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From: Carrie Rheingans, Washtenaw Health Initiative Project Manager
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Sent: Thursday, August 11, 2016 10:46 AM
To: Rheingans, Carrie
Subject: SPECIAL EDITION: Washtenaw Health Initiative Newsletter

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Special Edition Newsletter August 2016

WASHTENAW
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Upcoming Member Meetings & Other Events

Opioid Project Publishes New Website: WHIopioidproject.org



The Opioid Project recently developed and launched a new [website](#) as a resource in Washtenaw County. The website, www.WHIopioidproject.org, aims to serve Washtenaw County community members who are concerned about the opioid epidemic. Complete with resources for individuals currently battling addiction, friends and family, and practitioners, the website provides a launching point for anyone seeking help, wanting to learn more about efforts in the community, or to get involved.

You can keep up to date on the latest Opioid Project news and findings and learn more about how to get

August

- 11 - UNITE In-person Meeting (3-4:30 PM, CHRT)
- 12 - SIM Data/IT Subcommittee Meeting (11-12 PM, CHRT)
- 12 - Steering Committee Meeting (2:30-4 PM, CHRT)
- 15 - SIM Workgroup Meeting (10-11:30 AM, CHRT)
- 16 - Opioid Project Meeting (11 - 12:30 PM, Patrick Barrie Conf. Rm; 705 Zeeb Rd., Ann Arbor, MI)
- 18 - Senior Services Meeting (3-5 PM, CHRT)
- 18 - Communications Workgroup Meeting (4-5 PM, CHRT)
- 19 - Mental Health & Substance Use Disorder Work Group(3-4:30 PM, Rachel Upjohn Bldg, Garden Level Conference Room, 4250 Plymouth Rd, Ann Arbor, MI 48109)
- 19 - Advance Care Plan Meeting (3:30-5 PM, CHRT)
- 25 - UNITE Phone Meeting (3-4 PM)
- 30 - Primary Care & Safety Net Workgroup Meeting (1-2:30 PM, CHRT)

September

- 8 - UNITE In-person Meeting (3-4 PM, CHRT)
- 9 - Steering Committee Meeting (2:30-4 PM, CHRT)
- 16 - WHI All-Member Stakeholders Group (10 - 12 PM, Washtenaw Community College - Morris Lawrence Bldg Rm 101)
- 19 - SIM Workgroup Meeting (10-11:30, CHRT)
- 20 - Opioid Project Meeting (11 - 12:30 PM, Patrick Barrie Conf. Rm; 705 Zeeb Rd., Ann Arbor, MI)
- 21 - Finance Committee Meeting (4-5, CHRT)
- 22 - UNITE Phone Meeting (3-4 PM)

[Join Our Mailing List](#)

involved by checking out the [website](#), following WHI social media (find us on [Facebook](#) and [Twitter](#)), and by reading the WHI Newsletter.

UNITE publishes first Joint Community Health Needs Assessment



Community Health Needs Assessment Report June 2016

June 2016 marked a significant milestone for St. Joseph Mercy Ann Arbor, St. Joseph Mercy Chelsea, and University of Michigan Health System as the Unified Needs Assessment Implementation Plan Team Engagement (UNITE) team, comprising representatives from the three hospitals, published their first collaborative Community Health Needs Assessment (CHNA). In 2015-2016, for the first time, all the nonprofit hospitals in Washtenaw County, Michigan collaborated to conduct a single Community Health Needs Assessment for the shared geographic region of Washtenaw County. The hospitals conducted a collaborative community health data collection and assessment process in partnership with Washtenaw County Public Health (WCPH) and area health coalitions; the process was facilitated by the Washtenaw Health Initiative. The

collaborative (UNITE) exists to promote health and improve the health equity of our community by developing a unified health assessment and improvement plan, using a shared leadership structure and a process that continuously engages community.

A partnership with the UM School of Public Health Office of Public Health Practice and the Future Public Health leaders program enabled UNITE to collect primary data through 14 key informant interviews, and 4 focus groups to gauge the concerns of seniors and youth in rural and urban communities in Washtenaw county.

In addition to WCPH Health Improvement Plan data, secondary data reviewed by UNITE included more than 20 community assessments of health, and key social determinants of health.

Using this local, state, and national data, and input from the community, the UNITE team determined priority areas to focus on. These areas were determined based on: The number of people impacted, the severity of the problem, UNITE members' ability to positively impact the potential priority, UNITE members' ability to enhance existing resources and/or complement strategies, alignment with institutional missions, and the impact on health equity. Based on the data collected and the potential priority health needs observed, the UNITE team identified three top health priorities based on a point system, which ranked each health need.

The result was three health priority areas: Mental Health and Substance Use Disorder, Obesity and Related Illnesses, and Preconceptual and Perinatal Health. These areas will be used to inform the development of implementation strategies that the hospitals will utilize in the community.

The joint CHNA report was published on all three of the Hospital Websites in June 2016, and can be read online or requested as a paper copy (You can find it here: [SJMAA](#), [SJMC](#), [UMHS](#)). Following publication, UNITE has been engaging with the community to better understand their perceptions on the priority health needs and will use this research to inform the Joint Implementation Plan that is developed. The Joint Implementation plan is scheduled to be published by the health systems this fall.

Congratulations to UNITE on this joint effort and accomplishment!

Share Your Story

Share your story ideas for the WHI newsletter with Carrie at (734) 998-7567 or crheinga@umich.edu

About the Washtenaw Health Initiative

The [Washtenaw Health Initiative](#) is a voluntary, county-wide collaboration focused on how to improve access to coordinated care for the low-income, uninsured, and Medicaid populations. The effort includes representatives from the University of Michigan Health System, Saint Joseph Mercy Health System, VA Ann Arbor Healthcare System, health plans, county government, community services, physicians, and safety net providers.

[Washtenaw Health Initiative](#)
(734) 998-7567

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