

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

Progress Notes Year 2 – April 2024



CHNA Priority 1: Chronic Disease

CHNA Priority 1: Chronic Disease					
Strategy 1: Establish baselines and provide outreach and education on prevention, treatment, and follow-up with providers and community members.					
Goal: Decrease Communicable Diseases, including Sexually Transmitted Infections in Portage County.					
Objective: 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	Olivia Card, Epidemiologist, Portage County Health District	<p>Olivia: See notes below.</p> <p>Trends are on track from last year. Communicable Disease will be out soon. Will include historical data for comparison.</p> <p>Mapping area high schools and confirmed/probable cases for ages of high school students. Windham was the highest for chlamydia. Streetsboro and Ravenna Cities were high. Shows us where to target outreach. PCHD will work on education and outreach.</p> <p>Hep C cases are going down.</p> <p>Discussion: Is there a 6-month sobriety stipulation for Hep C treatments? ACESSPointe sees Root House clients for all health services. Should be working with jail on Hep C testing and treatment?</p>
<p><u>Activity 2:</u> Provide education on prevention and treatment with individuals in the community.</p>	X	X	X	Kat Holtz, Health Educator, Portage	<p>Kat: Completed comprehensive sexuality course at Southeast Schools.</p> <p>Eclipse Safer Sex kits were popular.</p>

				County Health District Cowen Stevens, Community Health Worker, AxessPointe	Cowen: Pharmacy continues Hep C treatment. Since beginning of program: 71 current patients, 45 confirmed cured. 52 STI screenings completed (not including HIV and Hep C).
<u>Activity 3:</u> Provide outreach and education on prevention, treatment, and follow-up with providers through educational newsletters.	X	X	X	Becky Barreca, Portage County Health District	Becky B.: Looking to do a one-page provider education on what is pertinent right now. Slated to be out this month.

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 program to implement	X	X	X	Mindy Gusz, Community Outreach Nurse, University Hospitals Portage Medical Center Cowen Stevens, AxessPointe	Mindy: 1,046 screening in the first quarter (Heart Health in February). Cowen: 108 prediabetes screenings completed at AxessPointe.

screening opportunities for obesity risk factors.				Becky Barreca, Portage County Health District	
<u>Activity 2:</u> Increase awareness of physical activity programming with the Portage Parks.	X	X	X	Mindy Gusz, Community Outreach Nurse, University Hospitals Portage Medical Center in partnership with Portage Parks	Mindy: 13 attendees at the Portage Park program with 4 screenings. Olivia: Tick walk and talk this week. Bed bug and cockroaches: 2 in February.
<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	Mindy: 748 people educated.

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 & 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</p> <p>Andrew Rome, Manager of Haymaker Farm Market in Kent</p> <p>Amy Cooper, Director of WIC, Portage County WIC</p>	<p>Mindy: No updates at this time.</p> <p>Joan: Partnering with AxessPointe for Produce Prescription-starts in May. Provides \$120 for household. There is screening involved. Done through HEAL grant.</p> <p>AI: PC Master Gardeners has taken over edible triangles in Kent for this summer. Free produce-primarily herbs at Haymakers.</p>
<p><u>Activity 2:</u> Participate and increase awareness in the</p>	X	X	X	Mindy Gusz, Community Outreach	Mindy: No updates at this time.

<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</p> <p>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 & 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>	X	X	X	<p>Andrew Rome, Manager of Haymaker Farm market in Kent</p>	<p>Mindy: No updates at this time.</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>	X	X	X	<p>Jodie Neu, Community Outreach Nurse, University Hospitals Portage Medical Center</p>	<p>Mindy: No updates at this time.</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.				Andrew Rome, Manager of Haymaker Farm market in Kent	
				Annett Ludwick, Director, Portage Senior Center	

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 referrals and participation addressing food insecurity, its impact on health at the University Hospitals Portage Food For Life Market.	X	X	X	Mindy Gusz, Community Outreach Nurse, University Hospitals Portage Medical Center	Mindy: 438 visits, 919 people served. Trial program at indoor Food Market, 361 vouchers given, \$1805 used. Will be transitioning to the outdoor market. Amy: PCHD will have a pop-up Akron Canton Food Bank the first Thursday of every month 1-3pm. KSU and NEOMED also have a pop up on separate months. Had our first event during Open House – served 57 people. JFS has a resource guide that gets updated regularly. PCHD will host a link on our website. KSU: College of Public Health is starting a collaboration with food bank. Data is tracked.



<p><u>Activity 2:</u> Continue to screen patients for insecurities at AxessPointe.</p>	<p>X</p>	<p>X</p>	<p>X</p>	<p>Cowen Stevens, AxessPointe</p>	<p>Cowen: 946 food insecurity screenings completed by API providers. 20 referrals were placed to CHW's for food insecurity. 210 patients screened positive for food insecurity on CHW intake review.</p> <p>Partnering with Akron Canton Food Bank for emergency food bags and will be doing a monthly distribution open to all.</p> <p>Becky will reach to Ben at The Portager to link the resources for food insecurity.</p>
<p><u>Activity 3:</u> Implement a Social Determinant of Health Screening Tool that includes food insecurity.</p>	<p>X</p>	<p>X</p>	<p>X</p>	<p>Hannah Haynie, Northeast Ohio Medical University Soar Clinic</p>	<p>Hannah: There is a screening tool being used at the SOAR clinic. Will be working on the implementation of a tool to be used regularly.</p>
<p><u>Activity 4:</u> Provide education and food security resources at Portage County Food Banks/Pantries prioritizing the zip codes of 44288, 44411, 44266.</p> <p>Resources: HEAL Guide and JFS Resource List</p>	<p>X</p>	<p>X</p>	<p>X</p>	<p>Mindy Gusz, Community Outreach Nurse, University Hospitals Portage Medical Center</p> <p>Maureen Gebhardt, Community Impact and Volunteers, United Way (partner for identification of resources/data reporting)</p>	<p>Mindy: 211 Calls by zip code: 44288: 5, 44411: 0, 44266: 25, 44201: 86, 44240: 28 (144 for these zip codes) Number of county pantry hot meals served: 2087</p>
<p><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 income requirements. Raven</p>	<p>X</p>	<p>X</p>	<p>X</p>	<p>Mindy Gusz, Community Outreach Nurse, University Hospitals Portage Medical Center</p>	<p>Mindy: 3324 pack distributed in first quarter.</p> <p>Amy to contact Kent Birdy Bags for numbers.</p>

<p>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><u>Activity 6:</u> Sustaining community Gardens focusing on food desserts and vulnerable populations with the goal of expanding access of 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>Mindy: No updates at this time.</p>
<p><u>Activity 7:</u> Explore the connection of those in need of fresh produce to those with an abundance of fresh produce.</p>		<p>x</p>		<p>Mindy Gusz, Community Outreach Nurse, University Hospitals Portage Medical Center</p>	<p>Mindy: Working with Raven Packs to work with Master Gardeners and Kent Garden Club to coordinate to gather excess produce to set up a free farmers market at 3 PMHA areas with high number of families. Will start mid July through September. Will be going to each building once a month. Getting fresh produce into the hands of those in need.</p> <p>“Grow and Extra Row” program for all of the community as a part of the Let’s Grow Together group.</p> <p>UH will provide recipes.</p>

CHNA Priority 2: Family, Pregnancy, Infant, and Child Health (FPICH)

CHNA Priority 2: Family, Pregnancy, Infant, and Child Health					
Strategy 1: Pilot home visiting programs that begin prenatally to identify needs and improve pregnancy outcomes.					
Goal: Improve Pregnancy and Birth Outcomes					
Objective: 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		
<p><u>Activity 1:</u> Implement CHW program at Portage County Health District in partnership with Kent State University.</p> <p>(Year 3 goal: Hire a CWH at PCHD to provide community outreach for Windham, Garrettsville, and Ravenna.)</p>	X	X	X	Becky Barreca, Director of Nursing, Portage County Health District	<p>Becky B.: Partnering with KSU and community health workers. Still exploring opportunities to see how this would work in PC.</p> <p>Cowen: ACESSPointe is partnering with the CARA program. Will have a CHW working with pregnant moms who have substance use issues. Will follow the mom a year after birth, to eliminate barriers.</p> <p>Summit County has a robust CHW program through pathways hub. Will be reaching out to them to see how PCHD can connect with them.</p>
<p><u>Activity 2:</u> Explore opportunities for home visiting program within PCHD using public health nurses, health educators, and CHWs to achieve healthy birth outcomes and reduce infant mortality.</p>	X	X	X	Becky Barreca, Director of Nursing, Portage County Health District	Becky B.: Partnering with KSU and community health workers. Still exploring opportunities to see how this would work in PC.
<p><u>Activity 3:</u> Year 3 goal: Once established, implement opportunities for new parents/guardians who receive</p>	X	X	X	Becky Barreca, Director of Nursing, Portage	Becky B.: Partnering with KSU and community health workers. Still exploring opportunities to see how this would work in PC.

home visits to receive education and resources on breastfeeding, WIC, tobacco cessation, immunizations, safe sleep practices, car seat safety, transportation, etc.				County Health District	
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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, Birth, and Post-Partum Outcomes

Objective: By December 31, 2025, increase the knowledge of the signs of hypertension in pregnancy and postpartum outcomes 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	Amy: Provides the program to all of WIC participants.
<u>Activity 2:</u> Explore community outreach and education on healthy pregnancy and post-partum outcomes by UH Portage Medical Center.	X	X	X	Mindy Gusz, Community Outreach Nurse, University Hospitals Portage Medical Center	Mindy: No updates at this time.
<u>Activity 2:</u> Explore opportunities for home visiting program within	X	X	X	Becky Barreca, Director of Nursing,	Becky B.: Partnering with KSU and community health workers. Still exploring opportunities to see how this would work in PC.



PCHD using public health nurses, health educators, and CHWs to improve post-partum outcomes.				Portage County Health District	
<u>Activity 3</u> : Year 3 goal: Once established, implement opportunities for new parents/guardians who receive home visits to receive education and resources on maternal warning signs.	X	X	X	Becky Barreca, Director of Nursing, Portage County Health District	Becky B.: Partnering with KSU and community health workers. Still exploring opportunities to see how this would work in PC.

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> : Track number of EMS transports for pregnancy and labor related conditions.	X	X	X	Olivia Card, Epidemiologist, Portage County Health District & University Hospitals Portage for EMS Database	Olivia: Data request from the state is needed.
<u>Activity 2</u> : Establish a process to obtain and review birth certificate data, comparing residency of	X	X	X	Olivia Card, Epidemiologist, Portage County	Olivia: See notes below.



birthing individual compared to their delivery location.				Health District (back up)	Elise: Ahuja Hospital deliveries shows up in the UH Cleveland numbers.
<u>Activity 3:</u> Maintain and share prenatal care visit options in Portage County and surrounding counties.	X	X	X	Olivia Card, Epidemiologist, Portage County Health District	Olivia: Prenatal care map has been completed. Will be posted on PCHD website, updated quarterly.
<u>Activity 4:</u> Track prenatal care and delivery United Way 211 calls for Portage County residents.	X	X	X	Maureen Gebhardt, United Way	Maureen: No updates.

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

Strategy 4: Improve birthing person, fetal, and child health outcomes through increasing WIC participation.

Goal: Improve overall health outcomes and prevent nutrition-related illness among at-risk women, infants, and children.

Objective: 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	Amy: Case load for PC increased this quarter by 3%. Average 1779 participants this 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	Amy: Born early = 204 (infants/children up to age 2) Low birth weight = 62 (infants/children up to age 2)

<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	Amy: Had a pop up event at the Windham Renaissance Center. Text message was the only advertising done. Had 2 participants attend.
<u>Activity 4:</u> Track breastfeeding rates of mom WIC participants.	X	X	X	Amy Cooper, Director of WIC, Portage County WIC	Amy: Breastfeeding Initiation Rate = 77% Breastfeeding Duration 1 month: 52.1%, 3 Months: 38%, 6 Months: 30.2%, 12 Months: 18%

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> Explore opportunities for home visiting program within PCHD using public health nurses, health educators, and CHWs to increase use of reproductive health interventions.	X	X	X	Becky Barreca, Director of Nursing, Portage County Health District	Becky B.: Partnering with KSU and community health workers. Still exploring opportunities to see how this would work in PC.
<u>Activity 2:</u> Year 3 goal: Once established, implement opportunities for new parents/guardians who receive home visits to receive education	X	X	X	Becky Barreca, Director of Nursing, Portage County Health District	Becky B.: Partnering with KSU and community health workers. Still exploring opportunities to see how this would work in PC.



and resources on reproductive health interventions.					
<u>Activity 3</u> : Provide referrals and resources to individuals to ensure reproductive health care access.	X	X	X	Cowen Stevens, Community Health Worker, AxessPointe Job and Family Services	Cowen: More to come in the future with the hiring of a new CHW. 18 OBGYN referrals placed by API providers.

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	No updates at this time.
<u>Activity 2:</u> Track number of pregnant WIC participants who use nicotine and/or tobacco or nicotine replacement during pregnancy.	X	X	X	Amy Cooper, Director of WIC, Portage County WIC	Amy: 8.5% of moms reported tobacco and e-cigs use. Nicotine/tobacco use = 35 women
<u>Activity 3:</u> Track number of pregnant individuals smoking tobacco in the third trimester or at all during pregnancy.	X	X	X	Jalessa Caples, Accreditation Coordinator, Kent City Health Department Oivia Card, Epidemiologist, Portage County Health District	Olivia: 2024: 330 births, percent of moms who reported smoking was 5.8%.
<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	Mindy: 5 referrals to pregnant moms.

Track the number of pregnant individuals referred for tobacco treatment counseling.				Hospitals Portage Medical Center	
<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	Lanika: Resource guide created by KCHD. Looking at Moms Quit for Two program.

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> : Assure affordable and reliable childcare in Portage County.				Kimberly Macphail, Job and Family Services	Kimberly: No updates.
<u>Activity 2</u> : Establish and implement processes to investigate this as a community issue.		X	X	Lanika Mutsach, Kent City Health Department	Lanika: Working on a plan to establish a process. Looking at childcare resources available in PC. Found it for Ohio. Reached out to JFS for information locally. Ohio has the highest bar for eligibility- 145% of poverty line. How to find current numbers? How much is change with work patterns, especially due to COVID? Providers in PC?

<u>Activity 3</u> : Track childcare referrals from United Way 211 calls for Portage County residents.	X	X	X	Maureen Gebhardt, United Way	Maureen: 211 Calls by zip code: 44288: 5, 44411: 0, 44266: 25, 44201: 86, 44240: 28 (144 for these zip codes) Number of county pantry hot meals served: 2087
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Noelle: Catholic Charities now has the PRC program. 5 topics for parenting classes. Each topic for certain age group. Each class attended allows for the attendees to receive packages of goods. Participants must be certified by JFS. If on SNAP, they are automatically eligible. Located in the old Triangle Pharmacy building in Ravenna.

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

CHNA Priority 3: Mental Health, Substance Use, and Addiction					
Strategy 1: Provide community-based activities and trainings to raise awareness.					
Goal: Decrease suicide related deaths in Portage County.					
Objective: 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	Karyn: From Jan-Mar 2024, 6 school staff trainings were held. 23 staff members at from multiple districts were trained in Mental Health First Aid. 70 from Kent City were trained in Anxiety Awareness, 19 from Ravenna City were trained in suicide prevention (QPR), and two community trainings in suicide prevention (QPR) trained 27 people.
<u>Activity 2</u> : Engage with employers to learn their struggles with	X	X	X	Karyn Kravetz, Associate Director,	Karyn: The Portage Development Board held a Workforce Workshop with a “Second Chance” panel. Over 40 employers were



employees on mental health & addiction issues.				<p>Mental Health & Recovery Board</p> <p>Mindy Gusz, Community Outreach Nurse, University Hospitals Portage Medical Center</p>	<p>in attendance. Employers learned about Townhall II's Recovery Friendly Workplace program and other programs. MHRB distributed local mental health & addiction resources and a survey to find out what services the businesses need.</p> <p>Survey completed by ~8 companies. Reported wanting more information/education on engaging this population of employees.</p> <p>Second chance panel: Discussion on ways to recruit workforce. Found that recruitment strategies that were most successful was Facebook over Indeed, etc. Discussed ways to engage and recruit workforce.</p>
<u>Activity 3:</u> Engage community centers on mental health issues to reach key community groups.	X	X	X	<p>Karyn Kravetz, Associate Director, Mental Health & Recovery Board</p> <p>Mindy Gusz, Community Outreach Nurse, University Hospitals Portage Medical Center</p>	<p>Karyn: No updates at this time.</p>

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		Progress

	2023	2024	2025	Lead Person or Organization(s)	
<u>Activity 1</u> : Support Grief Recovery Method through outreach; information sharing.	X	X	X	Jalessa Caples, Accreditation Coordinator, Kent City Health Luke Barker, Clinical Manager, Mental Health & Recovery Board	Joan: First 8-week session was held. Great feedback. Another event will be scheduled in the Fall.
<u>Activity 2</u> : Provide mental health resources for individuals going through divorce.	X	X	X	Luke Barker, Clinical Manager, Mental Health & Recovery Board	Karyn: A Divorce & Mental Health section was added to the MHRB's website to provide the handouts that the families who attend the "Children Are Forever" class receive.
<u>Activity 3</u> : Develop plan to reach individuals experiencing financial loss.	X	X	X	Luke Barker, Clinical Manager, Mental Health & Recovery Board	Karyn: No updates at this time.
<u>Activity 4</u> : 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	Karyn: No updates at this time. Al: Kent UCC will be having a support group the first Sunday of each month for those who have lost a loved one (family member) due to overdose.

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	Amanda Parrin, Townhall II	Amanda: Answered 79 calls through the 988 crisis line. Safety forces were used with 7 of the calls.
<u>Activity 2:</u> Track and report Portage County resident data for ED and urgent care for attempted suicides to identify possible trends.	X	X	X	Olivia Card, Epidemiologist, Portage County Health District	Olivia: Currently the data source is incomplete. Working on a work around-reaching out to partners to learn how to get the information.
<u>Activity 3:</u> Evaluate Coroner’s Data Report (monthly) to determine number of deaths by suicide to identify possible trends and/or prevention strategies.	X	X	X	Olivia Card, Epidemiologist, Portage County Health District Luke Barker, Clinical Manager, Mental Health & Recovery Board	Olivia: Deaths: 5 completed suicides in 2024.
<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	Karyn: Townhall II is collecting ACEs data. Children’s Advantage will begin and go back through 2023 records. F&CS will start tracking ACEs data with all their new assessments this spring 2024.

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	Karyn: No update at this time.
<u>Activity 2:</u> Provide social service and faith-based agencies with gun safety and suicide prevention information to distribute.	X	X	X	Luke Barker, Clinical Manager, Mental Health & Recovery Board Suicide Prevention Coalition	Karyn: No update at this time.
<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 Mindy Gusz, Community	Karyn: MHRB table at the Sportsman Dinner with @ 250 attendees, distributed 107 gun locks & 50 988 wristbands and other suicide prevention and local resource materials. Children’s Advantage: Having a fundraiser in the name of Alija Will be passing out suicide prevention materials, etc. KCHD: Distributed 25 gun locks at PCHD Health Fair in April.

				<p>Outreach Nurse, University Hospitals Portage Medical Center</p>	<p>Discussion on how to continue the talks with the James Woods family for suicide prevention.</p> <p>Becky B: PCHD does the Child Fatality Review Board. Any information on child deaths would be helpful for the Board for prevention.</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> Engage with employers 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	Karyn: The Portage Development Board held a Workforce Workshop with a “Second Chance” panel. Over 40 employers were in attendance. Employers learned about Townhall II’s Recovery Friendly Workplace program and other programs. MHRB distributed local mental health & addiction resources and a survey to find out what services the businesses need.
<u>Activity 2:</u> Develop and implement a 45-min presentation to offer to community.	X	X	X	Karyn Kravetz, Associate Director, Mental Health & Recovery Board	Karyn: No updates.
<u>Activity 3:</u> Develop and implement marketing campaigns and programs to raise awareness about adult excessive drinking and risky behaviors.	X	X	X	Karyn Kravetz, Associate Director, Mental Health & Recovery Board	Karyn: Surveyed treatment agencies on SUD primary diagnosis. Planning Alcohol Awareness campaign for April and continuing through spring.

				Substance Abuse Coalition	
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CHNA Priority 3: Mental Health, Substance Use, and Addiction

Strategy 6: Comprehensive community-based plan to reduce substance misuse (including overdose) among adults in Portage County

Goal: Decrease substance use in Portage County.

Objective: 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	Olivia Card, Epidemiologist, Portage County Health District	Olivia: As of 2/13/24: 26 doses of Naloxone were given by EMS. This is low (normal is 80/90 doses). We have lost some reporting for data. Ohio has now stipulated that ERs have to report any non-fatal overdoses. Started 4/8/24. UH Portage pharmacy is now giving out Narcan Kits and in the ED. Law enforcement: 98 kits 3 reversals and 0 deaths
<u>Activity 2:</u> Project DAWN Narcan (Narcan) distribution.	X	X	X	Kat Holtz, Health Educator, Portage County Health District	Kat: total kits distributed 274 (13 through mail order) – includes law enforcement . Total people trained 158 Reversals from community: 7



					<p>Josh: Went out with EH hotel inspections. Did trainings with hotels in Streetsboro and Brimfield. A few were interested in having a naloxbox. Only one hotel was not receptive to trainings.</p> <p>Al: Summit County Public Health has over 100 boxes throughout Summit County. PCHD will reach out for more information.</p> <p>KCHD: Distributed 73 kits.</p> <p>UH Portage: 50 kits distributed in an hour.</p>
Activity 3: Continued overdose death review.	X	X	X	<p>Olivia Card, Epidemiologist, Portage County Health District</p> <p>Karyn Kravetz, Associate Director, Mental Health & Recovery Board</p> <p>Substance Abuse Coalition</p>	<p>Karyn: Overdose Workgroup met in January & March. Health District developed heat map to identify locations for naloxbox placement.</p> <p>Olivia: Overdose deaths: 5 in January</p>
Activity 4: Establish at least one primary care based comprehensive harm reduction clinic.	X	X	X	AxessPointe	<p>Cowen: Officially starting Harm Reduction program this week: Safe Point. Syringe distribution, hygiene kits, wound care, connection with resources at AxessPointe. Right now, it will be at the Kent location of AxessPointe. Every Thursday, 9am-4pm. Will also do Hepatitis testing. Treatment will happen if they are AxessPointe patients.</p>

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	Lanika: Now has a dedicated Vista staff dedicated to tobacco grant. Working through changes in the grant. Looking at targeting populations that have a higher rate of tobacco use.
<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	
<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	Mindy: 33 referrals made by UH primary care.

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

Strategy 8: Remove barriers and increase access to mental health, addiction, and crisis 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		
<u>Activity 1:</u> Explore feasibility of mobile van for basic health care services including harm reduction.	X			Cowen Stevens, Community Health Worker, AxessPointe	Cowen: Putting van on hold until Safe Pointe is up and running. Using the mobile van to do dental services.
<u>Activity 2:</u> Increase Mobile Crisis for mental health.	X	X	X	Bill Russell, Coleman Health Services	Karyn: Educated about mobile crisis (and other Coleman Crisis services) & at the Kent Community Partner Coalition. Between Jan 2024- Mar 2024 Youth mobile and adult community referrals for mental health outreach with Coleman served.
<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	Becky: Will be reaching out to PARTA to provide a training in 2024. Amy: Passigo is up and running. Super is easy to use. Detours are posted in real time. Automatic passenger counters installed. Will show how crowded the buses are.
<u>Activity 4:</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	Karyn: MHRB & Coleman finalizing plans with architects, getting ready to bid the new construction and break ground this fall.
<u>Activity 5:</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	Karyn: No updates at this time.

Activity 6: Engage law enforcement and medical stakeholders about the county's crisis continuum needs.	X	X	X	John Garrity, Director, Mental Health and Recovery Board	Karyn: UH Portage ED staff, Coleman, police, and MHRB staff met in February. Stepping Up committee and workgroups met in February. The goal of this group is to reduce the number of people with mental illness in jail by gathering stakeholders to work on local issues.
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Open Discussion:

Townhall II: Coleman walk-in hours have changed. Refer people to the ED. New location opening ~June.

Children's Advantage: Family Center is up and running. Just hired a new child psychiatrist. Fundraiser is coming up-magic show with suicide information. Hiring for a Family Therapist.

Priority 1 Strategy 1 Activity 1:

<i>Condition</i>	<i>2022</i>	<i>2023</i>	<i>2024 (Q1)</i>
Chlamydia	427	390	76
Gonococcal infection	108	93	13
Syphilis	0	0	0
HIV	0	4	0
Hepatitis B (Acute)	0	0	1
Hepatitis C (Acute)	0	0	0
Hepatitis B (chronic)	1	5	1
Hepatitis C (Chronic)	44	37	9

*Please note: these case numbers include **confirmed cases only**, and exclude any cases reported to KCHD. The CD report for 2023 will include both probable and confirmed cases, so case numbers will be different than what is displayed in this chart. Data source: ODRS.

High School Name	Estimated Chlamydia Rate (per 1,000 students)	Estimated Gonorrhea Rate (per 1,000 students)
Aurora City	2.982107356	0.994035785
Waterloo	4.184100418	4.184100418
Rootstown	4.237288136	0
Field	6.571741512	1.095290252
James A. Garfield	6.787330317	0
Southeast	8.976660682	1.795332136
Crestwood	11.74168297	0
Streetsboro City	20.6022187	3.169572108
Ravenna City	42.55319149	0
Windham Exempted	92.19858156	14.18439716

*Please note: these estimates were calculated using **confirmed and probable cases only**, and exclude any cases reported to KCHD. Data source: ODRS, American Community Survey.

Key: Red = first, Orange = second, Yellow = third, Green = fourth, Blue = fifth

Priority 2 Strategy 6 Activity 3:



<i>Year</i>	<i>% Y smoked third trimester</i>	<i>% N smoked third trimester</i>
2020	11.6	88.4
2021	9.0	91.0
2022	5.7	94.3
2023	5.9	94.1
2024 (for 330 births as of 4/3)	5.8	94.2

*Please note: these percentages include only tobacco cigarettes, and do not reflect the use of e-cigarettes, vape pens, or smokeless tobacco. Data source: Ohio Public Health Data Warehouse.

Priority 3 Strategy 3 Activity 3:

<i>Year</i>	<i>Number of deaths reported as suicides</i>
2020	26
2021	23 (2 pending)
2022	25 (1 pending)
2023	24
2024 (Q1)	5

Data source: Coroner’s report.

Priority 3 Strategy 6 Activity 1:

<i>Year</i>	<i>Q1</i>	<i>Q2</i>	<i>Q3</i>	<i>Q4</i>	<i>Total</i>
2021	96	114	128	100	438
2022	99	81	118	82	380
2023	75	74	75	56	280
2024 (as of 2/13)	26	X	X	X	X

*Please note: that data in this table reflect the number of doses of naloxone administered by EMS companies in Portage County with 85% of EMS providers reporting. Data source: Ohio EMS naloxone watch webpage.

Priority 3 Strategy 6 Activity 3:

<i>Year</i>	<i>Number of Deaths from unintentional OD</i>
2020	42 (2 pending)

2021	42 (3 pending)
2022	45 (unknown num pending)
2023	43 (7 pending)
2024 - YTD	5 in January alone

Data sources: Coroner’s report.

Update on births by Portage County Women Q4 2022 - Q3 2023:

Facility	Deliveries
Summa Akron City	404
UH Geauga	284
CCHS Hillcrest	188
UH Cleveland	211
CCHS Akron General	128
UH Portage	50
Aultman	27
MetroHealth	18
Mercy St. Joseph Warren	16
Mercy St. Elizabeth Boardman	15
CCHS Fairview	13
All Others	19
Total	1,373