



Feature Story

Mendocino County Homeless Findings and Data Report

Mendocino County's Health and Human Services Agency (HHSA) procured the services of Marbut Consulting to conduct a Homeless Services Needs Assessment and to develop Strategic Action Step Recommendations. The **Homeless Needs Assessment and Action Steps for Mendocino County** and the **Presentation of Observations, Findings and Recommendation of Strategic Action Steps Report** has now been published.

Using national best practices and the Seven Guiding Principles of Homeless Transformation as the key measuring tools, Marbut Consulting evaluated the current state of homeless service operations within Mendocino County. Marbut Consulting then conducted a needs assessment and gaps analysis between existing inventory and identified needs, including the

types of services (qualitative) and capacity of services (quantitative) needed within Mendocino County.

To read more click [HERE](#).



Teens: Marijuana and Impulsive, Addiction-Prone Behavior

Many people believe that teen marijuana use is not harmful. Nothing could be further from the truth. Read two great articles about teens.

"3 Things I Wish Parents - and Teens - Knew about Pot"

"Why Teens are Impulsive, Addiction-Prone and Should Protect Their Brains"

Click [HERE](#) to read the articles.

April Featured Indicators

Severe Housing Problems

28.0%
(2008-2012)



Compared to:
U.S.
Counties



=
Prior Value
(28.0%)

Teens who Use Marijuana

24.0%
(2014-2015)



Compared to:
CA Value
(20.1% in 2013-
2015)



This indicator measures the percentage of households with at least one of the following four housing problems: overcrowding, high housing costs, lack of kitchen, or lack of plumbing facilities. Safe and affordable housing is an essential component of healthy communities, and the effects of housing problems are widespread. In areas where housing costs are high, low-income residents may be forced into substandard living conditions with an increased exposure to mold and mildew growth, pest infestation, and lead or other environmental hazards. Click [HERE](#) to view the indicator.

Among youth, illicit drug use is associated with heavy alcohol use, tobacco use, delinquency, violence, and suicide. Marijuana is the most commonly abused illicit drug in the United States. Marijuana intoxication can cause distorted perceptions, impaired coordination, difficulty thinking and problem solving, and problems with learning and memory. Many research studies have shown that marijuana's adverse effects on learning and memory can last for days or weeks after the acute effects of the drug have worn off. Chronic marijuana use can lead to addiction. Addictive behaviors may result in harmful effects on social functioning in the context of family, school, work, and recreational activities. Click [HERE](#) to view the indicator.

KEY HIGHLIGHTS FROM 2017 – 2018

- Hosted the county-wide **Healthy Mendocino Summit**
- Created **Community Health Improvement Plan (CHIP)** report
- Developed new **Regional Chapters**: Ukiah/Calpella/Anderson Valley/ Hopland ♦ North Coast ♦ South Coast/Redwood Coast Willits ♦ Laytonville/Leggett ♦ Covelo/Round Valley
- Shared **Action Team** pages and updates through the website
- Provided **Announcements** for local health related events, classes, clinics, and trainings on the website
- Featured **local projects** on healthymendocino.org:



- **healthymendocino.org** increased users from 5,246 in 2016 to 9,268 in 2017
- Featured **articles** on Food Insecurity, the Opioid Epidemic, Affordable Housing, Point in Time Count, California Fires, Disaster Recovery Tools, and Building Resiliency
- **Needs Attention: Adults Reporting Past Adverse Childhood Experiences (ACEs), 30.8%**. The California value is 16.7%



- **Improved: Teens who Smoke 8.0%**, down from 17.0%



Funders: Adventist Health Howard Memorial, Adventist Health Ukiah Valley, ARCH, Anderson Valley Health Center, Community Development Commission, The Community Foundation of Mendocino, Consolidated Tribal Health, FIRST 5, MCAVN, HHS, MCOE, NCO, Partnership Health Plan, RCS, RQMC, United Way of the Wine Country.



Our Mission: Healthy Mendocino works to improve quality of life in Mendocino County by encouraging informed dialogue about the actions local residents and organizations can take to improve community health.

ACTION TEAMS: VISION FOR IMPROVEMENT

Childhood Obesity & Family Wellness

Promote activities that support healthy, active children and families and offer wide access to healthy food and safe recreational opportunities.

Childhood Trauma

All Children will have the support and opportunity to grow up in stable supportive families and families will have access to support in times of crisis.

Housing

Affordable, safe, appropriate housing for everyone in every income bracket.

Mental Health

Expand treatment and access to treatment, focusing on case management options and provide education to reduce stigma and increase awareness.

Poverty

High quality of life and economic sufficiency for all; entrepreneurship and wealth-creation opportunities; strong locally owned businesses; more and better jobs; empowerment combined with responsibility.



Updates for the Healthy Mendocino Project

For a summary of the March 8th **Healthy Mendocino Project Summit** and a link to the Power Point Presentation, click [HERE](#).

Inland Ukiah Regional Chapter

Childhood Obesity/Family Wellness (CHOW): May Hashtag is: #ScreenFree #Getoutside. They will be combining their meeting with the Food Policy Council and Food for All Mendocino making sure physical and recreation items will be discussed. The Kids Triathlon will be June 23.

Childhood Trauma: They have been focusing on getting 20% of the existing marijuana tax for kid's prevention activities to emphasize a commitment to children. The Champion project has 30 kids referred with a control group.

Housing: Want to identify who is homeless and what their issues are. The team is working to get a genuine picture of what is happening so know where to put there resources.

Mental Health: Looking at a Mental Health resource guide that can be distributed to the community and create a draft protocol for college interns to survey people at clinics.

Poverty: They are working with West Company to form a Community Market at Grace Hudson School for low-income families to sell prepared food, crafts, etc. Heather Gurewitz with EDFC is looking at the Hotel Tax to help fund specific projects related to Poverty.

North Coast Regional Chapter

Family Wellness: The North Coast team is looking at having a after school program and they are also working on a Kids Triathlon for the summer.

Healthy Mendocino Trauma: The coast team is working on Restorative Justice Communication training for teachers. They want to prevent childhood trauma with family support groups and work with teachers in the schools to help them recognize signs of trauma.

Housing: Fort Bragg has identified 83 empty or abandoned units that could be refurbished into housing. They hope to get free water and sewer hookups and free plans to build Attached Dwelling Units (ADUs). Dan Gjerdie would like this to be available county wide.

Mental Health: Draft goals: Reduce suicide rates in the County, increase continuum of behavioral health services.

Poverty: Looking at a pilot program on financial literacy with the Latino Coalition at Project Sanctuary. They are looking at vocational training for young people and adults. Looking at the Hotel Tax to help fund specific projects related to Poverty.

Click [HERE](#) to read the full details for each Action Team and their meeting times and locations.

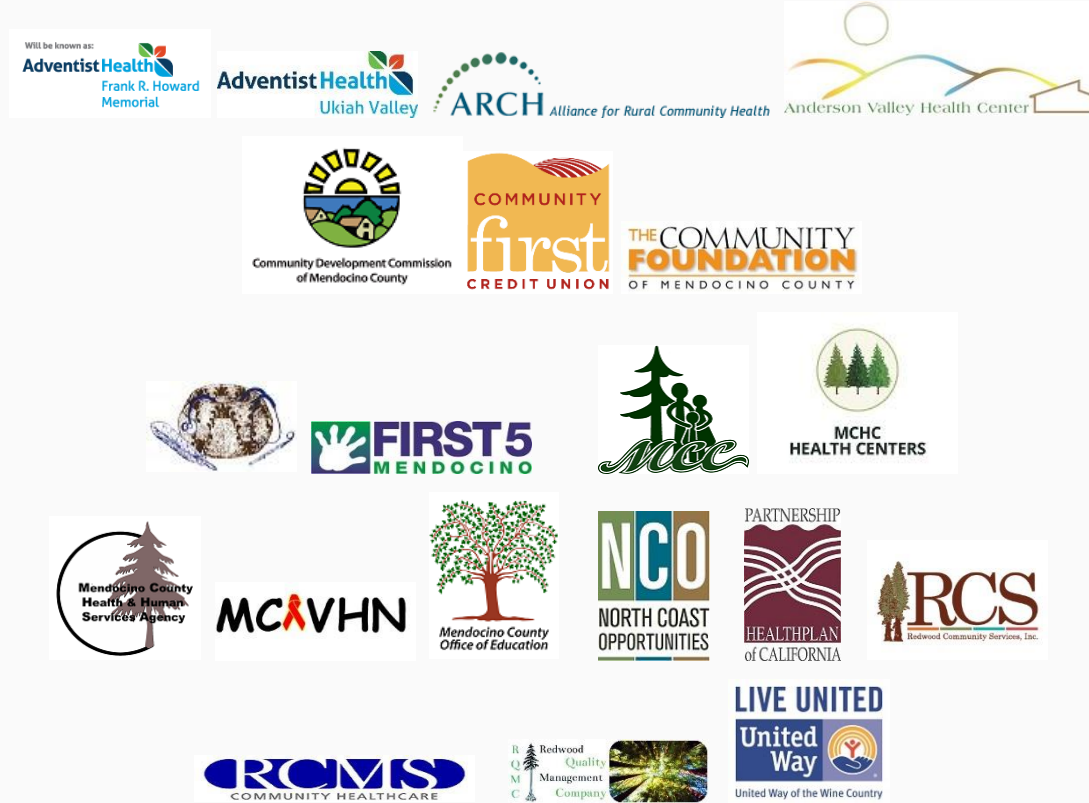
Presentations Available for your Organization!

Do you want to learn more about HealthyMendocino.org?

Learn about the new Community Dashboards, how to navigate the site, tools you can use to help write reports and grants, and how to add a custom Dashboard to your website.

Email:

healthymendocino@ncoinc.org or call **707-476-3228** to schedule a presentation and find ways you can utilize its many resources.



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