the importance of treatment.

- **Dependence on tech** contributes to increased social and mental health issues.
  "Focus and attention are found to be highly dependent on screen time."

1. Parkview Community Forum - Park Center service area (2025)

Access to Mental Health and Addiction Services

Number of Mental Health Providers *(per 100,000 residents)* [1]	**551.7** Park Center	**430.5** Parkview	**545.0** Indiana
Number of Psychiatrists *(per 100,000 residents)* [2]	**11** Park Center	**8** Parkview	**16** Indiana

CHNA Community Survey Findings[3]

19.8% of survey respondents reported being **anxious**

15.7% of survey respondents reported being **depressed**

61.3% listed **mental health** as one of the **top health concerns** in their community

20.2% said they had **trouble** getting **mental health or addiction help**

What we heard from the community[4]

- People struggle to access substance use treatment due to **stigma, a shortage of providers and insurance barriers**.
- **Children in institutional programs often receive only group therapy**, which may not meet their individual needs.
- After leaving a program or school, **many children do not receive follow-up care** to support their recovery.
- **Patients often lack care coordinators** to help them navigate the health care system after discharge.
- **Privacy laws make it difficult for families to access information** about their loved one's care, limiting support and continuity.
- **Some providers avoid treating patients involved in legal cases**, such as custody disputes, due to perceived complications.
- **Families may feel ashamed or embarrassed** about seeking mental health support, which prevents them from getting help.
- Patients often prefer **providers who understand their culture or speak their language**, but these providers **are not always available**.

1. Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services, National Provider Identifier Files (2025)
2. Health Resources & Services Administration, Area Health Resources Files (2025)
3. Parkview Community Health Survey - Park Center service area (2024)
4. Parkview Community Forum - Park Center service area (2025)

The health of mothers and children is important to the overall well-being of a community. This can be affected by factors such as limited access to health care, mental health issues and feeling disconnected.

Low Birth Weight

9.0%

of live births are less than 5 lbs, 8 oz. in the Park Center service area. This is **higher** than the Parkview service area (8.1%) and Indiana (8.4%).[1]

Prenatal Care in 1st Trimester

70.7%

of mothers-to-be received care in the first three months of pregnancy. This is **lower** than Indiana (76.0%) and the Parkview service area (71.4%).[1]

Infant Mortality

7.3

infant deaths - deaths of infants in the first year of life - per 1,000 live births were recorded for the Park Center service area.[1]

This data highlights the need for targeted interventions to improve infant health outcomes across the Park Center service area.

Child Abuse and Neglect

9

per 1,000 children are subject to child abuse and neglect.[2]

Smoking During Pregnancy

7.4%

of births were to mothers who smoked cigarettes during their pregnancy.[1]

1. Health Resources & Services Administration, Maternal and Child Health Bureau (2020-2022)
2. Indiana Department of Child Services, Indiana University Child Abuse and Neglect Rates (2023)

What we heard from the community[1]

- Children and youth often have to **wait a long time for help** because there aren't enough mental health services.
- Some people may not realize that what they say or do could be **harmful or abusive**.
  "Parents have all this unresolved trauma and it affects the way they are parenting."
- Families need **more education on healthy ways to support and care for children**.
  "So many youth are anxious. They can't go to school because they are anxious. They can't pinpoint the reason they are anxious."
- The child welfare system is **reactive rather than preventive**. High **staff turnover and burnout** weaken child protection efforts.
  "Repeat maltreatment is a huge one. The child welfare system is a system, very much a reactive system and that is unfortunate."
- It is hard to find **good quality, affordable and safe childcare**.
  "Can't get people to come to work - they are staying home because they don't have childcare."
  "[People] pay more for childcare than mortgage."

Elder health focuses on concerns like falls, Alzheimer's disease and other dementias. These problems are often the biggest health challenges for older people.

14.5 **deaths per 100,000 residents are a result of a fall**

35.0 **deaths per 100,000 residents are due to Alzheimer's disease**

Across the Park Center service area, women were twice as likely to die from Alzheimer's than men from 2019-2023.[2]

In the Park Center service area, the rate of deaths from falls is **similar to** the Parkview Health service area (14.3), but **higher** than across Indiana (8.3).[1]

The rate of deaths due to Alzheimer's in the Park Center area is **about the same** as the Parkview area rate (35.3), but **higher** than Indiana's rate (30.2).[2]

1. CDC, National Vital Statistics System-Mortality (2022)
2. CDC, National Vital Statistics System-Mortality (2019-2023). Deaths per 100,000 residents due to Alzheimer's disease (ICD-10 code G30)

Infectious diseases are illnesses caused by germs like viruses and bacteria. Public health tools like prevention and vaccination are key to stopping and managing disease outbreaks.

Medicare Flu Vaccination Rate

People enrolled in Medicare who received a flu shot at any point during the year[1]

46.8%

Influenza and Pneumonia Mortality

Deaths per 100,000 residents due to influenza and pneumonia[2]

10.4

In the Park Center service area, the percentage of Medicare beneficiaries who received a flu shot was **similar to** Indiana (47.0%) and **slightly higher** than the Parkview service area (45.8%). More than half of this population, which is at higher risk of dying from the flu, remains unvaccinated.[1]

The Park Center service area has **a similar number of** deaths per 100,000 people from flu and pneumonia compared to Indiana (10.9) and **fewer** deaths compared to the Parkview Health service area (11.6).[2]

29

1. US Health and Human Services, Vaccines & Immunizations (2023)
2. CDC, National Vital Statistics System-Mortality (2019-2023)

Oral health has a strong impact on overall health. Dental check-ups, preventive care and education help people lead healthier lives. Access to dental care is important.

Problem Getting Dental Care
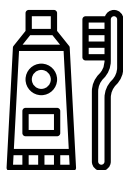
16.8%

Visited Dentist in previous year

59.2%

1 in 6 CHNA survey respondents reported having trouble getting dental care.[1]

The number of people who visited a dentist across the Park Center service area (59.2%)[2] is **slightly lower** than the Parkview service area (60.0%)[2] and the state of Indiana (62.8%).[3]

1. Parkview Community Health Survey - Park Center service area (2024)
2. CDC, PLACES Project (2022)
3. CDC, Behavioral Risk Factor Surveillance System (2022)

Sexually transmitted diseases (STDs), sexually transmitted infections (STIs) and human immunodeficiency virus (HIV) are major public health concerns. They impact a person's physical health, emotional well-being and quality of life. Access to testing, treatment and education are key to preventing the spread of these infections.

HIV Cases[1]

STI Cases[1]

For every 100,000 people, there are:

165.4
HIV cases in
Park Center service area

848.1
STI cases in
Park Center service area

129.2
HIV cases in
Parkview Health service area

671.4
STI cases in
Parkview Health service area

223.0
HIV cases in
Indiana

918.6
STI cases in
Indiana

1. CDC, National Center for HIV/AIDS, Viral Hepatitis, STD, and TB Prevention; Atlas Plus (2022)

Health behaviors are actions and habits that can help or hurt a person's physical, mental and social well-being. These include diet, exercise, substance use, preventive screenings and vaccinations.

Cigarette Smoking

19.3%

No Exercise

27.4%

*19.3%[1] of adults in the Park Center service area **smoke cigarettes,** which is **similar** to the Parkview Health service area (19.1%)[1] and **higher** than in Indiana (16.5%).[2] Compared to Indiana (26.5%)[2] and the Parkview Health area (27.3%),[1] a **similar number** of people (27.4%)[1] **do not exercise** in the Park Center area.*

1. CDC, PLACES Project (2022)
2. CDC, Behavioral Risk Factor Surveillance System (2022)

Prioritization Overview

After gathering and analyzing the data—including applying additional weighting to survey responses from individuals identified as part of vulnerable populations—the HSIR team used a structured process to pinpoint the community's most urgent health needs. This process was meant to be inclusive and data-driven, ensuring that the chosen priorities represented both community members' experiences and health trends. The process involved meetings with community stakeholders and final selection of top health needs by hospital leaders.

Community Prioritization Sessions

- Carried out between March 2025 and May 2025 for each hospital.
- Attendees were professionals who provide a wide range of services to community members from diverse backgrounds. (*See Appendix B for list of attendees.*)
- Ahead of the meeting, attendees were sent a printed scorecard with the top health needs identified for their county and related data.
- Presentation at the meeting covered data trends on the top health needs, with a focus on geographic, socioeconomic, racial, ethnic, gender and age-related disparities. (*These slides are posted on the website where you found this report.*)
- Attendees discussed the benefits and challenges to addressing the health needs.
- Attendees voted to rank the top health needs based on significance, severity, relation to social drivers of health and suitability for intervention.

Selected Health Priorities

The list of top health needs from each session and qualitative summaries from Community Forums were shared with Park Center hospital leadership in June 2025. Hospital leaders reached consensus on the final top health priorities with consideration given to resources, prevalence of the health need, impact on vulnerable populations and suitability to address the health need.

Selected Priorities for Park Center
- Access to Mental Health Care & Addiction Services   - Mental Health & Substance Use

The following is a list of datasets used during the analysis of secondary data. All datasets were accessed via the Metopio platform. A URL for each dataset is available upon request.

1. CDC, Agency for Toxic Substances and Disease Registry - Environmental Justice Index

2. U.S. Census Bureau, American Community Survey (ACS)

3. Health Resources & Services Administration, Area Health Resources Files (AHRF)

4. CDC, Behavioral Risk Factor Surveillance System (BRFSS)

5. University of Wisconsin Population Health Institute, County Health Rankings

6. Dwyer-Lindgren, Mokdad, et al. (Population Health Metrics, 2014)

7. Diabetes Atlas

8. U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) - Economic Research Service

9. Federal Bureau of Investigation, FBI Crime Data Explorer

10. Indiana Department of Child Services, Indiana University Child Abuse and Neglect Rates

11. Indiana Department of Local Government Finance

12. Feeding America, Map the Meal Gap

13. Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services (CMS), Mapping Medicare Disparities

14. Health Resources & Services Administration, Maternal and Child Health Bureau (MCHB)

15. CDC, National Center for Health Statistics

16. Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services (CMS), National Provider Identifier Files (NPI)

17. CDC, National Center for HIV/AIDS, Viral Hepatitis, STD, and TB Prevention; Atlas Plus

18. CDC, National Vital Statistics System-Mortality (NVSS-M)

19. CDC, National Vital Statistics System-Natality (NVSS-N)

20. Parkview Community Health Survey and Community Forums - **Park Center service area**

21. CDC, PLACES Project

22. Razzaghi, Wang, et al. (MMWR Morb Mortal Wkly Rep 2020)

23. State public health departments

24. U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration (SAMHSA)

25. United States Zip Code Database

Appendix A - Community Impact Report

This report highlights the progress and measurable outcomes of Parkview Health's community outreach initiatives carried out between 2022 and 2024, as guided by our 2023 Implementation Strategy. Each program and service detailed herein reflects our commitment to addressing the key needs identified in the 2022 Community Health Needs Assessment. The following results demonstrate our ongoing dedication to equity, access and measurable health improvements in the communities we serve. As we reflect on our progress and outcomes, we remain committed to building healthier communities through innovation, partnership and compassionate care.

Mood Disorders
Child and Adolescent Services

Park Center has a robust service offering for children and adolescents. To better serve this population, Park Center worked to increase the number of services provided to children and adolescents to assist in the treatment of mood disorders. This includes providing and expanding available medication services, therapy, case management, school-based services and intensive outpatient services (IOP) using a team-based approach.

Highlighted Outcomes

- Added a full-time wraparound facilitator to continue to grow the wraparound availability. In 2024, an average of 36 patients were involved in the wraparound program at a time (up from 29 in 2023).
- Expanded our contract with Fort Wayne Community Schools (FWCS); added new contracts with Bluffton Harrison MSD and Northwest Allen County Schools (NACS); and maintained our school contract in south Adams for school-based mental health services. Approximately 330 patients were served in these schools in 2024.
- Joined with Allen County Juvenile Center (ACJC) in their e-connect program to streamline referrals for at-risk youth
- Expanded our Department of Child Services (DCS) contract to take family preservation referrals from DCS. In 2024, an average of six referrals from Family Preservation were involved in services at a time.
- Park Center led efforts to create and implement the Youth Mental Health Task Force in Allen County in 2023. In May of 2024, Park Center co-hosted the first annual youth mental health summit with a variety of other community organizations focused on serving youth and addressing youth suicide risk. Approximately 400 people attended the event.
- Of the 3,294 youth served in 2024, approximately 45% had more than one service as part of their treatment

Childhood Trauma
Evidence-Based Treatment for Children & Adolescents

To address childhood trauma, Park Center's child & adolescent therapists received training in evidence-based treatment interventions for trauma. This includes staff in homebased services, outpatient therapy, medication and IOP services. Therapists received training in evidence-based practices (EBPs) through identified programs that address trauma, and supervisors will receive training to supervise provision of EBPs to fidelity.

Highlighted Outcomes
- Three licensed therapists were fully trained in Trauma Focused – Cognitive Behavioral Therapy (TF-CBT) and are working toward certification
- Two therapists attended three days of Dialectical Behavioral Therapy (DBT) training
- Six case managers were trained in the Nurtured Heart approach
- Four therapists were trained in Parent-Child Interaction Therapy (PCIT)
- 46 staff were trained in Skills System
- Two staff were trained in Eye Movement Desensitization and Reprocessing (EMDR)
- Four leaders were trained in supervising Skills System
- Four leaders completed a Diversity Equity and Inclusion (DEI) certificate program
- 22 supervisors were trained in Advanced Motivational Interviewing
- 63 staff members were trained in Motivational Interviewing
- 25 staff members were trained in Emotionally Focused Therapy (EFT)
- 28 staff members were trained in Internal Family Systems
- 22 staff members were trained in the Parenting with Love and Limits (PLL) Approach
- 13 staff members attended training on Cognitive Behavioral Therapy (CBT) for youth and adolescents
- Four staff members attended training on CBT for suicide prevention

Substance Use/Abuse
Substance Use Programming

Park Center offers a variety of substance use services, including outpatient therapy and IOP services across the four-county service area. To address access challenges for these services, intake providers were trained to specialize in assessing for substance use disorders; navigators were embedded into community locations to assist individuals in entering into services; and peer recovery coaches were embedded in various locations to provide someone with lived experience to individuals seeking services. These interventions assisted in reducing wait times for services and increasing access to the spectrum of services Park Center offers.

Highlighted Outcomes

- Drug court navigator added to Bluffton/Decatur and Huntington offices
- Substance use disorder (SUD) access was streamlined through the assessment center
  - Wait time decreased to a median of zero days for walk-ins and between eight and 10 days for scheduled appointments in December 2024, down significantly from an up to 25-day wait time in late 2023/early 2024
- Staff were placed on-site at work release and marketplace weekly
- Park Center staff attended ACJC placement board as a member
- Virtual SUD IOP offered in two offices as hybrid groups
- 11 therapists trained in Matrix Model
- Park Center added two bridge case manager positions in 2024 to bridge the gap between inpatient/outpatient care

Appendix B - Prioritization Participating Organizations

Prioritization session attendees represented several organizations in the Park Center service area.

Organization/Department	Area of Work
Adams County Sheriff's Office	Government/Public Health/Safety
Adult Probation Allen County	Government/Public Health/Safety
Allen Circuit Court	Government/Public Health/Safety
Allen County	Government/Public Health/Safety
Allen County Community Corrections	Government/Public Health/Safety
Allen County Department of Health	Health Care
Allen County Police Department	Government/Public Health/Safety
Allen County Sheriff's Department	Government/Public Health/Safety
Allen Superior Court	Government/Public Health/Safety
Bluffton-Harrison Schools	Education
CMHC Commissioner	Government/Public Health/Safety
East Allen County Schools	Education
Huntington Community Corrections	Government/Public Health/Safety
Huntington County Drug Court	Government/Public Health/Safety
Huntington County Probation	Government/Public Health/Safety

Organization/Department	Area of Work
Huntington DCS	Government/Public Health/Safety
Northwest Allen County Schools	Education
Park Center	Mental/Behavioral Health
Park Center Board of Directors	Health Care
Parkview Behavioral Health	Health Care
Parkview Health	Health Care
Purdue Fort Wayne	Education
Southwest Allen County Schools	Education
Supreme Court	Government/Public Health/Safety, Mental/Behavioral Health

Appendix C - Community Resources

This list highlights health care facilities and community organizations that are available to address significant health needs identified in this CHNA.

Organization Name	City	Zip Code
Access to Mental Health Care and Addiction Services *		
988 (RemedyLIVE in Fort Wayne)	Fort Wayne	46825
Adams Behavioral Health	Decatur	46733
Allen County Community Corrections (ACCC)	Fort Wayne	46802
Allendale Treatment	Fort Wayne	46825
Alliance Health Centers	Fort Wayne	46806
Amani Family Services	Fort Wayne	46825
Applegate Recovery Fort Wayne	Fort Wayne	46825
Avenues Recovery	Fort Wayne	46807
Bowen Health	Fort Wayne	46806
Brightpoint	Fort Wayne	46802
Catholic Charities Fort Wayne and South Bend	Fort Wayne	46802
Citilink	Fort Wayne	46808
CleanSlate Centers	Fort Wayne	46805
Community Transportation Network	Fort Wayne	46825
CONNECT Allen County	Fort Wayne	46806
Crossroad Child & Family Services	Fort Wayne	46805
Crossroads Adams County	Berne	46711
Firefly Children and Family Alliance	Fort Wayne	46807
Fort Wayne Recovery	Fort Wayne	46825

* Includes resources to address 1) access to mental health care and addiction services, 2) mental health and mental disorders and 3) substance use disorders

Organization Name	City	Zip code
Fort Wayne VA Clinic	Fort Wayne	46805
Fort Wayne VA Medical Center	Fort Wayne	46805
Huntington Area Transportation	Huntington	46750
Iris Family Support Center	Fort Wayne	46802
Lutheran Social Services of Indiana	Fort Wayne	46802
Maple Heights Behavioral Health	Fort Wayne	46818
Matthew 25	Fort Wayne	46802
Mental Health America of Northeast Indiana	Fort Wayne	46815
Meridian Health Services	Bluffton	46714
Neighborhood Health Clinic	Fort Wayne	46802
Oakstreet Health	Fort Wayne	46802
Park Center	Fort Wayne	46805
Parkview Behavioral Health	Fort Wayne	46805
Parkview Behavioral Health Institute Helpline	Fort Wayne	46808
Phoenix Associates	Fort Wayne	46805
Sprout by 5 Early Childhood Coalition	Huntington	46750
St. Joseph Community Health Foundation	Fort Wayne	46802
The Carriage House	Fort Wayne	46805
Wells on Wheels	Bluffton	46714

Organization Name	City	Zip code
Insurance for Health Care		
Adams County Division of Family Resources	Decatur	46733
Allen County Division of Family Resources	Fort Wayne	46806
Brightpoint	Fort Wayne	46802
Catholic Charities Fort Wayne and South Bend	Fort Wayne	46802
Huntington County Division of Family Resources	Huntington	46750
Park Center	Fort Wayne	46805
Wells County Division of Family Resources	Bluffton	46714
Housing Affordability		
Brightpoint	Fort Wayne	46802
Community and Family Services	Hartford City	47348
Fort Wayne Housing Authority	Fort Wayne	46816
Habitat for Humanity of Greater Fort Wayne	Fort Wayne	46803
Park Center	Fort Wayne	46805

Additional resources for a broad range of assistance:

Findhelp.org is an online tool that connects people to support, including financial assistance, food pantries, medical care and other free or reduced-cost help.
https://www.findhelp.org/

211 is a free and confidential service that helps people find local resources like food, housing, health care and job support by calling or texting 211.
https://www.211.org/