



Press Release

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Carroll County General Health District

CARROLL COUNTY GENERAL HEALTH DISTRICT RECIEVES GRANT AWARDS

Kelly Morris, Carroll County Health Commissioner announces grant funding awarded to the health district. The first grant is for building youth resilience- this is a big deal! We were one of six (6) applicants selected by the Ohio Department of Health from across the State of Ohio! The award is for \$93,000 a year for three (3) years and will allow our Carroll Youth Resilience Collaborative to continue and strengthen work to bring a youth led county wide team together to implement strategies identified by the youth team but implemented by the entire community! The youth leadership team meets this Friday September 29th for the first time. The team is made up of 8 students from each school district representing grades 9-12. This youth leadership team will partner together throughout the school year and work with the Collaborative leadership to bring ideas to fruition for the county wide project. Morris says, “the grant funding will allow the health district to hire a coordinator who will work with the youth leadership team and the collaborative leadership to guide the project into action”.

The second award is for the Preconception Health Grant is an additional one-time award of \$75,000 through our reproductive health grant from the Ohio Department of Health. This funding allows the health district to expand the availability of services for women and reproductive health services to one full day each week, every Wednesday residents can schedule to see our Nurse Practitioner. In partnership with Aultman we contract for the services of Sarah Atkinson, an Advanced Practice Nurse who specializes in women's health. Each Wednesday Sarah will be available to serve women of all ages. She can diagnose and treat, and place long-acting birth control devices like Intrauterine devices (IUD). “Sarah is an amazing provider, she is so skilled, caring and takes the time to educate all of our clients, we are fortunate to have her services here in Carroll County.” The other part of this grant will be providing education throughout our community to women of childbearing age, generally defined as ages 15-44. “Nearly half of all pregnancies in the United States are unplanned, having an unintended pregnancy can result in increased risk of problems for both mom and baby.” Says Morris. Wendy a Gotschall RN, our previous Heath Commissioner, is now working with CCGHD as a nurse and will be providing this education in throughout the county to educate on the importance of promoting health of women and men of reproductive age before conceiving a child.

Lastly, we were awarded an injury prevention grant through ODH for \$32,000 annually for five (5) years. This grant will allow the health district to work with our school districts on the delivery of a program designed to prevent youth suicide. The program is called ROX; Ruling Our



Experiences, it is designed specifically for female students in 8th-12th grades in small groups. It is an evidence-based curriculum that is proven to improve young women's self-confidence, self-esteem and provides them skills to improve their responses to adversity. “We selected this program because the data from our schools shows that 37% of female students have thoughts of harming themselves. This is **not** okay, we can help these young ladies become strong and confident young adults”. Says Morris.

For more information about any of the services or programs Mrs. Morris mentions please contact here at the health district at 330-627-4866 extension 1527.

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