



ADVENTIST HEALTH
Sierra Vista

Community Health Plan, FY 2025
January 1, 2025 - December 31, 2025

2025

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Purpose & Summary

Adventist Health is a faith-inspired, nonprofit integrated health system serving more than 100 communities on the West Coast and Hawai'i, with over 440 sites of care. Founded on Adventist heritage and values, Adventist Health provides care in hospitals, clinics, home care agencies, hospice agencies and joint-venture retirement centers in both rural and urban communities. Our compassionate and talented team of more than 38,000 includes employees, physicians, allied health professionals and volunteers driven in pursuit of one mission: living God's love by inspiring health, wholeness and hope. Guided by our mission, Adventist Health supports purposeful work to address the social drivers of health, with a special focus on underserved members of the communities we serve. Together, we are transforming the healthcare experience of our communities with a focus on physical, mental, spiritual and social healing to support community well-being.

On March 29, 2024, Adventist Health completed the acquisition of Sierra Vista Community Hospital from Tenet Health. Now doing business as Adventist Health Sierra Vista, it is part of the larger Adventist Health non-profit health care system.

Non-profit health systems, community-based organizations, and public health agencies across the country all share a similar calling: to provide public service to help improve the lives of their community. To live out this calling and responsibility, Adventist Health Twin Cities has begun the Community Health Needs Assessment process in order to determine the health needs of the community. Non-profit hospitals are required to conduct a Community Health Needs Assessment (CHNA) every three years by engaging our community through focus groups, key informant interviews and surveys and secondary data analysis.

The Adventist Health Sierra Vista (AHSV) community health needs assessment report is scheduled for completion in September 2025 and publication in December 2025. In the interim, AHSV will leverage several resources to identify significant priority health needs within their service area. This effort is crucial for the annual reporting of community benefits ensuring compliance with state and federal regulations.

In this Community Health Plan, FY 2025 you will find strategies, tactics, and partnerships aimed at addressing the health needs as previously identified by regional health organizations. This plan also incorporates insights from the current San Luis Obispo County Community Health Assessment and a detailed quantitative analysis of over 150 data indicators specific to the primary and secondary service areas of Adventist Health Sierra Vista. The three significant health needs discussed in this annual update were determined upon review of all available current local health resources. See page 12 for further details.

This report includes additional narrative celebrating our Mission of Living's God love by inspiring health, wholeness and hope.

- Access to Care
- Educational Attainment & Financial Stability
- Health Promotion & Prevention

Who Adventist Health Sierra Vista Cares For

Defining Our Service Area

The report area is located in the state of California and includes a total population of 178,157 (based on the 2020 Decennial Census). The largest city in the report area is San Luis Obispo city, with a population of 47,063. The report area is comprised of the following ZIP codes: 93401, 93402, 93405, 93407, 93410, 93420, 93424, 93428, 93430, 93433, 93442, 93444, 93445, 93449.



Total Population
178,157

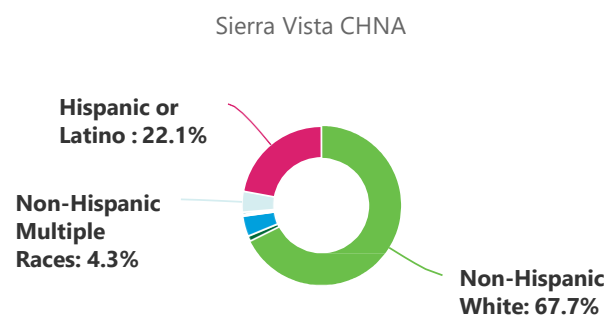
The largest city in the service area is
San Luis Obispo city
with a population of
47,063

Demographic Profile

Population by Age Group



Total Population by Combined Race and Ethnicity



Data Source: US Census Bureau, [American Community Survey](#), 2018-22.

Note: NAAN = Native American or Alaska Native, NPI = Native Hawaiian or Pacific Islander.

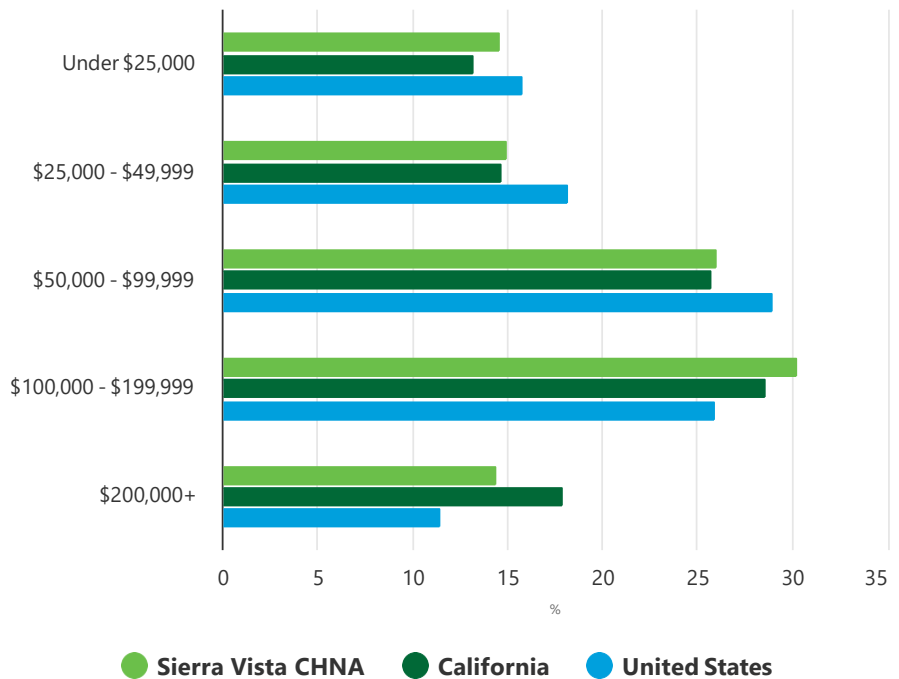
Students Experiencing Homelessness, Percent
11.82%
 California: 3.89%

Associate's Degree or Higher
52.34%
 California: 43.82%

Labor Force Participation Rate
57.20%
 California: 63.82%

Households by Household Income Levels, Percent

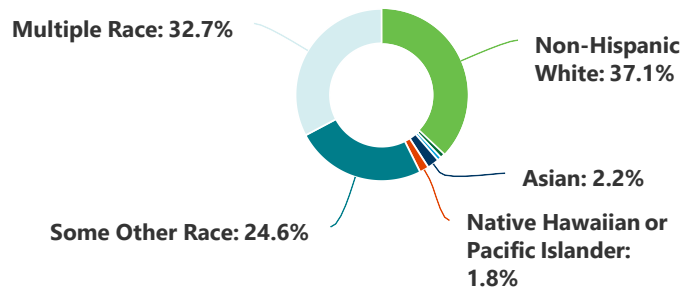
58.69%
 California: 55.63%
 of the population **owns** their home
41.31%
 California: 44.37%
 of the population **rents** their home



Data Source: US Census Bureau, [American Community Survey](#). 2018-22.

Children in Poverty by Race, Total

Sierra Vista CHNA



Data Source: US Census Bureau, [American Community Survey](#). 2018-22.

Childhood Poverty Rate
10.27%
 California: 15.61%

About Us

Adventist Health Sierra Vista

Formerly known as Sierra Vista Medical Center, it is the largest hospital in San Luis Obispo County. It is a 162-bed facility that has served the community since 1959. Specializing in neurosurgery, orthopedics, perinatology, neonatology, pediatrics, cancer care and various medical, surgical and outpatient services, it houses the largest Level III Neonatal Intensive Care unit in the region, the only dedicated pediatric unit in the county and serves as the designated trauma center. Additionally, Sierra Vista is recognized as a Baby-Friendly USA facility.

Adventist Health

Adventist Health is a faith-inspired, nonprofit integrated health system serving more than 80 communities on the West Coast and Hawaii. Founded on Adventist heritage and values, Adventist Health provides care in hospitals, clinics, home care agencies, hospice agencies and joint-venture retirement centers in both rural and urban communities. Our compassionate and talented team of 34,000 includes associates, medical staff physicians, allied health professionals and volunteers driven in pursuit of one mission: living God's love by inspiring health, wholeness and hope. Together, we are transforming the American healthcare experience with an innovative, yet timeless, whole-person focus on physical, mental, spiritual and social healing to support community well-being.



Adventist Health's Approach to Community Impact

Adventist Health prioritizes well-being in the communities we serve across our system. We use an intentional, community centered approach when creating our hospital Community Health Needs Assessment (CHNA) to understand the health needs of each community. After the completion of the community assessment process, we address health needs such as mental health, access to care, health risk behaviors, and others through the creation and execution of a Community Health Implementation Strategy (CHIS) for each of our hospitals and their communities.

In November 2024, the Community Impact team traveled to the Central Coast as the first step in engaging the community in the CHNA process. They spoke with 53 people through 7 Focus Groups and 5 key informant interviews. Represented and vulnerable populations included: healthcare workforce, human services, law enforcement, low-income, LGBTQ community, medically underserved, substance use disorder, persons with disability, public health, unhoused population, women, men & youth.

Until the Community Health Needs Assessment (CHNA) and Community Health Improvement Strategy (CHIS) processes are complete for our newest hospital, Adventist Health Sierra Vista (AHSV) will report its community impact based on previously identified needs through regional entities with existing community health assessments. Specifically, AHSV is aligning this report with the 2022 CHNA from the Marion Regional Medical Center, the French Hospital Medical Center, the Arroyo Grande Community Hospital, and the 2023 San Luis Obispo County Community Health Needs Assessment. In addition, we will incorporate secondary data outcomes specific to the primary and secondary service areas of AHSV. We invite you to learn about the actions, activities and programs that have been implemented in 2025.



Action Plan for Addressing High Priority Needs

The following pages reflect the goals,
strategies, actions, and resources that
Adventist Health Sierra Vista provided in 2025

ADDRESSING HIGH PRIORITY: Access to Care

GOAL	To improve access to care through an increase in interventions to provide needed services.
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Fiscal Year 2025 COMMUNITY IMPACT SUMMARY

In collaboration with the SLO Food Bank, Transitions Mental Health Association, Tolosa Children's Dental Center, Mission Minded, Better Vision- Better Hope, and Bienestar is Wellbeing, Adventist Health on the Central Coast hosted a free community wellness clinic on October 4 and 5 at the Templeton Hills Seventh-day Adventist Church. The two-day event provided a wide range of free services — including dental, vision, cardiology, and mental health care — as well as complimentary haircuts and food boxes for attendees. Thanks to the dedication of more than 100 volunteers, the clinic served over 1,000 community members.

In its first year in operation, the wellness clinic reflects our mission to improve access to care and support the well-being of uninsured and underinsured individuals across our communities.

Community Impact at a Glance:

- Vision Services: 134 patients served
- Dental Services: 105 patients served
- Fresh Produce Distributed: 55,600 pounds

In 2025 Adventist Health Sierra Vista and Adventist Health Twin Cities began recruiting community members to enhance patient-centered care initiatives through the establishment of a Patient and Family Advisory Council (PFAC). They began actively soliciting recommendations from staff and clinicians to identify individuals or family members who have received our services and are interested in serving on the council. As an advisor, members can help shape patient care by sharing their experiences with hospital staff and providing insight on how policies or processes affect patients, families, and the underserved.

Issues discussed included:

- Customer service and patient care including barriers to care
- Activities and programs offered
- How we work with health plans
- Opportunities for new services

In partnership with SLO Village Movement, Adventist Health Sierra Vista offered a special screening of the groundbreaking documentary, *Saving Clair*, on September 25 in the Auditorium. The documentary chronicles Clair's inspiring journey and reveals the complex nature of aging, resistance to change and the relatable patterns that increase fall risk.

ADVENTIST HEALTH COMMUNITY IMPACT IN THE NEWS:

KSBY: <https://youtu.be/pSHpuFtmAWg?si=1lCg-YVd9v709e4v>

SLO TRIBUNE: <https://www.sanluisobispo.com/news/health-and-medicine/article312277231.html>

KSBY: <https://youtu.be/NfxhrF6CZks?si=53AVWhab5AkQ9Mm5>

Paso Daily News: <https://pasoroblesdailynews.com/free-wellness-clinic-offers-dental-vision-and-medical-care/214739/>

ADDRESSING HIGH PRIORITY: Educational Attainment & Financial Stability

GOAL	Collaboration with local secondary education establishments to provide space for clinical training, licensing, or certification of health professionals.
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Fiscal Year 2025 COMMUNITY IMPACT SUMMARY

Through partnership with the San Luis Coastal Education Foundation, we supported the iINNOVATE Regional Skills Lab initiative, a program designed to expand STEM learning and career awareness for all K–6 students across the Central Coast. The initiative reached approximately 13,000 students and strengthened early exposure to high-opportunity local careers, including those in healthcare.

Each month, participating classrooms received a Skills Lab lesson box that included hands-on activities and a short career-focused video. These videos highlighted local industries, described essential job skills, and introduced students to professionals working in the field.

As part of this partnership, we developed three healthcare-specific educational videos featuring careers in clinical laboratory science, nursing, and respiratory therapy. The first video showcased the critical role of clinical lab scientists, emphasizing their use of advanced technology and analytical expertise to support disease diagnosis and patient care.

This collaboration helped build a future talent pipeline by integrating healthcare career awareness directly into elementary classrooms and strengthening connections between education and the regional workforce.

Adventist Health Sierra Vista and the California Polytechnic State University, San Luis Obispo formed the Biomedical Clinical Engineering Partnership (BiCEP), through which students shadowed doctors as part of an innovative program to develop medical technology.

Sponsored by a grant from the National Institutes of Health, the immersion program was in its 4th year. Through the program, students received clinical experience and product development training, with the goal of developing a piece of equipment or process to improve efficiency and enhance patient care.

Ten students began shadowing physicians on June 30, 2025, in five different departments, including the intensive care unit, NICU, labor and delivery, operating room, and emergency room. In addition, the students spent time in the hospital's blood lab and imaging, radiology, respiratory, and rehab departments. Concurrently, they took a summer course at Cal Poly where they learned principles of engineering design, product development, and entrepreneurship that they applied to the challenges they observed in the clinic.

San Luis Obispo County hosted CHEMPACK Training at Adventist Health Sierra Vista on Thursday, June 12, 2025, from 9:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. The training focused on the CHEMPACK program, which is critical for preparedness in the event of a nerve agent incident.

The training was designed for EMS, fire, law enforcement, dispatchers, hospital personnel, public health personnel, emergency managers, and pharmacists. Attendees were encouraged to bring their own lunch. Four hours of CEU were provided.

Training objectives included:

- Understanding the CHEMPACK program background
- Identifying situations that require CHEMPACK assets
- Learning how to request and deploy CHEMPACK assets
- Exploring deployment options

ADDRESSING HIGH PRIORITY: Health Promotion and Prevention

GOAL	To improve, promote and maintain health and well-being while preventing disease
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Fiscal Year 2025 COMMUNITY IMPACT SUMMARY

Adventist Health Sierra Vista hosted the 3rd Annual Cancer Patient and Survivor Wellness Fair on Saturday, May 31, from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. in the hospital auditorium. The event included a free lunch and featured guest speaker Dr. Heidi Lucas, Naturopathic Doctor and Fellow of the American Board of Naturopathic Oncology, who discussed “Food as Medicine: Learn ways to boost your energy, immune system, and microbiome health.”

The event also included information booths staffed by local community organizations and hospital specialists, including oncology nurses, dietitians, physical therapists, and social workers.

Adventist Health Sierra Vista and Adventist Health Twin Cities, in partnership with Vitalant, hosted community blood drives every other month at the hospitals.

In honor of National Donate Life Month in April, Adventist Health Sierra Vista reaffirmed its commitment to saving and improving lives through organ, eye, and tissue donation. Adventist Health Sierra Vista helped facilitate life-saving organ transplants and improved the lives of many individuals through tissue and eye donations, offering hope and healing to countless families.

Partnering again with Donor Network West, the federally designated nonprofit organ procurement organization serving Northern California and Northern Nevada, Adventist Health Sierra Vista played a vital role in ensuring that the wishes of donors and their families were honored. Together, they helped provide a second chance at life through transplantation and research, turning loss into legacy.

During Donate Life Month, and throughout the year, Adventist Health Sierra Vista encouraged individuals to consider registering as organ and tissue donors. More than 100,000 people in the U.S. were waiting for a lifesaving organ transplant, with thousands more in need of tissue transplants to recover from burns, injuries, and surgeries. One donor could save up to eight lives and enhance the lives of 75 others through tissue and cornea donation.

Adventist Health Sierra Vista also hosted a free skin check for the community to educate participants about the importance of early detection of skin cancer. Skin cancer is the most common cancer in the United States, with millions of cases diagnosed yearly. It is also one of the most preventable cancers and highly treatable when found early. Titled, Melanoma Monday, the event focused on skin cancer awareness. Attendees were screened by a licensed dermatology provider in a private space while wearing a hospital gown.

In honor of May’s National Stroke Awareness Month, Adventist Health on the Central Coast partnered with KSBY to launch a public awareness campaign to educate the community about the signs and symptoms of stroke. The campaign featured the testimony of patient Laurel Krause, a stroke survivor, and Kristi Ermigarat, Stroke Coordinator, who shared the BE FAST method for recognizing stroke symptoms. The campaign ran on both the KSBY news station and website throughout the month of May. Community members were also encouraged to request a free stroke awareness kit that included a brochure on the 5 Ways to Reduce Your Risk of Stroke, the BE FAST stroke signs and symptoms resource, and a Blood Pressure Tracking Card.

In collaboration with the Hope for Stroke Survivors support group, Adventist Health on the Central Coast hosted a free painting class at Morro Bay Art Center on May 5 from 1:00 p.m. - 4:00 p.m. The event was designed for stroke patients, their spouses, caregivers, and friends and aimed to help promote community and connection through social activities and creative expression.

Adventist Health Sierra Vista hosted a monthly wellness series for oncology patients and survivors. Titled Sound Journeys, this deeply relaxing and restorative experience was led by Dee DiGioia of Mindful Kindful YOUiversity. The immersive sessions featured a soothing soundscape of crystal and metal singing bowls, chimes, gongs, and other therapeutic instruments to ease tension, quiet the mind, and encourage deep inner peace, along with gentle breathwork. This free event was open to cancer patients, survivors, caregivers, and guests.

ADVENTIST HEALTH COMMUNITY IMPACT IN THE NEWS:

[KSBY: Hope for Stroke Survivors support group hosts painting class in Morro Bay](#)

Adventist Health Sierra Vista Additional Narrative:

Adventist Health on the Central Coast was proud to be a sponsor of the Rendezvous at the Rock fundraising event for the Court Appointed Special Advocates of San Luis Obispo County (CASA). Proceeds from the event directly supported CASA's mission to recruit, train, and support caring volunteer advocates for local foster children. CASA advocates for the best interests of abused and neglected children within the court system. The organization recruits, trains, and supervises volunteers who serve this vulnerable population with the goal of ensuring that every child grows up in a safe, nurturing, and permanent home.

Adventist Health Sierra Vista and Adventist Health Twin Cities were honored to partner with the United Way of San Luis Obispo County to support Dolly Parton's Imagination Library program. Through this partnership, all babies born at Adventist Health Twin Cities and Adventist Health Sierra Vista had the option to enroll in the program.

Dolly Parton's Imagination Library, launched in 1995, was created to foster a love of reading among preschool children and their families. Each enrolled child received a new, high-quality, age-appropriate book every month from enrollment through age five, helping them build a personal library. Since launching the program locally in 2011, United Way of San Luis Obispo County has mailed more than 38,000 books to local children. To solidify the partnership, a check was presented to representatives of the United Way. The donation helped fund the mailing and distribution of Imagination Library books throughout the county.

On Friday, June 6, the SLO Food Bank held a Hunger Awareness Day open house, welcoming the community to tour its new facility, learn about regional food security efforts, and get a behind-the-scenes look at its operations. As a sponsor, Adventist Health on the Central Coast assembled a team to compete in a friendly "Breakfast Bag BuildOff" to see how many breakfast bags teams could assemble within a set timeframe. Twenty-two teams participated, and our team built 10 bags in 3 minutes.

Adventist Health also was a key sponsor for the 2025 Empty Bowls event, a signature fundraiser for the El Camino Homeless Organization (ECHO). Our support helped ensure the success of this community event while furthering ECHO's mission to provide shelter, meals, and essential services to individuals and families experiencing homelessness in North San Luis Obispo County.

Empty Bowls brought the community together to enjoy a simple meal of soup and bread in a handmade ceramic bowl as a reminder of those facing hunger and housing insecurity. The 2025 events were held in Atascadero at the Pavilion on the Lake on April 10 and in Paso Robles at Studios on the Park on April 24, featuring handcrafted bowls, live music, and local cuisine. Proceeds directly support ECHO's shelter programs, case management services, and homeless prevention initiatives.

ECHO provides a comprehensive range of services, including a 90-Day Emergency Shelter Program, case management, job training through the Workforce Development Program, and nightly meals for those in need. The Homeless Prevention Program works to keep individuals and families housed by offering vital resources and support to those at risk of homelessness.

Thanks to donations and sponsorships like that of Adventist Health, more than 100 individuals and families found stable housing in 2025. These contributions made a tangible difference in the lives of those experiencing homelessness and allowed ECHO to continue expanding its impact on the community.

Since its inception nearly 17 years ago, Adventist Health on the Central Coast has sponsored the Season of Hope Toy and Food Drive, KSBY's toy drive that brings joy to families across our Central Coast community. This tradition invites

everyone to make a difference by donating new, unwrapped toys. Donation bins for toys were available in the lobby of both hospitals and at several medical offices.

Adventist Health’s commitment to community investment underscores its dedication to community well-being and aligns with its mission to inspire health, wholeness, and hope.

[Atascadero News — Atascadero News & Community](#) (ECHO)

[Babies born at local hospitals receive books through Dolly Parton’s Imagination Library - Paso Robles Daily News](#) (Dolly Parton)

Significant Identified Health Needs

RESOURCES:	Educational Attainment	Access to Care	Mental Health & Substance Use	Health Promotion & Prevention	Healthy Neighborhoods	Financial Stability
2022 CHNA Marian Regional Medical Center & Arroyo Grande Community Hospital	X	X		X		
2022 CHNA French Hospital Medical Center	X	X		X		
2024 – 2029 SLO County Community Health Assessment		X	X		X	
2024 Adventist Health CARES Secondary Data	X		X			X

The Adventist Health Sierra Vista (AHSV) community health needs assessment report is scheduled for completion in September 2025 and publication in December 2025. In the interim, AHSV will leverage several resources to identify significant priority health needs within their service area. This effort is crucial for the annual reporting of community benefits ensuring compliance with state and federal regulations.

The three high priority needs were identified after review of the above resources and which identified alignment with Access to Care, Educational Attainment & Financial Stability, and Mental Health & Substance Use. These high priority needs were chosen as they had demonstrated the greatest need based on severity and prevalence, intentional alignment around common goals, feasibility of potential interventions and opportunities to maximize available resources. They are the focus of this 2025 annual report.

The remaining significant health needs are not addressed due to limited resources, expertise and feasibility of viable interventions. While they are not addressed directly, they will likely benefit from the collective efforts defined in this report.

Community Health Financial Assistance for Medically Necessary Care Commitment

Adventist Health understands that community members may experience barriers in paying for the care they need. That is why we are committed to providing financial assistance to those who may need support in paying their medical expense(s).

Community members can find out if they qualify for financial aid in paying medical bills by completing a financial assistance application. Applications can be filled out at the time care is received or after the bill has been administered. To access the financial assistance policy for more information or contact a financial assistant counselor, please visit us at: [Adventist Health - Help Paying Your Bill](#).



Adventist Health Sierra Vista

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<https://www.adventisthealth.org/central-coast/>

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Thank you for reviewing our Community Health Plan, FY 2025.

We are proud to serve our local community and are committed to making it a healthier place for all.

To provide feedback on this community benefit report please email community.benefit@ah.org. You may also request a copy free of charge.

