



2019 EOCCO Community Health Plan (CHP) For Wheeler County

PRIORITY ISSUE #1: Childhood Development, Education, and Prevention of Adverse Childhood Experiences (ACE's)

PROBLEM IDENTIFIED: Early childhood development is critical and is foundational in importance for producing healthy productive individuals.

ACEs have been linked to harmful outcomes in adulthood, including health issues like depression, anxiety, substance use and abuse, and poor physical health. A person who has four or more types of ACEs are at a higher risk of negative outcomes.

CDC strategies that can prevent ACEs from happening or reoccurring are included in the Technical Package of six strategies:

1. Strengthen economic supports to families
2. Promote social norms that protect against violence and adversity
3. Ensure a strong start for children
4. Teach skills
5. Connect youth to caring adults and activities
6. Intervene to lessen immediate and long-term harms

ACEs are preventable and the strategies outlined in the CDC report confirms that strategies and several approaches are proven to be effective and are essential in helping children and adults thrive. The various approaches and programs that can be used as evidence to prevent ACEs include early childhood home visitation, mentoring programs, and family-centered treatment for substance use disorders have shown to support children and families.

DATA AVAILABLE: Adolescent well care visits, immunizations, dental sealants, DHS custody, developmental screenings. Early childhood data such as kindergarten readiness and 3rd grade reading levels. Teen health Survey

GOAL: Focus on improving childhood development, including screening, education, preventing and reducing the harmful impacts of Adverse Childhood Experiences (ACEs) in the community.

ACTION PLAN: Support programs that promote and increase resiliency in the community.

- Work within the educational systems to provide programs that increase awareness of abuse, triggers, and raises self-esteem and self-advocacy.

- Monitor DHS custody data for mental, physical, and dental assessment within 60 days.

- Design and support programs to increase kindergarten readiness.

- Increase community awareness of ACE's and the associated health impacts of adversity and toxic stress.

ESTIMATED BUDGET NEEDED: Not known

POTENTIAL FUNDING SOURCES: Not known

PRIORITY ISSUE #2: Equitable Access to Health Services

PROBLEM IDENTIFIED: There are gaps to accessing affordable, high quality, appropriate, and reliable specialized health care services in a timely manner in Wheeler County.

DATA AVAILABLE: Clinic surveys, Deaths related to alcohol in 2017 are 28.5 compared to 18.5 for the state. Deaths due to accidents in 2017 are 56.9 compared to 44.5 for the state. Review ED utilization for mental health and substance abuse.

GOALS: Reduce gaps and barriers to accessing health care services in Wheeler County.

ACTION PLAN: Support programs that reduce disparities and barriers to a accessing specialized health care services.

- Conduct community health system assessments to identify gaps.
- Support integration amongst healthcare service providers in the community.
- Increase community awareness of available local health care services.

ESTIMATED BUDGET NEEDED: Not known yet

POTENTIAL FUNDING SOURCES: Not known yet

PRIORITY ISSUE #3: Social Determinants of Health

PROBLEM IDENTIFIED: 2019 Wheeler County Community Health Assessment indicates that obesity, hypertension, diabetes, and other health related concerns that correlate with unhealthy eating habits are prevalent in the county.

Components such as Access to Affordable Food and Housing. Day care and transportation also fit into this category.

Much travel is required of WC community members to access services.

DATA AVAILABLE: 2017 rates for heart disease is 284.7 compared to state at 157.9. Hypertension is 14.2 compared to 12.7. Adult obesity for 2017 is 37.7% compared to state at 26.9%

GOALS: Improve the social determinants of health throughout the community including access to healthy food and affordable housing.

ACTION PLAN: LCAC is engaged with the Frontier Veggie Rx program. Review supportive housing funds. Focusing on obesity related activities such as the Biggest Loser may be considered.

ESTIMATED BUDGET NEEDED:

POTENTIAL FUNDING SOURCES: State supportive housing dollars may be a potential source.