

CREATING HEALTHY COMMUNITIES COALITION

1st Quarter Meeting Minutes

Monday, February 12, 2024



Sandusky Co. Public Health Creating Healthy Communities Coordinator Laura Bogard called the first quarter meeting of Creating Healthy Communities Coalition to order @ 9:00 A.M. and thanked all participants for attending. Attendees introduced themselves:

Laura Bogard, Sandusky Co. Public Health; Kristie Bilger, Downtown Fremont, Inc.; Ruby Randolph, OSU Extension SNAP Ed.; Katie Schglaheck, OSU Extension Family & Consumer Science; Jamie Belcher, Sandusky Co. Public Health; Rachel McCoy, United Way of Sandusky Co.; Abigayle Adams, The Bellevue Hospital; Jennifer MacDonald, Sandusky Co. Public Health WIC Program; Sarah Eden, Sandusky Co. Public Health Nursing; Jim Posey, Sandusky Co. Public Health; Cecelia Glauser, Sandusky Co. Public Health HPE Intern; Charlotte Stonerook, Sandusky Co. Public Health HPE; Elizabeth Valentine, Great Lakes Community Action Partnership Nutrition; Jennifer Sherman, OSS Solid Waste District and Marsha Overmyer, Sandusky Co. Public Health

Laura Bogard provided shared information via PowerPoint slides. She reviewed the meeting agenda, the CHC Mission/Vision statements and CHC Principles. Laura thanked all members for participation and assistance in Creating Healthy Communities' coalition work group participation. Laura informed attendees she will email Power Point slides with the meeting minutes.

2023 END of YEAR STRATEGY REPORTS

Laura discussed the 2023 CHC grant strategies:

Produce Prescriptions – Healthy Eating: Fresh Connect Produce Prescription Voucher Program was launched in September 2023 with six (6) individuals, followed by one (1) individual joining in October, and two (2) in November. The medical office of Dr. Yuhas located in Clyde referred eight (8) and Alexandra Rojas, CNP, referred one (1) patient. Both health care providers are with the ProMedica system. All participants referred are over the age of forty-five (45) with chronic disease conditions such as hypertension or diabetes to complete the six (6) month program. Retail markets accepting the paper vouchers include TJay's, Kirwen's, Chud's year-round. Drown's and Riehm's Market participated until they closed for the season in October. Katie Schlagheck provides in-person nutrition education two days/month. There was 100% class attendance from Sept. to Dec. 2023 with all 9 participants. Laura showed some educational materials and tools that are given to participants at classes such as a 2024 Celebrate Your Plate recipe calendar, fruit/vegetable information wheel, measuring cups, produce storage bags and a shopping bag. Laura stated the first nine participants were compliant and eager to learn. In December 2023 and January 2024, \$25.00 Kroger gift cards were distributed to 5 participants each month with positive feedback. Kroger receipts were brought to class to verify the purchase of vegetables and fruits.

Bike Share program – Active Living: The Bike Share Program launched mid-September 2023, with the purchase of six (6) bikes; three (3) purple and three (red) to represent Fremont City Schools and Bishop Hoffman Catholic Schools. The bikes are stationed at @ Y.M.C.A. on North St., Fremont, with bike racks and signage on the building. B.J, Laura, and Ally Smith worked with the Sandusky Co. Visitor's Bureau in creating a landing page with an interactive map of local highlights for bikers. There were 2 articles in The Fremont News-Messenger in September and October 2023. Bikes are currently stored at the TRIPS garage for the winter. Bikes were borrowed 14 times with 1 individual who borrowed a bike 4 times. 76% of borrower were Y.M.C.A. members from Fremont, Clyde, and Village of Lindsey. Half of bike share riders were male. With an average age of 44 years with the youngest being 16 yrs. and oldest being 73 yrs. Borrowers surveyed said they learned of the Bike Share through "word of mouth", Facebook, and email and ninety (90%) percent would recommend the program. Laura distributed Bike Share brochures for coalition members.

Laura reported end of year CHC funds allowed for the purchase of “tag along” bike for children to ride with an adult and a stroller that will hook to a bike. There was also enough funding that allowed for the purchase of 2 additional bikes that will be designated for these additions. The bikes and additions should be ready for the re-launch in 2024.

Complete Streets Policy – Active Living: Laura and the work group wrote the Complete Street Policy throughout the year, a presentation was given to the Clyde City Council in November and a resolution was passed supporting the Complete Street Policy on December 21, 2023. Complete Streets is an approach to planning and design of streets for all users. It addresses safety concerns for everyone in the community and improves ADA compliance. A policy is an official commitment of a city, town or village that ensures needs of all users of all transportation modes are considered. The city, town or village can choose to pass the policy as an a policy, an ordinance (law), or resolution (support for the policy).

Sustainability strategies: These are strategies from 2022 that needed to be finished in 2023.

- **Food Service Guidelines:** Attempted to work with Legends Recovery in Green Springs without progress. Strategy terminated.
- **Public Transit:** Mobility management specialist and Laura conducted in-person surveys with 19 shuttle users in November with mostly positive feedback about the bus shelters installed at Walmart and on North St. Most said the Walmart shelter is too small. In December, there was a broken panel from a motorized shopping cart @ the Walmart shelter with GLCAP replacing it in a timely manner. Two additional bus shelters were purchased with other grant dollars awarded to GLCAP and installed at the Senior Center and Community Health Services.
- **Pedestrian Infrastructure:** 2 additional radar speed signs installed on Rte. 600 (Madison St.) in Gibsonburg and crosswalks painted near the elementary and high schools. Village of Gibsonburg Administrator Marc Glotzbecker emailed Laura thanking her for diligence with Complete Streets Policy which was instrumental for receipt of \$100,000.00 in grant funds for infrastructure work to be done soon.

2024 CHC NEWS AND GRANT STRATEGIES

The 2024 grant year began January 1, 2024, and will finish September 30, 2024, with a decrease in funding for the nine (9) month cycle. The program is changing from a calendar year to a fiscal year.

The Ohio Dept. of Health has rebranded and terminated the Creating Healthy Communities logo. The logo will not be added to any new material but can stay on any existing ones.

Produce Prescriptions – Healthy Eating: In 2024, the program has openings for 15 participants, with 2 already enrolled. There are 6 participants from 2023 to finish the program in February; 1 to finish in March, and 2 to finish in April 2024. Laura spoke with Annette Overmyer, ProMedica Memorial Hospital, regarding future need and sustainability of Produce Prescription Program.

Bike Infrastructure – Active Living: Laura is contacting bike share workgroup members to see if they are interested in being on workgroup since there is still some work to finish with the bike share program. There have been request for bike racks from St. Joes school and DJFS that have no bike racks on their property. Laura will talk with workgroup to see if there are other organizations, businesses that community member frequent in need of racks. Laura stated funds are available for bike fix-it stations, replacing safety signs, and fix-it station tools. Laura discussed possibly using funds for painting sharrows on roads of the bike route, but the cost is high, budget is low this year and the road work schedule may not be aligned. Kristie Bilger recommended bike lane paint be a different color. Laura would like to do education on bike share lanes, bike safety with children, etc. Possibly do a bike rodeo to teach children how to ride bikes safely. Bike infrastructure workgroup will discuss options and make plans.

Pedestrian Infrastructure – Active Living: City of Clyde is working on a plan for pedestrian infrastructure. One of the first activities is to create a Complete Streets check list that was a recommendation placed in the policy. The workgroup members who worked on writing the policy will continue to be on the workgroup for pedestrian infrastructure. Community engagement will be part of the strategy. After determination of high priority project, there is \$5,000.00 available in funding.

Sustainability strategies: These are strategies from 2023 that need to be finished in 2024.

- *Complete Streets Policy- Clyde:* Educate the community on what is Complete Streets and the passing of the resolution of the Complete Streets Policy in December 2023.
- *Bike Share Program:* Re-launch the program and promote. Plans include a ribbon cutting ceremony with the Chamber of Commerce.
- *Complete Streets Policy – Fremont:* Contact Fremont City officials to gauge interest in revisiting the 2019 policy draft written and re-engage.

2025 COMPETITIVE GRANT

If awarded the 2025 CHC grant, the new 5-year cycle will be 2025 through 2029 starting October 1, 2024. The request for proposal is due to be released mid-March with a due date in the first week in May. This grant is competitive for the entire state. No additional information is available currently.

Laura may be reaching out to some of you for input on strategies, activities, and partnerships to include in the grant proposal. Kristie Bilger requested Laura email the group after the conference with grant information.

MEMBER NEWS & UPDATES

Kristie Bilger recommended Laura reach out to Flat Landers regarding bike trails in need of repair @ Walsh Park, Fremont, and White Star Park, Gibsonburg.

Charlotte Stonerook American Academy of Pediatrics released bike helmet grant proposals and suggested other agencies, i.e. apply for funding. Sandusky Co. Public Health distributed bike helmets @ Camp Fire, Grove Fest, through its W.I.C. and Public Health Nursing Programs, Boy and Girl Scouts and @ Cinco de Mayo.

Kristie Bilger commended Laura Bogard on her hard work in Creating Healthy Communities' activities.

Upon adjournment, Laura thanked all participants for attending and their input.

NEXT Meeting: TENTATIVE

- **AUGUST 12, 2023, 9-10 A.M. Location TBD.**