

WOCHD/BOH Priority Health Needs Plan – 2025-26

Priority 1: A Healthy Ohio County Community

- Objective 1: Improving Community Engagement
 - Activity:
 - The Health Department and Board of Health will strive to increase opportunities for engagement and connectivity among new community partners and will further strive to build new relationships with community groups and individuals within the community.
- Objective 2: Improving Healthy Lifestyles
 - Activity:
 - Educate the community about healthy lifestyles and the benefits of physical activity.
 - Access to healthy foods will also be a priority focus. This can potentially be achieved by providing education to the community and by providing referrals to community partners, such as the WIC program, in certain situations.
 - Engage the mental health system in Ohio County and provide referrals to mental or behavioral health professionals in Ohio County.
 - Identify new, and improve upon, our current list of medical providers and facilities in Ohio County. Specifically, our goal for this effort will be to improve communicable disease surveillance and timely reporting of communicable diseases in Ohio County.

Priority 2: Improving Recreation and Outdoor Activities in Ohio County

- Objective 1: Improve Health and Lifestyles of Ohio County Residents
 - Activity:
 - Educate the citizens of Ohio County about outdoor recreation activities and opportunities and the benefits of physical activity.
 - Build stronger relationships with recreational centers in Ohio County.

Priority 3: Improving Access to Care

- Objective: Improve better access to healthcare in Ohio County

- Activity:
 - Improve access to prevention programs and services for diverse and vulnerable populations.
 - Encourage and develop relationships with community partners for early screening and detection services.
 - Explore the potential for mobile and community-based services that bring care to the residents of Ohio County.
 - Developing and distributing healthcare resource guides for the citizens of Ohio County.

Priority 4: Quality Employment

- Objective 1: Identifying Opportunities for Expanding Quality healthcare employment
 - Activity:
 - Provide the WOCHD staff with training and education on public health issues and programs.
 - Work with City and County employment and retention programs to encourage local job growth and development.