



HEALTH  
Department



United Way of Ottawa  
and Allegan Counties



## Joint News Release

### FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

DATE: November 15, 2022

**FOR MORE INFORMATION, CONTACT:**

See the list of all partner contacts at the bottom of the release.

### **Working Together to Address the Needs of Allegan County’s Community Members: Allegan County Community Partners Release the Community Health Improvement Plan**

**(Allegan)** – Ascension Borgess Allegan Hospital, Allegan County Health Department (ACHD), United Way of Ottawa and Allegan Counties, OnPoint, Allegan County Food Pantry Collaborative (ACFPC), Allegan Area ESA, Gun Lake Tribe, Allegan County Multi-Agency Collaborative Council (MACC), and other community partners are proud to have worked together to present the 2022 Allegan County Community Health Improvement Plan (CHIP). The CHIP is a long-term, systematic effort to address public health issues identified through a Community Health Needs Assessment (CHNA) survey.

Information from the Allegan CHNA completed earlier this year by community members identified four priority areas of focus including Behavioral Health and Substance Use Disorder (SUD), Housing, Access to Medical Care, and Food Security. The CHIP includes common goals, strategies, and objectives for the four priority areas, as well as specific tactics on how to implement the identified strategies in the community.

ACHD Health Officer Angelique Joynes stated, “We are so grateful to work together with these various organizations to align resources. The CHIP process brings these efforts together with a shared vision, maximizing resources for working together to address these prioritized areas. Together; striving for a healthier Allegan County.”

The four CHIP goals are:

- **Behavioral Health** – Increase recognition and treatment of behavioral health conditions, inclusive of substance use disorders, in Allegan County.
- **Housing** – Strengthen the housing sector within Allegan County and increase collaborative solutions.
- **Access to Medical Care** – Increase capacity and use of a patient-centered, community-integrated, and quality system of care for Allegan County residents.
- **Food Security** – Increase availability of healthy food options for residents, while also expanding supplemental food resources in Allegan County.

The next step is to put the identified strategies into action. If you are interested in getting involved, please contact Liz Healy at (269) 673-5411 or [lhealy@allegancounty.org](mailto:lhealy@allegancounty.org). [Read](http://bit.ly/3hC9gMh) the full CHIP report (<http://bit.ly/3hC9gMh>).

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Allegan County Health Department  
Liz Healy, MPH, CHES  
Public Information Officer  
(269) 673-5411 | [lhealy@allegancounty.org](mailto:lhealy@allegancounty.org)

OnPoint  
Mark Witte, MSW, LMSW  
Executive Director  
(269) 615-4893 | [mwitte@onpointallegan.org](mailto:mwitte@onpointallegan.org)

United Way of Ottawa and Allegan Counties  
Amanda Telgenhof  
Allegan Area Director/MACC  
(616) 566-2099 | [atelgenhof@acuw.org](mailto:atelgenhof@acuw.org)

Allegan Area ESA  
William Brown, EdS  
Superintendent  
(269) 512-7700 | [william.brown@alleganaesa.org](mailto:william.brown@alleganaesa.org)

Ascension Borgess Allegan Hospital  
Penny Brown  
Senior Marketing Specialist  
(269) 598-3893 | [penny.brown2@ascension.org](mailto:penny.brown2@ascension.org)

Allegan County Food Pantry Collaborative (ACFPC)  
Tracy Brower  
Executive Director Hungry for Christ, ACFPC Coordinator  
(269) 264-1307 x1002 | [tbrower@hungryforchrist.org](mailto:tbrower@hungryforchrist.org)

United Way of Ottawa and Allegan Counties  
Katrina Pelfrey  
Allegan County Local Planning Body Coordinator  
(616) 834-1856 | [kpelfrey@acuw.org](mailto:kpelfrey@acuw.org)

Gun Lake Tribe  
Laura Kaminski  
Director of Communications  
(269) 397-1780 | [laura.kaminski@gltnsn.gov](mailto:laura.kaminski@gltnsn.gov)