



The Antrim County Community Collaborative has been an endorsed Community Collaborative for 20 years.

**Vision:** We envision every household in the county to be a safe, nurturing and healthy environment. We commit to ongoing support provided through our communities that will strengthen family functioning and encourage healthy lifestyle choices.

**Mission:** Identify concerns, initiate action and organize for impact by providing community based partnerships that support our vision and provide a continuum of cooperation, coordination and integration of services and resources for all people in our county.

### The ACCC provides a collective impact:

- Provides Antrim county perspective and advocacy at regionally based initiatives
- Increases efficiency, reduction of duplication resulting in cost savings
- Identifies trends and gaps in services
- Fosters discussion and relationship building.
- Connects the dots between people and programs with common interests who may be unaware of one another.
- Provides efficiency and effectiveness of finite tax dollars.
- Builds relationships with state and regional entities
- Shares local insights and perspectives to help inform actions.
- Acts as an objective source of information and analysis.
- Provides a forum for varying points of view.

Region-wide and State-wide program planning, development/re-design and implementation is the trend. In this era of rapid change, advocacy for Antrim County interests at the state and regional tables is a challenge. The ACCC is committed to imparting a voice for the citizens and helping organizations for Antrim County interest in these regional/state forums.

**Chairperson:** Lorie Minidis – North Country Community Mental Health

**Vice Chairperson:** Amy Burk – Communities in Schools

#### **Meeting Information:**

The ACCC meets on the third Friday of each month at 10:30 at Community Mental Health.

***Collective Decision making leads to improved decisions.***

#### Regional and Local Affiliations:

Continuum of Care  
Regional Collaborative Alliance  
TBAISD  
Munson Healthcare  
Substance Abuse Coalition  
Strengthening Families Initiative  
NMCAA  
Great Start  
Wraparound Services

## Priorities (data citations based on the 2018 Kids Count and County Health Rankings):

- **EMPLOYMENT:** The rate averages 6.7% and is seasonally higher. During periods of unemployment, individuals are likely to feel severe economic strain and mental stress. High unemployment places strain on financial support systems, making basic needs such as heat, transportation, food, clothing and housing a daily struggle. Antrim County still falls above the state unemployment rate of 4.6.
- **CHILD ABUSE AND NEGLECT:** Antrim County ranks 26 out of 82 counties for overall child well-being. The membership of the ACCC is committed to the safety and stability of Antrim County families and their children. There are several types of child abuse including physical, sexual, and emotional abuse that currently affecting the standing of our county.
- **HOMELESS:** Last year, 3,326 were literally homeless in the 10 County Region. Nearly 4,500 qualified as homeless. Many of those considered homeless included veterans and teens. The PIT Count counted 10 individuals as literally homeless in 2016/17, however, we know there are significantly more not being counted.
- **INFANT HEALTH:** 49.6% of children 0-18 in Antrim County are on Medicaid. 33.2% of Mothers had less than adequate prenatal care. 10.7% of births were to Mothers that had less than a high school diploma. These are all indicators for future health of the mother and the child and are a strong predictor of next generation poverty. Antrim ranks 42 (of 82) in the number of births to teens, which is up from ranking 42 in 2017.
- **OBESITY:** Carries significant economic costs due to increased healthcare spending and lost earnings. Obesity increases the risk of many diseases and health conditions including heart disease, Type 2 diabetes, cancer, hypertension, stroke, liver and gallbladder disease, respiratory problems, and osteoarthritis. 34% of Antrim County residents are obese.
- **POVERTY:** The percentage of Antrim county children ages 0-17 who live below the poverty threshold was 17.8% giving Antrim a rank of 26th among 82 counties. 15.9% of families in the county with children 0-12 receive Food Assistance.
- **TRANSPORTATION:** continues to be an ongoing challenge. Many residents work service industry or entry level jobs for minimum wage and travel on average 24.6 miles per day to a from work.

## Where we are heading and our potential

*The need for collaboration is greater than ever. Our economic situation requires that we share resources and commitments. The ACCC is a catalyst to identify challenges and work with lead agencies at the ACCC table to develop strategies and pursue grants to support Antrim based activities. In the history of the ACCC more than \$4.5 Million dollars in Antrim County grants, initiatives and programs have been launched, guided and/or supported at the Antrim County Collaborative.*

*Many of the issues identified by Antrim County residents and agencies are similar to those in the State of Michigan. The ACCC identified three focus areas this past January to work on through the 2019 year – Trauma, Homelessness and Mental Illness. A Trauma informed workgroup has been actively working together and will be going through strategic planning in June. Eviction Diversion was set as a priority in Homelessness and Father Fred in work with the ACCC has secured a \$10,000 United Way grant to move that program forward. May was Mental Illness month and many activities were planned to help with promotion of services. It was also recognized that Substance Abuse and healthy families are priorities for the county and our region. Members of the ACCC were brought together in September 2018 to connect on Substance Abuse Issues. A Collaborative Workgroup was formed and Jane Sundmacher led strategic planning. A plan is in place and work has begun to implement. Also, a priority that arose was transportation. The ACCC is now in discussions of how to proceed and reaching out to the Antrim Transit Authority, Networks Northwest and Groundworks for support. Antrim County Collaborative members have been instrumental in identifying these issues and developing region-wide initiatives and projects to start addressing the process of introducing the Strengthening Families Framework in the community and addressing ACEs (Adverse Childhood Experiences). A federal grant has been written and submitted and further funding options are being reviewed to move this initiative forward. A \$5,000 state Children's Trust*

*Fund Grant has been secured and the plan is to continue to secure this grant on a yearly basis to use in prevention.*

*Antrim County certainly has great need, but also has willing helping agencies to help change the quality of life for some of our most fragile and vulnerable citizens. Much of the data that are used to procure regional grants and programs relies on the Antrim County data compiled through the ACCC. Many of the federal, state and regional resources are being directed to higher density communities. The most pressing goal is to ensure that all of Antrim County residents get their “fair share” of access to much needed services.*

## Our threats and challenges

*Funding cuts to many of our agency members has required creative and innovative approaches. Coordination is critical. The sole source of funding for the ACCC is membership contributions and the Antrim County Board. The ACCC continues to work with a coordinator under an independent contract arrangement as long as local, state and grant funds are available. The ACCC has a fiduciary arrangement with Goodwill of NW MI and receives generous in-kind support from the ACCC membership.*

## Testimonials

“I am the executive director for NMCAA. Our offices are based in Cadillac, Traverse City and Petoskey where we reach out to 10 counties to provide our services. There are a lot clients in Antrim County who do not have access to information on our services because, we are a non-profit and only have the funds to do limited advertising. We rely on PSAs, mailings, and these collaborative meetings to get the word out there for our services and to have access to other agencies service information to better refer our clients to services in their areas that they might need. Antrim County is an area of great need. NMCAA would like to provide even more services to this area and we really need to partner with other agencies within this area to know where, what, and whom we can serve here. Please consider this very beneficial collaboration for another year and hopefully many years to come. The partnerships and information is VERY valuable in connecting and providing exceptional service to those who need it most!” – Kerry Baughman, NMCAA

“I just want to say that I love going to the collaborative meetings. The primary reason is that all the “people helping people” are together at one time, in one place, sharing what they do! I always leave with a new appreciation of the jobs out there and great work that is done to help others. I listen to what is said and see how it applies to my work. I also use it to stay informed of areas I might like to get more involved in. I always learn something!” Jamie Weaver, Women’s Resource Center