

Anthem SDOH Framework Database – Marion County

Executive Summary of the Preliminary Report

Across Marion County, Indiana – like many counties in the US – there is an extensive amount of work underway in the areas of economic stability, education, social and community matters, health and health care, and neighborhoods and the built environment. These areas have been shown to significantly influence the health of people and places and are known as the social determinants of health (SDOH). Although there is a general awareness of the range of SDOH efforts that are underway across Marion County, there is no known inventory or database that captures the totality of this work – the actual extent and reach – and as importantly, the organizations involved across the areas of influence. Because many of the SDOH areas of influence are complex and interconnected, having a county-wide database and understanding of the work that is being implemented would benefit organizations across the county in many ways.

To fill this gap in information and build a database to support and enhance efforts countywide across the wide range of SDOH factors, a landscape assessment survey and process were developed through a partnership between Health by Design (HbD), the Indiana Public Health Association (IPHA), and CHC Creating Healthier Communities. The landscape assessment survey and process were supported by grant funding from Anthem Foundation and led to the development of the *Anthem SDOH Framework Database*.

Although an assessment of the full scope of SDOH work that is underway across Marion County is still in progress, a preliminary report and database that includes information collected from the first round of the landscape assessment process has been developed. The summary findings and first version of the Anthem SDOH Framework Database features information from 108 organizations working across the SDOH in Marion County.

Following is a summary of key takeaways that have been identified from the first round of information collected for the *Anthem SDOH Framework Database*:

- The innovative landscape assessment survey and process, developed specifically to create the Anthem SDOH Framework Database, effectively captured the information needed to identify and assess the wide range of complex SDOH variables that are being addressed in Marion County. In addition to providing a valuable resource of information for county organizations to draw from, the compiled information can also be viewed as a map of assets for the county.
- As expected, the database revealed that there is an extensive amount of work underway in Marion County across all the SDOH. What was not known but also revealed in the database, is the *large number of organizations that are working across multiple SDOH areas of influence*.
- Analyzing the range and type of involvement in the SDOH across community organizations led to the development of a general typology of organizations: *super-connectors*, *super-contributors*, and *priority focused* organizations.
 - *Super-Connectors* are described as organizations, institutions, or businesses that have extensive and well-established relationships – existing networks, partnerships, or coalitions – with other organizations, institutions, or businesses doing work across and/or within the focus areas of the SDOH.
 - *Super-Contributors* are described as organizations, institutions, or businesses that are involved in three to five areas of the SDOH.
 - *Priority Focused Organizations* are described as organizations that are deeply involved in one specific focus area and/or special population group or issue.
- Participating organizations indicated involvement in a wide range of work activities with the top four being noted as advocacy, programs, service delivery, and training and technical assistance. The next most common types of activities noted included community development and public policy development.
- Across SDOH focus areas, the geographic target and reach of the work of organizations was both detailed (i.e., neighborhood level) and extensive (e.g., efforts spanning local to national), indicating increased opportunity for connectivity, reach, and leverage.
- Overall, the information described in the Anthem SDOH Framework Database can be used to support community change efforts by

- Identifying specific interconnections between community organizations per focus area and factors,
- Identifying key information that would otherwise not be available at this level without a database,
- Identifying the significance of focus areas and factors not traditionally associated with health,
- Providing an essential foundation of information for the formation and development of networks, and
- Identifying key information about which organizations are working in specific areas to support training and technical assistance.

Next Steps for the Anthem SDOH Framework Database:

- A promotion and dissemination plan will be developed to share the results of the Anthem SDOH Framework Database with Marion County organizations and other interested communities.
- The preliminary findings and first round development of the Anthem SDOH Framework Database provides strong support for continuing the process to get as complete of a representation as possible of all organizations working across all the focus areas of the SDOH and using this information to enhance and support the vital work going forward.
- Health by Design/Indiana Public Health Association will take the lead to promote this information by encouraging and helping local organizations to use the Anthem SDOH Framework Database to enhance and build on their work, and potentially create new and expanded networks to support the overall SDOH work across the county.