CONWAY REGIONAL
HEALTH SYSTEM



2025 Community Health Needs Assessment

Letter from the President & CEO



As a not-for-profit health system, Conway Regional has both a responsibility and a deep commitment to understand and respond to the evolving health needs of our community. This assessment allows us to listen, learn, and act while grounding our work in the voices, experiences, and priorities of the people we serve.

The healthcare industry continues to change, but our focus remains steady. We are expanding access, strengthening quality, and delivering care that is highly intentional and refreshingly personal.

Whether addressing chronic disease, behavioral health, or preventive care, our approach is rooted in coordinated, community-centered care designed to meet people where they are.

This report highlights the challenges facing our region, the progress we have made, and the opportunities ahead. None of this work happens in isolation. We are grateful for our physicians, employees, community partners, and board of directors who help guide our strategy and advocate for the health of our neighbors.

Sincerely,

Matt Troup, President & CEO



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About Conway Regional

Our Mission

Conway Regional Health System is accountable to the community to provide high-quality, compassionate health care services.

Our Vision

The vision of Conway Regional Health System is to be recognized as the regional leader in health care excellence.

Our Values

Conway Regional Health System places a high degree of importance upon the following values

- **Integrity**
- **Compassion**
- **Accountability**
- **Respect**
- **Excellence**

Service Statistics 2022 – 2024

25,916 Admissions
322,329 Primary Care Visits
103,508 Emergency Room Visits
5,312 Babies Delivered

Awards & Recognitions

Arkansas Business Best Place to Work: 2017 – 2025
Arkansas Business of the Year: 2024
Arkansas Money & Politics Most Admired Hospital: 2022 – 2024
AY Magazine Best Hospital: 2022 – 2025
AY Magazine Best Place to Have a Baby: 2021 – 2025
American College of Surgeons
Metabolic and Bariatric Surgery Accreditation and Quality Improvement Program
American Heart Association
Mission Lifeline Gold Plus: STEMI Receiving: 2022 – 2024
Get with the Guidelines Gold Plus: Stroke: 2022 – 2025
Get with the Guidelines Gold Plus: Diabetes Honor Roll: 2022, 2023, 2025
Get with the Guidelines Heart Failure Silver with Target Type 2 Diabetes: 2023
Care Chex
#1 Hospital in the Market: Bariatric Surgery: 2024
#1 Hospital in the Market: Neurological Care: 2024
Top 10% Hospital in the Nation: Pneumonia Care: 2024
Top 10% in the Nation: Interventional Coronary Care: 2023
#1 in the Market: Heart Attack Treatment: 2023
#1 in the State: Interventional Coronary Care: 2023
#1 in the Market: Interventional Coronary Care: 2023
#1 in the Market: Stroke Care: 2023
Great 100 Nurses
2023: 8 nurses
2024: 6 nurses
2025: 6 nurses

Methodology

Overview

Conway Regional Health System, which includes Conway Regional Rehabilitation Hospital and Dardanelle Regional Medical Center, conducted our 2025 Community Health Needs Assessment (CHNA) to better understand the evolving health priorities of the communities we serve and guide our strategic initiatives aimed at improving community health. This assessment fulfills federal and state requirements while reinforcing our mission to provide high-quality, compassionate care and promote the overall well-being of our region.

Process & Methodology

The assessment process was collaborative and data-driven, incorporating both quantitative and qualitative sources to ensure a thorough understanding of local health trends and community perspectives.

We gathered data from multiple sources, including county-level public health data, internal hospital and clinical metrics, community surveys, employee surveys, stakeholder input, and focus groups with both internal and external community members. This blended approach provided meaningful insight into community health needs and perceptions.

Next Steps

We will use the findings from this CHNA to inform our 2025 – 2027 strategic plan, outlining measurable goals and targeted initiatives to address each identified priority. We remain committed to collaborating with local partners to advance community health outcomes and monitor progress toward reducing disparities across our service area.

Review of the 2022 CHNA

Since completing our 2022 Community Health Needs Assessment, we have made measurable progress across nearly every identified priority area. Through expanded services, strengthened community partnerships, and a continued focus on accessibility, we have advanced community health and improved access to essential resources throughout our service area.

Obesity & Nutrition:
Obesity management services expanded through increased bariatric engagement, strengthened referrals for medical nutrition therapy, and growth in medical fitness programming with additional tracks and nutrition-focused offerings. These efforts increased access to weight-management resources and supported healthier lifestyles across the community.

Access to Care:
Access improved through expanded telehealth services, deployment of the Mobile Health Unit to extend outreach into underserved areas, and broader use of remote patient monitoring. The Patient Navigation Center increased in visibility and impact. Ongoing provider recruitment and expansion of Graduate Medical Education programs further strengthened long-term access to care within the service area.

Substance Abuse:
Access to tobacco cessation services increased, alongside expanded public education on the risks associated with tobacco use. These initiatives strengthened prevention efforts and supported greater treatment engagement.

Chronic Disease Management:
Preventive screenings and chronic disease programs expanded, including increased participation in diabetes self-management education and enhanced medical fitness programming for individuals with diabetes and heart disease. Community health education initiatives further strengthened awareness of prevention and early intervention strategies.



Demographic Profiles

Faulkner & Yell County Demographic Profile						
Measurement	Faulkner County		Yell County		Benchmarks	
	Health Indicator	% Differ from U.S Average	Health Indicator	% Differ from U.S Average	Arkansas	United States
Population	131,611		20,134		3,088,354	342,119,604
Median Household Income	$65,071	($13,512)	$58,870	($19,668)	$58,773	$78,538
Population Below Poverty Line	12.9%	1.8%	16.5%	5.4%	15.7%	11.1%
Persons Without Health Coverage	7.6%	-1.9%	11.9%	2.4%	10.7%	9.5%
High School Degree	93.7%	4.3%	81.5%	-7.9%	88.6%	89.4%
Bachelor's Degree or Higher	33.2%	-1.8%	14.3%	-20.7%	25.1%	35.0%
Race and Ethnicity						
White	82.2%	7.4%	92.4%	17.6%	78.4%	74.8%
Black or African American	13.0%	-0.7%	2.4%	-11.3%	15.6%	13.7%
American Indian/Alaskan Native	0.7%	-0.7%	3.0%	1.6%	1.1%	1.4%
Asian	1.4%	-5.3%	1.7%	-5.0%	1.9%	6.7%
Hawaiian/Other Pacific Islander	0.1%	-0.2%	0.2%	-0.1%	0.5%	0.3%
Two or more Races	2.6%	-0.5%	1.9%	-1.2%	2.5%	3.1%
Hispanic or Latino	6.0%	-14.0%	21.9%	1.9%	9.2%	20.0%
White Alone, not Hispanic or Latino	77.1%	19.6%	72.3%	14.8%	70.2%	57.5%
Age						
Children/Youth (under 18 Years Old)	27.8%	0.8%	30.40%	3.4%	28.9%	27%
Adults (19-64 Years Old)	57.8%	2.8%	50.90%	-4.1%	53.1%	55%
Seniors (65+ Years Old)	14.4%	-3.6%	18.70%	0.7%	18.0%	18%

Faulkner & Yell County	U.S AVG				AR AVG			
Assessed Needs by the Numbers	2018	2020	2022	2024	2018	2020	2022	2024
Binge drinking	13%	18%	19%	16%	16%	16%	16%	14.5%
20 and older with diabetes	12%	12%	11%	12%	14%	13%	12%	12.3
Adults current smoker	14%	17%	20%	12%	24%	22%	21%	19%
Adults report BMI over 30	26%	33%	36%	42%	35%	34%	28%	40%
Adults with no leisure time physical activity	19%	27%	30%	25%	31%	32%	30%	32.5%
Live birth with low birth rate	6%	8%	8%	9%	9%	9%	9%	9%

Faulkner & Yell County	Faulkner County AVG				Yell County AVG			
Assessed Needs by the Numbers	2018	2020	2022	2024	2018	2020	2022	2024
Binge drinking	17%	18%	16%	18%	14%	14%	14%	18%
20 and older with diabetes	11%	10%	11%	12%	13%	14%	13%	14%
Adults current smoker	18%	21%	20%	16%	21%	21%	23%	21%
Adults report BMI over 30	36%	35%	37%	35%	37%	38%	40%	38%
Adults with no leisure time physical activity	29%	30%	33%	26%	35%	35%	38%	35%
Live birth with low birth rate	7%	7%	8%	7%	8%	8%	8%	8%

Demographic Profiles

Conway Regional Service Area by County					
	Population	Male	Female	Area (square miles)	Median Income
Conway	20,782	50%	50%	551.9	$50,282
Cleburne	25,948	50%	50%	554	$52,780
Faulkner	131,611	49%	51%	647.2	$65,071
Perry	10,055	52%	48%	551.3	$53,980
Pope	63,830	50%	49%	811	$51,678
Van Buren	15,900	49%	51%	709.6	$45,768
Johnson	25,935	50%	50%	661	$42,470
Yell	20,134	51%	49%	930.4	$58,870

Faulkner & Yell County Assessed Needs by the Numbers	U.S AVG				AR AVG			
	2018	2020	2022	2024	2018	2020	2022	2024
Binge drinking	13%	18%	19%	16%	16%	16%	16%	14.5%
20 and older with diabetes	12%	12%	11%	12%	14%	13%	12%	12.3
Adults current smoker	14%	17%	20%	12%	24%	22%	21%	19%
Adults report BMI over 30	26%	33%	36%	42%	35%	34%	28%	40%
Adults with no leisure time physical activity	19%	27%	30%	25%	31%	32%	30%	32.5%
Live birth with low birth rate	6%	8%	8%	9%	9%	9%	9%	9%

Faulkner & Yell County Assessed Needs by the Numbers	Faulkner County AVG				Yell County AVG			
	2018	2020	2022	2024	2018	2020	2022	2024
Binge drinking	17%	18%	16%	18%	14%	14%	14%	18%
20 and older with diabetes	11%	10%	11%	12%	13%	14%	13%	14%
Adults current smoker	18%	21%	20%	16%	21%	21%	23%	21%
Adults report BMI over 30	36%	35%	37%	35%	37%	38%	40%	38%
Adults with no leisure time physical activity	29%	30%	33%	26%	35%	35%	38%	35%
Live birth with low birth rate	7%	7%	8%	7%	8%	8%	8%	8%

Demographic Profiles

Major Health Risk Factors	Faulkner County	Yell County	AR	United States
Food Insecurity	17.1%	13.9%	19%	13.5%
Obesity (adults)	33.7%	38.8%	40%	35%
Obesity (youth)	18.8%	17.7%	26%	19.7
Low Health Literacy	27.7%	41.5%	37%	90%
Substance Abuse (youth)	10.1%	5.1%	5.9%	3.4%

Physical Environment	Faulkner County	Yell County	AR	United States
Severe Housing Problems	16%	14%	13%	17%
Driving Alone to Work	83%	77%	80%	70%
Long Commute- Driving Alone	40%	32%	28%	37%
Air Pollution: Particulate Matter**	9.10	8.2	8.3	7.3
Library Access	2	1	2	2
Broadband Access	93%	78%	85%	90%

**Annual average of micrograms per cubic meter of fine particulate measured in the air. EPA average is measured at 12.0 micrograms per cubic meter.

Health Infrastructure	Faulkner County	Yell County	AR	United States
Flu Vaccinations	50%	40%	46%	48%
Food Environment Index*	6.6	6.7	4.4	7.4
Primary Care Physicians	1,690:1	1,680:1	1,480:1	1,330:1
Dentists	2,320:1	3,350:1	2,040:1	1,360:1
Uninsured (Adults)	9%	15%	12%	11%
Uninsured (Children)	4%	5%	5%	5%

*Measured (1-10), 10 standing as healthiest diets.

Faulkner County Key Findings

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Through analysis of the data and feedback collected, and the current healthcare landscape, the following five priority health needs emerged for the Conway Regional service area:

Obesity and Nutrition

High rates of obesity remain a significant concern with community members expressing a need for accessible nutrition education, fitness resources, and preventive programs.

Mental Health and Substance Use

Community members and stakeholders identified mental health access and substance use as growing challenges, citing stigma, lack of behavioral health providers, and limited treatment options.

Access to Care

Barriers such as transportation, cost, and provider availability continue to limit timely access to primary and specialty care, particularly in rural areas.

Chronic Disease Management

Conditions such as diabetes, hypertension, and cardiovascular disease remain prevalent in the community, underscoring the importance of ongoing education, preventive screenings, and coordinated care management.

Maternal and Fetal Health

Decline in the number of delivering hospitals and providers creates an urgent need to prioritize maternal health services.

Faulkner County Strategic Initiatives

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Expand and Educate Care Services for Obesity and Nutrition

1. Increase bariatric surgery referrals
2. Develop weight loss program
3. Increase medical nutrition therapy referrals
4. Enhance employer relations, wellness initiatives, and preventative screenings

Expand Access to Care

1. Retain Graduate Medical Education graduates
2. Expand primary care service area
3. Utilize the mobile health unit

Grow Mental Health and Substance Abuse Services

1. Increase volume in Adult Psychiatric Unit
2. Increase volume in Medical Detox Unit
3. Strengthen partnerships for mental health and substance use disorder services

Increase Chronic Disease Management Services

1. Increase patients enrolled in chronic care management
2. Enhance employer relations, wellness initiatives, and preventative screenings

Advance Access to Care in Maternal and Fetal Health

1. Increase total deliveries
2. Increase visits within women's service line including maternal-fetal medicine
3. Add inpatient pediatric providers
4. Increase nursery length of stay

Yell County Key Findings

DARDANELLE REGIONAL

Through analysis of the data and feedback collected, and the current healthcare landscape, the following four priority health needs emerged for the Dardanelle Regional service area:

Obesity and Nutrition

High rates of obesity remain a significant concern with community members expressing a need for accessible nutrition education, fitness resources, and preventive programs.

Mental Health and Substance Use

Community members and stakeholders identified mental health access and substance use as growing challenges, citing stigma, lack of behavioral health providers, and limited treatment options.

Access to Care

Barriers such as transportation, cost, and provider availability continue to limit timely access to primary and specialty care, particularly in rural areas.

Chronic Disease Management

Conditions such as diabetes, hypertension, and cardiovascular disease continue to have a strong presence in the community, highlighting the importance of ongoing education, preventive screenings, and coordinated care management.

Yell County Strategic Initiatives

DARDANELLE REGIONAL

Expand and Educate Care Services for Obesity and Nutrition

1. Increase bariatric surgery referrals
2. Implement community education program over obesity and nutrition
3. Increase medical nutrition therapy referrals
4. Enhance employer relations, wellness initiatives, and preventive screenings in Pope and Yell Counties

Expand Access to Care

1. Retain Graduate Medical Education graduates
2. Expand primary care service area
3. Utilize the mobile health unit
4. Increase access to specialty care

Grow Mental Health and Substance Abuse Services

1. Increase substance use disorders intensive outpatient services
2. Enhance senior behavioral health services for mental health & substance use disorder services

Increase Chronic Disease Management Services

1. Increase patients enrolled in chronic care management
2. Enhance employer relations, wellness initiatives, and preventive screenings in Pope and Yell Counties

Thank you, participants!

Conway Regional Health System recognizes the importance of partnerships in building healthy communities. We want to thank the many individuals and agencies who contributed to the creation of the 2025 Community Health Needs Assessment. We look forward to continuing our work to improve the health of the citizens in the communities we serve.

Alan Finley, Dardanelle Regional Medical Center
Andrea Luker, APRN, Kirkland Family Medical Center
Anthony Manning, MD, FACS, Conway Regional Health System
Brad Teague, University of Central Arkansas
Brooks Davis, Arvest Bank
Cater Dodd, Conway Regional Health System
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Hailey Whitten, Conway Regional Health System
James Howell, MD, Conway Regional Health System
Jamie Burris, MD, Dardanelle Public Schools
Jason Black, Conway Public Schools
Jeff Gilkey, Yell County Judge
Jeremy Riddle, Conway Regional Board of Directors
Jimmy Witt, Mayor of Dardanelle
Jonathon Wear, Yell County Office of Emergency Management
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Katerina DeVore, APRN, Dardanelle Regional Medical Center
Kathy Haston-Hulsey, Dardanelle Regional Medical Center
Kathy Lewis, Conway Regional Health and Fitness Center Advisory Council
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