

ALLEGAN COUNTY 2022 CHIP

COMMUNITY HEALTH IMPROVEMENT PLAN



WHAT IS A CHIP?

A community health improvement plan (CHIP) is a long-term, systematic effort to address public health problems based on the results of Community Health Needs Assessment (CHNA) activities and the community health improvement process. A community health improvement process uses data from the Community Health Needs Assessment to identify priority issues, develop implementation strategies for action, and establish accountability to ensure measurable health improvement. The purpose of the Community Health Improvement Plan is to help our entire county track the progress we make towards a healthier community. Similar to the Whole Child framework for education, the CHIP encompasses partnerships amongst our community in order to provide sustainable supports and resources to individuals in need.

WHY IS IT IMPORTANT?

The public health challenges that our community faces are too large for one person, organization, school, or sector to fix alone. The Allegan County CHIP will act as a roadmap to help all sectors of our community collaborate to address the priority areas identified in Allegan County. This CHIP was created by involving different perspectives and voices from the community to help us fill gaps in services and health needs and strive towards a healthier Allegan County across the lifespan.

Join us in making a difference within our community



HEALTH
Department



Ascension
Borgess Allegan



United Way of Ottawa
and Allegan Counties



Allegan
Area ESA



2022 CHIP GOALS

Access to Medical Care

Why is it important?

Access to health services affects a person's health and well-being. Regular and reliable access to health services can:

- Prevent disease and disability
- Detect and treat illnesses & other health conditions
- Increase quality of life
- Reduce the likelihood of premature (early) death
- Increase life expectancy

Source: [CDC Healthy People](#)

Our Goal: Increase capacity and use of a patient-centered, community-integrated, and quality system of care for Allegan County residents.

Food Security

Why is it important?

Lacking consistent access to food is related to negative health outcomes such as weight gain, premature mortality, asthma, and activity limitations, as well as increased health care costs.

- There is evidence food deserts are correlated with a high prevalence of overweight, obesity, and premature death.
- Those with low income may face barriers to accessing a consistent source of healthy food.

Source: [County Health Rankings and Roadmaps 2021](#)

Our Goal: Increase availability of healthy food options for residents, while also expanding supplemental food resources in Allegan County.

Housing

Why is it important?

Our homes, and those of our neighbors, play a critical role in shaping our health and the health of the whole community. Housing is related to health through several pathways, and the safety and quality of our homes are correlated with health.

Source: [County Health Rankings](#)

Our Goal: Strengthen the housing sector within Allegan County and increase collaborative solutions.

Behavioral Health

Why is it important?

Access to behavioral health services ensures all individuals feel healthy, safe and supported so they can engaged in meaningful experiences.

Source: [WSCC Model](#)

Our Goal: Increase recognition and treatment of behavioral health conditions

JOIN US

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