

Adventist Health Mendocino Coast Community



The following report is respectfully submitted to the Office of Statewide Health Planning and Development on May 28, 2021 reporting on 2020 activities.

Adventist Health Mendocino Coast and Adventist Health

Adventist Health Mendocino is an affiliate of Adventist Health, a faith-based, nonprofit integrated health system serving more than 80 communities on the West Coast and Hawaii.

Vision

Adventist Health will transform the health experience of our communities by improving health, enhancing interactions and making care more accessible.

Mission Statement

Living God's love by inspiring health, wholeness and hope.

Adventist Health Includes:

- 23 hospitals with more than 3,600 beds
- 290 clinics (hospital-based, rural health and physician clinics)
- 15 home care agencies and eight hospice agencies
- Three retirement centers & one continuing care retirement community
- A workforce of 37,000 including associated, medical staff physicians, allied health professionals and volunteers

We owe much of our heritage and organizational success to the Seventh-day Adventist Church, which has long been a promoter of prevention and whole person care. Inspired by our belief in the loving and healing power of Jesus Christ, we aim to bring physical, mental and spiritual health and healing to our neighbors of all faiths. Every individual, regardless of his/her personal beliefs, is welcome in our facilities. We are also eager to partner with members of all faiths to enhance the health of the communities we serve.

Our commitment to quality health care stems from our heritage, which dates to 1866 when the first Seventh-day Adventist healthcare facility opened in Battle Creek, Michigan. There, dedicated pioneers promoted the “radical” concepts of proper nutrition, exercise and sanitation. Early on, the facility was devoted to prevention as well as healing. They called it a sanitarium, a place where patients—and their families—could learn to be well.

More than a century later, the health care system sponsored by the Seventh-day Adventist Church circles the globe with more than 170 hospitals and more than 500 clinics, nursing homes and dispensaries worldwide. And the same vision to treat the whole person—mind, body and spirit—continues to provide the foundation for our progressive approach to health care.

COVID 19 Considerations

The COVID-19 global pandemic has caused extraordinary challenges for Adventist Health hospitals and health care systems across the world including keeping front line workers safe, shortages of protective equipment, limited ICU bed space and developing testing protocols. They have also focused on helping patients and families deal with the isolation needed to stop the spread of the virus, and more recently vaccine roll out efforts.

Adventist Health, like other health care systems, had to pivot its focus to meet the most urgent healthcare needs of its community during the pandemic, as well as reassess the ability to continue with some community health strategies due public health guidelines for social distancing. Adjustments have been made to continue community health improvement efforts as possible, while ensuring the health and safety of those participating. The Strategy Action Plan Grids on the following pages reflect updated activities for each strategy.

In FY20, Adventist Health as a system took the following actions in response to the needs created or exacerbated by COVID-19:

- Adventist Health as a system directed “Community Strength Fund grants” to each hospital to support community partners’ immediate response to COVID-19
- Adventist Health as a system directed “Community Integration Catalyst” funds to each hospital to support internal new or expanded community wellbeing programming and innovation as an immediate response to COVID-19
- Began offering more virtual health care visits to keep community members safe and healthy
- Developed an online symptom tracker to help community members determine if they may have COVID-19 or some other flu type illness and what steps to take
- Partnered with MaskUp, a collaboration of 100 leading health systems representing thousands of hospitals across the U.S. joining to create messages for the betterment of the communities they serve

- Was part of a communitywide effort by the local health system to vaccinate eligible community members to help stop the spread of the virus

Locally, Adventist Health Mendocino Coast took these additional actions:

- Funded the Coastal Street Medicine Program Coordinator Position. The program served 262 homeless patients in 2020. The Program Coordinator secured grant funding from the Arlene & Michael Rosen Foundation to expand Coastal Street Medicine capacity by on boarding a case manager in partnership with Hospitality Center. Coastal Street Medicine organized and provided surveillance testing for COVID-19. The program procured and distributed PPE to homeless individuals, those living in shelter or transitional housing and front-line workers.
- Distributed face masks to Mendocino County Youth Project, Project Sanctuary, Redwood Community Services, Action Network Family Resource Center and Manchester Point Arena Rancheria.
- Provided \$10,000 to the Fort Bragg Food Bank to meet food insecurity needs during the pandemic.
- Partnered with Mendocino County Health & Human Services Advocacy & Collaboration Team, Project Sanctuary, Redwood Community Services and First 5 Mendocino to create a bilingual informational flyer to be distributed to community members which included tips and resources numbers for mental health, substance use, domestic and child abuse. Flyers were distributed at grocery stores, food distribution sites, schools and other public locations.
- Facilitated the creation of the COVID-19 Work Group to provide health equity advocacy for the Latino population in Mendocino County which led to Mendocino County funding the *Promotores de Salud* six-month pilot. This program, operated by Nuestra Alianza de Willits, provided Spanish-speaking community health workers to provide linguistically and culturally appropriate COVID-19 information to Latinos.