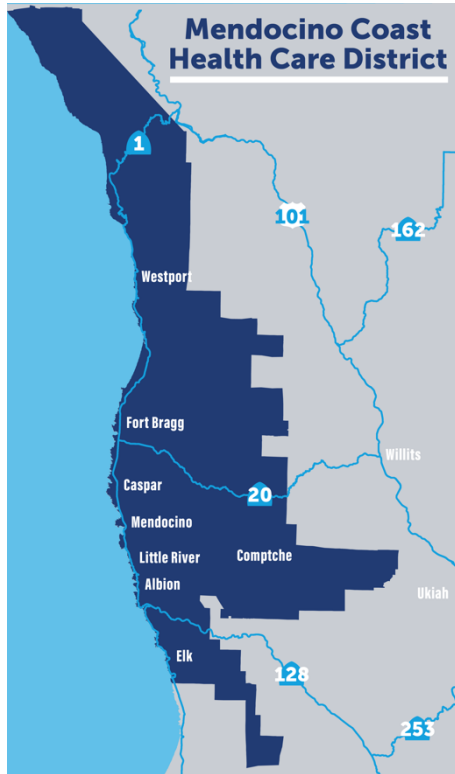


Mendocino Coast Health Care District Frequently Asked Questions

What is the Mendocino Coast Health Care District?



Mendocino Coast Health Care District (MCHCD) was formed in 1967 and spans the Coast from Rockport to Elk. The purpose of the MCHCD is to support thriving, healthy communities on the Coast by ensuring continuous, accessible, high-quality, sustainable health care.

Who is Adventist Health?

Adventist Health (AH) is a large health care network with stable financial and professional resources that has partnered with MCHCD to provide medical services in our local hospital facilities.

Adventist Health Mendocino Coast provides emergency services, in-patient, and outpatient services as well as health care education to prevent, manage and treat chronic and acute medical conditions. Adventist Health Mendocino Coast is the largest employer in the region and provides a broader range of services than many other Critical Access Hospitals in rural communities.

What is the relationship between Adventist Health Mendocino Coast and MCHCD?

MCHCD owns and oversees the property and buildings of the current hospital but does not oversee the management of health care and services of the hospital or North Coast Family Health Center. Adventist Health Mendocino Coast hires, manages, and oversees management and all of the doctors, nurses and staff working in the hospital and the North Coast Family Health Center.

What are the current challenges of MCHCD?

Some of the hospital facilities are 52 years old and need major repairs and upgrades. In addition to several major maintenance projects and desired capital improvements, through [SB 1953](#) the State of California has mandated that all hospitals must be updated to current seismic standards by 2030 or they will be forced to close.

What will happen if the hospital facilities are not updated?

The closure of the hospital would be a severe detriment to the health and overall well-being of our local communities. The other nearest hospitals are in Willits and Ukiah, and both are forty-five minutes to one hour or more away.

Is there an economic impact to the Coast if the local hospital is forced to close?

Yes. The local hospital is the largest employer on the Coast and there would be a significant impact on the local economy if it were to close. Studies show the impact of the hospital closure to the Coast economy could exceed \$100 million annually.

Is there a plan to update the hospital facilities?

MCHCD is working to identify additional funding sources to meet its goal of upgrading the hospital's facilities in time to meet State law requirements, to avoid potentially closing the hospital. One option is a potential bond measure to provide dedicated local funding for repairs and upgrades to our hospital facilities and ensure our local hospital remains open and compliant with the law.

How can I be sure funds from a potential bond measure would be spent as promised?

A potential measure would include strict fiscal accountability provisions, including:

- A detailed project list would be required to identify the projects to be funded by the potential measure
- All funds would be locally controlled and could not be taken by the State or used for other purposes
- Annual audits and public financial disclosures would ensure proper use of funds
- Require an independent Citizens' Oversight Committee to ensure funds are spent as promised

Who could vote on a potential bond measure?

All registered voters who live in the Mendocino Coast Health Care District would be eligible to vote on a potential measure. The district spans the Coast from Rockport to Elk and inland to Comptche (See approximate map in Q1).

How can I learn more?

As we plan for the future of our local hospital and other health care needs on the Coast, we want to hear from you. To share your opinions or to ask questions, contact MCHCD Administrator, Kathy Wylie, at kwylie@mchcd.org.