



# Partnership for a Healthy GEAUGA

## Forces of Change Exercise

September 25, 2014

Force of Change	Impact
<b>Increase in size of the Aging Population</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Jessica Boalt – Dept Aging - Senior population of Geauga County will grow to 26.5% by 2016; 30% by 2020</li> <li>• George Pogan, Middlefield Care Center – population shift will affect school enrollment resulting in smaller class size; possibly school consolidations such as Newbury and Ledgemont face now</li> <li>• George Pogan, Middlefield Care Center – more chronic disease as people live longer</li> <li>• Jessica Boalt – Dept on Aging – Lack of affordable senior housing</li> <li>• Blake Andres – DDC Clinic – very little first place, last place to live in Geauga County; needs more starter homes and retirement homes</li> <li>• Deb O’Connor, Library – housing is a political issue; have heard statements like, “If you can’t afford it, don’t live here.”</li> <li>• Jessica Boalt, Dept. Aging – senior residents living on fixed incomes have difficulty paying small repairs, let alone expensive repairs like replacing the septic system</li> </ul>
<b>Transportation</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Brad Welch, FFC – Medicaid Managed Care might ease transportation issues for some residents seeking service.</li> <li>• Changes in administration at Geauga Transit may also result in transit improvements for those attempting to get to medical appointments</li> <li>• Transportation issues for the Amish population</li> </ul>
<b>Weather</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Deborah O’Connor, GC Library – Winter weather is difficult for travel to medical appointments; salt prices may result in less road care and more difficult winter</li> </ul>
<b>Amish Health</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• George Pogan, Middlefield Care Center – a needs assessment of the Amish population resulted in home visiting nurses for newly-delivered mothers (114 visits in 2013 resulting in 20 hospitalizations)</li> <li>• Blake Andres, DDC and George Pogan, Middlefield Care Center – the Amish population is doubling about every 20 years; number of children per family size is</li> </ul>

	<p>approx. 5.7 (down from 7.4); marriage age women increased from 17 years to 20.5 years; Amish have the same problems as the rest of the population, including chronic disease, substance abuse, mental health problems – AND – a reluctance to seek help from government agencies</p>
<b>Accountable Care Organizations</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• George Pogan, Middlefield Care Center – Accountable Care Organizations model of healthcare delivery could result in better preventive care and a healthier population</li> </ul>
<b>Water Quality</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Irene McMullen, Munson Twp – water quality from oil and gas activity; potential of algal bloom effect is unknown as there are no standards and no testing is being conducted</li> <li>• Mr. &amp; Mrs. Whitright, residents – water quality also affected by failing sewage systems; these are very expensive to replace</li> <li>• Erwin Leffel &amp; Bob Weisdack, GC Health District - discussed the new sewage regulation that could impact all resident with household sewage systems</li> </ul>
<b>Accreditation Requirement for Health Departments</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Bob Weisdack, GC Health District – requirement for public health accreditation will be costly for department</li> </ul>
<b>War</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Erwin Leffel, Thompson Twp – war on terrorism will impact service people returning to County and their jobs</li> </ul>
<b>Legalization of Marijuana</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Brad Welch, FFC – legalization of marijuana could lead to issues for employers, schools, and communities</li> </ul>
<b>Urgent Care Centers</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Deb O’Connor, Library – proliferation of urgent care centers is good for medical needs</li> <li>• Kay Gurtz, KSU, many urgent care centers have closed</li> </ul>
<b>Lack of Primary Care Physicians</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Mary W-P, FPA NE Ohio, lack of family physicians in Geauga County</li> <li>• Deb O’Connor, Library – specialization is more financially rewarding than primary care practice; new EHR requirements are forcing physicians out of practice</li> <li>• Brad Welch, FFC – Choose Ohio scholarships will pay for education for those entering primary care medicine</li> <li>• Blake Andres, DDC – use of medical home model can improve medical care and outcomes for patients</li> </ul>
<b>Free Clinic in Lake County</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Amanda Andersky, Lake County Free Clinic – the free clinic serves Geauga County providing preventive and wellness services and is a good way to avoid unnecessary ER and specialist physician visits</li> </ul>
<b>Access to Health Care</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Jessica Boalt, Dept Aging – non-English speaking population is growing and affects ability to get services and jobs</li> <li>• Accessing health has become more difficult because of rules</li> </ul>

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Healthcare navigators are supposed to help people get enrolled in Medicaid or private health insurance</li> <li>• Lake County General Health District has a navigator</li> <li>• UH Geauga Medical Center is working on a grant to provide help under a rural healthcare initiative</li> </ul>
<b>Youth and Younger Adult Engagement</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Blake Andres, DDC Clinic – many youth are engaged in public health and wellness issues; it would be good to get them involved in this process</li> <li>• Younger adults interest in organic, GMOs, etc.</li> </ul>
<b>Funding Cuts to Developmental Disabilities</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Anne Anderson, GC Board of DD – developmental disabilities funding cuts have affected long-term health outcomes; ability to provide care for residents has been hampered</li> </ul>
<b>School Reporting and Funding</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Britney Ward, HCNO – school report cards have been revised and many schools that have typically has A’s are now getting some C’s or lower for showing improvement for the lowest performing students</li> <li>• Kathy Malobenski, Ledgemont Schools – small schools are adversely affected by the school report card changes, because 1 student has larger impact on a small school system than a large system. New rules state than no more than 1% of students can be delayed (held back from grade advancement). The scoring system does not work well of the special education students.</li> <li>• Kathy Malobenski, Ledgemont Schools – funding for public schools is not working; currently 35% of schools in Ohio are in some sort of fiscal crisis</li> </ul>
<b>After School at Library</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Deb O’Connor, Library – need for assistance with children after school and during school closings; we try to provide fresh fruit and juice vending machines; the library is not a baby sitter or a school; resources have been challenged; daycare is expensive – the library is free <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Geauga West branch 58 to 70 children per day after school</li> <li>○ Bainbridge branch – 25 to 36 per day after school</li> <li>○ Middlefield branch - 18 to 23 per day; before reestablishment of busing MF was at 50 to 60 per day after school</li> <li>○ Chardon branch – 20 to 30 per day after school</li> </ul> </li> </ul>
<b>JFS Custody Cases Increasing</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Brad Welch, FFC – JFS custody cases, which had been stable for years, have tripled to approximately 80 per year; these children may be placed with relatives or foster parents</li> <li>• A small discussion of Opiates and other drugs ensued</li> </ul>
<b>Homeless</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Must be aware of the invisible homeless and poor</li> <li>• Many living with family members or friends</li> </ul>
<b>High Number of Commuters</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Geauga is a bedroom community which may result in</li> </ul>

	many residents being totally apathetic to problems that social service agencies face everyday
<b>Affordable Care Act</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Most preventive care is now covered</li> </ul>
<b>Bullying in Youth</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Leading to substance abuse and mental health issues</li> </ul>
<b>Electronic Medical Records (EMR)</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• EMR resulting in seeing fewer patients and not as much time with those patients they see.</li> </ul>