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Putting Health Equity Front and Center in Community Health Improvement by Empowering, Listening to, and Respecting Community Voices

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Putting Health Equity Front and Center in Community Health Improvement by Empowering, Listening to, and Respecting Community Voices

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PARTNERSHIP

Coalition for a Healthy Greater Worcester
Worcester Division of Public Health/ Central MA Regional Public Health Alliance
Academic Health Collaborative of Worcester (UMass Medical School, Clark University, and Worcester State University)
Over one hundred partner organizations of all sizes across sectors, including UMass Memorial Health Care

SHARED VISION

To be the healthiest city and region in New England by 2020.

CHIP IMPLEMENTATION

We are working together to implement the 2016 Community Health Improvement Plan (CHIP) with 1 overarching goal of healthy equity, 3 core principles, 9 overarching aims, 31 measurable objectives, and 100 actionable strategies.

ROLE OF THE COALITION

To ensure continuous community engagement that is universally inclusive and representative of the diverse organizations, agencies, and residents of the region.
To provide a mechanism for funding toward CHIP initiatives.
To build accountability by tracking and evaluating progress toward outcomes.
To provide greater opportunity for transparency.

2016 Community Health Improvement Plan (CHIP)

1 Goal

Health Equity

3 Core Principles

Invest first in the community
Empower, listen to, and respect community voice
Eliminate gaps between services

9 Priority Areas

Racism & Discrimination
Substance Use
Access to Care
Mental Health
Economic Opportunity
Cultural Responsiveness
Access to Healthy Food
Physical Activity
Safety

Coalition for a Healthy Greater Worcester
Structure to Support CHIP Implementation

PAST RESEARCH

What does a healthy community look like?
A Community Health Assessment was completed in 2015, which resulted in the 2016 CHIP.

Methods Used:
• Quantitative Data Collection
• Focus Groups & Key Informants
• Surveys & Neighborhood Conversations

CURRENT RESEARCH

Are we making progress toward CHIP outcomes?
The Coalition’s Research and Evaluation Subcommittee, which includes members from UMass Medical School and Worcester Regional Research Bureau, is currently working to define measures for each of the 100 actionable strategies.

Overview of Process:
1. Define metrics and sources of data
2. Create and utilize REDCap to collect baseline data and measure progress
3. Collect and analyze data
4. Report back to priority area groups
5. Priority area group leaders use to inform course corrections

RESEARCH INTERESTS

Are we creating an inclusive coalition that is representative of our community?
Will progress toward CHIP outcomes improve as community participation increases and is more representative of the population?
Where does other research fit within the CHIP?

Coalition for a Healthy Greater Worcester
Eliminating Health Disparities
Improving Quality of Life
Building Community

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