

# 2021 COMMUNITY NEEDS ASSESSMENT SUMMARY

## TOP 5 IDENTIFIED NEEDS AND THE WORKING COALITIONS ADDRESSING THEM



[Click here to review the entire 79-page Community Needs Assessment.](#)  
[Click here to review the 2020 Progress Report of the working coalitions.](#)

### MENTAL HEALTH

**Coalition:** Suicide Prevention Coalition

**Priority:** To improve mental health through prevention and by ensuring access to appropriate, quality mental health services.

**Strategies:** Schools to incorporate evidence-based programs for social-emotional development. HR departments at local workplaces to adopt policies and practices that align with suicide prevention.

**Key Players:** Mental Health Drug & Alcohol Board, Mary Rutan Hospital, TCN, Community Health & Wellness Partners, Recovery Zone, schools.

**Shocking Stats and factors:**

- Number of attempting suicide in Logan County has nearly doubled in the last five years (135 to 246)
- The number of patients visiting our behavioral health centers has more than doubled in the last two years (592 in 2018 to 1,230 in 2020).
- 31 Logan County students attempted suicide in 2019 and about 20% of students screened in the Signs of Suicide exam are testing positive.
- 37% of the survey respondents reported someone in their family has a diagnosed mental illness.
- COVID-19 causing increased depression and anxiety.

### SUBSTANCE ABUSE

**Coalition:** Logan County CORE

**Priorities:** Reduce substance abuse to protect the health, safety, and quality of life for all, especially children.

**Strategies:** Provide training for drug testing in workplaces. Evidence-based prevention programs in schools. Child care and transportation for support meetings (12-step groups). Focus on pregnant, opiate-dependent mothers.

**Key Players:** Mental Health Drug & Alcohol Board, TCN, Mary Rutan Hospital, Community Health & Wellness Partners, Recovery Zone, Law Enforcement, Churches,

**Shocking Stats and factors:**

- Treatment for drug overdoses increased from 349 to 579 from 2016 to 2019.
- Treatment for alcohol abuse increased from 240 to 329 from 2016 to 2019.
- 11% of Logan County high school students say they are vaping.
- COVID-19 causing increased substance abuse and relapses.

### HOUSING

**Coalition:** Housing Coalition

**Priority:** To create a housing environment in Logan County promoting good health for all.

**Strategies:** Homeless prevention through rent/utility assistance. Support for homeless. Housing innovation to maintain and develop an inventory of affordable and quality housing options.

**Key Players:** Residential Administrators, Logan County Homeless Shelter, Bridges Community Action, United Way, Metropolitan Housing, City/County government, local landlords.

**Shocking stats and Factors**

- Logan County Homeless Shelter housed 54 people last year. Turned away 120 because of lack of space.
- Bridges Community Action awarded over \$250,000 in COVID-related rent/utility assistance in November-December, 2020 alone. They received a new infusion of funds in February, 2021. Logan County DJFS is repurposing over \$200,000 in PRC funds for rent/utility assistance for families.

## WORKFORCE COLLABORATIVE

**Collation:** Workforce Collaborative

**Priority:** To promote workforce development and career pathways for students in Logan County to help local employers fill open positions with quality employees.

**Strategies:** Pushing the 3E project to encourage high school students to consider which E they will be upon graduation: Enroll in college, Employed with a local workplace, Enlist in the armed forces.

**Key Players:** Chamber of Commerce, schools, City/County government, and select corporate partners.

### Shocking Stats and Factors

- Only 16% of Logan County residents over age 25 have completed a Bachelor's degree.
- COVID-19 caused a spike to 31% unemployment in April, 2020, #1 in Ohio. We are currently at 5%.

## HEALTHY LIVING

**Coalition:** Healthy Living Coalition

**Priority:** Reduce obesity and chronic risk disease through the consumption of healthful diets and increased physical activity.

**Strategies:** Provide food preparation and cooking education. Increase free walking programs (Winter Walking Program). Support the Full Circle Food Collaborative, encouraging healthy eating options in local stores and restaurants.

**Key Players:** Mary Rutan Hospital, City Parks.

### Shocking Stats:

- Cancer (23%) and heart disease (22%) were the leading causes of death in Logan County in 2019.
- Patients treated for diabetes increased from 1,018 to 1,313 between 2016 and 2019.

## OTHER ISSUES THAT DIDN'T MAKE THE CUT

### Hunger

- Food insecurity rate in Logan County is 13% (matching poverty rate).
- 7,000 unduplicated individuals accessed United Way-funded food programs in 2020, obtaining 1.3 MILLION meals. That's an average of 180/person (or two months worth of food). Over half report never using a food pantry before.

### Child Care

- Child Care is expensive and a barrier for maintaining employment for young families with children, especially single mothers. There are not enough providers in Logan County. There are over 300 children who WOULD qualify for free child care (paid by the state) but there are not enough providers to give it.

### Senior Citizens

- Logan County is the only county in our region that does not have a senior tax levy. There is not a Senior Services agency within the County government structure. We do not have a true "senior center."

### Access to Resources

- This coalition was disbanded in February, 2021 because 211 has become self-sufficient and does not need regular oversight. Public Transportation needs are monitored by another group.

**Table 4-5: Persons Receiving Public Assistance**

	2018	2019		2020	
		Jan	June	Jan	June
OWF – Cash Assistance					
Adults	17	15	12	14	40
Children	292	255	239	252	304
SNAP – Food Stamps					
Adults	NA	2992	2850	2809	3026
Children	NA	2104	1987	1856	1902
Publicly Funded Child Care					
Families		52	46	36	25
Children		84	76	62	44
WIC	614	572		652	

Source: Logan County Department of Job and Family Services