

ANNUAL REPORT TO THE COMMUNITY 2024



Harnessing the power of
collaboration for healthier
communities

To The Community



Founded in 2007, Better Health Partnership, the most trusted health improvement collaborative in Northeast Ohio, aspires to achieve exceptional health value and eradicate health disparities across the region. Through trusted convening, project management, social care coordination, evaluation & reporting, education, and workforce development, BHP has brought community stakeholders together to improve care and outcomes and reduce disparities in adult chronic disease and children's health.

Since 2011, I have had the privilege of serving in leading roles to steward the mission of Better Health Partnership. As I reflect on the numerous accomplishments of the collaborative over the past 17 years, I am honored to have walked alongside committed and passionate leaders who led the way toward achieving healthier communities.

As I transition into retirement at the end of 2024, I am proud to witness the organization's evolution and deepening of the trust in our ability to serve the community. The continuous fostering of partnerships among providers, payers, public health, employers and community organizations has resulted in expanded cohesive strategies positioning the collaborative to achieve even greater levels of collective health impact.

With sincere gratitude for your continued partnership and support.

Rita Navarro-Horwitz, RN
President & CEO

Collaborating for Healthier Communities

In this 2024 Annual Report to the Community, Better Health Partnership (BHP) is proud to share a few highlights from our collective health impact work throughout Northeast Ohio.

"Never doubt that a small group of thoughtful committed individuals can change the world. In fact, it's the only thing that ever has."
~Margaret Mead



BHP's geographic footprint includes Cuyahoga, Geauga, Lake, Lorain, Mahoning, Medina, Portage, Stark, and Summit counties. With over 2,000 participating primary care providers committed to sharing data and improving performance for nearly 700,000 adult and pediatric patients they serve, we bring our health system partners together with public health, payers, employers, schools, and community-based organizations to align and execute shared goals for:

- Improving maternal / infant health
- Better management of adult chronic disease and reduction of disparities
- Improving quality and access to children's preventive care
- Implementing interventions to address the social determinants of health for at-risk populations through the Better Health Pathways HUB

Children's Health Collaboration

Improving access to and Quality of Children's Preventative Care



Joel Davidson, MD
Co-Chair, BHP Children's Leadership Team
Locust Care Pediatric Care Group
Akron Children's Hospital



Liz Manley, MPH, CHES
Program Manager
Youth Health and Wellness
Cuyahoga County Board of Health



Katrese Minor, MPA
Director, Community Health Initiatives
Cleveland Department of Public Health



Alison Patrick, MPH, RD, LD
Supervisor, Youth Health and Wellness
Cuyahoga County Board of Health



Kim Simpson, MD, FAAP
Medical Director
United Healthcare Community Plan of Ohio



Donna Skoda, MS, RD, LD
Health Commissioner
Summit County Public Health

BHP's Annual Report to the Community Webinar featured representatives from the Children's Well Care Collaboration. A recording is available on our website.

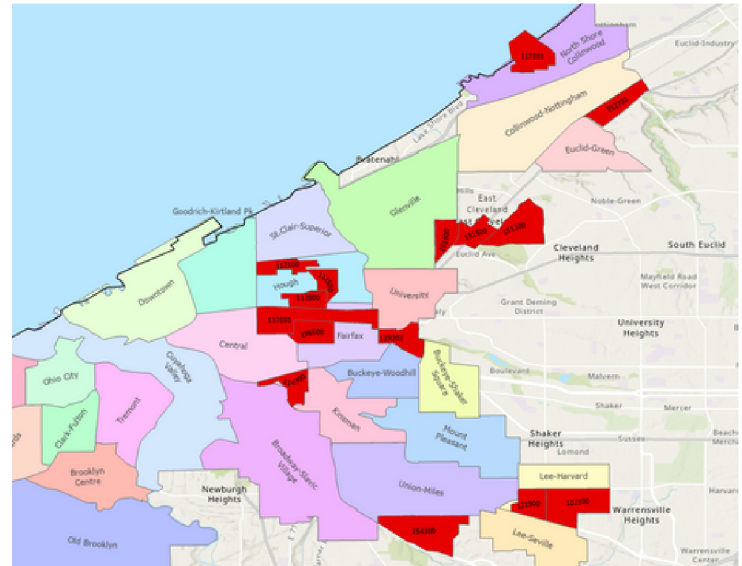
Well care is important for a child's growth, development, and well-being, but did you know that nearly 60% of children on Medicaid in Cuyahoga and Summit counties did not have a well care visit with a provider in 2022-2023? BHP's children's health collaborative - consisting of pediatricians, payers, public health professionals and community-based organizations - is working together to identify and address the barriers that prevent families from obtaining routine care. Findings from three neighborhoods are highlighted in our May 29th annual report to community webinar, and the co-design of strategies to improve outcomes are underway. We strive to ensure every child receives well care to enhance the opportunity to thrive and achieve academic success!

Heart Health Equity - Cuyahoga

Learning and sharing best practices to improve health outcomes has been central to BHP's success over the years. Beginning in 2007, BHP has brought community stakeholders together to improve care and outcomes in adult chronic disease and children's health.

The MetroHealth System - in collaboration with BHP, Cleveland Clinic, The Centers, University Hospitals, Case Western Reserve University, and other community partners - has been awarded funding through The Innovative Cardiovascular Health Program by the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention. This five-year cooperative agreement, led by Shari Bolen, MD, MPH, and Aleece Caron, PhD, started in October 2023. The project aims to improve heart health equity in Cuyahoga County, specifically for those with hypertension and high cholesterol.

The target population for Heart Health Equity - Cuyahoga (HHEC) is adults aged 18 and older with uncontrolled hypertension living within census tracts with a hypertension prevalence of 53% or higher. In Ohio, 31 census tracts met this criterion - 15 of which are on the east side of Cuyahoga County.



HHEC's overarching strategies will be accomplished through collaboration, quality improvement, and data sharing:

1. Track and monitor clinical measures
2. Implement team-based care
3. Link community and clinical services



Better Health Partnership Serves in Key Role for Cuyahoga County CHIP

Hospitals and health departments across the nation conduct community health planning to identify key health priorities and develop strategies to address those needs. This work is formally documented in a Community Health Improvement Plan (CHIP) or Implementation Strategy (IS) – which serves as a long-term roadmap for community health improvement. The CHIP/IS builds strategies for prioritized health needs identified in the Community Health Assessment (CHA), sometimes referred to as a Community Health Needs Assessment (CHNA).

In early 2024, CCBH determined it was time to transition the Cuyahoga County CHIP work to a new backbone organization – Better Health Partnership. In this role, BHP will leverage its capabilities to coordinate, convene, and support CHIP subcommittees, provide compliance guidance, help assess and report progress, and provide evaluation support for health improvement activities.

BHP oversees CHIP subcommittees and organizations leading the work to address key priorities and overarching focal areas identified in the 2022 Cuyahoga CHNA:

- Accessible and Affordable Healthcare (*BHP*)
- Behavioral Health (*BHP*)
- Access to Healthy Food (*Case Western Reserve University - Swetland Center and CCBH*)
- Community Safety (*CCBH*)
- Eliminating Structural Racism (*Cleveland Department of Public Health and PolicyBridge*)



Better Health Partnership Collaborative

Founders

The MetroHealth System
Health Action Council
The Center for Community Solutions
Robert Wood Johnson Foundation

Health Care Providers

Akron Children's Hospital
Asian Services in Action
AxessPointe Community Health Centers
Care Alliance Health Center
Cleveland Clinic Health Systems
Crossroads Health
Northeast Ohio Neighborhood Health Services
Neighborhood Family Practice
Senders Pediatrics
Signature Health
Summa Health Care System
The Centers
The MetroHealth System
UH Rainbow Babies & Children's Hospital
VA Northeast Ohio Health Care System

Foundations

The Bruening Foundation
The George Gund Foundation

Employers and Health Plans

AmeriHealth Caritas Ohio
Buckeye Health Plan
CareSource
Elevance (Anthem)
Health Action Council
Humana
Medical Mutual of Ohio
Molina Healthcare
UnitedHealth Group
Vitamax

Community

Beech Brook
Bright Beginnings
Burton Bell Carr Development, Inc.
Carmella Rose Health Foundation
Case Western Reserve University
Cleveland Central Promise Neighborhood
Cleveland Department of Public Health
Cleveland Metropolitan School District
Cleveland State University
Cuyahoga Community College
Cuyahoga County Board of Health
Greater Cleveland Food Bank
Institute for H.O.P.E.™
Joseph and Mary's Home
Lead Safe Cleveland Coalition
Ohio Association of Community Health Centers
Ohio Commission on Minority Health
Ohio Department of Medicaid
Old Brooklyn Community Development Corporation
Pregnant with Possibilities Resource Center
Summit County Public Health
The Center for Community Solutions
The Community Builders
United Way of Greater Cleveland
University Settlement
Village of Healing
Western Reserve Area Agency on Aging



www.betterhealthpartnership.org

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Vision

Better Health Partnership, the most trusted health improvement collaborative, achieves exceptional health value and eradicates health disparities in Northeast Ohio.

Mission

We bring health care providers, social services, and other sectors together to share best practices and accelerate data-informed improvements in equitable population and community health.

Services



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