

2026–2028 COMMUNITY HEALTH IMPROVEMENT ROADMAP SUMMARY

DECEMBER 2025



ADVANCING TOGETHER

A CEDAR VALLEY WHERE EVERYONE THRIVES

ECONOMIC STABILITY

Economic instability limits opportunities for many, especially in neighborhoods facing higher barriers.

Strengthening job readiness, food security, childcare, transportation, and access to resources while aligning with local programs, can help achieve lasting financial stability for all.



TRANSPORTATION CHALLENGES

Transportation challenges limit access to jobs, school, and essential services, especially for community members without reliable options. Improving transit, service hours, and awareness of available programs can help make mobility easier and more reliable for everyone.



HOUSING STABILITY

Housing instability is growing, with many facing high costs, limited affordable options, and some even facing homelessness.

Strengthening supports, expanding safe housing, and improving coordination can help more families find and keep stable homes.



On the back, you'll find a snapshot of the goals and strategies created for our three priority areas. Workgroups and action plans are already moving forward, and we invite all to get involved or bring these strategies into their own efforts.

Scan the QR code to explore the full assessment, fact sheets, and the complete plan roadmap.

JOIN US



OUR APPROACH

We follow a community-driven approach to improving health and strengthening well-being. Using a national framework, we work through three phases that help us understand local health needs, uncover the conditions that shape them, and create a plan together.

This process centers the voices of community members and partners, shines a light on the factors that influence people's opportunities to thrive, and brings organizations together around a shared vision.



MERCYONE



UnityPoint Health

GOALS AND STRATEGIES SUMMARY

ECONOMIC STABILITY GOAL

To create a coordinated and inclusive community environment where all have opportunities for stable employment, income, and well-being through systems, policies, and partnerships that reduce economic barriers and strengthen participation in decision-making.

STRATEGIES

Changing the Rules (Systems and Policies)

1. Advocate for local policies and programs that reduce the cost burden of essential needs.
2. Expand one or more existing lived experience leadership group to ensure that community members most affected by economic barriers have a voice in decision-making and program design and are compensated for their time.
3. Promote a rapid-response approach to identify and respond to emerging issues through micro-grants, events, or policy recommendations.
4. Build a collaborative resource navigation system so that community members entering through any community "door" are connected to aligned supports.

Community and Partner Collaboration

5. Explore sustainable funding mechanisms to strengthen coalition infrastructure and the economic stability strategies.
6. Support upstream health-related strategies that reduce long-term financial strain on households by aligning with the Health Sector CHIP objectives which include partnering with community organizations to expand prevention programs, increasing access to cancer and chronic disease screenings, and implementing multi-level behavioral health initiatives.
7. Host quarterly Advancing Together convenings to strengthen relationships, share progress, and identify emerging economic stability issues.
8. Develop a community data hub to centralize and make accessible reliable, place-based data available.
9. Expand navigator and liaison capacity to connect community members facing language, cultural, or logistical barriers to employment and wraparound supports.
10. Strengthen the ecosystem between navigators/liaisons, employers, employees, and workforce agencies to expand access to training, mentorship, and advancement opportunities.
11. Educate community organizations on practices that improve the accessibility of publicly available materials.

Supporting Individuals

12. Promote community employment and resource fairs and other mechanisms that connect community members to job opportunities, training programs, and wraparound supports.
13. Promote organizational compensation policies removing financial and structural barriers for community members contributing their lived experiences.

TRANSPORTATION CHALLENGES GOAL

Enhance access to transportation by aligning with existing public transit and passenger transportation improvement efforts, prioritizing service coordination, community engagement, and reducing barriers for system users.

STRATEGIES

Changing the Rules (Systems and Policies)

1. Advocate for funding and policy support to improve access to transportation.
2. Support inclusion of transportation goals in comprehensive plans that reduce transportation barriers.

Community and Partner Collaboration

3. Support public awareness campaigns that help people understand their transportation options and build a positive image of public transit and passenger transportation.
4. Partner with community groups to host transportation education events and outreach efforts that make public transit and other modes of passenger transportation more approachable and understandable.
5. Work across sectors to tackle shared transportation challenges.
6. Participate in working groups led by the Transit Advisory Committee to help carry out high-priority strategies.

Supporting Individuals

7. Expand transportation education through the use of trusted community navigators.
8. Promote tools that let riders give real-time feedback to improve the public transit and passenger transportation experience and identify personal barriers.

HOUSING STABILITY GOAL

Support housing by aligning with and enhancing multi-sector efforts to reduce homelessness and address structural barriers to stable housing.

STRATEGIES

Changing the Rules (Systems and Policies)

1. Support local and regional policies that increase access to transitional and long-term housing, such as landlord incentive programs, zoning/code changes, and funding for case management.
2. Advocate for policies that connect housing with transportation and education supports to reduce the cycle of homelessness.

Community and Partner Collaboration

3. Promote public awareness about housing instability and available resources throughout the county.
4. Ensure collaboration between key partners to coordinate planning and action.

Supporting Individuals

5. Support services that help community members access safe, affordable housing and connect them to local programs that meet their individual needs.