



**Portage County
Community Health
Improvement Plan
2017-2018
Annual Report**

This report provides an annual update on the progress made in Year 2 of implementing the strategies of the 2016-2019 Portage County Community Health Improvement Plan (CHIP). The collective responsibility for improving the health of the people of Portage County is shared by all community partners. We would like to offer specific recognition and appreciation for the commitment of the 128 Community Health Improvement Partners listed on the following page in initially developing the 2016-2017 CHIP and in implementing it throughout the first and second years. The accomplishments, challenges, and lessons learned will continue to inform the development of the third and final year of work on this plan, as well as development of the next 3-year plan to follow, in addressing the changing health needs of the Portage County community.

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Portage County Community Health Improvement Planning Partners

Al Barber, CRX Consulting
Alex Lesak, Akron Children's Hospital
Ali Mitchell, Portage County Combined General Health District
Allison Manayan, Portage County Prosecutor's Office
Amanda Eaton, Kent City Health Department
Amy Cooper, Portage County WIC
Amy Lee, Northeast Ohio Medical University
Ana Theisen, AxxessPointe Community Health Center
Andrea Metzler, Portage Park District
Angel Romine, AxxessPointe Community Health Center
Angela DeJulius, Kent State University Health Services
Anne Adkins, Portage County Combined General Health District
Annette Walsh, Portage County Job & Family Services
Asha Goodner, Hiram College
Austin Hilt, Northeast Ohio Medical University
Becky Lehman, Portage County Combined General Health District
Benton Stull, Mantua Restoration Society
BethAnn Wanosik, Children's Advantage
Bill Childers, United Way of Portage County
Bobbi Christofaris, Catholic Charities Serving Portage and Stark Counties
Bob Howard, Portage County Board of Health
Brian Trautman, Portage Area Regional Transportation Authority
Bricey Kepner, SOAR Student-Run Free Clinic, NEOMED
Britney Ward, Hospital Council of Northwest Ohio
Brittany Willaman, AxxessPointe Community Health Center
Chad Delaney, Mantua Center Christian Church
Chris McCreight, Hiram Christian Church
Christine Craycroft, Portage Park District
Christopher Mundorf, Hiram College / Portage County Combined General Health District
Claudia Amrhein, Portage Area Regional Transportation Authority
Claudia James, Portage County Regional Planning Commission
Cole Wojdacz, Kent State University
Daniel Dorsten, Portage County Veterans Service Commission
Daniel Raub, Portage County Combined General Health District
David Doak, Portage County Sheriff's Office
Debra Stall, Portage County Combined General Health District
Denise Meyer, Portage County Help Me Grow
Deric Kenne, Kent State University Center for Public Policy & Health
Desra Diehl, Coleman Pregnancy Center
Diana Kingsbury, Catholic Charities Serving Portage and Stark Counties
Dorothy Filing, Portage County Combined General Health District
Emma Bené, Mantua Restoration Society
Frank Hairston, Portage Area Regional Transportation Authority
Genevieve Aguolu, Kent State University College of Public Health
George Garchar, Catholic Charities Serving Portage and Stark Counties
George Joseph, Kent City Schools
Heather Beaird, Kent State University College of Public Health
Heather Trnka, Akron Children's Hospital
Heather Wuensch, Akron Children's Hospital
Iris Meltzer, Portage County District Advisory Council
Jackie Smallridge, Sequoia Wellness
Jacy Watson, Sequoia Wellness
James Eskridge, Portage County District Advisory Council, Charlestown Township
Jane Gainard, United Health Care
Jean Booth, United Way of Portage County
Jeannie Yount, Ohio State University Extension – Expanded Food & Nutrition Education Program
Jeff Jackson, Hilltop Christian Church – Mantua
Jeff Neistadt, Kent City Health Department
Jeneane Favaloro, AxxessPointe Community Health Center
Jennifer D'Abreau, University Health Services, Kent State University
Jennifer Kulics, Kent State University
Jessica Offineer, Portage County Combined General Health District
Jim Hammar, Portage County District Advisory Council
Joe Bocchicchio, Coleman Professional Services
Joel Mowrey, Mental Health & Recovery Board of Portage County
John Garrity, Mental Health & Recovery Board of Portage County
John Hoornebeck, Kent State University Center for Public Policy & Health
John Kovacich, Atwater Township
Joshua Filla, Kent State University Center for Public Policy & Health
Joseph Diorio, Portage County Combined General Health District
Justin Smith, Kent City Health Department
Karen Towne, Portage County Combined General Health District
Karyn Hall, Mental Health & Recovery Board of Portage County
Katherine Manning, Portage Area Regional Transportation Authority
Kathy Regal, Children's Advantage
Keith Haws, Sequoia Wellness
Kelly Engelhart, Ravenna City
Kevin Watson, Portage County Combined General Health District
Kimberly Williams, Kent State University College of Nursing
Kim Plough, Portage County Combined General Health District
Kim Trowbridge, Northeast Ohio Medical University
Kirk Stiffler, Kent City Health Department
Kyle Kelly, Kent City Health Department
Lacey Madison, Northeast Ohio Medical University
Latrice Snodgrass, AxxessPointe Community Health Center
Laura Esposito, Portage County Job & Family Services
Lucy Ribelin, Portage County Board of Health
Lynette Blasiman, Portage County Combined General Health District
Maria Lamontagne, SOAR Student-Run Free Clinic, NEOMED
Marihelyn Horrigan, AxxessPointe Community Health Center
Mark Arredondo, Portage County Combined General Health District
Mark Frisone, Family & Community Services
Mary Elizabeth Ruttenberg, Northeast Ohio Medical University
Mary Ellen Liang, Northeast Ohio Medical University
Mary Helen Smith, Portage County Combined General Health District
Mary McCracken, Children's Advantage
Maureen Gebhardt, United Way of Portage County
Meghan Begue, Coleman Professional Services
Melinda Trueblood, AxxessPointe Community Health Center
Melissa Gannon, Coleman Professional Services
Mike Anguilano, Kent City Health Department
Mim Cherrie, OhioCAN
Mindy Gusz, University Hospitals Portage Medical Center
Monique Harris, AxxessPointe Community Health Center
Nancy Pizzino, Kent Parks & Recreation
Natalie Cain-Bish, Kent State University Center for Nutritional Outreach
Natalie Esther, Community Action Council of Portage County
Nicolette Silvestro, Kent State University
Pam Ferguson Freeman, Kent City Schools, Kent City Board of Health
Pam Yeager, Coleman Professional Services
Paul Dages, Townhall II
Rebecca Abbott, Portage County Job & Family Services
Renee Klaric, University Hospitals Portage Medical Center
Richard McClellan, Portage County Veterans Service Commission
Rory Locke, Portage Park District
Rose Ferraro, Portage County Combined General Health District
Sarah McCully, Townhall II
Shelly Verba, University Health Services, Kent State University
Sherry Halas, Portage County Combined General Health District
Sue Meyer, Faithful Servants
Sue Whitehurst, Townhall II
Sydney Webster, Coleman Professional Services
Tearris Lumpkin, Kent City Health Department
Terra Kerr, Catholic Charities Serving Portage and Stark Counties
Tiffany Weiss, Coleman Pregnancy Center
Vinod Krishnappa, Northeast Ohio Medical University
Wendy Umberger, Kent State University College of Nursing
William McCluskey, Edinburg Township

Executive Summary




The 2016-2019 Portage County Community Health Improvement Plan (CHIP) detailed the goals and objectives for the community's health improvement priorities, outlining a plan of action through 2019. The CHIP was developed in partnership with the community to respond to the health priorities identified by the 2016 Community Health Assessment (CHA). This report provides a detailed synopsis of the progress (accomplishments and barriers encountered) throughout the second full year of implementation. The successes outlined herein are encouraging and warrant pride in and among our community and partners. Likewise, the barriers encountered and lessons learned will guide us in our collective vision to continue to improve efforts to address the identified health priorities in the county, moving forward into Year 3 implementation of this CHIP and beyond.

Overview

Year 2 Action Steps are presented in the following tables, with notations of activities performed and information reported by community partners throughout the second year of implementation from October 1, 2017 to October 1, 2018. Comprehensive notes of reported activities can be found in the CHIP quarterly progress reports located on the Portage County Health District website at <http://www.portagehealth.net>.

A ★ in the following tables indicates that Portage County has met or exceeded the target/s for that Action Step. 21 out of 34 (61.8%) of the CHIP Action Steps have been determined to have met this designation for Year 2.

Additionally, a color-coding system to indicate the completion status at the level of each of the five overall priorities has been created. The method of designation was as follows: The number of Action Steps in a priority area that received a ★ was divided by the total number of Action Steps in that priority, to yield a percentage indicator of completion. A score of 70 to 100 percent was given a green indicator. A score of 50 to 69 percent was given a yellow indicator. A score of below 50 percent was given a red indicator. The legend below indicates these determinations for each color used.

Legend:	
	A score of 70 to 100%
	A score of 50 to 69%
	A score of below 50%

A new Community Health Assessment conducted at the termination of this three-year CHIP plan in 2019 will allow evaluation of the impact and outcomes associated with these identified priorities and activities, and will initiate a new health improvement planning process focused on sustaining the achievements made and identifying new ways to continue to meet the changing needs of our county and its health.

For more information about any of the agencies, programs, and services in this report, please contact:

Kevin Watson, BS, RS, Accreditation Coordinator
Portage County Combined General Health District
705 Oakwood Street, 2nd Floor
Ravenna, Ohio 44266
330-296-9919, ext. 128
kwatson@portageco.com



Healthy Eating, Active Living (HEAL)

Year 2 Action Steps		Accomplishments	Barriers
★	Implement Mindful by Sodexo and other Healthier Hospital Initiatives	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Summer “kids eat free” healthy lunch program • 7 farm markets sponsored at UH Portage • Mindful program also implemented across KSU campuses 	
★	Partner with Portage Park District to implement various programs/policies	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Launched Parks Rx program and distributed materials to multiple partners • Expanded programming and partnerships with UH Portage, WIC, Sequoia, SOAR clinic, and others • Morgan Park added nearly 4 miles of trails including an ADA accessible trail 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • No funding secured for creation of pump track • Slow start in receiving contacts for evaluation of Parks Rx program
★	Implement Complete Streets Policies within the City of Kent	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Adding wider bike lanes and new sidewalks, centered around South Water Street • Bike lanes and sidewalks to be included in all future street renovations • Pursuing Safe Routes to School, following assessments • Pursuing city ordinance requiring bike riders to wear a helmet 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Parking issues in downtown area
	Develop a Portage County Obesity Coalition	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Bike rodeo held in partnership with PCHD, Ravenna Elks and Ravenna PD 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • ODH MCH grant removed funding, and alternate funding sources not identified • New “HEAL Coalition” has not been formed, and participants not determined
	Implement the Prescription for Health Program	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • SOAR clinic exploring implementing a social needs assessment 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • No objectives were completed
★	Incorporate families and children into community physical activities	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Healthy Kids Running Series w/ 47 participants • KIDS Camp for overweight kids w/ 30 participants • KSU cooking classes w/ 57 participants • Sequoia summer camps w/ 60 participants • Sequoia Youth Performance Club w/ 20 participants • Additional activities and programs at Sequoia 	
	Implement a Healthier Choices Campaign	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • NEOMED student project - school children adverse effects of sweetened drinks campaign 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Lack of funding- need to revise action step
★	Increase nutrition/physical education materials being offered to patients by primary care providers	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Investigated EMR systems, usage, screening requirements • Determined provision of local resource referral info is most useful focus moving forward 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Limited # of PCPs contacted • Time, knowledge, and resources for screenings limited for PCPs
	Expand the Personal Improvement Program (PIP) in schools	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Secured speakers and Ravenna Schools superintendent approval 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Lack of funding, resources, time, volunteers • Program not implemented
★	Implement postpartum weight loss educational program at WIC	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Distributed 296 “Healthier You” brochures • Referred 39 moms to “Mothers in Motion” program • Partnership with Portage Park District 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Limited participation in Facebook group



Increase Mental Health Services

	Year 2 Action Steps	Accomplishments	Barriers
★	Increase awareness and accessibility of available mental health services	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Educated multiple schools of different districts on mental health services and programs • Numerous trainings and presentations on mental health services to area schools, agencies, etc. • May – Mental Health Month: eblasts, newspaper articles, social media posts, Streetsboro library display • Continually advertise services and crisis text line 	
★	Increase the number of primary care physicians screening for depression during office visits	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Investigated EMR systems, usage, screening requirements • Determined provision of local resource referral info is most useful focus moving forward 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Limited # of PCPs contacted • Time, knowledge, and resources for screenings limited for PCPs
★	Expand evidence-based suicide prevention and bullying programs targeting youth and families	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Held Mental Health Round Table for school counselors and administrators w/ 31 attendees • Presentations to school superintendents, and school staff trainings • Commissioners approved funding from sales and use tax for drug prevention education specialists and case managers in school districts • Crisis intervention training for educators • Programming expanded to additional schools and grade levels 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Increase in youth suicides • Teacher attitudes about mental health, and concerns regarding limited time and resources
★	Increase mental health first aid trainings	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 8 mental health first aid trainings provided by MHRB, Coleman Professional Services, Kent State University, and Hiram College to local organizations and the general public, with 131 total participants trained • Project DAWN added to MHRB/Coleman trainings 	
★	Increase awareness of trauma informed care	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Conducted community training with police, probation and correction officers, and juvenile detention staff 	
	Establish a youth-focused community center at the former Mantua Center School	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • After-school program for 7th and 8th graders determined location at Crestwood Middle School, with capacity for 30 students and volunteer support from teachers, church members, and Hiram College staff; but have not yet implemented the program. (Plan to start December 7, 2018.) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Funding and liability concerns with some potential partnering programs • Still legally pursuing lease on Mantua Center School building for community center



Decrease Substance Abuse

Year 2 Action Steps	Accomplishments	Barriers
★ Develop and implement a community based comprehensive plan to reduce alcohol and drug abuse	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Annual conference held 10/31/17 w/ over 225 attendees Next annual conference scheduled for 10/23/18 Numerous community awareness events and presentations delivered to the public Family Conference on Addiction w/ 75-100 attendees Monthly OhioCAN Portage Project planning mtgs 	
★ Increase treatment options for those with substance use disorder	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> UH Portage hired an addictionologist, & expanded treatment services through several grants Increased # of Narcotics Anonymous meetings Additional treatment service facilities begun, including: Groups Inc., HOPE Recovery Village, and expanded services at AxxessPointe Increased recovery housing by 18 apartment units 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Difficulties in establishing a MAT clinic at Townhall II
★ Implement and increase prevention programs	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Drug prevention programming implemented in every school district in Portage County, w/ 3941 students served 2017-2018 (an over 20% increase from the 3253 students served in 2016-2017) Commissioners approved funding from sales and use tax for drug prevention education specialists and case managers in school districts Additional programs including: KSU Recovery Ally training, Say it Straight, Body Safety, tobacco lessons, and family classes on addiction 	
★ Implement and increase harm reduction initiatives	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> KSU GIS project – mapping drug activity Needle exchange programs toured & researched Increased Deterra pouch availability and distribution throughout the county Recovery Outreach Team formed Project DAWN program continues 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Needle exchange programs require substantial funding- further discussion needed Drug drop off box at NEOMED police station prevented
★ Increase the number of health care providers screening for drugs and alcohol	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Investigated EMR systems, usage, screening requirements Determined provision of local resource referral info is most useful focus moving forward UH reviewing PCP prescribing practices, establishing protocols, building info into EMRs 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Limited # of PCPs contacted Time, knowledge, and resources for screenings limited for PCPs
Advocate for substance abuse and criminal justice issues	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Ongoingly advocating with representatives for Medicaid expansion Investigating issue of inmates in Portage County Jail inability to receive addiction treatment medications 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Jail medical clinic resistance to, and assertion they are not required to, provide MAT
Implement a tobacco and smoke free policy on Kent State University campuses	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Tobacco and smoke free policy implemented and in effect on campus Tobacco 21 ordinance passed in Kent City 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Student resistance Enforcement/compliance issues



Increase Access to Healthcare

Year 2 Action Steps	Accomplishments	Barriers
<p>Increase community education on health insurance opportunities/utilization and support the implementation of Pathways Model or HUB</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Continued researching and discussing Pathways model being utilized for maternal and child health in Summit County and Mahoning County. NEOMED SOAR clinic – student exploring implementing a social needs assessment, with information and resource provision/referrals AxessPointe has CHWs, and is working with KSU on social determinants of health assessment 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Lack of funding Difficulty in determining most appropriate model for Portage County. Need to further explore possibility of home contacts to decrease hospital readmittance rates
<p>Support collaboration between local universities and healthcare agencies through other social service agencies and graduate opportunities</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Three university liaisons identified for agencies to contact regarding potential projects NEOMED and AmeriCorps Health Professions Affinity Community (HPAC) program Kent City Health Department continues as an academic health department in collaboration with KSU 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> No Portage County agencies have yet contacted any of the liaisons regarding potential projects Policy difficulties in pairing students with projects within UH Portage
<p>★ Increase transportation through a county transportation plan</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Transportation Needs Assessment completed, and action/intervention plan created Training was held w/ 31 participants from 20 health/social service agencies, on how to assist clients with transportation needs JFS working with partners to increase NET awareness 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> MCH funding is no longer available – may need to revise this action step accordingly
<p>Develop an Access to Care Coalition</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Community health resource and capacity assessment was developed Windham free clinic was opened Coalition expanded through incorporation of Transportation Coalition membership 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Windham free clinic reduced operating hours and in danger of closing due to lack of use Coalition met only twice – need further targeted strategy development and implementation



Increase Injury Prevention

Year 2 Action Steps	Accomplishments	Barriers
★ Increase the use of safe sleep practices	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 146 Portage County residents were educated on Safe Sleep practices and provided pack n' plays Continued training and follow-up with community partner agencies Collaboration with UH Portage birthing center 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Cribs for Kids funding pulled from Portage County due to high county health ranking scores – need to find alternate funding
Implement a Safe Kids Coalition	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Initial coalition development discussion meetings held, and potential partner list compiled and invited NEOMED student group assisted with development of gun safety educational materials, distributed along with gun locks at community events Sequoia Safety Around Water program w/ 100 participants 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Coalition has not been created
★ Implement Safe Routes to School	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Safe Routes Needs Assessment and Strategic Plan have been completed Kent Schools identified for initial programming, to be coordinated with Kent City HD and city engineers walkability assessment and Complete Streets endeavor 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Planned as one of the first initiatives of the Safe Kids Coalition, not yet created
Expand the evidence-based fall risk reduction program	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Letter sent to PCPs promoting MOB programming MOB classes held in Aurora by PCHD, and in Rootstown by Sequoia 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Lengthy wait for updated MOB curriculum – fewer classes offered than in 2017
★ Expand the child passenger safety program	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Ohio Buckles Program Coordinator site visit of PCHD Car Seat Program reported excellent program with no changes needed 121 convertible car seats and 35 booster seats distributed 5 car seat check events conducted 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Additional funding resources needed
★ Expand activities of Safe Communities fatal crash review	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Collaborated with local organizations to review fatal crash reports and identify trends Consistently increase public awareness through media releases and community awareness events Only 5 total fatal crashes in Year 2 (down from 9 in Year 1) New program – teens through juvenile court with minor violations must complete additional driver safety training 	
Expand activities of child fatality review	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Collaborated with local organizations to review child fatality reports and identify trends Collaborated with UH Portage regarding education and services offered to new parents Gun awareness programs and provision of gun locks 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Need to expand media releases and other public awareness efforts Further assessment of specific population rates needed to identify trends