



healthy
by
design

2020-2023 YELLOWSTONE COUNTY

COMMUNITY HEALTH
IMPROVEMENT PLAN

30 MONTH PROGRESS REPORT

JULY 2022 – DECEMBER 2022 | PUBLISHED JANUARY 31, 2023



The Yellowstone County Community Health Needs Assessment, Community Health Improvement Plan, and Healthy By Design Coalition are sponsored by **Billings Clinic**, **RiverStone Health**, and **St. Vincent Healthcare**. These initiatives are intended as a resource for residents, organizations, and leaders. Learn more at www.hbdyc.org.

Our Current Partners

Adult Resource Alliance of Yellowstone County ●●
Best Beginnings Council of Yellowstone County ●
Big Sky Economic Development ●●●●
Big Sky Senior Services ●●
Billings Area Chamber of Commerce ●●●
Billings Clinic ●●●●
Billings Parks, Recreation, and Public Lands ●●
Billings Public Library ●
Billings Public Works ●
Billings TrailNet ●
City-County Planning and Community Services ●●●●
Community Leadership Development Inc. ●●
Continuum of Care Coalition ●
Dementia Friendly Billings ●
Kathy Aragon, Community Advocate ●●
Linda Deavila, Community Advocate ●●
Living Independently for Today & Tomorrow ●●
MET Transit ●●
MSU Extension ●
Native American Development Corporation ●●
Northern Plains Resource Council ●
Pioneer Park Neighborhood Task Force ●
Rehabilitation Hospital of Montana ●
RiverStone Health ●●●●
Rocky Mountain College ●
Safer Routes to Schools Committee ●
South Side Neighborhood Task Force ●
St. Vincent Healthcare ●●●●
Substance Abuse Connect Coalition ●
Suicide Prevention Coalition of Yellowstone County ●
United Way of Yellowstone County ●
Western Security Bank ●



Partner Strategy Key:

- Healthy Neighborhoods
- Healthy Connections
- Healthy Investments
- Strengthening Partnerships

Interested in getting involved?

- ✓ Join a strategy working group
- ✓ Share your feedback and experiences
- ✓ Advocate for healthy policies and programs
- ✓ Like us on Facebook and join our e-news
- ✓ Make the healthy choice, the easy choice where you live, work, learn and play

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Image – Faces of the South Side utility box wrap at Highland Park

Past 30 Months at a Glance



Healthy Neighborhoods

- Celebrated the installation of sidewalk poems around the South Side neighborhood for South Sidewalks, the installation of a community bulletin board at South Park, and remaining utility box art wraps
- Partnered with Pioneer Park neighborhood to identify resident priorities and opportunities expanding social networking, traffic calming, and maintaining a welcoming Pioneer Park
- Completed the 12th Gardeners' Market season at South Park



Healthy Connections

- Continued the winter *Be A Good Neighbor* snow shoveling campaign
- Launched Age Friendly Billings Coalition, accepted into AARP's Aging Friendly Communities Network
- Launched Billings Beets on the Streets, a place-based walking mystery



Healthy Investments

- Mayor Cole proclaimed 2022 as the Year of Walkability in Billings
- *Resilient Yellowstone* initiative launched to recruit, train, and deploy community health workers to improve health disparities exacerbated by COVID-19
- Collaborated with diverse partners to host a presentation by planning expert, Jeff Speck, on livability and walkability in Billings



Strengthening Partnerships

- Collaborated with local coalition leaders to develop training materials for local collective impact
- Partnered with the City of Billings and Billings Arts Association to recruit and hire an artist-in residence to develop public art infrastructure locally



Images - A before (left) and after (right) of trail conditions at Pioneer Park

Thank you to the City of Billings Planning Department, the Parks and Recreation Department, and the Public Works department for this great revitalization!



2020-2023 Community Health Improvement Plan Overview

Vision A vibrant Yellowstone County where the healthy choice is the easy choice.

Overall Goal By 2023, increase proportion of Yellowstone County residents who self-report good or better overall health from 83.3% to 87.5%.

Priorities Mental Health
Nutrition, Physical Activity, and Weight
Substance Abuse

Strategies



Healthy Neighborhoods



Healthy Connections



Healthy Investments

Strengthening Partnerships

Priority-Specific Objectives

- By 2023, increase the proportion of Yellowstone County residents who self-report good or better mental health from 79.8% to 83.8%.
- By 2023, increase the proportion of Yellowstone County residents who are at a healthy weight from 26.9% to 28.2%.
- By 2023, decrease the proportion of Yellowstone County residents whose lives have been negatively affected by substance abuse (their own or someone else's) from 53.8% to 51.1%.

Approach Equity | Policy, Systems, Built Environment | Collective | Community-Informed

Based on Healthy People 2020 guidelines; Healthy People 2030 guidelines were not available at time of CHIP development. For more background on each CHIP strategy, see the original [2020 - 2023 Yellowstone County CHIP](#) and previous semi-annual progress reports. Detailed workplans are available upon request.

Strategy I. Healthy Neighborhoods



Vision: Vibrant neighborhoods are welcoming, accessible, and foster health for all

Objective: By 2023, increase the number of active healthy neighborhood plans within Yellowstone County.

Initiative: Healthy Neighborhoods Partnerships

30 Month Overview: Throughout 2022, the Healthy Neighborhoods working group collaborated with the **Pioneer Park** neighborhood to outline projects for the year involving ways for neighborly meet ups, traffic calming, and neighborhood beautification. Efforts resulted in traffic volume and speed studies, which will be used to inform future pedestrian treatments, and support for repaving of a busy trail through Pioneer Park.

Coalition members continued to work with **South Side** neighborhood residents throughout 2022, including:

- On August 19th, celebrated the installation of 18 sidewalk stamps/poems;
- Installed a community board for South Park in collaboration with South Side Task Force members; and
- Completed the 12th annual Gardeners' Market at South Park, now from 4 – 6pm
 - The market showcased 26 unique vendors through the season with an average of 11/week
 - On average, products traveled less than 20 miles to get to the market

Emerging Initiative(s): South Side neighborhood tune-up, Mobilize the MAGIC City placemaking initiative



Images – (top) Clint and Kathy of King Family Farms, speak with a customer and (bottom) summer college student intern Mikalya at the 2022 Gardeners' Market



Check out a summary of our 2022 Gardeners' Market season at: www.hbdyc.org/market

Progress to Date		
Metric	Goal	Status
# of neighborhood partnership applications received in 2021	3	Achieved
% of working group deliverables met on time	80%	On Track
% of Market customers who increase consumption of fruits and vegetables	≥ 80%	Achieved
Projected Community Health Area of Influence		
Yellowstone County Indicator	2020 CHNA	2023 Goal
% adults who consume 5+ servings of fruits and vegetables daily	27.7%	29%
% of children who are physically active 1+ hours daily	66.2%	69.5%
% adults who feel safe walking alone in neighborhood	88.3%	92.7%

Strategy 2. Healthy Connections



Vision: Healthy connections integrate diverse residents into the community in a way that is relevant, accessible, and fulfilling across all stages of life

Objective: By 2023, increase the number of Yellowstone County residents who have the social or emotional support they need

Initiative: Age Friendly Billings Coalition

30 Month Overview: The **Age Friendly Billings Coalition**, aiming to promote a more livable Billings for all residents, was accepted into the AARP Age Friendly Network, and recognized as a 2022 Outstanding Community Partner by AARP Montana. On September 26th, Billings Mayor Bill Cole read a proclamation to support quality of life for all ages and abilities. The Age Friendly Coalition, co-convened by Adult Resource Alliance and Big Sky Senior Services, reviewed the AARP 8 Domains of Livability to inform our focus for 2023.

In fall 2022, the Healthy Connections workgroup implemented **Billings Beets on the Streets** with Space2Place funds and support from the Billings Public Library Teen Lab. Members collaborated with the Teen Lab to 3D-print sugar beets that will rotate around the city with clues to their location. The initiative encourages Billings' sense of pride in place and physical activity through walkable distances between sugar beets.

Emerging Initiative(s): New Billings Beets on the Streets locations and Age Friendly workplan



Progress to Date		
Metric	Goal	Status
# of snow shoveling complaints	<400 ('19)	TBD
# Snow Free and Safe decals distributed	90%	In progress
Projected Community Health Area of Influence		
Yellowstone County Indicator	2020 CHNA	2023 Goal
% adults who feel isolated from others (sometimes or always)	38.5%	36.6%
% adults who feel they can help make their community a better place to live	90.0%	94.5%
% adults who get the social and emotional support needed	76.8%	80.6%
% adults who have considered suicide	21.3%	21.3%



Images – (top left) Age Friendly Billings coalition members attend the mayoral proclamation, (top right) Age Friendly Billings logo, (bottom right) Billings Beets of the Streets logo

Strategy 3. Healthy Investments



Vision: Investments in community development, policies, systems, and infrastructure improve quality of life and alleviate poverty, creating communities where people live healthy and prosperous lives

Objective: By 2023, enhance the ability of Billings and Yellowstone County to respond to the demand for livability through community investments that directly impact the health and wellbeing of area residents.

Initiative: Health in All Investments Framework

30 Month Overview: Members of this working group have taken on several diverse initiatives supporting a broad array of investments in both community development, workforce, and more, including the following:

- Market staff provided technical assistance to the **Yellowstone Valley Farmers Market** to introduce Supplemental Nutritional Assistance Program (SNAP) benefits as a payment method.
- Following Billings Mayor Bill Cole’s proclamation of 2022 as the Year of Walkability, HBD partners hosted activities including **Walk Your Block** neighborhood events for the public to help celebrate, define, and inform walkability.
- The South Side **grocery store** committee continued to pursue a location, champion, and startup funds for the grocery store. To date, a champion and promising location have been solidified.
- Through the **Resilient Yellowstone** initiative, local organizations hired, trained, and deployed community health workers (CHWs).
 - In summer, CHWs began needs assessments of their organizations and community most disproportionately impacted by the pandemic.
 - In fall, the inaugural Montana CHW Summit Conference was held in Billings with 125 attendees.
 - CHWs have made approximately 11,000 client referrals to local services to date.

Emerging Initiative(s):

Impact measurement of CHW workforce across the state of Montana, a lease and updated business plan for the South Side grocery store, and community plan factsheets



Progress to Date			Projected Community Health Area of Influence		
Metric	Goal	Status	Yellowstone County Indicator	2020 CHNA	2023 Goal
Successful development of healthy investment criteria	100%	On Track	% adults and children who live in poverty (census)	10.1, 11.9%	9.6, 11.3%
% of work plan deliverables met on time	80%	On Track	% adults who perceive neighborhood as safe	86.3%	90.6%
# Resilient Yellowstone sites hiring a CHW	7	On Track	Unwillingness to relocate due to lack of community amenities (MT Chamber Survey 2019)	3.7% entry	3.5%
# Resilient Yellowstone sites completing CHW training	8	On Track		5.9% mid	5.6%
				8.6% senior	8.2%

Strategy 4. Strengthening Partnerships



Vision: Advancing collective action to make Yellowstone County healthier and more vibrant

Objective: By 2023, increase Yellowstone County’s collective ability to create a healthier, more vibrant community through increased collaboration, data sharing, and strategic planning among Coalitions and sectors.

These initiatives support strengthening partnerships across sectors to improve community health throughout Yellowstone County. As new CHIP initiatives are developed, additional performance measures will follow.

Collective Impact Core Leaders Collaborative

Including backbone staff from Substance Abuse Connect, Continuum of Care, Best Beginnings, Suicide Prevention Coalition of Yellowstone Valley, and Healthy By Design, this group worked with Deb Halliday to develop collective impact training resources for local coalitions.

Supporting a Culture of Health and Health in All Policies

The following partnerships represent opportunities HBD has taken to support a culture of health and health in all policies across Yellowstone County over the past 30 months:

- Billings was successfully awarded an **Our Town grant** through the National Endowment of the Arts to support an artist-in-residence (AIR). The AIR will work with the City, Billings Arts Association, Healthy By Design, and others to create placemaking hubs, a placemaking playbook, and feasibility study for a public arts commission. Future updates will be captured under *Healthy Neighborhoods*.
- Provided ongoing support for roadway projects related to the **Billings Complete Streets policy**;
- Partnered with **Yellowstone County Safer Routes to Schools** committee to support funding for safe routes and development of a website to house resources and tools to promote safe routes; and
- Participated on several community efforts including:
 - MET Transit Human Services Transportation Coordination Committee
 - Billings MPO Long Range Transportation Plan Committee
 - Community Trails Committee (formerly Chamber Trails Committee)
 - Yellowstone County Early Childhood Visioning Group (emerging)



Image – Poets, residents, and representatives from the City, Knife River, and Healthy By Design cut a ribbon celebrating sidewalk poetry

Progress to Date		
Metric	Goal	Status
Retention of local leaders in Collective Impact Collaborative	100%	On Track
% of workplans incorporating lived experience input in either planning or evaluation phase of project	90%	On Track
Projected Community Health Area of Influence		
This effort is intended to positively influence overall community health and quality of life.		