

Dayton Council on Health Equity

"Live Better; Live Longer. Good Health Begins With You®"

Who We Are

The **Dayton Council on Health Equity** (DCHE) is Montgomery County's Local Office of Minority Health. The program is funded by a grant from the Ohio Commission on Minority Health and is a program of Public Health-Dayton & Montgomery County.

Montgomery County, Ohio is home to 538,299 residents, including 131,187 (24.4%) minority residents (U.S. Census Bureau, 2005-2009 American Community Survey).

What We Do

The Dayton Council on Health Equity is working to accomplish health equity and eliminate health disparities.

Health equity is the absence of disadvantage for all individuals of the community to be able to receive equal access to health care, and the same quality of health care, regardless of their race or socioeconomic status.

Health disparities are the disproportionate burden of disease, disability and death among a particular population or group when compared to the proportion of their population. These disparities are also characterized as a chain of events signified by a difference in: (1) environment; (2) access to, utilization of, and quality of care; (3) health status; or (4) a particular health outcome that deserves scrutiny.

Unfortunately, African Americans, Asian Americans, Hispanics/Latinos, American Indians and Alaska Natives, Asian Americans, Native Hawaiians and Pacific Islanders, are experiencing significantly higher rates of infant mortality, cardiovascular disease, diabetes, HIV infection/AIDS, cancer and lower rates of immunizations and cancer screening. The causes are complex, but several factors are adverse living conditions; poverty and unemployment; lack of education; limited access to healthy foods; *inadequate access to care caused by economic, geographic, linguistic, cultural; and health care affordability issues.*

Mission Statement

The mission of the Dayton Council on Health Equity is to provide a dynamic community partnership infrastructure within which to examine factors contributing to health disparities and health equity, in order to address and eliminate health disparities.

The Dayton Council on Health Equity has a diverse Advisory Council, which is comprised of members of the minority community, as well as representatives from the public school system; minority, faith-based, and community organizations; academia/educators; researchers; health, human and social service agencies; local government; media; area businesses; and others.

The Dayton Council on Health Equity accomplishes its goals and objectives through four (4) Core Competencies:

1. Monitor and report health status of minority populations to identify community problems. Identify local needs as well as gaps in services. Serve as a resource for minority health information and services.
2. Inform, educate and empower people about health issues.
3. Mobilize community partnerships and actions to identify and solve problems; enhance community linkages and provide resources to minority communities.
4. Examine and/or develop local policies that influence factors, which may contribute to health disparities.

The Dayton Council on Health Equity participates in the evaluation process.

DCHE Advisory Council will develop a community strategic plan to achieve health equity, eliminate health disparities, improve the health status of the minorities, and work to ensure that health care services and systems are accessible to all Montgomery County citizens, and may:

1. Examine factors which contribute to disproportionate health status and loss of life at earlier ages than the average person from preventable diseases and conditions such as cancer, cardiovascular disease, diabetes, infant mortality, violence, substance abuse, and HIV/AIDS;
2. Examine local health delivery policy to offer support and advocate change;
3. Assess community needs;
4. Assist in marketing outreach for those populations not being served;
5. Assist in education, information, and empowerment of those minorities affected by disproportionate health status;
6. Assist in enhancing interactions and collaborative efforts amongst service providers;
7. Clarify roles and responsibilities of involved agencies, as may be needed;
8. Assist in identification and development of additional resources or systems;
9. Provide feedback on availability and accessibility of health and human services;
10. Provide feedback and support for continued activities; and
11. Monitor coordination of community health resources to ensure that ethnics and minorities with multiple problems receive required services from health and human services agencies.

Contacting the Dayton Council on Health Equity

Cheryl Cain Scroggins, Community Coordinator

Dayton Council on Health Equity
Public Health - Dayton & Montgomery County

117 South Main Street

Dayton, OH 45422-1280

Office: (937) 225-4962; Fax: (937) 496-3070

E-mail: cscroggins@phdmc.org

Webpage: www.phdmc.org/DCHE



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