

## Licking County Health Department

675 Price Road • Newark, Ohio 43055  
Business: (740) 349-6535 • Fax: (740) 349-6510  
[www.LickingCoHealth.org](http://www.LickingCoHealth.org)

## Licking County Wellness Coalition

### Coalition History

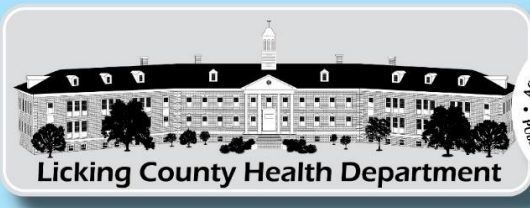
The Licking County Wellness Coalition was founded in September 2006 as a result of the Community Blueprint. Since then, we have become a subcommittee to the Licking County Community Health Improvement Committee (CHIC).

Within CHIC, the coalition works towards addressing the priorities of Obesity, Chronic Disease and Tobacco Use and Exposure. The coalition aligns with the CHIC in achieving objectives targeted at improving the health and quality of life for Licking County residents.



*Our mission is to work to create a healthier Licking County by increasing health and wellness of the county residents through policy, system, and environmental change strategies that promote healthy lifestyles.*

In 2015, the Licking County Health Department (LCHD) was one of 23 counties in Ohio to receive the Creating Healthy Communities (CHC) grant for a 5-year cycle from 2015-2019. The grant funding comes from the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention's (CDC) Preventive Health and Health Services Block Grant which aims to prevent and reduce chronic disease throughout the state of Ohio. In 2019, LCHD received the CHC grant for another 5-year cycle for 2020-2024. These funds, which are estimated to be \$100,000 annually, are administered by the Ohio Department of Health (ODH). Additional funds are leveraged through other grants, agencies, and local organizations. LCHD serves as the Coalition's fiscal and lead agency, providing staff and administrative support.



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## Licking County Creating Healthy Communities

### Vision and Mission

The vision of Creating Healthy Communities is “*making the healthy choice the easy choice.*” CHC is committed to preventing and reducing chronic disease statewide. Through cross-sector collaboration, we are activating communities to improve access to and affordability of healthy food and increase opportunities for physical activity where Ohioans live, work, and play. By implementing sustainable evidence-based strategies, CHC is creating a culture of health.



### Commitment to Equity

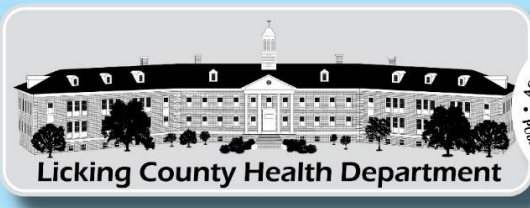
Health equity is achieved when all people in a community have access to affordable, inclusive, and quality infrastructure and services that, despite historical and contemporary injustices, allows them to reach their full health potential.

### Scope of Work

The Coalition’s scope of work is specifically designed to improve population health while addressing health equity in populations experiencing health disparities. Licking County CHC works comprehensively on healthy eating and active living strategies in the community, school, and worksite settings.

### CHC 5-Year Outcomes:

- Increase the number of Ohioans following the Physical Activity Guidelines for Americans.
- Increase the number of Ohioans following the U.S. Dietary Guidelines for Americans.

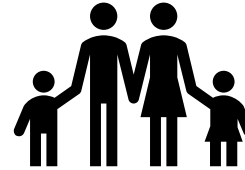


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## Health Status of Licking County

- 32% of residents are overweight<sup>1</sup>
- 24% of residents are currently smoking<sup>1</sup>
- 80% indicate access to exercise opportunities<sup>1</sup>
- Approximately 7% do not have a vehicle<sup>2</sup>
- 11.8% of Licking County residents live at or below the federal poverty level<sup>3</sup>



Source: <sup>1</sup>2019 RWJF County Health Rankings; <sup>2</sup>National Transportation Database; <sup>3</sup>American Community Survey (2013-2017)

## Why Policy, Systems, & Environmental Change

The Licking County Wellness Coalition and CHC implement strategies using a Policy, Systems, and Environmental (PSE) change approach. This approach reaches beyond direct education and individual behavior change by creating multi-level interactions to significantly impact a community's norms and values.

## Workplan 2020 at a Glance

### CHC Objectives:

**Objective #1:** By December 31, 2020, the Licking County Wellness Coalition will increase funding leveraged as evidenced by a coalition assessment and evaluation.

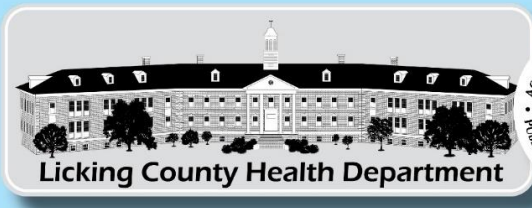
**Outcome Evaluation:** The CHC leveraged funding form will indicate a 10% increase in funding leveraged.

**Objective #2:** By December 31, 2020, the City of Newark priority community will implement and/or enforce physical activity policies/practices as evidenced by an increase in 1 Active Transportation Plan.

**Outcome Evaluation:** One policy to passed and implemented. Observations and surveys will indicate a 10% increase in physical activity of Newark residents after an Active Transportation Plan is implemented.

**Objective #3:** By December 31, 2020, the Lakewood School District priority community will increase the number of adults/youth who have access to places for physical activity as evidenced by an increase in 1 pedestrian infrastructure.

**Outcome Evaluation:** Observations and assessments will indicate a 10% increase in physical activity after the implementation of a pedestrian infrastructure.



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**Objective #4:** By December 31, 2020, the Licking County priority community will implement and/or enforce physical activity policies/practices as evidenced by an increase in 1 Land Use Policy.

**Outcome Evaluation:** One policy to be passed and implemented. Observations and surveys indicate a 10% increase in physical activity after a Land Use Policy is implemented.

**Objective #5:** By December 31, 2020, the City of Newark priority community will increase access to healthy food options as evidenced by an increase in 1 community garden.

**Outcome Evaluation:** Surveys with participants will indicate a 10% increase in the consumption of fruits and vegetables.

**Objective #6:** By December 31, 2020, the Lakewood School District priority community will implement and/or reinforce healthy eating policies/practices as evidenced by an increase in 1 Food Service Guidelines.

**Outcome Evaluation:** Observations and surveys will indicate a 10% increase in the consumption of healthy foods and beverages.

**Objective #7:** By December 31, 2020, the Licking County priority community will implement and/or reinforce healthy eating policies/practices as evidenced by an increase in 1 Food Service Guidelines.

**Outcome Evaluation:** Observations and surveys will indicate a 10% increase in the consumption of healthy foods and beverages.

### **Coalition Objectives** (from LCHD's Strategic Plan 2019-2021):

**Strategic Priority 1** – Use diverse strategies to address data driven issues that influence public health in Licking County.

**Objective:** By December 31, 2020, increase access to healthy foods for individuals experiencing health disparities and inequities.

**Strategic Priority 2** – initiate and implement Policy, System, and Environmental changes.

**Objective (1):** By December 31, 2020, assist at least 2 entities in adopting a Health in All Policies framework.

**Objective (2):** By December 31, 2020, implement changes to parks that will make them safer and more user friendly.

**Strategic Priority 4** – Unite the collective power of leaders, partners, and community members to improve public health.

**Objective:** By December 31, 2020, implement activities assigned to LCHD in the Community Health Improvement Plan (CHIP) to achieve state goals in the plan.



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## Coalition Membership Guidelines & Expectations

- Appoint representative(s) to attend quarterly Coalition meetings and action (task) group meetings as they apply.
- Members are asked to attend at least one meeting per year to remain on the membership list.
- Keep Coalition informed of related work within individual organization and/or the community.
- Read minutes and reports to keep informed of Coalition decisions and activities.
- Commitment to one of the following to help achieve Coalition/CHC objectives and activities:
  - Access to volunteers for Coalition tasks
  - Direct and/or in-kind contributions (i.e. staff time, materials, meeting space, funding, etc.)
  - Recruiting partners and/or members
  - Resource distribution and/or promotion
  - Engaging in an action group working directly on one of the workplan objectives
- Meetings occur quarterly on the 3<sup>rd</sup> Wednesday from 3:00-4:30. Meeting locations are announced prior to the meeting.
  - 2020 meeting dates: March 18, June 17, September 16, December 16

## Contact Information

For more information, questions, or to join the Licking County Wellness Coalition contact:

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(740)349-6497 | [cmckee@lickingcohealth.org](mailto:cmckee@lickingcohealth.org)