Tri-County Health Department Community Health Improvement Plan (CHIP)

DeKalb, Gentry, and Worth Counties – 2025-2029

Following MAPP 2.0 Framework and PHAB Standards

# I. Executive Summary

The Tri-County Health Department (TCHD) has developed this CHIP through a collaborative, data-informed, and community-driven process using the MAPP 2.0 framework. The CHIP addresses critical health issues identified in recent Community Health Assessments (CHAs) completed for DeKalb, Gentry, and Worth Counties. Community members and stakeholders prioritized the following key health focus areas:  
  
- Mental and Behavioral Health  
- Access to Healthcare and Preventive Services  
- Chronic Disease Prevention  
- Substance Use and Trauma-Informed Education  
- Social Determinants of Health (including Housing, Employment, and Transportation)

# II. Vision and Values

Vision:  
“Healthy people, thriving communities—across all corners of DeKalb, Gentry, and Worth Counties.”

Core Values:  
- Equity and Inclusion  
- Community-Driven Solutions  
- Collaboration Across Sectors  
- Prevention-Focused Interventions  
- Transparency and Accountability

# III. Priority Areas and Goals

## Mental and Behavioral Health

* Goal: Increase access to affordable, timely mental health services.
* Strategies:

1. Partner with regional behavioral health providers to expand telehealth access.
2. Offer Mental Health First Aid training for teachers and first responders.
3. Launch a public education campaign on how to access services.

## Access to Healthcare and Preventive Services

* Goal: Reduce transportation and provider access barriers.
* Strategies:

1. Establish a mobile health unit for underserved towns.
2. Offer transportation vouchers or shuttle services.
3. Increase flu vaccine and chronic disease screenings.

## Chronic Disease Prevention

* Goal: Improve nutrition, physical activity, and screening access.
* Strategies:

1. Host monthly wellness classes at schools and senior centers.
2. Implement community walking groups and outdoor fitness programs.
3. Promote low-cost healthy food options like pop-up produce markets.

## Substance Use Prevention & Trauma Education

* Goal: Reduce stigma and expand prevention education.
* Strategies:

1. Provide trauma-informed education in schools.
2. Host community forums on substance misuse prevention.
3. Implement SBIRT in primary care settings.

## Social Determinants of Health

* Goal: Strengthen community supports for housing, employment, and transportation.
* Strategies:

1. Advocate for county-level economic development with a public health lens.
2. Launch a resource navigation hotline and online hub.
3. Form cross-sector advisory groups for regional grants.

# IV. Implementation and Evaluation Plan

Leadership & Oversight:  
Tri-County Health Department will coordinate CHIP activities with coalition partners including hospitals, schools, behavioral health agencies, and local governments.  
  
Timeline:  
- 2025: Year 1 implementation and baseline data collection  
- 2026–2027: Mid-cycle review and strategy updates  
- 2028: Outcome evaluation and planning  
  
Evaluation Tools:  
- Annual Community Pulse Surveys  
- MOPHIMS and County Health Rankings  
- Program utilization data  
- Qualitative community feedback

# V. Sustainability

TCHD will pursue diversified funding including:  
- Local tax support  
- State/federal grants  
- Foundation partnerships  
- Cost-sharing with coalition members  
  
Annual reports will be shared publicly and used for accountability.