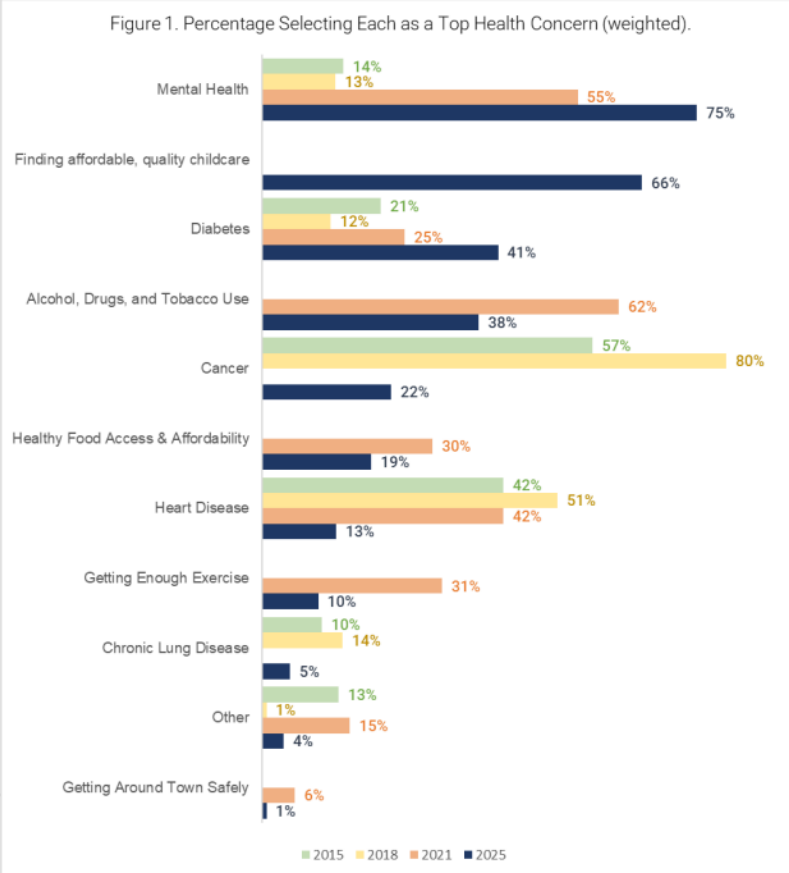
Community Health Needs Assessment (CHNA)
Implementation Strategy 2027

Executive Summary:
Valley County Health System (VCHS) collaborates with Loup Basin Public Health Department (LBPHD), Jennie M Melham Medical Center (JMMMC), Howard County Medical Center (HCMC) and Calloway District Hospital to conduct a comprehensive Community Health Needs Assessment for the central Nebraska area.

Key Findings

These are our key findings from our CHA, that help identify our most concerning community issues.



The 2025 Community Health Assessment identified these priority areas of health in the community:

- Mental Health and Substance Abuse
- Childcare access
- Managing chronic health conditions – including diabetes, use of alcohol, drugs, and tobacco, and cancer

VCHS' strategy to address these areas is outlined below:

1) **Mental Health Access**:
   VCHS currently provides mental health support through current service lines.
   Our Medical Staff includes 5 family practice physicians and 5 advanced practice providers with clinics held in Ord, Burwell, Loup City, and Sargent.
   Specialized mental health care can be accessed in the clinic setting. Twice monthly, Jane Meyer, APRN, PMHNP provides medication management of psychiatric medications. Kyla Conway, LIMHP provides therapy services in the clinic. Volumes for both providers are increasing. Outpatient services are available through VCHS' Heritage Program for Seniors – specific to patients aged 55 and older.

2) **Childcare Access:**
   VCHS has reevaluated the need for additional resources in the community related to establishing and expanding childcare options. Our facility has developed an agreement to provide the facility infrastructure for licensed childcare home providers with a focus on availability for children of VCHS employees.

3) **Diabetes:**
   VCHS addresses this need through current services and programs. VCHS employs Mileah Panter, DNP to provide endocrinology services through our rural health clinic in Ord. Diabetic education classes are offered through our certified diabetic educator, Kayla Beethe, RN, CDCES. Grant funds are also available to patients to expand access to diabetes education sessions. Our annual health fair includes discounted lab testing and wellness screenings to area community members to help with diabetes screening and monitoring. Our medical clinic continues its partnership with UNMC to address chronic illness and obesity through education and training with our medical staff. VCHS is also a recipient of Rural Health Transformation funds that focus on remote patient monitoring, including continuous glucose monitoring supplies and education for diabetic patients.

4) **Alcohol, Drug, and Tobacco Use:**
   VCHS will not address this need as it is being addressed by area organizations.
   LBPHD has included substance use in their 2025 Community Health Improvement Plan and plans to increase participation in the Nebraska DHHS youth risk behavior survey and increase community education about overdose prevention.

5) **Cancer:**
   VCHS continues to address this need. Services in 2027 will be expanded with the purchase of new mammogram instrument as well as implementation of a new breast coil for MRI diagnostic imaging. We will continue our partnership with Sandhills Strong – Save the Pumpkins screening program to defer patient costs for cancer screenings and diagnostic services not covered by insurance.