

# 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	There will be a Community Disease Report posted on PCHD website.
<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>Kat Holtz provided comprehensive sexuality education at Root House (twice a month) and at Southeast High School in January and March.</p> <p>Kat provided training on gender and sexual minorities to the PCHD Community Health Workers in February.</p> <p>Kat provided education and support to Miller Preschool/Kindergarten staff – in response to a need for a transgendered student.</p>

					Cowen: Starting in May – August, providing outreach events, providing info and condoms, etc.
<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.

CHNA Priority 1: Chronic Disease					
<b>Strategy 2:</b> Educate Portage County community on risk factors and obesity prevention as well as increase screenings.					
<b>Goal:</b> Decrease Obesity in Portage County					
<b>Objective:</b> 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 Omais, Nurse Care Manager, AxessPointe	235 screenings provided. Four referrals this quarter.  <b>Angela will share numbers from AxessPointe.</b>



<p><u>Activity 2:</u> Increase awareness of physical activity programing with the Portage Parks and Sequoia Fitness</p>	<p>X</p>	<p>X</p>	<p>X</p>	<p>Andrea Metzler, Public Engagement Manager, Portage Parks Jackie Woodring, Development Manager, Sequoia Fitness</p>	<p>Mindy will reach out to new person at Portage Parks (Andrea left her position at Parks).</p>
<p><u>Activity 3:</u> Provide community education on nutrition, and physical activity</p>	<p>X</p>	<p>X</p>	<p>X</p>	<p>Mindy Gusz, Community Outreach Nurse, University Hospitals Portage Medical Center</p>	<p>389 people reached through community education.</p>

## 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.</p> <p>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>	<p>Will become very active the second quarter.</p> <p>Planning is happening. There will be a lot of programming at Haymakers Farmers Market.</p> <p><b>Open discussion:</b></p> <p>Kim Trowbridge: NEOMED student program working with Mindy and Andrew. Looking at Andrew's data from last year, SNAP benefits used at the Haymaker Market. Analyze using zip codes and doing GIS tracking. Looking at zip codes to see if they match the priority zip codes in the CHIP. SNAP usage compared to last year. Also looking at demographics. Creating baseline data for the market.</p> <p>Great model on how to make a difference in health: Farmers market, UH Portage, NEOMED students, WIC, JFS, etc.</p>
<p><u>Activity 2:</u> Participate and increase awareness in the</p>	X	X	X	Mindy Gusz, Community Outreach	Mindy:

<p>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</p>				<p>Nurse, University Hospitals Portage Medical Center Andrew Rome, Manager of Haymaker Farm market in Kent</p>	
<p><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 &amp; 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.</p>	<p>X</p>	<p>X</p>	<p>X</p>	<p>Andrew Rome, Manager of Haymaker Farm market in Kent</p>	<p>Andrew:</p>
<p><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</p>	<p>X</p>	<p>X</p>	<p>X</p>	<p>Jodie Neu, Community Outreach Nurse, University Hospitals Portage Medical Center Andrew Rome, Manager of</p>	<p>Jodie</p>

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	Referral market where primary care doctors can refer patients. 435 patients seen at the market, 960 individuals reached. 14,295 pounds of food distributed.
<u>Activity 2:</u> Continue to screen patients for insecurities at AxessPointe.	X	X	X	Terah Omaitis, Nurse Care Manager, AxessPointe	Waiting to be approved for a grant for the food pantry. Screenings are being conducted by primary care. Any positive screens get referred to Cowan.  There is food available in the food pantry. Waiting to get the bulk of the food.



					Put Kentway in touch with Lets Grow Together program. Kentway has a new activities director.  <b>Open Discussion:</b>  Mindy: looking at expanding programming in Kent (Kentway). By focusing on an area that has been identified with a need, we can address needs including food insecurity and transportation.
<u>Activity 3:</u> Implement a Social Determinant of Health Screening Tool that includes food insecurity.	X	X	X	Janet Raber, Clinic Manager, Northeast Ohio Medical University Soar Clinic	Reach out to Dr. Alice
<u>Activity 4:</u> 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)	Total 211 calls: 213 Calls by zip code: 44288: 5 44411: 8 44266: 37 44201: 96 442340: 31 Monthly pantry hot meals served: 1830
<u>Activity 5:</u> 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	X	X	X	Mindy Gusz, Community Outreach Nurse, University Hospitals Portage Medical Center	3529 Raven Packs in first quarter. Easy to volunteer to help put together packs.  Raven Pack is funded through fundraisers and grants. Some food is from the food bank.



<p>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.</p>				<p>Laura Wunderle, Ravenna teacher and program coordinator of the Raven pack program</p>	<p>Kent Birdie Pack program-building on Lake Street.</p>
<p><u>Activity 6:</u> Identify need for additional community Gardens 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>X</p>	<p>X</p>	<p>X</p>	<p>Mindy Gusz, Community 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>	<p>Seasonal-more to come. Mindy did start a seed planting with Windham preschoolers. Plants are housed at the Windham Renaissance Center.</p>

## 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	In process in applying for the Help Me Grow program for Portage County. Met with Trumbull County to learn about how they work within the program. The idea is to use the CHWs.  Question: Where to the referrals need to come from? Start with OB offices, WIC, community partners, etc.
<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	Linked to the home visiting.
<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 report at this time.

## 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	Grant requirement for WIC. UMWS – (Portage numbers only): 85 pregnant and 69 postpartum/BF women were provided with the education January-March 2023. Total = 154
<u>Activity 2:</u> Community outreach and education on healthy pregnancy	X	X	X	Mindy Gusz, Community Outreach Nurse, University Hospitals Portage Medical Center	Will focus on events this summer.

## 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	Penny:
<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	Penny:
<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	Jalessa: Still working on getting this information.

				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	<b>Penny:</b>
<u>Activity 5:</u> Develop and maintain resource of prenatal care and delivery options for Portage County residents.	X	X	X	United Way	<b>Maureen:</b>
<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	Starting to see a trend up with the nicer weather. About 1600 participants.
<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	Low Birth Weight Infants is 45 (10%). Low birth weight infants and children up to 24 months = 212 (15%)

Activity 3: Implement one pop-up clinic within a targeted community each quarter.	X	X	X	Amy Cooper, Director of WIC, Portage County WIC	More to come next quarter.
Activity 4: Track breastfeeding rates of mom WIC participants.	X	X	X	Amy Cooper, Director of WIC, Portage County WIC	72.21% initiation rate 57.8%-1 month 42%-3 month 32%-6 month 22%-12 month

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		
Activity 1: 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 report at this time.

<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>No report at this time.</p> <p><b>Open Discussion:</b></p> <p>Mamie: Trying to use HMG as mode for this.</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><b>Cowan:</b></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>More to come this next quarter.</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	Did a cessation scan. Working on putting together the guide and a formalized process for community partners.
<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	Pregnant and Smoking = 30 (24.5%) participants
<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	No report at this time.
<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	Did provide an education session to providers in the first quarter. Will track and report referrals next quarter.



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	<p>Ravenna Schools Board updated their smoking policy to a smoke free policy.</p> <p>Five schools in Portage County have 100% Smoke Free policies in place.</p> <p>Smoke Free Policy Scores:  Aurora has a 62%  Crestwood has 100%  Field has a 96%  <b>James Garfield has a 100%</b>  <b>Kent is 100%</b>  Maplewood Career Center is 62%  Ravenna is 95%  Rootstown is 88%  <b>Southeast Local is 50%</b>  <b>Streetsboro is 100%</b>  Waterloo is 55%  <b>Windham EVSD is 100%</b></p>

**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.



<b>Objective:</b> By December 31, 2025, better understand the gaps and opportunities to address affordable and reliable childcare in Portage County.					
<b>Action Step:</b>	<b>Timeline</b>			<b>Lead Person or Organization(s)</b>	<b>Progress</b>
	<b>2023</b>	<b>2024</b>	<b>2025</b>		
<u>Activity 1:</u> Promote childcare as a field of job training.	X	X	X	Stephanie Wilfong, Early Childhood Education program, Maplewood Career Center	<b>Stephanie</b>
<u>Activity 2:</u> Assure affordable and reliable childcare in Portage County				Rebecca Abbott, Administrator, Job and Family Services  Kimberly Macphail, Job and Family Services	26 inspections done for type A and B childcare.  Type A can take up to 12 children, 1 staff per 6 kids. 1 in PC. Type B can take up to 6 children. 1 staff person. More of a family center. 11 in PC.  We only have 2 in-home Aides.  Minimal training to become an in-home aide. Good for grandma's, family members, etc. Minimal training and can get paid minimal wage.  Childcare centers fall under the state.  Provided information on how to become a licensed child care provider.
<u>Activity 3:</u> Establish and implement processes to investigate this as a community issue.	X	X	X	TBD	<b>Kelli Jo:</b>  <b>Open Discussion:</b>  Justin: JFS was working on childcare program for county employees. They inquired about a food license.

					Looking at using the Annex Building. Rebecca Abbott is heading up the project. Some modifications need to be made to the building. Tentative opening in the next year. Still moving forward.
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## 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	135 people trained from Jan-Mar 2023 in Question, Persuade, Refer: school staff and professionals in the community.  QPR training provided at Leadership Portage County.  QPR training at Rootstown School District.
<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	Karyn and Mindy met to begin planning. Hosting with the Chambers on May 11th with a focus on mental health. Discussion on workplace stress. Looking at reaching out to employers for a survey as well as working with the safety council. Also contacted Ohioans with Disabilities.  Bob from UH is working within his position to reach out to businesses, etc.
<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	Identifying issues at the next Health Equity Task Force meeting. Will be looking at the CHA and CHIP to help decide what the focus should be. Task Force is being held at Holden Elementary School.

				Mindy Gusz, Community Outreach Nurse, University Hospitals Portage Medical Center	
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CHNA Priority 3: Mental Health, Substance Use, and Addiction					
<b>Strategy 2:</b> Raise awareness of loss support groups and connect to resources for “traditional” loss and for all loss					
<b>Goal:</b> Address and reduce community-level risk factors for suicidal ideation in Portage County.					
<b>Objective:</b> 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	KCHD got certified to be grief recovery method trainers to hold recovery classes. At the beginning stage of setting up classes. Looking at who else could benefit from receiving this training, specifically those who work in mental health. This is a general grief recovery class, focusing on all types of grief. Specifically for adults.  Mental Health Board funding the booklets for Grief Recovery Method class for Year One.
<u>Activity 2:</u> Provide mental health resources for individuals going through divorce.	X	X	X	Luke Barker, Clinical Manager, Mental Health & Recovery Board	Children Are Forever class will resume in person again after COVID. This class is mandated for every couple with children who are getting divorced. The Mental Health Board will provide folders with information for the participants.

<p><u>Activity 3:</u> Develop plan to reach individuals experiencing financial loss.</p>	<p>X</p>	<p>X</p>	<p>X</p>	<p>Luke Barker, Clinical Manager, Mental Health &amp; Recovery Board</p>	<p>No report at this time from MHRB.</p> <p>NiCole Thomas: Community Bible Church is working on Getting Ahead program. A few members have been training in Bridges Out of Poverty. Goal is to implement the program this year. Trying to reach those who use the food pantry.</p>
<p><u>Activity 4:</u> Provide resources to families of those who have lost loved ones to suicide and overdose in Portage County.</p>	<p>X</p>	<p>X</p>	<p>X</p>	<p>Luke Barker, Clinical Manager, Mental Health &amp; Recovery Board</p>	<p>Mental Health &amp; Recovery Board will continue to provide resources/booklets to families of those who have lose loved ones to suicide and overdose in Portage County.</p> <p>Camp Kelly is a program in July for children who have experienced loss.</p>

## 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 Maria Landry, Townhall II	Amanda Perrin is now the manager of Help Line at Townhall II.  Data on 988: Townhall II answered 83 calls through 988 crisis line between Jan 1- Mar 31. Safety forces were needed 7 times.  The problem is that your area code is where you are routed. If you have an area code from a different area/location, then this could be a problem to get immediate assistance if needed. They are working through these issues.
<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 report at this time.
<u>Activity 3:</u> Evaluate Coroner's Data Report (Annually)	X	X	X	Penny Paxton, Epidemiologist, Portage County Health District	No report at this time.
<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	No report at this time.  Question: What are the most prevalent ACEs seen by the mental health agencies in the county?  The goal is to create prevention strategies.

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

**Strategy 4:** Promotion of gun safety.

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

**Objective:** 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	Met to develop list of resources/materials and began developing list of all primary care offices within Portage County.  Working with Sherriff’s Office to promote gun safety during the Health and Safety Day in July.  Stop the Bleed programming at UH Portage – will be done during Health and Safety Day too. School programs for Stop the Bleed.  PCHD is also offering Stop the Bleed classes.
<u>Activity 3:</u> Reach sportsmen with gun locks and suicide prevention materials	X	X	X	Luke Barker, Clinical Manager,	Handed out gun locks at Sportsman Bash in Portage County.  AxessPointe can take printed materials for gun safety.



			<p>Mental Health &amp; Recovery Board</p> <p>Suicide Prevention Coalition</p> <p>Mindy Gusz, Community Outreach Nurse, University Hospitals Portage Medical Center</p>	<p>Local police departments also have and distribute gun locks.</p> <p>Primary Care Offices are changing to Epic EMR. The transition is taking time.</p> <p>Suggestion: Work with local schools as a potential resource sites.</p>
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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	Met to begin planning.  April is Alcohol Awareness month. MHRB will be posting for partners to share on social media.
<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	No report at this time.
<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	No report at this time.

				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	No report at this time.

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	Portage police department are being trained on the CIT dashboard in spring of 2023.  Becky: Law Enforcement: 1 death reported by Kent City Police. They did use a Project DAWN kit.  PCHD replaced Narcan for Kent City PD and State Highway Patrol in March.

				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	January 1-March 31: 251 kits, 256 people trained, 81 classes held. Distributing partners: Townhall II, F&CS Reunification House, F&CS PARC, F&CS Gougler, OUR Place, Root House, NEOMED Health Center, Kent City Health Department, Brightview Partnering soon: UH Hospitals in the Jail, AxessPointe  PCHD did receive noticed of award for new harm reduction grant that will continue to fund Project DAWN.
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	Mental Health & Recovery Board created report on accident overdose deaths in 2022 by cross referencing police reports, court records, and corner's report. Beginning to analyze data with Treatment Committee.

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

**Strategy 7:** Provide access to support resources and raise awareness of the risks of tobacco, smoking, and vaping.

**Goal:** Decrease use of tobacco, smoking, and vaping in Portage County.

**Objective:** 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	Looking at working with community partners who are interested in receiving cessation programs.
<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	Creating a resource guide for tobacco cessation. Looking at formal process to track partners and resources.
<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	38 PCP 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	<p>Beauty from Ashes is housed in a church in Portage County. Going into the faith communities to break down barriers and share resources. Redeveloping that model into the community. Starting to develop programming – Trauma Reboot (faith-based trauma group offered in churches). Also have a First Responders Reboot for our first responders dealing with trauma.</p> <p>Looking at specific outreach targeted to kids in foster care, etc.</p> <p>Providing mental health support for staff who are counseling children to support against burnout.</p> <p>Wanting to connect with other churches as well.</p> <p>Mindy: Will work with NiCole for the clergy group that meets at UH Portage.</p> <p>JFS: Big event being held in April.</p>
<u>Activity 2:</u> Research sustainable funding for recovery organizations	X	X	X	OUR Place John Garrity, Executive Director, Mental Health & Recovery Board	No report at this time.

<p><u>Activity 3:</u> Establish at least one primary care based comprehensive harm reduction clinic</p>	X	X	X	<p>AxessPointe</p>	<p>Angela DeJulius: Conversations have started. Looking at having a syringe service at the Kent AxessPointe.</p> <p>Primary goal to reduce Hep C and HIV. AxessPointe provides treatment for Hep C. 75 people referred currently (in the pipeline), 30 completed treatment, and 20 currently in treatment. No longer an exclusion for individuals who are still actively injecting substances.</p> <p>AxessPointe dispenses fentanyl strips. OUR Place, Townhall II and MHRB also distributing fentanyl strips.</p> <p>Working with PCHD to provide Project DAWN at the clinic.</p>
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### CHNA Priority 3: Mental Health, Substance Use, and Addiction

**Strategy 9:** Remove barriers to mental health and addiction services

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

**Objective:** 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		
<p><u>Activity 1:</u> Explore feasibility of mobile van for basic health care services including harm reduction</p>	X			<p>Cowen Stevens, Community Health Worker, AxessPointe</p>	<p>Exploring the feasibility of a mobile van. Looking at to start first, harm reduction (syringe program) or mobile unit.</p>
<p><u>Activity 2:</u> Increase Mobile Crisis for mental health</p>	X	X	X	<p>Bill Russell, Coleman Health Services</p>	<p>No report at this time.</p>

<p><u>Activity 3:</u> Transportation training for agencies to increase transportation; ensure participating agencies implement internal policies for training of new staff</p>	X	X	X	<p>Becky Lehman, Director of Health Education, Portage County Health District</p>	<p>Working with PARTA to host a transportation training. Training will be held on August 10<sup>th</sup> at PARTA on Summit Street. More details to follow.</p> <p>Amy: New app is slotted to be amazing, more accurate, notification notices when to go to your bus stop, etc.</p>
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### CHNA Priority 3: Mental Health, Substance Use, and Addiction

**Strategy 10:** Address the needs of individuals in crisis.

**Goal:** 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		
<p><u>Activity 1:</u> Explore the feasibility of adding 23-hr Observation units for Crisis services</p>	X			<p>Bill Russell, Coleman Health Services</p> <p>John Garrity, Director, Mental Health and Recovery Board</p>	<p>Mental Health &amp; Recovery Board has committed 1.5 million to the Coleman Behavioral Health Urgent Care. Coleman is applying for grants. Both entities are meeting with other funders to raise the additional funds need to break ground in 2023/2024.</p>
<p><u>Activity 2:</u> Recruit a workforce for crisis services at area universities</p>	X	X	X	<p>Bill Russell, Coleman Health Services</p> <p>John Garrity, Director, Mental</p>	<p>John Garrity spoke to KSU College of Public Health Students about careers in crisis and the mental health profession.</p>



				Health and Recovery Board	
<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	Planning Sequential Intercept Mapping workshop to be held May 31 & June 1 facilitated by the Criminal Justice Coordinating Center for Excellence of NEOMED.