

Erie County, Pennsylvania

**ERIE COUNTY
COMMUNITY HEALTH
IMPROVEMENT PLAN**

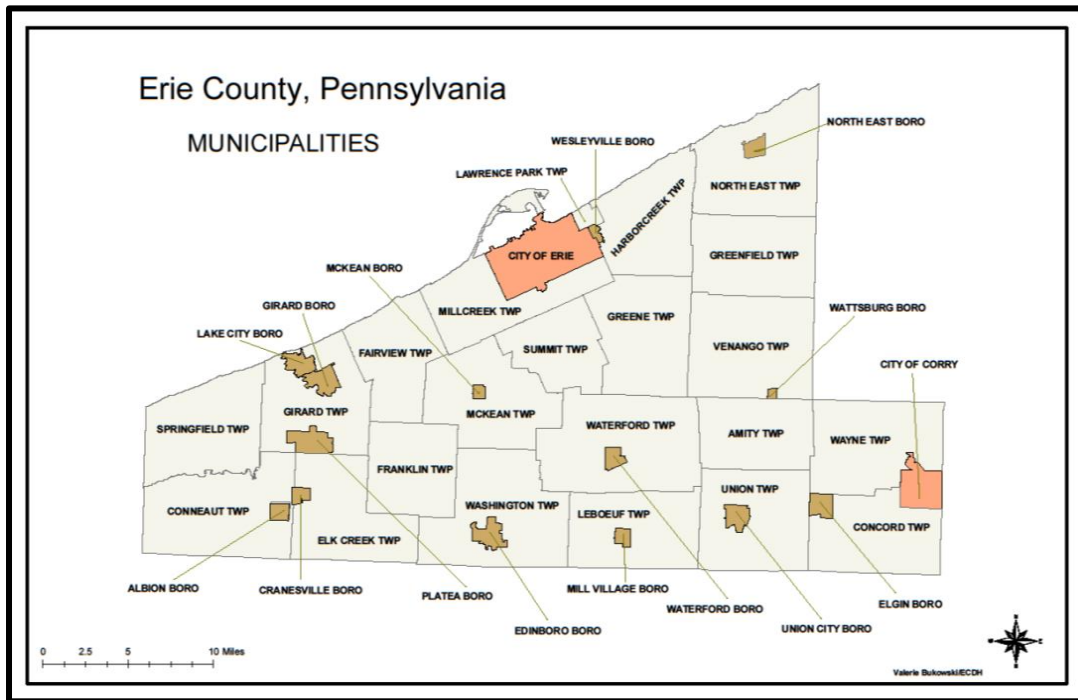
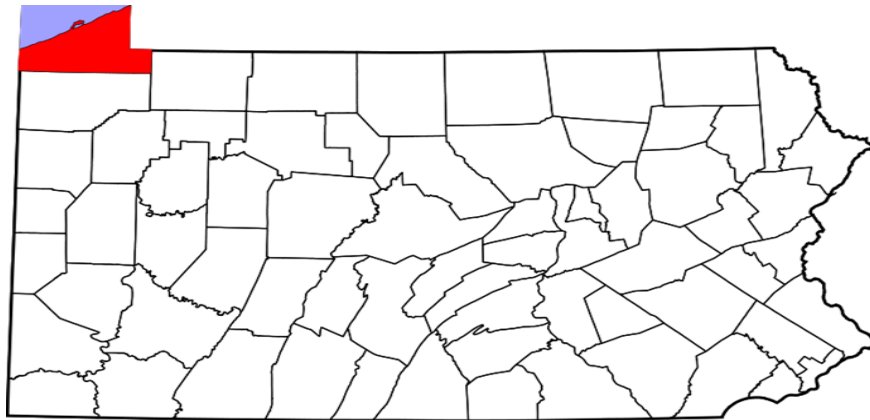
Annual Report
June 30, 2015



Introduction

Erie County is located in northwestern Pennsylvania on the south shore of Lake Erie. In 2013, the population totaled 280,294, with 80% classified as urban and 20% as rural. In this same year, 55.2% of all residents lived in either the City of Erie (100,671 persons) or Millcreek Township (54,239 persons). Poverty, especially within the City of Erie, is a concern.

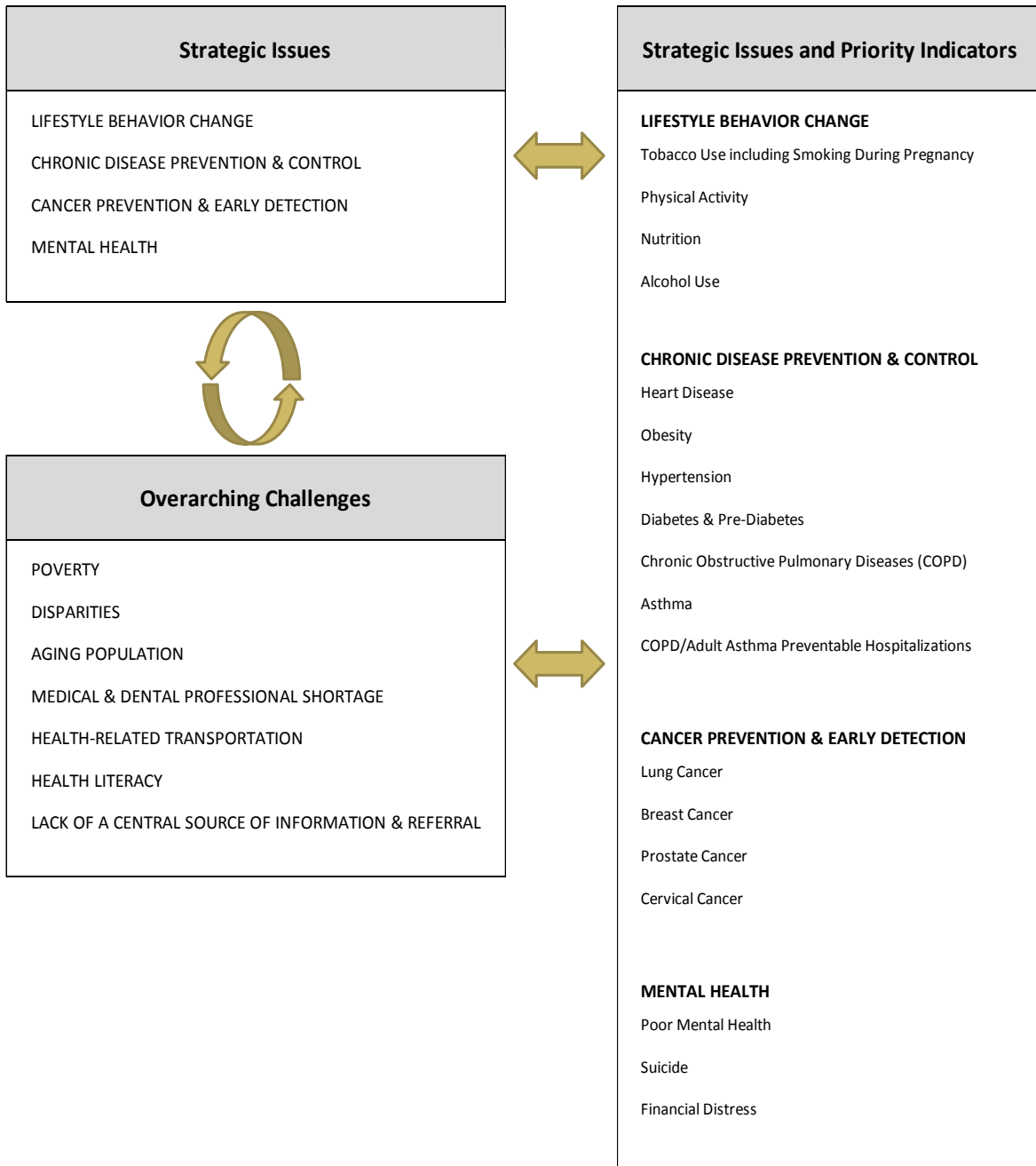
Erie County, Pennsylvania Maps



In 2012, a community health needs assessment was completed for Erie County. Based on the results of this assessment, four strategic health issues, their corresponding priority health indicators, and seven overarching challenges were identified. The strategic health issues are lifestyle behavior change, chronic disease prevention and control, cancer prevention and early detection, and mental health. The overarching challenges are issues that impact the health of Erie County residents and should be considered in any community-based health action plan. They are poverty, disparities, the aging

population, medical and dental professional shortage, health-related transportation, health literacy, and lack of a central source of information and referral. This is represented in the community health blueprint below.

Erie County Community Health Blueprint



Community Health Improvement Plan

The Community Health Improvement Plan (CHIP) is a blueprint for achieving improved community health. It begins with community partners and stakeholders joining in a collaborative dialogue to develop goals and strategies for the strategic issues identified in the community health needs assessment. The priority indicators and overarching challenges are used as guides. These final goals and strategies describe what the group wants to achieve and how they plan on doing it. The results are action plans that use evidence based programs to provide measurable and effective interventions within the community. The overarching goal of the CHIP is to establish a unified health improvement plan to transform Erie County into a “Community of Wellness”.

The Erie County CHIP began as a unilateral group of community organizations each of whom deliver services and programs within the parameters of the priority indicators and overarching challenges.

CHIP Steering Committee

June 30, 2015

James Amsterdam, MD	St. Vincent Hospital
Rachel Andrews	AmeriHealth Caritas
Del Birch	United Way of Erie County
Nicole Bolash	Erie County Department of Health
Valerie Bukowski	Erie County Department of Health
April Bush	Drug and Alcohol Coalition
Terry DeLellis	Corry Memorial Hospital
Carrie Ennis	UPMC Hamot
George Espy	Erie Community Foundation
Debra Feeney	Erie City School District
Nina Ferraro	Highmark Blue Cross Blue Shield
Anna Frantz	Emerge 2040
Amanda Harkness	Erie County Department of Health (Nutrition)
Jillian Heschke	Millcreek Community Hospital
Dawna Himmel	Erie County Diabetes Association
Karen Jakiel	American Cancer Society
Gina Klofft	American Heart Association
Denise Kolivoski	National Alliance on Mental Illness (NAMI)
Mark Kresse	Healthcare Collaboration
Amy Jo Learn	St. Vincent Hospital
Laura Luther	Erie County Department of Health (Phys Activ)
Melissa Lyon	Erie County Department of Health
Sarah Morgan	Erie County Department of Health (Tobacco)
Peggy Popeski	Family Services of NWPA
Anthony Snow, MD	Community Health Net
Patricia Stubber	Northwest PA Area Health Education Center
Kathy Wyrosdick	Erie County Planning Department
Eileen Zinchiak	Mercyhurst Public Health Institute

These organizations partner with over 90 stakeholders throughout Erie County to service residents.

Community Partners and Stakeholders

Adagio Health (Erie County)
American Cancer Society
American Diabetes Association
American Heart Association
Asbury Woods Nature Center
Baldwin Brothers Realty
Booker T. Washington Center
Boy Scouts of America
Chronic Disease Prevention Program
City of Erie Police Department
City of Erie School District
Coalition Pathways
Community Health Net
Community-At-Large Members
Coroner
Corry Chamber of Commerce
Corry Memorial Hospital
Corry Police Department
County of Erie, Mental Health and Mental Retardation
Divine Connections
Erie Children's Advocacy Center
Erie City Council
Erie Community Foundation
Erie County Board of Health
Erie County Cancer Task Force
Erie County Care Management
Erie County Department of Health
Erie County Diabetes Association
Erie County District Attorney Office
Erie County Medical Society
Erie Gay News (LGBT population)
Erie Housing Authority
Erie Mental Health Association
Erie Reader
Erie Regional Chamber and Growth Partnership
Erie Yesterday
Eriez Magnetics
Fairview Township
Gannon University
Gannondale School for Girls
Gaudenzia
General Electric Transportation Health Initiative
Girard Borough
Girl Scouts of America
Goodell Gardens
Great Lakes Institute of Technology
Greater Erie Community Action Committee (GECAC)
Harborcreek Supervisor
Health America Insurance (Coventry Healthcare)
Highmark Blue Cross Blue Shield
John F. Kennedy Center
Junior League of Erie
Lake Erie College of Osteopathic Medicine (LECOM)
LECOM School of Pharmacy
Lilly Broadcasting
Martin Luther King Center
Mercyhurst Civic Institute
Mercyhurst University
Millcreek Community Hospital
Millcreek Police Department
Mission Empower
Mothers Against Teen Violence
Multicultural Community Resource Center
NAMI of Erie County (National Alliance on Mental Illness)
Northeast Chamber of Commerce
Northwest Pennsylvania Area Health Education Center
Northwest Savings Bank
Northwest Tri-County Intermediate Unit 5
NWPB Tobacco Control Program
Office of Children and Youth
Office of the Pennsylvania Attorney General
Ophelia Project
Perseus House
Regional Cancer Center
Safe & Healthy Communities
Saint Benedict Adult Education Program
Saint Vincent Hospital
Second Harvest Food Bank
Sisters of St. Joseph Neighborhood Network
Stairways Behavioral Health
Trinity Center
Union Township
United Healthcare
United Way of Erie County
UPMC Hamot
UPMC Insurance
Veteran's Affairs Medical Center
VisitErie
Waterford Township
Whole Foods Cooperative
Women's Care Center

Four task forces, based on the four strategic issues, were established. They are: Lifestyle Behavior Change Task Force, Chronic Disease Task Force, Mental Health Task Force, and Cancer Prevention and Control Task Force. Focus areas for each of these task force groups follows.

Lifestyle Behavior Change Task Force

- Tobacco and Alcohol
 - Alcohol and tobacco use during pregnancy and post-partum
 - Tobacco cessation programs
 - Tobacco prevention initiatives
 - Tobacco enforcement/compliance programs
 - Tobacco advocacy initiatives
 - Smoke-free public places
 - Tobacco interventions in healthcare settings

- Nutrition
 - Food deserts
 - Community gardens
 - Healthy Corner Store initiative
 - Breastfeeding policy initiative – worksite compliance

- Physical Activity
 - Bike Erie initiative
 - The “Let’s Move Outside” county wide walking program
 - Safe Routes to School program
 - Complete streets strategies

Chronic Disease Task Force

- Million Hearts initiative and expo
- Safe and Healthy Communities - Hypertension prevention
- Safe and Healthy Communities - Diabetes prevention
- Healthcare Collaboration – Diabetes, COPD, Asthma
 - Data Group: Web reporting of patient compliance data
 - Health Literacy Group: Information about each disease and why compliance is important
 - Primary Care Access Group: Identification and review of healthcare providers

Mental Health Task Force

- Erie County Suicide Task Force
- Suicide prevention education in school settings
- Prescription drug overdose awareness and prevention

Cancer Task Force

- Cancer prevention and awareness
- Lung cancer - Tobacco intervention in a healthcare setting

Despite early success, this system became cumbersome. Organizations working on different programs within the same Task Force, did not meet outside of the quarterly Steering Committee meetings. This limited the amount of meaningful discussion among community partners and limited the long term coordination of their programs and services. As a result, the progress toward achievable goals was diluted.

In order to more effectively address the health needs of Erie County residents, the community partners and stakeholders are currently reevaluating the organizational structure of the present collaborative health improvement plan. The goal is to establish a system of accountability, responsibility, and coordinated program delivery.