



**Community Health Improvement Plan  
2022-2025**

**Onvida Health Yuma Regional Medical Center**  
**2022 – 2025 Community Health Improvement Plan**  
**REPORT TO COMMUNITY**

**Addressing Significant Health Needs**

Onvida Health Regional Medical Center and Yuma Rehabilitation Hospital conducted a Community Health Needs Assessment in 2022. Working collaboratively with our Yuma County public health partners and Southwest Arizona Town Hall (formerly known as the Southwest Arizona Futures Forum, or SAFF). Over the past three years, Onvida Health Yuma Medical Center has invested in improving the health of our community's most vulnerable populations. Our commitment to this goal is reflected by our \$13,963,525 in Community Benefit and \$121,683,867 in Charity Care and other financial assistance programs.

Onvida Health Yuma Medical Center adopted the below-listed community health priorities as a working document and vision to address the top health concerns within our defined service area, Yuma County. In alignment with our mission, goals and strategic priorities, Onvida Health Regional Medical Center will focus on the five (5) priorities listed below:

1. Mental Health
2. Substance Abuse
3. Access to Healthcare Services
4. Diabetes
5. Cancer

**Strategies for addressing these identified health priorities are outlined in this document.**

## Priority Area: Mental Health

High incidence of those who reported fair or poor mental health. Symptoms of chronic depression. Suicide deaths (particularly in young adults). Ratio of mental health providers. Note, key informants rated mental health as a top concern.

### Goals:

- Increase availability and access to behavioral health providers in the community
- Reduce ER holding times due to lack of inpatient psychiatric facility beds
- Reduce ER transfers of psychiatric inpatients to facilities outside of Yuma County
- Increase awareness among adults and teens alike, with related mental health wellness strategies and coping skills
- **BENCHMARK** ► Worse than found Nationally
- **TREND** ► Denotes a significant increase since 2019.
- **DISPARITY** ► Higher in Yuma.

**Strategy 1:** Recruit additional behavioral health providers to the community to expand access to care (increased providers = more appointments)

**Target Population(s):** Patients currently needing to travel for care due to no available providers and appointments.

- Recruited the following providers in 2023:
  - Dr. Eyuel Terefe, Psychiatry Residency Program Director
  - Janelle Rudnick, NP, Inpatient Behavioral Health Unit
  - Full-time agency provider coverage for inpatient Behavioral Health Unit
  - The onboarding of a Psychiatry Residency Program Director is instrumental in preparing for and establishing Onvida Health Yuma Medical Center's Psychiatry Residency program to begin summer 2025, where we will train and retain psychiatry providers in Yuma County and increase access to care. The Program Director cares for patients in the outpatient setting.
- In addition, a child and adolescent psychiatrist for our psychiatry residency program has been recruited and will start August 25, 2024. This serves as a major step in meeting the identified need for expanded services for children.
  - This service will provide **integrated behavioral health care, numerous times per month**, where Family Medicine residents in the Mental Health Treatment tract, will manage patients with mental health needs under the **supervision of the psychiatry faculty**.
- Onvida Health Yuma Medical Center recruited, an adolescent psychiatrist, started as of 2024.
- Onvida Health Yuma Medical Center recruited, an inpatient psychiatrist, started as of January 2025.
- Onvida Health Yuma Medical center successfully recruited a part time child adolescent psychiatrist who started Q1 of 2025.

- Onvida Health Yuma Medical Center created a Behavioral Health chair to assist in coordinating the Behavioral Health Services and operation in developing a Behavioral Health Complex.

**Strategy 2:** Initiate community coalition to minimize duplication of resources and eliminate gaps in care.

**Target Population(s):** Community leaders, key stakeholders, social service organizations, law enforcement and those directly impacted (families and patients).

- Onvida Health Yuma Medical Center launched a collaboration with local law enforcement for education and training.
- Onvida Health Yuma Medical Center expanded the partnership with local law enforcement to accept direct voluntary referrals for evaluation.
- Onvida Health Yuma Medical Center further collaborated with outpatient community programs for potential referrals to the inpatient Behavioral Health Unit (BHU) and Intensive Outpatient Program (IOP).
- Onvida Health Yuma Medical Center initiated transportation for patients being seen at outpatient clinics to provide urgent assessments and admission, to the Behavioral Health Unit – minimizing unnecessary Emergency Department visits where appropriate.
- Onvida Health Yuma Medical Center collaborates with the Sheriff’s department and County Jail to provide court-ordered treatments for patients (April 2024).
- Onvida Health Yuma Medical Center serves as an active hub coordinating between agencies to minimize resource use.
- Onvida Health Yuma Medical Center coordinates our efforts with local military and law enforcement to minimize the need to transfer patients outside of the community for care.
- Onvida Health Yuma Medical Center was a top tier sponsor, contributing \$20,000 for Grad Nights 2024 & 2025 to ensure a safe, substance free celebration for graduating seniors.
- Onvida Health Yuma Medical Center’s ongoing partnership throughout Yuma County in 2024 provided +100,000 drug prevention resources and 10,000 sunch bags containing materials and education tools.
- Development of Onvida Health Yuma Medical Center’s Emergency Room Kits. These provide Narcan information and opioid education and are distributed in partnership with Community Bridges & Community Medical Services.

**Strategy 3:** Expand local availability of behavioral health services (*acute inpatient and intensive outpatient*) to reduce need to travel out of town for care.

**Target Population(s):** Yuma County service area. Patients and families seeking services.

- Onvida Health Yuma Medical Center opened a 24-bed inpatient Behavioral Health Unit in

February 2023 to expand community access to inpatient behavioral health. The Inpatient Behavioral Health Unit also established a robust Intensive Outpatient Program for long-term treatment and management of behavioral health patients.

- The creation of the Behavioral Health crisis team, now on-site, provides Behavioral Health Crisis assessments.
- The Behavioral Health crises assessment team is providing assessments in the Onvida Health Yuma Medical Center emergency departments, meeting patients where the need is.
- Onvida Health Yuma Medical Center introduced a pilot program within the Family Medicine Clinic to provide assessments for patients at risk of suicide. Patients can now undergo their assessment and intake process while still at the clinic.

**Strategy 4:** Partner to host behavioral health educational sessions to build community awareness and support.

**Target Population(s):** School systems, adult care facilities, caregivers and directly impacted patients and families.

- Partnership with Yuma County Anti-Drug Coalition to provide ongoing education and support to local schools with a heavy focus on high schools and parents.
- Onvida Health Yuma Medical Center serves as an active member of the Yuma County Anti-Drug coalition – current efforts include education and state-supported distribution of NARCAN to patients and families who present to the Emergency Department with Fentanyl overdose.
- Ongoing collaborative efforts with local schools and adult facilities to provide education and support for identifying a person in crisis/need.
- Onvida Health Yuma Medical Center is currently in the process of developing geriatric behavioral health services and Intensive Outpatient Programs for local long-term care facilities.
- Delivered *Question, Persuade, Refer (QPR)* suicide awareness training in partnership with Yuma District One Schools and the Pediatrics Department.
- Collaborated with Sunset Clinic, a local Federally Qualified Health Center, to strengthen pediatric psychiatry management services and establish a referral pathway for early autism intervention.
- Initiated the standardization of the PHQ-9 (Patient Health Questionnaire) depression screening tool within the Electronic Medical Record to support measurement-based treatment for depression; concurrently progressing toward the implementation of the Zero Suicide Project.

**Strategy 5:** Develop and implement Psychiatry Residency Program to grow and retain psychiatrists in our community.

**Target Population(s):** Yuma County service area.

- Dr. Terefe was recruited and hired in July 2023 to lead the Psychiatry Residency program. Residency application submitted, new building purchased and renovated to accommodate the residency program and increase space (access) to psychiatry services. ACGME (Accreditation

- Council for Graduate Medical Education) site visit scheduled for May 2024.
- Onvida Health Yuma Medical Center, Psychiatry Residency Program is on track to open its doors to resident physicians in July 2025.

Dr. Terefe is instrumental in preparing for and establishing our Psychiatry Residency program starting in summer 2025, where we will train and retain psychiatry physicians in Yuma County and improve/increase access to care. Dr. Terefe also cares for patients in the outpatient setting at YRMC Behavioral Health Center.

In addition, a child and adolescent psychiatrist for our psych residency program has been recruited and will start August 25, 2024.

- Active recruitment is underway for additional Faculty physicians to support and build the academic foundation for our psychiatry residency program. Several candidates are in process and anticipated to finalize in 2024.
- The initial attempt for ACGME (Accreditation Council for Graduate Medical Education) accreditation was not successful due to an insufficient number of board-certified psychiatry faculty.
- Corrective recruitment measures were taken, and the application for ACGME accreditation was re-submitted in Q1 of 2025 to establish a Psychiatry Graduate Medical Education program.
- Pending ACGME approval, the plan is to launch the Psychiatry Residency Program with an ideal start date of July 2025, enrolling four residents per year. These residents will deliver comprehensive mental health care across the Yuma community, Onvida Health Yuma Medical Center clinics, and hospital system, with the goal of retaining these residents in the community.

### Priority Area: **Substance Use**

High incidence of cirrhosis, liver disease death, excessive drinking, unintentional drug- related deaths, illicit drug use. Key informants ranked substance use as a top concern A total of 24.1% of area adults are excessive drinkers (heavy and/or binge drinkers).

#### Goals:

- Reduce number of patients needing to travel out of town for substance detox and treatment.
- Expand awareness and education among students and parents.

**BENCHMARK** ► Higher than found across Arizona.

**TREND** ► Marks a significant increase since 2019.

**DISPARITY** ► Highest in Yuma. More often reported among men, adults younger than sixty-five, Hispanic.

**Barriers to access attributed:** Lack of locally available detox and support groups.

**Strategy #1:** Develop acute medical detox and treatment services in Yuma County

**Target Population(s):** Yuma County service area

- Develop inpatient chemical dependency detox unit – Inpatient detox unit is currently on hold due to space restraints.
- Expanded Intensive Outpatient Program services for chemical dependency patients and families.
- Behavioral Health Unit expanded Intensive Outpatient Program services include co-occurring Mental Health and Substance Use (COMMS) group. This group is intended to focus on the mental health portion of substance use.
- Initiated the Emergency Department naloxone program for those identified in need and at elevated risk.
- This is underway with the establishment of our Psychiatry Residency program and recruitment of an addiction psychiatrist. Active contract negotiations are underway with an addiction psychiatrist anticipated to start late summer 2024.

**Strategy #2:** Partner with community leaders, schools, and families to enhance awareness through outreach and education

**Target Population(s):** Yuma County service area

- Family Medicine Resident Physicians rotate through local elementary and middle schools to mentor and educate underserved students through a variety of activities and presentations.
- Fentanyl Awareness Campaign in collaboration with Yuma County Sheriff's office.
- Family Medicine Resident Physician QPR (Question, Persuade, Refer) training certificates offered for local school teachers as of 2024.

**Strategy #3:** Recruit a hepatology practitioner

**Target Population(s):** Yuma County service area

- Dr. Satiya- Internal Medicine physician, focusing on liver disease- was fully onboarded in April, 2024 and began to significantly impact patients in our Yuma community.

**Strategy #4:** Develop curriculum for Family Medicine residents in partnership with psychiatry program – to include detox medicine.

**Target Population(s):** Yuma County service area

- The Psychiatry Program Director has begun a quarterly Behavioral Health series presented to Family Medicine Residents during their didactics.
- The new Behavioral Health Track just announced its first Family Medicine Resident Physician participant, who will begin their focused educational track in July 2024.
- Our first resident successfully completed the first year of the MHT (Mental Health Training) program.

- A new resident (PGY-2) will become the second Family Medicine resident enrolled in the MHT program.
- A process is being developed to establish the Mental Health Training clinic on a part-time basis within the Family Medicine Clinic.

**Strategy #5:** Develop and implement an intensive Outpatient Program to incorporate substance use disorders.

**Target Population(s):** Yuma County service area

- Onvida Health Yuma Medical Center, Behavioral Health Center started a pilot for co-occurring mental health and substance use (COMS) Intensive Outpatient Program group in April 2025.
- Currently there are 10 participants

## Priority Area: Access to Health Care Services

Barriers to access are attributed to: Inconvenient office hours, lack of available appointments (wait time to get an appointment), primary care physician ratio well below national standard. Emergency department utilization burdened with a high volume of non-acute care.

### Goals:

- Expand availability of appointments and reduce wait time for appointments
- Expand the availability of primary care providers across the community
- Improve physician-to-population ratio

**BENCHMARK** ► Four of the tested barriers were found to have a higher impact locally than nationally: appointment availability, finding a physician, cost of a doctor visit, and inconvenient office hours.

**TREND** ► Since 1997, mention of appointment availability and cost of a doctor visit as barriers has increased significantly.

**DISPARITY** ► Four of the barriers were found to be higher in Yuma than in the other three subareas: appointment availability, cost of a doctor visit, cost of prescriptions, and lack of transportation.

**Strategy #1:** Expand Family & Community Medicine Residency program (growing our own)

**Target Population(s):** Medical students with strong interest in serving community

- Family Medicine Residency program will welcome 11 Residents in July 2024, as we expand our incoming class size by two and welcome a transfer PGY2 Resident.
- Overall goal to expand the program from 26 to 36 residents = 12 per class per year. For this year's match, the program was seeking 12 new residents and matched 11. Now completing SOAP week to fill the remaining open spot.
- In a continued effort to increase access to health care services, the Graduate Medical Education department is pleased to announce that a second residency program has been approved for ACGME accreditation. The new Psychiatry Residency Program will welcome 4 resident physicians in July 2025.
- The Family & Community Medicine Residency will train 32 resident physicians in AY 25-26 and reach full complement of 36 resident physicians in AY 27-28. The Psychiatry Residency has been approved for 4 slots per class and will recruit to fill all 16 positions by AY 28-29.
- The Undergraduate Medical Education department welcomed additional students of varying scopes for clinical rotations, from 19 universities and institutions during AY 24-25.
- Access to Primary Care and Behavioral Health Care will continue to increase, as resident class sizes fill. Moreover, we are pleased to share that the retention rate for the General Medical Education programs at Onvida Health is 34%, and we have retained 24 physicians to serve in Yuma County over the last 10 years.

**Strategy #2:** Expand clinic hours and location to serve more people

**Target Population(s):** New graduate physicians serving Yuma County residents and visitors

- Onvida Health Yuma Medical Center acquired an internal medicine and diabetes medical practice, adding two providers specializing in diabetes care.
- Increased Pediatric and Primary Care appointments by 4% by expanding hours and increasing efficiency.
- Family Medicine, Internal Medicine, Pediatrics and Obstetrics increased the hours to see patients by staggering provider and staff schedules. Some work from 7:00 am to 4:00 pm and others from 9:00 am to 6:00 pm. This allows clinics to open earlier, close later and offer Saturday services.
- Fall 2023, Onvida Health Yuma Medical Center opened its Foothills Medical Plaza, adding a second emergency department location with the addition of Primary Care, Pediatrics, Obstetrics, and Podiatry providers within that same location. This helps to improve access to care, even closer to patients' homes. Over 12,000 new patient appointments have been completed.
- Increased Transitional Care hours by 10 hours per week by expanding hours (7:30 am to 6:00 pm Monday through Friday).
- Increased tele visits in Family Medicine, Gastroenterology and Allergy/ Immunology.
- Onvida Health Yuma Medical Center added a new service: Vascular Medicine as a new service to Yuma community.
- Onvida Health Yuma Medical Center added a new service: Emergency Ortho Spine consults, offering real time access to Yuma population.
- Onvida Health Yuma Medical Center planned for and opened their Behavioral Health East facility, expanding Behavioral Health programs and services. Further supporting the preparation for the approved Psych residency program.
- Investment in and formation of, the Onvida Health Medical Group, including expansion of Physician/ APP leadership.
- Onvida Health Yuma Medical Center held a "blessing of the land" in San Luis AZ to culturally support our commitment to the future hospital that will be built in San Luis AZ.
- The Onvida Health mobile unit has expanded mobile care to 2 elementary schools. Expanding our services to teachers and students' families.
- Onvida Health Yuma Medical Center acquired and expanded into a new pediatrics location, adding 17 new exam rooms.
- Onvida Health Yuma Medical Center has implemented multi-disciplinary diabetes group visits, expanding the ability to provide evidence-based care for patients with diabetes in Yuma County.

**Strategy #3:** Recruit and retain additional providers to meet community need

**Target Population(s):** New graduate physicians serving Yuma County residents and visitors

- **Active recruitment** efforts continue among several provider shortage areas. Recruitment to our more rural geographic location (2.5 hours from nearest metro area) requires constant focus on getting people to experience Yuma County as a great place to live and work.
- Added **40** new providers in 2023 to include:
  - PRIMARY CARE** added **6 providers** in 2023 to include providers in San Luis, Yuma, Foothills
  - PEDIATRICS** added **1 new provider in 2023**, expanding care in the Foothills
  - SPECIALTY CARE** **12** additional providers recruited in 2023
    - 1 Bariatric Surgeon 2023
    - 1 Cardiac Electrophysiology 2023
    - 1 Endocrinologist 2023
    - 3 Gastro NP 2023
    - 2 General Surgeon 2023
    - 1 General Surgery PA 2023
    - 1 OB/GYN – Women’s Health NP 2023
    - 1 Psychiatrist 2023
    - 1 Psychiatry NP 2023
- Two physicians from the Class of 2023 YRMC Family Medicine Residency are now serving the community as full-time providers. An additional three physicians from the Class of 2024 have made a commitment to serving our Yuma community after residency. This speaks to our ongoing dedication to supporting a flourishing graduate medical education program where over 35% of graduates from our program are choosing to stay in Yuma following graduation.

**Recruitment Efforts:**

- Added **76** new providers in 2024 to include:
  - **PRIMARY CARE** added **8 providers in 2024** to include providers in San Luis, Yuma, Foothills
  - **PEDIATRICS** added **3 new providers in 2024** to expand care in the Foothills
  - **SPECIALTY CARE** **25** additional providers **recruited in 2024**
  - **INPATIENT CARE- 16 additional providers** recruited in 2024
    - **9** Anesthesiologists
    - **4** Hospitalists
    - **3** Intensivists
    - 3 physicians from the Class of 2024 Onvida Health Family Medicine Residency are now serving the community as full-time providers. An additional three physicians from the Class of 2025 have made a commitment to serving our Yuma community after residency. This speaks to our ongoing dedication to supporting a flourishing graduate medical education program where over 38% of graduates from our program are choosing to stay in Yuma following graduation.
  - In addition to all listed above, an additional **24** physicians and Advanced Practice Providers have joined our Yuma community in 2024 through strategic partnerships.

## Priority Area: Diabetes

High incidence of deaths attributed to diabetes. Overall prevalence of diabetes is high among adults. Kidney disease prevalence and deaths. Key informants ranked diabetes as a top concern.

### Goals:

- Reduce incidence through diabetes education (inpatient and outpatient)
- Recruit additional providers to include pediatric endocrinology

**BENCHMARK** ► Less favorable than the US rate.

**TREND** ► Represents a significant decrease over time.

**DISPARITY** ► Higher among Hispanic residents.

**Strategy #1:** Expand availability of diabetes support and education (inpatient and outpatient)

**Target Population(s):** Patients diagnosed as diabetic or borderline

- In 2024, Onvida Health Earned DNV certification for the Glycemic Management Program, which includes comprehensive self-management education with standardization in treatment and follow-up.
- Onvida Health Yuma Medical Center Established a Diabetes Education Committee, comprised of diabetes education champions who provide diabetes education to staff and the community.
- Increased inpatient diabetes education consults by 23% from 2022 to 2024.
- Recruited an additional inpatient diabetes educator.
- Onvida Health Yuma Medical Center gives complimentary standard blood glucose meters at discharge to uninsured low-income patients with diabetes.
- Onvida Health Transitional Care Services extends inpatient education by providing follow-up support to address knowledge gaps, medication adjustments, glucose monitoring, and registered dietitians to assist with diabetes management.
- Onvida Health Yuma Medical Center collaborates with Yuma County Health Department to refer patients with diabetes or prediabetes to their National Diabetes Prevention Program (NDPP) or Diabetes Self-Management Program (DSMP).
- Onvida Health Increased diabetes prevention and care, education, to the community by 82%.
- Onvida Health Yuma Medical Center's partnership with our Onvida Health Pharmacy Team and Transitional Care Services are actively pursuing the American Diabetes Association (ADA) accreditation for diabetes self-management services.
- Onvida Health Yuma Medical Center has Implemented a Chronic Care Management program focused specifically on keeping our diabetic patient population healthier.
- Onvida Health has Implemented nutrition counseling in our Diabetes and Primary Care practices.
- Onvida Health is offering Pediatric Endocrinologist coverage by Dr. Hassan through YRMC Pediatrics Subspecialty Clinic.

**Strategy #2:** Recruit additional specialists (adult endocrinology)

**Target Population(s):** Serving Yuma County residents and visitors

- Adult Endocrinologist recruited and hired August 23.
- Pediatric Endocrinologist coverage by Dr. Hassan through Onvida Health Pediatrics Subspecialty Clinic.
  
- **Active recruitment** efforts include attendance at multiple specialty conferences and programs.
  
- **APP** (New position added FY 25)
  1. APP FNP, Endocrinology

## Priority Area: Cancer Care

Cancer is a leading cause of death in Yuma County. Identified high prevalence of cancer (non-skin) in Yuma County.

### Goals:

- Improve lung cancer early detection and reduce deaths
- Increase local availability of advanced clinical trials and treatments

**BENCHMARK** ► Lower than the US rate. Satisfies the Healthy People 2030 objective.

**TREND** ►

**DISPARITY** ► Higher among White residents

**Strategy #1:** Implement lung screening program

**Target Population(s):** Yuma County service area – patients with history of smoking

- Onvida Health put a new Lung Screening program into services in 2022 for patients with a history of smoking. Patients meeting specific criteria are scheduled for a low-dose CAT lung scan.
- 471 patients scanned with 14 patients receiving pre-symptom diagnoses and many others are being actively monitored.
- The first Research Transforming Communities (RTC) symposium in 2023 was focused on lung cancer featuring internal speakers in collaboration with speakers from Mayo clinic, Banner MD Anderson and BUMC, Tucson.
- Onvida Health Participated in 4 community events to encourage lung cancer screening. Relay for Life, City of Yuma Health & Wellness Fair, Speaker’s Bureau-San Luis Senior Center, National LCS Day.
- Onvida Health Implemented a monthly Tumor conference to discuss elevated risk lung cases.
- Onvida Health purchased an Ion robotic bronchoscopy system, and the program is now available at Onvida Health (this is the 5<sup>th</sup> robot at Onvida) Offering proactive surveillance for active nodule follow-up, ensuring patients receive timely and comprehensive care.
- The Ion Endoluminal System allows our physicians to reach even the smallest nodules with precision and high diagnostic yield percentages. The goal is to find more stage one cancers and fewer advanced stage cancers.
- Onvida Health collaborates with the Kingman Regional Medical Center to compare our data and identify potential areas for improvement in lung cancer care.

**Strategy #2:** Invest in advanced clinical research facilities and programs

**Target Population(s):** Yuma County service area

- Onvida Health Cancer Center Increased the number of clinical trials available to cancer patients.
- Onvida Health Cancer Center Initiated an affiliation with the University of Arizona Clinical Trial Network to have access to national co-op group trials.

- Onvida Health Cancer Center is recognized as a top performing leader in the recruitment of minorities to clinical trials.
- Onvida Health Cancer Center is lauded as a top recruiting site for a Novartis trial.
- December of 2024 Onvida Health Cancer Center hired a Genetic Counselor to assist with testing and the education of patients and family members with genetic predisposition for cancer.
- In the Spring of 2024 we started using radiation to treat skin cancers. This has decreased the time from diagnosis to treatment as we have limited access in Yuma to a Mohs surgeon.
- **Onvida Health Cancer Center is setting the standard in cancer care:** Our cancer program offered the MONARCH-E clinical trial, which has now established adjuvant therapy for aggressive breast cancer as a standard of care.
- **Onvida Health Cancer Center has approximately 30 peer-reviewed publications:** Our research has been vetted and disseminated through leading scientific journals.
- **Onvida Health Cancer Center has been invited to give over 20 presentations at national and international conferences:** We actively share our findings with broader audiences, fostering collaboration and knowledge exchange.
- **Onvida Health Cancer Center has been awarded over 2,000 citations:** Our work has resonated with the scientific community, generating significant impact.
- Onvida Health Cancer Center was given the "**Best Publication**" award (2020, Journal - Cancers): This prestigious recognition underscores the exceptional quality and significance of our research.

**Strategy #3:** Recruit additional radiation oncology and palliative care providers

**Target Population(s):** Yuma County service area

- Recruited, a NP for Palliative Care who started January 14, 2024.
- Actively recruiting five full-time Medical Oncologists.
- Actively recruiting three Palliative Care Advanced Practice Providers and one Palliative Care Physician.
- Actively recruiting three Palliative Care Advanced Practice Providers and one Palliative Care Physician.
- Currently no plans to hire anymore radiation oncologists as team is currently adequately staffed with volumes.
- Onvida Health Cancer Center hired 2 additional Nurse Practitioner's but had attrition as well.
- Hired a part time NP in radiation oncology.

### Secondary focus:

It should be noted that the below-listed identified health needs will remain visible and may be addressed as resources allow – to include potential community partnerships that minimize duplication of effort: **Nutrition, Heart Disease and Stroke, Respiratory Disease, Infant Health & Family Planning, Injury & Violence, Physical Activity & Weight, Potentially Disabling Conditions, Tobacco Use, Oral Health.**

In these areas, we have made progress by:

- Starting a stroke support group (February 2024) for patients and their families/caregivers to provide support and resources.
- Earning American Heart Association “Get with the Guidelines” award to include recognition for the addition of diabetes management in our stroke program for best practices.
- Expanding our Cardiac Rehab program in conjunction with pulmonologists to develop cardio- pulmonary rehab services.
- Expanding stroke education into the local middle schools and high schools to increase awareness of signs and symptoms for early identification and treatment.
- Hired a Chest Pain Coordinator (December 2022) and applied for DNV Chest Pain/STEMI certification (March 2024).
- Offering new Shockwave IVL procedure for coronaries and peripheral arteries new procedure.
- Rolled out Endobronchial Ultrasound (EBUS) new procedure.
- Brought the new Watchman Left Atrial Appendage Occlusion (LAAO) procedure to the community.
- Championing Ventilator Protocol implementation.
- Supporting Cath Lab nurses, Rad Techs, ECHO Techs and Respiratory Therapists who volunteer regularly at community events.