

2022  2025

Tuscarawas County  
**Community Health  
Improvement Plan**

**Progress Notes**



## Priority #1: Health Behaviors

### Priority #1: Health Behaviors

#### Strategy 1: Community-wide physical activity campaign

Action Step	Timeline	Lead Contact/Agency	Progress
<p><b>Year 1:</b> Create a community-wide physical activity campaign.</p> <p>Recruit at least five agencies who are working to improve and promote Tuscarawas County's physical activity opportunities. Determine the goals and objectives of the physical activity campaign.</p> <p>Engage community agencies that coordinate a unified message to increase awareness of Tuscarawas County physical activity opportunities and create a culture of health.</p> <p>Brand the campaign and explore the feasibility of creating a county physical activity resource that houses information about all physical activity opportunities.</p>	August 13, 2023	<p><b>Tuscarawas County YMCA</b></p> <p><b>New Philadelphia City Health Department</b></p> <p><b>Tuscarawas County Health Department</b></p> <p><b>Trinity Health System Twin City Medical Center</b></p>	<p>-TCBV has created a trifold 'Outdoor Recreation Guide' brochure.</p> <p>-Empower Tusc/ NPCHD (Leadership Tusc) have created and distributed a survey exploring the demand/need for a youth sports closet titled 'Play Tusc'.</p> <p>-City of New Philadelphia (NPCHD) is working to develop/ connect to the Towpath Trail with a cycle track that will travel through New Philadelphia and connect to Kent Tusc campus. Several public forums have occurred to discuss the best routes and designs.</p> <p>-City of New Philadelphia (NPCHD) is working on several grant applications to begin phase II of the Southside Community Park. This will include infrastructure (roads, lighting, bathrooms), several youth soccer fields and a path to connect sections of the existing park to the new areas of Phase II.</p> <p>-Continued usage of #healthytusc, #activetusc and #playtusc hashtags with links to information about physical activity on social media.</p>
<p><b>Year 2:</b> Continue efforts of year 1.</p> <p>Using the coordinated message, all participating agencies will increase awareness of physical activity opportunities and promote the use of them at least twice a month. Provide non-participating community agencies with materials to support the campaign, such as social media messages, website information, infographics, maps, flyers, etc.</p> <p>Continue to build upon the trail system in Tuscarawas County parks. Collaborate with local partners to promote local parks, playgrounds, trails, and other green space.</p>	August 13, 2024		<p>-Continued use of hashtags and messaging on social media.</p>

<p><b>Year 3:</b> Continue efforts of years 1 and 2. Work with partner to promote Sports Closet locations.</p>	<p>August 13, 2025</p>		<p>Healthy Tusc supported efforts of other organizations that created Sports Closets as Healthy Tusc did not have the capacity to build one itself.</p>
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<b>Priority #1: Health Behaviors</b>			
<b>Strategy 2: Policies for smoke free environments for tobacco/nicotine/vaping/smokeless tobacco (Smoke-free policies for indoor/outdoor areas )</b>			
Action Step	Timeline	Lead Contact/Agency	Progress
<p><b>Year 1:</b> Conduct Policy Scan. Identify areas not 100% smoke free. Work with stakeholders to pass ordinance or create policy to be smoke free.</p>	<p>August 13, 2023</p>		<p>Completed annual smoke free environments policy scan.</p> <p>Identified locations that were not 100% smoke free for the categories of behavioral health facilities, schools, colleges/universities, private housing, workplaces, and outdoor public spaces.</p> <p>Worked with Claymont High School to improve their school's tobacco/nicotine policy to now include an alternative to suspension program for students caught using tobacco/nicotine products on school grounds.</p>
<p><b>Year 2:</b> Conduct annual Policy Scan. Identify areas not 100% smoke free. Work with stakeholders to pass 1 new ordinance or create policy to be smoke free.</p>	<p>August 13, 2024</p>	<p><b>Tuscarawas County Health Department</b> <b>Empower Tusc</b></p>	<p>Completed annual smoke free environments policy scan.</p> <p>Identified locations that were not 100% smoke free for the categories of behavioral health facilities, schools, colleges/universities, private housing, workplaces, and outdoor public spaces.</p> <p>Having conversations with stakeholders from 2 behavioral health facilities, 1 school district, and 1 outdoor public space about potential policy changes and/or improvements.</p>
<p><b>Year 3:</b> Conduct annual Policy Scan. Identify areas not 100% smoke free. Work with stakeholders to pass 1 new ordinance or create policy to be smoke free.</p>	<p>August 13, 2025</p>		<p>This strategy was discontinued by formal vote at the June 11, 2024, meeting due to changes at the State government level that made achieving the goal of passing an ordinance impossible.</p>

**Priority #1: Health Behaviors**

**Strategy 3: Access to cessation for tobacco/nicotine/vaping/smokeless tobacco (Tobacco cessation therapy affordability)**

Action Step	Timeline	Lead Contact/Agency	Progress
<p><b>Year 1:</b> Quit Line Referrals/Quit Attempts. Health Care provider reminder systems.</p> <p>Conduct outreach with community members, agencies, groups, organizations this can be done via trainings, presentations, or community events.</p>	<p>August 13, 2023</p>	<p><b>Tuscarawas County Health Department</b></p> <p><b>Empower Tusc</b></p>	<p>Adult quit line referrals/quit attempts through the Ohio Tobacco Quit Line (OTQL) 33.</p> <p>Conducted outreach on the OTQL with community members, agencies, groups, and organizations to promote free cessation services.</p>
<p><b>Year 2:</b> Youth screening for nicotine use and quit attempts.</p> <p>Work with school districts to get 1 school district to implement an alternative to suspension for nicotine use at school.</p> <p>Adult online Quit Line Referrals and Quit Attempts.</p> <p>Train organizations on AAR/AAP.</p> <p>Conduct outreach with community members, agencies, groups, organizations this can be done via trainings, presentations, or community events.</p>	<p>August 13, 2024</p>		<p>One pediatric provider screened 656 youth for nicotine product use in 5 months.</p> <p>Conducted Ask, Advise, and Refer (AAR) and OTQL provider enrollment portal training with 2 medical providers, 1 behavioral health facility, and 2 community organizations that serve low-income populations.</p> <p>Conducted Ask, Counsel, and Treat (ACT) and My Life My Quit (MLMQ) provider enrollment training with 3 medical providers, 2 school districts, and 1 community organization work with the school districts.</p>
<p><b>Year 3:</b> Youth screening for nicotine use and quit attempts.</p> <p>Adult online Quit Line Referrals and Quit Attempts.</p> <p>Increase youth cessation offerings.</p> <p>Promote county youth and adult cessation offerings at outreach event.</p>	<p>August 13, 2025</p>		<p>Enrollment in My Life My Quit youth cessation programming increased from 6 to 27 enrollments from 2024 to 2025</p> <p>60 screens were collected across two ProVia Health Fair events, a Veterans Day Event and a local Holiday Market in 2024 and 2025 to assess readiness to quit for adults.</p> <p>Ohio Tobacco Quitline, My Life My Quit, and Live Vape Free materials were distributed at various outreach events taking place at local school districts, the YMCA, farmer's markets and health fairs during the TU25 grant year.</p>

**Priority #1: Health Behaviors** 

**Strategy 4: Licensure for retailers for tobacco/nicotine/vaping/smokeless tobacco**

Action Step	Timeline	Lead Contact/Agency	Progress
<p><b>Year 1:</b> Groundwork for Tobacco Retailer License (TRL):</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• SWOT Analysis</li> <li>• Identify decision makers and gather information on probable positions of potential decision makers</li> <li>• Create Implementation Plan</li> </ul> <p>Compile list of retailers</p>	<p>August 13, 2023</p>	<p><b>Tuscarawas County Health Department</b> <b>Empower Tusc</b></p>	<p>Completed SWOT analysis for TRL with key partners.</p> <p>Identified TRL key decision makers in Tuscarawas County and the city of Dover. Researched potential positions of TRL key decision makers in Tuscarawas County and the city of Dover.</p> <p>Developed implementation plan to gain community support for TRL and initiate grassroots efforts.</p> <p>Gathered list of tobacco retailers in Tuscarawas County.</p>
<p><b>Year 2:</b> Groundwork for Tobacco Retailer License (TRL):</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Promote TRL at community</li> <li>• Educate retailers on TRL and requirements</li> </ul> <p>Collaborate with TCHD environmental health and local law enforcement</p>	<p>August 13, 2024</p>		<p>This strategy was discontinued by formal vote at the June 11, 2024, meeting due to changes at the State government level that made achieving the goal of developing retailer licenses impossible.</p>
<p><b>Year 3:</b> Groundwork for Tobacco Retailer License (TRL):</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Work with stakeholders to promote and pass TRL</li> <li>• Retailer enrollment and issuing of licenses</li> </ul> <p>Conduct compliance checks and site visits for TRL</p>	<p>August 13, 2025</p>		<p>See above.</p>

**Priority #1: Health Behaviors** 

**Strategy 5: Tobacco cessation tailored for specific populations**


Action Step	Timeline	Lead Contact/Agency	Progress
<p><b>Strategy not active in Year 1. Strategy approved for Year 2 &amp; Year 3 at the June 11, 2024, meeting of Healthy Tusc.</b></p>			
<p><b>Year 2:</b> Provide Ohio Tobacco Quit Line Pregnancy Program information with community partners and residents.</p> <p>Collaborate with community partners to learn about current tobacco cessation pathways.</p> <p>Educate partners about the benefits of the Ohio Tobacco Quit Line Pregnancy Program</p>	<p>August 13, 2024</p>	<p><b>Tuscarawas County Health Department</b></p>	<p>OTQL Quit Line Pregnancy Program one-pager and OTQL enrollment form provided to Programs For Families Coordinator to give to clients in need of family resources. Program Coordinator was educated on how to take a client through the OTQL referral process.</p> <p>Collaborated with Empower Tusc to spread awareness about OTQL resources and Live Vape Free resources.</p>
<p><b>Year 3:</b> Provide Ohio Tobacco Quit Line Pregnancy Program information with community partners and residents.</p> <p>Educate partners about the benefits of the Ohio Tobacco Quit Line Pregnancy Program</p>	<p>August 13, 2025</p>	<p><b>Empower Tusc</b></p>	<p>Received new information from ODH regarding new pregnancy cessation program, Moms Quit for Two. Promotional flyers and brochures will be available for order shortly.</p> <p>Training is planned for the TU26 grant year to teach partners about this new resource.</p> <p>As part of the TU26 media cessation campaign TCHD staff will be conducting screen and refer events for the Ohio Tobacco Quit Line at OBGYN offices to promote pregnancy cessation programming.</p>


## Priority #2: Access to Care

### Priority #2: Access to Care


#### Strategy 1: School-based health centers (SBHCs)

Action Step	Timeline	Lead Contact/Agency	Progress
<p><b>Year 1:</b> Gather community leaders, stakeholders, local qualified healthcare providers (such as nurse practitioners), and mental health providers to discuss and assess the need for a school-based health center and determine the type of services it will be provide to the students that follow state standards.</p> <p>Research and secure funding through the state, county health department, federally qualified heath centers (FQHC), local businesses, community providers, grants, and another fundraising.</p> <p>Open 2 school-based health clinics in Tuscarawas County.</p>	August 13, 2023	<b>Aultman Health Foundation</b>	With the feedback of the local school boards and area community agencies, we are operating two school-based health clinics in Tuscarawas County. Claymont local schools and Tuscarawas Valley Local schools.
<p><b>Year 2:</b> Continue efforts to sustain funding. Add behavioral health services to school-based health clinics.</p> <p>Become a <b>School-Based Health Alliance</b> member and complete the trainings and resource guides.</p> <p>Find additional funding to secure the school nurse resources at each school.</p> <p>Work with schools to locate any onsite clinic space that could be utilized for well visits/physicals/vaccinations/etc.</p> <p>Aim to hire 2 additional mental health or acute/primary medical staff professionals either in-person or through telehealth.</p>	August 13, 2024		<p>The Ohio school-based health Alliance has open membership and we are actively participating in their hosted webinars/events. We plan to attend their upcoming conference in February 2024.</p> <p>Currently working through a grant application through the HPSA Appalachian grant to provide funding to open onsite clinics at our two schools.</p>
<p><b>Year 3:</b> Continue efforts of year 2. Start to plan to open one new school-based health center.</p>	August 13, 2025		Free-standing school-based health clinics scheduled to open at both Claymont and Tusky Valley in Fall 2025.

Priority #2: Access to Care 			
Strategy 2: Community resource guide			
Action Step	Timeline	Lead Contact/Agency	Progress
<p><b>Year 1:</b> Review old community resource guide and update information as needed.</p> <p>Promote/share guide through various outlets (i.e., social media, newspaper, bulletins, and radio) and provide print copies throughout county.</p>	August 13, 2023	<p><b>Access Tuscarawas</b></p> <p><b>Tuscarawas County Family &amp; Children First Council</b></p>	Completed in 2023.
<p><b>Year 2:</b> Continue efforts from year 1.</p> <p>Create a Spanish version of the community resource guide and promote/shared the guide through the county.</p>	August 13, 2024		Completed Spanish version.
<p><b>Year 3:</b> Continue efforts from years 1 and 2.</p>	August 13, 2025		Created updated English and Spanish versions in early 2025.

Priority #2: Access to Care 			
Strategy 3: Expand broadband Internet access to rural areas			
Action Step	Timeline	Lead Contact/Agency	Progress
<p><b>Year 1:</b> Collect baseline data on the number of community members who lack access to Internet in rural areas.</p> <p>Share information with various community stakeholders and review current contract(s) with broadband company(ies).</p> <p>Work with stakeholders and broadband company(ies) to create a plan for extending services to rural areas.</p>	August 13, 2023	<p><b>Tuscarawas County Economic Development Corporation (Broadband Ohio Accelerator Program)</b></p>	<p>We have been working with the state folks at Broadband Ohio, with Smart Way Communications, the county commissioners to bring more broadband access to Tuscarawas County. Money has come through the county from ARPA funds, from Appalachian Regional Commission POWER grant, and from Smart Way.</p>
<p><b>Year 2:</b> Continue efforts from year 1.</p>	August 13, 2024		<p>There are 2 new towers for fixed wireless internet access, 7 towers with upgraded equipment, and potentially 300 new homes with access if they choose to sign up. There is also new access available to 25-30 businesses in the area served. I don't know the exact area of the towers, but we have numerous "donut holes" in the county where there is no or very poor access, especially in the southern half. We're still working on reaching them.</p>
<p><b>Year 3:</b> Continue efforts from years 1 &amp; 2.</p>	August 13, 2025		Efforts are ongoing.

**Priority #2: Access to Care** 

**Strategy 4: Community health workers** 

Action Step	Timeline	Lead Contact/Agency	Progress
<p><b>Year 1:</b> Increase number of Community Health Workers (CHW) and/or improve CHW community engagement.</p>	<p>August 13, 2023</p>	<p><b>Access Tuscarawas  Bridges to Wellness Pathways Community HUB</b></p>	<p>Goal: Met/ongoing. In 2023, Bridges to Wellness grew from 7 to 10 with zero turnover demonstrating strong CHW engagement.</p>
<p><b>Year 2:</b> Increase number of Tuscarawas residents served by Pathways Community HUB - this enrollment addresses any of 21 Pathways specifically designed to remove social determinant of health barrier (including access to healthcare, mental health and health insurance specifically measurable).</p>	<p>August 13, 2024</p>		<p>Residents served grew from 173 in 2022 to 229 in 2023. In 2024, 324 residents were served and 516 in 2025 YTD (Jan- August) Totaling over the CHIP period over 25,936 pathways were completed for the residents of Tuscarawas County. Ensuring that they were connected to community resources that address SDOH.</p>
<p><b>Year 3:</b> Over 50% pathway completion rate for enrolled members.  Over 50% completion rate directly correlates to successful community referrals to Tuscarawas County health and social service-related organizations.</p>	<p>August 13, 2025</p>		<p>In 2022, 3972 pathways were initiated, with 3339 completed demonstrating an 84% completion rate. In 2023, 7807 pathways were initiated, with 7011 completed, demonstrating an 90% completion rate. In 2024, 10213 pathways were initiated, with 9534 completed demonstrating a 93% completion rate. In 2025, YTD (Jan- August) 7002 pathways were initiated with over 6052 complete. This demonstrates an 86% completion rate.</p>

## Priority #3: Mental Health and Addiction

### Priority #3: Mental Health and Addiction

#### Strategy 1: Universal school-based suicide awareness and education programs

Action Step	Timeline	Lead Contact/Agency	Progress
<b>Year 1:</b> Introduce school-based suicide awareness and education program (i.e., <b>Signs of Suicide (SOS)</b> , <b>Question, Persuade, Refer (QPR)</b> , <b>Hope Squad Peer Support</b> , and <b>Mental Health First Aid</b> ) along with supporting data, to all school districts and engage interesting districts in a planning process.	August 13, 2023	<b>East Central Ohio Educational Service Center (ECOESC)</b>  <b>Empower Tusc/Suicide Coalition</b>	Resources were offered to local schools; however, work still needs to be accomplished in this area.
<b>Year 2:</b> Continue efforts from year 1. Implement the program(s) in 1-2 school districts in select grade levels.	August 13, 2024		
<b>Year 3:</b> Continue efforts from years 1 and 2. Expand program service area to 1-2 additional school districts.	August 13, 2025		

### Priority #3: Mental Health and Addiction

#### Strategy 2: Collaborate with schools to support the implementation of Social Emotional Learning (SEL) standards and ongoing Behavioral Health (BH) support (Implement school-based social and emotional instruction)

Action Step	Timeline	Lead Contact/Agency	Progress
<b>Year 1:</b> Work with schools to determine areas of need as well as opportunities to partner behavioral health resources and trainings in districts that are willing.	August 13, 2023	<b>Tuscarawas County Family and Children First Council</b>  <b>ECOESC</b>  <b>ADAMHS Board of Tuscarawas and Carroll Counties</b>	This will be an ongoing goal but progress this year includes the offering of Lifelines Trilogy training specifically for school districts. This suicide-prevention training is evidence-based and was offered to all districts based on survey data. Eight school districts within the region participated.
<b>Year 2:</b> Work with interested schools to determine areas of intervention both from a diagnostic/symptomatic lens as well as determining which groups to target, i.e. teaches; PTO; admin; coaches. etc.	August 13, 2024		
<b>Year 3:</b> Initiate a behavioral health-focused plan in the interested school districts to address need, decrease depressive symptoms, and increase resiliency.	August 13, 2025		Much of the school-based work is completed by local providers. ADAMHS did engage with Newcomerstown Schools at their invitation to consider how to increase resiliency from a village

			<p>perspective vs. school-only. Currently waiting on next steps with Newcomerstown CAN. It's anticipated these efforts could be replicated in like-sized small communities.</p> <p>ADAMHS continues to partners with the reginal TIC collective to share the move Resilience as a resource to schools to promote resilience and increasing understanding of trauma in children.</p>
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Priority #3: Mental Health and Addiction			
Strategy 3: Mental health first aid			
Action Step	Timeline	Lead Contact/Agency	Progress
<p><b>Year 1:</b> Obtain baseline data on the number of <b>Mental Health First Aid (MHFA)</b> trainings that have taken place in the Tuscarawas County.</p> <p>Market the training to local churches, schools, rotary clubs, law enforcement, chambers of commerce, city councils, college students, etc.</p> <p>Provide at least two MHFA trainings.</p>	August 13, 2023	<p><b>Empower Tusc</b></p> <p><b>Tuscarawas County Farm Bureau</b></p>	
<p><b>Year 2:</b> Continue efforts from year 1.</p> <p>Provide at least three additional trainings and continue marketing the training.</p>	August 13, 2024		
<p><b>Year 3:</b> Continue efforts from years 1 and 2.</p>	August 13, 2025		<p>This goal began and then stalled. Uncertain about the progress on this goal. Farm Bureau leadership changed over the course of the year and a MH First Aid Trainer at OSU Extension briefly stepped away from her role.</p>

Priority #3: Mental Health and Addiction			
Strategy 4: Increase County awareness of signs and symptoms of alcohol addiction and local resources			
Action Step	Timeline	Lead Contact/Agency	Progress
<p><b>Year 1:</b> Review existing awareness campaigns related to alcohol addiction and determine which would have the most impact in the county.</p> <p>Ensure campaign includes connection to local resources as well as ease of engagement in services.</p>	August 13, 2023	<p><b>Tuscarawas County Addiction Task Force</b></p> <p><b>OhioGuidestone</b></p> <p><b>ADAMHS Board</b></p>	<p>Campaigns developed to promote alcohol awareness for social media and also distributed via coasters at local bars.</p>

Develop a roll-out plan for campaign.			
<b>Year 2:</b> Initiate roll-out of alcohol addiction awareness campaign. Monitor calls to Hope Line and diagnoses following assessment to determine impact	August 13, 2024		80% of calls to the Hopeline were reported as being related to alcohol use.
<b>Year 3:</b> Review impact of efforts from years 1 and 2 and if necessary, plan for changes in year 3	August 13, 2025		ATF and ADAMHS staff are working closely with OSHP to provide resources on addiction and treatment services. These are shared when a resident is stopped for an OVI. This is called Operation New Beginnings. Data is being collected.  ADAMHS and Empower Tusc also presented about addiction awareness at NP Council when DORA was being proposed for the city. An article, that included local alcohol addiction data, was front page news with the local paper.  OG continues to push Hope Line information in the county and collects data based on Hope Line calls.

**Additional Meeting Notes:**

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