

## HPIO tapped to lead Ohio child health assessment

The Ohio Children's Hospital Association (OCHA) commissioned HPIO to lead a multi-faceted process to develop an Assessment of Child Health and Health Care.

The assessment will identify Ohio's greatest child health and healthcare strengths, challenges and opportunities for improvement. The findings will be used to inform a child-focused health and healthcare agenda aimed at state policymakers, including the incoming executive administration.

In April, HPIO first convened the Child Health and Health Care Advisory Committee, a group of about 30 experts from across the state. The group is providing input on the development of the assessment.

HPIO will compile and analyze quantitative and qualitative data and information on overall child health and health care outcomes.

The assessment will summarize key findings and identify a set of actionable policy goals and strategies to address Ohio's top child health priority areas.

OCHA plans to share the findings of the assessment at the [Vote for Ohio Kids leadership forum](#) that the association is hosting with Groundwork Ohio on Sept. 27. The event, which both Democratic gubernatorial nominee Richard Cordray and Republican nominee Mike DeWine are expected to attend, "will bring together a coalition of business, healthcare and education leaders as well as child advocates from across the state to dialogue with the gubernatorial nominees and seek a commitment to our kid-focused agenda," according to organizers.

HPIO hopes to build on this work, as additional funds are raised, to focus on the many factors outside of healthcare settings that impact child health.

### Identifying local priorities

As part of this assessment, HPIO reviewed all Ohio children's hospital community health needs assessments and implementation strategy documents, as well as all local health department community health assessment and improvement plan documents available via the Ohio Department of Health (127 total documents) to identify child-focused health priorities.

The child-focused health priorities that rose to the top in both the children's hospital and local health department documents include:

- **Mental health**
- **Drug dependence and use**
- **Healthy weight**
- **Infant mortality**
- **Chronic disease**
- **Violence**
- **Access to health care/ medical care**

## HPIO president appointed to national committee on child development, health

HPIO President Amy Rohling McGee has been appointed to a National Academies of Sciences, Engineering, and Medicine (NASEM) committee that is exploring early life conditions and how they affect brain development and health.

*The Committee on Applying Neurobiological and Socio-Behavioral Sciences from Prenatal through Early Childhood Development: A Health Equity Approach* will explore how early life conditions, including social support and adversity, shape prenatal and early childhood development.

The committee is expected to:

- Provide a brief overview of stressors that affect brain development and health
- Identify promising models and opportunities for translation of the science to action
- Identify outcome measures
- Develop a roadmap to apply the science to tailored interventions
- Provide recommendations

NASEM's products are among the nation's preeminent sources of high-quality, objective advice on science, engineering and health matters.

Each year, scientists, engineers and health professionals from across the country volunteer to serve on NASEM study committees convened to answer specific sets of questions. The National Academies' peer-reviewed reports present the evidence-based consensus of these experts.

# HPIO contributes to Brookings paper on individual market

The Health Policy Institute of Ohio contributed to a new Brookings Institution brief that analyzes the strength of the individual health insurance market.

The report, "Stabilizing and Strengthening the Individual Health Insurance Market: A View from Ten States," explores the causes of instability in the individual market and identifies strategies for helping improve stability based on interviews with key stakeholders in 10 states.

HPIO staff provided field research for the report, conducting eight interviews with Ohio health insurance regulators, issuers, agents and other stakeholders.

Other states included in the report are Alaska, Arizona, Colorado, Florida, Iowa, Maine, Minnesota, Nevada and Texas.



Download the full report at [www.brookings.edu/research/stabilizing-and-strengthening-the-individual-health-insurance-market](http://www.brookings.edu/research/stabilizing-and-strengthening-the-individual-health-insurance-market)

The report found that market stability varied widely in the states studied.

The lead author of the report, Mark Hall of Wake Forest University, concluded that, overall, the ACA marketplace had withstood the repeal of the individual mandate and halting of federal cost-sharing payments, but that policy changes will be needed to sustain the individual market.

"The measures currently available to states are unlikely, however, to improve the individual market to the extent that is needed," the report concludes. "Although the ACA market is likely to survive in its basic current form, the future health of the market—especially for unsubsidized people—depends on the willingness and ability of federal lawmakers to muster the political determination to make substantial improvements."

## Thank you to our funders

The following core funders are advancing the health of Ohioans through informed policy decisions:

- Interact for Health
- The Mt. Sinai Health Care Foundation
- Saint Luke's Foundation of Cleveland
- The George Gund Foundation
- The Cleveland Foundation
- Sisters of Charity Foundation, Cleveland
- Sisters of Charity Foundation, Canton
- United Way of Central Ohio
- HealthPath Foundation
- Cardinal Health Foundation
- Mercy Health
- CareSource Foundation
- North Canton Medical Foundation

## Upcoming HPIO Forum

### Policy approaches to balance the healthcare spending side of the health value equation

In HPIO's **2017 Health Value Dashboard**, Ohio ranked 46th out of 50 states and D.C. on health value – a composite measure of healthcare spending and population health outcomes weighted equally. This means that Ohioans are living less healthy lives and spending more on health care than people in most other states.

This forum will explore factors that drive high healthcare spending in the U.S. and discuss policy approaches that can impact healthcare spending, with a focus on payment reform, drug prices and investing early in children and prevention.

#### Speakers Include:

- **Ani Turner**, Co-Director, Sustainable Health Spending Strategies, Altarum
- **Jennifer Reck**, Project Director, Center for State Rx Drug Pricing, National Academy for State Health Policy
- **And more to be announced!**

**When:** 9:30 a.m. to 2:30 p.m.  
**Thursday, Aug. 23, 2018**

**Where:** Nationwide & Ohio Farm Bureau 4-H Center  
2201 Fred Taylor Dr.  
Ohio State University  
Columbus, OH 43210

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