



1889 Jefferson Center for Population Health



2022 Annual Report

Our Team



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Dear Partners in Health,

Our team at the 1889 Jefferson Center for Population Health (CPH) would like to welcome you to our 2022 Annual Report.

Over the past year, CPH has had the privilege of working on many exciting initiatives that have had a positive impact in our communities. We are excited to share with you the progress of these goals in the following pages.

We recognize the challenges individuals in our community are facing that have a detrimental impact on their health. New approaches are needed in order to improve the health of our residents. CPH will continue to focus on our mission to build resilient communities through collaboration, education, and implementation of best practice programming.

This year, we saw major growth of our Community Care HUB (HUB), which serves individuals who face complex health and human service needs. In addition to the growth of the HUB, you will read about several other initiatives of the Center, including the continued work of the COVID-19 Task Force, addressing social determinant of health (SDOH) needs around housing, food security and mental health, community outreach, and legislative advocacy. We know that this work is now more important than ever, and we are proud of the impact we have been able to make this year.

We are grateful to our community partners, providers and agencies, and their continued spirit of collaboration in Cambria and Somerset counties. A special thank you to our partners Thomas Jefferson University and funding partner, 1889 Foundation.

If you are interested in learning more about our work, we welcome the chance to speak with you. We look forward to continuing our focus on improving the health of our communities in 2023 and beyond!

Jeannine McMillan
Jeannine McMillan, Executive Director

About Us

Founded as a collaborative, community-based organization, focused on population health and disease prevention to benefit the citizens living in Cambria and Somerset counties.

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COMMUNITY CARE HUB

CPH launched the HUB in September of 2020 with a goal to improve the health outcomes of vulnerable populations in Cambria and Somerset counties. A HUB is an organized, outcome focused, network of Care Coordination Agencies (CCAs) who hire and train Community Health Workers (CHWs) to reach out to those at greatest risk.

Individuals are connected to a CHW who meets with them face-to-face, then guides them through completion of one, or more, of 21 Pathways designed to address their needs. These Pathways include connections to housing, transportation, medical and social services, and more.

The HUB is not just another program, but rather a care coordination delivery system developed by a partnership among local agencies and a community advisory board. It is not intended to replace agencies, but to connect and support them to ensure an individual's needs are identified and effectively coordinated in the community. The HUB follows the nationally-recognized and evidence-based Pathways Community HUB model.



CHW Flor Hernandez discusses her work during the American Public Health Association's 150th Anniversary celebration.



CHWs Stephanie Buck (top, left) and Justina Schreiber (bottom, right) and CPH executive director Jeannine McMillan present information on the HUB during a Jefferson College panel.





Alleghenies United Cerebral Palsy (AUCP) is a 501(c)(3) and nationally affiliated organization that provides in-home service coordination/case management services. Its Mission is to assist individuals with disabilities in meeting their basic needs, enhancing their quality of life, and promoting their independence, while also allowing them to be active participants in the decision-making and direction of their services.



AUCP Executive Director Tammy Rhoades, CHWs Christy Berzonski and Jordan Chuhran, and CHW Supervisor Samantha Graham.



Beginnings, Inc. Executive Director Jes Phillipi, CHWs Flor Hernandez and Justina Schreiber, CHW Supervisor Brianna Livingston, and Beginnings, Inc. retired Executive Director Paula Eppley-Newman.



Beginnings, Inc. has been a leader in the community for over 70 years, providing quality in-home services that include early intervention for families and children with special needs, physical therapy, occupational therapy, speech therapy, and training for Parents as Teachers.



Community Action Partnership of Cambria County Executive Director Jeff Vaughn, CHWs Shealeigh Wallace and Stephanie Buck, and CHW Supervisor Helen Robinson.



Community Action Partnership of Cambria County (CAPCC) is a private, nonprofit agency that provides a variety of services including Early Childhood/Head Start, medical assistance transportation, housing and utility assistance, veterans' supportive services, CHW program through the Community Care HUB, nutrition education for the Women, Infants and Children's (WIC) program, and breastfeeding support.

The HUB model can be utilized to provide care coordination for many vulnerable populations in the community. At-risk pregnant women, due to poor health outcomes in our communities, were the first population of focus chosen by the HUB. Pregnant women residing in Cambria or Somerset County are eligible if they are either receiving, or eligible for, Medical Assistance or diagnosed with gestational diabetes.

In 2021, a \$100,000 grant was obtained through the efforts of Senator Wayne Langerholc, Jr., (R-35) to the 1889 Foundation from the Pennsylvania Department of Education. This funding enabled the HUB to partner with the Greater Johnstown School District and expand its focus to serve families of students in grades K-4. The program connects CHWs with families whose students have higher health, behavioral, and social service needs. The CHW works with the family in their homes to address the student's needs and improve the overall health of the entire family unit. The program was expanded during the 2022-2023 school year to also serve families of students in the Somerset Area School District.

The HUB also collaborates with a physical health managed care organization (MCO) to work with their at-risk members in Cambria and Somerset counties who have a diabetes diagnosis. Through their support, the CHWs are able to connect with the members to not only ensure connections are made to a primary care physician and diabetes support services, but also to ensure social determinant of health needs are addressed.

Finally, the HUB recently launched a collaboration with a behavioral health MCO, to work with its members experiencing a first time admission for substance use disorder. CHWs are able to meet with the individuals prior to discharge to ensure they are connected to health and human service needs.

By focusing on these vulnerable populations in our region, the HUB aims to improve population health outcomes for years to come.



CHWs Jordan Chuhuran, Flor Hernandez, Stephanie Buck, Shealeigh Wallace, and Christy Berzonski meet with Greater Johnstown Elementary School Guidance Counselor Don Trotz to discuss the HUB.



We have seen a renewed collaboration with parents and guardians that have improved overall attendance and academic grades. Also, Community Care HUB has provided resources and connections in the community to our families, as well as the 'know how...' to obtain basic needs.

-Don Trotz, Greater Johnstown Elementary School Guidance Counselor



The HUB and the Greater Johnstown School District held an End of Year Celebration at the Greater Johnstown YMCA.



3,160 contacts made
to participants



2,188 pathways
opened



931 visits
from CHWs



378 HUB
participants



60 babies born at a
healthy weight



4 Pathways
Model trainers

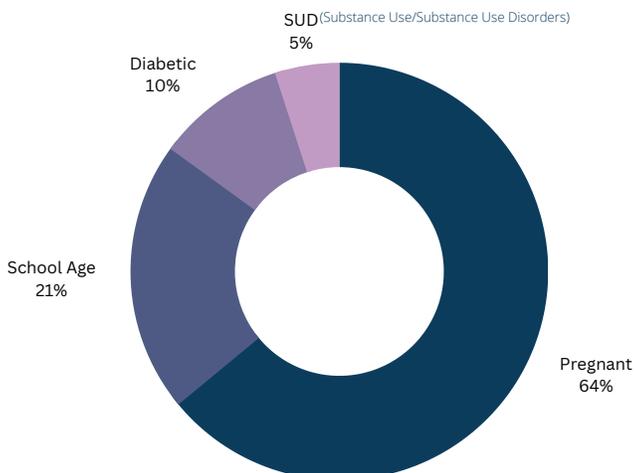


3 PCHI CHW
instructors

Top 10 Pathways opened

- | | |
|---------------------------|--------------------|
| 1 Social Service Referral | 6 Transportation |
| 2 Learning Module | 7 Employment |
| 3 Medical Referral | 8 Housing |
| 4 Pregnancy | 9 Food Security |
| 5 Oral Health | 10 Family Planning |

Participants by Program



The HUB
reached
its 1,000th
referral!

Advisory Committee

The Center established a Community Advisory Committee to provide input and advocacy for the HUB's mission. The committee identifies gaps, reviews data, and ensures that all community stakeholders are involved to help address whole-person care for HUB participants. Members include:

- **Barb Duryea, MSN, RN, CPHQ** Conemaugh Diabetes Institute
- **Bruce E. Duke, III, MD** 1889 Foundation Board Member
- **Carol Harding, RN, FCN** Moxham Lutheran Church, Certified CHW Trainer
- **Flor Hernandez, CCHW** Beginnings, Inc.
- **Yvette Madison, MSW** Professor of Social Work Pennsylvania Highlands Community College
- **Gwen Msolomba, Adjunct Faculty** St. Francis University
- **Christy Berzonski, CCHW** Alleghenies United Cerebral Palsy
- **Paula Eppley-Newman** Community Leader
- **Jes Phillippi, Executive Director** Beginnings, Inc.
- **Tammy Rhoades, Executive Director** Alleghenies United Cerebral Palsy
- **Jeff Vaughn, Executive Director** Community Action Partnership of Cambria County
- **Carmella Walker, PhD**
- **Shealeigh Wallace, CCHW** Community Action Partnership of Cambria County
- **David Mrozowski, Executive Director** Community Action Partnership for Somerset County/Tableland



Cambria-Somerset COVID-19 Task Force

Since the inception of the Cambria-Somerset COVID-19 Task Force, which CPH coordinated the formation of, great strides have been made to combat the pandemic.

In 2022, the Task Force received a \$200,000 grant from the Health Initiative for Rural Pennsylvania (HIRP). The grant, funded by the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) and the Pennsylvania Department of Health (DOH), has been instrumental in furthering COVID-19 response efforts.

The Task Force partnered with In This Together Cambria-Somerset, an already established and trusted group with local ties, to implement programming supported through the funding. The Task Force has focused on three main goals – communication, outreach, and mental health support.



The Task Force has focused communication planning around providing information on best practice mitigation efforts, the importance of vaccination, and vaccination and testing locations. Dozens of outreach events have been coordinated by the Task Force to provide vaccination opportunities for individuals who are at-risk or have transportation barriers. The Task Force is also in the process of developing initiatives to support the mental health needs of our first responders.

In addition to the CPH website, more information can be found at www.inthistgethercambria.com.

Major Task Force Initiatives:

- WJAC "Staying Aware" commercials
- Billboards
- Forever Media radio commercials
- Direct mail campaign
- Updated website information
- Health fairs with vaccine availability
- First responder support initiative

Local Foods Local Places

The Local Foods Local Places (LFLP) initiative was launched in October, 2020, with over 40 community members and organizations joining forces to create a LFLP Community Action Plan. Areas of focus identified by the group included improving coordination between community partners to advance food system initiatives, increasing access to local foods that promote improved health outcomes, introducing place-making best practices and helping connect food entrepreneurs to resources to establish and grow their businesses. Through grant funding received from the Healthiest Cities and Counties Challenge, as well as the Greater Pittsburgh Food Bank, a new Local Food Systems Coordinator will be charged with continuing to lead the LFLP initiatives. A Local Food Summit was held on October 26 to discuss further opportunities for 2023, including the launch of a healthy foods education plan.





Johnstown Mill Rats Health & Human Services Fair

July 8 brought about a great opportunity for local social, physical, and mental health services. CPH coordinated a health and human service fair held at the Johnstown Mill Rats baseball game where fans learned more about services available to them and groups networked with one another.

Almost 30 organizations were in attendance and 615 fans entered the gates.



National Night Out

On August 2, CPH participated in National Night Out in Johnstown's Central Park.

The event was a great opportunity to explain the HUB's offerings and how it can assist people eligible for its service.

Information on COVID-19 mitigation, as well as test kits and hand sanitizer were provided.

'Wellness Wednesdays' at Johnstown Housing Authority communities

CPH partnered with the Cambria County Drug Coalition to bring health fairs to the Johnstown Housing Authority communities.

Local health and human services agencies attend the weekly events.

The goal of the events is to bring information about social services and physical and mental health programs directly to the residents.

Wellness Isn't Scary

CPH joined forces with other organizations from the Cambria County Health and Welfare Council to hold the "Wellness Isn't Scary" event October 22. The health and human services fair brought together approximately 30 organizations who focus on mental and physical health, food insecurity, substance use disorders, social services, and more.

Workshops were held in various fields, like journaling, food insecurity, Narcan training, and mindful movement. There was even a chiropractor providing information and free demonstrations.

Families were encouraged to bring their children in costumes to trick-or-treat at the organizations' tables. There were also children's activities like a bounce house and jump ropes.



In the spring of 2022, CPH, in partnership with the Conemaugh Health System, United Way of the Laurel Highlands and 1889 Foundation, launched a comprehensive Community Health Needs Assessment (CHNA) to provide a rich foundation for improving and promoting the health of each community in Cambria and Somerset counties.

The CHNA is a systematic collection, assembly, analysis, and dissemination of information about the comprehensive health of the community. Its role is to identify factors that negatively affect the health of a population and determine the availability of resources within the community to address those factors.

As part of this assessment, a community health survey was distributed electronically, via mail to random households in both counties, and through hard copies distributed via partner agencies. The group also held focus groups to gather additional feedback. A community health summit was held in August of 2022 to discuss additional data, the results of the survey, and develop action plans around opportunities identified through the survey process.

Priority areas identified for focus in the community over the next three years include:

1. Mental/Behavioral Health
2. Access to Social Determinant of Health Needs/Healthcare
3. Obesity/Healthy Living
4. Substance Use
5. Socioeconomics/Job Training
6. Early Childhood
7. Violence/Abuse/Safety



Many events were held in partnership with other community-based organizations to bring health and human service information to our residents and promote healthy activities. This year, we continued to promote WalkWorks Johnstown, a 1.8 mile walking route in Downtown Johnstown that includes many scenic and historical highlights.

The CPH supports the Vision Together 2025 Collaborative efforts as a co-leader of the Health and Wellness Committee. The focus areas for this committee include physical health, mental health, behavioral health, substance use, social determinants of health and early childhood. The CPH has collaborated with several Health and Wellness Committee agencies on initiatives including the creation of a mental health work group, promotion of the Hyndman Area Health Center Mobile Health Unit, and launch of the Early Childhood Initiative. You can learn more about Vision Together at www.johnstownvision.com.



Community Health Worker Advocacy

CPH Program Manager Kimberly Roberts, serves on a variety of CHW committees across the Commonwealth, including the Pennsylvania CHW Task Force and CHW Community of Practice Workgroup. The groups share best practices, exchange resources, and strategize about sustainable funding for the workforce. Representatives from the HUB also attended the first ever state-wide CHW Conference in the fall of 2022 in State College and regularly participate in CHW trainings on a variety of topics.

Kimberly Roberts was a featured panelist during the Pennsylvania Health Literacy Coalition's annual meeting in June 2022. She had the opportunity to share the HUB's positive impact on individuals in Cambria and Somerset counties. The topic of the meeting was Patient Voices.

CHWs Stephanie Buck, Community Action Partnership of Cambria County, and Justina Schreiber, Beginnings, Inc., and Jeannine McMillan, CPH Executive Director spoke at Jefferson College of Population Health's PopTalk in March. The theme for the webinar was "The Community Health Worker: A Bridge to Address the Social Determinants of Health."

CPH Executive Director Jeannine McMillan, CCHW Shealeigh Wallace, and Greater Johnstown School District Guidance Counselor Don Trotz, were invited to speak during an Institute for Medicaid Innovation (IMI) webinar to discuss the work of the HUB. IMI hosted the webinar to explore the critical role of community partnerships in Medicaid to improve access to behavioral health services for children and adolescents.





Panelists

1889 Jefferson Center for Population Health



 <p>Jeannine McMillan, MEd (she/her) Executive Director 1889 Jefferson Center for Population Health</p>	 <p>Don Trotz, MEd, T.C. (he/him) Guidance Counselor Greater Johnstown School District</p>	 <p>Shealeigh Wallace (she/her) HUB Certified Community Health Worker Community Action Partnership of Cambria County</p>
www.MedicaidInnovation.org @Innov8Medicaid		

Legislative Discussions

A variety of meetings were held this year with local, state and federal legislators sharing information on our work and the health and human service needs of our region.

In July, staff from CPH and 1889 Foundation had the pleasure of meeting with Congressman John Joyce, M.D., to discuss public and population health priorities for Cambria and Somerset counties.

Commonwealth Initiatives

CPH is a member of the Pennsylvania Regional Accountable Health Council (RAHC) and Health Equity Action Team (HEAT), state-led committees for strategic health planning located in various regions across Pennsylvania. These committees provide a community-led approach to implement the planning and coordination of activities that address regional social determinants of health needs, reduce health disparities, and promote health equity and value in health care.



A look back at 2022





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