Community Health Action Team (CHAT) Meeting Minutes
March 13, 2026 at 9:00 AM
Cove Community Center – Conference Room (12525 Lake Ave, Lakewood, OH 44107)

Attending

David Baas (City of Lakewood, Planning Department); Kristin Broadbent (Three Arches Foundation); Kate Ingersoll (Healthy Lakewood Foundation); Stephanie Morgan (Lakewood City Schools, Student Services Department); Councilperson Cindy Strebig (City Council liaison), Mark Walter (Lakewood City Schools, Community Recreation and Education Department)

Call to Order and Introductions

Dave Baas called the meeting to order at 9:13 AM. Councilperson Strebig, who serves as City Council liaison to the Lakewood Youth Advisory Council, provided an introduction and overview of her background and experience. Stephanie Morgan also introduced herself and shared an overview of her professional background.

Approval of Previous Meeting Minutes

The September 30, 2025, meeting minutes were approved without revisions by motion duly made and seconded.

Report to City Council Health and Human Services Committee

The group reviewed plans for an upcoming presentation to the City Council Health and Human Services Committee, scheduled for March 23 at 6:00 PM. Committee members include Chair Cindy Strebig, Matt Bixenstine, and Angelina Steiner. Dave Baas, Kristin Broadbent, and Mark Walter will attend to represent CHAT.

Review of Two-Year Report

Councilperson Strebig offered substantive feedback on the Two-Year Report, raising several priority areas she would like CHAT to address going forward.

On mental health response, Strebig emphasized the importance of sustained funding and coordination to support police officers responding to mental health crises. She also noted that the Lakewood Youth Advisory Council is directly engaged on youth mental health issues.

She requested that CHAT prepare a first-quarter summary of funding sources supporting the Human Services Department, encompassing federal, state, local, and philanthropic streams.

On summer feeding, Strebig asked for a status update on 2026 programming. Kate Ingersoll noted that coordination has been challenging and that she is working with Lakewood Community Services Center and the School District to assess what is feasible this summer. Stephanie Morgan suggested including Chris Donahoe, Director of Operations and supervisor to Jacob Green, in those conversations.

On the Community Resource Guide, Strebig suggested that block club captains — part of a program the City is looking to reinvigorate — could serve as effective community ambassadors for the guide.

On adaptive programming, Mark Walter provided an update on programs operating through Empower Sports and the adaptive swim program. He noted that middle school programming has remained a challenge, with costs being a significant barrier. Strebig indicated she would invite Kevin Born Crow to a future meeting to explore strengthening the partnership with Youth Outdoors.

On housing access, Strebig requested an update from Ian Andrews on progress related to housing access options and indicated she would ask him to attend an upcoming meeting.

Strebig also asked for context on how CHAT's five priority areas were originally determined. Dave Baas explained the process by which the community action plan recommendations were reviewed and vetted, and described how the work transitioned into subcommittees in year two. She encouraged the group to reflect on what has worked, what has not, and how City Council can best support the work going forward.

Conceptual Framework Transition

The remainder of the discussion centered on how CHAT should orient itself going forward. Rather than holding CHAT directly accountable for achieving specific outcomes, the group agreed to reorganize around a more facilitative model. The refreshed framework positions CHAT as a convening and coordinating body that:

- Brings together city departments, schools, foundations, and community organizations around shared concerns
- Identifies emerging community health needs informed by the Community Health Needs Assessment (CHNA) framework
- Advocates for action on priority issues
- Facilitates networking among community partners and elevates diverse perspectives to support collaborative work
- Maintains critical cross-sector infrastructure, including the Community Resource Guide

2026 Priorities

The group reviewed emerging priorities for the coming year. Stephanie Morgan provided an update on planning for the Early Learning Center and Lincoln Elementary transition. Mark Walter noted that existing before- and after-care contracts in schools are negotiated through the Recreation Department. Stephanie will continue to provide updates as transition planning progresses.

Key priorities identified for 2026 include:

Community Resource Guide: Maintaining and updating the guide as critical infrastructure connecting Lakewood residents to available resources, with ongoing stewardship housed within CHAT

Early Learning Center planning: Supporting a collaborative transition process that engages key stakeholders and works through entrenched thinking

LGBTQ+ resources and support: Determining how CHAT can move forward collectively, with particular attention to community-centered support for youth

Equitable access to programming: Developing sustainable approaches to supportive programming that provide equitable access for all families

CHNA update: Planning to conduct a five-year update to the Community Health Needs Assessment, or identify an alternative reassessment approach, beginning in 2027

The group affirmed a quarterly meeting cadence, with working groups self-organizing as needed to carry specific projects forward between meetings.

Draft 2026 Work Plan

The group reviewed a draft quarterly work plan:

- Q1 (March): Status updates; identify key priority issues; prepare for City Council presentation
- Q2 (May): Community Resource Guide final draft; summer feeding and other programmatic updates
- Q3 (September): (To be determined)
- Q4 (November): Determine need and format for 2027 CHNA update

Next Steps

- Schedule the next quarterly CHAT meeting
- Proceed with March 23 presentation to the City Council Health and Human Services Committee
- Kate Ingersoll to continue coordination with LCSC and Lakewood City Schools on summer feeding planning
- Councilperson Strebig to invite Kevin Born Crow and Ian Andrews to upcoming meetings

