

Albany County 2022 – 2024

COMMUNITY HEALTH IMPROVEMENT PLAN

Daniel P. McCoy

Albany County Executive

Elizabeth F. Whalen, MD, MPH
Commissioner



ALBANY COUNTY 2022-2024 COMMUNITY HEALTH IMPROVEMENT PLAN

COVER PAGE

County Name: Albany County

Participating Local Health Department (LHD)

Albany County Department of Health

and contact information: Elizabeth Whalen MD, MPH Commissioner of Health

Elizabeth.Whalen@albanycountyny.gov

Participating Hospital/Hospital System(s)

Albany Medical Center

and contact information: Diane McAlpine

Assistant Vice President, Planning and Strategy

mcalpid@amc.edu

Samaritan Hospital, Albany Memorial Campus

Katherine DeRosa

Vice President of Mission & Community Health

and Well-Being

St. Peter's Health Partners Katherine.DeRosa@sphp.com

St. Peter's Hospital Katherine DeRosa

Vice President of Mission & Community Health

and Well-Being

St. Peter's Health Partners Katherine.DeRosa@sphp.com

Name of coalition completing assessment and plan on behalf of participating

counties/hospitals

Healthy Capital District Kevin Jobin-Davis, Ph.D. Executive Director

kjobin-davis@hcdiny.org

INTRODUCTION

MISSION

The Albany County Department of Health strives to protect and improve the health of individuals, families, and communities, utilizing strategies that reduce health disparities and promote health equity.

We collaborate with community partners and offer a variety of high quality programs and services to accomplish the following:

- **Prevent** communicable and chronic diseases, injuries, and disabilities;
- Protect against environmental hazards that threaten health and safety;
- Promote the health and wellness of our citizens and our communities; and
- Prepare for and respond to public health emergencies.

VISION

The Albany County Department of Health will be recognized as the County's Chief Health Strategist working to ensure that every person in Albany County has the opportunity to achieve optimal health. The *Public Health Foundation* defines Chief Health Strategist as an "engaged change leader who builds community coalitions that investigate and take action to make meaningful progress on a community health issue." Albany County Department of Health seeks to be a leader in facilitating multisector initiatives to ensure the health of County residents.

VALUES

• (Compassion	•	Respect	•	Innovation
• E	Excellence	•	Transparency	•	Accountability

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

Albany County Department of Health has a progressive history of collaborating with community partners to improve the health of Albany County residents. Albany County Department of Health and local hospital systems including Albany Medical Center and St. Peter's Health Partners (Albany Memorial Hospital, St. Peter's Hospital) have cooperated to develop the *Albany County 2022-2024 Community Health Improvement Plan*. This unique effort demonstrates inclusive community health improvement planning and assures complementary, non-duplicative efforts to advance population health.

I. Prevention Agenda Priorities

Working collaboratively through the Healthy Capital District Albany-Rensselaer Public Health Priority Workgroup (inclusive of local health departments, hospitals, and community partners), the following priority areas are selected from the Prevention Agenda for the 2022-2024 period:

- A. Prevent Chronic Disease: Obesity (and comorbidities)
 - Reduce obesity and the risk of chronic disease
- B. Prevent Mental and Substance Use Disorders
 - Prevent opioid and other substance misuse and deaths
 - Prevent suicides
- C. Prevent Communicable Diseases
 - Improve (COVID-19) vaccination rates

II. Emerging Issues and Continuing Projects

The Albany County 2022-2024 Community Health Improvement Plan continues to focus on reducing obesity in children and adults (priority previously identified in the Albany County 2019-2021 Community Health Improvement Plan). The following health needs are not included in the Albany County 2022 -2024 Community Health Improvement Plan; however, they are being

addressed independently by Albany County Department of Health and other organizations: asthma (and related risk factors), sexually transmitted infections, and suicide prevention.

III. Data Review in the Community Health Needs Assessment

The Albany County 2022-2024 Community Health Improvement Plan is based on the collaborative 2022 Capital Region Community Health Needs Assessment developed by the Healthy Capital District in collaboration with local health departments, hospitals, community-based organizations, businesses, consumers, schools, academics, and content area experts. Health indicators selected for the 2022 Capital Region Community Health Needs Assessment were based on a review of available public health data including hospitalizations, emergency room visits, Behavioral Risk Factor Surveillance System, Prevention Quality Indicators, and other sources. These data sources were supplemented by a Capital Region Community Health Survey in 2021. Albany-Rensselaer Prevention Agenda Prioritization Work Group conducted meetings in Fall 2021, inclusive of public participation. Data and related discussion confirmed a focus on existing health priorities.

Partnerships

Coordinated by the Healthy Capital District, the 2022 Capital Region Community Health Needs

Assessment and the Albany County 2022-2024 Community Health Improvement Plan involved

the active collaboration of local health departments (Albany County Department of Health,

Rensselaer County Department of Health), hospital systems (Albany Medical Center, St. Peter's

Health Partners), and community partners (e.g. behavioral health providers, community based

organizations, schools, worksites, insurance companies). In general, public health will address

environmental interventions and hospitals will address health system interventions. Community

Health Improvement Plan implementation will be monitored through existing subject area

partnerships (e.g. Albany County Strategic Alliance for Health, Albany County Opioid Task Force,

Albany County Suicide Prevention Task Force, applicable Healthy Capital District task forces and work groups).

IV. Community Engagement

Broad community engagement in the 2022 Capital Region Community Health Needs Assessment and Albany County 2022-2024 Community Health Improvement Plan began with public participation in a community health survey. Survey results were incorporated into the priority scoring of health needs by the members of the Albany-Rensselaer Prevention Agenda Prioritization Work Group. The Work Groups included community voices through representatives from community based organizations that serve low-income residents, the homeless, and other vulnerable populations; federally qualified health centers; advocacy groups; academic institutions; public health departments; providers; and health insurers.

V. Planned Interventions and Strategies and Evaluation

All implementation strategies, interventions, and process measures are detailed in the *Albany County 2022-2024 Community Health Improvement Plan*. Interventions selected are evidence-based and most strategies are provided per the Prevention Agenda 2019-2024 Action Plans (https://www.health.ny.gov/prevention/prevention_agenda/2019-2024/). In summary:

A. Prevent Chronic Disease: Obesity (and comorbidities)

Objective: By December 31, 2024, decrease the percentage of adults ages 18 years

and older with obesity among all adults by 2% to 26.3% (from 26.9 % in

2018)

B. Prevent Mental Health and Substance Use Disorders

i. Prevent opioid and other substance misuse and deaths

Objective: By December 31, 2024, reduce overdose deaths involving any opioids,

age-adjusted rate per 100,000 population by 10 % to 15.6

deaths/100,000 population (from 17.3 deaths/100,000 population in

2019).

ii. Prevent suicides

Objective: By December 31, 2024, reduce the age-adjusted suicide mortality rate

by 10% to 9.0 per 100,000 population (from 10.8 age-adjusted suicide

mortality, 2017-2019)

C. Prevent Communicable Disease

Objective: By December 31, 2024, increase the percentage of the population with

completed COVID-19 primary vaccine series by 3% to 78.1% (from

75.9% on November 28, 2022).

Albany County will employ existing community coalitions to specifically track *Albany County 2022-2024*Community Health Improvement Plan progress and make requisite mid-course corrections.

COMMUNITY HEALTH IMPROVEMENT PLAN

DESCRIPTION OF COMMUNITY



Albany County Department of Health defines its service area as Albany County, New York.

Albany County is located in the east central part of New York State, extending southward and westward from the point where the Mohawk River joins the Hudson River. It covers a land area of 523.45 square miles, a water area of 9.76 square miles and includes the Helderberg and part of the Catskill Mountain ranges. The terrain of the county ranges from flat near the Hudson and Mohawk Rivers to high and hilly to the southwest, where the Catskills begin. Its urban center is the riverfront City of Albany surrounded by suburban municipalities extending to rural hill towns. Albany County is part of the Albany-Schenectady-Troy, New York Metropolitan Statistical Area.

More than ten colleges and universities offer undergraduate, graduate, medical, legal and other professional programs. Four (4) hospitals, including a Department of Veterans Affairs Medical Center, provide services to residents of Albany County and the larger metropolitan region. As home of the state capital, much of Albany County's population is employed by government, law, health, finance, education, and business. Transportation infrastructure supports rail, roadway, water, and air travel.

Albany County has a humid continental climate, with cold, snowy winters, and hot, wet summers. Snowfall is significant, with an average annual accumulation of 63 inches, but much less than the lake-effect areas to the north and west.

Albany County is governed by a County Executive and a 39-member County Legislature. The current County Executive is Daniel P. McCoy and the Chair of the Legislature is Andrew C. Joyce.

Albany County demographics are as follows:

SELECT DEMOGRAPHICS	ALBANY COUNTY
Population	306,968
Median Age	37.9 years
Gender	
Male	148,624 (48.4%)
Female	158,344 (51.6%)
Race	
White	231,246 (75.3%)
Black	38,035 (12.4%)
Asian	20,192 (6.6%)
Median Household Income	\$ 66,252
Persons Living Below Poverty Level	34,570 (11.9%)
Persons Age 25+ with Less Than a High School	
Education	7.9%
Home Ownership	56.4%
Employment	65.6% in labor force (age 16 years +)
Health Insurance Coverage	293,671 (96.9%)
Age Adjusted Percentage of Adults Who Have a	
Regular Healthcare Provider – Age 18+ Years,	
2016*	84.6%
Disabled (under age 65 years)**	8.0%

Source: 2019 American Community Survey (5 year estimates)

Notes:

* Source: New York State Prevention Agenda Dashboard

** Source: <u>U.S. Census Bureau, Quick Facts, Albany County, New York</u>

SUMMARY OF 2019 COMMUNITY HEALTH NEEDS ASSESSMENT

Key findings of the 2019 Capital Region Community Health Needs Assessment included issues pertaining to chronic disease and behavioral health. Obesity and asthma were specific conditions within chronic disease that were selected to be addressed. Asthma, in particular, was selected due to the significant disparities evident among sub-populations.

Please note that progress in implementing *Albany County 2019-2021 Community Health Implementation Plan* and select interventions was abbreviated or deferred due Albany County Department of Health reallocation of resources to COVID-10 pandemic response activities.

Prevent Chronic Disease: Obesity (and comorbidities) - In the past three years, Albany County
Department of Health and community partners implemented strategies to reduce obesity in
children and adults including promotion of Complete Streets policies and participation of adults

in self-management programs. 2021 Albany County Department of Health obesity activities included:

- Partnered with the Boys & Girls Clubs of the Capital Area to provide after school Healthy
 Habits youth wellness program to seventy eight (78) children (supported by Hortense
 and Louis Rubin Community Health Fund of The Community Foundation for the Greater
 Capital Region).
- Pursuant to Highmark BlueShield of Northeastern New York's Blue Fund award, initiated
 "Developing Community Partnership to Prevent Diabetes" including the delivery of
 virtual National Diabetes Prevention Programs serving community members.
- Collaborated with City of Albany and community partners to implement four (4)
 Complete Streets demonstration events (to test low-cost interventions for the improvement of walkability, pedestrian experience, and safety).
- Actively participated in Capital District Transportation Committee Bicycle and Pedestrian Advisory Committee.
- Planned five (5) breastfeeding friendly worksites (support provided by St. Peter's Health
 Partners, via Creating Breastfeeding Friendly Communities program).
- Actively participated in wellness committees of three school districts.
- Prevent Chronic Disease: Asthma In the past three years, Albany County Department of
 Health, local hospitals, community based organizations, and philanthropies have implemented
 strategies to reduce the prevalence of uncontrolled asthma (with particular attention to highrisk neighborhoods in the City of Albany) including support for asthma home-based selfmanagement programs. 2021 Albany County Department of Health asthma and tobacco control
 activities included:
 - Supported *Green & Health Homes Initiative*® for the Greater Capital Region coordinating interventions to make homes healthy, safe, and sustainable.
 - Working with partners (i.e. Capital District Tobacco-Free Communities), tobacco-free requirements were established or expanded at worksites and smoke-free policies implemented at housing locations.
 - Supported Albany County Department of Mental Health provision of tobacco dependence treatment:

Albany County Department of Health no longer participates in the New York State Healthy Neighborhoods Program (HNP) Accordingly, given limited capacity and resources, for purposes of the Albany County 2022-2024 Community Health Improvement Plan, the prevention and management of asthma is not identified as a priority.

Promote Well-Being - In the past three years, Albany County Department of Health, Albany
County Department of Mental Health, and local hospitals have sought to promote well-being by
providing Mental Health First Aid (or comparable) training opportunities. 2021 Albany County
Department of Health well-being activities included:

2021 Albany County Department of Health Virtual School Nurses Workshop (30 attendees) included presentations "Children's Mental Health Perspective on Returning to School" and "Tips and Strategies for Identifying, Addressing and Supporting Student Mental Health Following a Year of Remote Learning and Learning Disruption."

COVID-19 pandemic has contributed, in part, to increases in suicide mortality and substance use disorder. In addition, persons with chronic disease conditions are at higher risk for COVID-19 complications. Accordingly, for purposes of the *Albany County 2022-2024 Community Health Improvement Plan*, the prevention of suicide, prevention of opioid and other substance misuse and deaths, and improvement of COVID-19 vaccination rates are priorities (in addition to obesity prevention).

SUMMARY OF HEALTH DATA

The health indicators selected for this report were based on a review of available public health data and New York State priorities promulgated through the Prevention Agenda for a Healthier New York. The collection and management of these data has been supported by the state for an extended period and are very likely to continue to be supported. This provides reliable and comparable data over time and across the state. These measures, when complemented by the Expanded Behavioral Risk Factor Surveillance System and Prevention Quality Indicators, provide health indicators that can be potentially impacted in the short-term.

The Common Ground Health provided SPARCS (hospitalizations and ED visits) data that were utilized to generate county and ZIP code level analyses of mortality, hospitalizations, and emergency room utilization, for all residents, by gender, race and ethnicity. The time frames used for the ZIP code analyses were 2012-2016 Vital Statistics and 2014-2018 Statewide Planning and Research Cooperative System (SPARCS) data. The 5-year period establishes more reliable rates when looking at small geographic areas or minority populations.

Additional data were examined from a wide variety of sources:

- Prevention Agenda 2019-2024 Dashboard of Tracking Indicators (2016-2018)
- Community Health Indicator Reports Dashboard (2016-2018)
- County Health Indicators by Race/Ethnicity (2016-2018)
- County Perinatal Profiles (2016-2018)
- Vital Statistics Annual Reports (2018)
- Behavioral Risk Factor Surveillance System (BRFSS) and Expanded BRFSS (2016, 2018)
- Cancer Registry, New York State (2014-2018)
- Prevention Quality Indicators (2016-2018)
- Communicable Disease Annual Reports (2013-2018)
- The Pediatric Nutrition Surveillance System (PedNSS) (2015-2017)
- Student Weight Status Category Reporting System (2017-2019)
- County Opioid Quarterly Reports (January 2020-October 2021)

- New York State Opioid Data Dashboard (2017-2019)
- New York State Child Health Lead Poisoning Prevention Program (2015 birth cohort; 2016-2018)
- New York State Kids' Well-being Indicator Clearinghouse (KWIC) (2016-2018)
- County Health Rankings (2021)
- NYS Division of Criminal Justice County Crime Rates (2019-2020)
- Bureau of Census, Tables and Maps (https://www.census.gov/data.html) (2019)
- Bureau of Census, American Community Survey (2015-2019)

The 2022 Capital Region Community Health Needs Assessment Appendix (2021 Capital Region Community Health Survey) contains a detailed summary of the findings, as well as the questionnaire used.

Local data were compiled from these data sources and draft sections were prepared by health condition for inclusion in this community health needs assessment. Drafts were reviewed for accuracy and thoroughness by two staff with specialized health data knowledge: Michael Medvesky, M.P.H. Director, Health Analytics, Healthy Capital District (HCD), and Spencer Keable, M.P.H., Public Health Data Analyst, HCD. The 2022 Capital Region Community Health Needs Assessment Draft was sent to local subject matter experts for review in the health departments of Albany, Rensselaer, Schenectady, Columbia and Greene Counties and in St. Peter's Health Partners, Albany Medical Center, Ellis Hospital, and Columbia Memorial, as well as being placed on the HCD website for public review and comment. Comments were addressed and changes were incorporated into the final document.

The 2022 Capital Region Community Health Needs Assessment, prepared by the Healthy Capital District (HCD) of which the Albany County Department of Health is a member, provides more detailed information and data regarding health issues of concern in Albany County https://www.albanycounty.com/home/showpublisheddocument/21608/637920051445700000

SELECTION OF PREVENTION AGENDA PRIORITIES

Selection of the top health priorities for the Capital Region was facilitated by a new Public Health Issue Scoring Sheet created by HCD, which built upon progress made during the 2019-2022 Prioritization Cycle. This scoring and ranking method was, again, based on a modified version of the Hanlon Method for Prioritizing Health Problems. The Scoring Sheet quantified considerations regarding both the **need** to address each health issue and the **opportunity** to make a positive impact. Opportunity considerations were based on guidance documents from the American Hospital Association, the National Association of County and City Health Officials as well as other industry resources. Need considerations included those used in the 2018 Prioritization Process, as well as a community priority score derived directly from the contributions of over 2,000 local residents in the 2021 Capital Region Community Health Survey. The Scoring Sheet also included "other considerations," for both need and opportunity, to address any additional factors and capture the knowledge- and experience-based input of local community partners.

In the Fall of 2021, HCD staff reviewed approximately 700 public health measures across the five Prevention Agenda priority areas and categorized about 150 of the key indicators into 25 public health issues. Health issues were identified by reviewing the present New York State Department of Health Prevention Agenda Focus Areas, as well as health issues incorporated in the last Prioritization Process in 2018. The 25 health issues were initially ranked twice for each of the three hospital and health department prioritization groups. Health issues were first ranked according to their five data-based need scores, then, again, with the additional consideration of their survey-based community priority score. These initial rankings were used to select a shorter list of ten to sixteen issues for participating partners to score, before final priorities were selected.

Scores for opportunity considerations were self-assessed by hospitals and health departments and were based on criteria including their ability to devote resources, garner support, and make a measureable impact. Community partners also contributed their own consideration scores based on their observations and the information they have access to. The Scoring Sheet, in short, was based on organizational, data, and community partner considerations regarding the need to address – and opportunity to impact – each issue.

A Prevention Agenda Work Group met in the Fall of 2021 to review the Public Health Issue Score Sheet and ranking methodology and to provide oversight and guidance during the prioritization process. The Prevention Agenda Work Group included participation from local health departments of Albany, Columbia, Greene, Rensselaer, and Schenectady counties as well as St. Peter's Health Partners, Ellis Medicine, Albany Medical Center, and Columbia Memorial Hospital. Local Prevention Agenda Prioritization Work Groups were formed to review the top ten health measure counts, rates, trends, and disparities, as well as the data analyses and quantitative rankings prepared by HCD. The Work Groups then selected ten to sixteen issues to be assessed and scored organizationally and by community partners.

After organizational scores were collected, the local Prevention Agenda Prioritization Work Groups held virtual public meetings to present progress to – and collect input from – local community-based

organizations, academic researchers, and members of the public. After presenting a comparison of data-based and organizational consideration scores and health issue ranking, for each public health issue, a discussion was held to answer any questions, and for individuals to share their professional understanding and recent observations of the current situation. Participants were provided an online survey to record their need and opportunity consideration scores as a measurement of the discussion as well as their judgements on the local experience, community value, and potential opportunity regarding each health issue. Group discussion most often peaked around mental health, behavioral health, and chronic disease issues, as community partners said these problems have been noticeably exacerbated by the current COVID-19 pandemic.

A comprehensive overview of the prioritization process, including for Albany County, can be found on the HCD website (www.healthycapitaldistrict.org) by going to "Explore Health Data," then "Explore by County," then selecting "Albany County" and locating the materials in the "Prevention Agenda 2023-2025" section. The initial data- and survey based scoring and ranking methodology can be found in the "Data & Methods" presentation, while the final scores and rankings for each of the top health issues can be found in the "Prioritization Summary" presentation.

Albany-Rensselaer Public Health Priority Workgroup

The Albany-Rensselaer Prevention Agenda Prioritization Work Group was led by the Albany County Department of Health, the Rensselaer County Department of Health, Albany Medical Center, and St. Peter's Health Partners (SPHP). It was decided a joint county Albany-Rensselaer Prevention Agenda Prioritization Work Group was appropriate, as the hospitals' catchment areas cover both counties. The first meeting was held on November 9, 2021, at which HCD presented data on the health issues and facilitated discussions. The Prevention Agenda Prioritization Work Group then selected the top sixteen health issues, based on data- and survey-based scoring, and provided organizational scoring along with contributing factors. In the second meeting, held on November 23, 2021, Prioritization Work Group members were briefed on the results of their organizational scoring. The third Prevention Agenda Prioritization Work Group meeting, held on December 7, 2021, was open to the public and hosted community partners to orient them to the Prioritization Process, update them on the progress of the Work Group, and collect their input and scores for each of the sixteen health issues. Community participants in the third meeting represented the following organizations:

- Albany County Department of Health
- Albany Medical College
- Albany Medical Center
- Addictions Care Center of Albany
- Alliance for Better Health
- Alzheimer's Assoc. of Northeastern NY
- American Heart Association
- Arbor Hill Development Corp
- Boys and Girls Club of the Capital Region
- Capital District Latinos
- Capital District YMCA
- Cornell Cooperative Extension

- Ellis Medicine Family Health Center
- MVP Health Care
- Rensselaer County Department of Health
- SPHP Acute Care
- SPHP Behavioral Health Dept
- SPHP Capital District Tobacco-Free Communities
- SPHP Community Health Programs
- SPHP Community Relations
- Trinity Health
- University at Albany School of Public Health
- Upper Hudson Planned Parenthood

Attendance during the third prioritization meeting consisted of 52 participants representing health care providers, academic institutions, and community-based and public service organizations. Participants were engaged in the data presentations, raised many questions, and offered their perspectives as service providers and researchers. The presentations used during these meetings were made available to the Work Group and the general public on the HCD website at

https://www.healthycapitaldistrict.org/tiles/index/display?alias=Albany and https://www.healthycapitaldistrict.org/tiles/index/display?alias=Rensselaer .

PREVENTION AGENDA 2019 - 2024 PRIORITIES

Albany County Department of Health, along with our hospital and community partners, will focus on developing and implementing initiatives to address the following *Prevention Agenda 2019 - 2024* health priorities:

- I. FOCUS AREA: PREVENT CHRONIC DISEASE IN ALBANY COUNTY
 - Reduce obesity and the risk of chronic disease
- II. FOCUS AREA: PREVENT MENTAL HEALTH AND SUBSTANCE USE DISORDER IN ALBANY COUNTY
 - Prevent opioid and other substance misuse and deaths
 - Prevent suicides
- III. FOCUS AREA: PREVENT COMMUNICABLE DISEASE IN ALBANY COUNTY
 - Improve (COVID-19) vaccination rates

The rationale for focusing on these select health priorities is as follows:

PREVENT CHRONIC DISEASE IN ALBANY COUNTY

- Approximately Albany County 59,138 adults with an 2018 prevalence of 26.9%, and 6,735 school-aged children and adolescents with a 2017-19 prevalence of 16.3% were obese;
- Albany County 2018 age-adjusted adult diabetes prevalence (7.7%) was lower than New York State (NYS), excluding New York City (NYC) (9.2%) and down from 9.0% in 2016;
- Albany County 2016-18 diabetes short-term complication aged 18+ years hospitalization rate (5.5 per 10,000), was higher than NYS, excluding NYC, (5.1) and 3.9 times higher among Black (15.5), than White, non-Hispanic residents (4.0);
- West End (40.5 per 10,000) and South End (46.0) neighborhoods (City of Albany) had 3.0 to 3.4 times higher 2014-18 age adjusted diabetes hospitalization rates than NYS, excluding NYC (13.7) and 3.7 (61.5 South End) to 4.2 times (69.4 West End) higher diabetes emergency department (ED) visit rates, than NYS, excluding NYC (16.6);
- Albany County's 2016-18, age-adjusted congestive heart failure mortality (18.4 per 100,000) was higher than NYS, excluding NYC, (16.7) and down from 18.7 in 2013-15; and
- Albany County's 2016-18, age-adjusted stroke mortality rate (28.4 per 100,000) was higher than NYS, excluding NYC, (27.6) and up from 26.1 in 2013-15.

PREVENT MENTAL HEALTH AND SUBSTANCE USE DISORDER IN ALBANY COUNTY

SUBSTANCE USE DISORDER

- Albany County's 2018 age-adjusted adult binge drinking rate of 19.2% was higher than NYS, excl. NYC (18.4%) and did not meet the PA objective (16.4%);
- Albany County's 2018 age-adjusted opioid ED visit rate of 64.7 per 100,000 was lower that NYS, excl. NYC, but did not meet the PA objective (53.3); and

• South End and South End/Downtown neighborhoods (City of Albany) had the Capital Region's 1st and 2nd highest rates, per 10,000, of 2014-18 age-adjusted ED visits (355.3 and 1,268.1) and hospitalizations (177.9 and 159.6) due to drug abuse, which were each 4.8 to 17.4 times higher than NYS, excl. NYC (72.7 and 33.1).

MENTAL HEALTH DISORDER

- Albany County's 2016-18 age-adjusted mental diseases and disorders (primary diagnosis) ED visit (161.8 per 10,000 vs 156.7) and hospitalization rates (78.5 vs 72.3) were slightly higher than NYS, excl. NYC;
- South End/Downtown neighborhood (City of Albany) had the Capital Region's highest age-adjusted 2014-18 ED visit rate due to mental diseases and disorders (primary diagnosis) (1296.0/10,000), which was about 8.3 times higher than NYS, excl. NYC (156.7);
- South End neighborhood had the Capital Region's 3rd highest 2014-18 age-adjusted hospitalization rate due to mental diseases and disorders (primary diagnosis) (219.7 per 10,000), which was about 3 times higher than NYS, excl. NYC (72.3);
- Albany County had the Capital Region's 3rd highest rate of 2016-18 age-adjusted ED visits (9.6/10,000) due to self-inflicted injuries, which was about 70% higher than NYS, excl. NYC (5.6);
- New Scotland Avenue neighborhood (City of Albany) had the Capital Region's highest 2014-18 age-adjusted ED visit rate (30.5/10,000) and 2nd highest hospitalization rate (10.0/10,000) for self-inflicted injuries, which were 5.4 and 3.0 times higher than NYS, excl. NYC (5.6 and 3.3/10,000); and
- Albany County's 2016-18 age-adjusted suicide mortality rate of 9.7 per 100,000 was slightly lower than NYS, excl. NYC (9.9), but did not meet the PA objective (7.0)

PREVENT COMMUNICABLE DISEASE IN ALBANY COUNTY

- Coeymans Hollow ZIP code had the Capital Region's lowest percentage of COVID-19 full series vaccinated population (37.2%), as of 12/29/22, which was lower than NYS, excl. NYC (65.7%).
- Medusa ZIP Code (53.4%) and City of Albany, South End ZIP Code (58.8%) had relatively low percentages of COVID-19 full series vaccinated populations as of 12/29/2022.

COMMUNITY HEALTH IMPROVEMENT PLAN

Prevent Chronic Disease(s): Obesity Albany County

Goal 1: Increase access to healthy and affordable foods and beverages

Target Population: Adults and Children

Objective: By December 31, 2024, decrease the percentage of adults ages 18 years and older with obesity among all adults by 2%

to 26.3% (from 26.9 % in 2018)

Intervention, Strategies, Activities	Partner Resources	Partner Role	Process Measures
Implement nutrition and physical activity interventions as part of a comprehensive worksite wellness program	Albany Department of Health: Albany County Strategic Alliance for Health specifically targets poor nutrition, lack of physical activity, and tobacco use as the underlying risk factors for a variety of chronic diseases (including diabetes, obesity, and cardiovascular disease).	Albany Department of Health: Provide technical assistance in designing and implementing nutrition and beverage standards.	Number of organizations that adopt and implement nutrition and beverage standards (e.g. healthy meeting and events policies, healthy vending policies, applicable worksite wellness programs) including number of persons impacted by standards.
	Albany Medical Center: Hospital(s) with primary care, outpatient nutrition counseling, and certified diabetes education services. St. Peter's Health Partners: Hospital(s) with primary care, outpatient nutrition counseling, and certified diabetes education services. Adopted a health and wellness policy that affects patients and employees.	Albany Medical Center: Promote healthy living and wellness through wellness program (healthy nutrition education, physician and emotional wellness, employee education activities) St. Peter's Health Partners: Promote worksite wellness programs via Employee Wellness Committee	Number of employees involved in worksite wellness activities (e.g. fitness center, wellness fair attendees, "Move, Learn, Heal, Eat" participants
Implement multi-component school-based obesity prevention interventions	St. Peter's Health Partners: Awarded the Creating Healthy Schools and Communities grant from NYS Department of Health that seeks to increase opportunities for physical activity and improve nutritious foods in both the community and school districts. Provides funding to evidence based physical activity and healthy lifestyle programs within the community.	St. Peter's Health Partners: Provides technical assistance in developing implementation strategies for health and wellness policies within school districts.	Number of school districts that adopt strong wellness policies Number of school districts that improve nutrition policies and practices (Well SAT 2.0 to measure wellness policy implementation) Number of school districts that increase access to school breakfast

			Number of children participating in Soccer for Success
facilitate and actively support referral outpatient nutrition counseling, and certified diabetes education services.	Albany Medical Center: Primary care providers screen for social determinants of health (including food insecurity), facilitate, and actively support referrals to various organizations throughout the Capital Region. St. Peter's Health Partners: Implements food	Number of primary care patients screened for food insecurity Number of primary care practices that screen Number of primary care patients screened positive for food insecurity Number of food security	
	care, outpatient nutrition counseling, and certified diabetes education services.	insecurity screening, facilitate and actively support closed loop food assistance referrals within SPHP acute and ambulatory settings. Hosts Social Influencers of health food insecurity steering committee.	closed loop referrals, Number of fresh produce access points created
	Healthy Capital District: Provides access to coverage and care, health-planning expertise and supports health prevention programs across the Capital Region. Facilitates the Albany-Rensselaer Obesity Task Force.	Healthy Capital District: Promote & provide support for outreach activities in Albany and Rensselaer counties.	
targets poor nutrition, lack of physical activity, and tobac use as the underlying risk factors for a variety of chronic diseases (including diabetes, obesity, and cardiovascular disease). Albany Medical Center: Hospital(s) with primary health care Women, Infants, and Children (WIC), breastfeeding education	Albany Department of Health: • Albany County Strategic Alliance for Health specifically targets poor nutrition, lack of physical activity, and tobacco use as the underlying risk factors for a variety of chronic	Albany Department of Health: Promote and provide technical assistance to worksites offering breastfeeding accommodations.	Number and percentage of engaged worksites that improve their policies and/or practices to support breastfeeding.
	disease).	Albany Medical Center: Increase access to peer and professional breastfeeding support through WIC program (providing access to healthy foods for growth and development and promotes food nutrition	Number of WIC mothers receiving breastfeeding counseling/education. Number of moms who opted to
	Albany Medical Center: Hospital(s) with primary health care, Women, Infants, and Children (WIC), breastfeeding education, nutrition counseling, and certified diabetes education services.	through education) and lactation counseling; increase access to professional support, peer support, and formal education to change behavior and outcomes.	breastfeed in total or in part, who were counseled/trained by Albany Medical Center's lactation consultants.
	St. Peter's Health Partners: Hospital(s) with primary health care, nutrition counseling, and certified diabetes education services including <i>Creating Breastfeeding Friendly Communities</i> program. St. Peter's Hospital awarded Baby Friendly designation by Baby Friendly USA.	St. Peter's Health Partners: Increase access to peer and professional breastfeeding support by creating drop-in centers in Albany County.	Number of Baby Café's (breastfeeding support drop-in centers) established
	Whitney M. Young Jr. Health Services: Federally qualified health center with primary care and Women, Infants, and Children (WIC) services.	Whitney M. Young Jr. Health Services: Increase access to peer and professional breastfeeding support through WIC program.	

Prevent Chronic Disease(s): Obesity Albany County

Goal 2: Improve community environments that support active transportation and recreational physical activity for people of all

ages and abilities.

Target Population: Adults and Children

Objective: By December 31, 2024, decrease the percentage of adults ages 18 years and older with obesity among all adults by 2%

to 26.3% (from 26.9 % in 2018)

Intervention, Strategies, Activities	Partner Resources	Partner Role	Process Measures
Implement new or improved pedestrian, bicycle, or transit transportation system components (i.e., activity-friendly routes) with new or improved land use or environmental design components (i.e., connecting everyday destinations): through comprehensive master/transportation plans or Complete Streets resolutions, policies, or ordinances.	Albany Department of Health: Albany County Strategic Alliance for Health specifically targets poor nutrition, lack of physical activity, and tobacco use as the underlying risk factors for a variety of chronic diseases (including diabetes, obesity, and cardiovascular disease). Capital District Transportation Committee: Metropolitan Planning Organization (MPO) for the Albany-Schenectady-Troy and Saratoga Springs metropolitan areas.	Albany Department of Health: Provide technical assistance in promoting physical activity in community venues. Capital District Transportation Committee: Provide technical assistance and planning in promoting active transportation.	Number of plans adopted or opportunities available promoting physical activity (e.g. Complete Streets policies, joint use agreements)

Prevent Chronic Disease(s): Obesity Albany County

Goal 3: In the community setting, improve self-management skills for individuals with chronic diseases, including asthma,

arthritis, cardiovascular disease, diabetes and prediabetes and obesity.

Target Population: Adults and Children

Objective: By December 31, 2024, decrease the percentage of adults ages 18 years and older with obesity among all adults by 2%

to 26.3% (from 26.9 % in 2018)

Intervention,	Partner Resources	Partner Role	Process Measures
Strategies, Activities			
Expand access to evidence- based self-management interventions for individuals with chronic disease	Albany Department of Health: Albany County Strategic Alliance for Health specifically targets poor nutrition, lack of physical activity, and tobacco use as the underlying risk factors for a variety of chronic diseases (including diabetes, obesity, and cardiovascular disease).	Albany Department of Health: To the extent feasible, support Blood Pressure Self-Monitoring and other chronic disease self-management services.	Number of participants in other (i.e. non- NDPP) chronic disease self-management programs that support Lifestyle Change (e.g. Blood Pressure Self-Monitoring, Diabetes Self-Management Support and Education aka DSMS/E).
	Albany Medical Center: Hospital(s) with primary care, endocrinology, nutritional counseling and certified diabetes education services.	Albany Medical Center: Provide diabetes self- management support and education services (aka DSMS/E)	Number of patient referrals to Albany Medical Center's Certified Diabetes Educator.
	St. Peter's Health Partners: Hospital(s) with primary care, endocrinology, nutritional counseling and certified diabetes education services.	St. Peter's Health Partners: Provide diabetes self- management support and education services (aka DSMS/E)	Number of Albany Medical Center patients given a lifestyle prescription.
	Healthy Capital District: Provides access to coverage and care, health-planning expertise and supports health prevention programs across the Capital Region.	Healthy Capital District: Convenes Albany- Rensselaer Obesity Task Force meetings to engage regional stakeholders, share best practices / resources and support collaboration.	To the extent possible, number of participants in other (i.e. non-NDPP) chronic disease self-management programs that improve health outcomes (e.g.
	Providers: provide primary care services.	Providers: screen and refer eligible persons to non-NDPP chronic disease self-management programs.	change in blood pressure and/or blood glucose from uncontrolled to controlled to maintained; percent weight loss; changes in physical activity.
Expand access to the National Diabetes Prevention Program (NDPP)	Albany County Department of Health: Albany County Strategic Alliance for Health specifically targets poor nutrition, lack of physical activity, and tobacco use the underlying risk factors for a variety of chronic	Albany Department of Health: To the extent feasible, support NDPP services.	Number of participants enrolled in NDPP.

diseases (including diabetes, obesity, and cardiovascular disease).		•	To the extent possible, number and percentage of NDPP participants that complete
St. Peter's Health Partners: Hospital(s) with primary care, endocrinology, nutrition counseling, and certified diabetes education services.	St. Peter's Health Partners (SPHP): Increase availability of NDPP and conduct NDPP classes.		program (i.e. attend at least 9 out of 16 core classes).
Providers: provide primary care services.	 Increase prediabetes awareness by SPHP providers. Promote prediabetes screening, testing, and referral. 	•	To the extent possible, measure NDPP participant outcomes (e.g. average weekly physical activity minutes, percent weight loss, HA1C changes).
	Providers: screen and refer eligible persons to non-NDPP.		

Prevent Chronic Disease(s): Tobacco Use in Albany County

Goal 4: Prevent initiation of tobacco use, including combustible tobacco and electronic vaping products

Target Population: Adults and Children

Objective: By December 31, 2024, decrease the prevalence of cigarette smoking among adults by 5% to 11.0 (11.6 on 2018).

Intervention,	Partner Resources	Partner Role	Process Measures
Strategies, Activities			
Promote the delivery of evidence-based cessation services by health care providers.	Albany Medical Center: Hospital(s) with primary care, behavioral health services inclusive of programs for the prevention, education, and care of persons with asthma and related risk factors (e.g. tobacco and/or vaping use).	Albany Medical Center: Provide smoking or vaping counseling to inpatients.	Number of inpatients receiving smoking cessation or vaping counseling.
Conduct community education to increase community knowledge of the dangers of smoke exposure and aerosol/emission exposure from electronic vapor products.	Albany Medical Center: Hospital(s) with primary care, behavioral health services inclusive of programs for the prevention, education, and care of persons with asthma and related risk factors (e.g. tobacco and/or vaping use).	Albany Medical Center: Collaborate with local organizations to co-host tobacco and vaping cessation educational programming for the community.	Number of community tobacco and vaping cessation educational programs conducted.

Prevent Mental Health and Substance Use Disorders in Albany County

Goal 1: Prevent opioid and other substance misuse and deaths.

Target Population: Youth and Adults

Objective*: By December 31, 2024, reduce overdose deaths** involving any opioids, age-adjusted rate per 100,000 population by 10

% to 15.6 deaths/100,000 population (from 17.3 deaths/100,000 population in 2019).

Intervention,	Partner Resources	Partner Role	Process Measures
Strategies, Activities Increase availability of/access to overdose reversal (naloxone) trainings to prescribers, pharmacists and consumers	Albany County: Provide facilities for New York State Opioid Overdose Prevention Training. Albany Medical Center: Provide naloxone resources and education to patients and providers.	Albany County: Host and publicize naloxone training. Albany Medical Center: Publicize naloxone training.	Number of naloxone administration trainings provided (in-person, virtual). Number of public education forums hosted.
	St. Peter's Health Partners: Refer individuals, as appropriate, to New York State Opioid Overdose Prevention Training Catholic Charities Care Coordination Services: Health HUB inclusive of naloxone administration trainers.	St. Peter's Health Partners: Publicize naloxone training. Catholic Charities Care Coordination Services: Provide naloxone training in Albany County.	 Number of <i>Naloxone Now</i> requests. Number of related provider and community events.
Build support systems to care for opioid users or at risk of an overdose	Albany Department of Health: Disseminate public health information regarding substance use disorder. Supply post-event overdose response kits. Albany County Department of Mental Health: per 2020 Local Service Plan for Mental Hygiene Services: Conducts assessment of mental hygiene and associated issues; Disseminates public health information regarding heroin and opioid addiction; and Provides and/or coordinates substance use disorder prevention, peer support, treatment & recovery services.	Albany Department of Health: Implement the use of data to improve overdose monitoring and response. Albany County Department of Mental Health: Promote use of medicated assisted treatment (MAT) Provide peer support services including Mobile Outreach Treatment Overdose Response (M.O.T.O.R.)	Number of opioid use disorder individuals provided with peer support services (including, but not limited to, engagement, assessment, Leave Behind naloxone, post-event overdose response kits, referral to treatment).

Albany Medical Center: Increase availability of/access and linkages to medication-assisted treatment (MAT) including buprenorphine. St. Peter's Health Partners: Provide an evidence-based model to expand access to treatment for opioid use disorders Provides and/or coordinates substance use disorder prevention, peer support, treatment & recovery services

Catholic Charities Care Coordination Services: Health HUB

Healthy Capital District: Increase Professional Development support and training opportunities for peers, sharing of SUD treatment and prevention resources.

Regional Emergency Management Organization: Establish and coordinate emergency medical services.

Albany Medical Center: Increase referrals and linkages to MAT

St. Peter's Health Partners:

- Provide treatment for OUD; inpatient and outpatient settings
- Attendance and collaboration at substance use coalitions in both Albany and Rensselaer counties

Catholic Charities Care Coordination Services: Provide peer support services

Healthy Capital District: Provide evidence-based resources and materials, disseminate partner materials, and host professional development workshops.

Regional Emergency Management Organization: Provide emergency medical service response to overdoses (including Leave Behind naloxone initiative).

- Number of visits to Albany Medical Center Suboxone Clinic
- Number of opioid use disorder individuals provided with naloxone
- Number of opioid use disorder individuals receiving MAT
- Number of attendees, number of professional development events, number of recovery resource guides disseminated

NOTES:

Sources: New York State Department of Health Vital Records; New York State Department of Health Statewide Planning and Research Cooperative System (SPARCS)

*Data limitations: Significant time lag in reporting of death certificates and patient information impact data completeness. As a result, mortality objectives may not reflect all deaths that have occurred. Therefore, outcome reference data and objectives are not considered complete and should be used and interpreted with caution. Mortality and emergency department data may change as deaths and emergency visits are confirmed and reported. Additionally, due to small frequencies, rates should be interpreted with caution. When rates are based on only a few cases, small changes in frequencies can produce larges changes in the rates making it difficult to discern true changes from chance fluctuation.

**Indicators are not mutually exclusive. Decedents and patients may have multiple substances in their system. Thus, overdoses involving heroin and overdoses involving prescription opioid pain relievers will not add up to the overdoses involving all opioids.

Prevent Mental Health and Substance Use Disorders in Albany County

Goal 2: Prevent suicides.

Target Population: Youth and Adults

Objective: By December 31, 2024, reduce the age-adjusted suicide mortality rate by 10% to 9.0 per 100,000 population (from 10.8

age-adjusted suicide mortality, 2017-2019)

Intervention, Strategies, Activities	Partner Resources	Partner Role	Process Measures
Strengthen access and delivery of suicide care - Zero Suicide.	Albany County Department of Children, Youth and Families: Coordinate services and supports for children and youth with emotional, behavioral and developmental concerns. Member, Albany County Suicide Prevention and Education Committee (SPEC).	Albany County Department of Children, Youth and Families: Provide crisis support, evaluation, services, and community referrals including: Children's Mental Health Clinic Single Point of Access (SPOA) Case Management Services Promote community wide suicide awareness, education and prevention.	Percent (number) of new patients who were formally assessed (or assessed with an evidence-based assessment tool) for suicide during reporting period.
	Albany Department of Health: Member, Albany County Suicide Prevention and Education Committee (SPEC).	Albany Department of Health: Promote community wide suicide awareness, education and prevention.	
	Albany County Department of Mental Health: per 2020 Local Service Plan for Mental Hygiene Services: Conducts assessment of mental hygiene and associated issues; and Member, Albany County Suicide Prevention and Education Committee (SPEC).	Albany County Department of Mental Health: Provides and/or coordinates prevention, intervention, clinical, recovery, and support services; and Promotes community wide suicide awareness, education and prevention.	
	Albany Medical Center: Promote patient well-being; screen for suicide and depression	Albany Medical Center: Identify and support at-risk patients through PHQ-2 and PHQ-9 screenings.	Number of patients screened.
	St. Peter's Health Partners: Coordinate services and supports for adults with emotional, behavioral, and mental health concerns.	St. Peter's Health Partners: Expand efforts to implement a collaborative care approach in primary care settings which integrates behavioral health with in a primary care setting; and Promote and offer Mental Health First Aid training to staff and community members	 Number of individual patients engaged in collaborative care. Number of staff and community members completing <i>Mental Health First Aid</i> training.

Prevent Communicable Diseases in Albany County

Goal 1: Improve (COVID-19) vaccination rates.

Target Population: Adults and Children

Objective*: By December 31, 2024, increase the percentage of the population with completed COVID-19 primary vaccine series by

3% to 78.1% (from 75.9% on November 28, 2022).

Address Disparity: Yes

Intervention,	Partner Resources	Partner Role	Process Measures
Strategies, Activities Offer COVID-19 vaccines in locations and hours that are convenient to the public including pharmacies, vaccine only clinics, and other sites that are accessible to people of all ages.	Albany Department of Health: COVID-19 surveillance COVID-19 public health information COVID-19 vaccine	Albany Department of Health:	Percentage of population with completed COVID-19 primary vaccine series.
	Albany Medical Center: Coordinate the Capital Region Vaccine Network to provide information, organize vaccination clinics, and recruit volunteers. St. Peter's Health Partners: COVID-19 public health information COVID-19 vaccine	Albany Medical Center: Promote COVID-19 vaccine administration (initial and booster vaccination) through key partnerships St. Peter's Health Partners: Provides COVID-19 public information and risk communications via direct community outreach	Number of website visits to https://www.amc.edu/capitalregionvax/

Note:

* People with primary series represents the total number of individuals who have completed the recommended series of a given COVID-19 vaccine product (e.g., 2 doses of the 2-dose Pfizer or Moderna vaccine; 1 dose of the single dose Johnson & Johnson vaccine)

SIGNIFICANT HEALTH NEEDS NOT ADDRESSED IN COMMUNITY HEALTH IMPROVEMENT PLAN

Albany County Department of Health acknowledges the wide range of significant health needs that emerged from the 2022 Capital Region Community Health Needs Assessment process and determines that it can most effectively focus on those health needs deemed most pressing, under-addressed, and within its ability to influence.

The following health needs are not included in the *Albany County 2022 – 2024 Community Health Improvement Plan* and/or Healthy Capital District task forces. The importance of these health issues; however, should not be minimized and are being addressed independently by Albany County Department of Health and other organizations.

Asthma (and related risk factors)

Albany County's 2018 age-adjusted prevalence of adults with current asthma (11.7%), was down from 13.3% in 2016, and was higher than the NYS, excluding NYC rate of 10.8%; Albany County's 2018 age-adjusted asthma emergency department (ED) visit rate (79.1 per 10,000) was higher than NYS, excluding NYC (64.3) but met the Prevention Agenda 2024 objective of 131.1 per 10,000; Albany County age-adjusted asthma hospitalization rates were 6.6 times higher among Black non-Hispanic residents(21.7), and 2.4 times higher among Hispanic residents (8.0), than White non-Hispanic residents (4.0) - higher ratios than in NYS, excluding NYC; South End (214.5 per 10,000)) and West End (212.5) neighborhoods (City of Albany) had 5.0 times higher 2014-18 age adjusted asthma ED rates than NYS excluding NYC (42.8); and Albany County's adult smoking rate (11.6%): was the Capital Region's 2nd lowest, was lower than NYS, excluding NYC (13.9%), was above the Prevention Agenda 2024 objective of 11.0%, and decreased from 14.3% in 2016.

- Albany County Department of Health coordinates services with community health worker supports for residents identified at risk for asthma.
- Albany County Department of Health provides community health education presentations on asthma control and tobacco cessation.
- Albany County Department of Health ensures establishments are complying with the Clean Indoor Air Act, which requires nearly every workplace (including all bars and restaurants) to be smoke free.
- Albany County Department of Health implements New York State Adolescent Tobacco Use Prevention Act
 (ATUPA) to determine vendor compliance with the sale of tobacco products and verifies compliance with
 the Albany County's local law requiring retail tobacco products to be displayed/located behind sales
 counters.
- Albany County Department of Mental Health screens and refers severally mentally ill persons at risk for tobacco use.

Sexually Transmitted Infections (STIs):

Albany County's 2016-18 gonorrhea diagnosis rate of 153.0/100,000: was the Capital Region's 2nd highest, was higher than NYS, excluding NYC, (101.0), and increased by 61% from 94.9 in 2013-15; Albany County's 2016-18 chlamydia diagnosis rate of 521/100,000: was the Capital Region's 2nd highest, was higher than NYS, excluding NYC,

(420), and increased by 17% from 446 in 2013-15; and Albany County's 2016-18 early syphilis diagnosis rate of 21.1/100,000: was the Capital Region's highest, was 2.0 times higher than NYS, excluding NYC, (10.5), and increased by 97% from 10.7 in 2013-15.

- Albany County Department of Health provides screening and treatment services for STIs.
- Albany County Department of Health provides community health education presentations on STI prevention.

Social Determinants of Health

Social determinants of health are the non-medical factors that influence health outcomes. Examples of social determinants of health, which can influence health equity, include: income, education, unemployment and job insecurity, food insecurity, housing, early childhood development, social inclusion, access to affordable health services of decent quality. Numerous studies suggest that social determinants of health account for between 30-55% of health outcomes.

Albany County had the largest population (306,968), and was the second most urban county (587.4 population /sq. mile) in the Capital Region; Albany County had the lowest median age (37.8 years) in the Capital Region; West End neighborhood (City of Albany) had the largest proportion of 0-14 year olds (24.6%) Albany County had the Capital Region's highest percentage of non-White population (24.7%), and 2nd highest percentage of Hispanic population (6.0%); South End neighborhood (City of Albany) had Capital Region's the highest percentage of Black (59.2%) and non-White (71.8%) populations; Delaware/2nd Avenue (City of Albany) had the Albany County's highest percentage of Hispanic population (15.6%); median household income (\$66,252) was lower than NYS and 3rd lowest in the Capital Region; poverty affected 11.9% of Albany County's population in 2019, which was: down from 12.9% in 2016, below the rate in NYS, excluding NYC, and 2nd highest in the Capital Region; South End/Downtown neighborhood (City of Albany) had the highest poverty rate (46.6%) in the Capital Region, and South End (33.0%) and West End (33.4%) had the 3rd and 4th highest poverty rates; Albany County had the 2nd lowest percent of population older than 25 years of age with less than high school education in the Capital Region in 2019, at 7.9%, up from 7.2% in 2016; and the 2nd, 3rd, and 4th highest rates of Capital Region adults over 25 years of age with less than a high school education, were South End/Downtown (22.9%), West End (21.5%), and South End (18.3%) City of Albany neighborhoods.

Albany County Department of Health is recipient of Centers for Disease Control and Prevention Closing the Gap with Social Determinants of Health Accelerator Plans grant to reduce chronic health diseases among priority, at-risk populations (by establishing a multisector Leadership Team and developing a plan to address the social determinants of Health domains of the built environment and community-clinical linkages).

COMMUNITY HEALTH IMPROVEMENT PLAN ENGAGEMENT AND EVALUATION

Engaging the community in the health needs assessment and health improvement plan processes was a priority of Albany County Department of Health, hospitals, Healthy Capital District and stakeholders. Broad community engagement began with participation in the community health survey. The survey offered multiple choice and openended response options to learn about residents' health needs and priorities, access or barriers to care, mental health, and social determinants of health. Demographic information collected by the survey allowed review of information by county, age, gender, race/ethnicity and income.

Survey results regarding the public's opinions on the seriousness of public health issues were incorporated into the priority scoring of health needs by the members of the three Capital Region Prevention Agenda Prioritization Work Groups (Albany-Rensselaer, Columbia-Greene, and Schenectady counties). The Work Groups included community voices through representatives from community based organizations that serve low-income residents, the homeless, and other vulnerable populations; federally qualified health centers; advocacy groups; academic institutions; public health departments; providers; and health insurers. Participants were encouraged to share data and observations of their own, and to advocate for the needs of their constituents. While all health organizations serve high need individuals, the two federally qualified health centers, Food Pantries of the Capital District, United Way of the Capital Region, Interfaith Partnership for the Homeless, and consumer community representatives have unique access to medically underserved residents.

Albany County Department of Health is committed to maintaining engagement with local partners through existing community outreach activities and coalitions to implement the *Albany County 2022-2024 Community Health Improvement Plan*. Albany County Department of Health will regularly seek input from and report out *Albany County 2022-2024 Community Health Improvement Plan* activities to community stakeholders though existing forums including, but not limited to, Albany County Strategic Alliance for Health; Albany County Opioid Task Force; Albany County Suicide Prevention Task Force (also Albany County Suicide Prevention Education Committee); applicable Healthy Capital District Albany-Rensselaer task forces and workgroups; and University at Albany, Center for the Elimination of Minority Health Disparities, Albany Minority Health Task Force.

Appendix A provides a Profile of Community (Partners and) Resources Available to Meet Health-Related Needs of Albany County (a listing of Albany County Assets and Resources is also provided per 2022 Capital Region Community Health
Needs Assessment
appendix). In addition, Albany County 2022-2024 Community Health Improvement Plan initiatives will be reported to the Albany County Board of Health and published in the Albany County Department of Health Annual Programs & Services Report.

Albany County Department of Health will employ the following specific processes to track *Albany County 2022-2024 Community Health Improvement Plan* progress and make mid-course corrections:

- Prevent Chronic Disease: Obesity
 - Albany County Strategic Alliance for Health will meet no less than six (6) times annually to:
 - Integrate Albany County 2022-2024 Community Health Improvement Plan objectives into Albany County Strategic Alliance for Health annual work plan;
 - Document and monitor progress in achieving Albany County 2022-20124 Community
 Health Improvement Plan goals, objectives, process measures;
 - Modify work plan and make mid-course corrections, as needed, to interventions, strategies, and activities; and

- Provide forum for specifically implementing policy, systems, and environmental strategies.
- Healthy Capital District Albany-Rensselaer Obesity / Diabetes Task Force will meet as necessary to:
 - Document and monitor progress in achieving Albany County 2022-20124 Community
 Health Improvement Plan goals, objectives, process measures; and
 - Modify work plan and make mid-course corrections, as needed, to interventions, strategies, and activities.
- Prevent Mental Health and Substance Use Disorders
 - o Albany County Opioid Task Force will meet no less than four (4) times annually to:
 - Document and monitor progress in achieving Albany County 2022-2024 Community
 Health Improvement Plan goals, objectives, process measures; and
 - Modify work plan and make mid-course corrections, as needed, to interventions, strategies, and activities; and
 - Provide forum for specifically implementing policy, systems, and environmental strategies.
 - o Albany County Suicide Prevention Task Force will meet regularly to:
 - Document and monitor progress in achieving Albany County 2022-2024 Community
 Health Improvement Plan goals, objectives, process measures; and
 - Modify work plan and make mid-course corrections, as needed, to interventions, strategies, and activities; and
 - Provide forum for specifically implementing policy, systems, and environmental strategies.
- Prevent Communicable Disease:
 - Albany County Department of Health COVID-19 Incident Command will meet as needed to:
 - Document and monitor progress in achieving Albany County 2022-2024 Community
 Health Improvement Plan goals, objectives, process measures; and
 - Modify work plan and make mid-course corrections, as needed, to interventions, strategies, and activities.

COMMUNICATIONS STRATEGY

Strategies for disseminating and educating the community, professional organizations, governmental agencies, and stakeholders on the *Albany County 2022-2024 Community Health Improvement Plan* include:

- A press release announcing publication of the *Albany County 2022-2024 Community Health Improvement Plan* will be provided to local media;
- Albany County 2022-2024 Community Health improvement Plan will be posted to the Albany County
 Department of Health website
 http://www.albanycounty.com/Government/Departments/DepartmentofHealth.aspx;
- County, town, and village governments will be provided with electronic copies of the Albany County 2022-2022
 Community Health Improvement Plan Executive Summary and a link to access the document(s) on the Albany
 County Department of Health website;
- New York State senators and assemblypersons representing Albany County will be provided with electronic copies of the *Albany County 2022-2024 Community Health Improvement Plan* Executive Summary and a link to access the document(s) on the Albany County Department of Health website; and
- Printed and electronic copies of the *Albany County 2022-2024 Community Health Improvement Plan* Executive Summary will be provided to community partners and made available to others upon request.

Additionally:

- Active engagement in a broad range of community organizations provides a platform for sharing information regarding the Albany County 2022-2024 Community Health Improvement Plan and companion health promotion priorities.
- Information about Albany County Department of Health initiatives is made widely available through targeted outreach and maximum use of free media.

APPENDIX A

PROFILE OF COMMUNITY RESOURCES AVAILABLE TO MEET HEALTH-RELATED NEEDS OF ALBANY COUNTY

ORGANIZATION NAME	ORGANIZATION ROLE	ORGANIZATION TYPE	WEBSITE
Addictions Care Center of Albany	Sustance use disorder expertise	Health Care Organization	theacca.net/
Albany Boxing	Physical Activity	Business / For Profit	https://albanyny.gov/867/Department-of-Recreation
	Educate regarding safe storage / disposal of unused		
Albany College of Pharmacy	prescription medication; COVID-19 response	Academia / Education	www.acphs.edu/
Albany County Department for Aging	Educate on benefits of nutrition, physical activity	Government Organization	www.albanycounty.com/Government/Departments/DepartmentForAging.aspx
	Lead local department of health regarding all CHIP		
Albany County Department of Health	interventions	Government Organization	www.albanycounty.com/government/departments/departmentofhealth.aspx
	Lead local department of mental health regarding		
Albany County Department of Mental Health	behavioral health, substance use disorder interventions	Government Organization	www.albanycounty.com/Government/Departments/DepartmentofMentalHealth.aspx
Albany County Department of Recreation	Parks and Recreation	Government Organization	https://www.albanycounty.com/departments/recreation
			https://www.albanycounty.com/departments/recreation/albany-county-helderberg-hudson-
Albany County Helderberg-Hudson Rail Trail	Parks and Recreation	Government Organization	<u>rail-trail</u>
Albany County Land Bank	Community land use resource	Nonprofit Organization	albanycountylandbank.org
Albany County Sheriff's Office	Local government	Government Organization	https://www.albanycounty.com/government/departments/county-sheriff
Albany CrossFit	Physical Activity	Business / For Profit	https://albanycrossfit.com/
Albany Family Medicine	Primary health care provider	Health Care Organization	www.communitycare.com/practices/afpg/
Albany Housing Authority	Public housing provider; resident health interests	Nonprofit Organization	www.albanyhousing.org/
Albany Jewish Community Center	Physical Activity	Nonprofit Organization	https://www.albanyjcc.org/
Albany Med EmUrgentCare	COVID-19 Testing	Health Care Organization	https://www.amc.edu/emurgentcare/
Albany Medical Center	Local hospital regarding all CHIP interventions	Health Care Organization	www.amc.edu/
		Community Based Organization.	
Alcoholics Anonymous	Sustance use disorder expertise	Nonprofit	https://aaalbanyny.org/
			https://www.aldi.us/?utm_source=google&utm_medium=sem&utm_campaign=brand&utm_te
			rm=aldi_grocery_store&gclid=EAlaIQobChMlm8KhoKWe-
ALDI's	Supermarket	Business / For Profit	QIVBqSzCh1yXQ2NEAAYASAAEgIb3fD_BwE&gclsrc=aw.ds
Alliance for Better Health Care (aka Healthy Alliance)	Referral network	Health Care Organization	allianceforbetterhealthcare.com/
	Chronic disease content expertise (research, education);		
American Cancer Society	advocacy	Nonprofit Organization	www.cancer.org/
	Chronic disease content expertise (research, education);		
American Diabetes Association	advocacy	Nonprofit Organization	www.diabetes.org/in-my-community/local-offices/albany-new-york/
American Foundation for Suicide Prevention	Suicide prevention expertise	Government Organization	https://afsp.org/chapter/capital-region-new-york
	Chronic disease content expertise (research, education);		
American Heart Association	advocacy	Nonprofit Organization	www.heartassociationalbany.com/
			https://www.albanycounty.com/departments/recreation/ann-lee-pond-nature-historic-
Ann Lee Pond Nature & Historic Preserve	Parks and Recreation	Government Organization	<u>preserve</u>
AVillage	Advocacy	Community Based Organization	www.avillageworks.org/
Best Fitness	Physical Activity	Business / For Profit	https://bestfitnessgyms.com/
	Childcare content expertise (regarding nutrition, physical		
BrightSideUp	activity)	Nonprofit Organization	https://www.brightsideup.org/
Capital Area Peer Services	Behavioral health expertise	Health Care Organization	https://nycaps.org/
Capital Counseling	Behavioral health expertise	Health Care Organization	https://capitalcounseling.org/capital-counseling-albany/
Capital District Behavioral Health	Behavioral health expertise	Health Care Organization	http://www.cdbehavioralhealth.com/
	Provides support services for persons with disabilities;		
Capital District Center for Independence	chronic disease content expertise	Nonprofit Organization	www.cdciweb.com/
	Behavioral health, substance use disorder, chronic disease		
Capital District Physicians Health Plan	content expertise	Health Insurance Company	www.cdphp.com/
Capital District Psychiatric Center	Behavioral health expertise	Health Care Organization	https://omh.ny.gov/omhweb/facilities/cdpc/index.htm
Capital District Tobacco-Free Communities	Tobacco use, asthma content expertise	Nonprofit Organization	smokefreecapital.org/
Capital District YMCA	Health and wellness content expertise	Community Based Organization	https://cdymca.org/
	Education content expertise; COVID-19 response		
Capital Region BOCES	coordination	Academia / Education	https://www.capitalregionboces.org/
Capital Region Diabetes and Endocrine Care	Endocrinology care provider	Health Care Organization	www.crdec.org/
Capital Roots	Nutrition access expertise	Nonprofit Organization	www.capitalroots.org/
Caring Wellness Pharmacy	COVID-19 Testing	Health Care Organization	https://caringwellnesspharmacy.com/
Catholic Charities care Coordination Services	Substance use disorder provider	Health Care Organization	www.ccrcda.org/
Center for Disability Services	Services for individuals who have disabilities.	Health Care Organization	https://www.cfdsny.org/
Center for Law and Justice	Health equity advocacy	Community Based Organization	www.cflj.org/
Central Ave Pharmacy	COVID-19 Testing	Health Care Organization	https://www.rxalbany.com/
Central Med Urgent Care	COVID-19 Testing	Health Care Organization	https://www.centralmedurgentcare.com/
Centro Civico	Health equity advocacy	Community Based Organization	www.centrocivico.org/
Community Care Physicians	Primary health care provider	Health Care Organization	https://www.communitycare.com/
Cornell Cooperative Extension of Albany County	Nutrition content expertise	Academia / Education	albany.cce.cornell.edu/
CrossFit Beyond	Physical Activity	Business / For Profit	http://www.v2.crossfitbeyond.com/
CVS	COVID-19 Testing	Healthcare Organization	https://www.vz.cossntocyond.com/ https://www.cvs.com/minuteclinic/clinic-locator/ny/albany/coronavirus-testing.html
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APPENDIX A

PROFILE OF COMMUNITY RESOURCES AVAILABLE TO MEET HEALTH-RELATED NEEDS OF ALBANY COUNTY

ORGANIZATION NAME	ORGANIZATION ROLE	ORGANIZATION TYPE	WEBSITE
Diabetes Sisters of Albany	Diabetess, obesity prevention and support	Advocacy Advocacy	https://diabetessisters.org
Dominick Calsolaro	Health advocacy	Citizen	www.calsolaro.net/
E.N. Huyck Preserve	Parks and Recreation	Research	https://www.huyckpreserve.org/
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Equinox	Human and social services	Community Based Organization	https://www.equinoxinc.org/
FOCUS Churches of Albany	Food pantry, nutrition access expertise	Community Based Organization	focuschurches.net/wp/
Food Pantries of the Capital District	Food pantry, nutrition access expertise	Community Based Organization	www.thefoodpantries.org/
Freestyle Fitness Center	Physical Activity	Business / For Profit	https://www.518fitness.com/
Hannaford	Supermarket; nutrition content expertise	Business / For Profit	www.hannaford.com/
Health Literacy for All	Health advocacy	Nonprofit Organization	https://healthliteracyforall.org/
Healthy Capital District	Public health planning expertise	Nonprofit Organization	www.hcdiny.org/
Hilltown Healthcare	COVID-19 Testing, primary care	Healthcare Organization	https://www.hilltownhealth.com/
Honest Weight Food Co-op	Grocery store	Business / For Profit	https://www.honestweight.coop/
Hope House	Behavioral health expertise	Community Based Organization	https://www.hopehouseinc.org/
Hospitality House	Behavioral health expertise	Community Based Organization	https://www.hospitalityhousetc.org/
In Our Own Voices	Health equity advocacy	Community Based Organization	https://ioov.org/
Interfaith Partnership for the Homeless (aka Sheridan Hollow Drop-In			
Center)	Social services	Community Based Organization	https://www.iphny.org/
JDRF's Sugar Free Gang	Health advocacy and education	Nonprofit Organization	https://www.jdrf.org/upstateny/
Karner Psychological Associates	Behavioral health expertise	Health Care Organization	https://www.karnercare.com/
Koinonia Primary Care	Primary health care provider	Health Care Organization	www.friendsofdrbobpaeglow.com/index.html
LaSalle School for Boys	Education contenet expertise	Academia / Education	https://lasalle-school.org/
Lawson Lake County Park	Parks and Recreation	Government Organization	https://www.albanycounty.com/departments/recreation/lawson-lake-county-park
Legal Aid Society of New York	Health equity advocacy	Nonprofit	https://www.lasnny.org/
Lincoln Pharmacy	COVID-19 Testing	Health Care Organization	https://www.albanylincoInpharmacy.com/
Market 32 / Price Chopper	Supermarket; nutrition content expertise; COVID-19 testing	Business / For Profit	https://www.pricechopper.com/
Mental Health Empowerment Project	Substance Abuse and Mental Health	Health Care Organization	https://mhepinc.org/
Metabolic Fitness	Physical Activity	Business / For Profit	https://www.wearemetabolic.com/
Mohawk Hudson Land Conservancy Preserves	Parks and Recreation	Government Organization	https://www.mohawkhudson.org/preserves
Municipal parks and recreational resources New York State Parks,	T diky dila ned editori	devermment organization	incestiff with monormory presentes
Preserves, and Wildlife Management Areas	Parks and Recreation	Government Organization	https://www.dec.ny.gov/outdoor/7801.html
Narcotics Anonymous	Substance Abuse and Mental Health	Community Based Organization	https://www.na.org/
National Alliance on Mental Illness in NYS - Capital Region	Substance Abuse and Mental Health	Community Based Organization	https://namicapitalregionny.org/
Next Wave	Asthma content expertise	Consulting services	nextwave.info/home.html
Northeast Career Planning	Health equity advocacy	Community Based Organization	https://www.northeastcareer.org/
Northeastern New York Diabetes Educators	Diabetes content expertise	Nonprofit Organization	www.mvaadenetwork.org/newyork
Northern Rivers	Behavioral health expertise	Community Based Organization	https://www.northernrivers.org/
Orange Theory Fitness	Physical Activity	Business / For Profit	https://www.northernivers.org/ https://www.orangetheory.com/en-us/
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Pearl Counseling Center, Inc.	Behavioral health expertise	Health Care Organization	https://www.pearlcounseling.org/
Pinnacle Place Behavioral Health	Behavioral health expertise	Health Care Organization	https://pinnaclebehavioralhealth.com/
Planet Fitness	Physical Activity	Business / For Profit	https://www.planetfitness.com/
Priority One Urgent Care	COVID-19 Testing	Health Care Organization	https://www.priority1urgentcare.com/
PROMESA- Camino Nuevo (New Path)	Substance use disorder and mental health	Health Care Organization	https://sobernation.com/listing/promesa-inc-camino-nuevo-albany-ny/
Radix Ecological Sustainability Center	Education content expertise (regarding nutrition)	Nonprofit Organization	https://radixcenter.org/
Regional Food Bank of Northeastern New York	Emergency food service expertise	Community Based Organization	www.regionalfoodbank.net/
		Community Based	
		Org/County/Albany-	
Rehabilitation Support Services	Substance use disorder and mental health	Countyanization	https://rehab.org/county/albany-county/
Retro Fitness Albany State Concourse	Physical Activity	Business / For Profit	https://retrofitness.com/
Rite Aid	COVID-19 Testing	Health Care Organization	https://www.riteaid.com/pharmacy/services/covid-19-testing
Rudy A. Ciccotti Family Recreation Center	Physical Activity	Nonprofit	https://www.cdphpfitnessconnect.org/
Save A Lot	Supermarket	Business / For Profit	https://savealot.com/grocery-stores/
Second Chance Opportunities, Inc.	Substance use disorder and mental health	Community Based Comanization	https://www.scoalbany.com/
Senior Hope Counseling	Behavioral health expertise	Community Based Organization	http://www.seniorhope.org/
Senior Services of Albany (LifePath)	Chronic disease content expertise (nutrition)	Community Based Organization	seniorservicesofalbany.com/

APPENDIX A

PROFILE OF COMMUNITY RESOURCES AVAILABLE TO MEET HEALTH-RELATED NEEDS OF ALBANY COUNTY

ORGANIZATION NAME	ORGANIZATION ROLE	ORGANIZATION TYPE	WEBSITE
ShopRite	Supermarket; nutrition content expertise	Business / For Profit	www.shoprite.com/
Silver Sneakers	Physical Activity	Business / For Profit	https://tools.silversneakers.com/
South End Children's Café	Health equity advocacy	Nonprofit Organization	www.southendchildrenscafe.com/
St Peter's SPARC	Substance use disorder and mental health		https://www.sphp.com/
	Provides support services for at-risk children; chronic		
St. Catherine's Center for Children	disease, behavioral health interest(s)	Community Based Organization	www.st-cath.org/
St. Peter's Health Partners	Local hospital regarding all CHIP interventions	Health Care Organization	www.sphp.com/
Stratton Veterans Administration Medical Center	Diabetes Self-Management Training , COVID-19 testing	Health Care Organization	https://www.va.gov/albany-health-care/
The Pride Center of the Capital Region	Health equity advocacy	Community Based Organization	https://www.capitalpridecenter.org/
Trader Joe's	Grocery store	Business / For Profit	https://www.traderjoes.com/home
Trinity Alliance of the Capital Region	Health equity advocacy	Community Based Organization	www.trinityalliancealbany.org/
United States Committee for Refugees and Immigrants (Albany)	Health equity advocacy	Nonprofit Organization	refugees.org/field-office/albany/
		Nonprofit Organization /	
United Way of the Greater Capital Region	Chronic disease content expertise (nutrition)	philanthropy	www.unitedwaygcr.org/
University at Albany, School of Public Health	Chronic disease content expertise (nutrition)	Academia / Education	www.albany.edu/sph/
Vent Fitness	Physical Activity	Business / For Profit	https://ventfitness.com/
Visiting Nurses Association of Albany	Chronic disease expertise	Health Care Organization	vnaalbany.org/
Walmart Supercenter	Groceries	Business / For Profit	https://www.walmart.com/
	Education content expertise (regarding nutrition, physical		
Watervliet City School District	activity)	Academia / Education	www.watervlietcityschools.org/
Weight Watchers Studio	Obesity prevention care	Business / For Profit	https://www.weightwatchers.com/us/welcome
	Federally qualified health center; provider of behavioral		
Whitney M. Young Jr. Health Services	and chronic disease prevention services	Health Care Organization	www.wmyhealth.org/
Whole Foods Market	Supermarket	Business / For Profit	https://www.wholefoodsmarket.com/stores/albany