



HIP Happenings

Fall 2009

By prioritizing partnerships, data, and strategies, the Health Improvement Plan of Washtenaw County works to improve the health of our local communities!

HIP Survey Trend Data is Here! The HIP survey has been administered every five years since 1995, meaning that several questions (though not all) have been asked three times, allowing for the collection of trend data. If you visit the 2005 HIP survey database online at <http://hip.ewashtenaw.org>, you will notice that some survey questions are asterisked, which represents that trend data are available. Just click on the “Trend” icon



and the database will automatically generate a bar graph!

Board of Commissioners Host a “HIP Working Session” - Last month, our county commissioners learned first-hand about HIP from Washtenaw County Public Health (WCPH) staff actively engaged in HIP. They highlighted how HIP partnerships, data and strategies play a key role in helping organizations county-wide succeed in their population health improvement successes. Board members applauded HIP’s longstanding service and expressed their desire for HIP and its coalition to regularly inform and communicate specific positions they support on local and state policy issues.

Board Supports Tobacco Tax Increase - As a follow up to the Board’s working session, in late August, WCPH staff submitted a Resolution to county commissioners supporting an “Increase in Michigan Tax on Tobacco and Other Tobacco Products (OTP)”. On September 2nd, the Board signed the Resolution, which was distributed to Governor Granholm and State legislators. Central to the Resolution was the specification that a certain percent of revenues be allocated towards tobacco prevention services and programs. The Resolution supports *“Tobacco-free Michigan: A 5-year Strategic Plan for Tobacco Use and Prevention”*, which was developed by the Michigan Department of Community Health and endorsed by HIP’s Coordinating Team earlier this year.

Gearing Up for the 2010 HIP Survey! While 2010 HIP survey administration is still a full year away, preparation is already in motion! This month, HIP Implementation team members (and other interested individuals) will begin reviewing and comparing questions between past HIP survey instruments and those utilized by the Michigan Department of Community Health, with the goal of selecting a final set of questions to include in the 2010 survey instrument early next year. And, for the last several months, HIP partners interviewed several survey research experts on the growing need to supplement the landline telephone data collection method HIP has relied on with another data collection strategy focusing on younger residents because of their increased use of cell phones only.

2010 CHC Meetings: What’s Important to You? Every year, HIP partners help identify topics for future Community Health Committee meetings. At the final 2009 CHC meeting (November 10th), attendees will brainstorm a list of possible 2010 meeting topics. Everyone on the CHC listserv will have a chance to provide input as well.

To learn more about these activities or request information contact Keven Mosley-Koehler, HIP Coordinator, at Washtenaw County Public Health, at koehlerk@ewashtenaw.org or visit the HIP website at <http://hip.ewashtenaw.org>

2020 HIP Objectives: Measurable, Data-driven, Relevant – Did you know that health improvement objectives spanning over 777 health issues specific to our Washtenaw County population exist? They are quantifiable and are developed using data collected as part of a county-wide surveillance system. Written to be achieved by the year 2020, the “HIP objectives” provide a roadmap for measuring health improvement success. Perhaps your organization would consider incorporating relevant HIP objectives into its strategic planning or programming efforts.

Why Be a HIP Partner? Because “HIP Works!” and can help your organization achieve its health improvement goals. Recently, four HIP partners each described a specific community achievement and provided examples of how HIP played a role in their success. Their stories are posted on the HIP website on the homepage. *Do you have a HIP Success Story to share?* Let us know, and yours can be showcased too!

Join Us, Won't You? Uniting organizations and individuals, forming partnerships, and building collaborations is key to improving community health. By attending CHC meetings or serving on a workgroup you get connected to other county organizations with similar goals and challenges. It's that easy to become a HIP partner! If you would like your organization to be displayed on the HIP website as a HIP partner and also have a link to your organization's website posted there, go to http://www.ewashtenaw.org/government/departments/public_health/hip/hip_partnership_form

*HIP funding partners have included St. Joseph Mercy Health System, Chelsea Community Hospital,
University of Michigan Health System, United Way of Washtenaw County,
Thomson Reuters, and Washtenaw County Public Health*

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