



**PERRY
COUNTY**

**2017-2020
Community
Health
Improvement
Plan**



2019
Annual Progress Report

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The Process

In 2017, Perry County, Ohio, in collaboration with the counties of Vinton, Hocking, and Athens (SE Region), entered into an agreement to develop a regional Community Health Improvement Plan (CHIP). The Center for Public Health Practice located in the College of Public Health at The Ohio State University was retained by the group as the facilitator. Each county had previously completed a Community Health Assessment (CHA); individual CHIPs were subsequently written using a combination of regional and single-county meetings.

88 community partners from Perry County participated in the development of the CHIP, which involved utilizing the Perry County definition, or vision, of health to guide planning. This vision of health in Perry County is:

Perry County Adding More to Life!

Value Strong - Community Focused – Health & Prosperity for All

Using this vision to guide the planning process, the community planning group convened to examine the 2017 CHA. Based on the results of the CHA, the work of the previous CHIP, and combined with their knowledge of the community, a planning group selected the health priorities of:

1. Mental Health and Substance Abuse;
2. Access to Care;
3. Obesity; and
4. Tobacco



Perry County then collaborated with the SE Region to determine where shared planning might occur. The following shared priorities were identified:

Substance Abuse & Chronic Disease

Representatives from all four counties participated in a systematic process to draft work plans that would address these common priorities. Following this shared planning process, Perry County completed a similar activity to adapt those plans to fit Perry County's unique needs. The resulting work plans detail the specific goals, objectives, and measures that will be used to address priorities and track progress. Workgroups considered several overarching principles as they considered goals and objectives: the Health Impact Pyramid, evidence based public health practices, and priority alignment with Ohio's State Health Improvement Plan.

This 2019 Annual Progress Report will provide an update of progress and status of projects, programs, and policies that are aimed at the identified priorities to improve the health of the residents of Perry County.

Priority: Access to Care

Why it is a top health priority: Perry County's rural location creates many barriers to access to care. People who reside in rural areas are less likely to have easy access to many healthcare services. Access to affordable, quality healthcare is an important component to overall health. While the community has made a lot of progress in removing barriers to healthcare, there is still room for improvement. According to the 2017 Community Health Assessment, 43% of residents reported that it had been over a year since seeing a dentist.

The CHIP focuses on increasing access to health and dental care, as well as enhancing healthcare workforce development in Perry County. Vulnerable populations impacted by CHIP include under/uninsured residents and residents who live in a rural area.

Goals: Increase funding opportunities for access to care programming, Enhance access to care workforce development, Foster access to care innovations, Create a healthcare ecosystem, and Increase access to dental healthcare.

Objectives:

- Better coordination of funding opportunities
- Implement a fundraising campaign
- Collaborate with Ohio University and Hocking College on workforce development initiatives
- Conduct a feasibility study
- Increase membership of Access to Care Committee
- Establish a lifestyle change network
- Increase access to dental care

Progress Update:

- Hocking College presented the College Credit Plus Pathway: Health, that they developed for high school students wanting careers in the health field and receiving college credits in high school in April 2018
- The Access to Healthcare in Perry County. Ohio: Status and Strategies, 2018 Report was completed and released June 2018
- Genesis Perry County Medical Center opened August 2018 and had its 1 year anniversary celebration August 2019.
- New Lexington Schools presented their Panther Partners Program in October 2018 to the Access to Care Committee members. Panther Partners provide internship/job shadowing opportunities to students, which would specifically address students interested in health related fields when partnering with Access to Care Committee members.
- In 2018, 20 senior residents received dental services through the Smiles for Life program. The United Way of Muskingum, Perry, and Morgan Counties contributed \$39,780.00 to the Smiles for Life Dental Program in 2018.
- Hocking College Dental Hygiene Program received initial accreditation from the Commission on Dental Accreditation in March 2019.

Priority: Mental Health & Substance Abuse

Why it is a top health priority: Mental Health and Substance abuse, particularly opioids, are leading health concerns in Perry County. 16.2% of Perry County residents surveyed for the 2017 CHA reported knowing someone with a drug abuse or addiction problem. Lack of access to effective treatment for mental health and addiction has left the county particularly vulnerable. The CHIP focuses on improving access to medication and detox facilities to help drug users, as well as enhancing education and prevention initiatives throughout the county. The CHIP focuses on enhancing drug treatment options and increasing social support for those impacted by mental health and substance abuse issues.

Vulnerable populations impacted by CHIP include under/uninsured residents and prisoners.

Goals: Reduce drug overdose deaths; reduce drug dependency/abuse; reduce suicide rate

Objectives:

- Increase enrollment in substance abuse treatment
- Establish a detox facility
- Improve overdose reporting
- Enhancing community training programs for first responders
- Increasing jail space for females
- Increasing residential treatment options
- Implement community-based aftercare
- Strengthen access to trauma-based care
- Enhancing use of suicide crisis hotline and emergency services
- Implement education campaigns
- Provide better mental healthcare for children of those with addiction

Progress Update:

- Clearview Detox Center opened on March 6th, 2018, accepting all insurance and offering a sliding fee scale
- Work plan updated to reflect the new 911 program installed in June 2019 that has the capability of tracking number and types of emergency responses to a specific address. Capability aids in providing appropriate care for victims of overdose
- Perry Behavior Health Choices staff received trauma care training in October 2018
- Youth and Family Intervention Program began in the Fall of 2017. Offers counseling, school based education and summer programming for Perry County youth.

Priority: Tobacco

Why it is a top health priority: Examples of health-related risks associated with tobacco use include cancer, heart disease, low birth weight babies, and stroke. Despite many existing community programs, 19.4% of residents report allowing at least some smoking in the home. This exposes residents to secondhand smoke, which has been linked to chronic conditions such as asthma. The CHIP focuses on increasing tobacco cessation services, preventing youth tobacco initiation, and preventing tobacco litter.

Vulnerable population impacted by CHIP are youth.

Goals: Decrease tobacco use

Objectives:

- Increase certified tobacco treatment specialists
- Decrease youth tobacco start rate
- Implement tobacco litter prevention grant program
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Progress Update:

- Perry County increased from 2 Tobacco Treatment Specialist to 6. TTS available at the Perry County Health Department, Perry Behavioral Health Choices, Hopewell Health Centers and Genesis HealthCare System
- Tobacco CHIP plan modified in July 2019 to reflect the State of Ohio passing of Tobacco 21.
- The Village of Shawnee received funding to purchase and distribute butt receptacles
- Tobacco litter article released through Perry County Tribune in August of 2019
- Tobacco litter campaign to begin in conjunction with the Perry County Health Department Tobacco Use Prevention and Cessation program
- Tobacco Use Prevention and Cessation program to begin policy discussion with village councils to address youth access to tobacco in 2019

Priority: Obesity

Why it is a top health priority: Obesity increases your risk of several diseases, including diabetes, heart disease, arthritis, and some cancers. Poor physical activity and nutrition are two main contributing factors to weight status. This CHIP focuses on increasing opportunities for physical activity and improving nutrition, both of which are impacted by socioeconomic status. According to the 2017 CHA, individuals in Perry County with a higher household income were more likely to both consume fresh fruit and be physically active. Those with a household income of \$50,000 or more were more likely than those with lower household incomes to eat fruit at least once in a typical day (85% and 68% respectively). Similarly, residents with household incomes of at least \$75,000 annually were more likely than those with lower household incomes to participate in physical activity outside their regular job in the past month (91% and 65%, respectively). In addition, breastfed babies are less likely to be obese, and we will work with community agencies to pass policies that improve breastfeeding rates.

Vulnerable populations impacted by CHIP include food insecure residents, infants, and low income residents

Goals: Reduce the rate of obesity among Perry County residents

Objectives:

- Increased physical activity rates
- Increase consumption of healthy, fresh food

Progress Update:

- Playground revitalization completed in New Lexington and Roseville
- Sidewalk improvement on Broadway Street in New Lexington took place in 2017
- Perry County Active Transportation Plan being written with support from Toole Design in 2019
- Village of Roseville improvement projects include revitalization of Main Street including new sidewalks 2019
- Funding is being sought to provide the Village of Roseville with a grocery store 2018-2019
- A Safety Audit of the Carroll Street Corridor in New Lexington will address the need for crosswalks, and sidewalks to improve access to businesses for those using active transportation 2019
- A Community Garden with Northern Local Schools was sponsored in 2019 through Creating Healthy Communities funding
- Bike Sharrows were painted on Tile Plant Road to begin educating motorists on the need to share the road with those biking or walking
- Genesis HealthCare System began offering a Food Pharmacy program in Crooksville in 2019

Summary:

The Community Health Improvement Plan (CHIP) 2019 Annual Progress Report is being presented to all Perry County residents so that we can work together as partners to make our community a healthier place to live, work, and play. It is with the participation of all residents who read and discuss this report and assist with the strategies that we will assure a healthy community! The CHIP Annual Progress Report highlights the progress made in the following health priority areas: Increasing Access to Care, Decreasing Obesity, Decreasing Tobacco Use, and Mental Health and Substance Abuse. This report also includes the workplans for each of the four priority areas that show progress on objectives, as well as, what objectives are still remaining. By implementing the CHIP workplans, we hope to achieve the following outcomes in each health priority area:

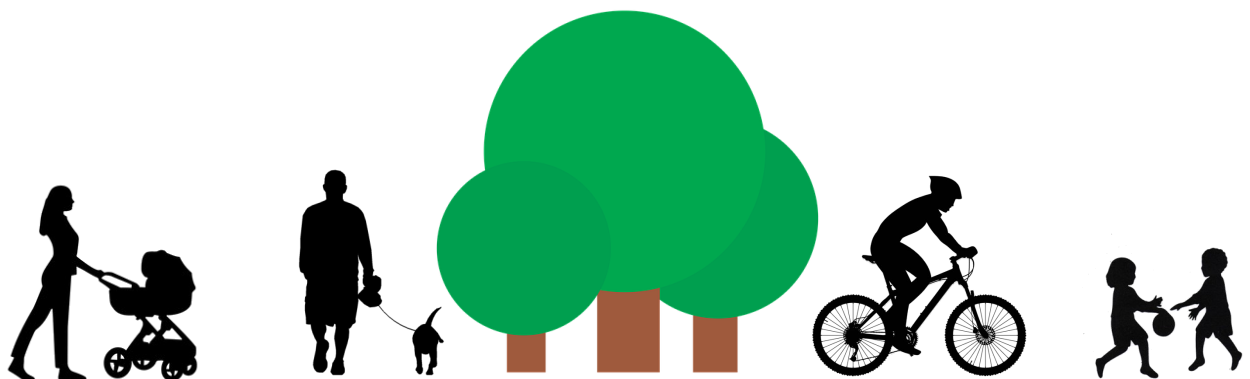
Access to Care: We hope Perry County residents will receive increased access to affordable, quality healthcare and preventative services; have the opportunity to participate in a workforce development program promoting healthcare careers and providing work force training; and take advantage of a better aligned healthcare ecosystem linking stakeholders together to create more coordinated efforts.

Obesity: We hope to leverage our existing relationships and strong community programs to increase physical activity and improve nutrition in hopes to decrease our community's risk for diseases such as diabetes, heart disease, arthritis, and some cancers.

Tobacco: We hope to use our existing resources to increase the number of Certified Tobacco Treatment Specialists in Perry County schools and clinics. We will also work with local schools and organizations to increase anti-tobacco advocacy and education with the hopes of preventing tobacco use and the potential for some of the health related risks associated with tobacco use.

Mental Health and Substance Abuse: We hope to leverage our existing resources to reduce overdoses and suicides by improving access to clinical interventions while increasing our preventative efforts and community support system.

If you would like to become involved with the CHIP or have questions about this progress report please contact the Perry County Health Department 740-342-5179.





Appendices: Priority Work Plans



Public Health
Prevent. Promote. Protect.

**Perry County
Health Department**

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