



News from the HUB



Central Ohio Pathways HUB

**Care Coordination
in the
#CentralOhioHUB**

576 Active Clients

**2,527 Total Clients
Served**

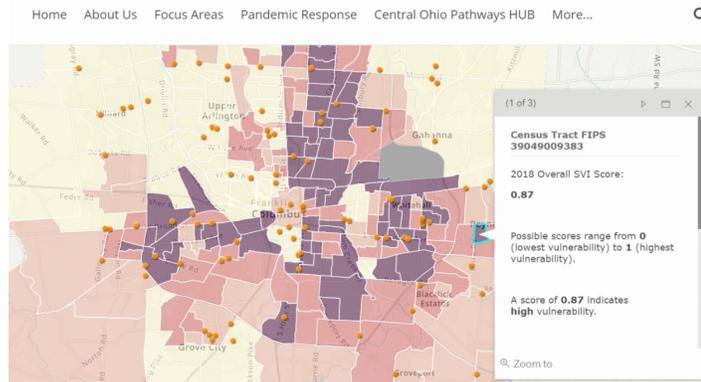
**16,868 Pathways
Initiated**

**12,200
Pathways
Completed!!**

HCGC Launches Interactive Mapping Tool to Combat Inequity in COVID Vaccine Access & Education

HCGC is excited to launch an interactive, digital tool that uses geographic mapping to provide specific insights into the equitable access to the COVID-19

vaccine at the census tract level in Franklin County. HCGC has been working with Futurity, a local data analytics firm, since March of 2021 to make the tool live on our website for community partners to utilize.



Modifying Existing Tool to Allow for Community Engagement

Dr. Ayez Hyder from the Ohio State University College of Public Health has developed a vaccine deployment mapping tool that has been applied to make specific recommendations to local health departments and health systems regarding where to stand up mobile and pop-up vaccination clinics. Dr. Hyder's version includes protected health data, including COVID-19 case rates and vaccination uptake rates, which has been very useful to vaccine providers, especially as larger vaccination sites have begun to close. As the need to take vaccine directly to neighborhoods that are of a high social vulnerability index (SVI) is increasing, yet lack equitable access to COVID vaccinations is still low, the tool has been instrumental for deployment. While it has been very useful in the effort to take vaccine to vulnerable populations, it is a tool that is strictly protected due to the sensitive health data it contains.

HCGC has felt compelled to create a public facing tool that gives local partners the opportunity to dig into data in the community to see how we as community-based organizations can do our part to bring education, funding and support to under-resourced neighborhoods related to the COVID-19 vaccine, and future public health initiatives.

Deploying Community Health Workers using Tool to Provide Education, Comprehensive Care Coordination

As we share the tool with our local, regional and national partners, HCGC has already begun applying data we've gathered from the tool to begin development of community health worker (CHW) deployment to areas of high SVI and continue to have low access to vaccine, which is indicated by the map. The tool also populates several "centers of community," such as churches, polling centers, parks, and libraries. Working alongside our CHWs in the Central Ohio Pathways HUB, we are planning educational events, mass literature canvassing, and other ways to engage with communities.

CHWs in the HUB have the unique opportunity to not only educate, discuss, and connect people in these targeted areas to the COVID vaccine, but also enroll them in the HUB, providing connection to any and all other areas where those clients indicate needs and risks. If a CHW has a conversation with a client, and they are not interested in the COVID vaccine at the time, they can still connect them with services such as housing, food, education, primary and behavioral healthcare, and several other vital services. The beauty of the Pathways HUB model is that the first interaction with a client is not the last, and a CHW will continue to connect with their client every month. This allows for an ongoing dialogue and education regarding the COVID vaccine, as well as other facets of that person's life to set them on the path to success regardless of their decision around receiving the vaccine. Utilizing the interactive mapping tool will take some of the guess work out of what neighborhoods are at the greatest need for community resources, allowing HCGC and our CHWs to take our efforts to a more targeted population and make the most impact.

Utilizing the Tool for Community Impact

The geographic mapping tool is now live on our website and available for the public to navigate. We've included a short YouTube tutorial above the tool that walks users through all the features. We welcome partners who think they might dive deeper into applying the tool to equity driven projects to contact us so that we can assist in using the tool at its greatest potential. We share this tool publicly and in the spirit of collaboration, and as always, we offer the tool and our assistance in using it at no cost to our community partners. If you are interested in applying the resource to your own community engagement or equity efforts, and would like to collaborate or need assistance, please contact Heidi Christman by email: heidi@hcg.org.

[Click to use the tool](#)

Next CHW Monthly Meeting



Thursday, July 8, 2021

9:00-11:00 AM

Supervisor Sign-Off Time 11:00-11:30

Webinar: Dial-in information to come via email from HUB Staff.

Insights from the HCGC Blog

HCGC Celebrates Certifying First Class of Community Health Workers in a New Program

By McKenzie Carter, Program Manager, HCGC

Beginning in March of 2021, the Healthcare Collaborative of Greater Columbus convened a group of 17 professionals for our very first Community Health Worker Certification Program. This first cohort consisted of a diverse variety of genders, races, backgrounds, and experiences. With ages ranging from 23 to 64, this cohort brought more to the table than we could have hoped for. With funding from Aetna, this program was free for all of our participants. We had a wide range of agencies that had CHW's certified through the program, including; Columbus Urban League, Ethiopian Tewahedo Social Services, Physicians CareConnection, Heart of Ohio Family Health, Primary One Health, The Breathing Association, Urban Strategies, and Wellness First.



Our first unit focused on understanding the roles and goals of Community Health Workers, and understanding CHW employment models, particularly with the Community Pathways HUB Model. Our cohort practiced Appreciative Inquiry and Motivational Interviewing, and explored Social Determinants of Health, and how they connect to life expectancy and outcomes. We discussed homelessness and housing in Central Ohio, and its relation to SDOH. Our second unit focused on CHW's Roles in Health Education and Health Promotion. Our Cohort demonstrated general awareness of health care needs for individuals across the life span, and related

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