



2009 Strategic Priorities

Summit County Health District



Each Year, the Summit County Health District undergoes a comprehensive internal strategic planning process using the ten essential public health services model developed by the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention. Highlights from the planning process are provided below.

MONITOR HEALTH STATUS TO IDENTIFY COMMUNITY HEALTH PROBLEMS.

- By June 30, 2009, review and report on community social and health status indicators from Summit County's Quality of Life Project. (P&P)
- By December 31, 2009, establish and review data from the hospitals and Behavioral Risk Factor Survey to identify community health problems with two reviews presented to the community. (EPI)
- Maintain a vector-borne disease surveillance program to monitor vectors (mosquitoes & rabies carriers) of human disease. Take appropriate action and disseminate information rapidly if diseases are recognized. (EH)

MOBILIZE COMMUNITY PARTNERSHIPS TO IDENTIFY AND SOLVE HEALTH PROBLEMS.

- By March 30, 2009, provide regular local community reports to political subdivisions on public health issues and activities and provide information via the web to all citizens. (P&P)
- By March 30, 2009, centralize response to community requests for resources, collaborating with community partners where feasible. (NSG)

DEVELOP POLICIES AND PLANS THAT SUPPORT INDIVIDUAL AND COMMUNITY HEALTH EFFORTS.

- By March 31, 2009, develop an implementation plan for expansion of pharmaceutical and comprehensive healthcare access to all Summit County residents. (P&P)
- By June 30, 2009, implement a county wide pharmaceutical reclamation program for the collection of unused medications from households in Summit County. (P&P & EH)
- By June 30, 2009, have in place a pilot social case management model within the safety net providers to assure access to health and human services for all Summit County residents. (NSG)

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ENFORCE LAWS AND REGULATIONS THAT PROTECT HEALTH AND ENSURE SAFETY.

- Develop a comprehensive storm water management program that will include enforcement of discharge violations. (EH)
- Develop plans to decrease rates of obesity including recommending policies that will decrease access to unhealthy and high fat foods and promote physical activity (NSG & P&P)

ENSURE A COMPETENT PUBLIC HEALTH AND PERSONAL HEALTH CARE WORKFORCE.

- By June 30, 2009, develop a reporting system for internal performance review and outcome data for all program areas. (Personnel/Admin)
- Throughout 2009 participate in continuing education of staff to ensure staff is up to date on changes in practice for environmental health and public health practices. (EH & NSG)

DIAGNOSE AND INVESTIGATE HEALTH PROBLEMS AND HAZARDS IN THE COMMUNITY.

- By April 30, 2009, complete and publish Summit County Kindergarten Immunization Retrospective Analysis (NSG & EPI)
- Utilize Geographic Information System application to examine and investigate geographic patterns of E. coli bacteria in private drink water sources. (EH)

LINK PEOPLE TO NEEDED PERSONAL HEALTH SERVICES AND ASSURE THE PROVISION OF HEALTH CARE WHEN OTHERWISE UNAVAILABLE.

- By June 30, 2009, complete a feasibility study as to the use of recycled medications for employees of businesses that do not offer health insurance or limited pharmaceutical coverage. (P&P & NSG)
- By June 30, 2009, complete a feasibility study for the concept of aligning public health clinics with a FQHC for the delivery of health care services. (Admin)
- By December 31, 2009, partner with Summa, EACH & Open M to provide education and access to diagnostic testing in breast health for at risk African American women. (NSG)

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EVALUATE EFFECTIVENESS, ACCESSIBILITY, AND QUALITY OF PERSONAL AND POPULATION-BASED HEALTH SERVICES.

- By July 31, 2008, implement CQI process in immunization tracking and reminder programs to better identify children and adults with interrupted immunization. (NSG)
- Participate in state and federal local public health agency accreditation development models. (Admin)
- Implement comprehensive EH information management system to process and track permits, licenses, registrations, investigations, inspections and reporting. (EH)

RESEARCH FOR NEW INSIGHTS AND INNOVATIVE SOLUTIONS TO HEALTH PROBLEMS.

- By June 2009, the Office of Epidemiology in partnership with the University of Akron School of Biostatistics will have published research on local health issues, status or public health programs in the community. (P&P)

INFORM, EDUCATE AND EMPOWER PEOPLE ABOUT PUBLIC HEALTH ISSUES.

- Inform, educate and empower targeted at-risk populations on measures effective in preventing and controlling chronic disease, particularly appropriate nutrition, age-appropriate activity and avoidance of harmful substance. (NSG)
- Increase consumer and industry knowledge of safe food handling and food-borne illness prevention through increased educational outreach programs. (EH)
- Participate in development of a comprehensive emergency room diversion program mobilizing a broad partnership of health care stakeholders that simultaneously improves access to quality health care services. (NSG & P&P)