HPIO shines spotlight on tobacco use in Ohio

After releasing its Health Value Dashboard in December 2014, HPIO convened a group of healthcare and public health stakeholders to review Ohio’s greatest health strengths and challenges. This group identified tobacco use as a significant concern for the state.

Ohio ranks 44th in adult cigarette smoking, 49th in secondhand smoke exposure for children and 46th in tobacco prevention and control spending.

A subsequent online survey of stakeholders confirmed that reducing tobacco use should be a priority focus area for HPIO.

In response, HPIO has focused a considerable amount of work toward educating policymakers on options for reducing tobacco use in Ohio.

On June 1, HPIO hosted a forum titled “Breaking the addiction: Policy pathways toward effective tobacco cessation and prevention for all Ohioans.” The forum explored the science of nicotine addiction, including research on the reasons why tobacco use is more common among people with serious mental illness and those living in poverty. Speakers described evidence-based approaches for effective tobacco cessation for specific populations and discussed current policies in Ohio regarding tobacco and what changes could be made to reduce tobacco use.

Shortly after the event, HPIO also released a new publication titled “The state of tobacco use prevention and cessation in Ohio” (http://www.hpio.net/the-state-of-tobacco-use-prevention-and-cessation-in-ohio/). The policy brief is divided into two sections:
- **Environmental scan:** Description of the current status and recent history of tobacco use prevention and control in Ohio.
- **Policy implications:** List of the state-level policy options most likely to decrease the prevalence of tobacco use given the strengths and challenges of Ohio’s current tobacco policies.

Several weeks later, HPIO published a follow-up publication titled, “Mapping accountability to improve Ohio’s performance on tobacco use.” This second brief provides policymakers and other stakeholders with an understanding of how tobacco-related measures are tracked in Ohio and what, if any, mechanisms are in place to ensure accountability for improving Ohio’s performance.

Institute shares Dashboard with national audiences

HPIO staff members have had several opportunities in recent months to share the Institute’s Health Value Dashboard.

Last November, Amy Bush Stevens presented on the framework and preliminary Dashboard work at the American Public Health Association’s annual conference in New Orleans.

In May, Stevens and Reem Aly presented on the Dashboard at the annual conference of the National Network of Public Health Institutes, also in New Orleans.

And on July 17, HPIO President Amy Rohling McGee presented on the Dashboard in a session in Washington D.C. hosted by the National Health Policy Forum. The event was titled “Community Health: Seeing the Big Picture by Measuring Health and Its Many Determinants.”
On April 29, 2015, HPIO hosted an event in partnership with the Ohio Department of Health, the Ohio Hospital Association and the Association of Ohio Health Commissioners to explore the role of hospitals and local health departments in population health planning through hospital Community Health Needs Assessments and Implementation Strategies (CHNA/IS) and local health department Community Health Assessments/Community Health Improvement Plans (CHAs/CHIPs).

Following the forum, HPIO hosted a series of roundtable discussions to identify ways that hospitals and health departments can work together and to identify tools that may help to improve efficiency and collaboration on community health improvement activities. The results of the roundtable discussions were summarized in a report available at http://www.hpio.net/all-hands-on-deck-navigating-partnerships-in-population-health-planning/

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**Save the Date: Upcoming HPIO Forum**

**Beyond mental health and addiction parity**

Are Ohioans getting the services they need?

Please join us to discuss the status of mental health and addiction treatment parity in Ohio and the nation. What have been the early impacts of the Mental Health Parity and Addiction Equity Act (MHPAEA) on access, utilization, and cost? What challenges remain?

**Featured Speakers**

- Parity or Disparity: The State of Mental Health in America
  **Paul Gionfriddo**, President and CEO Mental Health America
- Proposed CMS rules for Medicaid managed care: How might they impact access to Medicaid behavioral health services?
  **Maureen Corcoran**, President, Vorys Health Care Advisors, LLC

Registration begins at 9:30 am

LUNCH PROVIDED; $60 registration fee ($90 fee with CLEs)

**CLE credit:** This course has been approved by the Supreme Court of Ohio Commission on Continuing Legal Education for 3.00 total CLE hours of instruction

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