

GUADALUPE COUNTY HEALTH COUNCIL

MISSION

To provide and promote a leadership role in empowering the community to improve our health status, through a comprehensive, community-based and culturally-sensitive approach in Guadalupe County.

VISION

“Empower the citizens of Guadalupe County to identify, prioritize, and direct local efforts and resources to improve their individual and community’s health and to alter positively the physical, social, economic and spiritual conditions that directly affect their health and well-being.”

HISTORY

The Guadalupe County Health Council (GCHC) is a non-categorical comprehensive, community health council located in Guadalupe County, New Mexico which has taken the lead in community health status improvement and is empowered to identify, prioritize, and address health issues on behalf of the community. The GCHC was formed in 1994 as a coalition of interested citizens, representatives from city and county governments, public and private health care, social service entities, private business representatives and the religious community who developed the GCHC vision statement.

FISCAL YEAR 23 GOALS

The Guadalupe County Health Council FY23 initiative is to collaborate with community members and local agencies to address the areas including but not limited to drug misuse, mental/behavioral and health issues in Guadalupe County and to identify gaps and needs of services in Guadalupe County.

OBJECTIVES

Update the County Resource Directory to assist in identifying service gaps and needs in Guadalupe County.

HEALTH PRIORITIES

- Address Mental/Behavioral Health Issues
- Obesity & Diabetes Prevention
- Drug Misuse Prevention

DATA

Collected from NM Behavioral Risk Factor Surveillance System Survey

MENTAL HEALTH

During 2015-2019, 34.2% of Guadalupe County residents reported having a depressive disorder diagnosed by a doctor ranking Guadalupe County the 1st highest in the state. The data collected in 2017-2021 showed a decrease of 10.2% ranking the county 29th highest among New Mexico’s 33 counties.

DIABETES

During 2015-2019, Guadalupe County residents ranked 15th for doctor-diagnosed diabetes, in 2017-2021 the ranking went down to 17th one of the lowest rankings among New Mexico’s 33 counties.

DRUG MISUSE

During 2015-2019, Guadalupe County had the 4th highest drug overdose death rate and in 2017-2021 ranking lowered to 18th highest among New Mexico’s 33 counties.

SUCCESES

The Guadalupe County Health Council successfully implemented the Santa Rosa Farmer’s Market in 2012, where residents could purchase local fresh and organic produce, now accepting WIC, SNAP and SFM Benefits. School Gardens were implemented in the Santa Rosa & Vaughn schools in 2017 with plans for 3 new gardens in the Spring of 2023. Mental Health First Aid Trainings have been offered, for all Guadalupe hospital staff, school staff, high school students, faith-based organizations and community residents of Guadalupe County. The Guadalupe County Health Council created policy in collaboration with the New Mexico EMS Bureau when approved Registered Nurses will be allowed to run calls at an Intermediate Level to provide higher quality health care in the state of New Mexico.

HEALTH COUNCIL PRIORITIES - REVISED 5/23

Mental & Behavioral Health
Diabetes & Obesity
Drug Misuse
Heart Disease & Stroke Prevention
Cancer Prevention

COORDINATORS CONTACT INFORMATION

JoAnn Velasquez
(575) 799-9593
gchc@plateautel.net

Shelly Eiland
(505) 321-3914
shellyreiland@gmail.com