Executive Summary
PeaceHealth Peace Harbor Medical Center serves the Florence, Oregon area and surrounding coastal communities. It is a critical care hospital providing acute, primary, and specialty care services.

- Key health needs identified in the community include:
  - Housing insecurity and homelessness
  - Mental health and substance abuse issues
  - Limited access to childcare
  - Food insecurity
  - Healthcare workforce shortages

- The COVID-19 pandemic exacerbated many existing health disparities, particularly for communities of color and low-income populations.

- PeaceHealth is focusing on four key pillars to address community health needs:
  1. HOME - Improving access to housing and services for vulnerable populations
  2. HOPE - Supporting youth and families through education and prevention programs
  3. CARE - Expanding access to healthcare through mobile and community-based services
  4. NOURISH - Addressing food insecurity and promoting healthy nutrition

- Key community partnerships and initiatives highlighted include:
  - Supporting domestic violence services through Siuslaw Outreach Services
  - Expanding childcare and youth services with Boys & Girls Club
  - Implementing a Mobile Integrated Health program with local EMS
  - Supporting food banks and nutrition programs like Florence Food Share

- PeaceHealth aims to promote health equity and social justice through its community health efforts. They are committed to continuing collaborative work with community partners to address evolving health needs.

The report emphasizes PeaceHealth's dedication to serving vulnerable populations and addressing social determinants of health beyond just medical care. They recognize ongoing challenges but pledge to keep working towards health justice for all in the community.

Biggest Gaps in Service
1. Mental health and substance abuse treatment: The report mentions an "urgent need in our community and in our schools for increased access to behavioral healthcare and addiction treatment."

2. Primary care providers: There's a growing demand for healthcare services, particularly in primary care, but the number of medical providers is declining.

3. Dental care: The report mentions a need for more dentistry services.

4. Childcare services: While not strictly a healthcare service, the lack of adequate childcare options is highlighted as a significant issue affecting community health and well-being.

5. Services for rural and isolated communities: Many Western Lane residents live in remote locations with long drives to the hospital, making follow-up appointments difficult to attend.

6. Specialty care: The report implies a need for more specialty care services, as PeaceHealth Peace Harbor Medical Center is one of the few critical care hospitals serving Oregon's coastal communities.

7. Healthcare workforce overall: The report mentions a "significant gap in available healthcare services" due to an influx of new residents and a declining number of medical providers.

8. Services for vulnerable populations: There's a particular emphasis on the need for better healthcare access for low-income families, people with mental health and physical disabilities, and people experiencing homelessness.

Greatest Barriers to Care
1. Geographic isolation: Many residents live in remote locations with long drives to the hospital, making it difficult to attend follow-up appointments.

2. Shortage of healthcare providers: There's a declining number of medical providers, particularly in primary care, dentistry, and mental health services.

3. Lack of transportation: Some people may be too sick to drive or lack access to public transportation to reach healthcare facilities.

4. Economic factors: Low-income families struggle to access care, particularly those who don't qualify for public assistance but can't afford private insurance.

5. Limited childcare options: The lack of affordable, reliable childcare prevents some parents from accessing healthcare services for themselves or their children.

6. Housing insecurity and homelessness: These issues complicate access to regular healthcare services.

7. Language and cultural barriers: The report mentions the need for bilingual and multicultural healthcare workers, suggesting language and cultural differences can be barriers to care.

8. Mental health stigma: While not explicitly stated, the emphasis on increasing mental health services suggests that stigma around mental health issues may be a barrier to seeking care.

9. Lack of specialty care services: As one of the few critical care hospitals in the area, there may be limited access to certain specialty services.

10. Food insecurity: While not a direct healthcare barrier, food insecurity is linked to poor health outcomes and can impact overall access to care.

11. COVID-19 pandemic: The pandemic exacerbated many existing barriers and created new ones, particularly for vulnerable populations.

These barriers intersect and compound each other, creating complex challenges for accessing healthcare in the community.

The Unique Needs of the Community
1. Services for an aging population: The area has a large senior population, which requires specific healthcare and social services.

2. Support for seasonal fluctuations: The population swells significantly during summer months due to tourism, requiring flexible healthcare services.

3. Mental health and substance abuse treatment: There's an urgent need for increased access to behavioral healthcare and addiction treatment, especially for youth.

4. Housing support: The community faces challenges with homelessness and a lack of affordable housing options.

5. Domestic violence services: There's been a significant increase in domestic violence cases, necessitating expanded support services.

6. Childcare solutions: The area lacks adequate, reliable, and licensed childcare services for all families, especially those needing non-traditional hours or care for special needs children.

7. Food security: There's a need for increased access to healthy, affordable food, particularly in "food desert" areas.

8. Mobile healthcare services: Given the rural nature of the area, mobile health services are crucial for reaching isolated populations.

9. Support for essential workers: The community recognized a need to support healthcare workers and other essential personnel during the pandemic.

10. Culturally appropriate services: There's a growing need for bilingual and multicultural healthcare workers as the community becomes more diverse.

11. Economic support: Many families in the area are low-income or single-parent households, requiring additional economic and social support.

12. Crisis response services: The community has developed specialized crisis response teams to address mental health emergencies and other traumatic situations.

13. Support for vulnerable youth: There's a focus on providing services for at-risk youth, including education support and food programs.

14. Healthcare workforce development: The community needs to attract and retain healthcare providers to address growing demands.

What the Hospital or CCO is Doing Well

1. COVID-19 Response: The hospital stepped up as a central pharmacy site to receive and deliver COVID-19 vaccines, administering over 5,000 vaccinations.

2. Community Partnerships: They've established strong partnerships with various community organizations to address health needs, such as:
   - Siuslaw Outreach Services for domestic violence intervention
   - Boys & Girls Club of Western Lane for childcare and youth services
   - Western Lane Ambulance District for mobile integrated health services
   - Florence Food Share for addressing food insecurity

3. Mobile Integrated Health: The partnership with Western Lane Ambulance District has been successful in reducing hospital readmissions and emergency department visits.

4. Mental Health Crisis Response: Supporting the Mobile Crisis Response Team to provide 24/7 community response for mental health crises.

5. Childcare Support: Providing funding to Boys & Girls Club to become an Emergency Child Care Center during the pandemic.

6. Food Security Initiatives: Supporting local food banks and piloting a Veggie Rx program with the Florence Farmers Market.

7. Community Health Worker Development: Focusing on developing and funding training programs for community health workers.

8. Addressing Health Disparities: Creating partnerships to support COVID-19 vaccination efforts in vulnerable communities.

9. Caregiver Support: Providing support for their own employees facing financial difficulties during the pandemic.

10. Flexible Service Delivery: Adapting services to meet changing needs during the pandemic, such as supporting curbside and contactless food delivery.

11. Focus on Social Determinants of Health: Recognizing and addressing issues beyond medical care, such as housing, food security, and childcare.

12. Community Health Needs Assessment: Conducting regular assessments to identify and address evolving community needs.

The report emphasizes PeaceHealth's commitment to collaborative efforts and their ability to adapt to changing community needs, particularly in response to the challenges posed by the COVID-19 pandemic.

Strengths of the Community
1. Strong volunteerism: The report states that "Volunteerism is the machine that keeps this community running." Many community members stepped up during challenging times to support healthcare workers and vulnerable populations.

2. Tight-knit community: The community is described as being tightly connected, with members having a deep commitment to supporting one another.

3. Resilience: The community showed resilience in responding to the challenges of the COVID-19 pandemic, finding innovative ways to provide essential services.

4. Collaborative spirit: There's a strong emphasis on collaboration between various community organizations, healthcare providers, and government entities to address community needs.

5. Rich cultural heritage: The area is described as having a rich history and variety of different cultures.

6. Engaged community leaders: The report mentions strong, engaged leaders who deeply understand the community's needs.

7. Adaptability: Community organizations demonstrated the ability to quickly adapt their services in response to the pandemic and changing needs.

8. Focus on vulnerable populations: There's a strong community emphasis on supporting seniors, youth, low-income families, and other vulnerable groups.

9. Natural beauty: The area is noted for its breathtaking coastline, which attracts visitors and contributes to the local economy.

10. Proactive approach to health: The community has taken proactive steps to address health issues, such as developing mobile crisis response teams and supporting food security initiatives.

11. Strong local food initiatives: The community supports local farmers and food distribution centers to improve food access.

12. Commitment to education and youth: There are strong partnerships with local school districts and organizations supporting youth.

These strengths highlight a community that is closely connected, resilient, and committed to supporting all its members, particularly in times of crisis.

Priorities
1. Housing and Social Services:
  - Developing innovative housing and social service models
  - Supporting safe housing options, especially for domestic violence survivors
  - Increasing availability of crisis response systems for family intervention services

2. Mental Health and Addiction:
  - Preventing addiction, especially among youth
  - Providing alternative care options for mental health and substance abuse
  - Increasing access to behavioral healthcare in schools and the community

3. Childcare:
  - Exploring and supporting partnered childcare solutions
  - Creating quality, affordable, and accessible childcare options

4. Healthcare Access:
  - Expanding mobile and community-based healthcare services
  - Reducing barriers to care, especially for vulnerable populations
  - Decreasing hospital readmissions and avoidable emergency department visits

5. Community Health Workers:
  - Developing and funding training programs for community health workers
  - Expanding roles for doulas, peer support specialists, and personal health navigators

6. Food Security:
  - Increasing equitable access to nutritious, culturally appropriate food
  - Expanding fruit and vegetable community programming and food education
  - Supporting programs like Veggie Rx, farmers markets, and community gardens

7. Health Equity:
  - Addressing health disparities, particularly for communities of color and low-income populations
  - Promoting diversity, equity, and inclusion in healthcare services

8. Workforce Development:
  - Attracting and retaining healthcare providers, especially in primary care, dentistry, and mental health

9. Youth Support:
  - Providing services and support for at-risk youth
  - Addressing mental health issues among children and teens

10. Community Resilience:
  - Building community capacity to respond to crises and ongoing health challenges
  - Supporting essential workers and vulnerable populations