

Juneau County



Community Health Improvement Plan 2022-2027

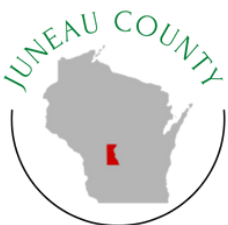


History of the Land

As we look closer at Juneau County, it is first essential that we recognize and honor the history of the land. This is the traditional territory of the Ho-Chunk people or the “People of the Sacred Voice (Ho-Chunk Nation.)” Ho-Chunk’s traditional lands cover Wisconsin, Minnesota, Iowa, Missouri and Illinois. From 1832-1874 there were many failed attempts to ethnically cleanse the Ho-Chunk people from Wisconsin and Illinois, with the resilient Ho-Chunk continuously returning during this process. Through the 1862 Homestead Act, the Ho-Chunk Nation purchased land in portions of their ancestral home in Wisconsin, Nebraska, and Illinois. In present day Wisconsin, the Ho-Chunk Nation is not located on a reservation or a single connected land, but owns land in 14 counties including Juneau (Wisconsin First Nations). The Ho-Chunk oral tradition states “we have always been here” and it is important for us to acknowledge the Ho-Chunk Nation is an important thread of Juneau County’s community fabric and we are better for it (Ho-Chunk Nation.)



Photo: Morgan Taft





Source:
Wisconsin First Nation: Tribal Lands Map. 2021: <https://wisconsinfirstnations.org/map/>



Acknowledgement

The Community Health Improvement Plan is a strategy document to help guide community partners. This plan is a direct result of the data collected from residents through the 2021 Community Health Assessment (CHA). The full report is accessible here: https://drive.google.com/file/d/1QVimsUL7_M5MWA6wNZv-BugiuFGbffux/view. The assessment was informed by community members through surveys and key informant interviews and created by the community organization led Steering Committee.

The Community Health Improvement Plan focuses on creating measurable change in the top three priority areas:

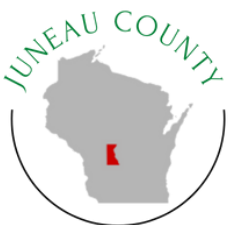
1. Good Jobs & Strong Economy
2. Affordable Housing
3. Accessible Transportation

The guiding motto of “Community First, Redefine Health” from the CHA process carried through to the planning process. The Juneau County Health Department continues to be committed to centering community involvement and leadership in this process.

Community Action Teams (CATs) were established in May 2022 of community leaders, subject matter experts and community members to create actionable plans on how to move the needle in these three areas. Recruitment for the CATs consisted of strategic invitations to leaders, experts, and change makers in each of the three categories. We knew this was essential as the Juneau County Health Department stepped into a Community Health Strategist role. We know these areas have a huge impact on community health and that we were not the experts to guide this work but convene a space for change. Community members were also invited in through press releases, radio spots, and social media content.

The CATs are open to everyone.

The Juneau County Health Department would like to express our deep gratitude to the members included in this report, who attended regular meetings, created action plans, informed our call for community solutions process, and are stewarding the investment of resources.



Process

The process for change for all three priorities contain the same four components. First, assessment of the need was completed. Then the appropriate partners were gathered to a shared table. The partners guided research of best and promising practices for change to explore, as well as assessing feasibility. Then selected strategies were implemented and measured for change in the community. The CAT structure supported this process and the adapted membership and practices with the needs identified.



Good Jobs and Strong Economy

Objective 1: By December 31st, 2023, the Good Jobs and Strong Economy CAT will establish a sustainable, virtual “job center” model to improve Juneau County workforce readiness.

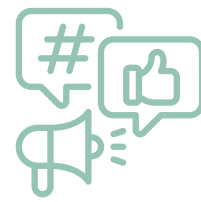
Strategies



Collect effective job readiness resources and trainings



Identify a central web space and trusted partner to host content



Create a marketing plan to promote resources to those seeking employment

Objective 2: By December 31st, 2027, the Good Jobs and Strong Economy CAT will intentionally engage in efforts to increase access to quality childcare in Juneau County through innovative partnerships.

Strategies



Assess barriers to quality childcare including cost, availability and workforce



Build and maintain relationships with employers



Research innovative practices of private-public childcare models alongside employers



Implement at least one strategy to expand licensed or certified childcare slots in Juneau County

Good Jobs and Strong Economy CAT Members

Facilitators: April Martell-UW Extension and Tamaya Loewe-Juneau County Economic Development Corp

Amanda Dederich-
Juneau County
Health Department

Ben Oleson- Mill
Haven Foods

Bill Riley- ADRC
Board Member

Dan Howard-
Gundersen St.
Joseph's Hospital

Fanta Glenn-Wabash

Gregory Lewis-
Community Member

Hannah Altimus-
Western WI
Workforce
Development Board

Jack Hammer-
Mauston School
District

Joh McGinley-
Juneau County Board
of Supervisors

Karen Hedblom-
Salvation Army

Kari Preuss- Elroy
Chamber

Karin Vanderhoof-
Necedah Chamber

Krista Ulrich- Mile
Bluff Medical Center

Randy Reeg- City of
Mauston

Sandy Turner-
Forward Services

Sarah Wilke-
Western Technical
College

Shane Gesler- Juneau
County Health
Department

Tara Ennis- Juneau
County Health
Department



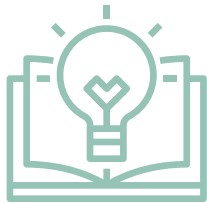
Photo: Christopher Fry



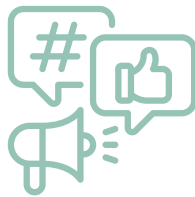
Affordable Housing

Objective 1: By December 31st, 2024, the Housing CAT will implement at least three projects focused on empowering residents in all phases of housing utilization.

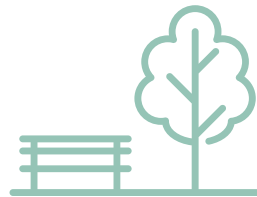
Strategies



Establish a sustainable financial literacy curriculum in Juneau County



Collaborate with Good Jobs and Strong Economy CAT to launch a countywide media campaign promoting the benefits of living in Juneau County



Create a neighborhood revitalization mini-grant opportunity



Implement a landlord support program

Objective 2: By December 31st, 2025, the Housing CAT will intentionally engage in efforts to integrate health into zoning and housing policy efforts by focusing on advocacy, education, and structural change opportunities.

Strategies



Complete a countywide housing assessment



Build relationships with municipal policy leaders



Identify key policy recommendations and educate local leaders on identified strategies and recommendations



Launch a developer Incentive program informed by the countywide housing assessment

Affordable Housing CAT Members

Facilitator: Alysha Basel-Juneau County Health Department

Amanda Dederich-
Juneau County
Health Department

Dawn Buchholz-
Juneau County
Human Services

Mark Messer- Sea of
Change

Ashley Torres-
Central Wisconsin
Community Action
Council

Gregory Lewis-
Community Member

Nickie Preuss- ADRC

Bill Riley- ADRC
Board Member

Jessica Hoehn-
ADRC

Randy Reeg- City of
Mauston

Bob Hayward-
Community Member,
Contractor

Joh McGinley-
Juneau County Board
of Supervisors

Rebecca Giroux-
Wisconsin Housing
and Economic
Development
Authority

Colleen Woggon-
Oakdale Credit Union

Julie Oleson- Juneau
County Housing
Authority

Shane Gesler- Juneau
County Health
Department

Dan Howard-
Gundersen St.
Joseph's Hospital

Karen Hedblom-
Salvation Army

Tamaya Loewe-
Juneau County
Economic
Development Corp

Dana Anderson- City
of Mauston Housing
Authority

Karin Vanderhoof-
Necedah Chamber

Tara Ennis- Juneau
County Health
Department



Photo: Christopher Fry



Accessible Transportation

Objective 1: By December 31st, 2024, the Transportation CAT will bring sustainable public transportation options to Juneau County.

Strategies



Explore the opportunity for Southwest Community Action Program to expand their LIFT volunteer ride share program into Juneau County



Partner with the City of Mauston to establish a countywide subsidized Uber pilot program



Develop relationships with Running Inc. and Western Technical College to research the potential to expand the SMRT bus route into Juneau County

Objective 2: By December 31st, 2023, a formal Juneau County transportation committee will be formed.

Strategies



Network and build relationships with key transportation stakeholders serving Juneau County



Accessible Transportation CAT Members

Facilitator: Gina Laack- Aging and Disability Resource Center (ADCR) of Eagle Country

Alysha Basel- Juneau County Health Department

Amanda Dederich- Juneau County Health Department

Bill Riley- ADRC Board Member

Chelsey Turpin- ADRC

Dawn Buchholz- Juneau County Human Services

Gregory Lewis- Community Member

Jill Finley- Mile Bluff Medical Center

Joh McGinley- Juneau County Board of Supervisors

Karen Hedblom- Salvation Army

Karin Vanderhoof- Necedah Chamber

Randy Reeg- City of Mauston

Shane Gesler- Juneau County Health Department

Sue Riley- ADRC

Tamaya Loewe- Juneau County Economic Development Corp

Tara Ennis- Juneau County Health Department



Photo: Kerry Cauley



Accomplishments in 2022

- ✓ August 2022 County Board approval to support 11-unit senior housing project in Necedah with Central Wisconsin Community Action Council through American Rescue Plan Act dollars.
- ✓ October 2022 Countywide Call for Community Solutions with over 30 ideas from community members.
- ✓ December 2022 County Board approval to launch pilot Uber Program through American Rescue Plan Act dollars.
- ✓ December 2022 County Board approval to conduct a countywide housing assessment through North Central Wisconsin Regional Planning Commission membership.

Accomplishments in 2023

- ✓ March 2023 launch free Financial Literacy workshops throughout the county with local financial institutions.
- ✓ July 2023 County Board approval to support Mauston School District opening a 6 week-5 years of age childcare facility in 2024 with 57 licensed slots through American Rescue Plan Act dollars.
- ✓ August 2023 County Board approval to support 48-unit apartment complex in Mauston at or below market rate rent and accepting at least 6 Section 8 voucher recipients with Holtz Builders through American Rescue Plan Act dollars.
- ✓ September 2023 County Board approval to launch Landlord Support Program, offering case management and extra security deposit when needed to landlords who accept higher risk renters through American Rescue Plan Act dollars.



- ✓ September 2023 County Board approval of 8 Love Your Block neighborhood revitalization projects throughout the county through American Rescue Plan Act dollars.
 - The City of New Lisbon to support creation of a New Lisbon Dog Park
 - The Town of Germantown to support the addition of play equipment to a public park in Germantown
 - The Village of Necedah to support the addition of an outdoor event space in the Village of Necedah
 - The Wonewoc Development Corp. to support updates to a public park in Wonewoc
 - The Elroy Lions Club to support updating the public Elroy basketball courts
 - The Necedah Area Chamber of Commerce to support cleaning up the main street of Village of Necedah
 - The Village of Lyndon Station to support new play equipment for the public park in Lyndon Station
 - The Town of Necedah to support a free community clean-up for the Town of Necedah

- ✓ October 2023 Juneau County Housing Study results published and shared with municipalities and county officials.

- ✓ November 2023 County Board approval for Bright Beginnings Childcare to buy equipment that would add at least 9 licensed childcare slots through American Rescue Plan Act dollars.

- ✓ November 2023 County Board approval for Lil' Lambs Childcare to replace substandard windows and ceiling tiles allowing the facility to stay licensed through American Rescue Plan Act dollars.



Stay Connected



We are actively working on these objectives and strategies and will continue through 2027. You can see the latest updates and projects on our webpage:

<https://www.co.juneau.wi.gov/health-assessment.html>

Get Involved



Want to join one of our CAT groups? Reach out to Tara Ennis at 608-847-9373 or ennis@juneaucountywi.gov



Photo: Morgan Taft

