

#### FACILITATOR

Kayla Johnson, Program Coordinator/Planner, Huron County Public Health (HCPH)

#### PARTICIPANTS

1. Kayla Johnson, Huron County Public Health
2. Grace Habeck, Huron County Public Health
3. Kim Williams, City of Willard
4. Rebecca Riley, Huron County Board of Developmental Disabilities
5. Mindy Birkholz, GLCAP
6. Lynden Ramsey, Norwalk Parks and Recreation

#### AGENDA

- ❖ **Introductions**
  - Roll Call
- ❖ **FY23/24 Project Updates**
- ❖ **FY25 CHC Grant Updates**
  - 2025 Selected Projects w/ Tentative Updated Budgets
- ❖ **Active Transportation (AT) Plan Tracker Updates**
  - FY26 Potential CHC Active Living Strategy
  - Lorain County ATP Update: Community Engagement
- ❖ **Coalition Field Trip Recap**
  - Coalition Avon Literacy Kitchen Center Tour
  - Coalition Bike Ride-TBD for FY25
- ❖ **Huron County Fair 2024**
  - Garden Seeds
  - Heart Walk
  - Willard Woodbine Park Feedback Board
  - Healthy Eating/Active Living Feedback Board
  - Adult/Youth Health Survey Results
- ❖ **Norwalk Nourishing Garden Updates**
  - New Signage
- ❖ **CHC 5-Year Memory Recap**
- ❖ **Group Sharing/Discussion:**
  - Meeting Options for FY25 Grant Cycle
  - Member Clean-Up
  - End of Year Survey
  - Feedback/Questions

## **MEETING MINUTES**

The Huron County Creating Healthy Communities (CHC) Committee met on Wednesday, September 11, 2024, in-person and virtually through TEAMS for the 2024 Q3 Meeting. Kayla Johnson began the meeting at 9:32 AM. Kayla welcomed the committee members, started with roll call (6) total members were in attendance and reviewed the meeting agenda. There is no September newsletter as there was a coalition meeting.

### **CHC REVIEW:**

Kayla reviewed the FY23/2024 CHC project updates with attending members using PPT slides. She informed the attendees that this would be the final meeting for the current grant cycle, which ends on September 30, 2024. The Huron County Public Health CHC program has been competitively selected to receive funding for another five years. She then reviewed the selected projects, assessments, and priority communities for FY25, as outlined in the PPT slides. She mentioned that, due to the grant award being less than the requested amount, all project funding amounts remain tentative at this time. Final budget updates will be provided before the new grant cycle begins. Kayla reminded members to continue sending ATP tracker updates and presented a potential project idea for FY26-27, which involves updating the current Huron County ATP with Community Engagement, as detailed in the PPT slides. She noted that Lorain County recently completed a similar update and could potentially provide a guest speaker to present on their project in the next grant cycle.

During the meeting, Kayla shared slides recapping the CHC members' field trip to the Avon Culinary Literacy Center. Due to inclement weather, the CHC Member Bike Ride was canceled, and a rain date will be determined in 2025. Kayla provided updates on the 2024 Huron County Fair, including free community seed donations, data on the Heart Walk, Healthy Eating and Active Living Feedback Boards, FY25 Willards Woodbine Park Feedback results, and data from the 2024 adult and youth surveys relating to active living and healthy eating. She also reviewed updates on the Norwalk Nourishing Garden, which included new signage material and the 2024 produce count data so far this season. As the five-year grant period nears its end, Kayla took members on a trip down memory lane, reviewing and reflecting on the program, partners, and community contributions over the last five years, as shown in the PPT slides.

Lastly, a group discussion was held to discuss FY25 CHC coalition meeting options. Members were encouraged to provide feedback through a Survey Monkey link or QR code, as shown in the PPT slides. Plans for a "member clean-up" and the upcoming 2024 end-of-year survey were also discussed.

### **2024 PROJECT UPDATES:**

Norwalk Memorial Reservoir Path

The multi-use path was completed in Q2. Kayla collaborated with Norwalk Parks and Rec's Lynden Ramsey to create and release a combined press release detailing Norwalk's FY23 and

FY24 community improvements. She also conducted a post-assessment by gathering usage counts of the new path and feedback from social media posts. No further action is required.

**This project is now complete.**

#### Greenwich Playground

- The “Grand Slam” playground was installed near the baseball field at the Greenwich Reservoir in Q2. Kayla worked closely with the Greenwich Improvement Group (GIG) and the Village of Greenwich throughout the process. They released a combined press release detailing Greenwich’s FY23 and FY24 community improvements. Kayla collected a second round of post-assessment usage counts this summer and feedback from social media posts. No further action is required. **This project is now complete.**

#### Kiddie Land (Spinner) – Willard

- Kim Williams from the City of Willard Parks and Rec provided an update on the Kiddie Land renovation project, which will feature a new inclusive spinner. Potential groundbreaking is expected in October. The city is finalizing a few current projects and hopes to start soon. Kayla will provide updates during the 2025 Q1 meeting. ***This project remains ongoing and will continue as a sustained project into 2025 due to unforeseen delays.***

#### **2023 SUSTAINED PROJECTS:**

##### Stokley Park – Norwalk

- Kayla collected final photos and worked with the city to release a combined press release detailing Norwalk’s FY23 and FY24 community improvements. She conducted a post-assessment by gathering usage counts of the park renovations and feedback from social media posts. The Norwalk General Services department is working to replace the soccer goal netting, expected to be installed by the end of September. Once installed, no further action is required. **This project is now complete.**

##### Greenwich Reservoir Park – All-Huron County

- The missing teeter-totter will be replaced with a Whizzy Dizzy play piece, and will be purchased by the Greenwich Improvement Group (GIG). GIG Vice President Bethany Bracken is obtaining a quote and ordering the replacement. Installation is expected in Spring 2025 by GIG and The Village of Greenwich Parks Committee. Kayla collected final photos and worked with GIG to release a combined press release detailing Greenwich’s FY23 and FY24 park project community improvements. She conducted a post-assessment by gathering usage counts of the park renovations and feedback from social media posts. Once the replacement is installed, no further action is required. **This project is now complete.**

City of Willard Park (Slide) – Willard

- Kim Williams from the City of Willard updated that the existing slide is posted on govdeals.com for sale until 09/20/2024. The winning bidder will need to remove the old slide, and the area will likely become a green space for now. The new slide will be installed next to the baseball fields once the outdated play area is removed. Installation is still on target for this fall. Kayla will provide additional updates during the 2025 Q1 meeting. ***This project remains ongoing and will continue as a sustained project into 2025 due to unforeseen delays.***

**FY25 CHC GRANT UPDATES:**

Members were informed of Huron County Public Health's Creating Healthy Communities (CHC) funding notice of award for the next five years. The FY25 cycle will be effective from October 1, 2024, to September 30, 2025. As part of the new CHC grant cycle, grantees are required to select first-year projects and priority communities for FY25, which Kayla reviewed using the provided PPT slides. Selections were made based on priority communities and FY25 projects with high Social Vulnerability Index (SVI) scores, as outlined in the grant requirements. Our focus is on addressing high SVI areas in Huron County. Special Conditions responses are due October 31 2024.

**Priority Community/Assessment Selection: Year-1**

- **Healthy Eating Assessment (All-Huron County):** In collaboration with community partners, including members of the Huron County CHC Coalition, as well as community members, HCPH will lead a county-wide healthy eating assessment to assess healthy eating in Huron County.
- **Active Living Assessment (Willard):** In collaboration with community partners, specifically including the City of Willard, Willard's Parks and Recreation department, Huron County CHC Coalition members serving the Willard area, and community members, HCPH will also lead an active living assessment to assess active living efforts within Census Tracts 9162 and 9163 of Huron County (focused on the City of Willard).

**FY25 Strategy (Project) Selection**

- **Strategy #1: Healthy Eating PSE Strategy:**  
*Norwalk Nourishing Garden (All- Huron County)*
  - CHC was asked to sponsor a portion of the cost to expand HCPH on-site "Nourishing Huron County Community Garden" into currently unused space adjacent to the existing garden space.
  - (Tentative) The cost of CHC sponsorship would be \$15,000.

- (Kayla)- Made note of Rebecca Riley's comment from Q2 about looking into a cold frame garden to allow a garden during the fall/wintertime frame.
- **Strategy #2: Active Living PSE Strategy:**  
*Woodbine Park (Willard)*
  - CHC funds to purchase an ADA compliant spinner and picnic table.
  - (Tentative) The cost of CHC sponsorship would be \$11,000.
- **Strategy #3: Active Living PSE Strategy:**  
*Greenwich Parks and Ballfields (All-Huron County)*
  - CHC funds to purchase (5) hydration (water refill) stations.
  - (Tentative) The cost of CHC sponsorship would be \$14,300.

Kayla reminded members that moving forward, projects located in lower point SVI areas are still eligible for project selection for the remaining four grant cycles. Multi-year projects are welcome.

(Lynden) expressed interest in a future partnership with the Village of North Fairfield on a healthy eating project. Library staff mentioned collaborating with the local Methodist church to provide a program space for hosting educational classes to promote health and wellbeing. Kayla suggested potentially inviting this partner to join a future follow-up field trip to the Avon Culinary Literacy Center for inspiration.

(Kim) mentioned that Willard currently only has Save A Lot and lacks a grocery store offering healthy items. Kayla noted this for a future multi-year healthy eating strategy.

### **ACTIVE TRANSPORTATION PLAN (ATP) TRACKER UPDATES**

Kayla conducted a review of the ATP tracker PPT slides with coalition members. There are no current updates at this time. She reminded members that we are entering a 10+ year infrastructure improvement timeline and should continue to provide her with any updates. Kayla will maintain communication with CHC members to provide ATP updates and conduct quarterly reviews during CHC meetings moving into FY25.

Kayla proposed the idea of a future ATP update for the FY26-27 active living strategy project. By that point, it will be five years since the development of the original plan. She further mentioned that Lorain County CHC recently completed a similar update in FY24 and could be a valuable resource for a future presentation of their project if interested. Kayla intends to discuss this further in FY25 during coalition meetings.

(Mindy) mentioned conducting a walk-audit for future ideas on where accessibility can be improved for access to healthy eating and active living resources on the south end of Norwalk.

### **COALITION FIELD TRIP RECAP**

#### **Coalition Bike Ride**



- This event was cancelled due to inclement weather. It will be rescheduled for a rain date at some point during FY25. Kayla will plan to schedule a follow-up meeting to determine the new ride date during the Q2 meeting.

#### **Avon Literacy Center Tour**

- Kayla reviewed the tour details with coalition members, which included a recap of photos, top highlights, goals and objectives, and member survey feedback per the PPT slides. Next step is to determine the next plan of action. Based on member survey feedback, members would like to schedule a future follow-up tour with a cooking demo, inviting investing partners. Norwalk Library was not in attendance for the Q3 meeting to provide an update on their programming building renovations, which will include a similar version to the Avon Culinary Literacy Center. Kayla will provide further updates and gather interest for the FY26 project idea.

#### **HURON COUNTY FAIR 2024**

- Kayla reviewed PPT slides. CHC community engagement and feedback was collected this year at the 2024 Huron County fair including the following:

##### Garden Seeds:

- HCPH partnered once again this year with the Cuyahoga County Board of Health to receive donated seed boxes. Since 2023, this partnership has been a huge success with community residents. For 2024, a total of 18 boxes, each containing approximately 500 seed packets, were donated to HCPH. Community members can select from a variety of free vegetables, herbs, and flower seeds. Seed storage tips and a garden calendar were also available as handouts again this year. Currently, 1.5 boxes of seeds remain and will be distributed to local schools by Kayla sometime this fall. All seeds are being stored in a temperature-controlled environment at HCPH until they are ready for disbursement.

##### 2025 Willards Woodbine Park Feedback Board:

- A feedback board was utilized for the FY25 community engagement initiative concerning the future renovations of Willards Woodbine Park in Willard. Community residents had the opportunity to vote on one piece of equipment from each category by placing a colored dot on their favorite item. Kayla informed members that this initiative was a huge success! Development for the multi-year park project is scheduled to begin in FY25. The winning categories were shared via PPT slides during the Q3 meeting and were also emailed to the City of Willard for future reference.

##### Active Living and Healthy Eating County wide feedback board:

- Kayla shared feedback from community residents who visited the HCPH booth at the fair were asked to share their thoughts, ideas, and comments on how and where we can improve active living and healthy eating in Huron County. Data



and graphs were shared via PPT slides and included the results of all the respondent's ideas.

Adult/Youth Community Feedback Surveys:

- Survey questions were selected by HCPH's CPD (community programs division) staff based on current programming, existing data, and identified gaps in the community. Results from all youth and adult 2024 Huron County fair surveys were compiled and summarized into a report by HCPH Data Analyst, Grace Habeck and shared via PPT slides. A total of 443 responses were received for the adult fair survey and a total of 197 responses were received for the youth survey.

**NORWALK NOURISHING COMMUNITY GARDEN UPDATES**

Kayla presented updates on the ongoing Norwalk Nourishing Community Garden project, located next to the HCPH building in Norwalk, through a series of PPT slides. Below is a summary of the recent updates:

- Metal stakes/gripping tape for tomato and tomatillos were placed.
- Kayla created customs: Signage materials for the garden, ready/not-ready QR codes signs for produce, waterproof recipe box, and created recipe card "Grab and Go" packs with items available in the garden.
- Sandusky Home Depot donated a free retractable garden hose to the community garden to replace the broken one.
- Roughly 300 lbs. of produce have been donated so far this season to the local food bank and community residents.
- QR code sign for on-going garden feedback through Survey Monkey.

**To Do**

- Fall garden clean-up: End of September 2024
- Collect Survey Monkey feedback. Feedback will be shared in 2025.
- (2) apple trees have died and will be replaced with either strawberries or blue berries in 2025.
- Implement composting system for HCPH- Winter/Spring
- Indoor greenhouse to plant starter plants during off season  
Starter plant trays with the help of Town and Country Garden Club for residents.

**CHC 5-YEAR MEMORY RECAP**

As the 5-year CHC grant cycle comes to a close, Kayla shared a compilation of memorable moments with members through a series of PPT slides. The slides highlighted the grant kickoff, partnership building, community involvement, milestones achieved, and photos showcasing Huron County's efforts and dedication to continuously improving health and wellness.

**GROUP SHARING/ DISCUSSION**

Kayla and members discussed determining future meetings and times that worked best for all members. A 2025 CHC Coalition Meetings Survey was created to allow members to share feedback. The survey is now open and can be accessed through the provided link and QR code.

The survey will close on September 27, 2024. Based on the survey results, Kayla will send out the 2025 Q1 CHC meeting invite via email.

Additionally, the 2024 end-of-year CHC Coalition Survey will be distributed at the beginning of November. This survey is essential for planning the start of the new grant cycle.

As part of the end-of-year survey, there will be a section for current CHC members to confirm their intent to remain in the coalition for the upcoming five-year grant cycle. Members who have not attended at least one meeting in the past year and do not respond or provide a replacement within the established timeframe will be notified and removed from the coalition. However, they may choose to rejoin in the future if they wish.

Lastly, members are encouraged to invite new partners or community members to join the coalition.

**QUESTIONS/COMMENTS:**

No additional comment or questions, meeting adjourned approximately at 10:54 AM.

**ACTION ITEMS/UPCOMING EVENTS:**

- FY25 budget period is October 1, 2024-September 30, 2025
- CHC Coalition Meetings Survey collector will close 09/27/2024.
- FY25 Q1 meeting TBD

**FY25 Q1 Meeting:** TBD

**\*NOTE: This will be the first meeting of the next 5-year grant cycle.**