



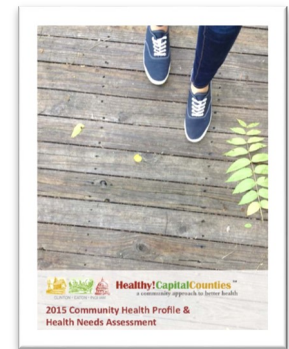
Healthy!CapitalCountiesSM

a community approach to better health

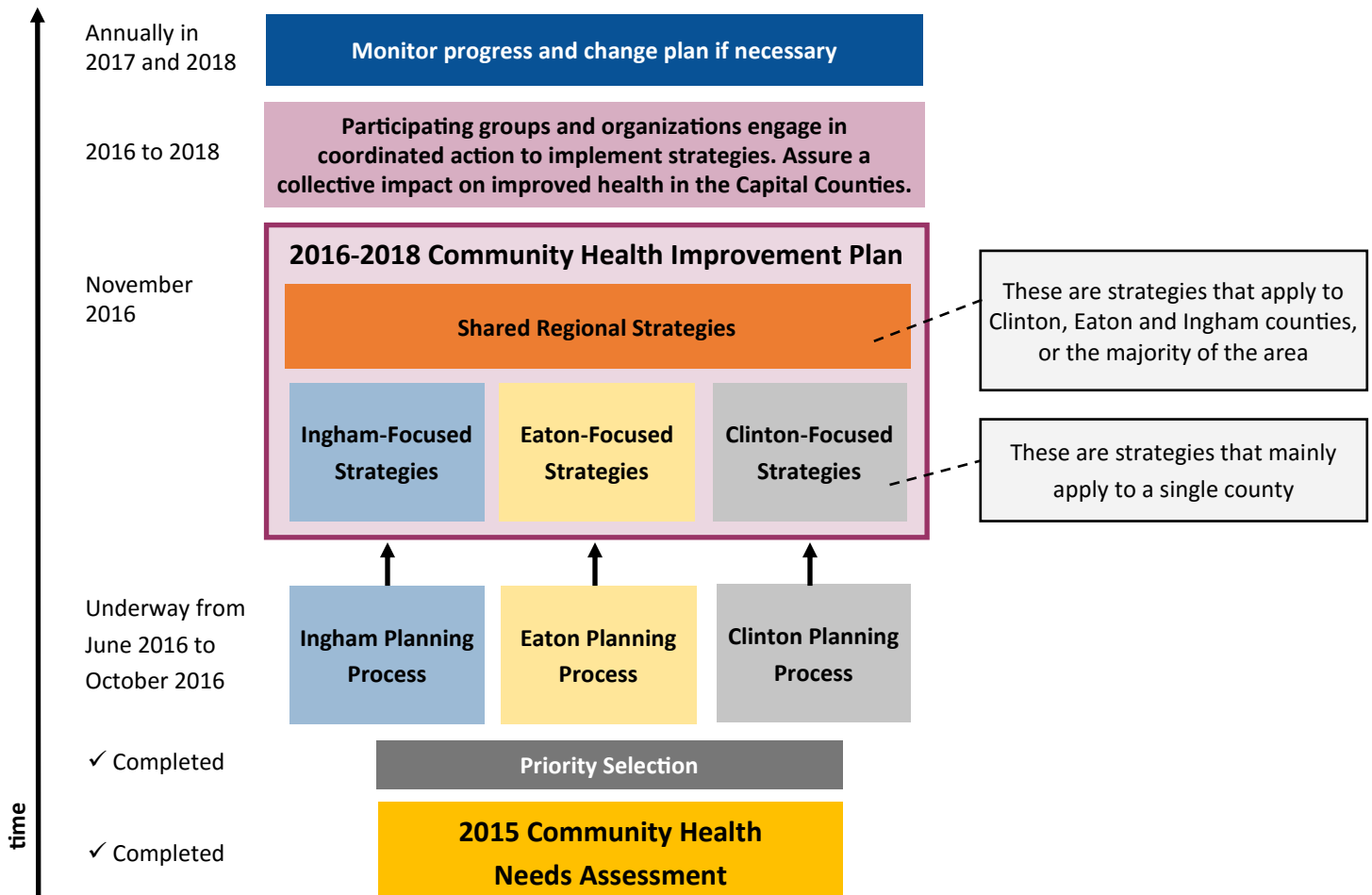
Community Health Improvement Planning Process

In October 2015, a group of partners came together to publish the 2015 Community Health Profile, a Community Health Needs Assessment of the Capital Area. The project gathered information, data, and input from community members throughout 2015. Based on this information, community stakeholders selected a set of priority health issues for Clinton, Eaton, and Ingham counties. These priorities help us to focus on what to work on as organizations, as counties, and as a region to achieve the best health for the people in our area. *See list of priority issues on next page.*

Now, we are embarking on the next step — planning what we will do as a community to improve health. This is called the **Community Health Improvement Plan, or CHIP**. Because none of us can do this work alone, this plan will help us to work together to achieve the largest impact on health. Each county will coordinate a planning process for organizations and partners in their community. We will also identify which strategies are *regional* strategies, affecting residents in the majority of the area. The county plans plus the regional strategies together comprise the CHIP for Clinton, Eaton, and Ingham counties. It will be possible for people to view the entirety of the plan if they are concerned about the region, or just to focus in on a single county if desired. Each health department will ensure that efforts are monitored and evaluated each year to change plans, if necessary.



[Click here to view the 2015 Community Health Profile report](#)



Priority Areas for the Capital Counties:

Access to Quality Healthcare and Access to Primary Healthcare Providers

People need the highest quality healthcare possible that is safe, effective, appropriate, and includes preventive care. People should have access to a primary care provider who is nearby, accessible, and affordable. People should have comprehensive healthcare coverage that protects them from financial distress and encourages healthy behaviors and prevention, and covers all aspects of health, including mental health and dental care.

Financial Stability (including poverty, living wage, income inequality, and other economic factors)

Health is intricately linked to wealth and income, from the top to the bottom of the income range. The more financial security our community has, the better our health will be. Children especially suffer from the effects of growing up in poverty. Adults need opportunities to earn wages that pay for their basic needs. As a community, we should aim to reduce income inequality, as the greater the income inequality, the worse the health of all.

Mental Health (includes stress, depression, access to services, safety)

People should live in a community that supports good mental health, which requires prevention, early intervention, prompt and appropriate treatment, and intensive help for those in crisis. People should have opportunities to manage stress in positive ways. Communities should be safe places where crime and violence are discouraged and prevented.

Chronic Disease (includes cardiovascular disease, diabetes, asthma, cancer, multiple chronic illnesses)

People suffer the greatest sickness and death from chronic diseases, which are often (but not always) preventable. Behaviors and social factors often predict who will be affected by these conditions. People need access to effective, appropriate care for chronic disease, from childhood through adulthood. This care should include evidence-based prevention and treatment strategies. Our communities, schools, and workplaces should be designed to help us choose the healthy choice. People should be connected with supports to assure they can make behavioral changes to improve their health.

How to become involved:

We welcome broad community input and participation into the community health improvement planning processes. Visit our website at www.healthycapitalcounties.org/ for continuing updates.

For Ingham County:

Please contact Janine Sinno, Ph.D at jsinno@ingham.org for more information on the process for Ingham County.

For Eaton County:

Please contact Susan Peters, DVM, MPH at speters@bedhd.org for more information on the process for Eaton County.

For Clinton County:

Please contact Marcus Cheatham, Ph.D at mcheatham@mmdhd.org for more information on the process for Clinton County.

What if we serve more than one county?

What if we serve all three?

We recognize that many organizations and groups are concerned with health in more than one county — that's why we are planning a shared regional strategy portion of the CHIP. You may participate in all of the processes if you wish, or just one. The health departments in each county will compare their plans and assure that those strategies relevant across the counties appear as regional strategies.

The CHIP Process is facilitated by:

