

Enhancing Community Health Improvement Practices Using Online Decision Support Tools

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BACKGROUND

Currently, a limited number of accepted Community Health Improvement (CHI) and community health needs assessment (CHNA) process steps and tools exist.

There is a need across all community stakeholders to harmonize:

- Planning, Process, and Action
- Data and tools available
- Progress and evaluation tracking transparently



GOAL & OBJECTIVES

Goal: The CHI Hub is a collaborative workspace created to enhance CHI processes across communities. The ultimate goal is to provide a data-driven, decision support digital workspace that harmonizes efforts of multiple stakeholders working on community health improvement and sustainability.

Learning objectives for the poster presentation:

1. Participants will understand how the CHI Journey can empower community-based coalitions to promote transparent communication and data-driven decision support in the strategic development of comprehensive community health improvement plans.
2. Participants will be able to discuss how the CHI Hub, Journey and related tools support activities across at least one of the CHI process steps of: organize, assess, prioritize and plan, implement and monitor/evaluate.
3. Participants will be able to describe how the tools and templates have been applied to inform the creation of data-informed community health improvement plan in a real world example.

PRODUCTS

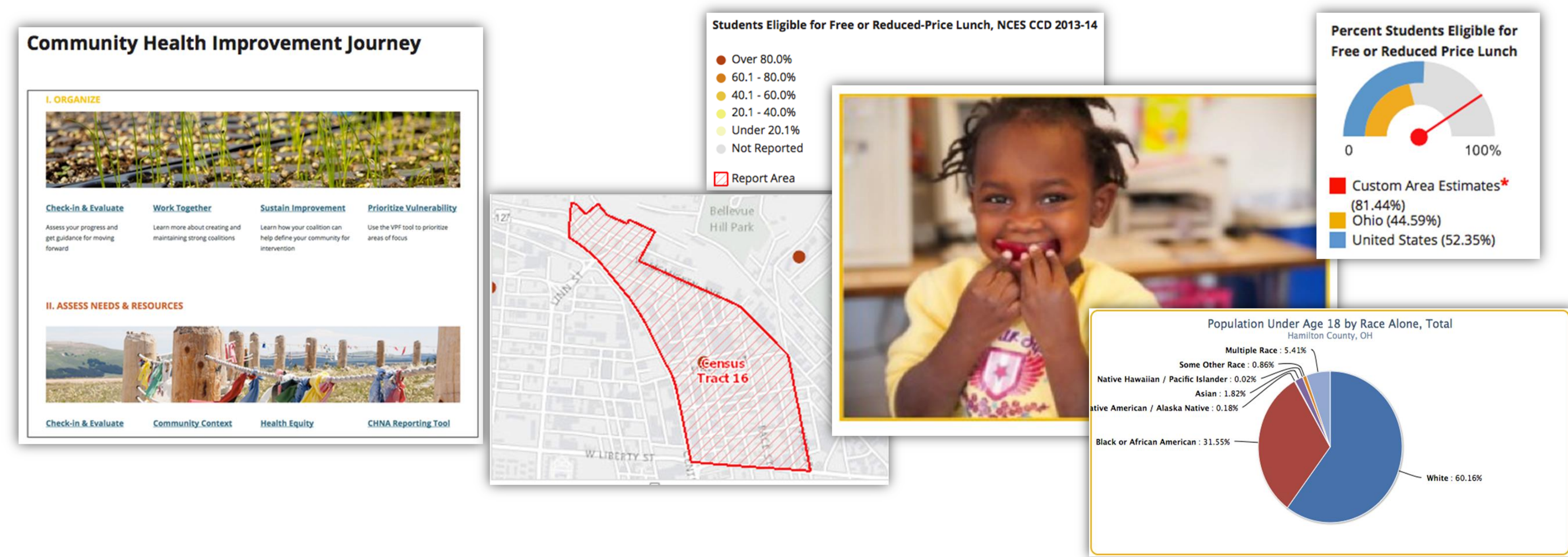
CHI Journey: provides a high-level framework for operationalizing the key phases of the community health improvement process.

Mapping tools: that track risk factors and other vital statistics to help tell the story of your community needs and assets.

Companion Guide: walk your community through the overall CHI process and point you to important resources on the CHI Hub.

Health indicator report: which you can customize to highlight priority issues for interventions in your community.

The Forum: a conversation space to learn through peer exchange, shared resources, and contribute in the peer network.



INTRODUCTION



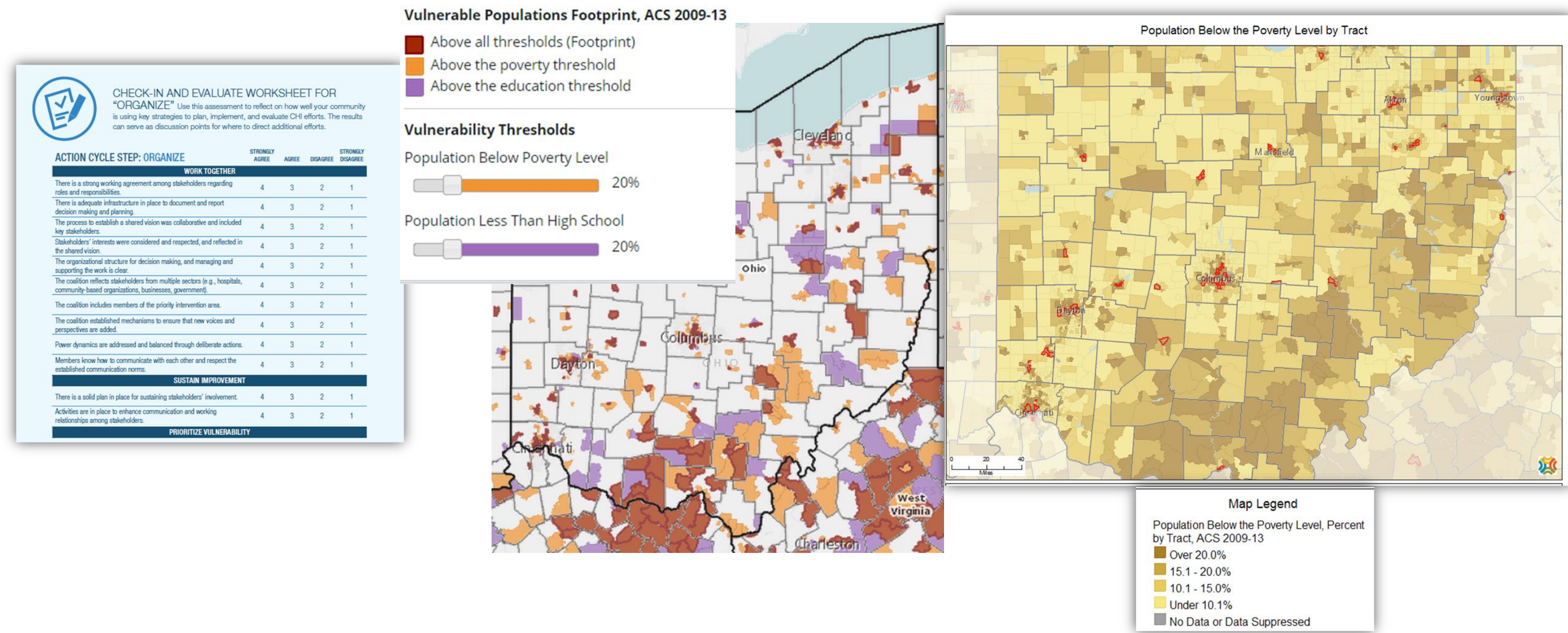
These partner organizations collaborated on systematic review of: how organizations defined a healthy community; how local policy databases supported healthy communities; and how nonprofit hospitals, health departments, and other organizations were conducting CHNA and CHI processes. This body of work recognized the need to harmonize the steps, tools available and action across community stakeholders.

The resulting products on the Community Commons, CHI Hub and CHI Journey, include a suite of online tools and technical assistance resources that promote CHI planning, implementation and continuous quality improvement.

DESCRIPTION

Resources and tools inside the CHI Journey allow the users to:

- **Check-in & evaluate:** assess strengths and opportunities in each phase of the community improvement process
- **Prioritize Vulnerability Advance Health Equity:** identify geographies of need and map social determinants of health.
- **Generate CHNA report:** create a needs assessment report based on priority areas.
- **Identify Priorities & Select Interventions:** utilize proven prioritization methods and leverage evidence-based intervention libraries.
- **Create an Action Plan & Monitor Progress:** assess existing plan templates and determine evaluation needs.



LESSONS LEARNED

- CHI is an iterative process and requires continuous quality improvement. Many groups engaging in CHI may already be beyond the “organize” step. Make sure to meet them where they are at.
- Engage *community members* continuously from beginning to end of CHI process.
- There is growing demand for the CHI Hub.
- There is an imperative, given the persistent geographic concentration of health disparities in our communities, to better focus and align health improvement activities in the coming years. Mapping tools can help with context re: social determinants of health.

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