



COMMUNITY HEALTH NEEDS ASSESSMENT 2024

(Tax Year 2023)



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Executive Summary

Muhlenberg County Health Department (MCHD) is pleased to present its 2024-2027 Community Health Needs Assessment (CHNA). This CHNA report includes health assessment data collected in a collaborative process with Owensboro Health Muhlenberg Community Hospital (OHMCH). OHMCH contracted with the Community and Economic Development Initiative of Kentucky (CEDIK) to conduct a CHNA in accordance with the Affordable Care Act (ACA) and section 501(r) of the internal revenue code for nonprofit tax-exempt hospitals. This CHNA is the second report prepared by CEDIK for OHMCH and MCHD, the first was in 2018. This report will be used to create an implementation plan with wide community input to address the identified health needs for the community served by MCHD over the next three years.

Summary of Findings

Methodology

CEDIK facilitated the process of primary data collection through community surveys, focus groups and key informant interviews to create an implementation plan to address identified health needs. In addition, county specific secondary data was gathered to help examine the social determinants of health. Throughout the process, CEDIK and the community steering committee made it a priority to get input from populations that are often not engaged in conversations about their health needs or gaps in service. CEDIK conducted eleven key informant interviews to probe more deeply into health and quality of life themes within the county. Current community resources and potential barriers to accessing resources were also identified in these interviews.

This CHNA report synthesizes community health needs survey data, focus groups with vulnerable populations, and key informant interview data with social and economic data as well as health outcomes data collected from secondary sources to help provide context for the community.

Focus Groups – Community Assets

Muhlenberg County residents identified community assets and strengths that contribute to their continued vision for a healthy and vibrant community that encompasses all who live, work and play here. These assets include great schools, a variety of health care facilities, strong collaborations between community organizations, active programming with Parks and Recreation, wellness centers, service organizations that provide food for those that are food insecure and evidence of a caring community for residents in time of need. This well-resourced county continues to work together to build a community where youth feel safe and protected, can live drug, tobacco and vape free and can enjoy access to trails, recreation and wellness centers.

Focus Groups – Unmet Needs

CEDIK conducted focus groups with representatives of organizations in Muhlenberg County that provide services to populations that are under resourced or experience unmet health needs. The participants provided a view of health challenges and gaps in health care or essential services. The discussions revealed needs among children/youth, low-income, and senior populations. The needs most often mentioned include lack of affordable housing/homelessness, mental health concerns for adults and youth, substance use disorder, tobacco use and vaping, and lack of access to affordable, healthy foods.

Common health issues discussed include: COPD, Cancer, High Blood Pressure and Diabetes as well as an increased number of relatives raising relatives and reports of child abuse. While the county has multiple clinics for primary care some residents have difficulty scheduling appointments or navigating the health care system in general.

Key Informant - Community Themes and Strengths

OHMCH, Muhlenberg County Health Department and CEDIK obtained additional primary data through eleven supplemental interviews with individuals knowledgeable about health and quality of life needs in Muhlenberg County. CEDIK organized the data into strengths, barriers and opportunities for change in Muhlenberg County. Strengths include both health care assets (hospital, health department, FQHC, access to specialty care and behavioral health services) and community assets (good school system, parks and recreation, trails, fitness centers and strong commitment to collaboration among community organizations). Barriers to health care include: lack of public transportation, low health literacy, stigma related to mental health conditions, challenges with missing work to seek medical care for some and a lack of motivation to prioritize health and wellness. The interviews identified a number of opportunities that could improve the health and well-being of Muhlenberg County residents including increased substance use disorder treatment, promotion of available health services, increase services for those experiencing homelessness and additional affordable housing, and adopting a county wide “culture of wellness.”



Prioritized Areas

The Muhlenberg County CHNA Steering Committee reviewed survey results, focus group and key informant interview results as well as key secondary health data. The committee considered existing local, state and national priorities, conducted an open discussion and voted on specific strategic initiatives for the county. Members identified current resources and possible barriers to resources that residents may experience. This information can assist both the hospital and the health department, as implementation plans are developed to address the prioritized health needs.

Muhlenberg County CHNA Steering Committee selected the following priority areas for action:

- Access to Health Care
 - Primary Care providers
 - Specialty Care providers
 - Mental Health providers
- Access to health education and resource information in the following areas:
 - Substance use including vaping, tobacco use, prescription drug misuse, illegal drug use, and harm reduction
 - Obesity/Diabetes/Physical Activity
 - Relatives raising relatives
- Social Determinants of Health
 - Affordable housing
 - Transportation
 - Food insecurity

Acknowledgements

This Community Health Needs Assessment is a joint effort by the Owensboro Health Muhlenberg Community Hospital and the Muhlenberg County Health Department and builds on the community health improvement efforts of the 2021 CHNA.

Eleven key informants shared their time and expertise to provide additional insights on strengths and needs within Muhlenberg County:

- Dr. Brittany Hernandez-Stevenson, NAACP Representative and Muhlenberg Campus Manager, Madisonville Community College
- Casey Davis, Greater Muhlenberg Chamber of Commerce, Executive Director
- Cheryl Spain, Muhlenberg County Senior Citizens Center, Director
- Chris Sparks, Pennyroyal Regional Prevention Center, Coordinator of Substance Use Prevention Services
- David Rhoades, Central City, City Administrator
- Diana Anderson, Pathway of Hope Pregnancy Resource Center, Executive Director
- Kelsey Rolley, Pennyrile Allied Community Services, Case Manager
- Leslie Cornette, Greenville, City Administrator
- Will Ward, Muhlenberg County, Sheriff
- Troy Walker, EMS Owensboro Health Muhlenberg Community Hospital, Director
- Vicki Yonts, SOAR: Early Childhood Education and Co-Chair for Champions for a Drug Free Muhlenberg County, Director

The Community and Economic Development Initiative of Kentucky (CEDIK) at the University of Kentucky provided assistance with the collection and analysis of primary key informant data and compilation of this analysis. CEDIK works with stakeholders to build engaged communities and vibrant economies. If you have questions about CEDIK's assessment process, contact Melody Nall, CEDIK Extension Specialist: melody.nall@uky.edu or (859) 218-5949.

Owensboro Health Muhlenberg Community Hospital and the Muhlenberg County Health Department would like to thank CEDIK, all community partners, and key informants for their contributions to the information compiled in this document.

1. Introduction

1.1 CHNA Report Objective

The purpose of a Community Health Needs Assessment (CHNA) is to understand health needs and priorities in a given community, with the goal of addressing those needs through the development of an implementation strategy. Owensboro Health Muhlenberg Community Hospital (OHMCH) and Muhlenberg County Health Department (MCHD) have produced this CHNA in accordance with the Affordable Care Act (ACA) and section 501(r) of the internal revenue service tax code for nonprofit tax exempt hospitals. The results are meant to guide OHMCH and MCHD in the development of an implementation strategy and to help direct overall efforts to impact priority health needs. OHMCH Board of Directors approved this CHNA on June 10, 2024.

1.2 Owensboro Health Muhlenberg Community Hospital

Owensboro Health is a nonprofit health system with a mission to heal the sick and to improve the health of the communities it serves in Kentucky and Indiana. The system includes Owensboro Health Muhlenberg Community Hospital. OHMCH is affiliated with Owensboro Health Regional Hospital, Owensboro Health Twin Lakes Medical Center, the Owensboro Health Medical Group comprising over 200 providers in more than 20 locations, three outpatient Healthplex facilities, a certified medical fitness facility and the Mitchell Memorial Cancer Center. As the second largest employer in the county, OHMCH employs nearly 500 personnel. OHMCH serves as a large contributor toward the county in many ways. Beginning in 1938, the facility offered limited services such as medical-surgical, laboratory and radiology. OHMCH has expanded to include outpatient therapies, cardiopulmonary rehabilitation, emergency services, home health, pain management, sleep lab, long-term care and Coal Miners' Respiratory Clinic. For more information, visit owensborohealth.org.

1.3 Muhlenberg County Health Department

The Muhlenberg County Health Department mission is to prevent illness and injury, promote good health and assure a safe environment to protect and improve the health of our citizens. The health department's vision for the community of Muhlenberg County is to have a healthy and safe environment, which allows all children and adults to live so that they are able to prosper physically, emotionally, spiritually and financially in the pursuit of their purpose and dream for their lives. Health department services include clinic services, environmental services, Health Access Nurturing Development Services (H.A.N.D.S.), health education, and WIC.

1.4 CHNA Defined Community

For the purposes of its CHNA, OHMCH and MCHD have defined the community as its primary service area of Muhlenberg County, Kentucky. Muhlenberg County will serve as the unit of analysis for this CHNA, and health needs discussed will pertain to residents of Muhlenberg County.

May 2024

Dear Community Citizens,

Thank you for your interest and participation in the Muhlenberg County Health Department 2024 Community Health Needs Assessment (CHNA). The purpose of this assessment is to assist the Muhlenberg County Health Department, in partnership with local entities and healthcare partners, to identify respective social determinants of health, measure the impact of current public health efforts, and guide the appropriate use of resources to prioritize community health needs.



This report contains the data collected from surveys, focus groups, and key informant interviews conducted in our community. The results of this assessment are being reported in conjunction with health information collected from reputable national, state, and local data sources.

The Muhlenberg County Health Department was pleased to collaborate with Owensboro Health Muhlenberg Community Hospital on this CHNA. Our organizations share similar missions “to improve the health of the community we serve.” Through this collaboration on the CHNA, it is our belief that we can have a positive effect on the identified health needs and better serve our community.

Sincerely,

Cathy S. Bethel, MBA, MSN, RN
Public Health Director
Muhlenberg County Health Department

2. Evaluation of Progress Since Prior CHNA

Muhlenberg County Health Department (MCHD) provides leadership through partnerships with the Muhlenberg Health Coalition, Champions for a Drug-Free Muhlenberg County, and others to serve and assist with the programs and services for improvement of Public Health. MCHD utilizes state, federal, taxing district funds and other grant funds to impact priority health areas through projects and programs. Below are specific ways that MCHD is addressing identified needs identified from the Muhlenberg County 2021 CHNA.

Mental Health (including Suicide Prevention)

- Free calming kits have been provided to all elementary schools which include sensory items and breathing techniques.
- We collaborate and participate with all schools for Bullying Prevention month (October) activities.
- Our social media Facebook page informs citizens of programs and services offered by 988 and other local partners within the county for mental health services.
- MCHD collaborates and partners with Pennyroyal Center and True North for service and treatment referrals.
- We provided yoga classes and supplies for senior citizens and kids to promote mindfulness and improve mental health with guided meditation at various locations within the county.

Substance Use (alcohol, tobacco, illegal drugs, prescription drug misuse)

- MCHD educates and provides services through free Harm Reduction program for the prevention of disease, death, and referrals to treatment.
- We expanded Harm Reduction service hours in the health department.
- MCHD offers free Hepatitis C and HIV testing.
- We provide free Fentanyl and Xylazine test strips.
- MCHD offers free community CPR services.
- Our health department provides free Naloxone education and training to the public, families of previous overdoses and participants.
- We assist law enforcement and fire departments with training, supplies and distribution avenues for Naloxone.
- Free Naloxone Community Storage Boxes are to be located at all Fire Departments, Powderly Police Department, and other strategic locations within the county. Contents are education on administration of Naloxone, recovery information, resources available, CPR mask barriers, etc. This is still a work in progress.
- The health department co-chairs with the Champions for a Drug Free Muhlenberg County Coalition. The coalition's goal is preventing and reducing substance abuse among youth through curriculum, training, events, and programs. Champion Youth Agents (CYAs) provide guidance and mentorship within the school system and are involved in other activities as well. Through this partnership and other collaborations, we have provided Narcan training for school administration and nurses and have been able to assist with the implementation of Opioid Response kits at schools. We have also been able to assist local pharmacies by providing Detera bags for drug disposal as well as

RX Destroyers at all the police stations and at the health department. Champions also utilizes newspaper ads, social media posts, and billboards and benches in the community to provide information and bring awareness to substance use.

- Our health department's social media Facebook page informs citizens of programs and services offered to assist those with addiction 988 and the Kentucky State Police Angel Initiative.

Culture of Wellness/Personal responsibility & Obesity/Overweight

- In collaboration with Todd County Health Department, the health department has contracted a Registered Dietitian to come weekly to assist with a wide variety of clinical services including one on one nutrition counseling sessions for numerous conditions.
- MCHD staff started "FIT HAPPENS" which is a free Facebook social media group because regular exercise can be a struggle. Between work, children, and everyday obligations, it can be hard to find time for exercise. For some who find time, sometimes extra funds to purchase a gym membership or exercise equipment can be an obstacle. This group was created to eliminate obstacles to exercising. Content is shared consisting of posts that emphasize the importance of exercise along with demonstrations on how to complete the task with a video supplied by staff.
- The health department staff created "Banquet on a Budget" which is a free Facebook social media group that features a different recipe each week with a focus on health but budget friendly. Each recipe is accompanied by a price comparison for local grocery stores, Walmart, Kroger's, and Food Giant. The focus is to maximize nutrients and limit empty calories producing additions such as unhealthy fats and sugars. Couponing is encouraged to maximize benefits and funds.
- MCHD instituted the Diabetes Prevention Program (DPP) titled "Beat the Sweet." The program is CDC evidenced based and nationally recognized to assist those who want and need lifestyle changes to prevent type 2 Diabetes.
- We are giving out 600 fresh food tokens (\$5 each) in collaboration with Muhlenberg County Farmers Market goods through Dec 31, 2025, available to anyone with information about DPP and Healthy Living with Diabetes.
- MCHD started a Wellness program for senior citizens and teens including "Cooking Matters" for Adults in collaboration with UK Extension office, "Teen Cuisine" in collaboration with UK Extension office and Muhlenberg County High School, "YogaFit" classes in collaboration with Senior Citizens Center, Muhlenberg County Library, Greenville Athletic Club, weekly fitness challenges, senior health and wellness event including walk and a fall prevention talk by Owensboro Health Muhlenberg Community Hospital (OHMCH) physical therapist. Senior Citizens had the "Cooking Matters" for adults, "YogaFit", \$5 tokens, starter kitchen kits (basic tools/spices), \$10 grocery cards weekly during classes, gas cards, hygiene kits, grip socks, fall prevention class with grab bars and gait belts and fitness walk. The teen wellness project included "Teen Cuisine", fitness challenges, "YogaFit", teen reward day with items to help them be fit as prizes. Small children needs are also addressed with the collaboration MCHD has with Soar.
- As part of our health equity project, we gave out 1800 fresh food tokens (\$5 each) in collaboration with the Muhlenberg County Farmers Market for those who participate in getting vaccinations at MCHD, fitness challenges, educational classes with MCHD, Pathway of Hope, UK Extension Office. This is an ongoing project.
- We will be offering a community class by April for caregivers to help reduce fall risks and injuries to caregivers in collaboration with OHMCH physical therapy. We will be providing gait belts and grab bars.
- Through the health equity project, we provided Binder Lifts to OHMCH and fire

departments to prevent back injuries to first responders.

- As a health and safe community project, we offer the 100-mile challenge and a 5K finale for children and adults with giveaways.
- MCHD provides Healthy Living with Diabetes nationally accredited diabetes education program. We provide the latest information on taking care of Diabetes, developing healthy eating practices, and activity plans for individuals. There are tips on taking medication and reducing the risks associated with short- and long-term complications.
- MCHD participates in Dining with Diabetes classes in collaboration with UK Extension office.

Housing and homelessness

- MCHD's director and staff attend and participate in committee meetings regarding housing and homelessness. There is a housing assessment scheduled for the county. We also provide resource guides and referrals based upon the need.
- We donated manual can openers, grip socks, hygiene items, sheets, pillowcases and ready to eat food items to Hope2All.
- The health department offered free cooking classes to all families for 4 weeks using the items obtained from Hope2All box demonstrating how to fix a healthy meal with the ingredients provided.

Access to care/making services available

- In collaboration with Owensboro Health Muhlenberg Community Hospital, MCHD purchased a mobile unit with 2 exam rooms to use in remote areas of the county. We have used this for testing and immunizations. This mobile unit will be used for the county in the event of disasters to provide medical assessments and treatment as needed. It is also used at different events as a first aid station.
- Ready Western KY app will be finished by May 2024 to include content on active shooter, emergency preparedness plus earthquakes, tornadoes, floods, winter weather, MRC, mental health, substance use, harm reduction, communicable disease, disease prevention, smoking/tobacco, healthy living, WIC/HANDS, and immunizations.
- MCHD has extended service hours for Harm Reduction.
- The health department has the Women, Infants, and Childrens (WIC) Program. WIC is a short-term intervention program designed to influence lifetime nutrition and health behavior in high-risk populations. This program is funded by the United States Department of Agriculture.
- MCHD has the Health Access Nurturing Development Services (H.A.N.D.S) which is a voluntary home visiting program for all 1st-time parents residing in Kentucky. Services can begin during pregnancy or any time before a child is 3 months old. H.A.N.D.S. is an educational service that promotes healthy pregnancies, births, healthy child growth and development, healthy and safe homes, and self-sufficient families.
- We held health fairs with the collaboration of other community partners to offer free biometric screenings with referrals to care.
- With the health equity grant, MCHD did the "Hit me with your best shot" campaign providing free Tdap, Influenza, Shingles and Pneumococcal (Pneumovax 23) vaccine with free fresh food tokens given to participants.

Transportation

- As part of the health equity project, we gave gas cards to those completing fitness challenges and educational opportunities.
- Because transportation is a barrier, we utilized the mobile unit in collaboration with OHMCH to provide free testing and immunizations in various locations in the county.

Poverty

- MCHD provided food tokens and free immunizations with the health equity project.

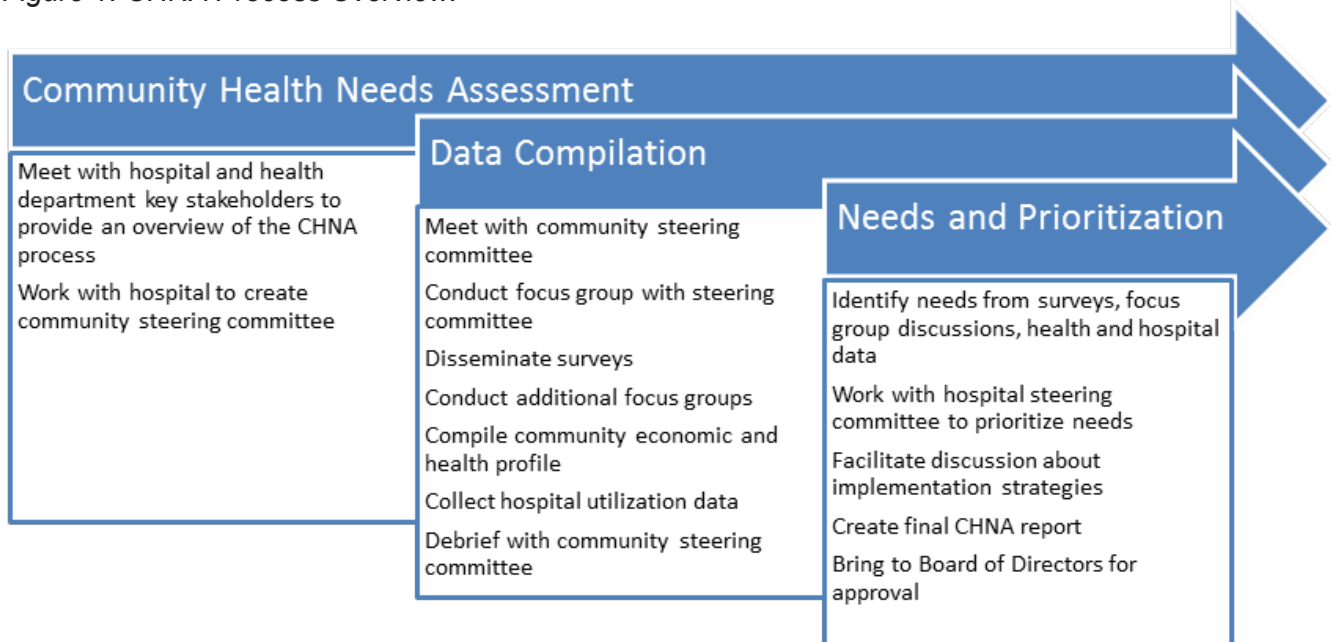


3. CHNA Process

3.1 CHNA Process Overview

Here is an overview of the CHNA process that CEDIK uses based on the IRS guidelines:

Figure 1. CHNA Process Overview.



3.2 The Community Steering Committee

The Community Steering Committee plays a vital role in the CHNA process. CEDIK provides a list of suggested community leaders, agencies and organizations to the hospital and health department to assist them in the recruitment of members that would facilitate broad community input.

These committee members represent organizations and agencies that serve the Muhlenberg County population in a variety of areas that relate to the health of the residents. By volunteering their time, the committee members enable the hospital and health department to acquire input from residents that are often not engaged in conversations about their health needs. The steering committee provides both an expert view of the needs they see while working with clients they serve and in extensive distribution of the community survey.

Owensboro Health Muhlenberg Community Hospital and the Muhlenberg County Health Department scheduled the first steering committee meeting where CEDIK representatives introduced the assessment process, the role and duties of a committee members and conducted a focus group. A final steering committee was held for the reporting of primary data collected from surveys, focus groups and key informant interviews. After the primary data and secondary health data was presented, CEDIK staff led a prioritization process of the identified health needs resulting in recommendations for the hospital, health department and community to address over the next three years.

Table 1. 2024 CHNA Community Steering Committee.

Name	Organization
Cathy Bethel	Muhlenberg County Health Department
Jackie Bratcher	Muhlenberg County Health Department
Jessica Browning	Owensboro Health Muhlenberg Community Hospital
Leslie Cornette	City Administrator - Greenville
Casey Davis	Greater Muhlenberg Chamber of Commerce
Kelly Durall	Community Health Centers of Western Kentucky
Carla Embry	Muhlenberg County Schools (FRYSC)
Ed Heath	Owensboro Health Muhlenberg Community Hospital
Mack McGehee	Muhlenberg County Judge Executive
Sarah McLaughlin	True North Treatment Center
Julie Pendley	Muhlenberg County Schools (Nurses)
Mackenzie Pogue	UK Extension Office
Debbie Zuerner	Owensboro Health
Nicole Leach	Owensboro Health

3.3 Collection of Muhlenberg County Data

The assessment process included collecting secondary data related to the health of the community. Social and economic data as well as health outcomes data were collected from secondary sources to help provide context for the community. Data sources are listed next to the tables and further information (when available) is in the Appendix.

4. Muhlenberg County Secondary Data

The assessment process included collecting secondary data related to the health of the community. Social and economic data as well as health outcomes and providers data were collected from secondary sources to help provide context for the community (see below). In addition, CEDIK compiled hospital utilization data to better understand who was using the facility and for what services (next section). Finally, with the assistance of the Community Steering Committee, input from the community was collected through key informant interviews and surveys.

First we present the demographic, social, economic and health outcomes data that were compiled through secondary sources. Tables 2 through 8 contain data retrieved from the County Health Rankings website. Table 9 provides data from KIPRC, and Table 10 includes data from the Kentucky Cancer Registry. For more information on data sources, please see the Appendix.

Table 2. Demographics.

Indicator	Muhlenberg County	Kentucky	National Level
2022 Population Estimate	30,455	4,512,310	333,271,411
Percent of Population under 18 years	20.5%	22.3%	21.7%
Percent of Population 65 year and older	20.3%	17.6%	17.3%
Percent of Population Non-Hispanic White	92.8%	83.2%	58.9%
Percent of Population Non-Hispanic Black	3.6%	8.4%	14.1%
Percent of Population Hispanic	1.9%	4.3%	19.1%
Percent of Population Asian	0.3%	1.8%	6.3%
Percent of Population American Indian & Alaska Native	0.3%	0.3%	1.3%
Percent Native Hawaiian/Other Pacific Islander	0.0%	0.1%	0.3%
Percent of the Population not Proficient in English	0%	1%	8.2%
Percent of the Population Female	48.8%	50.3%	50.4%
Percent of the Population Rural	63.5%	41.3%	13.8%

Indicator	Muhlenberg County	Kentucky	Top US Performers
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Table 3. Physical Environment

Average daily density of air pollution - PM 2.5	8.5	8.2	5
Presence of drinking water violations	Yes	n/a	n/a
Percentage of severe housing problems with at least one of the following; Overcrowding, high housing costs, or lack of kitchen or plumbing facilities	14%	13%	8%
Percentage of workforce driving alone to work	86%	73%	70%
Percentage of workforce commuting alone for more than 30 minutes	34%	31%	17%

Table 4. Social and Economic Environment

Percentage of adults ages 25 and over with a high school diploma or equivalent	90%	88%	96%
Percentage of ages 25-44 with some post-secondary college	47%	63%	73%
Percent of unemployed job-seeking population 16 years and older	6.7%	3.9%	2.6%
Percent of children in poverty	23%	21%	11%
Income inequality ratio	5.5	4.9	3.7
Percent of children in single-parent households	22%	25%	13%
Median household income	\$48,190	\$59,246	-
Social association rate per 10,000 population	19.5	10.2	18
Injury death rate per 100,000 population	110	106	64

Table 5. Food Access

Percentage of population who lack adequate access to food	13.8%	12.9%	-
Percentage of population who are low-income and do not live close to a grocery store	5.2%	6.4%	-
Percentage of children enrolled in public schools that are eligible for free or reduced-price lunch	62.9%	56.9%	-

Indicator	Muhlenberg County	Kentucky	Top US Performers
Table 6. Clinical Care			
Percent uninsured adults	8.4%	7.9%	-
Percent uninsured children	3.9%	3.8%	-
Primary care provider ratio	3,069:1	1,601:1	1,030:1
Dentist ratio	3,807:1	1,502:1	1,180:1
Mental health provider ratio	1,171:1	342:1	230:1
Preventable hospital stays for ambulatory-care sensitive conditions per 100,000 Medicare enrollees	3,370	3,457	1,558
Percent of population FFS Medicare enrollees receiving flu vaccinations	29%	44%	53%
Percent of female Medicare enrollees ages 65-74 receiving mammography screening	44%	42%	52%
Table 7. Health Behaviors			
Percent adult smokers	24%	20%	14%
Percent obese adults with BMI ≥ 30	41%	41%	32%
Percent physically inactive adults	31%	30%	20%
Percent of population with access to exercise opp.	61%	70%	90%
Percent of adults excessively/binge drinking	14%	15%	13%
Percent of driving deaths due to alcohol impairment	10%	26%	10%
Chlamydia rate (newly diagnosed) per 100,000 pop.	303.0	410.3	151.7
Teen birth rate (ages 15-19) per 100,000 pop.	44	26	9
Drug overdose mortality rate per 100,000 pop.	22	43	-
Motor vehicle crash deaths per 100,000 pop.	24	18	-
Table 8. Health Outcomes			
Premature death rate (under age 75) per 100,000 pop.	11,889	11,055	6,000
Child mortality rate (under age 18) per 100,000 pop.	67	59	-
Percent of live births with low birth weight	9.8%	8.9%	6%
Percent of population in fair/poor health	23.3%	21.1%	13%
Physically unhealthy days	5.2	4.5	3.1
Percent of population in frequent physical distress	15.2%	14.0%	-
Mentally unhealthy days	5.8	5.5	4.4
Percent of population who are diabetic	11.2%	12.4%	-
HIV prevalence rate	87.6	214.5	-

	2018	2022
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Table 9. Substance Use Rates, Muhlenberg County

Any Drug-Involved Fatal Overdose, rate per 100K population	<i>Suppressed</i>	<i>Suppressed</i>
Any Drug-Involved Non-Fatal Overdose, rate per 100K population	236.9	296.5
ED Visit with a SUD Diagnosis, rate per 100K population	944.5	794.9

Table 10. Top 10 Invasive Cancer Incidence Rates

<i>All Genders, All Races, 2016-2020</i>	Muhlenberg County	Crude Rate	Age-adjusted Rate
Total all sites over five years ('16-'20)	1,023	664	478.1
Prostate (males only)	114	144.8	106.2
Lung and Bronchus	208	135	92
Breast	105	68.2	50
Colon & Rectum	88	57.1	41.5
Kidney and Renal Pelvis	47	30.5	21.5
Melanoma of the Skin	42	27.3	21.3
Miscellaneous	47	30.5	21.2
Urinary Bladder, invasive and in situ	47	30.5	20.1
Non-Hodgkin Lymphoma	41	26.6	18.8
Corpus Uteri (females only)	16	21.2	16.2

Next, we present data trends from 2019-2024 for several of the County Health Rankings variables in the prior tables. The blue lines represent Muhlenberg County's data, and the gray lines are the Kentucky average for comparison. Further, each graph includes a title of the data, and either a yellow circle or green diamond that helps the reader quickly determine if the data indicate an improving trend (green), or a worsening trend (yellow). For more information on data sources, please see the Appendix.

Figure 2. Health Outcomes

Note: Muhlenberg County is in **blue**, the Kentucky average is in **gray**.

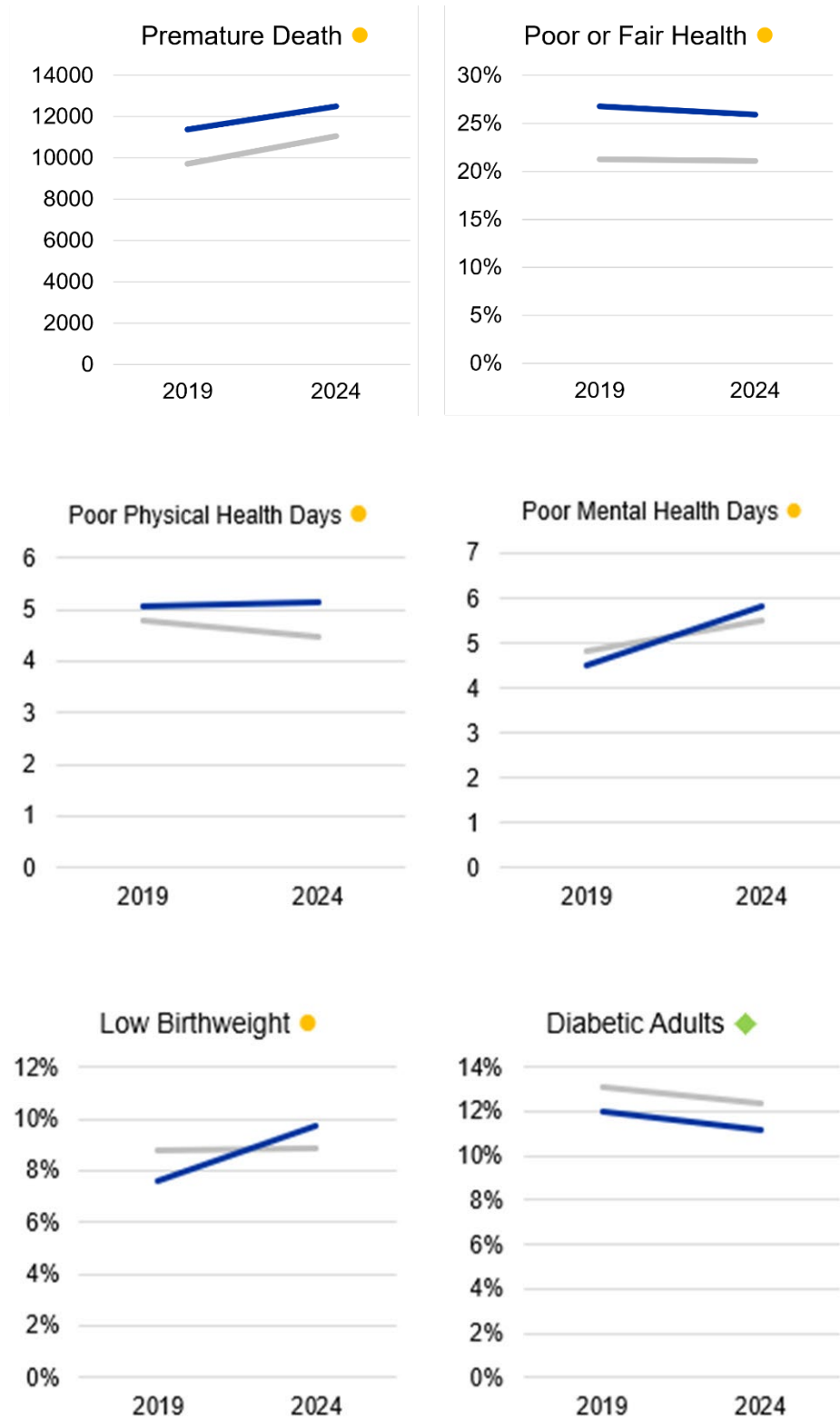


Figure 3. Health Behaviors

Note: Muhlenberg County is in **blue**, the Kentucky average is in **gray**.

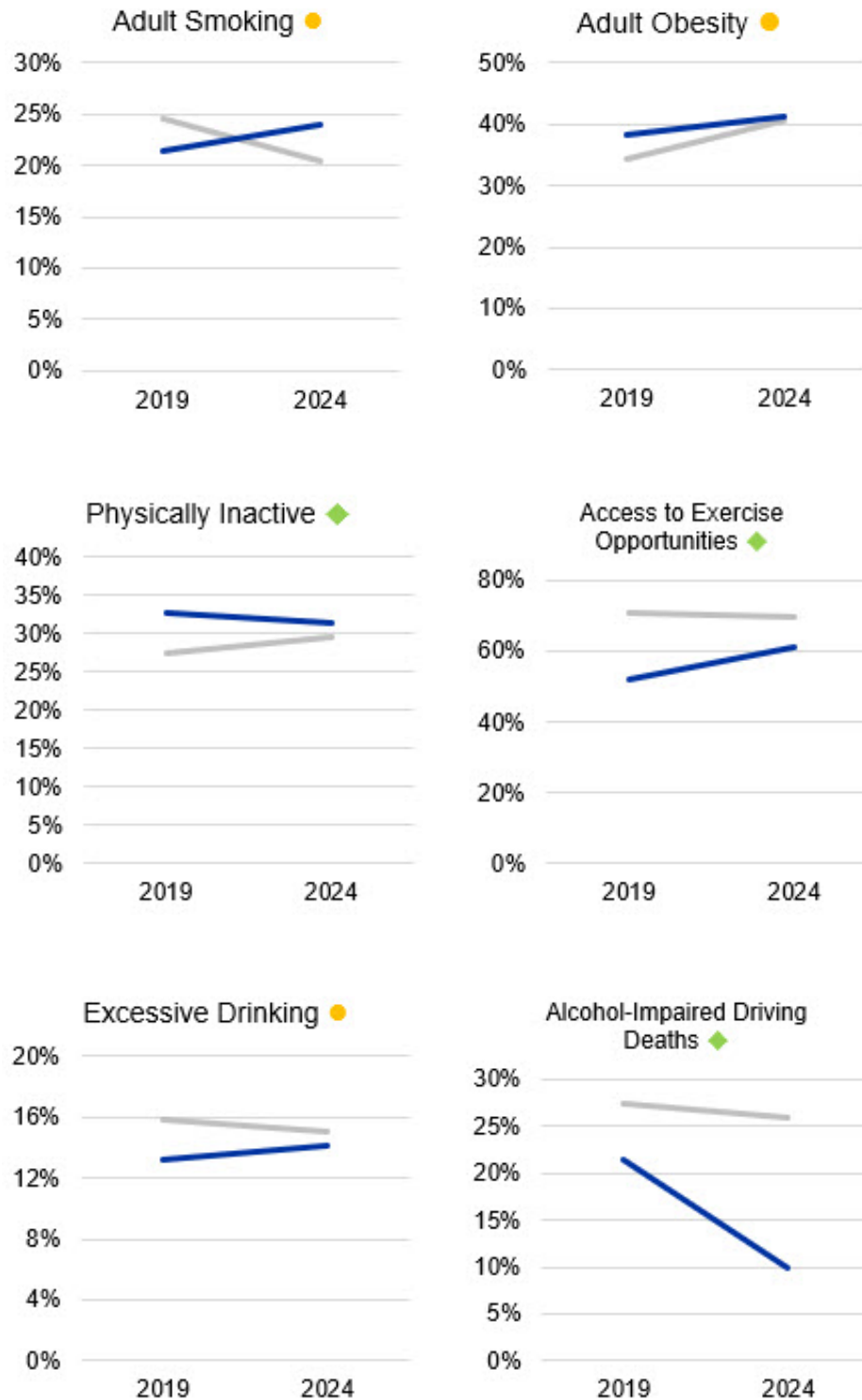


Figure 3. Health Outcomes, continued

Note: Muhlenberg County is in **blue**, the Kentucky average is in **gray**.

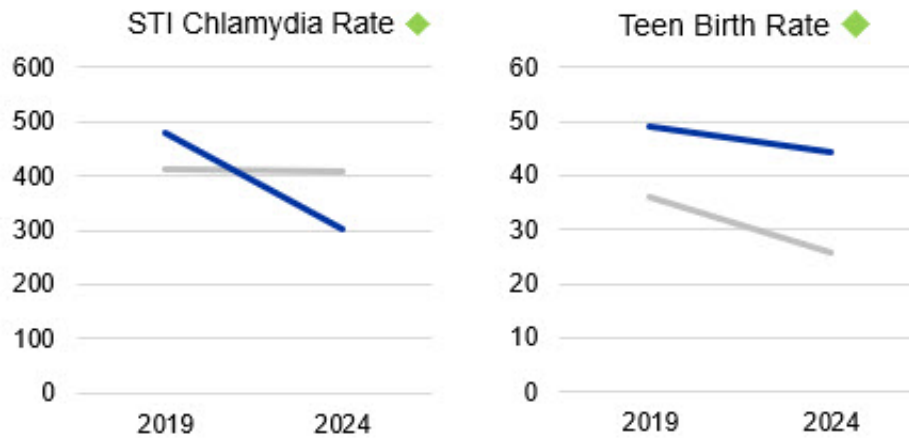


Figure 4. Access to Care

Note: Muhlenberg County is in **blue**, the Kentucky average is in **gray**.

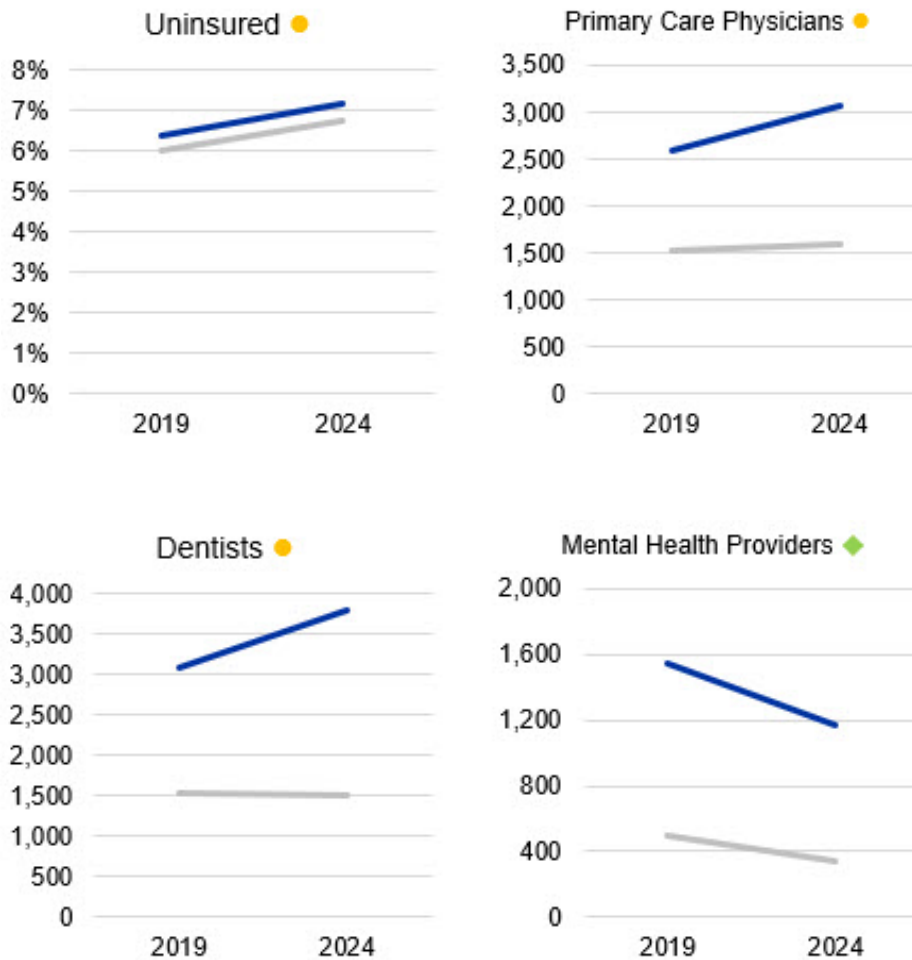


Figure 5. Social and Economic Factors

Note: Muhlenberg County is in **blue**, the Kentucky average is in **gray**.

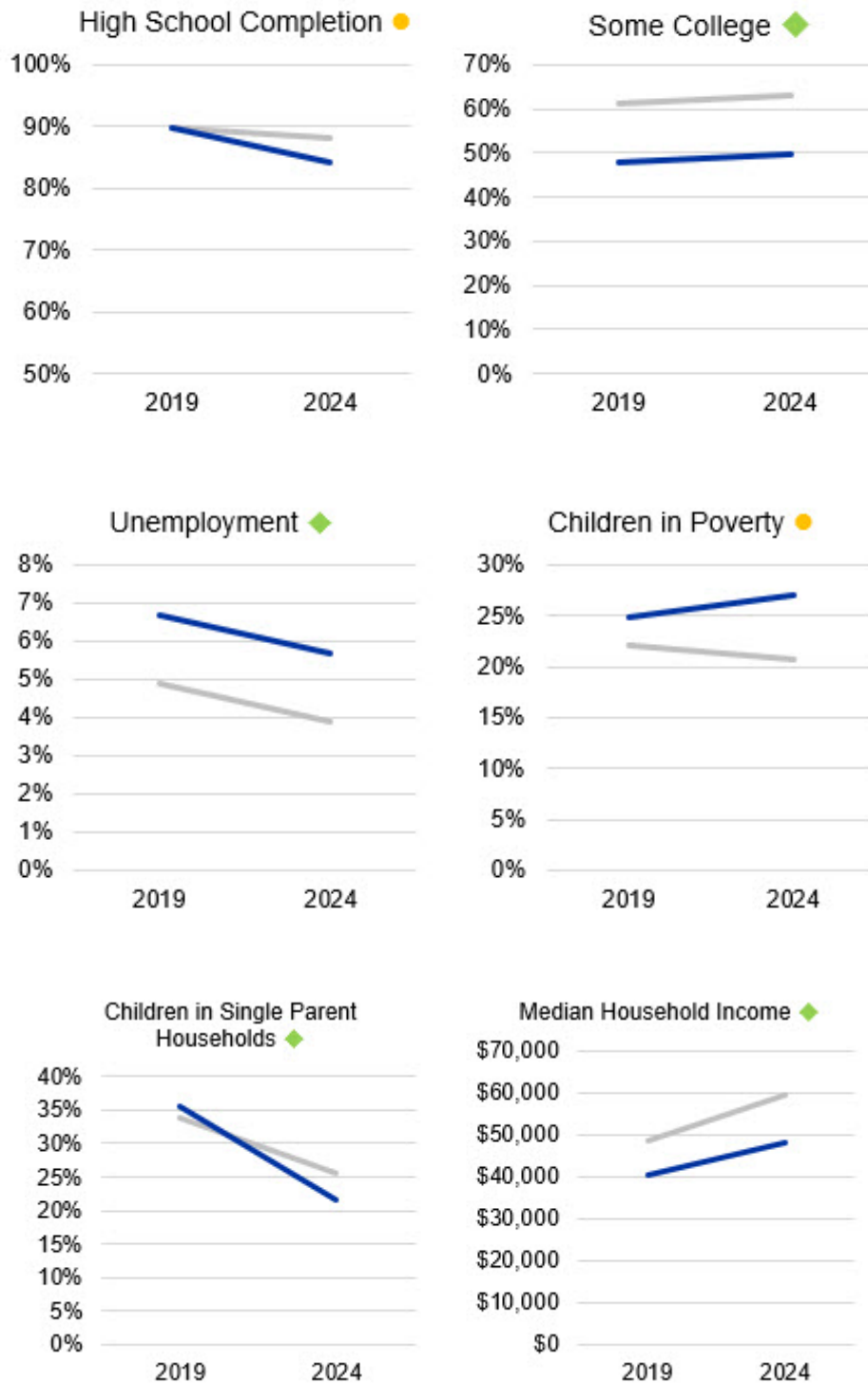


Figure 5. Social and Economic Factors, continued

Note: Muhlenberg County is in **blue**, the Kentucky average is in **gray**.

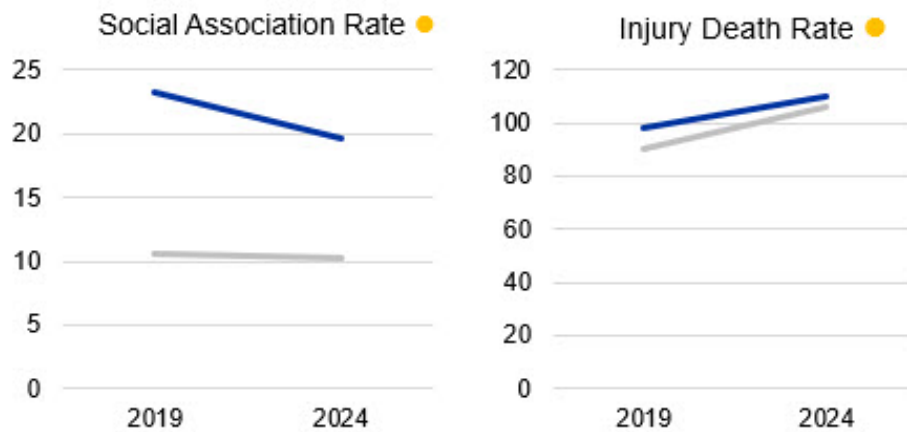


Figure 6. Physical Environment

Note: Muhlenberg County is in **blue**, the Kentucky average is in **gray**.

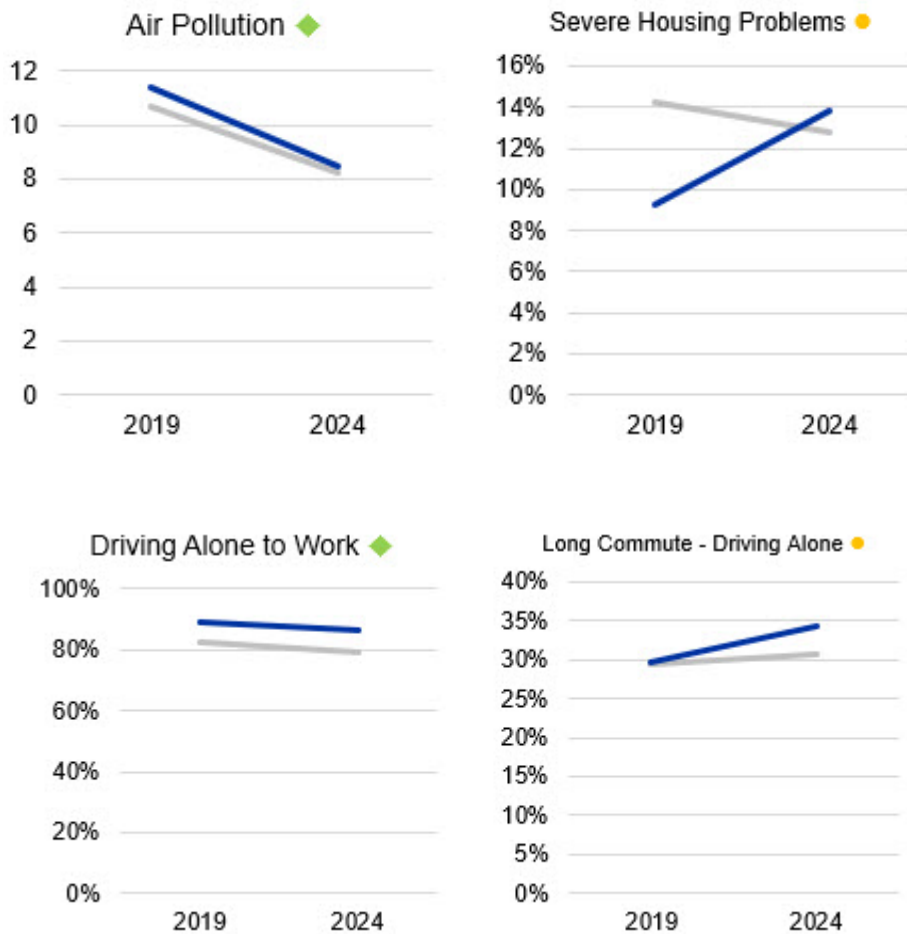
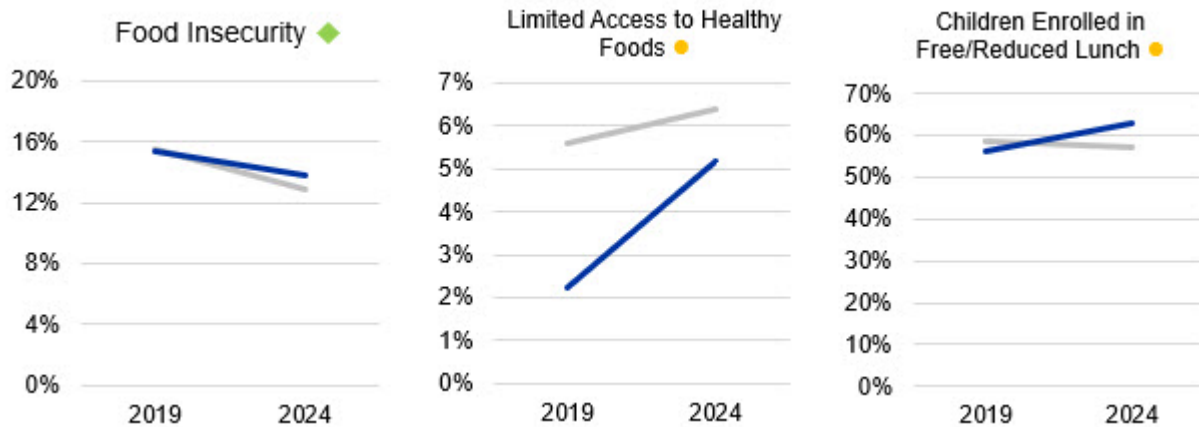


Figure 7. Food Access

Note: Muhlenberg County is in **blue**, the Kentucky average is in **gray**.



5. Community Feedback

To gather Muhlenberg County resident feedback, CEDIK facilitated the process of primary data collection through community surveys, focus groups and key informant interviews. Throughout the process, CEDIK and the community steering committee made it a priority to get input from populations that are often not engaged in conversations about their health needs or gaps in service. This CHNA report synthesizes community health needs survey data, focus groups with vulnerable populations.

5.1 Community Survey

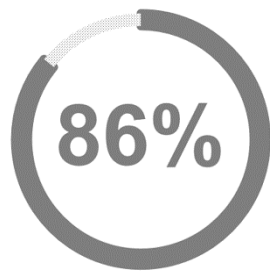
661 Respondents completed the “Muhlenberg County Community Health Needs Assessment Survey” in early 2024. The survey is included in the Appendix. A summary of the survey results can be found on the next page.

Muhlenberg Community Hospital Survey Results

WINTER 2023

Respondent Demographics

661
Respondents



Respondents describe themselves as female.

Additional responses: Male (12%), Other (1%), Prefer not to answer (1%).

Respondents by age group:

18-24	7%
25-39	23%
40-54	35%
55-64	20%
65-69	9%
70 or older	7%



Respondents are white.

Additional responses: African American/Black (1%), Prefer not to answer (1%).

Respondents by educational attainment:

Master's/doctoral degree	22%
Associate/bachelor's degree	32%
Some college/In college	19%
High school grad/GED	19%
Less than 12 years	2%



Respondents are employed full-time.

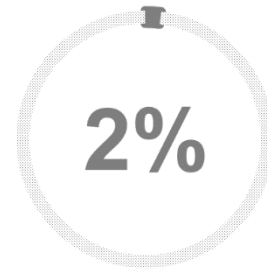
Additional responses: Retired (13%), Employed part-time (8%), Disabled (5%), Stay at home parent/caregiver (4%), Unemployed (1%).

Respondents by annual household income:

\$0 - \$24,999	12%
\$25,000 - \$49,999	18%
\$50,000 - \$74,999	19%
\$75,000 - \$99,999	14%
\$100,000 or more	23%
Prefer not to answer	14%

Respondents by primary source of income:

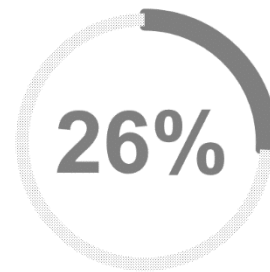
Wages from employment	75%
Social Security/Disability Social Security	11%
Pension/retirement plan	9%
Self-employment	2%
Support from family members	2%



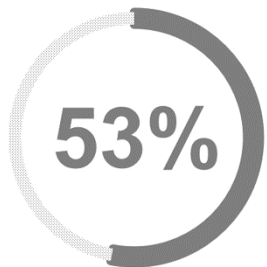
Respondent households have had their electricity, water, or heating fuel turned off in the last 12 months.

Respondents by type of medical insurance:

Private insurance, through an employer	66%
Medicare/Medicaid	25%
Private insurance, paid by me/family member	7%
I do not have insurance	2%



Respondent households have delayed health care because of lack of money and/or insurance.

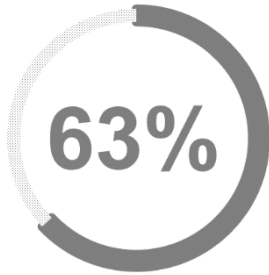


Respondent households have at least one child in their home.

Primary caretaker of child(ren) in the home:

Parent	49%
Grandparent	3%
Other <i>Aunt, uncle, etc.</i>	1%
No Children in the home	47%

Where respondents and their household members go for routine health care:

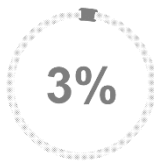


Go to a
Physician's
office.

Respondents also use these options:

Urgent Care	24%
Emergency Room	5%
Do not receive routine health care	3%
Health Department	2%
Other	3%

Barriers that keep respondents from receiving routine health care:



Respondents that do not
receive routine health
care.

Respondents identified these barriers:

Cannot afford it	28%
No appointment available	8%
Cannot take off work	8%
No specialist in my community	4%
Other	52%
<i>no need/only go when needed; not enough physicians; don't have primary care</i>	

Presence of reliable/affordable transportation:



Have a reliable
vehicle when
needed.

Other responses:

I use PACS, GRITS, or other public transit	1%
I have a vehicle, at times can't afford gas	1%
I often can't get a ride	1%

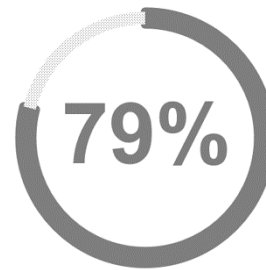
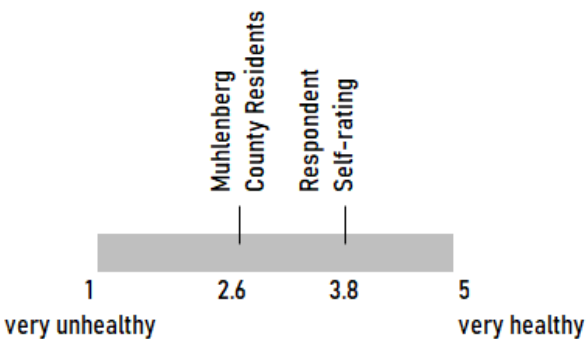
The top three health challenges respondent households face:

Overweight/obesity	25%
High blood pressure	23%
Diabetes	15%
Mental health issues	14%
Heart disease and stroke	8%
Respiratory/lung disease	6%
Cancer	4%
Other <i>arthritis, thyroid, autoimmune disorders, kidney/renal failure</i>	6%

Care that respondents have had to travel more than 20 miles to receive:

Gynecological/Obstetrical/pregnancy related care	21%
Routine medical/dental/eye care	20%
Heart care	14%
Chronic condition care (COPD, diabetes, high blood pressure etc.)	12%
Behavioral/mental health care	8%
Cancer care	7%
Substance abuse/drug abuse/alcohol abuse treatment	1%
Other <i>Dermatologist, Rheumatologist, Orthopedic, Neurology, kidney doctor</i>	19%

Respondent rating of their personal health, and the physical health of their community:



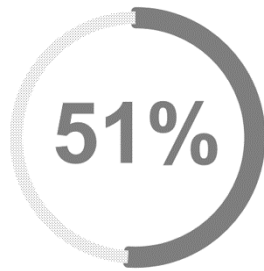
Respondent households are satisfied with the ability to access health care services in Muhlenberg County.

The top three most important factors for a healthy community:

Low crime/safe neighborhood	14%
Positive place to raise children	13%
Good school systems	12%
Healthy economy (job opportunities, low poverty rate)	12%
Access to primary care	10%
Affordable and good housing	9%
Religious or spiritual values	6%
Access to medical specialists	5%
Access to behavioral and mental health care	4%
Access to affordable dental services	3%
Availability of care for senior citizens (assisted care, long-term care)	3%
Access to parks and recreation	3%
Low disease rate	2%
Transportation	2%
Access to affordable optometrists	1%
Excellent race relations	1%
Other	1%

The top three most unhealthy behaviors in Muhlenberg County:

Drug abuse	30%
Overweight/poor eating habits and lack of exercise	19%
Alcohol abuse	16%
Prescription drug use	13%
Tobacco use	11%
Unsafe sex	4%
Dropping out of school	4%
Other	2%



Respondents do not think Muhlenberg County meets these factors for a healthy community.

5.2 Focus Groups

Focus groups provide an opportunity to have a facilitated discussion about health needs and issues that affect residents of Muhlenberg County. Specifically, organizations that work with or represent underserved populations such as children, families and senior citizens. 5 focus groups were conducted during the assessment time frame and 64 individuals participated in the discussions. Below is the summary of the questions and responses of the participants thoughts, opinions and experiences related to health care needs in their community.

What are the strengths/assets of Muhlenberg County?

Community

- Many resources for a small community
- Strong programming partners
 - UK Extension
 - Library
 - Parks and recreation
 - Free events for children
 - Good school system with Family Resource Centers in every school
- Strong faith community
- Madisonville Community College - Central City campus
- Strong sense of caring/helping each other
- Safe community
- Collaborative community
- Vibrant arts and culture
- Felix Martin Foundation
- Organizations addressing food insecurity
 - Hope2All food bank
 - Backpack and summer feeding program for children

Healthy Lifestyle Opportunities

- Parks, ball fields, walking trails, Rails to Trails
- Multiple wellness centers in county
- Felix Martin Foundation funded wellness center in local high school
- Free classes through Health Department
- Adaptive PE program in schools, ADA playground

Access to Care

- Care available in county
 - Hospital
 - Urgent care
 - Specialists
 - Treatment Center & Celebrate Recovery
 - Health Department
 - Great dentists
- Partnership with OH has improved quality of care

What are the most significant health problems in Muhlenberg County?

Improving access to health care

- Care for children
 - Mental health
 - Occupational therapy
 - Physical therapy
 - Speech therapy
 - Dental care
- Dental services for Medicaid population
- Difficulty accessing Primary Care Physician when sick (long appointment wait times)
- Outside referral to specialists means travel and expenses
- Better communication of health and medical resources available
- Mental health care for men
- Sober living for mothers and children
- Asthma medication (inhalers) shortage
- Access to quality hearing screenings

Food access

- Food insecurity – children and elderly
 - Inflation and food prices
 - Lack of access to affordable, healthy foods
- Education on how to prepare and what to eat
- Hope2All food bank feeding 800-900 people per month
 - Transportation is a barrier to the accessing the food bank
 - Successful backpack program for elementary schools, more challenging getting backpacks distributed in middle and high school

Chronic disease

- Mental health
- Substance misuse/drugs
- Obesity
 - Lack of healthy food
 - Diabetes affecting children and adults
- Lung diseases
 - COPD
 - Cancer

Improved healthy choices

- Vaping in adults and youth
- Substance misuse
 - Children influenced by adults/parents
 - Choosing healthy food options
- Teen pregnancy
- Online bullying through social media
- Need for safe activities for youth in community
- Increased reports of violence towards children at home

Economic security/Community vitality

- Poverty
- Lack of affordable and quality housing
- Loss of employers in county – reduced or lost wages
- Lack of jobs with higher wages and health benefits
- Grandparents raising grandchildren
- Inability for some to pay utility bills
- Lack of vocational job training in county
- Need for public transportation
- Lack of childcare facilities – especially that take infants
- Homeless or underhoused (multiple families living together, students living with friends, families living in campers)

What is your perception of the current health care system including the hospital, health department, physicians, EMT, and other essential services in Muhlenberg County? (*Essential services include public utilities, access to healthy food, access to housing, etc.)*

Strengths

- Recovery opportunities
 - TrueNorth treatment center
 - Celebrate Recovery at 2 local churches
 - 4 sober living houses in county
- Urgent care available
- Great Health Department programs
 - Diabetes prevention and pre-diabetes education by Health Department
- Increase in mental health services – though there is still a need for more
- Owensboro Health
 - Owensboro Health funds school nurses on campus at each school
 - Owensboro Health Healthplex is convenient for lab tests and x-rays without travel
 - Owensboro Health Muhlenberg CountyHospital provides quality care and increase in services provided
- Great variety of specialists located in county or that travel to the county
- Summer feeding program and backpack program for students
- Harm reduction program in county
- Telehealth available for behavioral health

Opportunities

- Increase pediatric care
 - Specialty care
 - Mental health services
 - Dental care
 - Access to child health records
 - Improve wait times for child assessments (ex. Autism screening)
- Increase communication about available services in community (health and other community services)
- Improve services second chance employment, such as providing service to access required ID cards in the county
- Provide education and focus on men's health, including mental health

- Need for affordable prescriptions
 - Asthma
 - Hepatitis
 - HIV
- Mommy and me sober living houses
- Improved access to transportation to essential needs and services
 - Medical appointments
 - Food bank
 - Work
- Affordable, quality housing
- Improve access to healthy foods

What are barriers to improving health in Muhlenberg County?

Health care

- Access to care
 - Specialty
 - Primary care
- Stigma associated with care
 - Substance use disorder
 - Mental health
- Social anxiety can lead to difficulty engaging to get assistance
- Insurance coverage
 - Mental health
 - Substance use
- Limited availability of appointments for therapies and assessments for children

Community

- Transportation to essential needs and services
 - Medical appointments
 - After school activities
 - No public transportation available
 - Some rural residents have to drive 20+ minutes to access a park/recreation opportunity
- Communication about resources
- Quality, affordable childcare in county
- Housing
- Change mindset – generational issue with disability
- Language as a barrier
 - Growing ESL population – language
- No homeless shelter
- High cost
 - Exercise facilities
 - Healthy food
- Unsafe community spaces
- Pre-paid phones for clients – minutes run out

What could be done in Muhlenberg County to better meet you/your family's health needs?

Health care

- Eliminate transportation barrier
 - Mobile dental unit (similar to HealthFirst from Owensboro)
 - Increase PACS services or another format of public transportation for medical appointments
- Dental care for those in recovery
- Smoking cessation programs
- Focus on prevention – become recovery ready community, health education for all ages
- Faith based therapists – mental health and addiction
- More specialists
 - Pediatrics
 - Mental health
 - Dentists

Community

- Activities for children with special needs
- Resources for grandparents/great-grandparents raising children
- Community gardens for fresh food – community service for those in recovery
- Life Skills classes – cooking, cleaning, hygiene,
- Affordable gyms and wellness centers
- Economic development
 - New jobs with benefits
 - Expand existing businesses
 - Job fair – second chance employment
- Public transportation, establishing rideshare for work
- Housing
 - Improved access to affordable housing
 - Transitional housing



5.3 Key Informant Interviews

As a mechanism to examine needs that surfaced in focus group discussions, the hospital and health department leadership provided contact information for potential key informant interviews to be conducted. Below is the list of interviewees and a summary of their responses highlighting comments, identifying the strengths of the community, challenges/barriers in broader health care system and opportunities for improving the community's health.

Participants:

- Dr. Brittany Hernandez-Stevenson, NAACP Representative and Muhlenberg Campus Manager, Madisonville Community College
- Casey Davis, Greater Chamber of Commerce, Executive Director
- Cheryl Spain, Muhlenberg County Senior Citizens Center, Director
- Chris Sparks, Pennyroyal Regional Prevention Center, Coordinator of Substance Use Prevention Services
- David Rhoades, Central City, City Administrator
- Diana Anderson, Pathway of Hope, Executive Director
- Kelsey Rolley, PACS, Case Manager
- Leslie Cornette, Greenville, City Administrator
- Will Ward, Muhlenberg County, Sheriff
- Troy Walker, EMS Owensboro Health Muhlenberg Community Hospital, Director
- Vicki Yonts, SOAR: Early Childhood Education and Co-Chair for Champions for a Drug Free Muhlenberg County, Director

What are the most significant or common needs in Muhlenberg County?

Substance Use

- Drugs
 - Marijuana
 - Meth
 - Fentanyl
 - Opioids
- Tobacco
 - Vaping and dipping in youth

Basic Needs

- Housing
 - Housing shortage impacts everyone
 - Housing study in process
- Homelessness
 - People living in hotels
 - Local organization working address homelessness
 - Cost is a barrier
- Food insecurity
 - Some people forced to choose between groceries and prescriptions
 - Students/children greatly impacted by issue
 - Access is there, but cost is a barrier
- Transportation
 - Patients traveling outside of community for specialty care
 - No public transportation

- Wheel chair transportation and lift assist is needed – can be a burden on ambulatory services
- Cost is a barrier
- Services available, but if insurance will not pay for service patient suffers

Access to care

- Many facilities, but it can be difficult to get an appointment.
- Lack of affordable childcare
- Underinsured – Insurance doesn't provide the same amount of coverage as it did in the past
- Not enough primary care providers, causing some people to use ER or Urgent Care
- Mental Health
 - Stigma against care
 - Lack of resources and care
- Senior Citizens
 - Disposing of prescriptions
 - Afraid to be pulled over with medications in car
- Jobs
- Chronic diseases
 - Obesity and diabetes
 - High blood pressure
 - Cancers
 - Heart disease
- Abuse of systems

What is your perception of the current health care system including the hospital, health department, physicians, EMT, and other essential services in Muhlenberg County? (*Essential services include public utilities, access to healthy food, access to housing, etc.)*

Strengths

- Presence well known – hospitals, health departments, urgent cares, etc.
- Strong collaboration between groups
- Good partners for community
- Successful programs/partners include:
 - Celebrate Recovery
 - Champions Youth Coalition
 - Drug-Free community grant
 - SOAR: Early Childhood Education
 - Active faith communities
 - Extension office
 - Felix Martin Foundation
- Increased services
- Active downtowns with lots of activities for families
- Pain management clinic at the hospital reduces travel for those with chronic pain

Opportunities for improvement

- Increase communication between physicians and patients
- In school preventative services
- Increase mental health care
 - More providers
 - Inpatient behavioral health treatment facilities in county for SUDs, mental health, or suicide
- More providers
 - Specialty care
 - Primary care
 - Dentists that accept state backed insurances
- Jobs with a living wage
- Transportation
- Connecting people to resources so that some are not misused
 - Ex. Ambulance/Fire Department being called for Lift Assist
- After hours care
- Education on resources
- Early intervention/preventative care
- Services for Seniors
 - Prescription assistance
 - Transportation
 - Senior Day Care
 - Health care navigators

What could be done to better meet health needs in Muhlenberg County?

- Utilize Housing Study findings to address need
- Accessibility
 - Ramps
 - Lift Assist
 - Mobility within homes
 - Electric wheelchairs
- Health education and interventions
 - In schools
 - Empowering community members to take control of their health
- Reduced cost of/assistance programs for:
 - Health care
 - Transportation services
 - Housing
 - Prescriptions
 - Food
- Inpatient treatment facilities in county
- Jobs with a living wage
- Opportunities for young people
- Mentoring programs to connect seniors with youth
- Collaboration between groups
- Target and meet vulnerable populations “where they are”
- Education on resources
- Transportation

6. Selected Priority Areas

The final Muhlenberg County CHNA steering committee meeting was held on March 28th, 2024, to review findings from the community surveys, focus groups, key informant interviews and county specific secondary health data.

The process of priority selection followed the Association for Community Health Improvement (ACHI) recommendations to consider:

- The magnitude of the problem (i.e., the number of people or the percentage of a population impacted).
- The severity of the problem (i.e., the degree to which health status is worse than the national norm).
- A high need among vulnerable populations.
- The community's capacity/willingness to act on the issue.
- The ability to have a measurable impact on the issue.
- Community resources already focused on the issue.
- Whether the issue is a root cause of other problems.

CEDIK staff led a facilitated discussion with members of the committee on the findings and identified the following to recommend as needs for the hospital to address in the next three years:

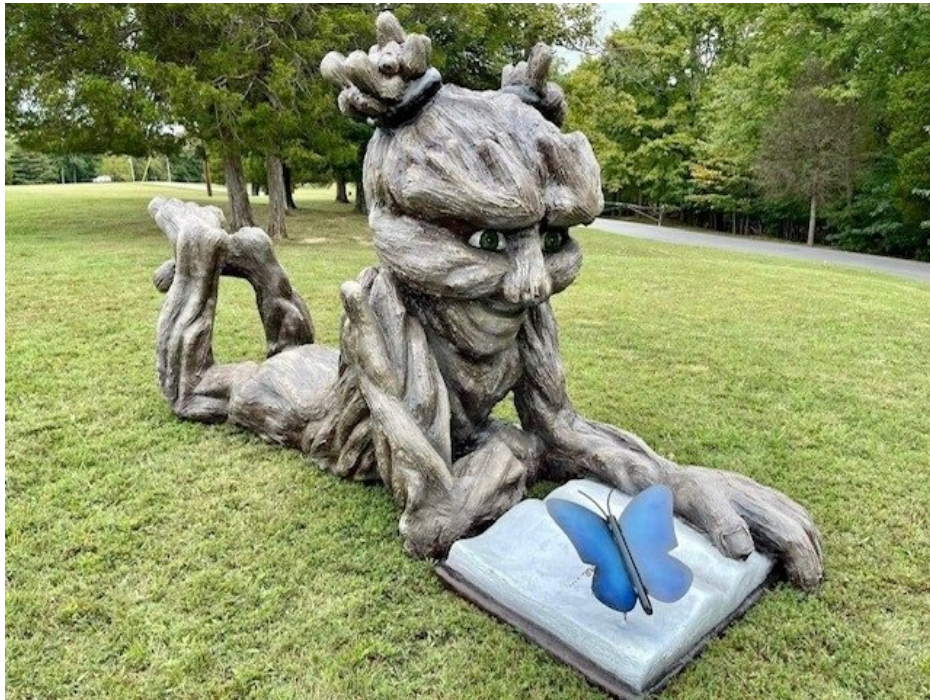
- Access to Health Care
 - Primary Care providers
 - Specialty Care providers
 - Mental Health providers
- Access to health education and resource information in the following areas:
 - Substance use including vaping, tobacco use, prescription drug misuse, illegal drug use, and harm reduction
 - Obesity/Diabetes/Physical Activity
 - Relatives raising relatives
- Social Determinants of Health
 - Affordable housing
 - Transportation
 - Food insecurity

7. Conclusion

Muhlenberg County is a community with many assets, with a caring community spirit being an important driver in the approach to community health improvements through collaborative efforts. While there are many areas of need in the county, this report identifies priority areas that Muhlenberg County Health Department will use for guidance in planning its community benefit efforts and strategic direction for addressing health needs related to mental health (including suicide), substance use, culture of wellness/personal responsibility, housing and homelessness, obesity/overweight, access to care/making services available, transportation, children being raised by people other than parents, and poverty. Further investigation may be necessary for determining and implementing the most effective interventions.

An implementation strategy will be developed and rolled out over the next three years; periodic evaluation of goals/objectives for each identified priority will be conducted to assure that progress is on track per the implementation plan.

Community feedback to the report is an important step in the process of improving community health. Please send your comments to Cathy Bethel at CathyS.Bethel@ky.gov



Appendix

Source listing for secondary data used in this report.

Social and Economic Environment

Indicator	Original Source	Year
Percentage of adults ages 25 and over with a high school diploma or equivalent.	American Community Survey, 5-year estimates	2015-2019
Percentage of ages 25-44 with some post-secondary college	American Community Survey, 5-year estimates	2015-2019
Percent of unemployed job-seeking population 16 years and older	Bureau of Labor Statistics	2019
Percent of children in poverty	Small Area Income and Poverty Estimates	2019
Percent of children qualifying for free or reduced lunch	National Center for Education Statistics	2018-2019
Disconnected Youth	American Community Survey, 5-year estimates	2015-2019
Income inequality ratio	American Community Survey, 5-year estimates	2015-2019
Percent of single-parent households	American Community Survey, 5-year estimates	2015-2019
Median Household Income	Small Area Income and Poverty Estimates	2019
Social Association Rate per 10,000 population	County Business Patterns	2018
Violent crime rate per 100,000 population	Uniform Crime Reporting - FBI	2014 & 2016
Injury death rate per 100,000 population	National Center for Health Statistics - Mortality Files	2015-2019

Clinical Care

Indicator	Original Source	Year
Percent uninsured adults	Small Area Health Insurance Estimates	2018
Percent uninsured children	Small Area Health Insurance Estimates	2018
Primary care provider ratio	Area Health Resource File/American Medical Association	2018
Dentist ratio	Area Health Resource File/National Provider Identification file	2019
Mental health provider ratio	CMS, National Provider Identification	2020
Other primary care provider ratio	CMS, National Provider Identification	2020
Preventable hospital stays	Mapping Medicare Disparities Tool	2018
Percent of population receiving flu vaccinations	Mapping Medicare Disparities Tool	2018
Percent of population receiving mammography screening	Mapping Medicare Disparities Tool	2018

Health Behaviors

Indicator	Original Source	Year
Percent adult smokers	Behavioral Risk Factor Surveillance System	2018
Percent obese adults with BMI ≥ 30	United States Diabetes Surveillance System	2017
Percent physically inactive adults	United States Diabetes Surveillance System	2017
Percent of population with access to exercise opportunities	Business Analyst, Delorme map data, ESRI, & US Census Tigerline Files	2010 & 2019
Percent of adult excessive drinking	Behavioral Risk Factor Surveillance System	2018
Percent alcohol-impaired driving deaths	Fatality Analysis Reporting System	2018
Chlamydia rate newly diagnosed per 100,000 population	National Center for HIV/AIDS, Viral Hepatitis, STD, and TB Prevention	2018
Teen birth rate ages 15-19 per 1,000 population	National Center for Health Statistics - Natality files	2013-2019
Percent of population food insecure	Map the Meal Gap	2018
Percent of population limited access to healthy foods	USDA Food Environment Atlas	2015
Drug overdose mortality rate per 100,000 population	National Center for Health Statistics - Mortality Files	2017-2019
Motor vehicle mortality rate per 100,000 population	National Center for Health Statistics - Mortality Files	2013-2019

Health Outcomes

Indicator	Original Source	Year
Premature death rate	National Center for Health Statistics - Mortality Files	2017-2019
Child mortality rate	National Center for Health Statistics - Mortality Files	2017-2019
Percent of live births with low birth weight	National Center for Health Statistics - Natality files	2013-2019
Percent of population in fair/poor health	Behavioral Risk Factor Surveillance System	2018
Physically unhealthy days	Behavioral Risk Factor Surveillance System	2018
Percent of population in frequent physical distress	Behavioral Risk Factor Surveillance System	2018
Mentally unhealthy days	Behavioral Risk Factor Surveillance System	2018
Percent of population in frequent mental distress	Behavioral Risk Factor Surveillance System	2018
Percent of population who are diabetic	United States Diabetes Surveillance System	2017
HIV prevalence rate	National Center for HIV/AIDS, Viral Hepatitis, STD, and TB Prevention	2018

2024 Muhlenberg County Community Health Needs Assessment Survey

1. Please tell us your zip code

2. Where do you or anyone in your household go for routine health care? *Choose all that apply.*

- ☐ Physician's office
- ☐ Emergency room
- ☐ Health department
- ☐ Urgent care center
- ☐ I do not receive routine health care
- ☐ Other. Please specify: _____

3. If you answered "I do not receive routine health care" to the above question, please specify why. *Choose all that apply.*

- ☐ No appointment available
- ☐ No specialist in my community
- ☐ No transportation
- ☐ Can't take off work
- ☐ Can't afford it
- ☐ Other. Please specify: _____

4. Do you have medical insurance?

- ☐ Private insurance, through an employer
- ☐ Private insurance, paid by me/family member
- ☐ Medicare/Medicaid
- ☐ I do not have insurance

5. Has anyone in the household delayed health care due to lack of money or insurance?

- ☐ Yes
- ☐ No

6. Do you have reliable/affordable transportation?

- ☐ Yes, I have a reliable vehicle when needed
- ☐ Yes, I use PACS, GRITS, or other public transportation
- ☐ No, I have a vehicle, it breaks down often
- ☐ No, I have a vehicle, at times can't afford gas
- ☐ No, I often can't get a ride

7. In the past 12 months, have you had your electricity, water, or heating fuel turned off turned off for more than 24 hours?

- ☐ No
- ☐ Yes, once
- ☐ Yes, more than once

8. How would you rate **your own personal health**?

- ☐ Very healthy
- ☐ Healthy
- ☐ Neither healthy nor unhealthy
- ☐ Unhealthy
- ☐ Very unhealthy

2024 Muhlenberg County Community Health Needs Assessment Survey

9. What are the top **THREE health challenges**
you or anyone in your household face?

- ☐ Cancer
- ☐ Diabetes
- ☐ Mental health issues
- ☐ Heart disease and stroke
- ☐ High blood pressure
- ☐ HIV/AIDS/STDs
- ☐ Overweight/obesity
- ☐ Respiratory/lung disease
- ☐ Other. Please specify:

10. For what type(s) of care have you had to
travel more than 20 miles? *Choose all that apply.*

- ☐ Routine medical/dental/eye care
- ☐ Behavioral/ mental healthcare
- ☐ Substance abuse/drug abuse/alcohol abuse
treatment
- ☐ Gynecological/Obstetrical/pregnancy related
care
- ☐ Heart care
- ☐ Chronic condition care (COPD, diabetes, high
blood pressure etc.)
- ☐ Cancer care
- ☐ Other. Please specify: _____

11. Are you or anyone in your household satisfied
with your ability to access health care services in
Muhlenberg County?

- ☐ Yes
- ☐ No

12. Please select the top **THREE most important**
factors for a "**Healthy Community**."

- ☐ Positive place to raise children
- ☐ Low crime/safe neighborhood
- ☐ Good school systems
- ☐ Access to primary care
- ☐ Access to medical specialists
- ☐ Access to affordable dental services
- ☐ Access to parks and recreation
- ☐ Affordable and good housing
- ☐ Low disease rate
- ☐ Excellent race relations
- ☐ Religious or spiritual values
- ☐ Access to affordable optometrists
- ☐ Availability of care for senior citizens (assisted
care, long-term care)
- ☐ Healthy economy (job opportunities, low
poverty rate)
- ☐ Transportation
- ☐ Access to behavioral and mental healthcare
- ☐ Other. Please specify: _____

2024 Muhlenberg County Community Health Needs Assessment Survey

13. Do you think **Muhlenberg County** meets those factors?

- ☐ Yes
- ☐ No

14. Please select the top **THREE** most **UNHEALTHY** behaviors in **Muhlenberg County**.

- ☐ Alcohol abuse
- ☐ Tobacco use
- ☐ Unsafe sex
- ☐ Prescription drug misuse
- ☐ Overweight/poor eating habits and lack of exercise
- ☐ Dropping out of school
- ☐ Drug abuse
- ☐ Other. Please specify: _____

15. How would you rate the physical **health of your community**?

- ☐ Very healthy
- ☐ Healthy
- ☐ Neither healthy nor unhealthy
- ☐ Unhealthy
- ☐ Very unhealthy

16. What could be done in Muhlenberg County to better meet the **community's health needs**?

17. What is your age group?

- ☐ 18-24
- ☐ 25-39
- ☐ 40-54
- ☐ 55-64
- ☐ 65-69
- ☐ 70 or older

18. What sex was listed on your birth certificate?

- ☐ Male
- ☐ Female
- ☐ Prefer not to answer

19. How do you describe yourself?

- ☐ Male
- ☐ Female
- ☐ Transgender man
- ☐ Transgender woman
- ☐ Genderqueer/gender non-conforming
- ☐ Other. Please specify: _____
- ☐ Prefer not to answer

20. Who is the primary caretaker of the children in the home?

- ☐ Parent
- ☐ Grandparent
- ☐ No children in the home
- ☐ Other. Please specify: _____

2024 Muhlenberg County Community Health Needs Assessment Survey

21. What ethnic group do you identify with?

- ☐ African American/Black
- ☐ Asian/Pacific Islander
- ☐ White/Caucasian
- ☐ Hispanic/Latino
- ☐ Native American
- ☐ Other. Please specify: _____
- ☐ Prefer not to answer

22. What is your highest level of education?

- ☐ Less than 12 years
- ☐ High-school graduate/GED
- ☐ Technical School
- ☐ Currently in college
- ☐ Some college
- ☐ Associate/Bachelor's degree
- ☐ Master's/Doctoral degree

23. What is your current employment status?

- ☐ Employed full time
- ☐ Employed part time
- ☐ Disabled
- ☐ Retired
- ☐ Full/Part time student
- ☐ Stay at home parent/caregiver
- ☐ Unemployed

24. What is your annual household income?

- ☐ \$0-24,999
- ☐ \$25,000-\$49,999
- ☐ \$50,000-\$74,999
- ☐ \$75,000-\$99,999
- ☐ \$100,000 or more
- ☐ Prefer not to answer

25. What is your primary source of income?

- ☐ Wages from employment
- ☐ Self-employment
- ☐ Pension/Retirement plan
- ☐ Unemployment benefits
- ☐ Social Security/Disability Social Security
- ☐ Support from family members

The Owensboro Health Muhlenberg Community Hospital and the Muhlenberg County Health Department thank you for taking the time to complete the survey!
Your feedback is greatly appreciated.

Family Resource / Youth Service Centers (cont.)

Muhlenberg County High School	270-338-3676
Muhlenberg North Middle	270-338-3381
Muhlenberg South Elementary	270-476-0000
Muhlenberg South Middle	270-377-3518

Private Schools

ACT Christian Academy	270-338-1630
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HEALTHCARE RESOURCES

Cancer

KY Cancer Program	270-821-4298
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Clinics/ Health/Hospital

Baptist Health Deaconess Powderly Clinic	270-377-1600
Baptist Health Deaconess System:	1-800-733-2312
& 1-800-998-5100 (#s for Baptist Health Deaconess, satellites, Care Center)	
Coal Miners’ Respiratory Clinic	270-338-8300
Community Health Centers of Western KY (sliding fee)	
270-338-5777 270-338-6488 270-377-3077	
Dr. Slobodan Jugo	270-338-6650
Fast Pace Urgent Care Central City	270-931-2059
FMC Dialysis Center	1-800-881-5101
KY Healthcare Access Hotline	1-800-633-8100
Muhlenberg County Health Dept.	270-754-3200
Noffsinger Physical Therapy	270-377-1810
Owensboro Health Muhlenberg Community Hospital (OHMCH)	
270-338-8000	
Owensboro Health Muhlenberg Healthplex	270-377-2600
Owensboro Health Muhlenberg Medical Office	270-377-2440

Counseling / Mental Health Facilities

A New Start	270-754-3494
Addiction Center for Treatment	1-800-711-6402
AL-ANON	1-800-356-9996
Alcoholics Anonymous	1-800-606-6047
Eating Disorder Hotline	1-800-931-2237
Baptist Counseling Center	1-270-825-8232
Baptist Health Deaconess Behavioral Health Unit	270-825-5650
Celebrate Recovery	270-338-6160
Christian Counseling Center	270-338-6841
Community Health Centers of Western KY	270-338-5777
270-338-6488 270-377-3077	
Cumberland Hall Psychiatric Hospital	270-886-1919
Illuminare Behavioral Health	270-377-7153
Sunrise Children’s Services	1-502-538-1000
New Horizon Counseling	270-338-2280
Pennyroyal Center	270-338-5211
24 hour line	1-877-473-7766
Rivendell Psychiatric Hospital	1-800-548-2621
River Valley Behavioral Health	270-689-6500
TrueNorth Treatment Center	270-931-5018
Western State Mental Hospital	1-800-889-6025

Chiropractic Services

Central City Chiropractic	270-754-1335
Tillman Family Chiropractic	270-971-4847
Vincent Chiropractic Center	270-338-3348

Dentist/Orthodontist

Connors & Underwood DMD PLLC	270-754-9494
Dental Referral Service	1-800-243-4444
Dr. Anthony Durall (Orthodontist)	270-683-0275
Dr. David Morehead	270-754-1888
Dr. Susan Brewer Hunt	270-754-3131
Dr. William R. Millay (Orthodontist)	270-338-0008
Eades Family Dentistry	270-754-1404
Muhlenberg Dental Center: Dr. Brown	270-338-0606
Thompson Dental	270-338-5050

Health & Safety Information/Education

Muhlenberg County Cooperative Extension	270-338-3124
Muhlenberg County Health Department	270-754-3200

Home Health Care / Equipment & Supplies

Baptist Health Deaconess Home Care	270-824-3470
Community Oxygen & Medical	270-754-3187
Greenville Pharmacy	270-338-3800
Kings Drug & Home Care	270-338-7738
OHMCH Home Health	270-754-9340
Poole’s Pharmacy Care	270-754-1545

Hospice

Baptist Health Deaconess Hospice	270-326-4660
Green River Hospice	1-800-350-3486
Hospice of Western KY	1-270-926-7565 1-800-466-5348

Medical Card Eligibility

Family Support/Food Stamps	1-855-306-8959
Healthcare.gov (Health Insurance)	1-800-318-2596
KCHIP (KY Child Health Insurance Program)	1-844-407-8398
Passport Health Plan	502-212-6631

Pharmacies

Clinic Pharmacy	270-754-4300
Clinic Pharmacy South	270-476-3600
Clinic Pharmacy Powderly	270-377-0123
Greenville Pharmacy	270-338-3800
Medical Center Pharmacy	270-338-9993
Poole's Pharmacy (Central City)	270-754-1545
Poole’s Pharmacy (Greenville)	270-338-6060
RX Assist	270-338-6222
Walgreens	270-338-4241
Wal-Mart Pharmacy	270-754-3924

Substance Abuse

A New Start	270-754-3494
Alcoholics Anonymous	270-782-5267
Celebrate Recovery	270-338-6160
Drug & Alcohol Help/Info	1-800-432-9337
New Creation Grace Home	270-641-0684
Pennyroyal Center	1-877-473-7766
Set Free Ministries	270-377-0075
Substance Abuse Hotline	1-800-840-0762
TrueNorth Treatment Center	270-931-5018
Trilogy (Women’s Services)	1-270-885-2902

Vision/Optometry

Dr. Adam Coats	270-338-4091
Dr. John Soderling	270-338-9636
Dr. Kelly Tarter	270-338-2400
Dr. Paul Herrell (Ophthalmologist)	270-886-2020
Oak Tree Eye Clinic (Dr. Tyler Mayes)	270-754-4515
Wal-Mart	270-754-3924

Parenting Services

Adoption Hotline	1-800-432-9346
All Blessings International Adoption	800-481-2113
First Steps	270-886-5186
HANDS	270-754-4017
Kentucky Adoption Services	1-866-543-7459
Muhlenberg Co. Health Dept.	270-754-3200
Opportunities for Life: Statewide 24/7 Pregnancy Hotline	
(English)	1-800-822-5824
(Spanish)	1-800-860-7165
Pathway of Hope	270-377-0045
SIDS Back to Sleep Campaign	1-800-505-2752

Transportation

Muhlenberg Co. Senior Citizens Center	270-338-6222
PACS Transportation- Muhlenberg and Todd Counties	
270-931-5119 270-931-5118	

Muhlenberg County Kentucky

Resource Directory



Updated: November 2023

Compiled by: Muhlenberg County Health Coalition

facebook.com/MuhlenbergHealthCoalition

Abuse/Neglect

Children’s Advocacy Center	270-881-1111
Division of Protection & Permanency	270-338-3072
(Child & adult abuse & neglect, foster care & adoptions)	
KY Adult/Child Abuse Hotline	1-877-597-2331
Muhl. Co. Attorney Victim Advocate	270-338-1322
	270-290-5011
National Domestic Violence Hotline	1-800-799-7233
Parents Help Line	1-800-244-5373
Partner Abuse Hotline/Greenhouse17 (24hr)	1-800-544-2022
Sexual Assault Hotline (24 Hr.)	1-800-656-4673
Sanctuary Inc. (partner abuse/24 hr. crisis line)	1-800-766-0000
Sanctuary Inc. Local Victim Advocate	270-881-0311
VINE (Victim Information & Notification)	1-800-511-1670

Aging & Assisted Living

Courtyard Assisted Living	270-757-1100
Family Caregiver Support Program (ext. 3505)	502-564-6930
Greenville Nursing and Rehabilitation	270-338-1523
Maple Health and Rehabilitation	270-338-5400
Muhlenberg County Senior Citizens	270-338-6222
Owensboro Health Muhlenberg Community Hospital	
Long-Term Care (Skilled Nursing Facility)	270-338-8434
PADD (Pennyrile Area Development Dist.)	270-886-9484
Retired Senior Volunteer Program (RSVP)	270-338-4043
Social Security Administration	1-800-772-1213
Sparks Nursing Center & Assisted Living	270-754-4838
UMWA Health & Retirement Funds	270-824-8199
Western KY Veteran’s Center	270-322-9087

Animals

Greenville Animal Hospital	270-338-0487
Muhlenberg County Animal Hospital	270-754-9459
Muhlenberg County Humane Society	270-338-6940

Assistance (Food, Shelter, Clothing, Utilities)

Child Support	1-800-248-1163
Department of Social Insurance	1-855-306-8959
Duvall’s Chapel (F, C)	270-338-4327
Elkton Rd Church of Christ (U, F)	270-977-0024
Family Support/Food Stamps/Welfare	855-306-8959
First Baptist Church Greenville (F)	270-338-3453
First Methodist Church Central City (F)	270-754-2770
Hope2All (F)	270-476-5190 (270) 977-9459
Lifeline for AT&T Customers (U)	888-757-6500
Muhlenberg Christ’s Apostles’ (F)	270-338-1309
Muhlenberg County Baptist Association	270-338-5650
Muhlenberg County Senior Citizens Center	270-338-6222
PACS (Pennyrile Allied Community Services)	270-338-5080
Pathway of Hope (Infants/toddlers)	270-377-0045
Salvation Army Family Store	270-825-3620
St. Joseph’s Catholic Church	270-754-1164
United Methodist of Greenville	270-338-4502
We Care Clothing Ministry (C)	270-931-5070
WIC (apply at the Health Dept.)	270-754-3200

See Family Resource Centers

Career/College/Vocational Educational

Assistance

Adult Education, ACE²	270-338-2257
Drop Out Program	270-338-2871
KY Office of Vocational Rehab	1-800-372-7172
Madisonville Community College	1-270-821-2250
(Muhlenberg Co. Extended Campus)	270-757-9881
Muhlenberg Career Development Center	270-338-5460
Muhlenberg County Career Advancement Center	270-338-5939
Muhlenberg County Job Corp.	270-338-5460
Muhlenberg County Adult Ed.	270-338-2257
U.S. Social Security Administration	1-800-772-1213

Child Care/After School/Preschool

Carter Creek Christian Preschool	270-338-0643
Central City Elementary Daycare	270-754-4474
Central City First Baptist Preschool	270-754-3670
Early Childhood Center (SOAR)	270-543-0255
Early Home-Based Head Start	270-338-9759
Greenville Methodist Preschool	270-338-5070
Greenville Second Baptist Preschool	270-338-6160
Longest Elementary Daycare	270-338-2842
Mrs. Rhonda’s Preschool	270-803-4487
Muhlenberg South Elementary Daycare	270-476-2204
Nanny's House	270-338-0658
New Paradise Church Preschool	270-338-0282
Preschool Head Start	270-754-5451
Tiny Treasures	270-754-9050

Children/Teen Organizations & Services

4-H (UK Ext. Office)	270-338-3124
CASA of Midwest Kentucky, Inc.	270-245-5112
Early Childhood Center/SOAR	270-543-0255
Girl Scouts	888-771-5170
Impact Mentoring	270-821-0688
Muhlenberg Achieves	270-977-9274
Muhlenberg County Boy Scouts	270-338-5070
Preschool Head Start	270-754-5451
The Learning Center	270-245-2600

Community Development

Central City Tourism Commission	270-754-9603
Greater Muhlenberg Chamber of Commerce	270-338-5422
Greenville Tourism Commission	270-338-1895
Muhlenberg Alliance for Progress (MAP)	270-338-4102
Muhlenberg County Public Libraries	270-338-4760

Crisis/Emergency Assistance (911)

AIDS Hotline	1-800-420-7431
American Red Cross	270-338-2818
Centers for Disease Control	1-800-232-4636
Central Dispatch Emergency	270-338-2000
Pathway of Hope (Pregnancy)	270-377-0045
Pennyroyal Center	270-338-5211
24 hour line	1-877-473-7766

Crisis/Emergency Assistance (continued)

Poison Control	1-800-222-1222
Pregnancy Crisis Center	1-800-432-9337
Rape Crisis Hotline	1-800-422-1060
Sanctuary House	270-641-0169
Suicide Prevention (prior to 7/16/22)	1-800-273-8255
Suicide and Crisis Hotline (post 7/16/22)	988
Homelessness Hotline	1-800-654-8595

Disability Services

ADD/ADHD Children	1-270-886-5163
Brain Injury Association of KY	1-800-592-1117
Commission for Children w/ Special Health Care Needs	

	1-800-232-1160
Commission for Deaf & Hearing Impaired	1-800-372-2907
First Steps	502-564-3756
Kelly Autism (WKU)	270-745-4232
KY Office of Vocational Rehab	1-800-372-7172
Learning Disabilities Assoc. of KY	1-502-473-1256
March of Dimes (West KY)	1-270-683-2410
Muhlenberg County Opportunity Center	270-338-5970
Multiple Sclerosis	1-800-873-6367
Pennyroyal Center	877-473-7766

Programs for Children w/ Disabilities:	
Infants & Toddlers (ages Birth- 2)	1-800-442-0087
Children, ages 3-5	1-502-564-7056
Shriner’s Rizpah Temple	1-270-821-3187
Social Security Administration	1-800-772-1213
United Cerebral Palsy (KY)	1-502-635-6397
Western KY Easter Seals Center	1-270-444-9687

Employment Services

Career Advancement & Partners	270-338-5939
Department for Employment Services	270-338-3654
Department for Unemployment	270-338-3654
KY Office of Vocational Rehab	1-800-372-7172
Muhlenberg Economic Growth Alliance/MEGA	270-338-4102
People Plus, Inc. (temp agency)	270-377-0088
Perdue Farms	270-274-6063
Workforce Development Cabinet	1-270-746-7489

Fitness / Recreation

Central City Convention Center	270-757-1723
Muhlenberg County Parks & Recreation	270-377-1900
QuikFit	270-977-1728
Western KY RV Park	270-757-0345

Government & Legal Services

Circuit Clerk	270-338-4850
City of Central City	270-754-5097
City of Greenville	270-338-3966
County Attorney	270-338-1322
County Clerk	270-338-1441
District Judge	270-338-0997
Judge Executive	270-338-2520
Western KY Legal Aid	1-800-782-1924

Housing

Glenbrook House Apartments	270-338-3641
Greenville Park Apartments	270-338-9988
Hillwood Village Apartments	270-754-2282
Housing Authority: Central City	270-754-2521
Housing Authority: Greenville	270-338-5900
KY Department for Housing	1-800-669-9777
Low-Income Housing (Sandy Hill)	270-338-0460
Pennyrile Housing Corp.	1-800-928-7233 or 1-270-886-9484
Salvation Army	270-825-3620

Law Enforcement

Abuse Hotline	Emergency 911
Ambulance Service (non-emergency)	1-800-752-6200
Central City Police (non-emergency)	270-338-1233
Central Dispatch	270-754-2464
Emergency & Disaster	270-338-2000
Greenville Police (non-emergency)	270-338-3902
KY State Police	270-338-3133
Missing Children	1-800-222-5555
Sheriff (non-emergency)	1- 800-843-5678
	270-338-3345

Legal Services

Child Support Enforcement	1-800-248-1163
Department for Community Based Services	270-338-3072
DUI Services	270-338-2280
Legal Helpline for Elderly	270-338-2280
Western KY Legal Aid	1-800-200-3633
	1-800-782-1924

MUHLENBERG CO. SCHOOLS

Head Start

Bremen Head Start	270-338-2871
Central City Head Start	270-525-3918
Greenville Head Start	270-754-3974
Longest Head Start	270-338-4314
Muhlenberg County Head Start Main Office	270-338-6337
Muhlenberg South Elementary Head Start	270-754-2418
	270-476-9841

Schools (Kindergarten-12)

Bremen Elementary	270-525-6686
Central City Elementary	270-754-4474
Greenville Elementary	270-338-4830
Longest Elementary	270-338-5113
Muhlenberg County Board of Education	270-338-2871
Muhlenberg County High School	270-338-0040
Muhlenberg North Middle	270-338-3550
Muhlenberg South Elementary	270-476-2204
Muhlenberg South Middle	270-338-4650
Renaissance Center (alternative learning)	270-338-0662

Family Resource / Youth Service Centers

Bremen Elementary	270-525-6388
Central City Elementary	270-754-4409
Greenville Elementary	270-338-4231
Longest Elementary	270-977-0460