

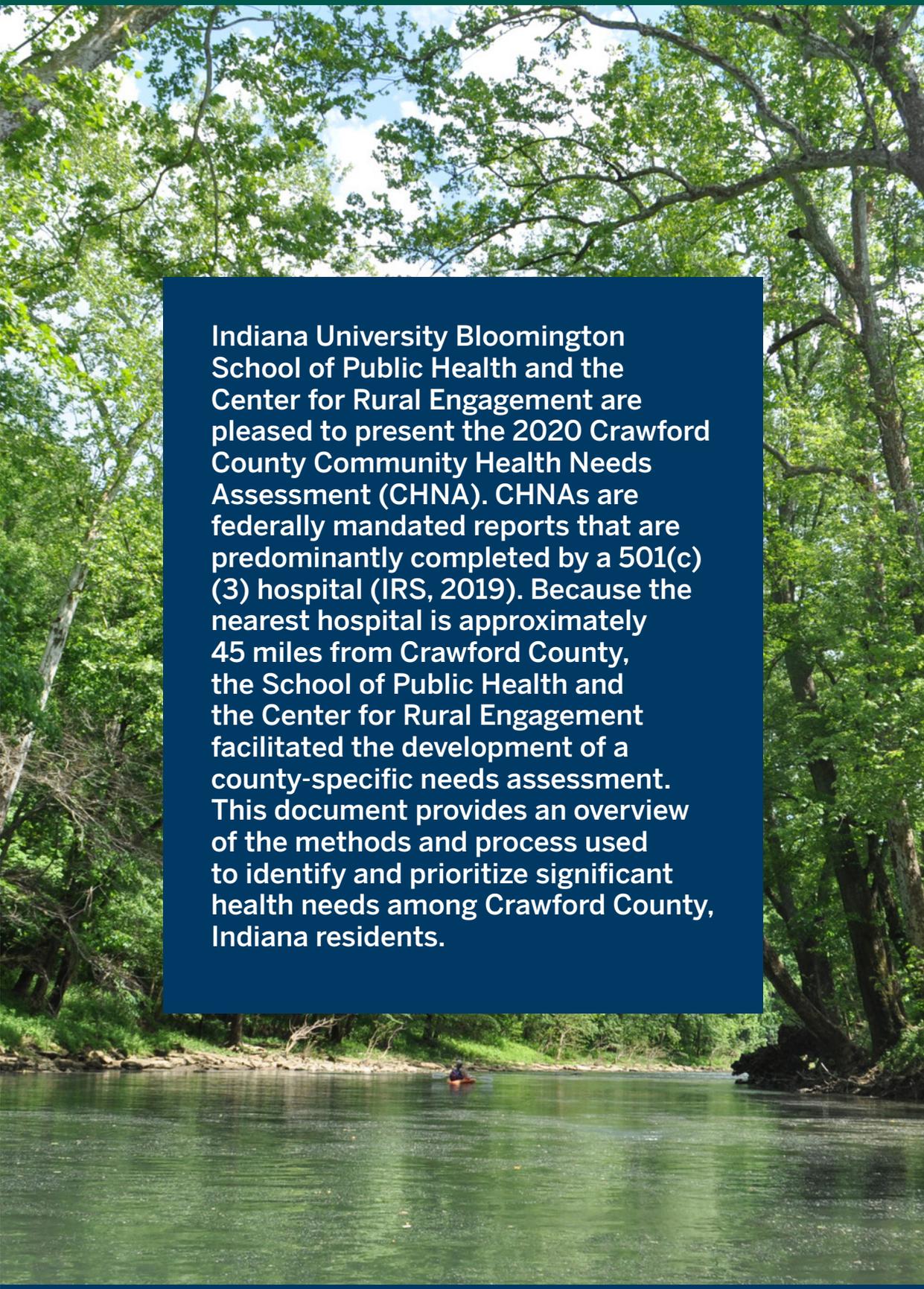
2020

Crawford County

Community Health Needs Assessment and Community Health Improvement Plan



This report was prepared by Indiana University School of Public Health, Indiana University Center for Rural Engagement, and community partners of Crawford County.



Indiana University Bloomington School of Public Health and the Center for Rural Engagement are pleased to present the 2020 Crawford County Community Health Needs Assessment (CHNA). CHNAs are federally mandated reports that are predominantly completed by a 501(c) (3) hospital (IRS, 2019). Because the nearest hospital is approximately 45 miles from Crawford County, the School of Public Health and the Center for Rural Engagement facilitated the development of a county-specific needs assessment. This document provides an overview of the methods and process used to identify and prioritize significant health needs among Crawford County, Indiana residents.

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APPROACH

This CHNA identified demographic information, prevailing community health needs and contributing factors to primary health concerns among individuals Crawford County, IN. The CHNA was informed by windshield tours, key informant interviews and surveys, data from existing health datasets, and a community perceptions survey.

WINDSHIELD TOURS

Windshield tours are systematic observations made from a moving vehicle.² These observations provide an objective view and “feel” of the community.³

Five windshield tours were conducted between January 31, 2020 through March 3, 2020. Each windshield tour consisted of driving through the county and stopping at local establishments (i.e., health departments, libraries, convenience stores, service providers, community health centers, etc.).

The following locations were visited during the windshield tours:

- New and Old English, Indiana
- Leavenworth, Indiana
- Marengo, Indiana
- Milltown, Indiana

Upon completion of each tour, the community assessment team debriefed by preparing journal entries. These entries captured descriptions of community assets as observed by team members and from informal conversations with community members.

KEY INFORMANT SURVEYS AND INTERVIEWS

Key informant surveys and interviews were conducted by the community assessment team to gather information from individuals who were the most knowledgeable about the community’s health.⁴ The survey was composed of questions pertaining to the key informant’s residential status (i.e., do they live in Crawford County, how long they have lived in the county) as well as work status within the county (i.e., organization worked for, position/ job title, duration of time working at said organization). Individuals provided a general rating (excellent, very good, good, fair, or poor) of the overall health of their county as well as identified health concerns that had the greatest impact on their community. For each concern, individuals described the reasons that contributed to the identified health concerns and how local organizations played a role in addressing these conditions. Individuals completing the survey were also invited to participate in an interview to further expound on their responses.

Key informants were recruited from the Crawford County Health and Human Sciences (HHS) advisory committee. In total, 24 individuals were recruited via email and 15 completed the survey.

Nine of 15 individuals expressed interest in the interview and four participated in a 30-minute telephone interview with a member of the community assessment team.

EXISTING DATA

To further describe the context of health in Crawford County, descriptive data and reports were retrieved from the U.S. Census, the Robert Wood Johnson Foundation/ University of Wisconsin Population Health Institute's County Health Rankings & Roadmaps, Indiana Youth Institute's KIDS COUNT Data, the Indiana Department of Health, and the Center for Disease Control and Prevention. Archival data from key informant interviews, conducted in Crawford County in 2019, were also retrieved.

COMMUNITY PERCEPTIONS SURVEY

The Community Perceptions Survey composed of 36 questions focused on:

- Perceptions about their personal health and overall health of the community
- Health/self care practices (i.e., active living, health care utilization)
- Major health concerns in the county
- Level of importance of community resources

The survey was advertised at community meetings and by flyers (with a QR code) that were given to the following organizations:

- American Legion
- Breedon Memorial Library
- Community Foundation of Crawford County
- Community Partners of Crawford County
- Covering Kids & Families
- Crawford County CASA
- Crawford County Community Providers
- Crawford County Community Schools
- Crawford County Economic Development
- Crawford County Purdue Extension
- English Volunteer Fire Department
- GRACE House
- Happy Hive
- Health and Human Sciences Committee

-
- Jasper Engines
 - Leavenworth Fire House
 - Lifesprings
 - Lincoln Hills Development Corporation
 - Southern Indiana Community Health Care (SICHC)
 - Stephenson's General Store
 - Todd-Dicky Nursing & Rehabilitations

As of March 14, 48 (25 online submissions, 23 paper submissions) anonymous surveys have been collected. Due to the COVID-19 pandemic our data collection efforts were concluded early.

Participants completed surveys either online or by paper. Data were exported from Qualtrics and downloaded into Microsoft Excel. Paper surveys were entered by a member of the community assessment team. Descriptive statistical tests (i.e., mean, mode, percentage frequencies, etc.) were conducted in SPSS Statistics 26 software to examine community health needs and opportunities of community action.

Of the 48 respondents*, 41% (n=19) of respondents have earned a high school diploma/ equivalency; 29% (n=9) have a bachelor's degree; 18.6% (n=8) have an associate's degree; and 6.5% (n=3) served in the military, specifically the Navy (67%, n=2) and the Army (33%, n=1). About 74% (n=35) identified as female and 24% (n=11) identify as male. The mean age of the respondents is 48, ranging from 18 to 76 years old. The racial demographic is monoracial with 94% (n=43) identifying as white. 2.1% of respondents reported being either Native Hawaiian or other Pacific Islander or White/American Indian or Alaska Native, and 2.1% identified as Hispanic, Latino, or Spanish origin.

When responding to questions regarding healthcare, 87% (n=40) of respondents have medical coverage (i.e., Medicaid, private, or public). 77% (n=33) of respondents report having a primary health care provider, be it a nurse, nurse practitioner, etc. and 72% (n=31) reported seeing them within the past six months. Respondents believe it is "very important" to have access to health care (91%; n=38) and accessible mental health care (90%; n=37).

**The survey is not representative of the county, but rather a snapshot of individuals 18 years and older living in Crawford County, IN completing the survey between January-March 2020. The COVID-19 pandemic interrupted survey activity, which yielded a small sample. Community organizations and coalitions advised IU School of Public Health and the Center for Rural Engagement to continue with analysis and the community health improvement process.*



OVERVIEW OF CRAWFORD COUNTY

DEMOGRAPHICS

Crawford County is located in southern Indiana, along the Ohio River. Composed of five towns and cities—English, Alton, Marengo, Milltown, and Leavenworth—Crawford County is considered a rural county. The county consists of 305.64 square miles, with a population of 10,588 people.⁵

Of the population of 10,588, 49% identify as female and 51% identify as male.⁵ The community is 97% white, 0.6% Black or African American, 0.5% American Indian and Alaska Native, 0.2% Asian, .01% Native Hawaiian and Other Pacific Islander, 1.4% Hispanic or Latino and 1.4% identifying with two or more races.⁵ The average age of residents is 41 years old. Within the county, 6,164 residents are between the ages of 26-64 and 2,124 residents are 65 years of age and older.⁶

SOCIAL AND ECONOMIC INDICATORS

There are 3,915 households in the county with an average of 2.68 people per household.⁵ The 2010 census data showed that the median household income is \$43,875, with 16% of residents living in poverty⁵ and with 25% of children, ages 1-17, living in poverty.⁶

In Crawford County, 88% of county residents have earned a high school diploma or higher, 41% of residents report completing some college⁷, and only 11% of residents hold a bachelors degree or higher.⁵ Approximately 77% of residents have a computer in their household, and only 62% of households have access to broadband internet services.⁵

COMMUNITY ASSETS



Crawford County has a lot to offer for those who love exploring outdoor recreation.⁸ The county has an abundance of local attractions such as hiking and biking trails, boating, caves, historical and natural landmarks, and much more. Crawford hopes that future engagement by residents and outside visitors will amplify these quality of place assets.⁹

“

Our claim to fame is outdoor recreation. We have so much to offer: 2 caves, trails, national & state forests, a 200+ acre privately owned (open to the public) park, an adjoining three-county public lake (Patoka Lake), canoeing on Blue River, Ohio River access, camping, and more.

*Christine Harbeson
Community Foundation of
Crawford County*



Residents have reported that their love of living in the county is derived from its rich history, its abundance of land and its outdoor recreation opportunity.⁹ Located along Interstate 64 with four highways and rails, Crawford County provides connectivity for residents and visitors alike.⁹

“

Being located in a rural, low-populated area and having the Hoosier National Forest cover half the county makes the air quality fresh, camping and hiking, and horse trails let you connect with nature easily. There are four caves you can enter in Indiana; we have two caves systems in the county.

*Savanna Saltsgaver
Crawford County Economic
Development Corporation*

“

We need to sing our praises and get the information out.

*Ralph Purkhiser
Southern Indiana Center for
Independent Living*

“

We have started to gain momentum in raising awareness of advancing the county, which has led to a great collaboration among different organizations—near and far—and individuals. We have I-64 (can take you anywhere) next to the Leavenworth Industrial Park, which is located in an OPPORTUNITY ZONE!

*Savanna Saltgaver
Crawford County Economic
Development Corporation*

“

I enjoy the area because of the open space, the land, and the people within the community. Of course, with any county we have our good and bad and areas that need to be fixed and worked on. However, I am happy to call this my home.

*Clarissa Barton
Lincoln Hills Development
Corporation*



Residents and employees alike are not shy to brag about assets such as community foundations and organizations, coalitions and committees, and support groups.



Whether you are just visiting, a new resident or a life-long resident of Crawford County, you will be quick to attest that Crawford County feels like home.

“

Crawford County also has some strong support groups within our community and they are a real asset.

*Christine Harbeson
Community Foundation of
Crawford County*

“

Being employed in Crawford County, you get to really know your community and the families. There is pride in being able to help and give back to, as well as the county being a family of its own.

*Clarissa Barton
Lincoln Hills Development
Corporation*

RESOURCES

FOOD ASSISTANCE

Crawford County United Ministries Food Pantry (Dare to Care)
Phone: (812) 739-2476
Location: Leavenworth Community Building 525 W. Old Hwy 62, Leavenworth, IN 47137

Crawford County United Ministries Assistance Program
Location: Head Start Building 508 W. 5th St., English, IN 47118

Lincoln Hills United Methodist Church (Dare to Care)
(812) 338-2139
Location: 1598 W. SR 64, English, IN 47118

English Wesleyan Church
(812) 216-1897
Location: Fellowship hall across from church 312 Main St., English, IN 47118

English Mobile Food Bank (Dare to Care)
Location: 717 E. State Rd. 64, English, IN

WIC
(812) 365-6913
Location: 6913 E. State Rd. 64, Marengo, IN 47140

Senior Commodity Program
(812) 639-1942
Location: Lincoln Hills Methodist Church or Crawford County Fairgrounds

Hoosier Hills Food Bank
(812) 334-8374

Veteran Services
1-877-424-3838

HOUSING

Lincoln Hills Development Corporation
(812) 338-2350
Location: 508 W. 5th St., English, IN

Lincoln Hills Development Corporation Elderly Housing
(812) 338-2442
Apartments are located in English, Marengo, and Milltown.

HEALTH

Crawford County Health Department
(812) 338-2302
306 Oak Hill Dr., English, IN 47118

Crawford Family Health Care
(812) 365-3221
5604 White Oak Lane, Marengo, IN 47140

Patoka Family Health
(812) 338-2924
307 S Indiana Ave., English, IN 47118

CRISIS SERVICES

Crisis Connection
1-800-245-4580

Hoosier Hills Pact (Victim Services)
(812) 338-3271
307 S. Indiana Ave., English, IN 47118

Hoosier Hills Pact (Community Services)
(812) 338-2969
717 E. SR. 64, English, IN 47118

Hoosier Hills Pact Crisis Hotline
1-888-883-1959

Center for Women and Families
1-877-803-7577

Indiana Department of Child Service
(812) 338-2701
304 Indiana Ave., English, IN 47118
1-800-800-5556

Crawford County Sheriff Dept.
(812) 338-2802 or 911

Southern Hills Counseling Center, Inc.
(812) 338-2756
After hours 800-883-8757
523 N. Main Street, English, IN 47118

DISASTER RELIEF

American Red Cross
(317) 684-1441
Regional Office

Salvation Army
(812) 944-1018
New Albany, IN

TRANSPORTATION

Older American Services
1-800-258-8786

Blue River Services
1-800-654-5490

Adult Protective Services
1-800-992-6978

Older Americans Service Corporation
1-800-258-8786

CHILDREN'S SERVICES

Lincoln Hills Development Corporation
Head Start
(812) 365-3177
2675 South Stat Road 66, Marengo, IN
47140

SENIOR CENTERS

Ohio Valley Community Senior Citizens
Center
(812) 739-4092
529 State Road 62 West, Leavenworth, IN
47137

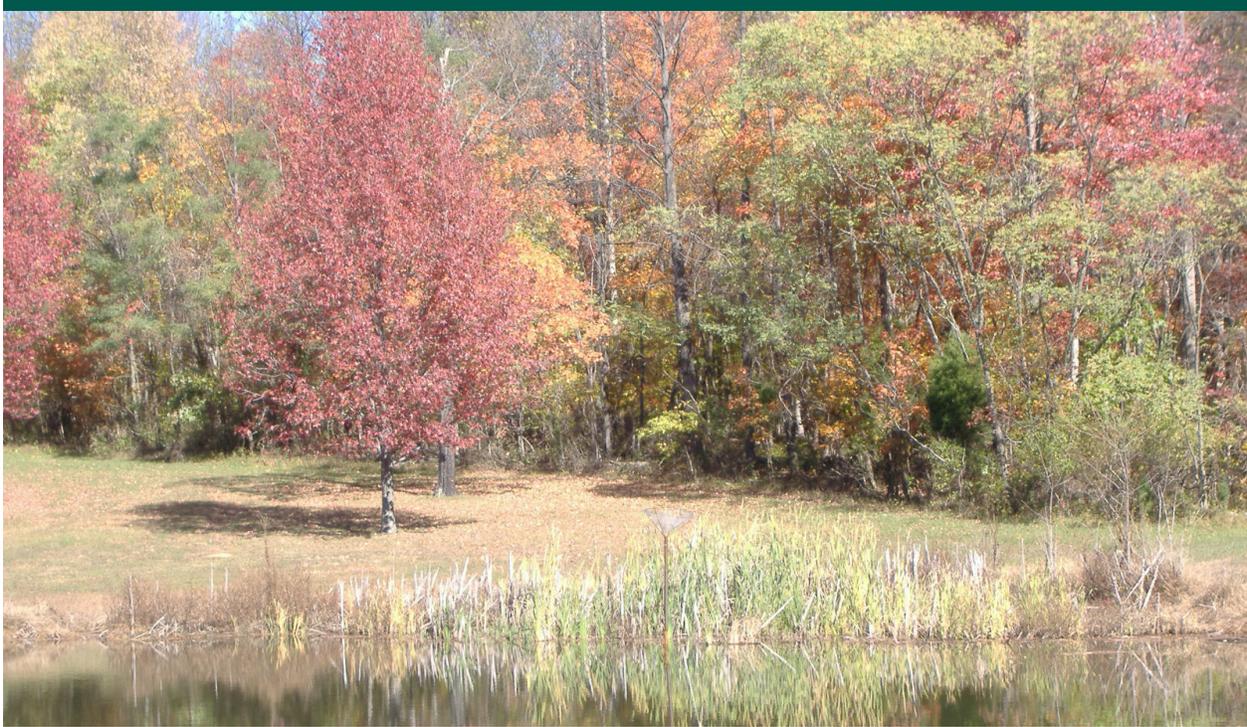
Marengo Senior Citizen- Elderly Housing
(812) 365-2773
Rural Route 2, Marengo, IN 47149

EMPLOYMENT AND TRAINING

Purdue Extension
(812) 338-5466
2803 South State Road 66, Marengo, IN
47140

WorkOne
(812) 620-6892
743 E. State Rd. 64, English, IN 47118

** Most of this information was derived from the Hoosier Uplands
and CASA's resource guide.*



KEY FINDINGS

Crawford County ranked 88th out of 92 counties in health outcomes, which are determined by length and quality of life. Approximately 22% of adults living in the county reported having fair or poor health.¹⁰ This result somewhat aligns with the survey results. When asked, 22% of participants rate their overall health as well as their physical health as fair. The majority of survey participants (Table 1) rated their overall, physical, mental, and social health as excellent or good. When asked, however, about their perception of the overall health of Crawford County, 47% of survey participants viewed it as fair while 19% viewed the community's health as good or poor.

Views of personal and community's overall health Crawford County (n=46)

Categories	Excellent	Good	Fair	Poor
Overall health	17 (37.0%)	18 (39.1%)	10 (21.7%)	0 (0%)
Physical health	14 (30.4%)	19 (41.3%)	10 (21.7%)	0 (0%)
Mental health	23 (50.0%)	16 (34.8%)	4 (8.7%)	2 (4.3%)
Social health	24 (52.2%)	17 (37.0%)	4 (8.7%)	0 (0%)
Community's overall health	3 (6.5%)	9 (19.6%)	22 (47.8%)	9 (19.6%)

The overall challenges of the Crawford County health system, as reported by key informants, were primarily related to individual beliefs/social norms, physical environment, lack or limited infrastructure to address population-based needs as well as limited resources to incentivize positive healthy practices. These challenges are listed below:

INDIVIDUAL BELIEFS/SOCIAL NORMS

- Low readiness and intrinsic motivation to change health practices
- Lack of family/peer support for follow up care/proper disease management
- Generational poverty
- Adverse childhood experiences/traumatic experiences

PHYSICAL ENVIRONMENT

- Two grocery stores in the county
- No public health transportation service
- Limited/no businesses to employ local residents
- No exercise facilities

COMMUNITY/HEALTH SYSTEM

- No county hospital
- Limited health care providers in the county
- No broadband in the county
- County tax infrastructure does not provide any or sufficient resources to strengthen public health infrastructure
- Limited federal and state funding for public health programming to incentivize active/healthy lifestyles among residents

In addition, survey participants reported domestic violence prevention services (n=41), access to care (n=37), available and accessible mental health care (n=37), access to healthy and fresh food (n=37), child abuse prevention services (n=37), and food availability (n=37) were of high level of importance.

Services	Response	Services	Response
Domestic violence prevention	41	Affordable housing	31
Access to care	37	Tobacco prevention	31
Access to healthy or fresh food	37	Services for veterans	30
Available and accessible mental health care	37	Clean recreational water	30
Child abuse prevention	37	Teen pregnancy prevention	30
Food availability	37	Impaired driving prevention	29
Food safety	36	Access to safe recreational opportunities	28
Safe drinking water	36	Access to birth control	27
Services for aging communities	36	Services for the homeless	27
Illegal prescription drug use	34	Clean outdoor air	27
Meth and heroin use prevention programs	34	Clean indoor air	26
Drug use and addiction services	33	Recycling programs	26
Youth violence prevention	33	Pest management	25
Disaster/emergency preparedness	31	Access to trails and walking paths	23

Results from the key informant interviews and community surveys indicated the following health issues as major health concerns:

1. Substance misuse
2. Basic needs
3. Chronic disease
4. Obesity
5. Mental/behavioral health
6. Lack of exercise

** Participants were able to choose up to five “health needs.”*

OBESITY, PHYSICAL ACTIVITY, AND NUTRITION



Crawford County has the highest prevalence of obesity in the state of Indiana. Thirty percent of adults 20 and older reported having a body mass index (BMI) greater than or equal to 30kg/m², which is considered obese.¹⁰ In addition to a high prevalence of obesity, most residents reported low levels in physical activity. Despite 75% of residents having access to locations for physical activity (e.g. parks, outdoor recreation, etc.), 38% of adults age 20 and older reported having no leisure-time physical activity in the past month.¹⁰

Crawford County's food environment index (the proximity to healthy foods and the average county income) is 7 out of 10, with 0 being the worst and 10 being the best.^{9,10} This ranking is misleading and not a fair representation of the county, with the two main food sources in the county being Jay C and Dollar General. Residents have to travel 23 miles out of the county to reach their nearest Walmart Supercenter in Paoli, Indiana. Even if residents are able to travel to a grocery store, residents often struggle with "mak[ing] ends meet" and have to "make do with what they have" (personal communication, March 14, 2019).

A small percentage of survey respondents reported using resources such as Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program [SNAP] (4.2%; n=2), Women, Infants, and Children (WIC) (6.3%; n=3), or the food pantry (13%; n=6). Thirteen percent (n=6) of respondents reported that within the last 12 months they worried about their food running out prior to pay day, and 8.3% (n=4) reporting that the food they bought didn't last until their next payday.

DIABETES

In 2015, 10% of Crawford County adults had type 2 diabetes.¹⁰ Diabetes management is a major challenge as it requires many people living with the condition to regularly purchase medication, such as insulin, to maintain appropriate blood sugar/glucose levels. Health insurance covers some or most costs; however, some individuals may be uninsured or underinsured. Even with insurance, medication is costly and Medicaid, Medicare, and private insurance companies do not cover a vast number of diabetic policies and medication recommendations are constantly changing (personal communication, March 14, 2019).



HEALTH CARE ACCESS AND BASIC NEEDS

About 11% of the county is uninsured.¹⁰ Crawford County has no hospital system and only has one medical practice, Southern Indiana Community Health Care. Depending on the day of the week, the physician and nurse practitioner are either in Marengo or English, Indiana.

Crawford County, Indiana is the poorest county in Indiana¹¹. Many residents lack basic needs, and even now, do not have access to water in their home

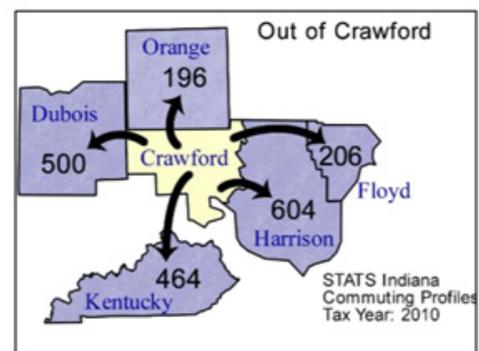


Figure 1: Number of Crawford County residents community outside the county for work

without hauling water from another source. The county is small, with a population of about 10,500. The largest employers in the county are the school system, Jasper Engines, and the county’s government system. In 2010, 2,526 people who lived in Crawford County had to commute outside the county for work.¹² As of December 2018, the unemployment rate was 5.2, which is much higher than Indiana’s state average of 3.4.

Transportation options are lacking for many residents of Crawford County and this makes it difficult for many to seek healthcare. There is no hospital in the county, so if residents need to seek treatment after the county clinic has closed, require more extensive laboratory or diagnostic tests, or have an emergency, they must drive at least 17 miles.



There is no consistent transportation service, such as a ride share program, offered to Crawford residents. Residents who do not have a reliable form of transportation must rely on friends, family, neighbors, or emergency services to seek medical treatment.

SUBSTANCE USE

Substance use is a major health concern in the county, and as of 2017, 23% of county adults smoke or use nicotine products and 15% of county adults report binge drinking or heavy drinking.¹⁰ Approximately 48% (n=23) survey respondents believe tobacco prevention “very important.” Of the 46 survey respondents, only 4.2% (n=2) received tobacco/smoking cessation within the last 12 months.

YOUTH HEALTH CONCERNS

Crawford County's rate of child abuse is 78.0 per 1,000 children, which is higher than the state rate at 18.0 per 1,000 children.⁷ The county also has a high percent of youth receiving free price lunch (56% in comparison to 41% in Indiana).⁷ Early childhood development was viewed by several key informants as a major concern due to lack of availability of childcare centers in the county.

Alcohol use among rural adolescents was seen, by several key informants, as a significant public health concern. Two key informants who work directly with youth in Crawford County, indicated that the largest concern among middle school and high school youth is tobacco use, with a large increase in recent years of e-cigarette device use and alcohol use occurring between grades 7-12 (personal communication, March 5, 2019).

Parent-teen communication about sex is inconsistent in Crawford County. "Some kids are very open with their parents about this. [It] Depends on the relationship. Some would say "no way" to them about [discussing] sex" (personal communication, March 14, 2019). Access to contraception and condoms is seen to be a problem in rural Indiana, with the main resource available being the "local pharmacy or Wal-Mart" (personal communication, March 14, 2019). Access to contraception in Crawford County could be due to the paucity of health care providers, including specialists in obstetrics and gynecology.



**COMMUNITY
HEALTH
IMPROVEMENT
PLAN**

COMMUNITY HEALTH IMPROVEMENT PLAN

CHNA data were presented to members affiliated with the Community Partners of Crawford County, Crawford County Community Providers, and the Health and Human Sciences Committee. These conversations led to the identification of five priorities as being of the highest importance to strengthening community health infrastructure and improving health and wellness of Crawford County residents:

- Communication and coordination
- Substance use and mental health
- Early childhood development
- Access to healthy food

WHAT IS A CHIP?

A Community Health Improvement Plan is a living document that not only outlines the working plan to improve health but serves as a way to assign responsibility, offers a system for accountability and progress check-ins, and as a way to share updates with the community. A CHIP can bring community organizations, service providers, and citizens together in an effort to reach a common goal.

A CHIP uses Community Health Needs Assessment (CHNA) data to identify priority issues, develop and implement strategies for action, and establish accountability to ensure measurable community health improvement (National Association of County and City Health Officials, 2018). The CHIP process brings together community residents and stakeholders in the community to identify and address the health needs of a community.

From each priority, goals, objectives, tasks, outputs, and outcomes were developed to guide implementation and monitor progress for a two-year period. Local organizations were identified to ensure ongoing facilitation of information sharing and coordination of tasks. All Crawford County organizations are encouraged to identify one or more priorities that aligns with their personal or organization mission. University partnerships from IU Bloomington (Center for Rural Engagement and IU School of Public Health) and Purdue University (Purdue Extension) will coordinate assessment and evaluation activities as well as community engaged research initiatives that measure the implementation of goals and objectives.

COMMUNICATION AND COORDINATION

GOAL	Strengthen partnerships and collaboration among Crawford County service organizations and health care providers.
OBJECTIVES	<p>By September 30, 2022:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Increase coordination of community services among Crawford County service organizations and health care providers by 25% • Increase Crawford County residents' knowledge of community resources by 10%
TASKS	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Create a communication/coordination working group • Create a stakeholder list of organizations and health care providers (within and outside the county) to engage in multi-sectoral network • Invite community organizations and providers (within and outside the county) to share information about the Community Partners of Crawford County meetings • Compile information from all community-serving organizations to include on the community resources referral platform • Develop and launch a community resources referral platform for Crawford County residents • Track and monitor referrals
OUTPUTS	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Number of community organizations and providers attending Community Partners of Crawford County • Number of service providers maintaining current information on the community resources referral platform
OUTCOMES	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Increase multi-sectoral participation (e.g., food, education, housing, transportation, chamber of commerce, economic development, recreation, tourism) in Community Partners of Crawford County • Increase partnership connectivity among community organizations and health care providers
	<p>Coordinating organizations: Lincoln Hills Development Corporation and Community Foundation of Crawford County</p>

SUBSTANCE USE AND MENTAL HEALTH

GOAL	<p>Increase awareness about mental illness and the availability of community-based, culturally sensitive services.</p>
OBJECTIVES	<p>By September 30, 2022:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Increase the number of adults in the Crawford County recovery community who have access to services by 10%
TASKS	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Gather Crawford County baseline data on substance use and mental health awareness • Identify assets and gaps responding to needs of the Crawford County recovery community • Train intervention team members in identifying mental health issues and how to refer cases to appropriate community resources and services (e.g. Screening, Brief Intervention, and Referral to Treatment - SBIRT) • Provide educational opportunities for the community to understand mental illnesses and available resources via print media, general public speaking engagements, and health fair workshops and panel discussions • Develop an outreach, recruitment, and referral process based on the intervention team members' training that responds to the needs of the Crawford County recovery community • Monitor referrals and update outreach, recruitment, and referral process as needed • Recruit providers and organizations that provide mental health and substance use services to residents
OUTPUTS	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Number of individuals trained in SBIRT • Number of education sessions delivered on mental health, substance use, and community support services • Number of referrals to mental health, substance use, or community support services
OUTCOMES	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Increase confidence residents' ability to intervene appropriately for a person in need of substance use and/or mental health services • Increase access to wellness programs, community support services, and peer recovery programs among Crawford County youth and adults • Increase positive experience with the providers/clinicians and individuals from the community accessing mental and behavioral health and substance use services
<p>Coordinating organizations: Lifesprings and Southern Indiana Community Health Care</p>	

EARLY CHILDHOOD DEVELOPMENT

GOAL	Increase community access to early childhood education.
OBJECTIVES	<p>By September 30, 2022:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Increase number of childcare providers by 3% in Crawford County
TASKS	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Partner with IU and State/Regional Planning Commissions to conduct childcare gap study • Gather community input about barriers and challenges to early childhood development • Create an assets-based community development assessment • Disseminate assessment and collect data • Analyze and interpret data • Create an action plan to address barriers to childcare • Identify and write grants to address barriers to childcare • Implement interventions • Monitor progress and adapt interventions as needed • Form an accountability board that review barriers to licensure as identified by consumers and prospective consumers and will review and call attention to and address policy issues and policy enforcement issues that affect utilization • Advocate for need for childcare providers in the county
OUTPUTS	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 1 completed gap study • 1 completed action plan • Number of residents providing input on barriers to childcare • Number of residents participating in the accountability board • Number of grants submitted to support findings from childcare study
OUTCOMES	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Identify funding sources to support new childcare providers • Secure funding to support expansion of early childhood education
	<p>Coordinating organizations: Crawford County Schools, Purdue Extension, Crawford County Economic Development</p> <p>Supporting organizations: Office of Community and Rural Affairs; State/Regional Planning Commission; Indiana University Bloomington School of Informatics, Computing, and Engineering; School of Public Health; School of Business; School of Public and Environmental Affairs, School of Education, Center for Rural Engagement</p>

ACCESS TO HEALTHY FOOD

GOAL	<p>Increase access to fresh and healthy foods in Crawford County.</p>
OBJECTIVES	<p>By September 30, 2022:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Increase affordable fruit and vegetable access for all adults and children by 10% by September 30, 2022
TASKS	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Create a food access assessment for Crawford using existing data as well as input from community members, organizations, policy makers, and other stakeholders and develop a county community food access plan based on the assessment • Partner with community garden advocates to encourage the development of pop up food stands, community gardens, and community supported agriculture distributors • Disseminate information on home gardening and farmer markets best practices • Encourage participation of WIC And SNAP-ED families in pop up markets and farmer markets • Partner with local government officials in developing policies and infrastructure to support access to fresh and healthy foods in the county • Identify and implement evidence-based, nutritional education curricula in schools, churches, and work places • Organize “dig-ins” to assist families with constructing home gardens • Conduct healthy food demonstrations for individuals and families
OUTPUTS	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 1 completed regional community food assessment plan • 1 completed food access plan • Number of healthy food policies developed and implemented in the county
OUTCOMES	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Increase awareness and knowledge of available land use and skills to grow, harvest, and prepare healthy foods • Increase percent of Crawford County residents applying for SNAP benefits • Strengthen local infrastructure that supports the distribution of healthy food
	<p>Coordinating organizations: Crawford County Economic Development, Purdue Extension</p>

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RESEARCHERS

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