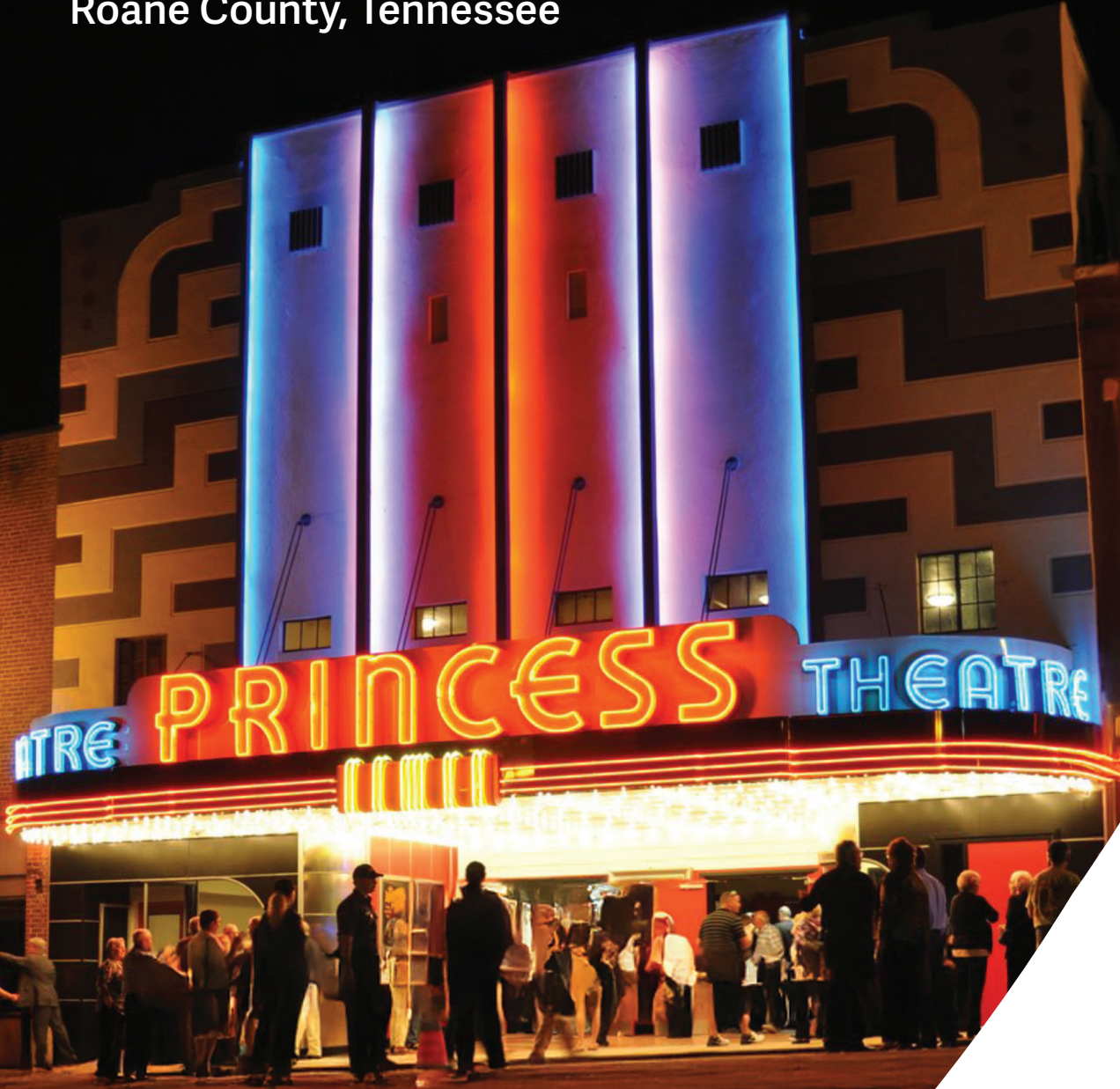


Community Health Improvement Implementation Plan

TO ADDRESS SIGNIFICANT COMMUNITY HEALTH NEEDS

Roane County, Tennessee



2026-2028

Photo Source: Covenant Health Roane



Overview

The Community Health Needs Assessment (CHNA) process defines priorities for health improvement, creates a collaborative community environment to engage stakeholders, and develops an open and transparent process to listen and truly understand the health needs of the community served by Covenant Health Roane (Roane County, Tennessee).

Covenant Health Roane's CHNA is available in a separate document: **2025 Covenant Health Roane Community Health Needs Assessment**. Page 67 of the document provides a resource for the community to submit written input related to the 2025 CHNA and Implementation plan.

This document is the Covenant Health Roane **Implementation Plan**, which outlines how the hospital, along with collaborative partnerships throughout the community, plans to address significant health needs identified in the 2025 Community Health Needs Assessment.

As designated by its Board of Directors, Covenant Health's Executive Leadership Team approved and adopted this Implementation Plan on **December 10, 2025**.

Starting on **December 15, 2025**, this report is made widely available to the community via Covenant Health Roane's website: <https://www.covenanthealth.com/roane/chna/>. Paper copies are available free of charge at Covenant Health Roane, 8045 Covenant Health Roane Drive, Harriman, TN 37748, or by phone, 865-316-1000.

Community Health Improvement Implementation Plan 2026-2028

To successfully make our community healthier, it is necessary to have a collaborative venture which brings together care providers, citizens, government, schools, churches, not-for-profit organizations, and business and industry around an effective plan of action. A collaborative 2025 Community Health Needs Assessment was completed separately and is posted on Covenant Health Roane's website.

The Community Health Needs Assessment process identified six significant health needs in Roane County.

- Mental/behavioral health
- Poverty
- Obesity and chronic diseases
- Substance use disorders
- Access to care – primary care, specialists, dentists
- Access to safe, affordable housing

Based on the results of the CHNA, Covenant Health Roane will address four of the identified significant health needs:

- **Mental/behavioral health**
- **Obesity and chronic diseases**
- **Substance use disorders**
- **Access to care – primary care and specialists**

Covenant Health Roane does not plan on directly addressing access to dentists because the hospital does not offer dental services and does not have dentists on staff. The hospital also does not plan to address safe, affordable housing and poverty based on available resources and lack of expertise in these areas. However, Covenant Health Roane is one of the largest employers in the county and will continue to offer competitive wages within the healthcare industry.

Covenant Health Roane plans to meet the significant health needs by:

1. Identifying the actions the hospital intends to take to address the significant health need
2. Anticipating the potential impact of these actions
3. Identifying any planned collaboration between the hospital and other facilities or organizations
4. Determining the programs and resources the hospital plans to commit to address the health need

Covenant Health Roane – Roane County Community Health Improvement Plan

Significant Health Need: Mental/Behavioral Health				
Goal 1: Destigmatize mental health				
Objective 1: Increase hospital participation in mental health month, health fairs, and other events to spotlight mental health				
Actions	Target Populations	Anticipated Impact	Collaborators	Resources
Use the SAMHSA (Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration) toolkit as an informational resource and action guide	Those with depression, anxiety, and other mental health issues	Decrease stigma; highlight local resources	Peninsula Behavioral Health, East Tennessee Behavioral Health, Ridgeview Behavioral Health Services, Roane Health Council	Covenant Health Roane marketing/public relations
Provide mental health education materials at health fairs and community events	Those with depression, anxiety and other mental health issues	Decrease stigma; highlight local resources	Peninsula, East Tennessee Behavioral Health, Ridgeview, Roane Health Council	SAMHSA and Roane County Anti-Drug Coalition
Goal 2: Integrate primary care and mental health				
Objective 2: Support continuity of care				
Share mental health information with primary care practices	Primary care patients	Decrease stigma; provide additional resources	Primary care offices, Peninsula, East Tennessee Behavioral Health, Ridgeview, Roane Health Council	Covenant Health Roane to collaborate with mental health providers/agencies
Partner with mental health providers as available	People within the community who need mental health resources	Decrease stigma; provide additional resources	Primary care offices, Peninsula Behavioral Health, East Tennessee Behavioral Health, Ridgeview, Roane Health Council	Covenant Health Roane to collaborate with mental health providers/agencies

Goal 3: Increase access to mental health services				
Objective 3: Increase telehealth access to providers				
Actions	Target Populations	Anticipated Impact	Collaborators	Resources
Find therapists who can provide counseling virtually	Those needing mental health services and supportive resources	Decrease depression, poor mental health	Peninsula, East Tennessee Behavioral Health, Ridgeview	Local mental health providers
Disseminate mental health access information via liaison(s) and community partners	Those with anxiety and depression	Decrease depression, poor mental health	Peninsula, East Tennessee Behavioral Health, Ridgeview	Provide mental health information as needed for individualized plan of care

Significant Health Need: Obesity and Chronic Diseases

Goal 1: Incentivize participation in health, nutrition, and chronic disease education in high-impact areas

Objective 4: Hold outreach events and classes with incentives for participation

Actions	Target Populations	Anticipated Impact	Collaborators	Resources
Target the most vulnerable communities and offer creative educational events to incentivize participation	Vulnerable populations	Improved nutrition	Community support partners (such as churches, United Way, Hands of Mercy) and local Health Departments	Hospital volunteer chaplain service

Objective 5: Provide nutrition education and food access

Partner with food banks to provide education and food	Vulnerable populations	Improved nutrition	Hands of Mercy, churches, etc.	Hospital support of local initiatives
Hold food drives	Vulnerable populations	Improved access to food	Local food banks and Health Department	Hospital support of local initiatives

Goal 2: Educate the community on chronic disease prevention

Objective 6: Hold educational sessions in person and online

Diabetes Education	Various	Improved nutrition choices, decrease diabetes	Health Department	Hospital dietician(s) and case management staff
Stroke Education	Community at large as well as hospital staff	Improved response times	Hospital, EMS	Hospital stroke educator
Continuing health education upon discharge through access to online educational videos	Patients	Continuity of care, quality of life	Covenant Health video resources	Covenant Health Roane continuity of care resources

Significant Health Need: Substance Use Disorder

Goal 1: Prevent and treat substance misuse

Objective 7: Increase the community's knowledge of existing community resources

Actions	Target Populations	Anticipated Impact	Collaborators	Resources
Use the state Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration (SAMHSA) Substance Use Prevention Awareness Month (October) toolkit	Community, recovery community	Reduce substance abuse and misuse. Fewer alcohol-related driving deaths. Assess data currently available through hospitals, law enforcement	Antidrug Coalition, Peninsula, Ridgeview, Opioid Settlement Funds Advisory Committee	Covenant Health Roane marketing/public relations to consistently link resources such as SAMHSA in content
Disseminate substance abuse information via navigator/liaison(s) and ongoing education with staff	Substance users, community and family	Reduce substance abuse and misuse	Antidrug coalition, Peninsula, Roane County Schools, Ridgeview	Community Outreach
Support hospital navigator for substance abuse patient population care and treatment	Substance users	Reduce substance abuse and misuse	Roane Opioid Settlement Funds Advisory Committee, Roane County Anti-Drug Coalition	National Opioid Settlement Funding
Education about respiratory health in schools	Children and youth	Educate children on healthy choices to protect lungs from tobacco and vaping	Roane County Schools	Hospital respiratory staff
Focus on early education for children and youth	Children and youth	Educate children on healthy lifestyles and coping mechanisms	Roane County Anti-Drug Coalition, Peninsula, Ridgeview	Area pediatricians, schools
Opioid Light Protocol	Patients	Reduce the amount of opioids prescribed	Providers	Evidence-based protocols to provide treatment plans according to International Classification of Diseases
Continue promoting low-dose CT screening for lung cancer	Smokers and former smokers	Increase early detection of lung cancer	Providers, Covenant Health marketing	Hospital marketing/public relations and patient education content available for physician referral information

Significant Health Need: Access to Care – Primary Care and Specialists

Goal 1: Ensure adequate primary care and specialists in the county

Objective 8: Recruit additional primary and specialty care providers

Actions	Target Populations	Anticipated Impact	Collaborators	Resources
Support periodic Physician Needs Assessment to determine what physician specialties and numbers are needed to meet a population's healthcare requirements	Tracks current physicians/providers locally	Forecast needs for population growth	Covenant Health	census data
Recruit providers	Physicians and providers in areas identified through needs	Improved access for care locally	Covenant Health and its joint ventures/community partners	Covenant Health recruiters, consider various external recruitment agencies as needed