



CLOSING THE GAP: EMPOWERING RESIDENTS TO LEAD CHANGE

Explore the Northwest Community Health Innovation Region's (NWCHIR) Community Empowerment Project — an initiative promoting resident-led solutions for equitable communities. Discover how this project centered equitable grantmaking, engaged cross-sector partners, and fostered shared learning for impactful, community-driven change. Learn practical insights for funding resident-led projects and



LEARNING COMMUNITY

The NWCHIR Learning Community is a network of cross-sector partners across Antrim. Benzie. Charlevoix Emmet, Grand Traverse, Kalkaska, Leelanau, Manistee, Missaukee, and Wexford counties with a common interest in amplifying resident voice and power promoting health equity through systems, policies, and practices, and strengthening cross-sector communications for improved coordination and alignment. Through dialogue, exploration, and co-creation, the NWCHIR Learning Community supports deep learning within individuals who can then cross-pollinate and amplify those learnings within their organization, agency, group,

and/or community



RELATIONSHIP BUILDING | SHARED LEARNING | CO-CREATION



DEFINITIONS

ies targeted to improving social and environmental progress. Also, within the entity, the procedures, guidelines, or informal shared habits that comprise their work.

Resource Flows: How money, people, knowledge, information, and other assets such as infrastructure are allocated and distributed. Balatineahins & Compartines: Quality of connections and communi

Mental Models: Hisbits of thought—deeply held beliefs and assumptions and taken-for-granted ways of operating that influence how we think, what

COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT CONTINUUM







PROJECT TIMELINE



Roles and Promotion

Process, Touchpoints, & Fund Disbursement



CASE STUDY VIGNETTES

Meredith Kennedy is a resident of Emmet County, an Indigenous mom, and a self-described "systems agisted" whose life's work is to ensure that he children do not enture the same have as provious generations of Antalhabus. When the learned about the CEP through her involvement is have been applied to the common of the comm

g leading to how families and boosed related constructions. Every tip to provious the years, Lean and Jun had been differing classes stress of constructions of the provious tip to years. Lean and Jun had been differing classes stress and constructions. The virtual classes were read once sever for directions, expending by them, and expending by the provious provided by the successive provided by the successive provided by the p

steps Taylor is a resident of Massakan Currity and president of the Northwest Markings Paur Cupport Notices, which series to advise a their gars amount meall forms and refused his terminal or missions within the fire respondent community, they be seried door the CDF through a sudding mental health childrain in the selector. The opportunity foll Mail is ass meant to be, "say, flashches, somether reduces remainer and pullegate. He shaws the Pally sear also CDF Amelian gas an exposurable by these the model on resident health sharings." The desired whether health above control that ingle to be load from supportance and their sposses, including a meal and mental health training. The goal was to possess assumessed and the health and be load from the experience and understanding of their thing on the forms and mental health training. The goal was to possess assumessed and the health and with the experience and understanding of the only on a file.

their time. They therefore encourage other institutions to adopt the CEP's approach funding residents directly to make contributions to their communities.

You can learn more about Ludlow and Chenev's work at

WHAT IS A CHIR?

Community Health Innovations Regions, or CHIRs, represent a unique, coordinated approach to improving conditions where people live, work, learn, and play, CHIRs bring a broad group of collaborators together to improve the wellbeing of the residents in their community, in particular, by addressing factors that affect a person's health. These partners use systems change to ensure that people's needs are met in and outside of the doctor's office.



GEOGRAPHIC REGION

NORTHERN MICHIGAN CHIR

CHIR partners are organized by a neutral backbone organization that facilitates the development and ementation of key strategies, creating the necessar capacity to sustain progress on stated objectives. CHIR steering committees provide a clear leadership structure and promote shared accountability among partners for aligning their resources to address priority community health needs. It takes a comprehensive group of committed organizations to meet the needs of a community. No one entity can do this alone.

The Northern Michigan Community Health Innovation Region (NMCHIR) is one of five CHIRs established by Michigan Department of Health and Human Services (MDHHS) in 2016. MDHHS designated the Northern Michigan Public Health Alliance (NMPHA), a partnership of seven local health departments, as the Backbone Organization for the NMCHIR. NMPHA selected the Northern Michigan Health Consortium (NMHC), a 501(c)3 not-for-profit organization, as its fiduciary agent and contraction entity

The NMCHIR is a cross-sector partnership of local health departments, hospitals, community-based organizations, units of local government, insurers, businesses, academia, and residents who work together to align systems, address barriers to health and well-being, and transform individual lives in Northern Lower Michigan. NMCHIR has scaled to three sub-regions and now serves roughly 829,860 residents across 31 counties.



OR CODES









