



Bi-State Regional Commission

Commission in Review

Apr/May/June 2022

Quad City Health Initiative

The Quad City Health Initiative (QCHI) was formed in 1999 and a cross-community partnerships to create a healthy community. The 2021 Vision states: "The Quad Cities region is united as one vibrant, diverse, collaborative community with engaged citizens, safe, thriving neighborhoods, and equitable and inclusive access and opportunities for overall health and social well-being."

Occurring every 3 years and dating back to 2002, a systematic, data-driven assessment of health status, behaviors, and needs is conducted in Muscatine, Scott, and Rock Island Counties to provide a barometer on residents' health and wellness. Partners work together to coordinate the assessments that meet the reporting requirements of the health systems and also encompass the 5-year assessment planning cycles of the health departments. The assessment results lead to health improvement plans and actions.

Areas that showed some improvement from the prior assessment were: cancer death rates, health insurance coverage, routine medical care, specific source of ongoing care, health literacy, cardiovascular risk factors; prenatal care in first trimester; seeking help for mental illness; child/adolescent mental

health treatment; dental insurance coverage; flu/pneumonia vaccination in older adults; perceived ease of obtaining substance abuse services; cigarette smoking and smoking inside homes. Areas of opportunity included: access to health care services, cancer, diabetes, heart disease and stroke, housing, infant health and family planning, injury and violence, kidney disease, mental health, nutrition/physical activity/weight, oral health, respiratory disease, and substance abuse.

Major themes were identified from focus groups as part of the assessment. These included the pandemic, social determinants of health, mental health, stigma, diversity/cultural competency/sensitivity/trust, and need for growth of local healthcare workforce/more specialists.

QCHI engages a variety of sectors across organizational and geographic boundaries to improve community health. Efforts include a partnership with Tobacco-Free QC to address reducing the impact of tobacco in the Quad Cities. Information on tobacco, second-hand smoke, tobacco-free policies, and smoke-free pledges are part of the outreach effort.

NEXT COMMISSION MEETING:

Wed., Jul. 27, 2022

3:30 p.m.

Bettendorf City Hall
Second Floor Board Room
1609 State Street
Bettendorf, IA

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QCHI (continued)

In collaboration with St. Ambrose's Institute for Person-Centered Care, QCHI is a partner along with area health systems as the Institute provides for continuing education and support and leadership to foster person-centered models of care. There is also a partnership with Live Lead Free QC initiative to raise awareness and reduce lead-based paint in area housing.

Be Healthy QC is a working group of QCHI and helps provide opportunities to increase physical activity and healthy eating. Be Healthy QC has supported workplace wellness initiatives, promotion of www.QCTrails.org, an educational campaign, and information sharing on access to healthy foods. The QCTrails interactive website has expanded to include trails in Henry and Muscatine Counties.

The Behavioral Health Coalition is a group of 50 community partners convened in April 2019 to support community behavioral health in Scott and Rock Island Counties. Currently the coalition list includes over 130 individuals. A primary function of the coalition is to promote awareness and to tell the community story related to behavioral health. Other functions include measuring coalition progress, providing a platform for innovation, and increasing resources. The coalition includes representatives from mental health, health care, public health, education, business, law

enforcement, social services, the VA, philanthropy, emergency medical services, and local governments. The coalition formed a steering committee and includes promotion, outcomes, innovation, and funding/resources teams. They hold quarterly education sessions and their next session will be on May 12th at noon discussing suicide reduction and SAVE training. More information can be found on their Facebook Page facebook.com/QCBHC/.

The Quad Cities Zero Suicide Initiative has identified ways everyone can help the initiative by:

- Making It OK to talk about mental health and suicide
- Following the QCBHC on Facebook and share published resources facebook.com/QCBHC
- Identifying how your organization can participate in the Zero Suicide project – there are three tiers or levels of participation based on the type of work you do
- Participating in suicide prevention training (when launched)
- Helping to connect the coalition to sources of funding

FY2023 Quad Cities and Region 9 TPWP Documents

Gena McCullough, Assistant Executive Director/Planning Director, presented drafts of the FY2023 Transportation Planning Work Programs (TPWPs) for the Quad Cities metropolitan planning area and the area serving rural Scott County, and Muscatine County known as Region 9. These documents contain the planned activities and budget for transportation efforts conducted by Bi-State Regional Commission staff in the coming fiscal year. The budgets are incorporated into the overall agency budget. The Quad Cities MPO effort is a total of \$1,017,872 utilizing \$914,299 in federal transportation planning dollars. The Region 9 effort is a total of \$54,836, which includes \$43,866 in federal transportation planning dollars.

The U.S. Department of Transportation (DOT) has put forward 8 Planning Emphasis Areas (PEA) to frame the locally-derived transportation planning activities. The PEAs include a focus on sustainable infrastructure and resilience, equity and inclusion for mobility/access/safety, Complete Streets, use of a variety of public involvement techniques, coordination with Department of Defense and Federal Land Management Agencies, use of Planning and Environmental Linkages decision-making, and data-driven decision-making. The MPO activities will include development of a traffic safety summit, completion of the regional Intelligent Transportation System framework, ports/terminal web-based mapping, road-bridge construction interactive mapping, and an

TPWP, Continued on Page 3



TPWP (Continued)

addendum to the freight plan focusing on an update of freight data. Region 9 activities will include updates to the annual work program and transportation improvement program, STBG evaluation process and programming funds, trails/transit assistance, and an update of the regional Transit Development Plan.

Rock Island Arsenal Defense Alliance

Mayor Mike Matson, City of Davenport, reported on the work of the Rock Island Arsenal Alliance. The Alliance works to support continued government and private sector operations at the Rock Island Arsenal and the concept of the Arsenal as a federal campus for the Bi-State Region. This includes enhancing the relevance of the Advanced Manufacturing Center of Excellence and identifying all other elements and commands on the RIA to attract additional jobs to the Island. He stressed the need to continue to improve

The MPO and Region 9 Transportation Policy Committees' review the work program activities, while the Commission approves the budgets and ability for staff to facilitate contracts with the DOTs. Commissioners approved the budgets and ability to execute contracts accordingly.

and increase communication with all elements of the Island to determine where the community can be supportive. He noted in a recent meeting the potential of a Base Realignment and Closure (BRAC) was discussed, and continued support of the Arsenal is even more important. The potential use of the Island for tourism was discussed by Commissioners and recent efforts by the Garrison to streamline entries to the Island.

Quad Cities International Airport

Ben Leischner, Executive Director of the Quad Cities International Airport, reported that there are more than 1,400 people who work on airport property with an economic impact of more than \$700 million. Passenger numbers in 2019 were 721,999 in 2019 as compared to 306,149 in 2020. The lowest volume was at the outset of the pandemic in April 2020 with 95% decline in passengers. The year-end volume for 2021 was 493,384.

Services to Denver, Minneapolis and Detroit were temporarily suspended; Denver restarted February 2021 and Minneapolis in June 2021. Delta has not restarted Detroit service, which is on indefinite hold. Overall, the airlines have reduced schedules, which affects passenger numbers. As of Thanksgiving weekend 2021, air travel had recovered 94% from 2019 numbers. To offset payroll costs, debt service, and COVID related expenses, the airport has accessed CARES, CRRSAA, PPP, and ARPA funds.

Currently, the airport authority's focus for air service is one providing regional and local business data to supplement data the airlines already access. The

airlines continue to grapple with pilot and other staffing shortages, aircraft limitations, and rising fuel costs, which limit new service capabilities.

While the industry continues to move toward stabilization, the airport authority has pursued a number of capital investments, including an \$850,000 rapid response vehicle, improved public address system, and \$8 million solar system powering about 50% of the airport's power consumption at no cost to the airport. Another \$10 million runway and taxiway realignment will be completed in November 2022. The project received 100% federal share for this safety project.

Under the Rebuild Illinois program the airport will receive \$5.6 million for two projects: realignment of Indian Bluff Road to address safety concerns; and general aviation ramp development. Mr. Leischner said a \$40 million terminal improvement project focuses on redesigning the front facing terminal's curbside drop-off area, ticketing atrium, and baggage areas with the addition of new restrooms to exceed ADA standards and meet user needs.

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