

PORTAGE COUNTY



Community Health Improvement Plan 2020-2022

Priority #1: Mental Health, Substance Use and Addiction

Strategy 1: Assess, develop, and provide mental health resources to youth and adults in Portage County.

Goal: Improve mental health outcomes.

Objective: By December 31, 2022, decrease the percent of adults and youth feeling sad and hopeless by 2%.

Action Step	Timeline	Lead Contact/Agency	Progress
<p>Year 1: Work with primary care providers and office staff to assess what information and/or materials they are lacking to provide better care for patients with mental health issues.</p> <p>Provide baseline for number of youths being assessed in the schools for mental health concerns.</p> <p>Develop awareness campaigns on counseling for depression and anxiety.</p> <p>Explore how to reach adults to help relieve anxiety due to financial/job stress.</p> <p>Access the County's supports for LGBTQ resources for youth, colleges, and adults.</p>	December 31, 2020		
<p>Year 2: Work with primary care providers and office staff to assess what information and/or materials they are lacking to provide better care for patients with mental health issues.</p> <p>Increase number of youths being assessed in the schools for mental health issues.</p> <p>Develop awareness campaign on counseling for depression and anxiety.</p> <p>Explore how to reach adults to help relieve anxiety due to financial/job stress.</p> <p>Access the County's supports for LGBTQ+ resources for youth, colleges, and adults.</p> <p>Identify current programs for addressing mental health in Portage County and increase distribution of information on those programs through a resource guide.</p> <p>Inclusion of behavioral health counselors in SOAR clinic. Behavioral health screenings conducted at every appointment.</p>	December 31, 2021	Karyn Kravetz, Mental Health and Recovery Board	

Year 3: Continue efforts from years 1 and 2.	December 31, 2022	No updates.
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Strategy 2: Screening for Adverse Childhood Experiences (ACEs) using a standardized tool.

Goal: Improve behavioral health outcomes.


Objective: Implement ACEs screenings in five different Portage County locations by December 31, 2022.

Action Step	Timeline	Lead Contact/Agency	Progress
<p>Year 1: Portage County Trauma Informed Care Collaboration will assess agencies, organizations, disciplines etc. who could benefit from implementation of the ACEs, provide training on ACEs implementation, and collect data on Portage County ACE outcomes.</p> <p>Adopt a community-wide screening tool for ACEs and target the screening towards those who serve economically disadvantaged and/or minority populations.</p> <p>Implement ACEs as part of intake at The Family Center for both children and parents/caregivers. Provide data on posttraumatic growth due to programming addressing impact of ACEs by reporting successful families and their ability to remain intact and complete programming.</p> <p>Provide community-based training on ACEs, the impact of trauma, and how the community can respond to trauma.</p> <p>Pilot the tool in at least one new entity.</p> <p>Collect baseline data on the number of adults and counselors that have been trained in TIC.</p> <p>Create a referral for all trauma specific service providers in the county.</p> <p>Portage County Trauma Informed Care Collaboration will identify prevention strategies to educate the community on awareness of negative impact of trauma to reduce occurrence of abuse/neglect, sexual abuse, and violence through community awareness event.</p> <p>Hold one community awareness event on the prevention of traumatic experiences.</p>	December 31, 2020	Nicole Thomas, Children's Advantage	

<p>Year 2: Provide trauma-informed care services through Portage County.</p> <p>Create a referral for all trauma specific service providers in the county.</p> <p>Hold one community awareness event on the prevention of traumatic experiences.</p> <p>Collect baseline data on the number of adults and counselors that have been trained in TIC.</p>	December 31, 2021		
<p>Year 3: Continue efforts from years 1 & 2.</p>	December 31, 2022		Karyn: Handle with Care Trainings: 167 Kent City School staff members and 13 first responders

Strategy 3: Screening for suicide for patients 12 or older using a standardized tool 			
Goal: Decrease suicide deaths.			
Objective: Implement suicide screenings for patients 12 or older in five Portage County healthcare settings by December 31, 2022.			
Action Step	Timeline	Lead Contact/Agency	Progress
<p>Year 1: Introduce C-SSRS to healthcare providers such as primary care offices, FQHCs, emergency departments, and first responders. Evaluate current screening resources and referral networks. Prioritize providers serving at-risk populations.</p> <p>Train Portage County law enforcement in C-SSRS through four (4) regional trainings.</p> <p>Train 5-6 professionals in QPR (question, persuade, refer) to become trainers to conduct sessions in the community.</p> <p>Raise awareness of gun safety. Distribute Suicide Gun Safety cards to gun sellers, sportsman, etc.</p>	December 31, 2020	<p>Bill Russell, Coleman</p> <p>Karyn Kravetz, Mental Health and Recovery Board</p>	
<p>Year 2: Introduce C-SSRS to healthcare providers such as primary care offices, FQHCs, emergency departments, and first responders. Evaluate current screening resources and referral networks. Prioritize providers serving at-risk populations.</p>	December 31, 2021		

<p>Train Portage County law enforcement in C-SSRS through four (4) regional trainings.</p> <p>Train 5-6 professionals in QPR (question, persuade, refer) to become trainers to conduct sessions in the community.</p> <p>Raise awareness of gun safety. Distribute Suicide Gun Safety cards to gun sellers, sportsman, etc.</p>			
<p>Year 3: Continue efforts from years 1 and 2.</p> <p>Initiate conversations regarding the feasibility of integrating the screening tool into a system(s)-wide electronic medical record system.</p>	December 31, 2022		<p>Karyn: 26 Job & Family Service staff trained in QPR. 13 Community members trained in QPR 236 school staff members from James A Garfield, Rootstown, Southeast, and Windham school districts trained in QPR or AID.</p> <p>14 first responders trained in CSSRS during the fall Crisis Intervention Team training.</p>

Strategy 4: Youth alcohol/other drug prevention and mental health programs 			
Goal: Decrease substance use.			
Objective: By December 31, 2022, decrease youth usage of e-cigarettes, alcohol, and marijuana by 2%.			
Action Step	Timeline	Lead Contact/Agency	Progress
<p>Year 1: Continue evidence-based prevention programming for youth and expand as funding allows.</p> <p>Advocate for youth mental health and alcohol/other drug prevention funding.</p> <p>Increase mental health prevention programs (Life Skills, Second Step, SAVE, PAX) in Portage County.</p> <p>Increase training for adults who work with children (school staff, coaches, clergy, etc.).</p> <p>Identify the needs of community centers (Skeels, King Kennedy, Windham Renaissance).</p> <p>Implement youth-led prevention projects.</p>	December 31, 2020	<p>Sarah McCully, Townhall II</p> <p>Karyn Kravetz, Mental Health and Recovery Board</p>	

Assess current vaping education services in Portage County.			
<p>Year 2: Continue evidence-based prevention programming for youth and expand as funding allows.</p> <p>Advocate for youth mental health and alcohol/other drug prevention funding.</p> <p>Increase mental health prevention programs (Life Skills, Second Step, SAVE, PAX) in Portage County.</p> <p>Increase training for adults who work with children (school staff, coaches, clergy, etc.).</p> <p>Identify the needs of community centers (Skeels, King Kennedy, Windham Renaissance).</p> <p>Implement youth-led prevention projects.</p> <p>Assess current vaping education services in Portage County.</p>	December 31, 2021		
<p>Year 3: Continue efforts from year 2.</p>	December 31, 2022		<p>Karyn: Townhall II provided prevention programming throughout July and beginning of August at the King Kennedy and Skeels Community Centers. Drug prevention classes started in the 2022 school year in Kent's 6th grade and Streetsboro's 8th grade. Youth-led prevention activities began immediately at the start of the school year at Streetsboro High School. Townhall II is planning a Youth Summit to kick-off more youth-led prevention projects for January 2023.</p>

Strategy 5: Community-based comprehensive plan to reduce alcohol and drug abuse			
Goal: Decrease substance use.			
Objective: Decrease adult excessive drinking and risky behaviors and raise awareness of the harmfulness of marijuana and e-cigarettes to adults by 2%.			
Action Step	Timeline	Lead Contact/Agency	Progress
<p>Year 1: Continue to implement a community awareness campaign and host an annual conference about alcohol and drug use.</p>	December 31, 2020		

<p>Conduct community outreach targeting adults on low-risk drinking guidelines and marijuana/e-cigarette use.</p> <p>Assess current programs on AOD education for adults identified by healthcare providers as high-risk.</p> <p>Gather data on OVI in Portage County. Raise awareness of alternative transportation options to avoid OVI.</p>			
<p>Year 2: Continue to implement a community awareness campaign and host an annual conference about alcohol and drug use.</p> <p>Conduct community outreach targeting adults on low-risk drinking guidelines and marijuana/e-cigarette use.</p> <p>Assess current programs on AOD education for adults identified by healthcare providers as high-risk.</p> <p>Gather data on OVI in Portage County. Raise awareness of alternative transportation options to avoid OVI.</p>	December 31, 2021		
<p>Year 3: Continue efforts from year 2.</p>	December 31, 2022		Karyn: Alcohol awareness messages included with the Ravenna Designated Outdoor Refreshment Area website and materials.

Strategy 6: Increase awareness and accessibility of treatment options for those with substance use disorder.			
Goal: Decrease substance use.			
Objective: By December 31, 2022, establish MAT resources and referrals systems in Portage County.			
Action Step	Timeline	Lead Contact/Agency	Progress
<p>Year 1: Collect baseline data on the number of Ohio jails that offer Medication Assisted Treatment (MAT) and at what capacity; including MAT upon release from jail.</p> <p>Continue to offer and expand MAT and recovery housing in various locations throughout Portage County.</p>	December 31, 2020	<p>Rob Young, Townhall II</p> <p>Karyn Kravetz, Mental Health and Recovery Board</p>	

Explore feasibility of Substance Use Disorder screening and referrals to community health in the Emergency Departments and Urgent Cares.		Marihelyn Horrigan, AxessPointe	
Explore feasibility for continuing care programs in the schools and community.			
Year 2: Monitor the Portage County Jail Medication Assisted Treatment (MAT) practices.	December 31, 2021		
Continue to offer and expand MAT and recovery housing in various locations throughout Portage County.			
Explore feasibility of Substance Use Disorder screening and referrals to community health in the Emergency Departments and Urgent Cares.			
Educate community on the effectiveness of medication-assisted treatment.			
Year 3: Continue efforts from year 2.	December 31, 2022		No update.

Strategy 7: Safe Communities campaign			
Goal: Reduce drinking and driving.			
Objective: By December 31, 2022, host nine events per year focused on sober driving in Portage County.			
Action Step	Timeline	Lead Contact/Agency	Progress
Year 1: Collaborate with local partners and conduct a minimum of quarterly meetings to address county-wide traffic safety issues. (Safe Communities coalitions are required to deliver traffic safety messages and events throughout the year, providing educational and earned media portions of enforcement campaigns.)	December 31, 2020	Lynette Blasiman, Safe Communities Coalition	
Conduct 2 kickoff events and a minimum of 10 additional events focused on seat belt usage, impaired driving, and motorcycle safety (a minimum of 4 events will be focused on impaired driving).			
Year 2: Collaborate with local partners and conduct a minimum of quarterly meetings to address county-wide traffic safety issues. (Safe Communities coalitions are required to deliver traffic safety messages and	December 31, 2021		

<p>events throughout the year, providing educational and earned media portions of enforcement campaigns.)</p> <p>Conduct 2 kickoff events and a minimum of 10 additional events focused on seat belt usage, impaired driving, and motorcycle safety (a minimum of 4 events will be focused on impaired driving).</p>			
<p>Year 3: Continue efforts from year 2.</p>	<p>December 31, 2022</p>		<p>Ali: Safe Communities utilized social media to get messaging to the community. 533,173 people were reached through collaborative social media messaging and partnerships from July 1-September 30, 2022.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Collaborative social media messaging: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ <i>4th of July</i>: 202,184 people reached ▪ "National DSOGPO Enforcement" – Collaborative Message: 7 partners shared – 42,311 followers – 39 likes – 6 shares ▪ "DSOGPO Kickoff group Photo" – 2 posts - 16,100 followers – 27 likes – 4 shares ▪ "UH Streetsboro Health Fair " – 1 post - 6,100 followers -23 likes – 1 share ▪ "Octane Nights" – 1 post – 6,100 followers - 9 likes - 1 share ▪ "Portage County Randolph Fair"- 3 posts - 6,100 followers - 73 likes ○ Events: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Ohio State Highway Patrol Turnpike event ▪ Health & Wellness Fair ▪ UH Health & Safety Fair ▪ Octane Nights (Downtown Ravenna) ▪ UH Streetsboro Health & Safety Day ▪ DSOGPO Kick off event (UH Portage)

			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Portage County Randolph Fair Streetsboro Checkpoint with OSHP and Streetsboro PD
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Strategy 8: Tobacco-free policies

Goal: Decrease tobacco use.

Objective: By December 31, 2022, implement tobacco-free policies in at least three Portage County multi-unit housing units and at least one school.

Action Step	Timeline	Lead Contact/Agency	Progress
<p>Year 1: Collect baseline data on which organizations, multi-unit housing facilities, schools parks, and other businesses currently have tobacco-free policies.</p> <p>Provide education to residents to assist with the transition of the multi-unit housing complexes to a tobacco-free policy.</p>	December 31, 2020	Mike Anguilano, Kent City Health Department	
<p>Year 2: Begin efforts to adopt tobacco-free policy in parks, fairgrounds, schools and other public locations.</p> <p>Implement a 100% tobacco-free policy in at least 1 Portage County School District.</p>	December 31, 2021		
<p>Year 3: Continue efforts of years 1 and 2. Target 2 additional multi-unit housing complexes and additional school districts to adopt a tobacco-free housing policy.</p>	December 31, 2022		Kent City Health Department was awarded the Tobacco grant from ODH for the next year.


Strategy 9: Links to cessation support

Goal: Decrease tobacco use.

Objective: By December 31, 2022, increase participation in tobacco cessation program(s) by 15%.

Action Step	Timeline	Lead Contact/Agency	Progress
<p>Year 1: Collect baseline data on the availability of evidence-based tobacco cessation programs in Portage County and the need for more.</p> <p>Promote and raise awareness of the tobacco cessation programs, as well as other resources, such as the Ohio Tobacco Quit Line, My Life My Quit, etc..</p>	December 31, 2020	<p>Mike Anguilano, Kent City Health Department</p> <p>Ali Mitchell, Portage County Health District</p>	

<p>Increase participation in the tobacco cessation programs by 7% from baseline.</p> <p>Increase percentage of participants who enroll and attend the first class.</p> <p>Increase percentage of participants who attend the first class and complete the full 5-week cycle.</p> <p>Investigate barriers to nicotine replacement therapy access.</p>		UH Portage Medical Center	
<p>Year 2: Collect baseline data on the availability of evidence-based tobacco cessation programs in Portage County and the need for more.</p> <p>Promote and raise awareness of the tobacco cessation programs, as well as other resources, such as the Ohio Tobacco Quit Line, My Life My Quit, etc..</p> <p>Increase participation in the tobacco cessation programs by 7% from baseline.</p> <p>Increase percentage of participants who enroll and attend the first class.</p> <p>Increase percentage of participants who attend the first class and complete the full 5-week cycle.</p> <p>Investigate barriers to nicotine replacement therapy access.</p> <p>Increase communication of referral services of tobacco cessation services at the UH Hospital system.</p>	December 31, 2021		
<p>Year 3: Continue efforts of years 1 and 2.</p>	December 31, 2022		Still promoting the Ohio Quit Line.

Strategy 10: Data sharing 			
Goal: Increase data sharing among Portage County organizations.			
Objective: By December 31, 2022., create and implement a written plan that addresses data sharing for coordination and continuity of care among Portage County agencies.			
Action Step	Timeline	Lead Contact/Agency	Progress
<p>Year 1: Work with local agencies to create a multidisciplinary committee and assess the barriers of data sharing for coordination and continuity of care and identify those barriers.</p>	December 31, 2020	John Garrity, Mental Health and Recovery Board	

<p>Aggregate data sharing is useful at the micro and macro level. At the micro level, providers need this information to effectively plan and implement care, especially in transitions from agency to agency, or level of care to the next. At the macro level, officials and administrators can use this data to make population health-level decisions about program effectiveness, risk areas, gaps in care. This information can also be helpful in requesting funding or making new collaboration decisions.</p>		<p>Bill Russell, Coleman</p> <p>Penny Paxton, Portage County Health District</p>	
<p>Year 2: 1: Work with local agencies to create a multidisciplinary committee and assess the barriers of data sharing for coordination and continuity of care and identify those barriers.</p>	<p>December 31, 2021</p>		
<p>Year 3: Continue efforts of years 1 and 2.</p>	<p>December 31, 2022</p>		<p>No update.</p>

Priority #2: Chronic Disease

Strategy 1: Food insecurity screening and referral

Goal: Reduce food insecurity.


Objective: Implement a food insecurity screening and referral in at least three additional Portage County locations by December 31, 2022.

Action Step	Timeline	Lead Contact/Agency	Progress
<p>Year 1: Research the 2-item Food Insecurity (FI) Screening Tool, or another screening tool, and determine the feasibility of implementing the food insecurity screening and referral program in another location.</p> <p>Educate healthcare organizations on food insecurity, its impact on health, and the importance of screening and referral. Address food insecurity as part of routine medical visits on an individual and systems-based level.</p> <p>Inform participating locations on existing community resources and referral options such as 2-1-1, WIC, SNAP, school nutrition programs, food pantries, and other resources.</p> <p>Implement the screening tool in at least one additional location with accompanying referral options and evaluation measures. Target screenings towards those who live in or serve economically disadvantaged populations.</p> <p>SOAR will screen patients to identify needs; follow-up resources are provided and tracked.</p>	December 31, 2020	<p>UH Portage Medical Center</p> <p>Janet Raber and Lacy Madison, NEOMED SOAR</p>	
Year 2: Continue efforts from year 1.	December 31, 2021		
Year 3: Continue efforts from years 1 and 2	December 31, 2022		Mindy: There were 151 patients (referred) seen at the UH Portage Food For life market which provided food resources to 307 individuals. 12,202 pounds of food were provided in the Food For Life market 3 rd quarter to these individuals

Strategy 2: Nutrition prescriptions			
Goal: Increase fruit and vegetable consumption.			
Objective: Implement nutrition prescription program in Portage County by December 31, 2022.			
Action Step	Timeline	Lead Contact/Agency	Progress
<p>Year 1: Research nutrition prescription programs and determine the feasibility of implementing them in local health care organizations.</p> <p>Explore the feasibility of creating a food pharmacy program that accepts nutrition prescriptions.</p>	December 31, 2020	<p>Marihelyn Horrigan, AxessPointe</p> <p>Janet Raber, NEOMED SOAR</p>	
<p>Year 2: Explore funding opportunities for integrating nutrition prescription programs into primary care venues, such as hospital clinics and FQHCs.</p> <p>Partner with local farmers markets and discuss the possibility of redeeming nutrition prescriptions at participating markets.</p> <p>Continue efforts from year 1.</p>	December 31, 2021		
<p>Year 3: Continue efforts from years 1 and 2.</p> <p>Implement nutrition prescription program in Portage County.</p>	December 31, 2022		No updates.

Strategy 3: Healthy eating practices through fostering self-efficacy			
Goal: Increase fruit and vegetable consumption.			
Objective: By December 31, 2022, at least one Cooking Matters class (per quarter) will be implemented in Portage County.			
Action Step	Timeline	Lead Contact/Agency	Progress
<p>Year 1: Continue to implement the Share Our Strength's Cooking Matters program through the Kent State University Nutrition Outreach Program.</p> <p>Work with at least one new organization, such as a school, senior center, or community center, to pilot an additional 6-week course of the Cooking Matters program. Offer the program to adults, youth, and families.</p>	December 31, 2020	Natalie Caine-Bish, Kent State University Nutrition Outreach Program	

<p>Begin to implement Healthy MunchBunch in Portage County Schools with at least one new school to participate in the program. Healthy MunchBunch is a lunch time fruit and vegetable education program to increase fruits and vegetable consumption. Program will be measured by the change in fruit and vegetable consumption before and after program initiation.</p> <p>Measure knowledge gained through evaluations.</p> <p>Search for grants and funding opportunities to support efforts.</p>			
<p>Year 2: Pilot the Independent Living Cooking Program to kids in foster care.</p> <p>Implement the Kids Camp program in schools.</p> <p>Continue providing the Mighty Pack program in schools to address food insecurity in children.</p> <p>Continued work on finding grants and funding opportunities to support efforts.</p>	December 31, 2021		
<p>Year 3: Continue efforts from years 1 and 2.</p> <p>Measure knowledge gained through evaluations</p>	December 31, 2022		No update.

Strategy 4: Prediabetes screening and referral 			
Goal: Prevent diabetes in adults.			
Objective: By December 31, 2022, increase the number of prediabetes screenings by 15%.			
Action Step	Timeline	Lead Contact/Agency	Progress
<p>Year 1: Establish baseline for prediabetes screenings conducted in Portage County.</p> <p>Raise awareness of prediabetes screening, identification and referral through dissemination of the Prediabetes Risk Assessment.</p> <p>Promote free/reduced cost screening events within the county.</p>	December 31, 2020	<p>Marihelyn Horrigan, AxessPointe</p> <p>Janet Raber, NEOMED SOAR</p>	
<p>Year 2: Continue efforts from year 1.</p>	December 31, 2021	UH Portage Medical Center	
<p>Year 3: Continue efforts of years 1 and 2.</p>	December 31, 2022		Mindy: There were 131 screenings completed which represents 45 prediabetes risk tests with 26 scoring >5 (56% which indicates a

			referral to a PCP), and 84 glucose finger stick. Resources and education provided.
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Strategy 5: Hypertension screening and follow up

Goal: Promote hypertension management in adults.

Objective: By December 31, 2022, increase hypertension medication adherence by to 85%.

Action Step	Timeline	Lead Contact/Agency	Progress
<p>Year 1: Gather data on hypertension management interventions currently used in Portage County.</p> <p>Research barriers to medication adherence and best practices for hypertension management.</p> <p>Increase patient/community education on hypertension screening, treatment, and the importance of routine follow up with patients diagnosed with hypertension.</p>	December 31, 2020	<p>UH Portage Medical Center</p> <p>Janet Raber, NEOMED SOAR</p>	
<p>Year 2: Continue efforts from year 1. Increase awareness of hypertension screening, treatment, and follow up.</p>	December 31, 2021		
<p>Year 3: Continue efforts of years 1 and 2.</p>	December 31, 2022		Mindy: 208 people were provided hypertension education or screenings. 101 were provided hypertension screenings and education and 107 were provided hypertension education.

Strategy 6: Increase awareness of nutrition/physical activity resources

Goal: Decrease obesity.

Objective: By December 31, 2022, increase the number of Portage County providers utilizing the resource guide by 15% from baseline.

Action Step	Timeline	Lead Contact/Agency	Progress
<p>Year 1: Continue to offer nutrition/physical activity resources to physicians and develop a local community resource for physician use when referring their patients. Include items such as cost and transportation options in the guide.</p>	December 31, 2020	<p>Amy Lee, NEOMED</p>	

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Establish a list/network of Portage County healthcare providers and organizations that would benefit from having a healthy eating, activity living (HEAL) resource guide. Develop a marketing plan for the HEAL guide. <p>Develop and implement a sustainability plan to keep resources updated.</p>			
<p>Year 2: Continue efforts of year 1, including marketing and sustaining the guide. Implement the marketing plan so that at least 50% of the providers/organizations on the list are notified and have received information on the guide.</p>	December 31, 2021		
<p>Year 3: Continue efforts of years 1 and 2, including marketing and sustaining the guide. Increase the number of stakeholders receiving information on the guide to 80%.</p>	December 31, 2022		No update.

Strategy 7: Prescriptions for health

Goal: Increase participation and active engagement with parks and programs.

Objective: By December 31, 2022, increase participation in the Parks Rx program by 13% from the baseline.

Action Step	Timeline	Lead Contact/Agency	Progress
<p>Year 1: Continue to implement the Parks Rx program in Portage County.</p> <p>Increase participation among mental health and addiction communities. Increase participation by 3% from baseline.</p>	December 31, 2020	Andrea Metzler, Portage Park District	
<p>Year 2: Continue to monitor participation, offer new options for programming and strengthen programming models that are working with participants. Look at barriers to participation and form partnerships to help remove those barriers. Increase overall participation by 8% from baseline.</p>	December 31, 2021		
<p>Year 3: Continue efforts, offer new options for programming and strengthen programming models that are working with participants. Look at barriers to participation and form partnerships to help remove those barriers. Increase overall participation by 13% from baseline.</p>	December 31, 2022		No update.

Strategy 8: Community gardens			
Goal: Increase fruit and vegetable accessibility.			
Objective: By December 31, 2022, maintain four community gardens in Portage County prioritizing food deserts.			
Action Step	Timeline	Lead Contact/Agency	Progress
<p>Year 1: Obtain baseline data regarding how many school districts, churches, and other community organizations currently have community gardens and where they are located, such as the Windham garden.</p> <p>Identify need for additional community gardens, focusing on food desert areas, and secure volunteers and/or Master Gardeners (ex: potential partnership with OSU Extension).</p>	December 31, 2020	UH Portage Medical Center	
<p>Year 2: Research grants and funding opportunities to increase the number of community gardens. Develop a sustainability plan to maintain existing and future community gardens year-round.</p> <p>Market current and future community gardens within the county (i.e. location, offerings, etc.). Update the marketing information on an annual basis.</p> <p>Implement 1 new community garden.</p>	December 31, 2021		
<p>Year 3: Continue efforts from year 2. Implement 1 new community gardens.</p> <p>Explore partnership opportunities to educate community members and families on gardening and healthy eating practices.</p>	December 31, 2022		Mindy: Partnership continues with the Let's Grow Together coalition to provide fruits and vegetables from local gardens along with recipes and education. Local gardens had a successful summer growing season. Grant and funding opportunities continue to be explored.

Strategy 9: Shared use (joint use agreements)			
Goal: Increase physical activity.			
Objective: Implement at least three shared-use agreements by December 31, 2022.			
Action Step	Timeline	Lead Contact/Agency	Progress
<p>Year 1: Collect baseline data on how many Portage County schools, churches, businesses and other organizations currently offer shared use of their facilities (gym, track, etc.).</p>	December 31, 2020	Amy Lee, NEOMED	

Create an inventory of known organizations that possess physical activity equipment, space, and other resources.			
Year 2: Collaborate with local organizations to create a proposal for a shared-use agreement. Initiate contact with potential organizations from the inventory. Implement at least one shared-use agreement for community use. Publicize the agreement and its parameters.	December 31, 2021		
Year 3: Continue efforts from years 1 and 2. Implement at least 2 additional shared-use agreements for community use in Portage County.	December 31, 2022		No update.

Strategy 10: Community fitness programs

Goal: Increase physical activity.

Objective: By December 31, 2022, increase participation in organized physical activities by 15% from baseline.

Action Step	Timeline	Lead Contact/Agency	Progress
Year 1: Continue to offer organized physical activities to adults, youth, and children. Obtain baseline data on the type, amount, and locations of organized physical activities in the county, and how many people participate. Identify the need for additional organized physical activities in specific locations. Target underserved areas of the county. Increase participation in community fitness programs by 3% from baseline.	December 31, 2020	Jackie Smallridge, Sequoia Wellness	
Year 2: Continue efforts from year 1. Implement additional organized physical activities. Target underserved areas of the county. Increase participation in community fitness programs by 3% from year 1 baseline.	December 31, 2021		
Year 3: Continue efforts from years 1 and 2. Increase participation in community fitness programs by 3% from year 2 baseline.	December 31, 2022		No update.

Priority #3: Maternal, Infant, and Child Health

Strategy 1: Reproductive health interventions

Goal: Increase sustainability of women's reproductive health and wellness services.

Objective: By December 31, 2022, implement a women's reproductive health and wellness program to increase the use of reproductive health interventions for Medicaid-eligible residents.

Action Step	Timeline	Lead Contact/Agency	Progress
Year 1: Implement activities to support infrastructure and sustainability of a women's reproductive health and wellness program. Activities to include insurance of billing infrastructure, Medicaid enrollment, direct health care services (family planning and prevention services, STI testing, pregnancy testing, and referrals).	December 31, 2020	Marihelyn Horrigan, AxessPointe Rosemary Ferraro, Portage County Health District	
Year 2: Continue efforts from year 1.	December 31, 2021	Portage County Health District (PCHD removed for Year 2)	
Year 3: Continue efforts from years 1 and 2.	December 31, 2022		No updates.

Strategy 2: Home visiting programs that begin prenatally

Goal: Improve pregnancy and birth outcomes.

Objective: By December 31, 2022, implement a prenatal/postpartum home visiting program to reduce preterm birth, low birth weight, and infant mortality.

Action Step	Timeline	Lead Contact/Agency	Progress
Year 1: Work with local agencies and health care organizations to develop a home visiting program in Portage County that provides support to pregnant mothers to achieve healthier pregnancies and births and stronger child development to ensure babies reach their first birthdays.	December 31, 2020		
Year 2: Implement ACEs and motivational interviewing practices within the health department staff that will participate in the "Mom and Baby Bundle" program. Create and implement policies and procedures for home visiting program that include evidence-based practices. Create educational materials on home visiting program to be distributed to community partners.	December 31, 2021	Rosemary Ferraro, Portage County Health District	
Year 3: Continue efforts from years 1 and 2.	December 31, 2022		PCHD was awarded a Community Health Worker grant from ODH.

			Future activities involve starting a home visiting program utilizing CHWs.
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Strategy 3: Increase enrollment in WIC program			
Goal: Improve overall health outcomes and prevent nutrition-related illness among at-risk women, infants and children.			
Objective: By December 31, 2022, increase WIC enrollment by 20%.			
Action Step	Timeline	Lead Contact/Agency	Progress
<p>Year 1: Conduct an assessment on WIC enrollment in the past 10 years and identify barriers to enrollment.</p> <p>Determine strategies to increase awareness and accessibility of WIC.</p>	December 31, 2020	Amy Cooper, WIC	
<p>Year 2: Continue efforts from year 1.</p> <p>Implement strategies to increase awareness and accessibility of WIC.</p>	December 31, 2021		
<p>Year 3: Continue efforts from years 1 and 2.</p>	December 31, 2022		<p>Amy: Caseload has increased to our highest level this fiscal year! September's caseload was 1,662, which is an increase of 76 participants compared to last quarter's caseload. We continue to promote WIC within our community through various outreach efforts. In August (Breastfeeding Awareness Month) we celebrated and recognized UH Portage Birth Center staff for all of their efforts to promote and protect breastfeeding in our community. We also hosted our first in-person breastfeeding class in 3 years!</p> <p>Congress has increased the WIC cash value benefit for fruits and vegetables through December, 2022. Currently, Federal waivers are set to expire in January. Portage County WIC is</p>

			beginning to welcome families back into the WIC clinic gradually, using a hybrid model.
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Strategy 4: Provide referrals/resources to all patients on health insurance access to ensure reproductive health care.			
Goal: Improve birth outcomes.			
Objective: By December 31, 2022, increase number of client referrals by 25%.			
Action Step	Timeline	Lead Contact/Agency	Progress
Year 1: Work with community health workers (CHWs), home visitors, or patient navigators to connect women of childbearing age to health insurance, resources, and a medical home. Identify and mitigate barriers to care. Establish baseline for client referrals	December 31, 2020	Marihelyn Horrigan, AxessPointe	
Year 2: Increase efforts from year 1. Increase client referrals by 25%.	December 31, 2021		
Year 3: Increase efforts from years 1 and 2.	December 31, 2022		No updates.



Strategy 5: Create and implement a Safe Kids Coalition plan			
Goal: Reduce child injury.			
Objective: By December 31, 2022, create and implement a plan with targeted activities for the Safe Kids coalition.			
Action Step	Timeline	Lead Contact/Agency	Progress
Year 1: Continue to implement the Safe Kids coalition. Work with coalition members to create a plan to guide coalition planning, outreach and activities. Include strategies such as Safe Route to School, Child Passenger Safety, Safe Sleep, etc.	December 31, 2020	Ali Mitchell, Portage County Health District	
Year 2: Continue efforts from year 1. Implement strategies from the Safe Kids Coalition plan	December 31, 2021		
Year 3: Continue efforts from years 1 and 2. Implement strategies from the Safe Kids Coalition plan.	December 31, 2022		Becky: PCHD will be working towards reenergizing the Safe Kids Coalition.


Cross-Cutting Strategies (Strategies that Address Multiple Priorities)

Cross-Cutting Factor: Social Determinants of Health


Cross-Cutting Factor: Social Determinants of Health			
Strategy 1: Home improvement loans and grants			
Goal: Decrease severe housing problems.			
Objective: By December 31, 2022, increase the number residents obtaining home improvement loans or grants by 5%.			
Action Step	Timeline	Lead Contact/Agency	Progress
Year 1: Work with the Portage County Home Improvement Program to collect baseline data on the number of home improvement loans and grant opportunities available to Portage County residents, including local, state, and federal loans or grants.	December 31, 2020	Brad Cromes, Portage County Treasurer	
Year 2: Create a marketing plan to promote the housing program to Portage County residents, targeting economically disadvantaged communities. Provide technical assistance to residents throughout the process of procuring a home improvement loan or grant. Work with the Portage County Home Improvement Program to collect baseline data on the number residents obtaining home improvement loans or grants.	December 31, 2021		
Year 3: Continue efforts from years 1 and 2. Increase the number residents obtaining home improvement loans or grants by 5%.	December 31, 2022		Brad: The Home Improvement Program has been concluded, with a total of 47 loans made over the life of the program for \$918,147. Loans ranged from \$5,000 to \$50,000, on properties with values ranging from \$42,500 to \$369,000. Projects ranged widely in scope, and included wells/septic system updates, garage and driveway replacements, masonry repair, roof replacements, kitchen remodels, foundation work, solar panels, and many others. The program has been replaced by Portage GrowLink, which retains a home improvement component but also makes funding available for small business development and family farm supports. The new program makes \$2 million available for

			borrowing, and has been in the field since June 2022.
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Cross-Cutting Factor: Social Determinants of Health 			
Strategy 2: Service-enriched housing 			
Goal: Increase economic self-sufficiency.			
Objective: By December 31, 2022, increase PMHA client's ability to support their economic independence and stability.			
Action Step	Timeline	Lead Contact/Agency	Progress
<p>Year 1: Work with local service providers, partner agencies and other community resources to provide support to public housing residents to achieve economic independence and stability through education, employment, and financial literacy programs.</p> <p>Assist public housing residents to address barriers with access to internet, transportation, and child care services.</p> <p>Serve 50 public housing residents with connection to self-sufficiency goals.</p>	December 31, 2020	Carolyn Budd and Sabrina Moss, Portage Metropolitan Housing Authority	
<p>Year 2: Continue efforts from year 1.</p> <p>Serve and additional 25 public housing residents with connection to self-sufficiency goals.</p>	December 31, 2021		
<p>Year 3: Continue efforts from years 1 and 2.</p> <p>Serve and additional 25 public housing residents with connection to self-sufficiency goals.</p>	December 31, 2022		See notes.

Cross-Cutting Factor: Social Determinants of Health 			
Strategy 3: Outreach to increase financial stability through free tax preparation services.			
Goal: Decrease poverty.			
Objective: By December 31, 2022, increase use of free tax preparation services available to Portage County residents.			
Action Step	Timeline	Lead Contact/Agency	Progress



Year 1: Collaborate with county agencies, such as United Way, to increase awareness about the myfreetaxes.com program and how it can reduce the tax burden for low-to-moderate income working people, and who is eligible.	December 31, 2020	Maureen Gebhardt and Bill Childers, United Way	
Year 2: Continue efforts from year 1. Implement awareness strategies identified in Year 1.	December 31, 2021		
Year 3: Continue efforts from year 1 and year 2.	December 31, 2022		No updates.

Cross-Cutting Factor: Social Determinants of Health 			
Strategy 4: Financial literacy			
Goal: Decrease poverty.			
Objective: By December 31, 2022, offer multiple financial literacy classes throughout the year in Portage County.			
Action Step	Timeline	Lead Contact/Agency	Progress
<p>Year 1: Continue to implement financial literacy classes in Portage County.</p> <p>Expand the frequency of the classes and offer them annually. Target economically disadvantaged populations and schools.</p> <p>Provide Bridges Out of Poverty to 2 community agencies who serve individuals/families who live in households at or below poverty level.</p> <p>Provide 1 session of the Getting Ahead program to adult clients through the Children's Advantage Family Center.</p> <p>Provide 1 session1 of the R-Rules program through the Children's Advantage Family Center and in Portage County schools.</p>	December 31, 2020	<p>Brad Cromes, Portage County Treasurer</p> <p>Nicole Thomas, Children's Advantage</p>	
<p>Year 2: Continue efforts from year 1.</p> <p>Update: Portage County Treasurer is no longer providing the Bridges Out of Poverty Program. It is being offered by Children's Advantage and Job and Family Services.</p>	December 31, 2021		


Year 3: Continue efforts from years 1 and 2	December 31, 2022		Brad: The Financial Wellness Fair is in its 6 th year, and will take place in-person at Ravenna High School on 11/12/22 from 9am – Noon. Class content is being recorded for sharing in an “online rewind” to follow on social media, and past class materials are available on the Treasurer’s Office website.
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Cross-Cutting Factor: Social Determinants of Health 			
Strategy 5: Increase transportation through a county transportation plan.			
Goal: Increase access to transportation.			
Objective: By December 31, 2022, create a strategic plan to address transportation needs.			
Action Step	Timeline	Lead Contact/Agency	Progress
Year 1: Work with members of the Access to Care Coalition to review the 2018 transportation assessment and identify themes, needs and barriers.	December 31, 2020	Mandy Berardinelli, Ohio Means Jobs	
Year 2: Continue efforts from year 1. Work with members of the Access to Care Coalition to create a strategic plan to address transportation needs, as well as lack of awareness of current transportation opportunities.	December 31, 2021		No progress.
Year 3: Continue efforts from year 2. Implement strategies from the strategic plan and conduct another transportation assessment.	December 31, 2022		No updates.

Cross-Cutting Factor: Healthcare System and Access


Cross-Cutting Factor: Healthcare System and Access 			
Strategy 1: School-based health centers (SBHC) 			
Goal: Increase access to health care.			
Objective: By December 31, 2022, pilot a SBHC in at least one Portage County school district.			
Action Step	Timeline	Lead Contact/Agency	Progress

Year 1: Research school-based health centers (SBHC) and explore the feasibility of implementing one in Portage County.	December 31, 2020	Randy Griffith, Maplewood Career Center	
Year 2: Pilot a school-based health center within at least one school in Portage County.	December 31, 2021		
Year 3: Continue efforts from years 1 and 2.	December 31, 2022		No updates.

Cross-Cutting Factor: Healthcare System and Access 			
Strategy 2: Health transportation outreach			
Goal: Increase access to transportation.			
Objective: By December 31, 2022, expand transportation training to organizations serving Portage County residents.			
Action Step	Timeline	Lead Contact/Agency	Progress
Year 1: Continue collaborating for annual all-day health transportation training to local organizations. Collaborate to create condensed version of annual training to increase staff trained.	December 31, 2020	Clayton Popik, PARTA Christine Herra, Job and Family Services	
Year 2: Pilot condensed training to 3 organizations.	December 31, 2021		
Year 3: Expand efforts from year 2.	December 31, 2022	Karen Towne, Portage County Health District	No updates.


Cross-Cutting Factor: Healthcare System and Access 			
Strategy 3: Health insurance enrollment and outreach 			
Goal: Increase health insurance enrollment.			
Objective: Enroll 15% of identified uninsured residents into a health insurance option by December 31, 2022.			
Action Step	Timeline	Lead Contact/Agency	Progress
Year 1: Coordinate with community agencies to identify uninsured residents. Refer the uninsured resident and enroll them in the Health Insurance Marketplace, Medicare, Medicaid, or another health insurance option.	December 31, 2020	Marihelyn Horrigan, AxessPointe	

Enroll 5% of identified uninsured residents into a health insurance option.			
Year 2: Continue efforts from year 1. Enroll an additional 5% of identified uninsured residents into a health insurance option.	December 31, 2021		
Year 3: Continue efforts from years 1 and 2. Enroll an additional 5% of identified uninsured residents into a health insurance option.	December 31, 2022		No updates.

Cross-Cutting Factor: Healthcare System and Access 			
Strategy 4: Expand SOAR Student-Run Free Clinic			
Goal: Increase access to health care.			
Objective: December 31, 2022, increase the number of days the SOAR Free Clinic is open to a total of six (6) days per month.			
Action Step	Timeline	Lead Contact/Agency	Progress
Year 1: Continue to implement the SOAR Free Clinic. Expand hours of the SOAR clinic from three to four Saturdays each month. Promote health services of SOAR in underserved communities.	December 31, 2020	Janet Raber and Lacy Madison, SOAR	
Year 2: Continue efforts of year 1. Expand services with integration of Behavioral Health Counseling from Coleman at the clinics. Expand Social Determinants of Health screening and referral and tracking. Investigate the feasibility of Telemedicine. Investigate the feasibility of telehealth visits during the weekdays. Investigate the feasibility of EMR. Add Physician Assistant Students from University of Mount Union to participate in clinic visits.	December 31, 2021		
Year 3: Continue efforts of years 1 and 2. Purchase equipment, develop curriculum/training and pilot Telemedicine at SOAR Provide specialty clinic days, once a month	December 31, 2022		No updates.

Develop a referral base for diagnostics and specialties at free or reduced cost.			
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Cross-Cutting Factor: Health Equity

Cross-Cutting Factor: Health Equity 			
Strategy 1: Implicit bias training			
Goal: Decrease discrimination.			
Objective: By December 31, 2022, implement at least one implicit bias training per quarter.			
Action Step	Timeline	Lead Contact/Agency	Progress
<p>Year 1: Work with local stakeholders to create a formal implicit bias training detailing the association between implicit bias and inequity.</p> <p>Pilot the training in one location, such as a school, church, healthcare organization, local business or social service agency. Evaluate the training and make necessary changes.</p>	December 31, 2020	Mike Thompson, Family and Community Services	
<p>Year 2: Continue efforts from year 1. Implement the training at least once per quarter.</p>	December 31, 2021		
<p>Year 3: Continue efforts from years 1 and 2. Implement the training at least once per quarter.</p>	December 31, 2022		No updates.

