



Kandiyohi-Renville Community Health Improvement Plan



Our plan for improving health, well-being, and quality of life in our communities.

July 31, 2025

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Executive Summary

The community health improvement process is a comprehensive approach to assessing health needs and implementing action plans to improve community health through the engagement of community members and partners. Every Minnesota Community Health Board (CHB) has a statutory responsibility to conduct a Community Health Assessment (CHA) at least every five years and to develop a Community Health Improvement Plan (CHIP) based on that assessment. This 2025-2029 CHIP is based on the CHA completed in August 2024.

Throughout 2024 and 2025, community partners and interested individuals from Kandiyohi and Renville counties met to review local data and provide input on the identification of top health concerns. These community conversations informed the selection of health priorities and the development of this plan. The Results-Based Accountability (RBA) framework was used to examine underlying factors contributing to the identified concerns, engage additional community partners, and explore potential solutions that address root causes.

The three top identified priority areas are: Aging Population, Mental Well-Being, and Substance Use.

Community Health Priority	Health Improvement Goals
Aging Population: As the population continues to age, it presents increasing demands for coordinated services, caregiver support, and age-friendly communities that promote healthy aging, dignity, and social connection.	Support healthy aging by ensuring that older adults in our communities have access to the services, supports, and environments they need to maintain independence, safety, connection, and quality of life.
Mental Well-Being: There is a growing interest and need for building community, family, and individual mental well-being and resilience.	Promote the mental well-being of children and youth by increasing access to supportive environments, early intervention, and community-based resources that foster resilience, emotional health, and positive development.
Substance Use: Substance use continues to impact individuals, families, and communities, highlighting the need for coordinated prevention and strengthened response infrastructure.	Reduce the impact of substance use in our communities by strengthening prevention, increasing access to treatment and recovery supports, and addressing the root causes that contribute to substance use.

This CHIP represents a foundational step toward community-centered planning, integration, cooperation, collaboration, and implementation of strategies to improve the health of those who live and work in our communities. Individuals and partners will collaborate within each priority area to promote health equity across diverse populations and address social determinants of health in order to improve health outcomes.

Over the next five years, the Kandiyohi-Renville CHB will lead the implementation of the CHIP. Progress will be evaluated annually and updated as needed to reflect evolving community needs and available resources. Updates and revisions will be shared in annual reports.

Community Partners

The following organizations had participants involved in community conversations to identify top health issues, goals, strategies, and action steps:

8th District Treatment Court

Advocacy & Inclusion Matter of West Central

MN

Alternative Response Intervention Services

(ARIS)

Atwater Area Help for Seniors

Bethesda

Better U Solutions

Bird Island Cultural Centre

Blue Cross Blue Shield of Minnesota

BOLD Schools

Cedar Mountain School Cougar Cub Childcare Minnesota Department of Health

CentraCare

Central Community Transit

City of Fairfax

City of Franklin

City of Renville

EON, Inc. (Glesener's)

First Lutheran Church, Hector

Greater Minnesota Family Services

Island Living

Jill Bruns, Community Member

Kandiyohi County Attorney's Office

Kandiyohi County Community Corrections

Kandiyohi County Drug Free Coalition

Kandiyohi County Food Shelf

Kandivohi County Health & Human Services

Karen Roker, Town Board/4-H/Santa's Closet

Kandiyohi County Adult Mental Health Kandiyohi County Children's Team

Kandiyohi County Public Health

Lakes Area Review

Lutheran Social Services

Mid Minnesota Development Commission -

Transportation

Minnesota River Area Agency on Aging

MMDC MN Board on aging **New London Spicer Schools**

Olivia Hospital & Clinic

Olivia Hospital & Clinic Foundation **PACT for Families Collaborative**

PrimeWest

Public Health AmeriCorps

RAPAD Coalition Recovery 4 Today Renville County 4-H

Renville County Commissioner Renville County Human Services Renville County Libraries

Renville County Public Health

Renville County Register

Renville County Restorative Justice

Renville County SWCD

Renville SAIL

Ridgewater College

Safe Avenues

SMOC Family Planning

Southwest Initiative Foundation St. Paul's & Swedlanda Lutheran

Churches

State Representative Dave Baker

Student - Metro State

Southwest West Central Service

Cooperative TC Audiology The Moody Soul

Traditions! Senior Housing

United Community Action Partnership

West Central Industries West Central Tribune Willmar Public Schools **Woodland Centers**

Introduction- What is a Community Health Improvement Plan?

A Community Health Improvement Plan (CHIP) is a long-term, systematic effort to address public health priorities identified through the Community Health Assessment (CHA) process. The CHIP is developed collaboratively with community partners to define a shared vision for the community's health, identify priorities, explore solutions, and establish co-ownership of the plan – as the community's plan, not just the community health board's plan for the community.

Community health improvement planning is both a foundational public health practice and a national public health standard. The CHIP serves as a guiding framework for the community health board, partners, and stakeholders to improve the health of the county's population. It will be used to set priorities, coordinate efforts, and strategically target local resources.

Our People and Our Place

Kandiyohi County's motto is "Where the Lakes Begin" – a nod to its many lakes, resorts, and campgrounds. Renville County, known for its rich soil, is a state and regional leader in agricultural production. Both counties are home to beautiful parks, clean air, and expansive horizons.

Kandiyohi County spans "797.4 square miles of land area" (data.census.gov). It is the 23rd most populous county in Minnesota (Minnesota State Demographic Center). Renville County covers "982.9 square miles of land area" (data.census.gov). It is ranked 57th in population. According to the 2020 Decennial Census, Kandiyohi and Renville counties have a combined population of 58,455, with 43,732 residents in Kandiyohi County and 14,732 in Renville County. By 2040, Kandiyohi County's population is projected to grow modestly to 46,573. In contrast, Renville County's population is expected to decline to 13,496. (Minnesota State Demographic Center).

The geography of both counties is primarily rural. The largest town is Willmar, located in Kandiyohi County, with a population of 21,015 (data.census.gov). Living in rural areas can pose challenges: residents may face isolation and limited access to medical, dental, and mental health care, as well as internet, transportation, and food.

Health status is shaped by many interrelated factors, including social and economic conditions, access to resources, and the physical environment. Through our CHA, we identified the following community strengths and concerns: (Refer to the CHA for detailed data.)

Kandiyohi and Renville Counties

Strengths:

- > A strong history of commitment to education and quality schools.
- Unemployment rates below the national average.
- > Strong community partnerships commitment to increasing opportunities for all to be healthy.
- A long-standing tradition of civic engagement.
- > Recognition that our growing diversity racial, ethnic, and age-related is an opportunity for the future.
- Excellent access to outdoor spaces, including parks, lakes, and rivers, supporting year-round physical activity and social connection.
- > State-supported water protections that help ensure access to clean drinking water.

- Widespread participation in gardening, supported by community gardens and farmers markets.
- Although also identified as a challenge, there has been progress toward equitable transportation options, increasing access to jobs and essential services.

Concerns:

- > A growing aging population presents challenges in meeting the needs of older adults while also supporting youth and families.
- Increasing racial and ethnic diversity requires a stronger focus on equity and opportunity for all.
- > Employment disparities persist based on race, gender, and disability.
- Higher rate of residents being uninsured, compared to the State of Minnesota.
- > A shortage of child care providers affects both counties.
- Access to medical, dental, and mental health care varies between the two counties.
- Many families are struggling financially, highlighting the need for access to education and quality jobs with benefits.
- Poverty among children under age 5 is rising.
- A lack of affordable housing limits opportunities for young families and new immigrants to settle and thrive.
- > Rural transportation systems face sustainability and feasibility challenges access all areas.
- ➤ High numbers of adults and children are receiving mental health services, indicating widespread need.
- Substance use is an emerging concern, particularly around vaping, marijuana, opioids, and methamphetamine.
- > Overweight rates are increasing among both children and adults, impacting health across all age groups.
- An increasing number of children report experiencing Adverse Childhood Experiences (ACEs), which can have long-term impacts on health and well-being.

Community Health Improvement Planning Process

Step 1- Community Health Assessment (CHA): The Kandiyohi-Renville CHA was developed under the leadership of the Kandiyohi-Renville CHB leadership team known as *KaRe to Achieve*. Data sources included the Minnesota Department of Health (MDH), Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC), Student and PACT for Families surveys, the Southwest Regional Adult Health Survey, local hospitals and clinics, and more. The CHA was modeled after the MDH Minnesota Statewide Heath Assessment and was organized into the following sections, with a focus on social determinants of health:

- > People
- Opportunity
- Nature
- Belonging
- Moving to a State of Well-Being
- Community Partnerships



Step 2- Initial Planning Meetings: *KaRe to Achieve* worked for over a year to compile, analyze, and evaluate data from various public sources. Subjective data was gathered from surveys to targeted populations.

Step 3- Community Input: Each county hosted community conversation meetings to share findings from the CHA, with over 100 community members participating. A World Café process utilizing Results-Based Accountability facilitated small-group discussions around pre-determined questions, allowing participants to identify key health concerns and priorities. This broad engagement helped ensure a diverse range of community voices were reflected in the CHIP and supported health equity in the planning process. To maintain this focus, outreach will continue throughout the five-year CHIP cycle as part of ongoing data collection and engagement, meeting community members where they are, in both formal and informal settings such as coffee shops, grocery stores, and local events.

Step 4- Identify Top 10 Concerns: The Kandiyohi-Renville CHB reviewed the health priorities identified through community input. The top ten concerns were selected based on the following criteria:

- Size of the problem
- Populations impacted
- Community support
- ➤ Availability of solutions and/or resources

The top ten health priorities are listed below in alphabetical order:

Top Ten Priority Concerns

Access to Care

Access to general health, mental health, and dental services remains a top concern for residents in both counties. Barriers include the cost of insurance and co-pays, prescription prices, provider shortages, and long wait times. Renville County faces particularly limited access due to fewer providers. Mental health and dental care access were highlighted across local surveys and engagement activities as persistent gaps that impact well-being.

Adverse Childhood Experiences (ACEs)

Many children in Kandiyohi and Renville Counties experience early adversity, with about half reporting at least one Adverse Childhood Experience (ACE) and a growing number exposed to four or more. Research shows that multiple ACEs are strongly linked to long-term health challenges. These early experiences can disrupt brain development and stress regulation, increasing the risk for chronic disease, mental illness, substance use, academic struggles, and relationship difficulties throughout life.

Adolescent Health

Young people across the counties face several health concerns that affect learning, development, and future well-being. Local data points to mental health challenges, substance use, and risky sexual behaviors among youth. Students also report feelings of sadness, hopelessness, and difficulty managing stress. These issues are interconnected and influence educational outcomes and long-term health.

Aging Population

The population over age 65 is steadily increasing and is projected to make up nearly one-quarter of residents in both counties, while younger age groups under age 20 continue to decline. This demographic shift has broad implications for housing, health care, caregiving, and the local workforce. Older adults are more likely to face chronic health conditions and mobility limitations, often requiring additional support to maintain their independence, safety, and overall quality of life.



Child Care Access

Families in both counties continue to struggle with the availability and affordability of child care. While there are approximately 200 licensed providers across the region, the number of infant and toddler openings remains limited. Child care shortages create barriers for parents trying to enter or remain in the workforce, and they place added stress on families with young children.

Chronic Disease

Chronic health conditions such as high blood pressure, heart disease, diabetes, and asthma are widespread in the community. These illnesses reduce quality of life and increase the burden on families and the health care system. Preventive care, healthy environments, and lifestyle supports are essential to reducing the impact of chronic disease across all ages.

Food Security

Many households face challenges accessing healthy and affordable food. Barriers include high grocery costs, transportation difficulties, and limited availability of culturally familiar foods. Food insecurity affects physical and mental health, especially in children and seniors. While local food shelves and farmers markets help, gaps remain in consistent access to nutritious options.

Housing Stability

Safe, affordable housing is closely tied to individual and community health. Many homes in both counties were built before 1960 and may contain hazards such as lead paint or poor insulation. Low-income families are more likely to live in older or overcrowded homes and face higher risks of stress, injury, and respiratory illness. Quality housing is essential for healthy living conditions.

Mental Well-Being

Mental health is a significant concern affecting individuals across all ages and backgrounds. In Kandiyohi County, nearly one in four adults report experiencing depression, and in Renville County, nearly one in five. Among high school students, only about 20 percent of 11th graders report consistently feeling good about themselves. Mental well-being plays a critical role in overall health, influencing everything from academic and job performance to relationships, physical health, and quality of life.

Substance Use

Substance use continues to impact individuals, families, and communities. While youth smoking and binge drinking have declined, vaping and marijuana use are on the rise. Methamphetamine use has re-emerged as a significant concern. Substance use disorders are linked to poor mental health, economic hardship, and community safety challenges.

<u>Step 5- Identify Top 3 Concerns:</u> The *KaRe to Achieve* team and *Kandiyohi-Renville Community Leadership Team (CLT)* reviewed community data and input and identified **Aging Population**, **Mental Well-Being**, and **Substance Use** as the top health concerns to address in both counties. Strategies and implementation plans in this CHIP focus on these three priority areas.

Alignment with Local, State and National Priorities

Kandiyohi- Renville CHB	Healthy Minnesota 2025-2029	Healthy People 2030	National Prevention Strategy	Minnesota Adolescent Health Plan	Cancer Plan Minnesota 2025	Governor's Task Force on Mental Health
Aging Population	✓	✓	✓			✓
Substance Use	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Mental Well-Being	✓	✓	✓	✓		✓

Healthy Minnesota 2025-2029:

- Priority 1: "Belonging, wellbeing, and substance use prevention encompass two topics that many communities are concerned about: mental health and substance use.
- Priority 3: Equitable access and care. "It is important that our health care system supports all people in Minnesota."

Healthy People 2030:

- IVP-08: Reduce fall-related deaths among older adults.
- OA-01: Increase proportion of older adults with physical or cognitive health problems who get physical activity.
- OA-02: Reduce the proportion of older adults who use inappropriate medications.
- OA-03: Reduce the rate of emergency department visits due to falls among older adults.
- SU-03: Reduce drug overdose deaths.
- SU-07: Reduce proportion of adults who used drugs in the past month.
- SU-15: Reduce the proportion of people who had drug use disorders in the past year.
- MHMD-01: Reduce the suicide rate.
- MHMD-02: Reduce suicide attempts by adolescents
- MHMD-03: Increase the proportion of children with mental health problems who get treatment.
- MHMD-07: Increase the proportion of people with substance use and mental health disorders who get treatment for both.
- MHMD-08: Increase the proportion of primary care visits where adolescents and adults are screened for depression.

National Prevention Strategy:

- Priority: Tobacco Free Living
- Priority: Preventing Drug Abuse and Excessive Alcohol Use
- Priority: Health Eating
- Priority: Active Living
- Priority: Injury and Violence Free Living
- Priority: Mental and Emotional Well-being

Minnesota Adolescent Health Action Plan:

- Essential Theme: Equitable and supportive systems
- Essential Theme: Access to high quality, youth-friendly health care and information
- Essential Theme: Positive connections with supportive adults
- Essential Theme: Safe and secure places to live, learn, and play
- Essential Theme: Opportunities for youth to engage

Cancer Plan Minnesota 2025:

- Objective 11 Tobacco Use- General: Reduce use of commercial and nicotine delivery devices.
- Objective 12 Tobacco Use- Disparities: Reduce disparities in commercial tobacco use.

Governor's Task Force on Mental Health (2016):

- Recommendation #1: Create a comprehensive mental health continuum of care.
- Recommendation #2: Strengthen governance of Minnesota's mental health system.
- Recommendation #3: Use a cultural lens to reduce mental health disparities.
- Recommendation #4: Develop Minnesota's mental health workforce
- Recommendation #5: Achieve parity.
- Recommendation #6: Promote mental health and prevent mental illness.
- Recommendation #7: Achieve housing stability.
- Recommendation #8: Implement short-term improvements to acute care capacity and level-of-care transitions.
- Recommendation #9: Implement short-term improvements to crisis response.

Kandiyohi Renville Community Health Board Strategic Plan

• The current strategic plan is undergoing revision to ensure it aligns with the updated CHIP and reflects the most recent priority areas.

Implementation Plan

In the following pages, we outline each of our health priorities using a concise format that answers three key questions: "Why it is important?", "What do we know?", and "Where do we want to be?" For each of our three priority areas, we identify goals, objectives, and strategies informed by input from our community conversations. The RBA framework was used to uncover the underlying factors contributing to each priority health issue, identify potential partners, and develop effective strategies for action.

Ongoing work documents are included in the appendix. These documents serve as tools to track progress toward our goals and note any revisions made throughout implementation. This plan is a living document, designed to evolve over time. For example, we may identify an emerging health issue in our communities that warrants inclusion as a new priority. Alternatively, we may revise or refine an objective if we find that it is not as measurable or appropriate as originally intended.

Community Health Priority: Aging Population

Why is this important?

An aging population presents both challenges and opportunities for community health. As people live longer, they are more likely to experience chronic conditions, mobility limitations, and social isolation—all of which impact health and well-being. Adults 65+ make up a larger share of the population in Kandiyohi and Renville Counties than statewide, underscoring the need for equitable, targeted supports. Prioritizing older adults helps ensure access to safe housing, health care, and community support that promotes independence, dignity, and quality of life. Planning for an aging population also strengthens systems that benefit the entire community, from transportation to caregiving infrastructure.

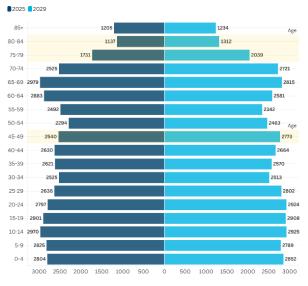
What do we know?

Older age groups are growing more rapidly than any other segment of the population in both Kandiyohi and Renville Counties, while younger age groups are experiencing modest growth or steady decline. Adults aged 65 and older are projected to make up nearly one-quarter of each county's population in the coming years, marking a significant demographic shift. According to 2024 projections from the Minnesota State Demographic Center, Kandiyohi County will see its highest population increases between 2025 and 2029 among adults ages 75 to 84, with growth rates exceeding 15 percent. In Renville County, adults ages 70 to 79 are also projected to grow, though at lower rates, between 7 and 14 percent. Meanwhile, the population under age 20 is expected to remain flat or decline in both counties. Renville faces the added challenge of an overall population decline of 1.25 percent during the same period. These shifts will have important implications for community planning, increasing demand for health care, housing, caregiving, transportation, and a workforce that can support an aging population.

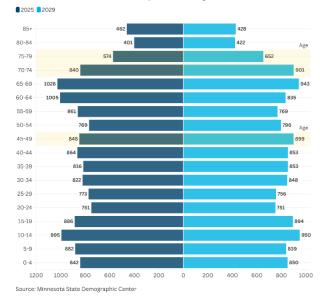
Where do we want to be?

GOALS:	Support healthy aging by ensuring that older adults in our communities have access to the services, supports, and environments they need to maintain independence, safety, connection, and quality of life.
OBJECTIVES:	 By December 2027, establish baseline data on older adults' reported social connection using local surveys or program data. Annually, meet or exceed Minnesota's staffing ratios for assisted living facilities in both counties, in coordination with providers and state reporting. By December 2027, adopt a self-reported fall risk and home safety tool to help more older adults age safely at home. By December 2026, launch at least two efforts to reduce senior out-of-pocket costs for transportation, housing, or services, and track participation annually.
STRATEGIES:	 Support community and senior centers in sustainability to provide affordable/free supports for seniors Promote community education and engagement Support for aging in place

Kandiyohi 2025 to 2029 Population Pyramid



Renville 2025 to 2029 Population Pyramid



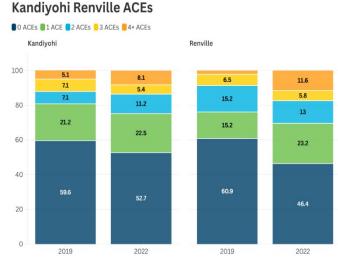
Community Health Priority: Mental Well-Being

Why is this important?

Supporting youth mental well-being is essential for healthy development and long-term success. In Kandiyohi and Renville Counties, youth report higher rates of mental, emotional, and behavioral problems, and more with 4+ ACEs, than the state average, pointing to greater risk and need. Mental health challenges in childhood can interfere with learning, relationships, and daily functioning, and may lead to more serious issues later in life if left unaddressed. Promoting mental well-being not only improves individual outcomes but also strengthens families, schools, and communities. Ensuring that young people feel safe, supported, and connected is a critical investment in the future health and resilience of our communities.

What do we know?

Youth mental well-being is a growing concern in both Kandiyohi and Renville Counties, as students report increasing levels of adversity and declining emotional health. Data from the Minnesota Student Survey show that the percentage of 11th graders reporting no Adverse Childhood Experiences (ACEs) has decreased between 2019 and 2022, while the proportion reporting multiple ACEs has grown. In Kandiyohi County, the share of students with four or more ACEs rose from 5.1% in 2019 to 8.1% in 2022. In Renville County, that number more than quadrupled—from 2.2% to 11.6%. These increases suggest rising exposure to trauma. which is known to negatively affect mental health, behavior, and academic outcomes. Additionally, only 21.1% of 11th graders in Kandiyohi and 19.4% in Renville report almost always feeling good about themselves. These trends point to a need for stronger supports to help youth build resilience, access mental health resources, and feel connected and valued.



Source: Minnesota Department of Education Minnesota Student Survey

Securce Minerate Department of Industrial Security of the Advantage Securce Minerate Department of Industrial Security of the Advantage Renville 11th Graders Feeling Good About Self Histor at all or restly (2014 Secured for surveillers) 2019 Reproview of the Security (2014 Secured for surveillers) 2019 Reproview of the Security (2014 Secured for surveillers) 2019 Reproview of the Security (2014 Secured for surveillers) 2019 Reproview of the Security (2014 Secured for surveillers) 2019 Reproview of the Security (2014 Secured for surveillers) 2019 Reproview of the Security (2014 Secured for surveillers) 2019 Reproview of the Security (2014 Security (

Kandiyohi 11th Graders Feeling Good About Self

Where do we want to be?

GOALS:	Promote the mental well-being of children and youth by increasing access to supportive environments, early intervention, and community-based resources that foster resilience, emotional health, and positive development.
OBJECTIVES:	 Annually keep diagnosed mental health cases below the lower 95% forecast for both counties using MN EHR Consortium data. By December 2028, raise 11th grader social connection rates above the upper 95% forecast using MSS or similar data. By December 2028, increase 11th graders who "almost always" feel good about themselves above the upper 95% forecast using MSS or similar data. By December 2026, pilot CredibleMind and collect baseline engagement data to guide future use.
STRATEGIES:	 Support development of a Community/Family Resource Center Expand and align youth-focused programs and initiatives Promote mental health education, awareness, and stigma reduction Strengthen community engagement and positive childhood experiences



Community Health Priority: Substance Use

Why is this important?

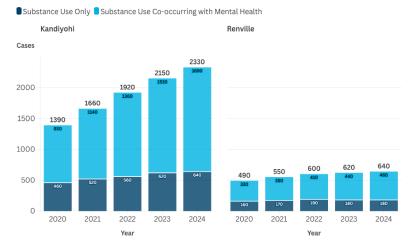
Substance use affects the health, safety, and well-being of individuals, families, and communities. In Kandiyohi County, substance use disorder rates are higher than the state. In Renville County, while overall rates are slightly lower than the state, substance use among Native American residents is elevated compared to Native populations statewide.highlighting the need for equity-focused strategies. Substance use is linked to chronic disease,

injury, mental illness, and involvement with the justice system. Early use in adolescence increases the risk of long-term addiction and poor life outcomes. Addressing substance use as a community priority is essential to preventing harm, supporting recovery, and creating environments where all individuals can thrive.

What do we know?

Substance use continues to rise in both Kandiyohi and Renville Counties, placing added strain on individuals, families, and local systems of care. Data from the Minnesota Electronic Health Record Consortium show that the total number of substance use-related diagnoses, including both stand-alone cases and those occurring alongside mental health conditions, has grown significantly. In Kandiyohi County, cases increased from 1,390 in 2020 to 2,330 in 2024. In Renville County, cases rose from 490 to 640 over the same period. A growing share of these diagnoses involve co-occurring mental health concerns, reflecting the complex challenges many people face. These trends highlight the urgent need for prevention, early intervention, and coordinated care that addresses both substance use and mental well-being.

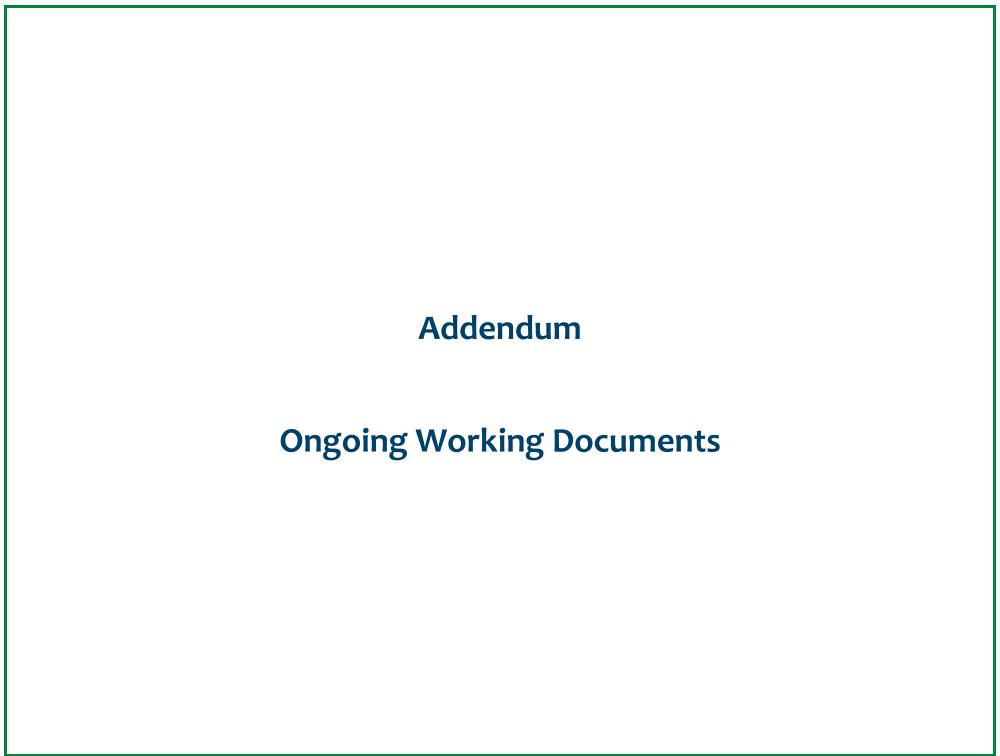
Kandiyohi Renville Substance Use Cases Including Mental Health



Source: Minnesota Electronic Health Record Consortium. "Health Trends Across Communities in Minnesota.

Where do we want to be?

GOALS:	Reduce the impact of substance use in our communities by strengthening prevention, increasing access to treatment and recovery supports, and addressing the root causes that contribute to substance use.
OBJECTIVES:	 By December 2025, establish baseline data on naloxone training and awareness. From 2026, increase awareness by 10% annually, adjusting as needed. Annually, keep substance use diagnoses below the lower 95% confidence bound using Minnesota EHR data. By December 2026, develop a partnership with local law enforcement to improve surveillance and data sharing on local substance use trends. Maintain or increase cannabis retailer compliance at or above 95%, based on annual local surveillance.
STRATEGIES:	 Support development of a Community/Family Resource Center Expand drug take back lock boxes and Deterra Bags with drop off sites and education Support prevention, education, and awareness Strengthen infrastructure and supports for substance use response

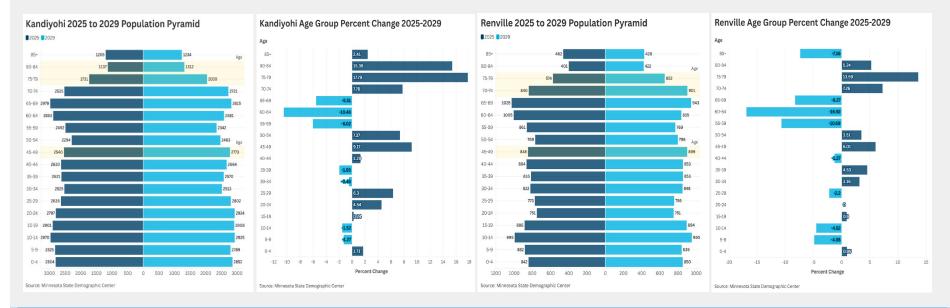


Kandiyohi-Renville Community Health Improvement Plan (CHIP)

PRIORITY - Aging Population

Community Result: Older adults can safely and independently age in place through strong social connection and access to essential services.

Data:



Outcome Objective: Based on conversations at the Call-to-Action meetings with community partners and community leaders, the following were identified as top factors needing to be addressed to support the community result:

- 1. By December 2027, establish baseline data on older adults' reported social connection using local surveys or program data.
- 2. Annually, meet or exceed Minnesota's staffing ratios for assisted living facilities in both counties, in coordination with providers and state reporting.
- 3. By December 2027, adopt a self-reported fall risk and home safety tool to help more older adults age safely at home.
- 4. By December 2026, launch at least two efforts to reduce senior out-of-pocket costs for transportation, housing, or services, and track participation annually.

STRATEGY: Support community and senior centers in sustainability to provide affordable/free supports for seniors	PARTNERS * indicates Lead	START DATE	DUE DATE	DATE OF COMPLETION	RESOURCES	NOTES
ACTIONS:						
Asset map current community and senior centers within two counties						
Convene partner meetings to develop work plan						

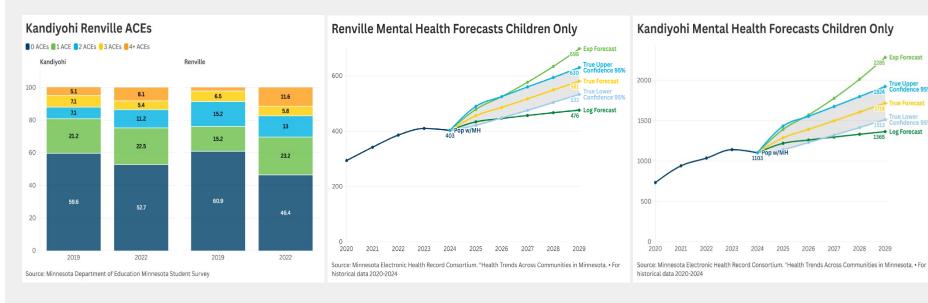
Collaborate with local senior living facilities to develop and promote a sliding fee scale for services, ensuring affordability for low- and moderate-income older adults.						
STRATEGY: Promote community education and engagement	PARTNERS * indicates Lead	START DATE	DUE DATE	DATE OF COMPLETION	RESOURCES	NOTES
ACTIONS:						
Host focused education events with potential topics of medication safety, fall prevention, supported decision-making, and life state transitions						
Promote key resources like the Senior Linkage Line.						
Offer practical workshops such as healthy eating, financial planning, and caregiver support to encourage engagement and skill-building.						
STRATEGY: Support for aging in place	PARTNERS * indicates Lead	START DATE	DUE DATE	DATE OF COMPLETION	RESOURCES	NOTES
STRATEGY: Support for aging in place ACTIONS:	* indicates				RESOURCES	NOTES
	* indicates				RESOURCES	NOTES
ACTIONS: Explore opportunities to provide education on technology that supports daily living, including training on commonly used apps such as DoorDash, Walmart+,	* indicates				RESOURCES	NOTES

Kandiyohi-Renville Community Health Improvement Plan (CHIP)

PRIORITY - Mental Well-Being

Community Result: Youth experience stronger mental well-being through connection, early support, and access to effective tools.

Data:



Outcome Objective: Based on conversations at the Call-to-Action meetings with community partners and community leaders, the following were identified as top factors needing to be addressed to support the community result:

- 1. Annually keep diagnosed mental health cases below the lower 95% forecast for both counties using MN EHR Consortium data.
- 2. By December 2028, raise 11th grader social connection rates above the upper 95% forecast using MSS or similar data.
- 3. By December 2028, increase 11th graders who "almost always" feel good about themselves above the upper 95% forecast using MSS or similar data.
- 4. By December 2026, pilot CredibleMind and collect baseline engagement data to guide future use.

STRATEGY: Support development of a Community/Family Resource Center	* indicates Lead	START DATE	DUE DATE	DATE OF COMPLETION	RESOURCES	NOTES
ACTIONS:						

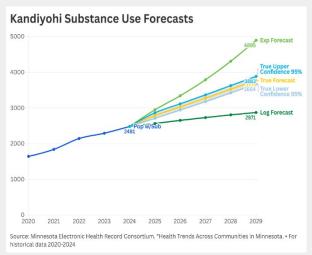
Explore and Access the Family Resource Center Model in partnership with Human Services	Kandiyohi Human Services*					
STRATEGY: Expand and Align youth-focused programs and initiatives	PARTNERS * indicates Lead	START DATE	DUE DATE	DATE OF COMPLETION	RESOURCES	NOTES
ACTIONS:						
Explore opportunities such as ride share programs or mobile unit to bring youth activities to youth						
Pilot Crediblemind platform access to empower mental wellbeing. Promote through QR codes at strategically placed locations.						
Assess patterns of cell phone use among youth at school and at home. Review local school district policies and evaluate the effectiveness of policy enforcement.						
STRATEGY: Promote mental health education, awareness, and stigma reduction	PARTNERS * indicates Lead	START DATE	DUE DATE	DATE OF COMPLETION	RESOURCES	NOTES
ACTIONS:						
Promote broad awareness, education, and stigma reduction around mental health through community initiatives like Kandiyohi Renville Suicide Mental Health Action Coalition						
Explore 2BContinued in schools for Mental Health First Aid for Youth and Adults						
STRATEGY: Strengthen community engagement and positive childhood experiences	PARTNERS * indicates Lead	START DATE	DUE DATE	DATE OF COMPLETION	RESOURCES	NOTES
ACTIONS:						
Partner with city-led events such as movies in the park, community center skating, pool nights, and seasonal celebrations to create inclusive, family-friendly spaces that support youth connection and well-being.						
Explore mentorship programs such as United Community Action Partnership's Youth Development Mentorship Program or 4H mentorship.						
Partner with Restorative Justice to provide circles in schools						

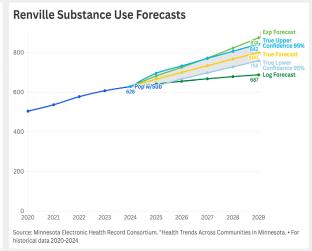
Kandiyohi-Renville Community Health Improvement Plan (CHIP)

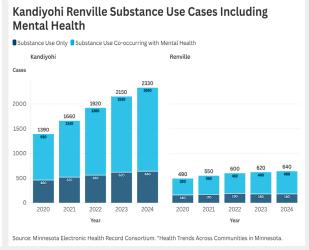
PRIORITY - Substance Use

Community Result: Reduce substance misuse and related harms through prevention, early intervention, and community accountability.

Data:







Outcome Objective: Based on conversations at the Call-to-Action meetings with community partners and community leaders, the following were identified as top factors needing to be addressed to support the community result:

- 1. By December 2025, establish baseline data on naloxone training and awareness. Starting in 2026, increase awareness by 10% annually, adjusting as needed.
- 2. Annually, keep substance use diagnoses below the lower 95% confidence bound using Minnesota EHR data.
- 3. By December 2026, develop a partnership with local law enforcement to improve surveillance and data sharing on local substance use trends.
- 4. Maintain or increase cannabis retailer compliance at or above 95%, based on annual local surveillance.

STRATEGY: Support development of a Community/Family Resource Center	* indicates Lead	START DATE	DUE DATE	DATE OF COMPLETION	RESOURCES	NOTES
ACTIONS:						
Explore and Access the Family Resource Center Model	Kandiyohi					
in partnership with Human Services	Human					
in partite only with rightan Services	Services*					

STRATEGY: Expand drug take back lock boxes and Deterra Bags with drop off sites and education	PARTNERS * indicates Lead	START DATE	DUE DATE	DATE OF COMPLETION	RESOURCES	NOTES
ACTIONS:						
Convene partner meetings to develop work plan/join existing conversations to support development						
STRATEGY: Support prevention, education, and awareness	PARTNERS * indicates Lead	START DATE	DUE DATE	DATE OF COMPLETION	RESOURCES	NOTES
ACTIONS:						
Explore providing community-wide NARCAN training						
Equip local employers with policies, posters, and training to support prevention, early intervention, and recovery-friendly workplaces						
STRATEGY: Strengthen infrastructure and supports for substance use response	PARTNERS * indicates Lead	START DATE	DUE DATE	DATE OF COMPLETION	RESOURCES	NOTES
Partner with law enforcement for better surveillance of local substance use data and create data sharing policy.						
Explore/develop an opioid response network and frame work potentially through piloting MDH program						