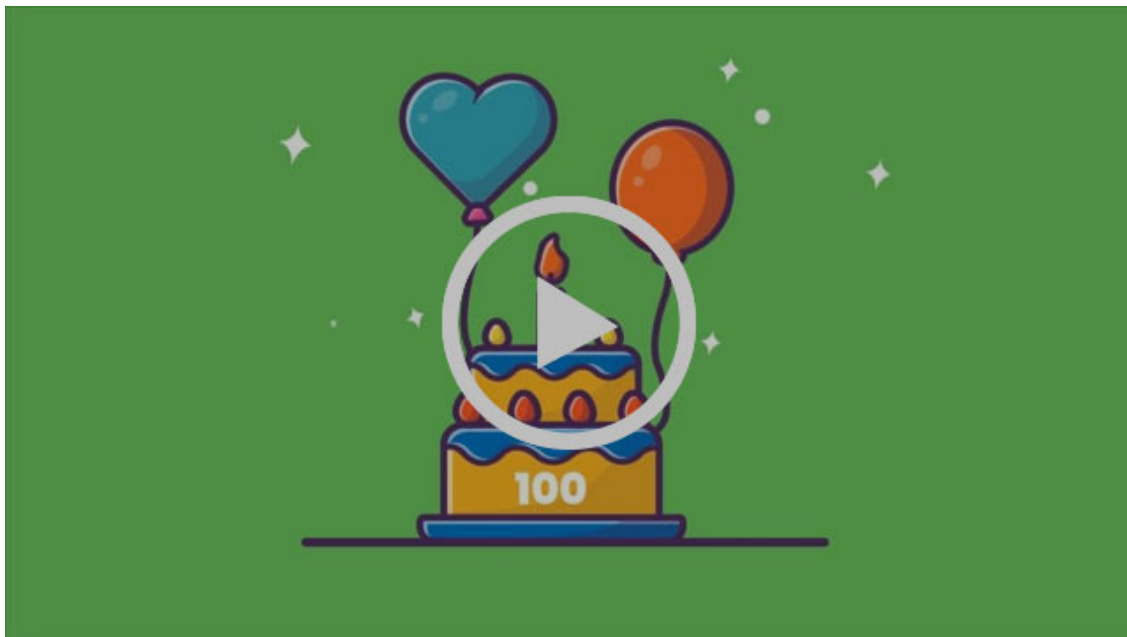


COLLABORATION IN ACTION



Aligning Systems. Transforming Lives.



This video was made in partnership with [NextDay Animations](#).

We are excited to premiere our CHIR vision video! Many thanks and deep appreciation to the 70 CHIR partners who helped us co-create this video. We went on an explorative journey to ask people what our vision, healthy people in equitable communities, means to them. We asked questions like, if we achieved our vision what would such a community look like, what would you feel and hear, and who would belong to this community? What resulted from this process was a rich picture of our vision in a storytelling format.

We know our vision is achievable and will impact generations to come.



**NORTHWEST
COMMUNITY
HEALTH
INNOVATION
REGION**

The Northwest Community Health Innovation Region covers a ten-county geographic area including Antrim, Benzie, Charlevoix, Emmet, Grand Traverse, Kalkaska, Leelanau, Manistee, Missaukee, and Wexford counties.

Updates

NORTHWEST CHIR

**Steering
Committee**



The [NWCHIR Steering Committee](#) is comprised of cross-sector leaders across the 10-county region committed to a shared vision - *healthy people in equitable communities*.

2023 Social Determinants of Health Summit: A CALL TO ACTION

The NWCHIR presented at the first Michigan Department of Health and Human Services (MDHHS) Social Determinants of Health Virtual Summit on January 24, 2023 - [view the recorded session here](#).



The Learning Community is a safe and neutral space for cross-sector partners to come together around 3 mutually reinforcing priority areas (**resident voice and power | health equity | cross-sector communications**) where we engage in

The Learning Community is committed to building a culture of shared learning.

- We are building our collective wisdom by adding our favorite resources, materials, and reads to this [Shared Google Folder](#) – take what you need and contribute what you can.
- The NWCHIR and Learning Community was recently highlighted in the Rotary Charities Stories of Change event – access the case study [here](#).
- A case study of the Community Empowerment Project is currently in development in partnership with Jessica Conrad. We can't wait to share this story!



CHW in Schools: Peer Resource Navigators Support School Counseling Teams

The 2022-2023 school year started with enhanced school counseling teams in 3 northwest CHIR school districts. Central Lake, Mesick and Traverse Heights schools all added a Community Health Worker (CHW) to their team of social support workers.

The purpose of the project is two-fold:

1. To provide CHW navigation services for families to find and use the resources they need in the community.
2. To enable the school Counseling Team to provide high quality behavioral health services for students and their families, instead of diverting much of their school day attempting to find community resources for them.

CHWs are trained and skilled in resource navigation and are experts in helping individuals and families access the community resources they need to meet their basic needs. The research shows that when families have basic needs met, the family can focus on other needs essential to improving their health. We also expect students whose families get connected to the CHW to have improved outcomes (e.g., reduced absenteeism, improved classroom behavior and performance, reduced anxiety).

HIGHLIGHTS

services.

- Community Connections is committed to providing accessible, local data. Check out our dashboards [here](#).



Every 3 years the Northwest MiThrive Workgroup conducts a community health assessment and improvement plan in the following counties: Antrim, Benzie, Charlevoix, Emmet, Grand Traverse, Kalkaska, Leelanau, Manistee, Missaukee, and Wexford. This plan is a roadmap for collective action and a guide for cross-sector community organizations to work towards a shared vision, healthy people in equitable communities.

[The 2021 MiThrive Community Health Assessment revealed four priority areas critical to the health of our communities.](#)

- **NEW:** Root Cause Analysis Infographics: [Access to Healthcare](#), [Chronic Disease](#), and [Housing](#) (click here for more information on [Local Behavioral Health efforts](#)).
- A root cause analysis helps identify the underlying cause(s) of a problem to develop effective and sustainable solutions.
- Conducting a root cause analysis can lead to long-term improvement in health outcomes by addressing problems at their source.
- To learn more about how the Northwest MiThrive Workgroup is moving to action to address these underlying causes, please contact: Emily Llore at e.llore@nwhealth.org.



The Behavioral Health Initiative (BHI) is a project of the NWCHIR that works with diverse stakeholders to address the behavioral health needs in the region. Currently, 12 Action Teams, composed of cross-sector stakeholders, are working to improve access to behavioral health resources and promote community wellbeing in the region. The BHI hosts two

highlighting the successes and next steps of these Action Teams. Join us at our next Summit on May 11th! Register [HERE!](#)

Hundreds of stakeholders across the region work together to improve access and wellbeing.

Nine Behavioral Health Initiative Action Teams are working to expand access to behavioral health providers in the region:

- **The Recruit Behavioral Health Providers Action Team** is working to expand the number of behavioral health interns in the region. In March, look for the release of the behavioral health internship recruitment website.
- **The Retain Behavioral Health Providers Action Team** is launching the second in its series of Lunch and Learns to help build healthy work environments and reduce employee burnout. There is still time to register for the second, virtual Lunch and Learn on Monday, April 10th from 12:00pm-1:00pm on employee empowerment and autonomy. [CLICK HERE](#) to register!
- **The Strengthen Crisis Supports Action Team** submitted an ARPA application to the Grand Traverse County Commissioners, who have set aside \$5 million for mental health infrastructure. A Community Advisory Group has been formed that includes diverse cross-sector stakeholders and individuals with lived experience.
- **The Care Coordination Action Team** has completed its ecosystem mapping of the care coordination resources in the region. Look for a website, targeted toward resource navigators, to help identify the resources in the region.
- **The Community Health Workers Action Team** has placed community health workers in Central Lake and Mesick schools to connect students and families to the resources they need to be healthy and thriving.
- **The Reduce Stigma Against Mental Illness Action Team** is in the midst of a social media campaign working to debunk myths about mental illness and give residents direction about how to reduce stigma in their community. Check [District Health Department 10's Facebook page](#) to see this campaign or to repost it.
- **The Reduce Stigma Against Substance Use Disorders Action Team** just finished gathering survey data from healthcare providers, first responders, and the public about their experience of stigma against substance use disorders in the region. They plan to release a public awareness and education campaign in May.
- **The Reduce Stigma Against Youth Mental Health Action Team** is building off of their Photovoice project and working to expand schools' capacities to promote youth mental health and wellbeing.

consumers in the region. They will be releasing a revised infographic in print and electronic forms in March.

Contact us at behavioralhealth@northernmichiganchir.org if you would like more information about any of these projects.

Upcoming Events

Check out our [Shared Community Calendar](#) for a listing of events and meetings



Do you have an upcoming meeting, event, workshop, or gathering that you want others to know about?

Fill out [this form](#) and we will add it to the [Shared Community Calendar](#).

With this shared calendar, we aim to strengthen our collective understanding of current efforts throughout the region and support community partners to become better connected.

Help us amplify this message by forwarding this email to your network.



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