

HEALTH PARTNERS



SANDUSKY COUNTY

A case for healthy people living in a healthy community...

In crises lies opportunity. A small investment can yield big returns in health and resources for the community.

How did it begin?

It all began with an intuition and belief that determining health needs was the right thing to do, along with a willingness to commit the resources to get the job done. People, the community, and leaders needed to know the health of Sandusky County. Health Partners works cooperatively to prioritize and address those needs.

In 1993, Health Partners was formed with a group of Health Organization CEO's in Sandusky County. Initial members included the Health Department, Hospitals, Community Health Services, St. Francis Rehabilitation Centre, and a Physician. Later, the Mental Health and Recovery Services Board, Firelands Counseling and Recovery Services, and the Family and Children First Council also joined. Health Partners has woven itself into the fabric of the community and has always been dedicated to improving the quality of life for Sandusky County residents.

Why do Health Assessment?

To answer the questions, How healthy are we? How healthy is our community? Action needs to be based on facts, not just "I think" or "I feel". This is a cost-effective way to understand the community's health. It puts real facts in front of community leaders and funders.

What have we learned?

We have identified priorities to address, including alcohol use, tobacco use, teen pregnancy, depression and suicide, weight control and diabetes, and health care coverage. Resources are scarce; we must make the best possible choices with public dollars. By using a common set of facts, all community partners can make the biggest impact with available funds.

How you can help make it happen.

We need willing community leaders to join Health Partners to ensure the community has the critical mass needed to identify vital issues, affect policy, leverage resources, and facilitate change.

*Upon this gifted age,
in its dark hour,
Rains from the sky a
meteoric shower of facts...
They lie unquestioned,
uncombined.
Wisdom enough to leech us
of our ill
Is daily spun,
but there exists no loom
to weave it into fabric...*

-Edna St. Vincent Millay