HAMILTON COUNTY PUBLIC HEALTH

Community Health Improvement Plan Progress Report April 2021 – June 2021



PROGRESS REPORT KEY:



Exceeded: Above benchmark.

Completed: Benchmark met.

On Track: Progressing as anticipated.

Behind: Behind benchmark.

Postponed: Delayed or re-prioritized.

| QUARTERLY PROGRESS REPORTING OVERALL PRIORITY STATUS | | |
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| | PRIORITY AREA 1: CHRONIC DISEASE & OBESITY | |
| | PRIORITY AREA 2: MATERNAL, INFANT, & CHILD HEALTH | |
| | PRIORITY AREA 3: MENTAL HEALTH & ADDICTION | |
| | PRIORITY AREA 4: HIV & SEXUALLY TRANSMITTED INFECTIONS | |
| | PRIORITY AREA 5: ORAL HEALTH | |







GOAL 1: More people in Hamilton County will have access to healthy foods and safe opportunities for physical activity.

Healthy eating and active living strategies are primarily operationalized through Hamilton County Public Health's (HCPH) WeTHRIVE!SM initiative (WatchUsThrive.org). The two priority communities for engagement in place-based healthy eating and active living strategies as part of the Community Health Improvement Plan (CHIP) pilot are North College Hill (NCH) and St. Bernard-Elmwood Place. The St. Bernard and NCH teams collected baseline data by using the Community Health Assessment and Group Evaluation (CHANGE) Tool. Reassessment will be completed at the end of the CHIP to measure incremental progress. Additionally, NCH planted their community garden and hosted Produce-Pop Up events to promote healthy eating. The NCH Schools opened the school track for community use to increase access to safe physical activity opportunities. NCH also hosted a youth bike event to engage youth in physical activity. Lastly, grant funding supporting the WeTHRIVE! Child Care initiative ended. HCPH is revising the structure and will relaunch to child care providers in the next progress period.



WeTHRIVE! Communities and Schools (that are not a part of the CHIP pilot) also experienced successes during the progress period worth noting. Highlights included: free community exercise classes like Yoga on the Lawn (Amberley Village) and Fitness Boot Camp (Forest Park); installing a Bike Fix It Station along the Ohio River Trail (Anderson); community engagement in physical activity, such as Walk with a Purpose (Reading), Cheviot Rocks, and clean-up events (Whitewater); playground enhancements (Lockland); Mission to Move implementation in summer school (Three Rivers); Safe Routes to School (SRTS) non-infrastructure grant funding (Reading Schools), and installation of SRTS-funded sidewalks (Lincoln Heights); monthly Produce Pop-Up events (Forest Park); and community gardens (Woodlawn). Additionally, the Mt. Healthy Farmers' Market accepts Produce Perks and SNAP/EBT; the Reading Market accepts Produce Perks, Senior Farmer's Market Program, SNAP/EBT, and Pandemic-EBT.

GOAL 2: Fewer people in Hamilton County will report using tobacco products.

Tobacco-free living strategies are operationalized through a grant from the Ohio Department of Health (ODH) and HCPH's WeTHRIVE! initiative. Work continued on the Tobacco Retail License (TRL) in the Village of Woodlawn in partnership with the American Heart Association (AHA). The TRL would limit the density of tobacco retailers within the Village. HCPH also worked with the AHA to promote "No Menthol Sunday," a national observance led by The Center for Black Health & Equity that engages faith leaders and communities in a discussion about how to improve health outcomes for African Americans. Additionally, three new referral sites were trained in Ask-Advise-Refer (AAR) tobacco-based cessation services. Lastly, three tobacco counter-marketing campaigns focusing on youth access and secondhand smoke prevention were implemented; 622,077 media impressions were documented.





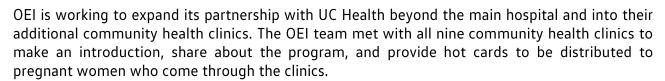




GOAL 1: More babies in Hamilton County will celebrate their first birthday.

The Ohio Equity Institute (OEI) addresses key drivers of inequities in infant mortality and prioritizes the populations most vulnerable to experience poor birth outcomes. The Hamilton County Justice Center resumed its One Stop Resource Center events, which was OEI's first tabling event since the start of COVID. OEI Navigators expressed how happy they were to be surrounded by people and telling them about OEI services and the different ways in which they can be supported. They noted that pregnant moms seem to share more information regarding their needs when intakes are done in person. As such, OEI Navigators will resume intakes in person whenever possible (so long as the pregnant moms are comfortable). OEI Navigators documented 827 hours of outreach during the progress period and reached 2,091 individuals through various outreach methods. Thirty-nine pregnant women were enrolled in navigation services.

The OEI Epidemiologist shared data on the women served by OEI navigation services. Eighty percent of the women served from October 2020 through March 2021 reside within one of the priority ZIP codes. The data suggests that the strategic outreach efforts and identification of women in priority ZIP codes have been successful to date.



The Cradle Cincinnati Policy Committee successfully advocated for the adoption of a Paid Parental Leave policy by the Hamilton County Board of County Commissioners. The policy allows for eight weeks of paid leave for mothers and fathers after the birth or adoption of a baby. The Policy Committee plans to approach other major employers in the area and advocate for them to adopt a similar policy to remain an employer of choice in the area.

With its new coordinator in place, the Fetal and Infant Mortality Review (FIMR) case review team has once again been able to regularly review cases. During the progress period, the FIMR team reviewed six cases during a virtual case review meeting. The FIMR team also completed three maternal interviews through its contact-free process. Additionally, two new members were added to the FIMR case review team.

The Child and Fatality Review (CFR) also held a virtual meeting during the progress period. Twelve infant deaths, including five sleep-related deaths, were reviewed. All 2020 child deaths have now been reviewed. The CFR team will begin reviewing 2021 child deaths.









GOAL 1: Fewer Hamilton County residents will die of opiate-related overdose deaths.

During the progress period, 400 Narcan® kits were distributed to first responders, community members, and through mail order request. A partnership was established with two large distributors of Narcan® in the County – Talbert House and the UC Early Intervention Program. Regular meetings will occur with these organizations to determine areas and agencies in need of Narcan® in the Hamilton County.

The new Overdose Rescue app was launched to assist in opioid-related overdose emergencies. The app includes a step-by-step instruction for recognizing an overdose, administering Narcan®, and performing CPR.

Three focus groups were held with Harm Reduction Subcommittee members to arrive at a common agenda, which included a mission and vision statement, as well as assets and challenges for each of the four goals. Three co-chairs were appointed to provide leadership for the collective impact work.

A Trauma Informed Care (TIC) pilot project was completed in Lockland in partnership with Grace House Cincinnati. The pilot included evidence-based programming for youth who have experienced trauma and their families. Four weeks of activities were provided, including dancing, photography, singing, and general arts. Parents learned about trauma and resiliency and how they can support their children.



GOAL 2: Fewer people who inject drugs will contract an infectious disease in Hamilton County.

The Syringe Services Program (SSP) served 4,570 clients. A total of 316,308 syringes were exchanged. The SSP encouraged clients to get tested by educating them on the importance of knowing their Hepatitis C and HIV status. There were 39 Hepatitis C and 168 HIV tests administered. A new mobile command vehicle was acquired that is better suited for SSP services.

Progress was made to secure a location to host SSP services in the Price Hill neighborhood. HCPH will work with Bloc Ministries to host a syringe exchange at Weightless Anchor for their clients. Weightless Anchor serves women on the streets who struggle with addiction and are victims of sex-trafficking by providing for their basic needs. They have found syringes in and around their property, prompting them to connect with the HCPH's SSP staff.

HCPH began working on a Syringe Return Project that will allow the collection of improperly disposed syringes based on reported community locations by the public. The Harm Reduction/SSP team is developing a protocol alongside HCPH's Waste Management division to safely collect and dispose of syringes.







GOAL 1: Prevent HIV & Syphilis infection and related illnesses among Hamilton County residents.

HIV & Sexually Transmitted Infections (STI) prevention strategies are primarily operationalized through grant funding from the ODH. HCPH and its funded programs were able to increase community testing and outreach efforts as COVID restrictions decreased, though not yet to prepandemic levels. There was a significant reduction in new HIV diagnoses among people who inject drugs (PWID). It is too early to tell if the reduction is a result of decreased testing, or from increased access to sterile injection equipment and engagement of HIV+ PWID into HIV care. HCPH continues to monitor the data.

HCPH was awarded the Innovative Approaches to STI Prevention grant from the ODH. Funding will be used to expand services available in the clinic. Currently, the clinic administers tests for HIV and syphilis and provides treatment for syphilis. However, if someone comes in for other comprehensive STI testing (i.e., gonorrhea, chlamydia, HSV, trichomoniasis), treatment cannot be provided. Similarly, if someone calls the clinic requesting STI testing due to a symptom commonly associated with gonorrhea or chlamydia, they need to be able to get them a prompt appointment for testing and treatment rather than referring them to another clinic. By creating a more comprehensive sexual health clinic, HCPH will be able to provide many of the services our current and future patients need in one stop. Lastly, HCPH was awarded the Ending the HIV Epidemic grant from the ODH for \$1.1 million for a period of five years. This was a competitive grant process and will allow HIV services to expand to include pre-exposure prophylaxis (PrEP). Program activities began on 6/1/2021.





PRIORITY AREA 5 — ORAL HEALTH

STATUS

GOAL 1: Hamilton County residents will have improved access to oral health care.

The summer of 2021 was marked by a noted return to 'normalcy' post-pandemic. Travel, shopping, and dining out became routine again for many. The number of people seeking preventative healthcare also grew to near pre-pandemic levels, which required another pivot from the Oral Health Coalition (OHC). The OHC recognized the need to expand its work with the Ohio Dental Association Medicaid Working Group to ensure the growing numbers of people seeking and requiring care would be served. The OHC supported the Working Group as they leveraged lessons learned from the CareSource/DentaQuest transition and began preparations for the new Managed Care Organization landscape that will emerge in 2022. The OHC is committed to remaining Hamilton County's primary advocate for oral health policy with the Ohio Department of Medicaid.



Continuing to benefit from the relationships established through the OHC's steadfast work of ensuring COVID vaccine access to all oral health professionals, the OHC attained the stature of becoming the primary resource for the oral health community. The OHC has proven to be a reliable and responsive resource for a wide variety of oral health needs. As such, the OHC is receiving one-off requests for help from oral health providers, oral health facilities, and community members.



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