

## Project of the Month: Central Wisconsin Health Partnership

- The Central Wisconsin Health Partnership (CWHP) is a consortium that works across disciplines to improve health outcomes in Adams, Green Lake, Juneau, Marquette, Waupaca, and Waushara counties. This 6 county region serves a rural population of 157,800 with an average per-capita income of \$23,500.
- The partnership was formed in 2011 and includes county human services and public health departments, a Federally Qualified Health Center and other interested healthcare advocates and providers in the region. Its mission is to increase access to a range of behavioral health services through regional collaboration, sharing of best practices and through exploring innovative contracting options for prevention services. In addition, the partnership also draws on the resources offered by the 6 counties' human and health services, as well as public health outreach conducted by the various county health departments.
- The consortium meets on a bimonthly basis at the Marquette County Department of Human Services in Montello. Two main focuses of the CWHP currently include the regional Comprehensive Community Services (CCS) initiative, and the Central Wisconsin Health and Economic Development Summit.
  - CCS provides programming to people of all ages, youth to elderly, living with either a mental illness and/or substance use disorder, and is for individuals who need ongoing services beyond occasional outpatient care, but less than the intensive care provided in a hospital setting. The individual works with a dedicated team of service providers and natural supports to develop a treatment and recovery plan to meet the individual's unique needs and goals. The CWHP Regional CCS program operates as a shared services model, building on the foundation of core services available in the region.
  - In August 2015, the CWHP convened partners to plan and host a regional Health and Economic Development Summit, with a purpose of developing regional strategies to improve the health and vitality of rural communities in Central Wisconsin. Recognizing the interdependence between accessible healthcare, social and emotional factors, individual behavior, employment and the physical environment, the Summit served as kick-off to a regional, collective impact project. Post-summit workgroups are being formed to address the key themes that emerged including: workforce development, family and community development, transportation and communication connectivity, and collaboration.

To learn more about the Central Wisconsin Health Partnership, as well as its meeting dates and times, please visit this [link](#), or contact the consortium's co-chair, Sarah Grosshuesch, Health Officer, Adams County Health Department, (608) 339-4379, [Sarah.grosshuesch@co.adams.wi.us](mailto:Sarah.grosshuesch@co.adams.wi.us).

If you are interested in learning more about the regional CCS initiative, please contact one of its coordinators – Dan Naylor, or Lori Martin at (715) 258-5430 or [whitepine@mwwb.net](mailto:whitepine@mwwb.net).

(submitted November 2015)