

Community Focus Statement C: Build human capital and promote enterprise, with a focus on environmentally friendly businesses, to strengthen the local economy and provide opportunities for residents and families to be self-reliant.

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Action Statement C.3: Coordinate with County of San Bernardino Human Services Department to assess local needs, such as wellness checks for seniors, substance abuse counseling, and support for families with children, and deliver mobile services and/or open a new service delivery location in Big Bear City.

Benchmark: Establishment of a successful delivery system for health and wellness services available to local residents.

Champion: Volunteer group or person or can be identified by the community

Estimated Cost: No cost with grant funding, or up to \$500,000 per year without grant funding



Akron Children's Hospital mobile intensive care unit. Source: [Raymond Wambsgans](#)

Living in a rural area can prove challenging to people in terms of adequate access to health and wellness services. Many people move to the mountains to overcome health challenges and make lifestyle changes. However, resources to support those goals may not be sufficient. A lack of transportation can often be a barrier for people getting to doctor's appointments or wellness checks. Mobile health care has become a cost-effective and targeted solution to care for those who otherwise would not have access to health programs. Services could be provided through a mobile unit at existing school sites, the Big Bear Valley Senior Center, or other community facilities.

Mobile health care is often offered by a nonprofit or local health-care agency and provides care for children, youth, seniors, and others without access to transportation or other health-care options. The types of care offered often include comprehensive wellness exams, hearing and vision screening, immunizations, treatment of minor infections and illnesses, dental examinations and cleanings, fluoride treatments, fillings and sealants, and pre-screening and referrals for mental health, substance abuse issues, and other behavioral health services.

One example of such a service is PIH Health, a nonprofit, regional health-care network based in Whittier that provides mobile wellness services to low-income families in Los Angeles and Orange counties. Another example is in Contra Costa County where Contra Costa Health Services offers school-based mobile health services to students who are 19 years old or younger with mobile clinic vans and through satellite health centers located on more than 40 campuses in the county.



Action	Action Leader	Timeline	Resources
1. Hold an informational meeting to start a committee.	Champion	Months 1	California Endowment – Grants http://www.calendow.org/grants-and-pris/
2. Identify partners and potential funding mechanisms for starting and running a mobile clinic in Bear Valley.	Committee	Months 1 – 3	Bureau of Primary Health Care – Funding Opportunities http://bphc.hrsa.gov/programopportunities/fundingopportunities/default.aspx
3. Partners can include the San Bernardino County Public Health Department, local hospitals and clinics, health-oriented nonprofits, and schools.	Committee	Months 1 – 3	Mobile Health Clinics Association http://www.mobilehca.org/
4. Grant funding is available through organizations such as the California Endowment, the Bureau of Primary Health Care, and the California Healthcare Foundation.	Committee	Months 1 – 3	Connect Our Future, Mobile Health Clinics http://www.connectourfuture.org/tools/mobile-health-clinics/
5. Approach identified potential partners to create a mobile health clinic team to discuss the needs of Big Bear residents and the services that can be provided using available funding and grants.	Committee	Months 3 – 4	Breakthrough Task Force http://www.rimfamilyservices.org/programs/environmental-prevention-program/breakthrough-task-force-coalition/
6. Create an action plan to establish a mobile health care unit, provide staffing and funding, and reach out to the community for services.	Committee	Months 4 – 10	Arrowhead Regional Medical Center Mobile Clinic https://www.arrowheadmedcenter.org/coMobileClinic.aspx
7. Apply for grant funding to implement the action plan.	Committee	Month 10, on-going	
8. Follow up with an assessment of services offered, effectiveness, challenges and opportunities, and financial analysis.	Committee	Annually	