Perry County Health Improvement Zone

Impact Report

Project Number 064100110101 23

December 2023

Prepared for

Public Health
Prevent. Promote. Protect.
Perry County
Health Department

By

OHIO UNIVERSITY | Voinovich School of Leadership and Public Service

OVERVIEW

Using assessment data on poverty, unemployment, uninsured rates, educational attainment levels, and various other social determinants of health that impact chronic disease, crime, and substance abuse, Perry County Health Department identified the villages of Shawnee, New Straitsville, and Hemlock located in southern Perry County as priority Ohio Health Improvement Zone (OHIZ) communities. PCHD also identified New Lexington as an OHIZ community for Key Activity 1, but not for Key Activity 2. Through the OHIZ project, PCHD aims to establish place-based initiatives intended to address social determinants of health (SDoH) and improve healthy behaviors of residents through meaningful community engagement and cross-sector collaboration.

OHIZ Key Activity Goals and Objectives

Key Activity 1: Assess and Engage

1. By July 31, 2022, the PCHD OHIZ CAT (Community Action Team) will engage in OHIZ project onboarding by participating in the four-hour grant kickoff to review the scope of work, activities, and reporting requirements.

2. By July 31, 2022, the PCHD OHIZ CAT team will convene a cross sector collaborative of Health Improvement Partners to submit a Health Improvement Partner Engagement Worksheet and continue to complete the remaining objectives of the community assessment.

3. By August 31, 2022, the PCHD OHIZ CAT and HIP collaborative will develop and implement an evaluation plan for Key Activities 1 and 2 in coordination with the OHIZ external evaluation team that describes plans to collect and monitor data.

4. By August 31, 2022, the PCHD OHIZ CAT and HIP collaborative will develop one formal communication plan to express how information will be shared among all HIP collaborative members and the communities of New Lexington and New Straitsville/Shawnee/Hemlock.

5. By August 31, 2022, the OHIZ CAT and HIP collaborative members will complete one formal community engagement plan detailing how the communities of New Lexington and New Straitsville/Shawnee/Hemlock will be immersed into the assessment process.

6. By August 31, 2022, the OHIZ CAT and HIP collaborative members will develop a Community Engagement Assessment Survey to determine perceptions of the highest priority issues facing the communities of New Lexington and New Straitsville/Shawnee/Hemlock that threaten or limit optimal health of the residents.

7. By August 31, 2022, the OHIZ CAT and HIP collaborative members will implement the Community Engagement Assessment Survey, using processes designed to gather a broad sweep of the community and maximize responses.

8. By September 30, 2022, the OHIZ CAT and HIP collaborative members will provide the results of the Community Engagement Assessment Survey including a narrative, data summary, participating HIP partners and the response rate.

In the process of developing the Community Engagement Plan with the HIP collaborative and the external evaluation team, PCHD decided to modify the original goal of conducting a survey to instead conduct a series of community engagement focus groups in each of the communities. This change in the original plan resulted in the following changes to objectives 6-8:

6. By August 31, 2022, the OHIZ CAT and HIP collaborative members will develop a script for conducting Community Engagement Focus Group Discussions to determine perceptions of the highest priority issues facing the communities of New Lexington and New Straitsville/Shawnee/Hemlock that threaten or limit optimal health of the residents.

7. By November 10, 2022, the OHIZ CAT and HIP collaborative members will implement and conclude a series of Community Engagement Focus Group Discussions in each of the communities, using processes designed to gather a broad sweep of the community and maximize responses.

8. By January 31, 2023, the OHIZ CAT and HIP collaborative members will provide the results of the Community Engagement Focus Group Discussions including a narrative, data summary, participating HIP partners and the response rate. The New Lexington results will be shared at a community meeting with New Lexington residents and partners and the results from New Straitsville/Shawnee/Hemlock will be shared at a southern Perry County community meeting with those residents and partners.

Key Activity 2: Engage and Implement

1. By July 31, 2022, the PCHD OHIZ CAT (Community Action Team) will engage in OHIZ project onboarding by participating in the four-hour grant kickoff to review the scope of work, activities, and reporting requirements.

2. By October 31, 2022, the PCHD OHIZ CAT and Health Improvement Partners (HIP) Collaborative will submit an updated Health Improvement Partner Engagement Tool (Worksheet) that focuses on the maintenance of the cross-sector collaborative necessary for the implementation of a community-selected strategy (Key Activity 2).

3. By August 31, 2022, the PCHD OHIZ CAT and HIP Collaborative will develop and implement an evaluation plan for Key Activity 1 and Key Activity 2, in coordination with the OHIZ external

evaluation team, that describes plans to collect and monitor project-specific data for Key Activity 2.

4. By October 31, 2022, the PCHD OHIZ CAT and HIP Collaborative will update the formal communication plan to express how information for Key Activity 2 will be shared among the HIP collaborative and the community residents of New Straitsville/Shawnee/Hemlock.

5. By August 31, 2022, the PCHD OHIZ CAT and HIP Collaborative members will complete a formal community engagement plan detailing how the communities of New Straitsville/Shawnee/Hemlock will be immersed into the strategy implementation process (Key Activity 2).

6. By October 31, 2022, the PCHD OHIZ CAT and HIP Collaborative will present the results of the Community Engagement Assessment to the community members in order to begin the process of selecting a community-based strategy/project for implementation (Key Activity 2).

7. By December 31, 2022, the PCHD OHIZ CAT and HIP Collaborative will submit a Community Engagement Plan for Key Activity 2 that addresses the opportunities for improvement identified in the Key Activity 1 needs assessment and the community-based strategies selected by the community/collaborative.

8. By April 30, 2023, the PCHD OHIZ CAT and HIP Collaborative will implement and complete the strategies for Key Activity 2 chosen to address the priority needs that were identified during the Key Activity 1 assessment process.

PCHD applied for and received an extension in May 2023 that changed the deadline for Key Activity 2 to December 31, 2023. Thus, the date for Objective 8 was revised to December 31, 2023.

COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT

PCHD's Health Improvement Partners Collaborative—which includes local government officials, key local business owners, chamber of commerce members, local university staff, and residents in the communities of New Straitsville, Shawnee, and Hemlock—has been actively engaged in the OHIZ project. (See Appendix A for list of members). The HIP Collaborative was formed for "the selection and completion of a community-selected project aimed at addressing a defined need of the communities." In Key Activity 1, the HIP Collaborative assisted with recruiting members of the community to attend focus groups to discuss what it means to be healthy and served as hosts for the focus groups as well as for a meeting in which the results of the focus groups were shared. In Key Activity 2, members of the HIP

Collaborative participated in a series of workshops and meetings aimed at working collaboratively with members of the community to identify and implement initiatives to address needs that were identified through Key Activity 1.

INTERVENTIONS

Key Activity 1 Strategies

Phase I of the OHIZ project focused on assessing the needs of the communities of New Lexington and the southern Perry County community, which includes the villages of New Straitsville, Shawnee, and Hemlock. Full reports on the assessments that occurred in New Lexington and the southern Perry communities are available upon request. A summary of the assessment methodology and findings for southern Perry are included below. Because New Lexington was not included in Key Activity 2, no further information is provided in this report.

The Perry County Health Department worked with leaders in the villages of New Straitsville, Shawnee, and Hemlock to recruit members of the community to attend focus groups to discuss what it means to be healthy. In the recruitment process, community members were informed they would receive a $25 Kroger gift card for their time and that the data collected from sessions would be used to secure funding and drive decision-making for health improvement initiatives in southern Perry County. A series of five community engagement focus groups were held at locations in each of the villages in southern Perry County during late October and early November 2022. A total of 39 individuals participated, including: 10 residents of New Straitsville, 19 residents of Shawnee, and 10 residents of Hemlock. Full details on the focus groups are provided in Appendix B.

The community engagement focus groups were facilitated by members of the Perry County Health Department with assistance from community partners. Staff members from Ohio University's Voinovich School of Leadership and Public Service (OU) attended each session to record and take notes from the discussion.

Participants were provided a handout on Social Determinants of Health (SDOH) and Perry County's Social Vulnerability Index prior to the discussion. A copy of the script and handout are provided in Appendix C and D. During the session, PCHD facilitators asked each group a series of questions related to their health and the health of their community, including:

- What does being healthy mean to you?
- What do you need to be healthy?
- What things need to change in order to be healthy?
- Which of the items on the Social Determinants of Health list affect people's health in your community?
- Are there other things that affect people's health in your community that are not on the list?
- What resources are positive impacts on people's health in your community?
- What changes do you think would help improve your health and the health of other people in your community?

Following the sessions, OU staff created written transcripts from the recordings of each focus group and conducted a careful analysis of the documents to identify, analyze, and interpret patterns that were present in the community engagement discussions.

The key findings from the thematic analysis of the focus group discussions were:

- **Social Connections and Community.** Individuals' relationships and interactions with family, friends, and community members have a major impact on their health and well-being. Increased programming and activities—across all age groups—are needed to build social connections and support networks in the community. Facilities are needed to host such activities.

- **Access to Health Care.** Having access to affordable health care is a major determinant of health. The high cost of health care often prevents people from getting the care that they need. Greater access to health care is desired, such as through a mobile clinic or day clinics.
- **Access to Healthy Foods.** Being healthy means eating healthy. Food insecurity is an issue for many children and families in southern Perry County. Greater access to foods that support healthy dietary patterns is needed to improve individuals' health and the health of others in the community. Education about eating healthy is also needed.
- **Substance Abuse Disorder Epidemic, Associated Crime, and Law Enforcement.** Ongoing exposure to individuals with substance abuse disorder and drug-related crimes causes significant mental distress and social isolation. Improvements in law enforcement are needed in southern Perry County.
- **Quality of the Water.** Southern Perry County residents are concerned that their tap water is contaminated and that they will experience negative health issues if they drink it. Residents from all three communities indicated they buy bottled water, which is a major expense for such an essential physiological need. Improvements in the quality of the water are needed.
- **Quality of Housing.** Many residents in southern Perry County live in poverty. The poor quality and inadequate conditions of some of the housing not only negatively impact the mental and physical health of the children and families living in those conditions, but they also impact the overall safety and well-being of the community.
- **Mental Health.** Having a healthy mindset and positive mental health is essential to overall health. Additional resources for mental health are needed, including support for addiction and recovery.
- **Physical Activity.** Being healthy means staying active. More opportunities are needed for physical activity such as an indoor exercise facility, sidewalks, and bicycle/walking paths.

- **Lack of Transportation.** Not having transportation affects many other determinants of health in the community because it hinders access to services and opportunities. Increased transportation options in southern Perry County may be warranted.
- **Information Awareness.** A part of being healthy is being aware of resources and social opportunities that are available. Greater promotion of information and resources is needed in the community.
- **Maintenance of Recreational Opportunities.** Resources are needed to maintain and improve the recreational resources/facilities that exist in the community.
- **Education and Health Literacy.** Generational poverty and lack of education impact health. More education, especially pertaining to health literacy, is needed.

Key Activity 2 Strategies

Following the sharing of the results from Key Activity 1 in a community meeting in January 2023, PHCD enlisted staff from Ohio University's Voinovich School of Leadership and Public Service to serve as facilitators of the nationally recognized *Strategic Doing* model for the next phase of community engagement. Ohio University staff facilitated a *Strategic Doing* workshop on February 25, 2023, in which 12 residents from the three southern Perry County communities were led through a collaborative effort to determine actions to address some of the top needs identified through Key Activity 1. The *Strategic Doing* model addressed three main questions: (1) what could we do together, (2) what should we do together, and (3) what will we do together. A key component of the *Strategic Doing* workshop engaged the participating community members in identification of hidden assets (e.g., physical assets, skills and knowledge assets, social/network assets, capital assets, etc.) that individuals were willing to share. Two groups of six were formed, and each group identified a pathfinder project to move them toward the goal of "residents of southern Perry County living healthier lives through connections to each other and the community." Facilitators arranged a meeting in 30 days to review progress and make adjustments.

OUTCOMES

As a result of the *Strategic Doing* workshop, residents of the three separate communities began discussing ways they could work together—across the communities—that would benefit all residents of southern Perry County.

Key Activity 2 Achievements

- The original 12 members who engaged in the *Strategic Doing* process were joined at a check-in meeting on March 29, 2023, by an additional 25 residents or more, who came to learn about the OHIZ project. Several of the residents who attended the March meeting had also participated in the Key Activity 1 community engagement focus groups, but the majority who attended had not previously been engaged in the OHIZ project.
- An important outcome of the March 29 event was that community members brainstormed ideas for initiatives that could improve health in their communities. For example, one community member suggested (and many others agreed) that a strategy that would improve residents' access to health care would be training additional members of the community as EMTs. As a result of this discussion, OHIZ funds were allocated to pay for six individuals to complete the EMT training.
- Community brainstorming and discussion about projects led to the creation of an "Application for OHIZ Funding" that community members could submit to a small committee of HIP Collaborative members to request OHIZ funding for projects to improve the health of southern Perry County residents. See Appendix B.
- The *Strategic Doing* pathfinder project groups formed at the February meeting continued to meet throughout the spring. The two groups eventually morphed into groups of residents who join together to propose and execute projects in their communities.

- The community's engagement in the *Strategic Doing* process led to the creation of the Saltlick and Coal Improvement Alliance by southern Perry County residents. The 501(c)(3) alliance now serves as a key partner in encouraging community members to submit community improvement proposals. They also review proposals and recommend proposals for funding.
- Members of the Saltlick and Coal Improvement Alliance sponsored a table at the community Farmer's Market once per month April through October to get the word out about the OHIZ project, including informing community members about the application process and the activities emerging from the project. Members continued this work in November by promoting the project at a local health fair and a craft show held at Miller High School.
- The Saltlick and Coal Improvement Alliance is planning a free concert for southern Perry residents to be held in the Shawnee gymnasium.
- To date, 11 applications have been received from a variety of community members seeking funding for initiatives to improve their communities. Table 1 below provides a list of proposals and the community needs from Key Activity 1 that the initiatives are intended to address.

Table 1. Initiatives Proposed by Community Members to Address Community Needs Identified in Key Activity 1

COMMUNITY-LED INITIATIVE	COMMUNITY NEED IDENTIFIED IN KEY ACTIVITY 1 THAT IS BEING ADDRESSED BY THIS COMMUNITY-LED INITIATIVE
1. Public Announcement System for Community Events	• Social Connections and Community • Information Awareness
2. Recreational Equipment for Open Gym and Play Activities	• Social Connections and Community • Physical Activity for Youth
3. Seed to Feed and Beautification: Community Garden and Parks	• Social Connections and Community • Access to Healthy Foods • Mental Health • Physical Activity • Information Awareness • Education and Health Literacy
4. Community Parks: Playground Equipment	• Social Connections and Community • Mental Health • Physical Activity • Information Awareness

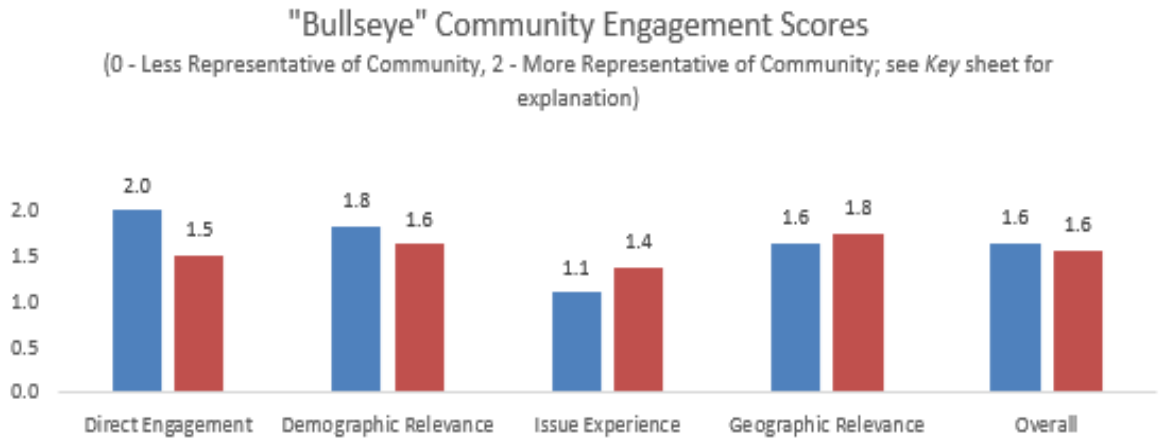
	• Maintenance of Recreational Opportunities
5. Let's Communicate Project—I've Got Your Back	• Substance Abuse Disorder, Associated Crime, and Law Enforcement • Mental Health
6. Hemlock Village Park Revitalization Phase I Swing Set	• Social Connections and Community • Mental Health • Physical Activity • Maintenance of Recreational Opportunities
7. Tables and Chairs	• Social Connections and Community
8. Gym Floor Tiles	• Social Connections and Community • Maintenance of Recreational Opportunities
9. Let's Feed the People Project—Equipment to Establish a Community Food Bank	• Social Connections and Community • Access to Healthy Foods • Information Awareness • Education and Health Literacy
10. Let's Get the Word Out—Message Board Project	• Social Connections and Community • Mental Health • Information Awareness • Education and Health Literacy
11. Food Service Preparation Equipment for Community Events	• Social Connections and Community • Access to Healthy Foods • Mental Health
12. Community Benches	• Social Connections and Community • Mental Health • Physical Activity
13. Exercise/Recreational Equipment for the Community	• Social Connections and Community • Mental Health • Physical Activity

Key Activity 2 Outcome Data/Metrics

A community engagement survey was administered to the members of the HIP Collaborative at two separate points in the OHIZ project. A total of 14 people responded at time one, while only 9 people responded at time two. As indicated in the Community Engagement Bullseye Scores displayed in Figure 1 below, the overall community engagement score of 1.6 remained the same across the two measurement points. Improvements were seen from time one to time two in the areas of geographic

relevance (1.6 compared to 1.8) and issue experience (1.1 compared to 1.4), while the direct engagement (2.0 compared to 1.5) and demographic relevance (1.8 compared to 1.6) scores declined.

Figure 1. Community Engagement Bullseye Scores



The overall quality of community engagement scores declined slightly from 4.4 at time one to 4.2 at time two. The largest areas of decline were in "regardless of background, all members are respected in this group" (decline of 0.8) and "I can relate to the people hosting/facilitating this group" (decline of 0.6).

The overall inclusivity of engagement scores was largely maintained (4.2 compared to 4.1). Improvement was seen in "our meetings are scheduled at a time that works for me" (3.8 compared to 4.3), but there were declines in other areas such as "participating in this group gives me confidence in my ability to help my community" (4.4 compared to 3.9) and "I have influence on the decisions made by the group" (decline of 0.4).

Although some differences can be seen when comparing the time one and time two community engagement bullseye scores, it is important to note that the comparisons may not be meaningful. Because the evaluations occurred at two separate stages of the OHIZ project, the resulting scores may not be representative of the same population. Moreover, there was a much lower response rate in time two (9) compared to time one (14).

Key Activity 2 Challenges

One of the primary challenges in engaging community members in the decision making and implementation of the OHIZ work was a widely held belief among residents that they need a community center in *each* village. When initially hearing about the OHIZ project, community residents and leaders became excited/hopeful that the OHIZ project might move them closer to getting a community center in *their own* village. This sentiment and expectation spread throughout the community, with some groups of residents banding together to advocate for renovations to an existing building within a particular village. Members of the community (and some leaders) became frustrated and disenchanted when they realized that the OHIZ funding cannot be used for permanent building improvements. This negativity among some residents was a challenging dynamic to overcome at the time. Ultimately, however, a group of community members from Shawnee recognized that the Shawnee gymnasium—centrally located between the villages of New Straitsville and Hemlock—is an asset in the community that could be leveraged to benefit the residents of all three villages. A group of Shawnee residents has since applied for OHIZ funding to begin recreational, social, and educational programming in this location.

Having the residents of the three separate villages working together as one, under the same census tract, was a novel concept. Although there are only a few miles separating the three villages from one another, southern Perry residents have tended to be isolated from one another. The OHIZ project's aim of meaningful engagement and collaboration across villages continues to challenge residents to think about their community as being "southern Perry County" instead of being limited to a particular village.

SUSTAINABILITY

SMART-E Goals, Timeline, Partnerships, Engagement, Measuring Impact, and Potential Barriers

1. Beginning May 24, 2023, the PCHD OHIZ CAT Team, the Saltlick and Coal Improvement Alliance, and the OHIZ HIP Collaborative will continue and expand the work of Key Activity 2 through the

ongoing acceptance of community improvement proposals, the ongoing implementation of community projects, and the evaluation of the process to complete the work. The primary goal for the period of January 1, 2024, to May 31, 2024, (Key Activity 3) will be to accept community-led proposals that continue the work of Key Activity 2 and that are represented within the scope of work determined through community assessment.

2. By December 31, 2023, the Saltlick and Coal Improvement Alliance and the OHIZ HIP Collaborative will work to build sustainability for the Southern Perry County OHIZ project work by continuing the mission of the Alliance; continuing the equal representation of Shawnee, New Straitsville, and Hemlock; and continuing to allocate funding to projects that are representative of the Key Activity 1 assessment report conducted within southern Perry County.

3. By May 31, 2024, the Saltlick and Coal Improvement Alliance will develop objectives aimed at preserving and sustaining the Alliance through the continued representation of Shawnee, New Straitsville, and Hemlock, and the unified efforts to continue accessing available grant funding aimed at addressing concerns as identified in the Key Activity 1 assessment report.

The expected outcome of these goals will be completed community improvement projects that work to increase community engagement and community health. The evaluative measures will be the number of completed improvement projects, and the number of CAT, HIP, and Alliance partners participating in this work. One of the potential barriers to achieving sustainability will likely be continuing to keep committed individuals from each village engaged. While the alliance has been intentionally structured to maintain equal representation from the three villages, because Hemlock has a much smaller population than New Straitsville and Shawnee, it may be challenging to sustain the equal representation of Hemlock over time when the current alliance members wish to cycle out of the role. PCHD members working with the alliance will continue to encourage the group's members to engage in succession planning within their villages to ensure a sustainable future for the alliance.

CONCLUSION

The OHIZ project has been successful in engaging a large number of residents in discussions about social determinants of health and ways to improve the health and well-being of southern Perry County residents. The level of participation in the Key Activity 1 community engagement focus group discussions was strong (39 total), despite some weather challenges on the night of one of the events.

Although many residents participated in only one community engagement discussion group or meeting in Key Activity 1 or in a meeting or two in Key Activity 2, a core group of dedicated residents became engaged in the project from the start and remain committed today. This core group formed the Saltlick and Coal Improvement Alliance, a non-profit organization comprising residents from each of the three villages, who communicate and meet regularly to discuss strategies to increase healthy behaviors among the residents of southern Perry County. The formation of the alliance demonstrates that PCHD has successfully developed shared responsibility for health improvement with members from each of the three communities who will continue to be engaged as collaborative partners in promoting health in southern Perry County.

APPENDIX A

HEALTH IMPROVEMENT PARTNERS COLLABORATIVE

SECTOR	HIP ORGANIZATION	NAME
Local Government	Village of Shawnee-Mayor	Beverly Trovato
	Village of Shawnee-Council Member	Anita Gill*
	Village of New Straitsville-Mayor	John Roberts
	Village of New Straitsville-Clerk	Susan Miller*
	Village of Hemlock-Mayor	James Knippa*
	Village of Hemlock Council	Nikki Jones
	Village of Hemlock Council	Brandie Duffy
Community Residents	Shawnee	Joe Tucker*
	Shawnee	Dick Humphrey
	Shawnee	Jaime Humphrey*
	New Straitsville	Eliza Harper
	New Straitsville	Rita Spicer
	Hemlock Resident	Hank Hendry*
	Hemlock Resident	Missy Jones*
	Hemlock Supporter	John Wright*
Non-Profit Organizations	Perry County Chamber of Commerce	Angela DeRolph
	Southern Perry Incubation Center for Entrepreneurs (SPICE)	Fritzie Nitschke
Voluntary Organization	Perry Neighborhood Connection	Jenny LaRue
Local Business	Bigfoot ATV	Rich Workman
Academia	Ohio University Voinovich School of Leadership and Public Service	Margaret Hutzel
		Tammy Kahrig
		Mark Cappone
		Deanna Clifford
		Martin Hohenberger

**Voting member of the Saltlick and Coal Improvement Alliance*

APPENDIX B

Date, Time, and Location of Southern Perry County Focus Groups

The table below provides information on participation in the five community engagement focus group discussions that were held.

DATE	TIME	LOCATION	PARTICIPANTS
October 26, 2022	4-6 p.m.	Robinson's Cave History Museum New Straitsville	6 females 2 males
October 27, 2022	6-8 p.m.	Robinson's Cave History Museum New Straitsville	2 females
November 1, 2022	4-6 p.m.	United Methodist Church Shawnee	7 females 3 males
November 1, 2022	6-8 p.m.	United Methodist Church Shawnee	4 females 5 males
November 2, 2022	6-8 p.m.	Miller Middle School Hemlock	6 females 4 males
		TOTAL	**39** **25 females; 14 males**

APPENDIX C

Script for Perry County OHIZ Community Engagement Focus Groups

Introductory Text

- Introduce facilitator and anyone assisting.
- (As participants arrive, OU contacts will be taking care of paperwork for the $25 Kroger Gift Cards)
- Explain purpose of session. Explain that this session is one of many.
- Explain what will be done with information collected.

Ice Breaker *(5 minutes)*

1. To get started, let's go around the room and have everyone say their name and then give us 2 or 3 words to tell us how you're feeling today.

Transition *(5-10 minutes)*

2. The word healthy can mean different things to different people. What does "being healthy" mean to you?

   Prompts, if needed:

   a. What does it look like when someone is healthy?
   b. What words would you use to describe someone who is healthy?
   c. Are there different ways to be healthy?

Key Questions

3. What do you need to be healthy? *(10 minutes)*

   Prompts, if needed:

   a. Let's think about how we defined "being healthy." What do you need to achieve that?
   b. Another way to look at this question is to think about what might get in the way of being healthy. Are there things that might need to change in order to be healthy?

Some people who study health have come up with a list of things they say affect our chances of being healthy. These are listed on the Social Determinants of Health handout. Each row includes the categories, underneath each you'll see the specific factors that people say affect your health. Please take a minute to go through this list, and think about your own experiences and your community.

4. Which of the items on the list affect people's health in your community?

   Follow up: How does this affect people's health?

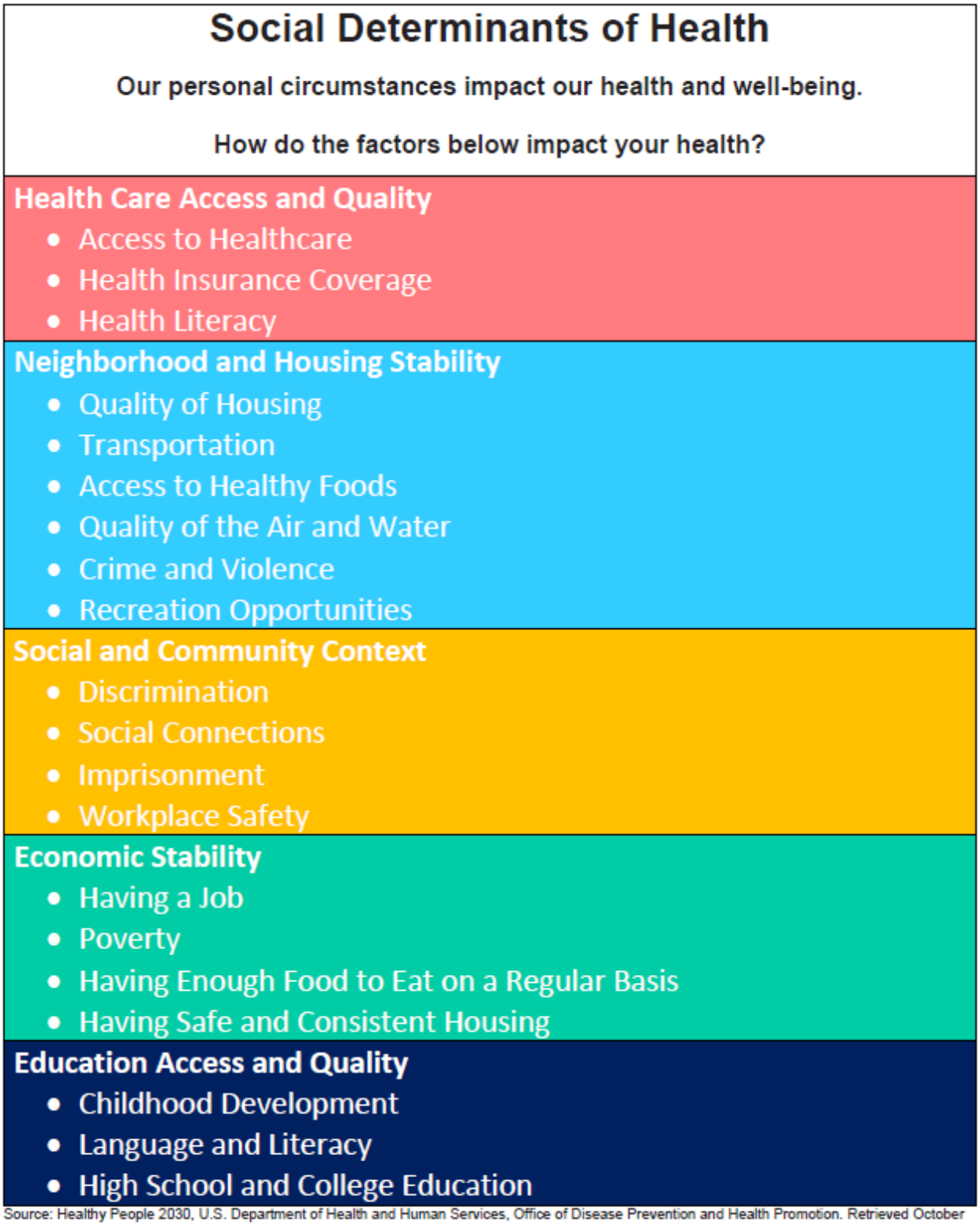
5. Are there other things that affect people's health in your community that should be on this list?

6. Overall, how does living in this community impact your health?

7. We will be having more meetings later to select and plan projects that support the health of those of us living in [community name]. If you want to be a part of this process, I will be happy to give you more information when we're done with today's discussion. In the meantime, let's get a head start on that process by answering our final question. What changes do you think would help improve your health and the health of other people in your community?

Thank you for helping us understand the issues that affect your health and the health of others in the community. We want to take this information and use it to identify a way forward that helps support the health of people in [community name].

APPENDIX D



Source: Healthy People 2030, U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, Office of Disease Prevention and Health Promotion. Retrieved October 4, 2022, from https://health.gov/healthypeople/objectives-and-data/social-determinants-health.

Place and Health:

Perry County's Social Vulnerability Index

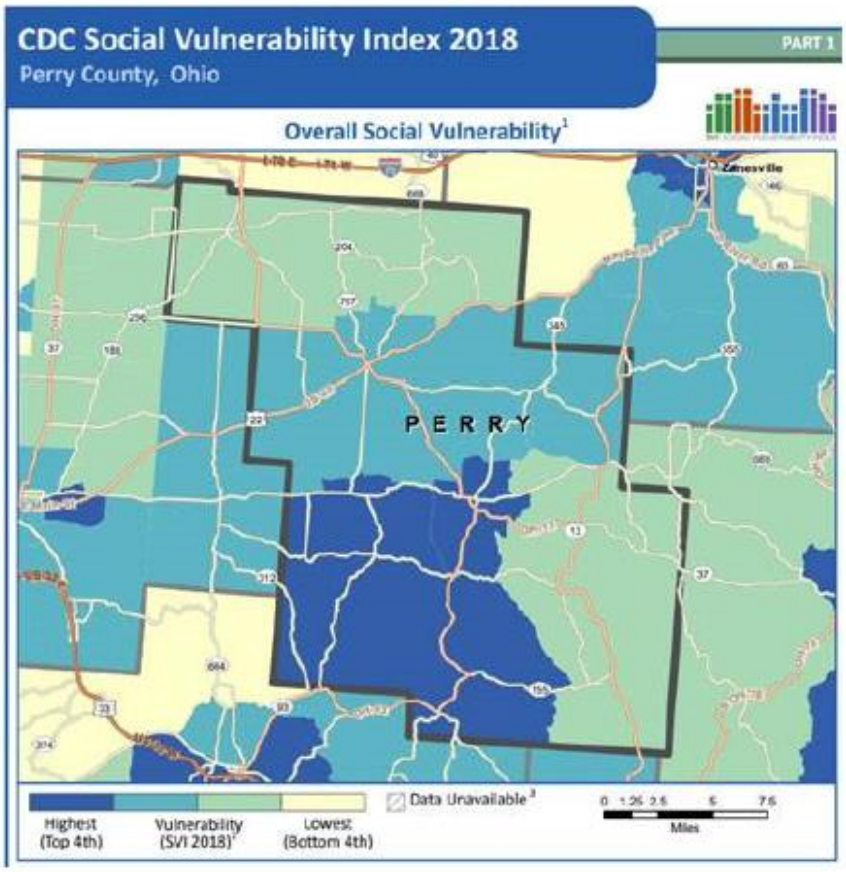
The Social Vulnerability Index is a score that compares communities by the level of impact from natural or human-caused disasters, or disease outbreaks.

The scores include **socioeconomic status**, **household composition and disability**, **race/ethnicity and language**, and **housing and transportation**. Higher scores mean greater risk.

The map of Perry County below shows the Overall Social Vulnerability scores in in Perry County.

In this map the dark blue parts of Perry County have the higher levels of social vulnerability. These areas are at greater risk for negative impacts from natural disasters or outbreaks of disease.

We can prevent human suffering and economic loss by reducing social vulnerability.



Source: CDC's Social Vulnerability Index Prepared County Maps. Retrieved October 21, 2022, from https://svi.cdc.gov/prepared-county-maps.html.

APPENDIX E

Application for Funding to Improve Health for Southern Perry County Residents

Funding has been awarded to the Perry County Health Department to support projects/initiatives that will improve the health of those living in Southern Perry County. To request funding, please complete this application and submit it to Deborah Raney, Director of Health Education, Perry County Health Department at Deborah.Raney@perrycountyohio.net, fax to 740.342.5540, or mail to 409 Lincoln Park Drive, New Lexington, Ohio 43764.

Proposals will be reviewed to ensure that funding requests are aligned with the aims of the Ohio Health Improvement Zone (OHIZ) Grant and that the items requested for funding are allowable under the grant. See "OHIZ Funding Guidelines" on page 5 for details regarding allowable expenses. Decisions regarding funding will be made by the OHIZ Health Improvement Partners, which is a small committee comprised of residents of Hemlock, New Straitsville, and Shawnee who have been actively engaged in the OHIZ project since fall 2022. The committee will consider proposals until funds have been expended.

SECTION I: Team Information

Project work/new initiatives require a team. Please list all individuals associated with this funding proposal. Please list the Team's primary contact on the first line.

NAME OF EACH TEAM MEMBER	COMMUNITY THEY REPRESENT	EMAIL ADDRESS (or phone number if no email)

SECTION II: Proposal Narrative *Please describe your request in detail.*

Proposal Title:_____

1. **What need are you trying to address? How does your project/initiative align with one or more of the health needs listed below that were identified in the Southern Perry County Assessment Report from the discussion groups that were held with residents of Hemlock, New Straitsville, and Shawnee in fall 2022?**
    - Social Connections and Community
    - Access to Health Care
    - Access to Healthy Foods
    - Substance Abuse Disorder Epidemic, Associated Crime, and Law Enforcement
    - Quality of the Water
    - Quality of Housing
    - Mental Health
    - Physical Activity
    - Lack of Transportation
    - Information Awareness
    - Maintenance of Recreational Opportunities
    - Education and Health Literacy

Please type response below:

2. **What is the goal of your project/initiative?**

3. **How will you achieve your goal?**

4. **Please describe how your project/initiative will benefit residents of Southern Perry County.**

SECTION III: Funds Requested

ANTICIPATED ITEMS NEEDED	AMOUNT REQUESTED
TOTAL AMOUNT REQUESTED	

Funding decisions made by the OHIZ Health Improvement Partners will be communicated to the Team Primary Contact by Deborah Raney, Perry County Health Department.

FOR INTERNAL USE ONLY

DATE APPLICATION RECEIVED:
DATE OHIZ HEALTH IMPROVEMENT PARTNERS REVIEWED:
DECISION: Fund in the Amount of $ **Entity to Which Funds Should be Transferred:** **Do Not Fund. Reason:**
DATE FUNDING DECISION SENT TO TEAM PRIMARY CONTACT:
DATE FUNDS SENT TO RECEIVING ENTITY

OHIZ Funding Guidelines

The written objective of the OHIZ project is that Southern Perry County (Census Tract 9663) will work together as a community to develop a project or projects that benefit the entire census tract. For example, if a project is beautification, then beautification should benefit all three communities. If a project is "trail development" then trail development should benefit all three communities.

How can the communities work together to see that the OHIZ money is used for the betterment of southern Perry County?

STATE RULES STIPULATE THAT OHIZ FUNDS CAN <u>NOT</u> BE USED FOR:

- The purchase or improvement of land
- The purchase, construction, or permanent improvement of any building
- Lobbying
- Contingency Funds-you can't save it for later
- Renting equipment-like a monthly "rent" for a piece of equipment, or financing
- FOOD-you can't host a dinner to just feed people or provide refreshments. You can feed people for an educational event-such as invite a chef for an educational session on cooking summer produce
- Entertainment-you can't use the money to have a 4th of July celebration or to sponsor a festival, etc.

SOME EXAMPLES OF THINGS OHIZ FUNDS COULD SUPPORT (this list is not inclusive)

- **<u>Social Connections and Community:</u>**
  - Community games such as cornhole, pickle ball, basketballs and rims, horseshoes
  - Tables and chairs for card clubs, bingo, etc.
  - Outdoor grills, outdoor kitchens, appliances, and canopies for community use at events
  - Supplies for offering workshops such as pottery, woodworking, paint studio, sewing, knitting, etc.
  - Materials to build photo/selfie opportunities
  - Beautification materials such as murals, planters, artwork, paint
  - Supplies to produce newsletters to share community events-printers, ink, paper
  - Signage

- **<u>Access to Health Care:</u>**
  - Health related programming, health fairs
  - Portable ramps for ADA compliance
  - Trainings to build capacity

- **<u>Access to Healthy Foods</u>**:
  - Greenhouses, seeds, plants, tools, gardening beds, soil, composters
  - Cooking demonstrations

- **<u>Physical Activity and Recreational Opportunities</u>:**
  - Fitness equipment

- Lending materials such as kayaks, bikes, paddleboards
- Establishment of services such as training of yoga or other fitness instructors
- Playground equipment/Park Improvements
- Trails/Sections of sidewalks to improve walkability

THINGS TO CONSIDER

- How will your idea "engage" community members? If your idea doesn't engage the community members, they won't come.
- Who "owns" or accepts responsibility for the supplies, materials, activities, greenhouse, etc.?
- Who will manage and/or maintain the finished product/activity to ensure sustainability (e.g., supplies, materials, greenhouse, programming, etc.)?
- How can community members access the supplies, materials, activities, greenhouse, etc.?