

ASHTABULA COUNTY COMMUNITY HEALTH IMPROVEMENT PLAN CHIP QUARTERLY REPORT-Q1 2024



Prepared by

Quarterly Review Process Structure

The goal of the quarterly report is to allow CHIP participants, health department stakeholders, boards of health, district advisory councils, our communities and the public see the agency's impact by reviewing its performance. These documents give insight into the agency's work throughout the previous quarter and will be posted to the ACHD website and social media, as well as partner sites.

During Q1, Priority Teams met regularly, with the exception of the stigma workgroup, to evaluate progress, consider adjustments, and create action steps.

The Healthy Ashtabula County website is up and running, and Ashtabula County Health Department's new and improved website is up and running featuring CHIP and HAC features.

Each year, an annual review of the CHIP will be completed and posted in the Administration section of [Community Health Improvement Plan \(CHIP\) – Ashtabula County Health Department](#) and distributed on the ACHD Facebook page.



CLAS IN THE COMMUNITY: EMPLOYING INDIVIDUALS WITH LIVED EXPERIENCE
WHO REPRESENT THE COMMUNITIES SERVED BY ASHTABULA COUNTY HEALTH
DEPARTMENT-AND OTHER ORGANIZATIONS LISTED BELOW-REDUCES STIGMA
AND EMPOWERS COMMUNITIES

Culturally & Linguistically Appropriate Services “CLAS”

CHIP Overview

Q1 2024 Summary

Achievements from Q1 2024:

We continue making strides in the areas of concern facing our county: Obesity; Anxiety & Depression Prevention & Treatment; and Access to Care. The Priority Teams meet regularly and communicate frequently and forge new partnerships to address these challenges. Obesity Highlights: completed first semester of high school integrative education sessions; more in Obesity Report | Anxiety & Depression Highlights: P.A.R.T. Conference planning, 159 attended last year; more in Anxiety & Depression report | Access to Care Highlights: Collaborating with State Representatives and a new partnership with Carington Park; more in Access to Care report |

Challenges:

Goals for Q4 2023:

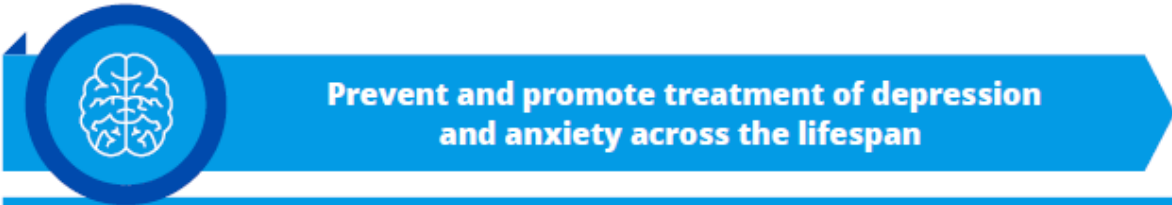
Each team is accountable to their timelines and workplans and this CHIP cycle will be on track to meeting their objectives.

2024 Q1 Participants:

Ashtabula County Health Department
Ashtabula County Board of Health
Ashtabula City Health Department
Conneaut City Health Department
Ashtabula County Commissioners
Ashtabula County Educational Service Center
Ashtabula County Medical Center
Ashtabula County Mental Health & Recovery Services Board
Ashtabula County Metroparks
Brightview Health
Community Action Agency
Community Counseling Center
Kent State University - Ashtabula
Lake Area Recovery Center
Leadership Ashtabula County
Northwest Ambulance District
Substance Abuse Leadership Team (S.A.L.T.)
Signature Health
Signature Health/Family Planning
University Hospitals

Work Plans & Q1 2024 Updates

Depression & Anxiety Treatment & Prevention



Consideration of social determinants of health or health inequities and vulnerable populations: The work group discussed social isolation, poverty, and lack of prison re-entry programs as social factors that contribute to substance abuse and addiction. This is especially true for low SES residents, while it was noted that mental health issues, including depression and anxiety are non-discriminatory spanning across SES groups.

- Indicator(s) to measure impact:**
- % of youth, ages 18-34, who experienced a major depressive episode within the past year (35%; 2022 CHNA)
 - % of adults, ages 18 and older, who have every been diagnosed with a depressive disorder (Baseline: 20%; 2022 CHNA)
 - # of deaths due to unintentional drug overdose (Baseline: 105 deaths; 2019 data, as cited in 2022 CHNA)

Objective 1: By 2026, implement an anti-stigma mental health awareness, informational and educational campaign.

Strategies	Timeline	Partners
Form a workgroup to address causes/stigmas preventing individuals from seeking care based on the results of our Rural County Stigma Survey completed in November 2021.	1/31/23	MHRBS, Lake Area Recovery Center, Signature Health, Ashtabula County Juvenile Court, ACCAA, Ashtabula County Educational Service Center, Community Counseling Center, Lake Erie Correctional, HDAC, and University Hospitals
Engage with those with lived experience/impacted/special populations who do not seek care due to stigma to develop several anti-stigma messages/slogans/phrases.	4/28/23	
Integrate anti-stigma messages/slogans/phrases into promotional messages (e.g., social media, billboards, videos/PSAs, etc.) into Healthy Ashtabula County's campaign.	5/31/23	
Implement anti-stigma campaign using multiple modes (e.g., social media, web, PSAs, billboards, etc.) to the public and targeting healthcare and criminal justice settings and circulate anti-stigma materials in healthcare and workplace settings. * (P)	6/30/23-12/31/25	

Objective 2: By 2026, enhance linkage to treatment for engagement and retention from hospitals to treatment providers. HP2030

Strategies	Timeline	Partners
Develop strategies to embed linkages to behavioral health care treatment and retention from hospitals to treatment providers. (C)	12/31/24	MHRBS, Lake Area Recovery Center, Signature Health, ACCAA, Ashtabula County Educational Service Center, Community Counseling Center, HDAC, and University Hospitals
Work with hospitals and treatment providers to embed linkages (implement the strategies developed), including implementing the HRSA RCORP grant focusing on hospital discharge planning and engaging hospital liaisons at the BH Providers. (C)	12/31/25	

Objective 3: By 2026, raise awareness among health and social service providers about mental health to focus on meeting the needs of the whole person through four strategies. HP2030

Strategies	Timeline	Partners
Expand the number of non-behavioral health and social services providers trained in Mental Health First Aid, trauma-informed care or Question, Persuade, and Refer (QPR). (C)	12/31/25	
Develop training on how to administer, score, and use screening tools (e.g., ACE's, GAIN-SS, SBIRT, etc.) with tip-sheets for providers (targeting primary care) to use to reinforce person-first language, better understanding of mental health, etc.	3/31/23	MHRBS, Lake Area Recovery Center, Signature Health, ACCAA, Ashtabula County Educational Service Center, Community Counseling Center, HDAC, and University Hospitals
Implement trainings and circulate the tip-sheet(s) developed among providers (e.g., embedding within EHRs/EMRs, websites, and/or social media).	6/30/23	
Utilize county-wide partnerships to enhance the distribution of Mental Health and SUD Treatment Resource Manuals. (C)	8/31/23	
Provide monthly newsletters to Healthy Ashtabula County Partners that includes local resources, events and other helpful information.	2/31/25	

Obesity



Prevent Obesity and Chronic Conditions by Promoting Nutrition and Physical Activity

Consideration of social determinants of health or health inequities: The 2022 CHNA revealed that the likelihood of a variety of chronic diseases (e.g., coronary heart disease, diabetes, COPD) increased as household income decreased or as age increased. Members acknowledged that all individuals may not have equal access to information regarding how to prevent chronic disease, healthy eating and physical activity, especially among sub-populations such as children, older adults, and those with lower household incomes.

Indicator(s) to measure impact:

- % of youth who report consuming 0 servings of fruits or vegetables per day (Baseline: 12.8; 2022 CHNA)
- % of adults who did not participate in at least 60 minutes of physical activity at least once during the past 7 days (Baseline: 19.8%; 2022 CHNA)
- Ashtabula County Adult Obesity Rate (Baseline: 41.9%; 2022 CHNA)

Objective 1: By 2026, increase the percent of children ages 3-17 who eat 5 or more servings of fruits and vegetables per day by 2%. 🇺🇸

Strategies	Timeline	Partners
Form a committee to examine policies, such as Good Food Here (from the Ohio Food and Beverage Guidelines Toolkit) and engage local resources (local farmers, 4H, etc.) to develop a program for healthy food taste testing and recipe cards in local grocery stores. 🗳️ 📄	2/15/23 (committee formed) 3/31/23 (hold 1st meeting)	4H extension office, A-Tech horticulture, Master Gardener Program, Ashtabula County Educational Service Center, HDAC, and University Hospitals
Develop a community permaculture for free fruits and vegetables working with schools and community members (possibly, integrating Veggie U and community gardening in school curricula) and implementing SODEXO provided in class nutrition counseling. CHC	12/31/25	

Objective 2: By 2026, increase child physical activity of 5 or more days per week by 2%. 🇺🇸

Strategies	Timeline	Partners
Develop a community wide physical activity campaign containing health promotion messages on health risks * (P)	6/1/23	Star Beacon, Gazette, ACMC, University Hospitals, Radio Stations, Ashtabula County Educational Service Center, HDAC, Ashtabula City's Dragon
Address school programs to increase physical activity (e.g., in the classroom, recess, or study hall periods) among middle and high schools. HI-5	8/31/23	Empowerment Center and Right Track (after school programs)
Implement walking programs in parks and walks in schools throughout the school year.	12/31/25	

Objective 3: By 2026, reduce the overall adult obesity rate of the county by 3%. 🇺🇸

Strategies	Timeline	Partners
Create or partner with non-profit organizations to create fitness and nutritional support/educational activities for residents that include online and in-person options for exercise and healthy eating lifestyles.	2/28/23	Jefferson Village Community Center, Planet Fitness, Premier Fitness, SNAP Fitness, Ashtabula County Educational Service Center, University Hospitals, YMCA, and Andover Methodist Church
Engage local fitness centers and schools to honor a 30- or 60-day free exercise subscription to the entire community.	2/28/23	
Develop a community wide physical activity campaign containing health promotion messages on health risks (e.g., high blood pressure or high cholesterol). * (P)	3/31/23	

Access to Care



Access to Care

Consideration of social determinants of health or health inequities: According to the 2022 CHNA, individuals of lower SES were more likely to experience barriers to care associated with lack of employment (and therefore, employer-based health coverage), lack of a personal vehicle to travel to/from medical appointments, and due to fear of copays or out-of-pocket costs. Individuals uninsured tended to be under the age of 65 (ineligible for Medicare). In terms of the availability of providers, geographic gaps were identified in the Southern quadrant and among specialty care providers, including labor and delivery.

Indicator(s) to measure impact:

- % of adults, ages 19-64, who are uninsured (Baseline: 10%; ACS, 1-year estimates, July 1, 2021)
- % living in a primary care health professional shortage area (Baseline: 100%; 2019 HRSA, as compiled by KFF with HPSA Primary Care Shortage area score of 8, designated as partially rural status)
- % living in a mental health professional shortage area (Baseline: 100%; 2019 HRSA, as compiled by KFF with HPSA Mental Health Shortage area score of 10 with designated rural status)

Objective 1: By 2026, conduct one collaborative assessment of access to health care in Ashtabula County.

Strategies	Timeline	Partners
Convene partners to assess access to care (including, at a minimum, primary care and behavioral health providers). (P)	1/31/23	Ashtabula County Health Department (lead) and Access to Care Committee
Host meeting(s) to identify data available on populations who lack access or experience barriers (data could be from the CHNA, surveys, ED/ER visits, etc.) and data on the availability and gaps in services (e.g. the number and geographic distribution of providers, or patient/provider ratios). (P)	3/31/23	
Collect data and host meeting(s) to draw conclusions about the causes of barriers to access to care (e.g., transportation or other social or structural determinants of health) and emerging issues (e.g., changes in the availability of services or providers, or reimbursement/insurance, legislative, or other changes) which could include conducting a SWOT/SOAR or Forces of Change Assessment. (P)	4/28/23	
Draft Access to Care Assessment Report specifically addressing access to primary care and behavioral health, which includes: An evaluation of access to care strategies implemented by gathering data directly from those experiencing barriers; populations who lack access or experience barriers; an assessment of the availability and gaps in services; conclusions drawn about the causes of barriers; and emerging issues related to access to care. (P)	6/30/23	
Review Access to Care Assessment Report findings with partners and identify 1-2 strategies that could be implemented related to achieving policy changes or additional resources to facilitate access. (P) (B)	8/31/23	

Objective 2: By 2026, increase the percent of Ashtabula County residents who have health insurance by 2% (targeting those between the ages of 18-65). HP2030






Strategies	Timeline	Partners
Identify under/uninsured individuals, including those who are un/under-employed and not receiving employer sponsored benefits, the Chamber of Commerce to identify the County's largest employers who do not offer health insurance, and/or small business associations to identify self-employed and un/under-employed individuals who are uninsured. (P)	10/31/23	Access to Care Committee, Chambers of Commerce, Small business associations, employers, insurance providers
Identify insurance enrollment/navigators/case managers available in Ashtabula County who are available to provide insurance enrollment assistance and eligibility criteria.	11/30/23	
Implement an educational campaign to create transparency in out of pocket, copay, and other medical expenditures that prevent individuals from not seeking care due to costs.	1/31/24	
Develop a program to integrate mobile insurance registration within EMS, targeting the Southern portion of the County.	1/31/24	

Access to care continued...






Access to healthcare

Objective 3: By 2026, implement at least two multi-sector strategies to expand access and coordination of community services available to support the needs of the whole person.

Strategies	Timeline	Partners
Identify for comparison, nurse advocate programs successfully implemented in other communities which assist with insurance enrollment, navigation, and cost transparency. 	12/31/23	Access to care committee, health and social service providers, 211
Meet with social service and health care providers and establish signed Memoranda of Understanding (MOUs) to link or coordinate care. The MOUs will list activities, responsibilities, scopes of work, and timelines to integrate social services and health care.  	1/31/24	
Advocate for legislation to expand affordability, coverage, or cost transparency to increase access, focusing on preventative care and barriers faced among the working poor.  	12/31/25	

Objective 4: By 2026, increase utilization of telehealth services by 15% to promote preventative care. **HP2030**

Strategies	Timeline	Partners
Assess telehealth options available based on insurance coverage/provider to determine if there are gaps in service eligibility or coverage. 	10/31/23	Access to care committee, 211, ACP, health and social service providers
Meet with insurance providers to explore options to expand telehealth service coverage. 	11/30/23	
Promote the Affordable Connectivity Program (ACP) by advertising in churches, senior centers, public housing, lobbies and other public places to increase broadband access among 6,800 households in Ashtabula County (targeting the Southern portion).	12/31/23	
Develop and promote a directory/tri-fold of available telehealth services and providers based on insurance provider and instructional materials to assist individuals in using telehealth services.	12/31/23	
Circulate the tri-fold and informational materials on how to access tele-health services through 211, ACP services providers and community health centers (such as, the resource center in Conneaut) by providing information to those gaining access to broadband.	12/31/25	
Host educational session(s) for individuals on how to access telehealth and record sessions to post links to Healthy Ashtabula County partner pages for community members to access for future viewing.	12/31/25	
Embed community health resource centers to conduct preliminary screenings (e.g., blood pressure, blood sugar, O2 (oxygen) levels, etc.) prior to telehealth visits with telehealth technology available to assist those without computers or who are less tech-savvy (locations include: Andover library, SCAD, community centers, etc.). 	12/31/25	

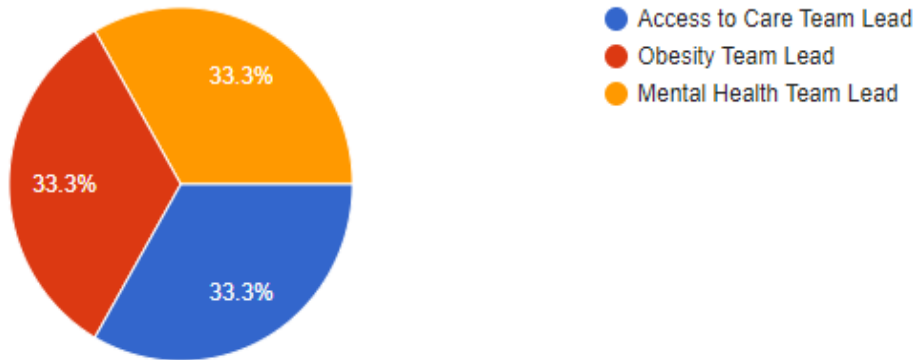
Q4 CHIP Progress Survey

Priority Team Leader Responses

Choose Priority Team

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3 responses



Name and Title

3 responses

Nichele Blood Health Commissioner

Jessica Cusano

Kaitie Hart

List any agencies, groups, or organizations that have been involved in creating and implementing the strategies used to address this priority.

3 responses

CCHD, ACoHD, ACHD, APMC, UH, Signature Health, Ashtabula City Council, ACCAA, Northwest Ambulance, County Commissioners, CCC, ACoHD BOH, Ashtabula County ESC, Catholic Charities, and Carington Park

CCHD, ACoHD, ACHD, APMC, UH, ACESC, OSU Extension, Ashtabula Co. Metroparks, Buckeye Local Schools

MHRS board, Ashtabula CO. District Library, LEADERShip Ashtabula County, Anchor of Hope, Kent State University- Ashtabula, Ashtabula Co. Health Department, Ashtabula City Health Department, Community Counseling Center, Signature Health, Brightview, Community Action, APMC, University Hospitals, Lake Area Recovery Center

Who is the person and/or organization taking the lead for each activity?

3 responses

Nichele Blood

School Education - Kim Christy/Libby Holden, Media Growth - Kim Christy, Local Food Integration - Julie Wayman, Jessica Cusano, Event Planning/Promotion - Jessica Cusano

AShtabula Co. MRHS Board Kaitie Hart/ Christy Fisher

Please describe the activities planned to address the strategies you've listed.

3 responses

Planning on increasing the awareness of telehealth- working on developing a tri-fold/brochure, pricing transparency for hospital systems- planning on discuss this issue with State Representatives, Going to Pop-up Resource Events to help push out information on our Access to Care Committee. Meeting with insurance providers.

Increase health and wellness education through media outlets and local school districts. Take part in more county-wide events to spread committee awareness as well as build stronger relationships with county organizations.

Our Stigma Workgroup has been meeting fairly regularly since January 2023. We recently recorded a training video (with the help of videographer at Ashtabula Co. District Library) that engaged those with lived experience and how WORDS MATTER--how words that were said to them helped/hindered their recovery journey. Video is in the process of being edited. These videos will be posted on websites and social media pages as part of an anti-stigma campaign. We developed a Treatment and Recovery Resource Manual that we continually update and print that includes all local Treatment and Recovery Resources. We have also been working on a Wellness Map for ours and the healthy AShtabula COunty Website that help link residents to all paths of wellness--physical, social, behavioral, financial... We are currently working with a graphic designer to develop a better, more user-friendly image. We have started conversations with ACMC around more seamless link to outpatient BH services--conversations still ongoing. We have

Please cite any evidence-based or best practices for this strategy, if known.

3 responses

None

None.

Words matter, General Community Education

Please list any resources needed to complete this activity. What are any issues or roadblocks that are preventing you from completing the activity?

3 responses

State Representatives- help with pricing transparency in hospitals. HB49 having this pass

Funding to produce more printable materials and branding to promote our committee.

We have HRSA funds that are assisting with any costs associated with our strategies. We have had some turnover at the MHRS Board and are working on finding our footing to move forward with these proposed strategies.

Please describe progress and efforts made (describing services provided and activities undertaken) to date toward reaching the goals of the project. Please include which goals have been accomplished.

3 responses

We have a lot of ongoing projects; we did talk about maybe taking an objective off but decided to keep it. All but 1 objective has been started and/or completed.

Education has been integrated into one school district so far. Our plan is to expand to other districts in the future. Our organization has also been added to UH Pop-Up Events to build a presence in the community. Further talk of local food utilization will be starting soon.

See above

What types of service are you providing?

3 responses

Education and Information

Education and Information.

Education

How many tangible goods have been given?

3 responses

None- working on this

Printed educational materials from various reputable sources online.

2000 Treatment & Recovery Resource Manuals have been ordered. Will need to place another order soon as most have been distributed.

Please give an estimate of staff or volunteer hours provided.

3 responses

8 hours

4

10 hours this quarter

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Who are the people you serve? (Choose all that apply)

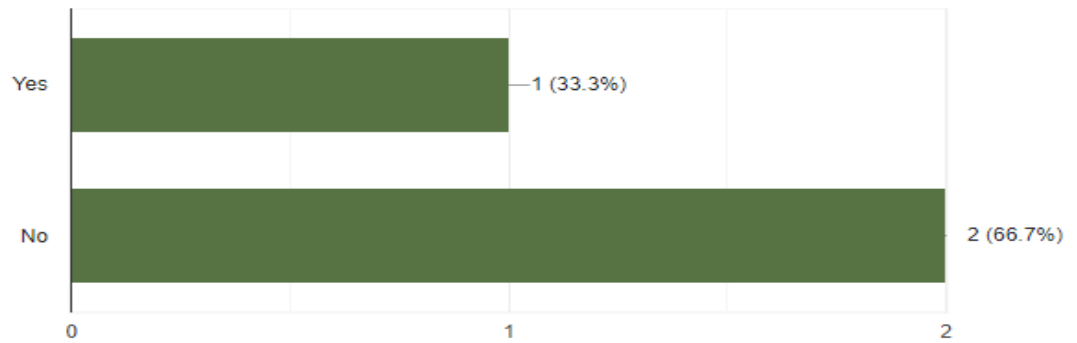
3 responses



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Do you have any online statistics that show impact?

3 responses



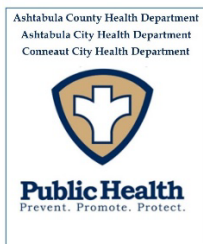
Use this space to identify how progress was measured or to share a brief description of the project and any successes, or needs you have.

3 responses

Tracking and Monitoring document that is kept and updated by Nichele

Quarterly progress reports are kept by me.

We will be able to show impact once we update our Wellness Map Website and start advertising it.



Ashtabula County Health Department

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 Jefferson OH 44047
 440-576-6010
 Jay Becker, Commissioner

Ashtabula City Health Department

4717 Main Ave.
 Ashtabula OH 44004
 440-992-7122
 Chris Hill, Commissioner

Conneaut City Health Department

327 Mill St.
 Conneaut, OH 44030
 440-593-3087
 Nichele Blood, Commissioner

For more information on the Ashtabula County Community Health Improvement Plan, contact Kenny Bailey, Director of Quality & Performance at kbailey@ashtabulacountyhealth.com