



## Ohio Adolescent Health Partnership

### Mission

To advance and promote the **safety, health, and wellness** of all Ohio's adolescents.

### Vision

All Ohio adolescents are empowered to live **safe, healthy, and thriving** lives as they transition into and reach adulthood.

### Strategic Plan

By 2026, the Ohio Adolescent Health Partnership (OAHP) strives to **adapt** to the ever-changing needs of youth and families by leveraging resources and increasing **shared partner engagement**. OAHP engages a **diverse representation** of youth, community level professionals, supportive adults, and other stakeholders to move forward a **youth-focused vision**.

### Strategic Focus Areas: 2023-2026

Expand **youth and young adult engagement** and diverse youth representation in the partnership.

Expand engagement of community level professionals and **supportive adults**.

Explore opportunities to leverage resources in order to **sustain partnership initiatives**.

Develop action-oriented **training and education** initiatives for adolescent health stakeholders.

### Guiding Principles

Adolescents are **valuable assets** to society with unique developmental needs. They are resources to be nurtured rather than problems to be fixed.

**Access** to holistic, affordable, and developmentally and culturally appropriate services, including preventive services, is essential to effectively meet the unique health needs of adolescents.

**Coordination and collaboration** among state and local adolescent health systems, services, and initiatives is essential to effectively deliver holistic, quality care.

**Education** is key to ensuring adolescents develop critical thinking skills to access appropriate services and make positive behavioral choices.

**Disparities and inequities** must be addressed within all adolescent health policies, programs, and systems.

**Evidence-based research** should be used when selecting interventions and strategies, and when evaluating adolescent health programs.

**Positive youth development and resiliency** principles should be incorporated into all adolescent health interventions in order to empower adolescents to achieve optimal health and be active participants in their own care.

**Programs, policies, and systems** should be coordinated in order to create the infrastructure necessary to build sustainable change that will improve adolescent health outcomes.

**Youth/family voice** that engages adolescents and their caregivers in meaningful discussions related to adolescent health policies, programs, and services is a critical component in providing services that are responsive to the needs of adolescents.

**Community support** is a crucial factor providing families and communities the needed resources and tools to help adolescents thrive.