

FACILITATOR

Sydney Raifsnider, Grant Coordinator, Huron County Public Health (HCPH)

PARTICIPANTS

1. Sydney Raifsnider, Huron County Public Health
2. Nicole Marks, Huron County Public Health
3. Kim Williams, City of Willard
4. Kamaria Wilson, Mercy Health Willard Hospital
5. Mindy Birkholz, GLCAP—Jim Oliver in her place
6. Lynden Ramsey, Norwalk Parks and Recreation
7. Adam Boss, City of Norwalk
8. Aaron Osborn, City of Norwalk
9. David Ditz, Huron County Sheriff's Office
10. Kristin Kaple-Jones, Monroeville Schools (TEAMS)

AGENDA

- ❖ **Introduction**
- ❖ **FY25 Project Updates**
- ❖ **FY26 CHC Grant Updates**
- ❖ 2026 Selected Projects
- ❖ **Norwalk Nourishing Garden Updates**
 - Wrapping up for the year
 - Donations made throughout the summer
- ❖ **Summer Meetings and Conferences**
 - Site Visit with Mike
 - Delaware Walk Audit Training
 - Accessible Ohio Conference and Expo at Ohio State University
 - Transportation Advisory Committee
- ❖ **Huron County Fair 2025**
 - Garden Seeds
 - Heart Walk
 - Exercise Bingo
 - Healthy Eating/Active Living Community Feedback Board
 - Adult/Youth Health Survey Results
- ❖ **Group Sharing/Discussion:**
 - FY27 brainstorming
 - Feedback/ Discussion/ Upcoming schedule

MEETING MINUTES

The Huron County Creating Healthy Communities Committee met on September 9, 2025, in person and virtually for the Quarter 4 meeting. Sydney Raifsnider began the meeting promptly at 9:30AM. Sydney welcomed those in person in attendance as well as online; a total of 9 people were present.

CHC REVIEW

Sydney reviewed all information to participants via PPT. She went over the CHC mission and vision statement for CHC and let the group know this is our final quarter 4 meeting for this fiscal year 2025, which ends on September 30, 2025. Sydney also informed the attendees that the Notice of Awards for 2026 were delayed as of September 1st, 2025. She reviewed the 2026 projects that were selected pending NOA's. **(NOA's were finalized on 9/15/25, Tim Hollinger approved).**

2025 PROJECT REVIEW

❖ Willard City Park Sustain

The Willard City Park project was completed in August 2025 with the new slide and mulch being added. Sydney partnered with Kim Williams from Willard City Park and Recreation to complete a Press Release for this project. The Press Release was sent out to all local media outlets, as well as HCPH's social media pages on 8/20/25. The Norwalk Reflector and Norwalk Ohio News teams submitted an article about the projects. Sydney showed the coalition group where they can find the Press Release and articles. Sydney will be conducting a post assessment survey of this project for community members. **This project is now completed.**

❖ Willard Kiddie Land Sustain

The Willard Kiddie Land project is nearing completion as of September 2025. Sydney informed the group that they broke ground in late June for this project and have been working diligently on getting it completed by the end of this summer. She went on a site visit in the beginning of September to take progress photos and shared that with the group. Kim Williams also noted in the meeting that the turf install will begin the week of 9/15/25; Kim announced there will be a ribbon-cutting ceremony hopefully at the end of September once everything is completed.

❖ Willard Woodbine Park Sustain

The Willard Woodbine Park project is coming together. Sydney informed the coalition team that this will be a sustain project for our 2026 fiscal year, as Willard was trying to focus on Kiddie Land and the overall City Park in 2025. All materials have been purchased as of May 2025, and we will focus on this project once the fiscal year 2026 calendar begins.



2025 PROJECT REVIEW CONTINUED

❖ **Greenwich Bike Infrastructure**

The Greenwich Bike Infrastructure project is wrapping up for fiscal year 2025. Sydney informed the group that the crosswalk lines were painted, as well as gravel being laid down along the tree line as of late July. She also let the room know that they are still waiting for the installation of the hydration stations and bike racks at the library and park. Sydney went on a site visit at the end of August to take progress photos and met with the library manager, Chris Mills. Chris mentioned the crosswalk signage and concrete pads for the bike racks would be installed in the beginning of September. **(As of 9/18/25, the crosswalk signage, concrete pads, and bike racks have been installed. Still waiting on the hydration stations to be installed). This will become a sustain project for 2026 if not completed by 9/30/25.**

❖ **North Fairfield Neighbor-to-Neighbor Food Pantry**

The North Fairfield Neighbor-to-Neighbor Food Pantry project was completed as of August 2025. Sydney let the coalition team know she had her final site visit and pantry food distribution on 8/21/25. The SWAP signage was hung up and all staff were trained in the beginning of the summer on how the SWAP design would be used. Jane Antill, the pantry manager, was very pleased with all the help from CHC over the last year. Sydney will go on another site visit in the fall to take post assessment numbers. **This project is now completed.**

2026 PROJECT REVIEW

❖ **MONROEVILLE PEDESTRIAN INFRASTRUCTURE**

Sydney informed the attendees that these projects are still pending ODH approval **(ODH sent out Notice of Awards on 9/15/25 and these projects are now approved)**. The Monroeville Pedestrian Infrastructure project will begin October 1, 2025, with Sydney and Monroeville administrators meeting for a walk edit to gather information on specific needs for this project. Sydney reviewed the Healthy People 2030 Objectives this project is aligned with as an Active Living Strategy, as well as the workplan steps.

❖ **WILLARD WOODBINE PARK SUSTAIN**

The Willard Woodbine Park project will be focused on starting October 2025. Kim Williams has ordered all equipment as of now but will go on another site visit with Sydney in the fall to reassess needs for this Active Living Strategy project. Sydney reviewed the Healthy People 2030 Objectives this project is aligned with as an Active Living Strategy, as well as the workplan steps.

❖ **WILLARD COMMUNITY GARDEN UPDATES**

The Willard Community Garden updates will begin in October 2025 with a site visit to get a better assessment of equipment needs for this Healthy Living Strategy project.

2026 PROJECT REVIEW CONTINUED
Sydney reviewed the Healthy People 2030 Objectives for this project, as well as the workplan steps.
NOURISHING HURON COUNTY COMMUNITY GARDEN
The Nourishing Huron County Community Garden is beginning to wrap up for the season. Sydney shared with the group that a total of 79 pounds of produce was donated this summer as of 9/9/25, going to a variety of places including the Norwalk Area Food Bank, Huron County Fair, North Fairfield Neighbor-to-Neighbor Food Pantry, and the HCPH staff. Sydney will be tearing down the garden in late September 2025.
SITE VISIT WITH MIKE SIEMINSKI
Sydney had a site visit with Mike on 6/24/25. She took him to all current and future project sites so he can get a better understanding of what we would like to accomplish this year and next
WALK AUDIT TRAINING IN DELAWARE, OHIO
Sydney shared with the group that she attended a walk audit training on 7/29/25 in Delaware, Ohio hosted by ODOT and the Active Transportation Academy. This will be a great tool to have for the Monroeville Pedestrian Infrastructure project coming up in the fall.
2025 HURON COUNTY FAIR
The 2025 Huron County fair was on August 11-16th and HCPH had their usual building all week. Sydney shared photos of the CHC table to the coalition, the seed stand, exercise bingo, community idea healthy eating and active living boards, etc. There was a total of 128 votes from the community idea board with farmers markets and multiuse trails being the highest voted ideas. There were also a total of 460 adult and 150 youth surveys completed. The surveys contained questions regarding mental health, healthy eating/ active living, and general health questions.
ACCESSIBLE OHIO CONFERENCE AND EXPO AT OSU
The Accessible Ohio Conference and EXPO was held on Ohio State University's campus on 8/14/25. Sydney attended the conference and shared her experience with the coalition team. She went to several panels including grant writing for accessibility, ASL interpreter considerations, accessible indoor/ outdoor spaces, and accessibility in Ohio's professional sports venues.
TRANSPORTATION ADVISORY COMMITTEE
The Huron County Transportation Advisory Committee met on 8/21/25. Sydney informed the coalition that the Huron County Coordinated Public and Human Services Transportation Plan 2026-2030 was submitted to ODOT back in June and it had been approved. The TAC signed the resolution to formally adopt the plan during our August meeting. Jim Oliver, GLCAP, also shared with the group that Huron County has been selected for the GoBus Transportation. He and Mindy Birkholz will share more information ASAP.

FY2027 BRAINSTORMING/ GENERAL DISCUSSION

The coalition group wrapped up the quarter 4 meeting with discussing opportunities for fiscal year 2027. Sydney added that having the findings from the Huron County Fair boards will be helpful in choosing new projects, as well as utilizing Mercy Health and Fisher-Titus healthcare systems.

Kamaria Wilson, Mercy Health Willard, presented to the team that Mercy is holding public cooking classes put on by their Dietetic staff in October. She will send Sydney and the coalition team more information ASAP.

David Ditz, Huron County Sheriff's Office, shared that the City of Willard is holding a Poverty Simulation hosted by Second Harvest on November 5, 2025. He will share more information ASAP.

Aaron Osborn and Adam Boss, City of Norwalk, discussed potential Norwalk Reservoir additions and funding. Nicole Marks, HCPH, did mention that CHC is no longer available to fund concrete pouring. Sydney also noted that the Huron County Park District in Willard is looking for potential funding for a new multiuse trail park via their social media site. She will reach out to the district to see what exact funding they are looking for.

Meeting adjourned at approximately 10:05 AM.

UPCOMING SCHEDULE

September 23, 2025- Mandatory All CHC Project Meeting in Columbus

October 1, 2025- FY2026 Projects Begin

December 2025- Tentative FY26 Quarter 1 CHC Coalition Meeting