



The Antrim County Community Collaborative has been an endorsed Community Collaborative for 19 years.

Vision: We envision every household in the county to be a safe, nurturing and healthy environment. We commit to ongoing support provided through our communities that will strengthen family functioning and encourage healthy lifestyle choices.

Mission: Identify concerns, initiate action and organize for impact by providing community based partnerships that support our vision and provide a continuum of cooperation, coordination and integration of services and resources for all people in our county.

The ACCC provides a collective impact:

- Provides Antrim county perspective and advocacy at regionally based initiatives
- Increases efficiency, reduction of duplication resulting in cost savings
- Identifies trends and gaps in services
- Fosters discussion and relationship building.
- Connects the dots between people and programs with common interests who may be unaware of one another.
- Provides efficiency and effectiveness of finite tax dollars.
- Builds relationships with state and regional entities
- Shares local insights and perspectives to help inform actions.
- Acts as an objective source of information and analysis.
- Provides a forum for varying points of view.

Region-wide and State-wide program planning, development/re-design and implementation is the trend. In this era of rapid change, advocacy for Antrim County interests at the state and regional tables is a challenge. The ACCC is committed to imparting a voice for the citizens and helping organizations for Antrim County interest in these regional/state forums.

Chairperson: Carole Doherty – North Country Community Mental Health

Vice Chairperson: Maureen Clore – Department of Human Services

Meeting Information:

The ACCC meets on the third Friday of each month at 10:30 at the Forest Home Township Hall in Bellaire.

Collective Decision making leads to improved decisions.

Regional and Local Affiliations:

Continuum of Care
Regional Collaborative Alliance
TBAISD
Munson Healthcare
Substance Abuse Coalition
Progress Village

Priorities (data citations based on the March 2015 Michigan League for Public Policy report and the Michigan Department of Community Health):

- **EMPLOYMENT:** The rate averages 9.3% and is seasonally higher. During periods of unemployment, individuals are likely to feel severe economic strain and mental stress. High unemployment places strain on financial support systems, making basic needs such as heat, transportation, food, clothing and housing a daily struggle.
- **CHILD ABUSE AND NEGLECT:** Antrim County ranks 32 out of 82 counties for overall child well-being. The membership of the ACCC is committed to the safety and stability of Antrim County families and their children. There are several types of child abuse including physical, sexual, and emotional abuse.
- **HOMELESS:** Last year, 3,326 were literally homeless in the 10 County Region. Nearly 4,500 qualified as homeless. Many of those considered homeless included veterans and teens.
- **INFANT HEALTH:** 70% of births were Medicaid paid births in 2010. 36.2% of Mothers had less than adequate prenatal care. 10.2% of births were to Mothers that had less than a high school diploma. These are all indicators for future health of the mother and the child and are a strong predictor of next generation poverty. Antrim ranks 61 (of 83) in the number of births to teens at approx. 8-10%.
- **OBESITY:** Carries significant economic costs due to increased healthcare spending and lost earnings. Obesity increases the risk of many diseases and health conditions including heart disease, Type 2 diabetes, cancer, hypertension, stroke, liver and gallbladder disease, respiratory problems, and osteoarthritis. 32% of Antrim County residents are obese.
- **POVERTY:** The percentage of Antrim county children ages 0-17 who live below the poverty threshold was 22.6%. 18.3% of families in the county with children 0-18 receive Food Assistance. 1.00% of these families receive what is commonly referred to as welfare. (FIP)
- **TRANSPORTATION:** continues to be an ongoing challenge. Many residents work service industry or entry level jobs for minimum wage and travel on average 24.6 miles per day to a from work.
- **COMMUNITY HEALTH:** An Assessment was conducted in partnership with Munson Hospital, the Health Dept and McClaren Northern Hospital as a compliance measure for the Affordable Care Act. The effort resulted in a comprehensive data base that is publically available to assist with grant writing and trend identification. The link is: <http://www.munsonhealthcare.org/CHNA>

Where we are heading and our potential

The need for collaboration is greater than ever. Our economic situation requires that we share resources and commitments. The ACCC is a catalyst to identify challenges and work with lead agencies at the ACCC table to develop strategies and pursue grants to support Antrim based activities. In the history of the ACCC more than \$4.5 Million dollars in Antrim County grants, initiatives and programs have been launched, guided and/or supported at the Antrim County Collaborative.

Many of the issues identified by Antrim County residents and agencies are similar to those in the State of Michigan, although Antrim County has specifically identified Substance Abuse and access to healthy foods as priorities for the county and our region. CHNA conversations were instrumental in identifying these areas of concern. Antrim County Collaborative members have been instrumental in identifying these issues and developing region-wide initiatives and projects to reduce substance abuse and provide healthy food for all.

Antrim County certainly has great need, but also has willing helping agencies to help change the quality of life for some of our most fragile and vulnerable citizens. Much of the data that are used to procure regional grants and programs relies on the Antrim County data compiled through the ACCC. Many of the federal, state and regional resources are being directed to higher density communities. The most pressing goal is to ensure that all of Antrim County residents get their "fair share" of access to much needed services.

Our threats and challenges

Funding cuts to many of our agency members has required creative and innovative approaches. Coordination is critical. The sole source of funding for the ACCC is membership contributions and the Antrim County Board. The ACCC continues to work with a coordinator under an independent contract arrangement as long as local, state and grant funds are available. The ACCC has a fiduciary arrangement with Goodwill of NW MI and receives generous in-kind support from the ACCC membership.

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