

# 2023-2025 Portage County Community Health Improvement Plan (CHIP)

## Progress Notes



## CHNA Priority 1: Chronic Disease

CHNA Priority 1: Chronic Disease					
<b>Strategy 1:</b> Establish baselines and provide outreach and education on prevention, treatment, and follow-up with providers and community members.					
<b>Goal:</b> Decrease Communicable Diseases, including Sexually Transmitted Infections in Portage County.					
<b>Objective:</b> By December 31, 2025, reduce the rate of communicable diseases (including STIs) in Portage County.					
Action Step:	Timeline			Lead Person or Organization(s)	Progress
	2023	2024	2025		
<p><u>Activity 1:</u> Gather annual baseline rate of communicable diseases and sexually transmitted infections for Portage County.</p> <p>Additionally, gather baseline rate of communicable diseases (specifically Hepatitis).</p>	X	X	X	Penny Paxton, Epidemiologist, Portage County Health District	No report at this time.
<p><u>Activity 2:</u> Provide education on prevention, treatment, and follow up with individuals in the community</p>	X	X	X	Kat Holtz, Health Educator, Portage County Health District Cowen Stevens, Community Health Worker, ACESSPointe, Townhall II, Planned Parenthood	<p>PCHD: Kat goes to Roothouse 2x per month to provide classes on sexuality and safer sex.</p> <p>ACESSPointe</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>•Total # of STI screening completed- 124 (Not including HIV and Hep C #'s)</li> <li>•163 tested for Hep C, 395 tested for HIV (pending data on how many patients were successfully cured of Hep C)</li> </ul>

<u>Activity 3:</u> Provide outreach and education on prevention, treatment, and follow-up with providers	X	X	X	Penny Paxton, Epidemiologist, Portage County Health District	No report at this time.
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## CHNA Priority 1: Chronic Disease

**Strategy 2:** Educate Portage County community on risk factors and obesity prevention as well as increase screenings.

**Goal:** Decrease Obesity in Portage County

**Objective:** By December 31, 2025, increase the number of prediabetes screenings in Portage County.

Programs/Activities	Timeline			Lead Person or Organization(s)	Progress
	2023	2024	2025		
<u>Activity 1:</u> Educate and screen the community on obesity risk factors and prevention which include hypertension, BMI, and pre-diabetes screenings  Work with the Portage County Health District CHW program to implement screening opportunities for obesity risk factors and food insecurity with CHW	X	X	X	Mindy Gusz, Community Outreach Nurse, University Hospitals Portage Medical Center  Terah Omaitis, Nurse Care Manager, AxessPointe	UH: 256 screenings provided  AxessPointe: Kent State looking to start a mobile unit comprised of multiple disciplines for community screenings. 185 patients with dx of prediabetes and a hemoglobin a1c screening
<u>Activity 2:</u> Increase awareness of physical activity	X	X	X	Andrea Metzler, Public Engagement	Portage Parks Sent 4,000 & distributed 2,000 from May-August copies of activities and annual report to portage county residents. Held 60 active events with 915 people from Jan-Jun 2023.



programming with the Portage Parks and Sequoia Fitness				Manager, Portage Parks Jackie Woodring, Development Manager, Sequoia Fitness	
<u>Activity 3:</u> Provide community education on nutrition, and physical activity	X	X	X	Mindy Gusz, Community Outreach Nurse, University Hospitals Portage Medical Center	688 participants



## CHNA Priority 1: Chronic Disease

**Strategy 3:** Increase access and participation in community-based nutrition programs such as farmers markets.

**Goal:** Increase Fruit and Vegetable Access and Consumption in Portage County

**Objective:** By December 31, 2025, increase access to fruit and vegetables in Portage County

Programs/Activities	Timeline			Lead Person or Organization(s)	Progress
	2023	2024	2025		
<p><u>Activity 1:</u> Partner and provide resources to participants in the WIC Farmers' Market Nutrition Program (FMNP). This program distributes vouchers to WIC eligible families for use at locations licensed by the state, including the Haymaker Farmers' Markets, where they can be used to purchase fresh fruits and vegetables. WIC Perks vouchers are free at the Haymaker market table each week for WIC customers receiving WIC benefits to be used to buy \$10 in fresh fruits &amp; vegetables at the Market. Customers just need to show their current WIC card at the Market table</p>	X	X	X	<p>Mindy Gusz, Community Outreach Nurse, University Hospitals Portage Medical Center Andrew Rome, Manager of Haymaker Farm market in Kent</p> <p>Amy Cooper, Director of WIC, Portage County WIC</p>	\$2190 distributed and redeemed \$1820 at Farmers Market
<p><u>Activity 2:</u> Participate and increase awareness in the</p>	X	X	X	Mindy Gusz, Community Outreach	\$1192 distributed \$937 redeemed

Power of the Produce kids program – a kids club at Haymaker Farm market (the largest farm market in Portage county) that teaches children under 12 about healthy eating and provides a direct benefit to them to try fresh fruit and vegetables at market. \$2.00 tokens are provided to each kid for fruit and vegetable purchases				Nurse, University Hospitals Portage Medical Center Andrew Rome, Manager of Haymaker Farm market in Kent	
<u>Activity 3:</u> Participate in the Produce Perks - Produce Perks is a grant funded program through “Produce Perks Midwest” that seeks to increase SNAP use at Farmers’ Markets and increase fruit & vegetable consumption. Customers are given a matching benefit of \$25/week in Produce Perk tokens, when they use their SNAP benefits at Market. These green tokens can then be used to buy fresh fruits and vegetables at Market.	X	X	X	Andrew Rome, Manager of Haymaker Farm market in Kent	Distributed \$6880 Redeemed \$6709
<u>Activity 4:</u> Participate and increase awareness in the Senior Nutrition Program vouchers – The Senior Nutrition Program is administered by the Portage County Senior Center, who	X	X	X	Jodie Neu, Community Outreach Nurse, University Hospitals Portage Medical Center Andrew Rome, Manager of	There was \$725.00 redeemed for the senior nutrition program



distributes packets of \$5 vouchers to area senior citizens, which can be used to purchase fresh fruits and vegetables at the Haymaker Farmers' Market.				Haymaker Farm market in Kent Annett Ludwick, Director, Portage Senior Center	
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**CHNA Priority 1: Chronic Disease**

**Strategy 4:** Social Determinants of Health (SDOH) screenings and resource referrals

**Goal:** Increase Food Security in Portage County

**Objective:** Continue and expand SDOH screenings and referrals in Portage County by December 31, 2025.

Action Step:	Timeline			Lead Person or Organization(s)	Progress
	2023	2024	2025		
<u>Activity 1:</u> Continue and expand provider education on food insecurity, its impact on health and the importance of screening and referral to the University Hospitals Portage Food For Life Market.	X	X	X	Mindy Gusz, Community Outreach Nurse, University Hospitals Portage Medical Center	457 patients served 903 individuals served.
<u>Activity 2:</u> Continue to screen patients for insecurities at AxessPointe.	X	X	X	Terah Omaitis, Nurse Care Manager, AxessPointe	Started food pantry. More geared towards emergency, while looking for longer term services. 136 referrals



Activity 3: Implement a Social Determinant of Health Screening Tool that includes food insecurity.	X	X	X	Hannah Haynie, Northeast Ohio Medical University Soar Clinic	
Activity 4: Provide education and food security resources at Portage County Food Banks/Pantries prioritizing the zip codes of 44288, 44411, 44266.	X	X	X	Mindy Gusz, Community Outreach Nurse, University Hospitals Portage Medical Center  Maureen Gebhardt, Community Impact and Volunteers, United Way (partner for identification of resources/data reporting)	44288: 5 44411: 5 44266: 11 44201: 36 442340: 10 Monthly pantry hot meals served: 2241
Activity 5: Continue to partner and participate with the Ravenna School Raven Pack program. Over 75% of the students in the Ravenna School District meet the federal free/reduced lunch income requirements. Raven Packs were established as a community wide initiative to address food insecurity in the Ravenna School district. A Raven Pack has assorted food items to provide the recipient food when away from school.	X	X	X	Mindy Gusz, Community Outreach Nurse, University Hospitals Portage Medical Center Laura Wunderle, Ravenna teacher and program coordinator of the Raven pack program	2025 weekend packs distributed
Activity 6: Identify need for additional community Gardens	X	X	X	Mindy Gusz, Community	2 additional gardens started. Davey School and Kent City bringing total to 6 community gardens.



<p>focusing on food desserts and vulnerable populations with the goal of expanding Portage County community gardens to additional schools, senior living facilities, and shelters</p>			<p>Outreach Nurse, University Hospitals Portage Medical Center Cindy Widuck, Community Public Health Outreach and Development College of Public Health, Kent state University and Let's Grow Together Coalition, director</p>	
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## CHNA Priority 2: Family, Pregnancy, Infant, and Child Health (FPICH)

CHNA Priority 2: Family, Pregnancy, Infant, and Child Health					
<b>Strategy 1:</b> Pilot home visiting programs that begin prenatally to identify needs and improve pregnancy outcomes.					
<b>Goal:</b> Improve Pregnancy and Birth Outcomes					
<b>Objective:</b> By December 31, 2025, implement a prenatal/postpartum home visiting program (focusing on Windham, Garrettsville, and Ravenna) to reduce preterm birth, low birth weight, and infant mortality.					
Action Step:	Timeline			Lead Person or Organization(s)	Progress
	2023	2024	2025		
<u>Activity 1:</u> Establish and implement CHW program at Portage County Health District.	X	X	X	Rosemary Ferraro, Director of Nursing, Portage County Health District	No update
<u>Activity 2:</u> Implement screening opportunities during pregnancies for food insecurities and other social determinants of health to reduce low birth weights through home visiting program.	X	X	X	Rosemary Ferraro, Director of Nursing, Portage County Health District	Check with OB/GYN at UH for Food for Life referrals
<u>Activity 3:</u> Implement opportunities for new parents/guardians who receive home visits to receive education and resources on breastfeeding, WIC, safe sleep practices, car seat safety, transportation, etc.	X	X	X	Rosemary Ferraro, Director of Nursing, Portage County Health District	No update

## CHNA Priority 2: Family, Pregnancy, Infant, and Child Health

**Strategy 2:** Implement early urgent maternal warning signs education program within Portage County

**Goal:** Improve Pregnancy and Birth Outcomes

**Objective:** By December 31, 2025, increase the knowledge of the signs of hypertension in pregnancy and postpartum through education and outreach.

Action Step:	Timeline			Lead Person or Organization(s)	Progress
	2023	2024	2025		
<u>Activity 1:</u> Urgent Maternal Warning Signs (UMWS) for identifying preeclampsia education provided prenatally and postpartum to all WIC participants.	X	X	X	Amy Cooper, Director of WIC, Portage County WIC	133 pregnant and postpartum women (100%) received the education April-June.
<u>Activity 2:</u> Community outreach and education on healthy pregnancy	X	X	X	Mindy Gusz, Community Outreach Nurse, University Hospitals Portage Medical Center	OB/GYN provided education to 170 patients

## CHNA Priority 2: Family, Pregnancy, Infant, and Child Health

**Strategy 3:** Develop and implement tools and processes for tracking prenatal care visits and deliveries in Portage County.

**Goal:** Improve Pregnancy and Birth Outcomes

**Objective:** By December 31, 2025, track and understand impact of University Hospitals Portage Labor and Delivery closing for Portage County.

Action Step:	Timeline			Lead Person or Organization(s)	Progress
	2023	2024	2025		
<u>Activity 1:</u> Identify and establish ongoing reporting mechanism to track number of deliveries in the University Hospitals Portage Emergency Department.	X	X	X	Penny Paxton, Epidemiologist, Portage County Health District	No update.
<u>Activity 2:</u> Identify and establish reporting mechanism to track number of EMS transports for deliveries.	X	X	X	Penny Paxton, Epidemiologist, Portage County Health District & University Hospitals Portage for EMS Database	No update.
<u>Activity 3:</u> Review birth certificate data comparing residency of birthing individual compared to their delivery location.	X	X	X	Jalessa Caples, Accreditation Coordinator, Kent City Health Department  Sandra Knezevich, Vital Statistics, Kent City Health Department  Penny Paxton, Epidemiologist, Portage County	We have access to Portage Count birth records through the Ohio Department of Health Data warehouse. They are about 3 years behind. 2020 data is being reviewed to establish a baseline.

				Health District (back up)	
<u>Activity 4:</u> Research, map, and maintain prenatal care visit options in Portage County and surrounding counties.	X	X	X	Penny Paxton, Epidemiologist, Portage County Health District	No update.
<u>Activity 5:</u> Develop and maintain resource of prenatal care and delivery options for Portage County residents.	X	X	X	United Way	No update.
<b>CHNA Priority 2: Family, Pregnancy, Infant, and Child Health</b>					
<b>Strategy 4:</b> Improve birthing person, fetal, and child health outcomes through increasing WIC participation.					
<b>Goal:</b> Improve overall health outcomes and prevent nutrition-related illness among at-risk women, infants, and children.					
<b>Objective:</b> By December 31, 2025, increase WIC enrollment by 10%.					
Action Step:	Timeline			Lead Person or Organization(s)	Progress
	2023	2024	2025		
<u>Activity 1:</u> Increase enrollment in WIC program	X	X	X	Amy Cooper, Director of WIC, Portage County WIC	Increase of 19 participants from last quarter.
<u>Activity 2:</u> Track initial birth weight and growth/ development of WIC participants	X	X	X	Amy Cooper, Director of WIC, Portage County WIC	Waiting on data from Ohio WIC

<u>Activity 3:</u> Implement one pop-up clinic within a targeted community each quarter.	X	X	X	Amy Cooper, Director of WIC, Portage County WIC	0 events last quarter. Lots of events planned for next quarter
<u>Activity 4:</u> Track breastfeeding rates of mom WIC participants.	X	X	X	Amy Cooper, Director of WIC, Portage County WIC	Avg 72% have initiated breastfeeding

## CHNA Priority 2: Family, Pregnancy, Infant, and Child Health

**Strategy 5:** Implement reproductive health and wellness interventions.

**Goal:** Increase sustainability of reproductive health and wellness services

**Objective:** By December 31, 2025, implement a health and reproductive health and wellness program to increase the use of reproductive health interventions for Medicaid-eligible and un/underinsured residents.

Action Step:	Timeline			Lead Person or Organization(s)	Progress
	2023	2024	2025		
<u>Activity 1:</u> Establish and implement education with individuals who recently delivered, ie: birth spacing, family planning	X	X	X	Amy Cooper, Director of WIC, Portage County WIC Pilot CHW Home Visiting Program- Portage County Health District	No update.

<p><u>Activity 2:</u> Provide referrals and resources to individuals with health insurance to ensure reproductive health care access.</p>	X	X	X	<p>Cowen Stevens, Community Health Worker, AxessPointe Job and Family Services</p>	<p>•CHW (Mindy) is currently working with 6 moms (all insured through Medicaid) from Portage County in the “HUB” who are either currently pregnant or have a child under 1 year old with the goal connect them to necessary resources and provide additional support services through their pregnancy/motherhood. CHW seeks to improve health outcomes for both the mother and baby through these various support interventions.</p> <p>•Total CAC (Health Insurance) appointments with CHW- 81</p>
<p><u>Activity 3:</u> Provide referrals and resources to individuals <u>without</u> health insurance to ensure reproductive health care access.</p>	X	X	X	<p>Cowen Stevens, Community Health Worker, AxessPointe Rebecca Abbott, Administrator, Job and Family Services</p>	<p>143 patients answered no to question "Do you have active health insurance" on CHW Questionnaire, but only 20 have a CHW referral placed.</p>
<p><u>Activity 4:</u> Community outreach and education on healthy pregnancy and family planning</p>	X	X	X	<p>Mindy Gusz, Community Outreach Nurse, University Hospitals Portage Medical Center</p>	<p>170 patients were provided education.</p>

## CHNA Priority 2: Family, Pregnancy, Infant, and Child Health

**Strategy 6:** Reduce the use of tobacco products used during pregnancy.

**Goal:** Reduce number of pregnant individuals in Portage County who smoke during pregnancy.

**Objective:** By December 31, 2025, increase screening of pregnant individuals for smoking by 5%.

Action Step:	Timeline			Lead Person or Organization(s)	Progress
	2023	2024	2025		
<u>Activity 1:</u> Provide outreach for cessation services through the development and distribution of resource guide.	X	X	X	Jalessa Caples, Accreditation Coordinator, Kent City Health Department	A local cessation resource double sided 1pager has been created and will be sent out to all partners and be posted to our website soon.
<u>Activity 2:</u> Track number of pregnant WIC participants who smoke during pregnancy.	X	X	X	Amy Cooper, Director of WIC, Portage County WIC	Waiting on data from Ohio WIC
<u>Activity 3:</u> Track number of pregnant individuals using tobacco use at delivery by trimester.	X	X	X	Jalessa Caples, Accreditation Coordinator, Kent City Health Department Penny Paxton, Epidemiologist, Portage County Health District	The KCHD had gained access to the Ohio Data Warehouse, which is where we will gather the information on where pregnant people from Portage County give birth and number of pregnant people using tobacco at delivery by trimester. It will take some time to sort through this data to gather what we need, but we have begun working on it.
<u>Activity 4:</u> Educate University Hospitals OB/GYN providers about tobacco treatment counseling resources (early 2023)	X	X	X	Mindy Gusz, Community Outreach Nurse, University Hospitals Portage Medical Center	14 referrals given

Track the number of pregnant individuals referred for tobacco treatment counseling					
<u>Activity 5:</u> Smoke-free policy passed and implemented in at least one establishment in Portage County (i.e., Schools, private housing, behavioral health facility)	X	X	X	Jalessa Caples, Accreditation Coordinator, Kent City Health Department	Ravenna City Schools updated their smoke free policy and increased from around 50% to 95% smoke free.

## CHNA Priority 2: Family, Pregnancy, Infant, and Child Health

**Strategy 7:** Address the need for affordable and reliable childcare in Portage County.

**Goal:** Increase the availability and accessibility of affordable and reliable childcare in Portage County.

**Objective:** By December 31, 2025, better understand the gaps and opportunities to address affordable and reliable childcare in Portage County.

Action Step:	Timeline			Lead Person or Organization(s)	Progress
	2023	2024	2025		
<u>Activity 1:</u> Promote childcare as a field of job training.	X	X	X	Stephanie Wilfong, Early Childhood Education program, Maplewood Career Center	No update.

<p><u>Activity 2:</u> Assure affordable and reliable childcare in Portage County</p>				<p>Rebecca Abbott, Administrator, Job and Family Services</p> <p>Kimberly Macphail, Job and Family Services</p>	<p>7 inspections completed.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1 Type A</li> <li>1 In-Home Aide</li> <li>1 Monitoring for outdoor area</li> <li>1 Step Up to Quality full</li> <li>3 Type B</li> </ul>
<p><u>Activity 3:</u> Establish and implement processes to investigate this as a community issue.</p>	X	X	X	TBD	No update.

## CHNA Priority 3: Mental Health, Substance Use, and Addiction

CHNA Priority 3: Mental Health, Substance Use, and Addiction					
<b>Strategy 1:</b> Provide community-based activities and trainings to raise awareness.					
<b>Goal:</b> Decrease suicide related deaths in Portage County.					
<b>Objective:</b> By December 31, 2025, reduce stigma surrounding suicide and mental illness.					
Action Step:	Timeline			Lead Person or Organization(s)	Progress
	2023	2024	2025		
<u>Activity 1:</u> Conduct suicide prevention trainings for community and school staff	X	X	X	Karyn Kravetz, Associate Director, Mental Health & Recovery Board	From April-Jun 2023, 102 community members were trained in Question, Persuade, Refer and 25 school staff were trained in Mental Health First Aid.
<u>Activity 2:</u> Host employer roundtables to learn their struggles with employees on mental health & addiction issues	X	X	X	Karyn Kravetz, Associate Director, Mental Health & Recovery Board  Mindy Gusz, Community Outreach Nurse, University Hospitals Portage Medical Center	Connected with Portage Development Board for them to host an event for us to present and speak with their members.
<u>Activity 3:</u> Host “townhalls” in community centers on mental health issues to reach key community groups.	X	X	X	Karyn Kravetz, Associate Director, Mental Health & Recovery Board  Mindy Gusz, Community	No update

				Outreach Nurse, University Hospitals Portage Medical Center	
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### CHNA Priority 3: Mental Health, Substance Use, and Addiction

**Strategy 2:** Raise awareness of loss support groups and connect to resources for “traditional” loss and for all loss

**Goal:** Address and reduce community-level risk factors for suicidal ideation in Portage County.

**Objective:** By December 31, 2025, address the role of loss in suicide risk.

Action Step:	Timeline			Lead Person or Organization(s)	Progress
	2023	2024	2025		
<u>Activity 1:</u> Support Grief Recovery Method classes through funding and marketing	X	X	X	Jalessa Caples, Accreditation Coordinator, Kent City Health Luke Barker, Clinical Manager, Mental Health & Recovery Board	Kent City Health Department held a pilot class. Pilot class was a 1 on 1 led by Joan Seidel from KCHD.
<u>Activity 2:</u> Provide mental health resources for individuals going through divorce.	X	X	X	Luke Barker, Clinical Manager, Mental Health & Recovery Board	25 folders for the May 16th Children Are Forever class with information on mental health and drug prevention tips and local resources.
<u>Activity 3:</u> Develop plan to reach individuals experiencing financial loss.	X	X	X	Luke Barker, Clinical Manager, Mental Health & Recovery Board	Gathering resource information from local community partners, such as Catholic Charities and other entities that provide assistance. Gathering information from local providers to determine access to care, following a financial loss.

Activity 4: Provide resources to families of those who have lost loved ones to suicide and overdose in Portage County.	X	X	X	Luke Barker, Clinical Manager, Mental Health & Recovery Board	Met to discuss possible survivors of suicide events and began to discuss international survivors of suicide loss day event.

## CHNA Priority 3: Mental Health, Substance Use, and Addiction

**Strategy 3:** Identify and evaluate data available for suicide deaths and suicide attempts in Portage County.

**Goal:** Address and reduce community-level risk factors for suicidal ideation in Portage County.

**Objective:** Identify groups at highest risk for suicide for intervention and risk reduction.

Action Step:	Timeline			Lead Person or Organization(s)	Progress
	2023	2024	2025		
<u>Activity 1:</u> Track and report 988 data for Portage County	X	X	X	Tamera Hunter and Amanda Perrin, Townhall II	Townhall II answered 108 calls through 988 crisis line between April 1st – June 30th. Safety forces were needed 6 times.
<u>Activity 2:</u> Track and report attempted suicides to ED data Portage County	X	X	X	Penny Paxton, Epidemiologist, Portage County Health District & University Hospitals Portage for EMS Database	No update.
<u>Activity 3:</u> Evaluate Coroner’s Data Report (Annually)	X	X	X	Penny Paxton, Epidemiologist, Portage County Health District	No update.
<u>Activity 4:</u> Collect and Evaluate ACEs scores from behavioral health agencies in Portage County	X	X	X	Karyn Kravetz, Associate Director, Mental Health & Recovery Board	Townhall II is collecting ACEs data and will share the process with the other agencies.

## CHNA Priority 3: Mental Health, Substance Use, and Addiction

<b>Strategy 4:</b> Promotion of gun safety.					
<b>Goal:</b> Address and reduce community-level risk factors for suicidal ideation in Portage County.					
<b>Objective:</b> By December 31, 2025, decrease risk of suicide among gun owners in Portage County.					
Action Step:	Timeline			Lead Person or Organization(s)	Progress
	2023	2024	2025		
<u>Activity 1:</u> Create and implement a plan to reach home bound older adults	X	X	X	Luke Barker, Clinical Manager, Mental Health & Recovery Board  Suicide Prevention Coalition	Discussed different methods to reach the population during the Suicide Prevention Coalition meeting.
<u>Activity 2:</u> Equip primary care offices with gun safety and suicide prevention information to distribute to at risk for suicide	X	X	X	Luke Barker, Clinical Manager, Mental Health & Recovery Board  Suicide Prevention Coalition Mindy Gusz, Community Outreach Nurse, University Hospitals Portage Medical Center	Gun locks, suicide prevention, and gun safety materials distributed to approximately 50 ppl at the UH Portage Health & Safety Fair.
<u>Activity 3:</u> Reach sportsmen with gun locks and suicide prevention materials	X	X	X	Luke Barker, Clinical Manager, Mental Health & Recovery Board  Suicide Prevention Coalition	Provided gun locks to Kent State University Counseling centers.

			Mindy Gusz, Community Outreach Nurse, University Hospitals Portage Medical Center	
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## CHNA Priority 3: Mental Health, Substance Use, and Addiction

**Strategy 5:** Comprehensive community-based plan to reduce alcohol abuse among adults in Portage County.

**Goal:** Decrease substance use in Portage County.

**Objective:** By December 31, 2025, decrease adult excessive drinking and risky behaviors in Portage County.

Action Step:	Timeline			Lead Person or Organization(s)	Progress
	2023	2024	2025		
<u>Activity 1:</u> Host employer roundtables to learn their struggles with employees on mental health & addiction issues	X	X	X	Karyn Kravetz, Associate Director, Mental Health & Recovery Board  Substance Abuse Coalition Mindy Gusz, Community Outreach Nurse, University Hospitals Portage Medical Center	Connected with Portage Development Board for them to host an event for us to present and speak with their members.
<u>Activity 2:</u> Develop a 45-min presentation to offer to business community	X	X	X	Karyn Kravetz, Associate Director, Mental Health & Recovery Board  Substance Abuse Coalition	Planning to develop presentation by August 31.
<u>Activity 3:</u> Develop and implement marketing campaign to raise awareness about adult excessive drinking and risky behaviors.	X	X	X	Karyn Kravetz, Associate Director, Mental Health & Recovery Board	Planning to develop presentation by August 31.

				Substance Abuse Coalition	
<u>Activity 4:</u> Research and identify funding that would support programs focused on alcohol awareness for adults.	X	X	X	Karyn Kravetz, Associate Director, Mental Health & Recovery Board  Substance Abuse Coalition	Met with OneOhio Foundation regional representatives to inquire about funding guidelines for when the grants become available.

CHNA Priority 3: Mental Health, Substance Use, and Addiction					
<b>Strategy 6:</b> Comprehensive community-based plan to reduce substance misuse (including overdose) among adults in Portage County					
<b>Goal:</b> Decrease substance use in Portage County.					
<b>Objective:</b> By December 31, 2025, decrease adult opioid related deaths in Portage County.					
Action Step:	Timeline			Lead Person or Organization(s)	Progress
	2023	2024	2025		
<u>Activity 1:</u> Monitor and track NARCAN use by EMS and Law Enforcement	X	X	X	Karyn Kravetz, Associate Director, Mental Health & Recovery Board – CITI Dashboard Penny Paxton, Epidemiologist, Portage County Health District & University	Requesting the CIT dashboard programmer add a selection for the officers to add if they use naloxone on a call.

				Hospitals Portage for EMS Database Substance Abuse Coalition	
Activity 2: Project DAWN Narcan distribution	X	X	X	Becky Lehman, Director of Health Education, Portage County Health District	280 Project Dawn Kits were distributed to community members.
Activity 3: Continued overdose death review	X	X	X	Penny Paxton, Epidemiologist, Portage County Health District Karyn Kravetz, Associate Director, Mental Health & Recovery Board  Substance Abuse Coalition	The Substance Abuse Coalition's Treatment Committee is reviewing overdose data. The group raised awareness on the overdose surge in the spring of 2023 through social media and flyers at area vape shops.

CHNA Priority 3: Mental Health, Substance Use, and Addiction					
<b>Strategy 7:</b> Provide access to support resources and raise awareness of the risks of tobacco, smoking, and vaping.					
<b>Goal:</b> Decrease use of tobacco, smoking, and vaping in Portage County.					
<b>Objective:</b> By December 31, 2025, increase awareness of and participation in the Ohio Quit Line by 5%					
Action Step:	Timeline			Lead Person or Organization(s)	Progress
	2023	2024	2025		



<u>Activity 1:</u> Increase the awareness of the Ohio Tobacco Quitline	X	X	X	Jalessa Caples, Accreditation Coordinator, Kent City Health Department	Waiting on Quitline data from ODH
<u>Activity 2:</u> Increase awareness of other cessation programs/ resources in Portage County	X	X	X	Jalessa Caples, Accreditation Coordinator, Kent City Health Department	1 pager has been created. Currently working on a mechanism for tracking who/where our cessation resources are going.
<u>Activity 3:</u> Increase referrals by primary care to smoking cessation services within University Hospitals Portage Medical Center	X	X	X	Mindy Gusz, Community Outreach Nurse, University Hospitals Portage Medical Center	UH Primary Care providers gave 24 referrals

## CHNA Priority 3: Mental Health, Substance Use, and Addiction

**Strategy 8:** Engage faith communities and other local groups to provide programming and support throughout Portage County.

**Goal:** Improve access to mental health and addiction services in Portage County.

**Objective:** By December 31, 2025, increase the number of community-level behavioral health and wellness related support programs available.

Action Step:	Timeline			Lead Person or Organization(s)	Progress
	2023	2024	2025		
<u>Activity 1:</u> Development and implementation of Citizen’s Circle, Recovery Outreach, and other outreach programs	X	X	X	Job and Family Services Nicole Thomas	Ohio Means Jobs held Re-entry Fair in May with 80 participants.
<u>Activity 2:</u> Research sustainable funding for recovery organizations	X	X	X	OUR Place John Garrity, Executive Director, Mental Health & Recovery Board	Met with the Regional Representatives for the OneOhio Foundation to learn when funding may be available for Portage County.
<u>Activity 3:</u> Establish at least one primary care based comprehensive harm reduction clinic	X	X	X	AxessPointe	Fentanyl streps provided to all induction patients. Will be distributing Narcan kits soon. Syringe service program is still in the works. Kent City held public meeting on June 27 <sup>th</sup> for syringe service program. AxessPointe will visit Summit office to view a model of syringe service program and begin establishing MOU’s. Potentially visit Canton City Public Health to view model in a comparable jurisdiction.

## CHNA Priority 3: Mental Health, Substance Use, and Addiction

<b>Strategy 9:</b> Remove barriers to mental health and addiction services					
<b>Goal:</b> Improve access to mental health and addiction services in Portage County.					
<b>Objective:</b> By December 31, 2025, identify and address barriers to mental health and addiction services in Portage County.					
Action Step:	Timeline			Lead Person or Organization(s)	Progress
	2023	2024	2025		
<u>Activity 1:</u> Explore feasibility of mobile van for basic health care services including harm reduction	X			Cowen Stevens, Community Health Worker, AxessPointe	Began distributing fentanyl test strips to all MAT patients currently. In addition, both CHW and HCA have been trained for Project DAWN Narcan distribution and we will begin distributing these kits once our SOP is approved. We are continuing to work towards implementing a Syringe Service Program (SSP) and we plan to pilot this at our Kent location prior to utilizing our mobile unit.
<u>Activity 2:</u> Increase Mobile Crisis for mental health	X	X	X	Bill Russell, Coleman Health Services	MRSS calls and responses for youth live. Staffing currently allowing more mobile availability in the last 60 days.
<u>Activity 3:</u> Transportation training for agencies to increase transportation; ensure participating agencies implement internal policies for training of new staff	X	X	X	Becky Lehman, Director of Health Education, Portage County Health District	Transportation training scheduled in partnership with PCHD, PARTA, & JFS. Training will be in August.

<b>CHNA Priority 3: Mental Health, Substance Use, and Addiction</b>				
<b>Strategy 10:</b> Address the needs of individuals in crisis.				
<b>Goal:</b> Improve access to mental health and addiction services in Portage County.				



**Objective:** By December 31, 2025, improve access and availability of crisis support/intervention services.

Action Step:	Timeline			Lead Person or Organization(s)	Progress
	2023	2024	2025		
<u>Activity 1:</u> Explore the feasibility of adding 23-hr Observation units for Crisis services	X			Bill Russell, Coleman Health Services  John Garrity, Director, Mental Health and Recovery Board	Mental Health & Recovery Board & Coleman Health Services are finalizing plans with the architect for the new crisis center and are securing funds.
<u>Activity 2:</u> Recruit a workforce for crisis services at area universities	X	X	X	Bill Russell, Coleman Health Services John Garrity, Director, Mental Health and Recovery Board	No update.
<u>Activity 3:</u> Engage law enforcement and medical stakeholders about the county's crisis continuum needs	X	X	X	John Garrity, Director, Mental Health and Recovery Board	Sequential Intercept Mapping workshop was held May 31 & June 1 with stakeholders from criminal justice and mental health as well as community members. Key issues were identified, and work committees are continuing to meet.