



Prevention in Action

About the Prevention Council

Promoting Healthy Choices
for All Generations

Community Report 2015

"I alone cannot change the world, but I can cast a stone across the waters to create many ripples."

Mother Teresa



Inside this report

Building Healthy Communities & Healthy Youth 2

Living Longer Healthier Happier Lives 2

A Vision for Thriving Families & 3

Making a difference Can Begin With You... 4

Our non-profit grew from humble beginnings. Our work, to collaborate and advocate for effective prevention programs serving Waushara County, Wisconsin, formed ripples across the water. Ripples that became an organization with active working committees focused on prevention initiatives that make a difference.

Just as one person cannot change the world, our efforts are the result of many people working together to benefit those who call Waushara County home. The strength of our partnerships and commitment of our members are incredibly important to the outcomes being achieved and our ability to respond to the changing needs of our communities.

We are pleased to present our 2015 annual report highlighting projects and milestones achieved through the work of our committees: Active Aging, Healthy Communities Healthy Youth, and Vision 2020.

We invite you to join us!

Waushara County Trends

- ♦ 21% of county residents are age 65 or older
- ♦ By 2035, county residents over age 65 will represent 31% of the population
- ♦ 11% of residents, 17% of children and 9% those 65 years and older live in poverty
- ♦ 57% of students attending Tri-County, Wautoma and Wild Rose public schools receive free or reduced lunch



Building Healthy Communities & Healthy Youth

Healthy Communities Healthy Youth (HCHY) works to reduce alcohol, tobacco and other drug abuse in Waushara County. It is our hope that Waushara County is a place where youth are increasingly involved, healthy and successful.

In 2015, the committee sponsored and/or supported numerous activities, including:

- The Healthy Babies Workshop, "Why Do They Act That Way? Families Living With Addiction" attended by 125 professionals and parents from around the State
- Attendance by two school districts at The PARTY at the PAC performance on Distracted Driving
- The Public Health Department's Bike Rodeo reaching over 200 youth
- Post Prom activities in Tri-County, Wautoma and Wild Rose High Schools reaching more than 215 students
- Summer library reading programs in six public libraries reaching nearly 500 youth and adults
- Wild Rose Days reaching numerous individuals and families
- Family Reading night at one school district with 150 people participating
- Blue Ribbon Kids Days with 900 persons attending
- Drug Take Back events, collecting 494 pounds of unused prescription drugs

For more information about the HCHY committee or how to get involved, contact:
Mary LaBlanc at 920-787-6600 or marykay.lablanc@co.waushara.wi.us

Living Longer Healthier Happier Lives



Encouraging aging adults, 55 years and older, to continue active and healthy lives is the focus of our work. Whether it's exploring volunteer activities, building or sharing skills, talents and wisdom, there are many ways to stay active and make a difference for yourself and the community!



Monthly newspaper articles are published including topics such as: healthy holidays, meals for one or two, geocaching, fall prevention, senior fitness, master gardeners and money management.

In October, the committee partnered with the Wautoma Senior Center to host the second annual Community Fair. Twenty-three vendors shared information about safety, health awareness, social activities and community resources. More than 200 residents attended.

Becoming involved is a great first step to staying physically and mental healthy. Consider joining us.

For more information about the Active Aging committee or how to get involved, contact:
Amanda Kutcher at 920-787-6666, amanda.kutcher@co.waushara.wi.us
or Pat Bero at patbero@hotmail.com

A Vision for Thriving Families & Communities



"Life's most urgent question is: What are you doing for others?"

Martin Luther King, Jr.

Increasing **awareness**, offering **education** and **taking action** to address economic insecurity and promote **solutions** that benefit Waushara County residents is the work of the Vision 2020 Committee. We recognize that working hard is not enough to address the economic struggles facing so many of Waushara County's households. Solutions range from addressing very basic needs, improving school readiness through early childhood education programs, supporting education for a skilled work force, and removing barriers that prevent hard working and able bodied individuals from obtaining a *living wage* job - a job that offers economic security and brighter futures. Long-term solutions may take decades. In the meantime, we are also offering a hand up to our neighbors.

In 2015, Vision 2020

- Provided the **Backpack Nutrition Program** in two high needs elementary schools located in Waushara County. Sealed bags of weekend meals, snacks and fresh food coupons were provided to 121 elementary students **every week!** Participating schools reported free/reduced lunch rates of 71% and 66%! This program helps families meet their students' nutritional needs and reduces stress in the home. It couldn't happen without the amazing volunteers at Waushara Industries sheltered workshop who package the bags week after week and the financial support from our community!



- Addressed **Food Hardships** using a series of deliberate steps to increase access to affordable and nutritious food. These steps included: publishing a Fresh Food Atlas, providing technical assistance to local grocery stores to increase their economic stability, supporting area food pantries and celebrating the first growing season at a new community garden developed in partnership with St. Marks' Catholic Church in Redgranite.



- **Helped residents find answers** by publishing and distributing information about area resources. A community resource page highlighting most sought after resources, pocket resource cards in English and Spanish and "*Help for Hard Times*" a directory designed for individuals recently unemployed and those facing financial hardships were distributed in the community. Electronic copies of all resource publications are located on our website at www.wausharapreventioncouncil.org

Contact Jan Novak at 920-787-6600, 888-250-4331, jan.novak@co.waushara.wi.us or find us on Facebook to learn more about Vision 2020 and how to get involved!



WAUSHARA PREVENTION COUNCIL, INC.

P.O. Box 686
Wautoma, WI
54982

Phone: 920-787-6600
Fax: 920-787-0465

jan.novak@co.waushara.wi.us
or
maryann.schilling@ces.uwex.edu

Making a Difference Can Begin With You...

When we work together, great things can happen!

We invite you to share your unique talents, skills, time and resources working with us to build a thriving community.

The Waushara Prevention Council, Inc. meets at CAP Services,
205 East Main Street, Wautoma, WI

The first Tuesday of January, March, May, July, September and November at
12:30pm

Council Members Working for Our Community

Partner Members:

Eli Ashley, AmeriCorps Member
Kelly Borchardt, Childcaring, Inc.
Hans Brammer, Human Services
Trevor Cooper, AmeriCorps Member
Sara Dahlstrom, Upward Bound
Patrick Delrow, Community Member
Alice Ewerdt, AODA Intern DHS
Rev. Domnik Israel, Grace UMC
Amanda Kutcher, ADRC
Mary LaBlanc, Human Services
Judy Meier, Community Member
Lorna Miller, Wild Rose Hospital
Patti Miller, Public Health Dept.
Jan Novak, Human Services
Kelsie Oswald, Upward Bound
Ashley Rome, Public Health Dept.
Mary Ann Schilling, UW-Extension
Joan Voigt, Citizen
Jill Wilbert, Domestic Abuse Outreach Program

Additional Committee Members:

Beth Baar, CAP Services
Barb Barker, UW-Extension
Pat Bero, Community Member
Dawn Buchholz, Human Services
Marie Carlson, Waushara Industries
Lara Craft, Tri-County Schools
Ronnie Davidson, Redgranite UCC Food Pantry
Phil Duket, Alliance for Wisconsin Youth
Everett Eckstein, Waushara County Board
Shannon Eggers, Human Services
Judy Harris, League of Women Voters
Nicole Harrison, CAP Services
Craig Hayes, Wild Rose Schools
Lisa Hayes, CAP Services-Head Start
Peggy Hetzel, Plainfield Business Association
Sandi Jarvis, Wautoma Area Schools
Barb Johnson, Pine River HCE

Julie Johannes, ADRC
Corey Jungwirth, Family Health/La Clinica
Jeff Kasuboski, Wautoma Area Schools
Jamie Koehler, Wild Rose Schools
Bev & Debbie Konczal, Community Members
Andrew Konkel, CAP Services, Inc.
Kevin Krentz, Waushara Farm Bureau
Brianna Kulibert, Human Services
Renee Ladewig-Lathrop, UHC
Cynthia Loa, ARIMON Technologies
Marty Lee, Waushara Commodity Food Pantry
Danielle Luther, Marshfield Clinic
Chandra McCarthy-Cordoso, Wautoma Area Schools
Tony Marinack, Tri-County Schools
Patrick Nehring, UW-Extension
Erin Olsen, CAP Services
Nicole Overbeck, Wautoma Public Library
Debbie Paavola, Dept. of Aging
Chuck & LuAnn Pallister, Community Members
Deacon Bob Precourt, St. Mark/Sacred Heart Churches
Corinda Rainey-Moore, WI Council Children & Families
Helen Rankovic, Community Member
Donna Rew, Poy Sippi Food Pantry
Adam Rigden, Wautoma Dairy Queen
William Rosenau, Veterans Services Officer
Bruce Runnels, Citizen
Katie Schaefer, Waushara Argus
Grace Schmid, Tri-County Schools
Sue Shemanski, Human Services
Marge Sholar, Human Services Board
Jackie Siegel, Community Member
Chris Sluke, Wautoma Area Schools
Zina Soltis, UW-Extension
Kate Surprise, Human Services
Ken Taylor, WI Council Children & Families
Kathy Thunes, East Central Rural Planning Corp.
Stacy Vaccaro, Sheriff's Dept.
Lieah Van Gompel, Family Health/La Clinica
Patti Wohlfeil, Public Health
Lynda Worden, Pine River HCE



www.wausharapreventioncouncil.org