

Health District Reports Community-Wide Survey Results

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The Cambria Community Healthcare District (CCHD) conducted a community-wide Healthcare Needs survey in July to better understand the primary care needs of Cambria, San Simeon, and the surrounding rural areas. The response was excellent, with 23% of all households (975 residences) responding by mail or online on the District's website.

Following up on a similar community survey done in 2016, the survey was designed to better understand the community's current need for additional primary care services (routine care provided by a physician or nurse practitioner).

The community expressed a desire for more local primary care healthcare services, with 88 percent indicating that they feel they need more local healthcare services, including an additional physician, in Cambria.

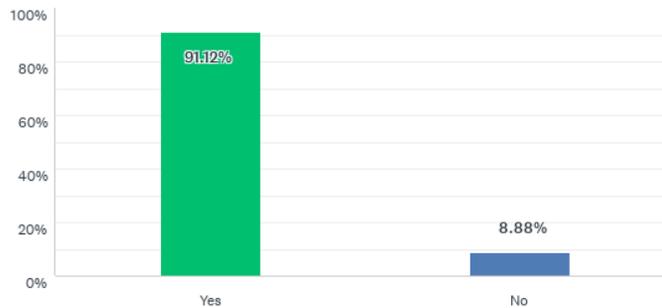
However, an overwhelming majority – 91 percent of respondents – reported that they currently have a primary care provider, but only 38 percent receive their care locally. Cambria currently has one physician in general practice, one full time nurse practitioner, and a physician with a home-visit-based, concierge practice. With a limited number of local providers and a full-time population of about 7,200 – plus part time residents – it is not surprising that most District residents have to travel to San Luis Obispo, Paso Robles or beyond to receive health care.

In fact, 88 percent of the respondents agreed with the statement “we need more local healthcare services, including an additional physician.” And two-thirds of residents would or most likely would seek their primary healthcare from a newly recruited physician.

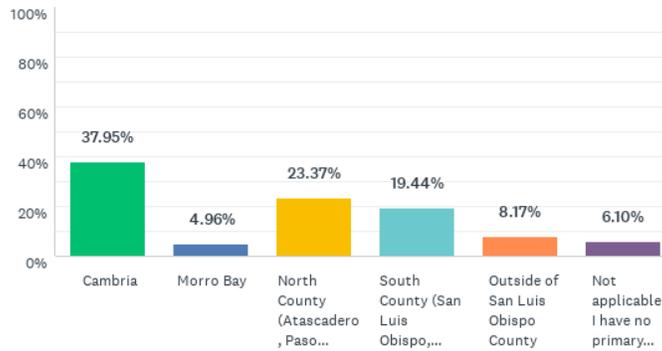
While only 39% said they had visited an urgent care clinic within the last year, 64 percent indicated that the District needs after-hours or weekend local healthcare services such as urgent care. The survey found that 80 percent of respondents had up to five primary care office visits over the past year. While residents have a wide range of insurance coverage, the majority of residents have Medicare coverage.

With the unanimous support of the CCHD Board of Directors, the Healthcare Advocacy & Outreach Committee will be exploring options for making additional primary healthcare available to residents, close to home.

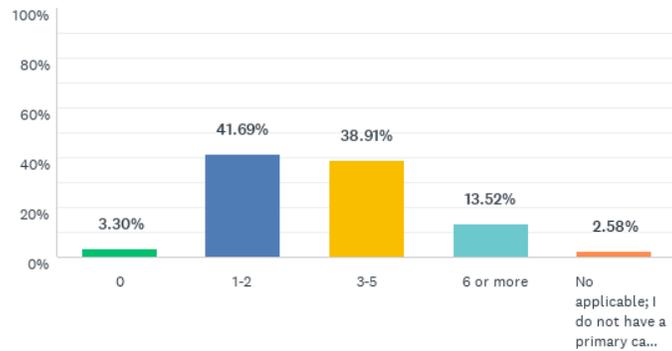
Q1 Do you and other members of your household have a primary care provider (physician or nurse practitioner) who you see for routine medical care?



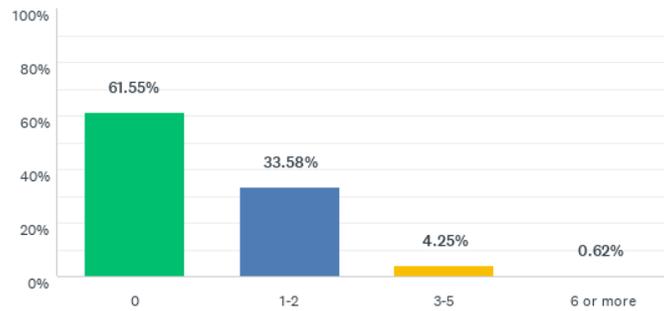
Q2 Where is your primary care provider located?



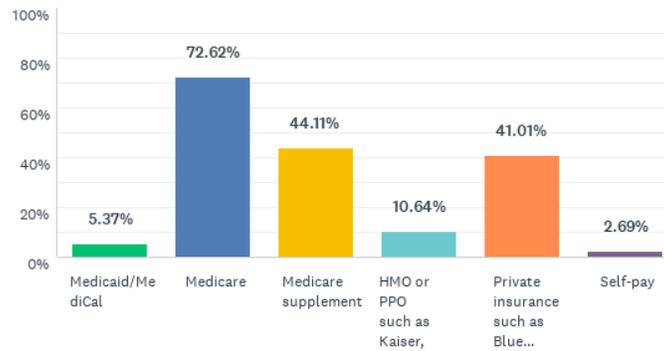
Q3 About how many office visits with your primary care provider have you or someone in your household had over the past 12 months?



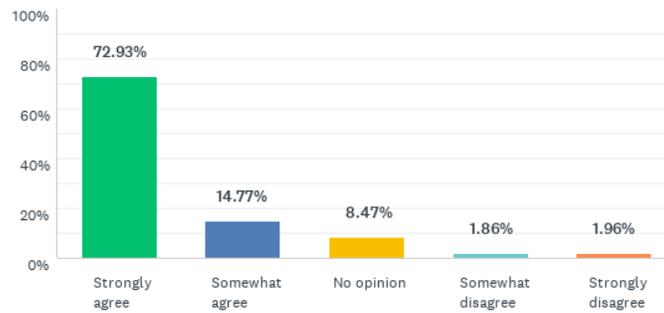
Q4 About how many times you or someone in your household gone to an urgent care clinic over the past 12 months?



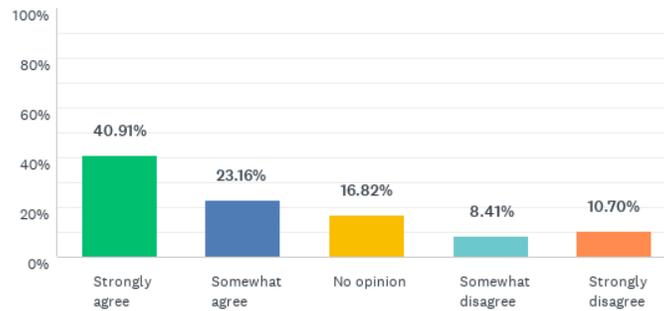
Q5 What type of health insurance do you and members of your household currently have?
(Check all that apply)



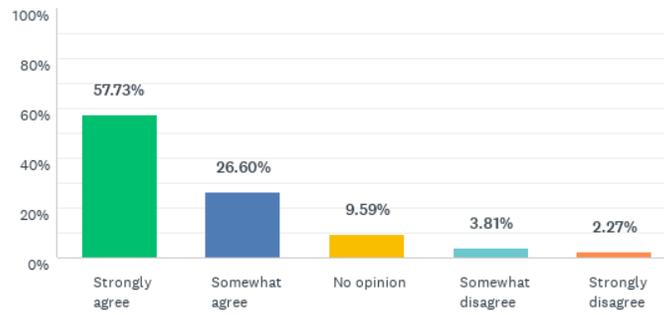
Q6 Our community needs more local primary healthcare services, including an additional physician:



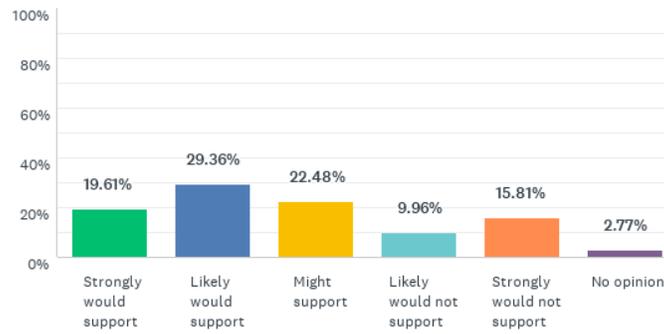
Q7 If a physician and nurse practitioner are recruited to Cambria, I will most likely use them for my primary health care:



Q8 Our community needs after hours and weekend medical services.



Q9 Would you be inclined to support a new parcel tax to subsidize additional primary healthcare services for our community?



Please direct any inquiries to the CCHD office at (805) 927-8304 or email: mmcdonough@cambria-healthcare.org