

Slide 1: Welcome

Welcome to the Washington County Community Health Improvement Plan Forum! My name is Laura Daily, and I am the coordinator for the community health improvement plan. This recording is a follow-up to a session we held on November 4th, 2024. We had some problems with our interpretation channels in Zoom, so we are recording this session in both English and Spanish so people who were not able to participate on November 4th have this information. We will have the slides displayed here in English, but a Spanish version of the slides is posted on the website with this recording if you'd like to follow along.

I want to acknowledge that we updated the content and the order of the slides, so if you attended on November 4th and are now watching this recording, just know that there are a few small changes to make things easier to understand.

Slide 2 – Agenda

Today, we will provide some information to orient you to this topic, we will talk about:

- the history and context of the community health improvement plan
- how data and community inform this plan
- And our plan for the next CHIP

Slide 3 – Acronyms

We use many acronyms in this presentation. In fact, on the last slide we used the acronym "CHIP" repeatedly (stands for community health improvement plan). We try to define acronyms before we use them, but we have this slide as a reference for you as you follow along. I encourage you to pause the video and take a photo of the screen with your phone or take a screenshot.

Slide 4 – Introduce Team

I have already introduced myself, but I want to pause on this slide and recognize the team of people at Washington County who helped put these materials together and ran the Forum on November 4th. For this recording today, there are only two of us presenting, and I will hand it over to my co-presenter so she can introduce herself.

Hi everyone, my name is Genevieve Ellis and I am a senior program coordinator in Public Health, supporting our health equity and community partnerships work.

I also want to recognize that there are many people at Washington County who participate in the CHIP broadly beyond just the people listed on this slide who planned the Forum. This is a huge project, and we couldn't do it without a big, incredible team of people.

Slide 5 – Big Picture

With that information to orient you, we are going to move on and talk about some big picture things – we'll review some of the history and context of the CHIP and the current plan for the developing the next CHIP in the next two years.

Slide 6 – What is a CHIP?

First, what is a community health improvement plan?

A Community Health Improvement Plan (or CHIP) is a strategic plan for the community's health. “Community” could mean city, county – in our case, it is a plan for the county, so it includes all the communities in Washington county.

A CHIP identifies priority issues about the health of the community and the people in the community, and identifies goals and strategies to address those issues. Like the name implies, it is all about trying to improve the health and well-being of people in the community.

And it is a collaborative planning process that includes significant involvement from our community partners. We absolutely do not and could not produce a CHIP all on our own – for it to truly represent the community, it has to be a joint plan created by partners from all different sectors and representing all different perspectives. We have community-based organizations, health systems (like clinics and hospitals), school districts, coordinated care organizations, and more partners involved in all different parts of the process (which Genevieve will go over in just a minute).

A CHIP also needs to be based on a community health needs assessment. Our community health assessment is one we participate in regionally (and we’ll also explain more about that in just a moment).

And then a CHIP is a required part of national Public Health Accreditation, and Washington County PH is an accredited health department – this means that we meet certain national standards for the work we do and the services we provide.

You can see on the right in these boxes some of the requirements from the national Public Health Accreditation Board for the CHIP [optional: read out requirements].

Slide 7 – Live Well Washington County

That is broadly what a CHIP is. Now we’ll talk specifically about Washington County's CHIP which is known as Live Well Washington County.

We've released versions in 2014, 2017, and 2020, and we are starting on our fourth version now. You can find these on our website. We have a QR code at the ends of this presentation that you can scan, and we’ll have the website linked in the PDF of these slides.

For our current CHIP (the one released in 2020), our foundational goals are to Improve health equity, address disparities, and use a trauma-informed approach in all the work that we do. We call these our foundational goals because we want them incorporated and woven into every part of our CHIP work.

Our Priority Areas for the CHIP are the broad topics where we focus our efforts. These are areas that were identified as needs or places where we can do more to improve health outcomes. And these are: Improve Access to Care, Improve Behavioral Health Outcomes, and Build Systems to Improve Wellbeing.

And we have this figure on the right of the screen that shows how we currently have our CHIP structured. You can see on the outside we have the priority areas, and then we have several committees

that help plan and implement the CHIP priority areas. These Committees are a mix of Washington County staff and community partners from many different organizations. You can see these committees in the colorful parts of the circle. Starting with red and going clockwise, they are:

Access to Care
Aging and Connection
Youth Substance Use Prevention
Suicide Prevention Council
And Healthy Communities

These are how the committees were set up when we released the latest CHIP in 2020, but they have shifted over the last 4 years. Some of them are still meeting and doing incredible work, and others have paused or disbanded – some of this is due to COVID and some of this is due to a lack of direction or support from Washington County. And something we are looking to improve on going forward is how we structure and support these committees so they can implement the CHIP priority areas effectively. So these are the committees as they exist now, and in the next year, they may change.

And finally, the chairs of these committees form the CHIP Leadership Team in the middle of the circle. The Leadership Team is focused on making sure that the efforts of each committee are aligned with each other and that we are incorporating those foundational goal into all levels of our CHIP

Slide 8- Zooming In

Next we will be “zooming in” and talking about how data and community inform the CHIP.

Slide 9 – CHIP Cycle

Now we are going to walk through the process of developing a CHIP. First, I just want to orient you to this slide. You can see steps 1-5 in a circle on the left, with community at the center. On the next few slides, I will share a bit about each of the steps you see here, what we have done in the past and some processes we are hoping to develop with you all over the next year. We will also look at a timeline for this work in a few minutes.

Next, you can see on the right-hand side, the list of Priority Issues. These are the broad priorities that guide our Bridge CHIP. We will talk more about these in step 3, but for now they serve as placeholders.

Then, underneath you will see a rainbow with the different levels of CHIP collaborators.

- Starting with the outermost pink layer – that is all of you, as well as many partner organizations that we work with to create and implement the CHIP. These folks are involved throughout the CHA/ CHIP process, but particularly in steps 1, 2, and 4.
- Next you will see the orange layer, which are the community-led priority issue committees. Many of you have been involved in these committees in the past or will be involved in the future as we re-launch this work. These have included the Access to Care committee, Prevention committees, and the aging and connections committee
- Third, you will see the blue layer, which is the CHIP leadership team. We will be working with a smaller group of partners over the next year to think about what the leadership structure looks like. Traditionally this has been the co-chairs of each of the committees.
- Finally, you can see the inside of the rainbow where it says "backbone support from Washington County". This is meant to recognize that the CHIP is not a "WCPH Plan", it is a community plan that is facilitated by Washington County Public Health staff.

Slide 10- HCWC Regional CHNA

Step 1 in the CHIP process is to conduct a health assessment. In Washington County, we participate in a regional Community Health Needs Assessment (CHNA) called the Healthy Columbia Willamette Collaborative. HCWC includes Multnomah, Clackamas, and Washington Counties and all of the hospitals and health systems in the region. The purpose of the regional CHNA is to reduce the burden on the community, as all three counties and the health systems need to complete a community health needs assessment every 3-5 years and they would be engaging with a lot of the same groups to do that. So the regional assessment allows this process to be more coordinated and reduce the burden on community.

The downside is that the data we get out of the CHNA is less focused on our specific community because it is not just Washington County. Because of this, we also compile additional data that is Washington County specific to supplement the regional CHNA data.

An updated CHNA is currently scheduled to be released in October 2025. Earlier this fall, we shared the HCWC survey and encouraged partners to send it to their networks. While that survey closes soon, we also need help identifying other data that we want to include on top of the CHNA. This could include data specific to your communities that your organizations collect or know about. We plan to have opportunities this spring to discuss this with partners and hear from you all about any additional data you would like to see included.

Slide 11- Reviewing Data Together

Step 2 in the CHIP process is to review data with partners. What this has looked like in the past is we have put together a presentation that pulls out Washington County specific data from the regional CHNA and combines it with our supplemental Washington County data. We also apply an equity lens to this process, so this could involve looking at data by race/ethnicity, geography, education level, language spoken at home, etc. -- factors where we know health disparities often exist. This supplemental data might also include data from community partners and from local programs. We have then brought that presentation to different committees to hear community feedback on how we are interpreting the data and get their insights and perspective.

Over the next year as we work through the Bridge CHIP process, we want to work with partners to determine what is the best process for bringing this data to spaces where we can review it with them.

Slide 12 – Priorities Selection

After Public Health and community partners come together to review the data, we will want to make sure that our priorities reflect the community needs and also represent the work that we want to focus on together. As you can see, these are broad priorities, so there is a lot of work that can fall under each of them (and I have a very messy photo that illustrates what a process looks like of making sure that our existing work fits into these priorities). The current priorities for the Bridge CHIP were selected to align with the CCO CHIP priorities and encompass all of our existing work, but we will have a chance to develop new priorities together next year.

In the past, WCPH has facilitated discussions with the CHIP committees and groups of partners around what the data mean for your community and your organization's work. As an example, in these facilitated discussions we ask partners to reflect on whether we need to make any changes to the

priorities based on the new data. This is another process (how we come together with partners to select priorities and strategies) that we are hoping to refine over the next year, so look out for other engagement opportunities coming in the spring.

Slide 13 – Select and Implement Strategies

Once the priorities are set, we move into selecting and implementing strategies. The priorities are broad topic areas and the strategies are more focused on what and how we want to do the work.

Again, in the past, this strategy selection has taken place in the CHIP committees. Committees have also had a set amount of funds to use for projects to help move the work forward. The CHIP Leadership Team has also led a grants process to get funding out to community partners, focusing on the priority areas. Examples of previous grant funded projects can be found on the CHIP website. However, the bridge CHIP is a chance to rethink how we get those funds out to the community (for example, committees could decide how to use more of that money, rather than a competitive grants process).

Here is an example of what a process could look like moving from broad priorities to strategy selection and implementation.

Slide 14- Evaluation

Step 5 in the CHIP process is to evaluate impact. And there are a lot of ways to think about evaluation so this is another area where we want to make sure we're talking with community partners about how we want to measure impact. We also want to make sure we are thinking about evaluation from the beginning so that we know what we want to be tracking. There are existing frameworks and tools for evaluation, so we can draw from existing resources as well as from discussions with partners to collaborate and figure out what makes the most sense for Washington County to evaluate impact. Washington County Public Health will also provide support for partners with implementing whatever evaluation framework and tracking processes we end up using. So once again the Bridge CHIP will help us to develop and propose an evaluation framework that we can bring to partners and refine with them prior to starting the full CHIP cycle.

Slide 15 – Plan for the Next CHIP

Now we want to review our plan for the next CHIP and our work for the next two years or so. Our previous CHIP was from 2020-2023, so we are in a place to complete a new CHIP. BUT, we have several things happening that have made us pause and think about how we do our CHIP work.

Slide 16 Bridge CHIP

I'm going to walk through this figure to explain our proposed process. I also want to acknowledge that we revised this figure a little bit from when we presented it at our CHIP Forum on November 4th to make it – hopefully - easier to understand.

The first thing making us pause is the community health needs assessment - if you remember from previous slides, a CHIP must be based on a community health needs assessment, which we do with our regional partners in Multnomah, Clackamas, and Clark counties. It was last completed in 2022. The next

one is set to be released in October 2025, so we are in this in-between period where we could base our CHIP on this older assessment or wait for the new one.

On top of that, we have been doing a lot of community engagement in the last year (and all throughout the COVID pandemic). We did focus groups, interviews, tabling sessions at events, and we did a survey to find out what partners are interested in doing related to the CHIP.

We've received great feedback from this about how we involve community in our work, how we communicate, how we run the CHIP Committees, and more. So we are identifying many areas and process that we can improve.

Finally, there's a lot of great work happening at Washington County with many exciting plans and projects in progress. We need to take a moment to make sure our CHIP is aligned with some of the work happening in these plans to make sure we are coordinating and not duplicating our efforts.

Given all these factors, we are planning to do a CHIP Bridge which will be released in July 2025.

Essentially, this will be an interim plan that connects the work of the previous CHIP with all the process improvements and feedback we want to incorporate into our future work. A big component of this will be focused on process improvement and on "how" we conduct our work. Because "how" we do the CHIP work is what allows and encourages community partners to participate and feel heard and to have the CHIP truly reflect community priorities.

Once that Bridge plan is released, we'll work on doing these improvements we've identified, which include:

- Rethinking our leadership and committee structure. Do we have it set up in a way that supports all the CHIP work?
- Improving how we communicate about the CHIP to partners – do people know when they can participate, do they know what is going on, are we being transparent about the work we are doing?
- We also want to set goals/objectives/metrics AND a clear pathway for community partners to be involved in all of that. We also want all of this information to be transparent and accessible to everyone in the community who wants to know.
- And we want to think about how we run the community grant program. We've heard from some partners that a competitive process does not work for smaller organizations, so we want to take a hard look at how we distribute funds and make sure we are doing it in an equitable way.

In October 2025, the new Community Health Needs Assessment report will be released, and we will take the data from that plus the extra Washington County data we'll collect and work with community partners to identify the priority areas for our new CHIP.

During this time, we'll also be working to make sure that our CHIP is aligned with other Washington County work and plans.

And finally, we'll be taking a look at how we incorporate policy into our CHIP strategies. Remember – Accreditation required policy recommendations for improving health, and this is something we want to strengthen. This includes looking at policy solutions at the internal, local, and state levels to address some of our health priorities.

All this will flow into releasing a full CHIP in July 2026 (effective 2026-2029).

This is our very high -level proposed work for the next two years.

Slide 17 – CHIP Timeline

This timeline is to give you a bit more of a concrete idea about when and how you can participate in this process over the next two years.

- January through June of 2025, we'll be doing a lot of work on making a plan for those improvements, and we expect to hold a few events where we can check-in with partners, and partners can offer feedback on our progress.
- In July of 2025, we will release that CHIP Bridge, and start the process of reconvening partners and getting our committees organized because...
- In October 2025, the new Community Health Needs Assessment will be released, and we will want to review that report and the extra Washington County-specific data we collect with partners so we can establish our priority areas.
- From January through June of 2026, we'll be working with partners to
 - Pick priority areas
 - Pick goals for those priority areas
 - Pick strategies for achieving those goals
 - And select metrics or measures that we'll use to track our progress
- In July of 2026, we'll release our new CHIP
- And after that we will work with all of our partners to put those strategies into practice and measure how we are doing.

Slide 18 – Get involved

Finally, we hope you will stay connected to our CHIP and help inform all of our planning over the next year. The best way to do that is to take the CHIP survey if you have not yet done so. You can find the survey on our website, linked here, or by following the QR code.

Slide 19 – Thank you!