



2023-2026

**Fulton County Community Health
Improvement Plan**

Published October 2023

A LETTER FROM Fulton County Partners for Health



Fulton County strives to bring together people and organizations to improve community wellness. The community health needs assessment and implementation strategy process is one way we can live out our mission. In order to fulfill this mission, we must be intentional about understanding the health issues that impact residents and work together to create a healthy community.

A primary component of creating a healthy community is assessing and prioritizing needs for impact, and then addressing those needs. In 2022, Fulton County conducted a comprehensive community health needs assessment (CHNA) to identify priority health issues and evaluate the overall current health status of the health system's service area. In early 2023, these findings were then used to develop an implementation strategy to describe the response to the needs identified in the CHNA report.

The 2023 Fulton County Community Health Improvement Plan (CHIP) is the fourth of these reports released, all following a CHNA. We want to provide the best possible care for our residents, and we can use this report to guide us in our strategic planning and decision making concerning future programs, clinics, and health resources.

The Fulton County CHIP would not have been possible without the help of numerous organizations. It is vital that assessments such as this continue so that we can know where to direct our resources and use them in the most advantageous ways.

More importantly, the possibility of this report relies solely on the participation of individuals in our community who committed to participating in interviews and completing health need prioritization surveys. We are grateful for those individuals who are committed to the health of the community, as we are, and take the time to share their health concerns, needs, praises, and behaviors.

The work of public health is a community job that involves individual facets, including our community members, working together to be a thriving community of health and well-being at home, work, and play.

Sincerely,

Kimberly Cupp

Health Commissioner
Fulton County Health Department

Patti Finn

CEO
Fulton County Health Center



Fulton County
**PARTNERS
FOR HEALTH**

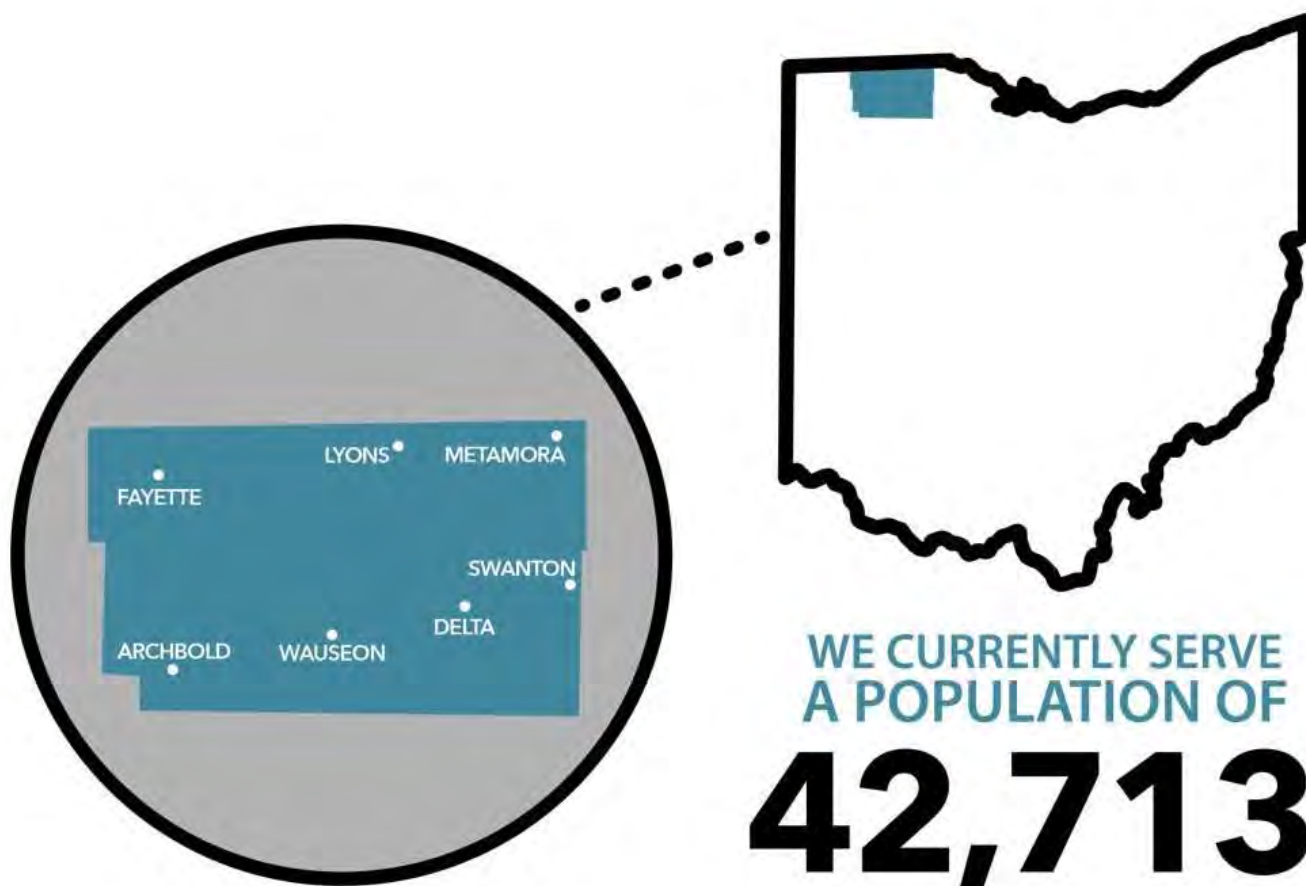
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DEFINING THE FULTON COUNTY SERVICE AREA



For the purposes of this report, Fulton County Partners for Health defines its' primary service area as being made up of Fulton County.

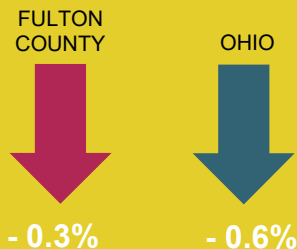


The CHNA and this resulting CHIP identify and address significant community health needs and help guide community benefit activities. This CHIP explains how Fulton County plans to address the selected priority health needs identified by the CHNA.



FULTON COUNTY AT-A-GLANCE

THE POPULATION OF
FULTON COUNTY'S
SERVICE AREA HAS
DECREASED, AS HAS
OHIO'S POPULATION



YOUTH AGES 0-17 AND
SENIORS 65+ MAKE UP
42.4% OF THE
POPULATION
IN THE FULTON COUNTY
SERVICE AREA



FULTON COUNTY SERVICE AREA HAS
LOWER POVERTY RATES
THAN OHIO OVERALL



10%
CHILDREN

7.3%
SENIORS

10.4%
FEMALE



THE % OF MALES AND
FEMALES IS ABOUT
EQUAL



49.4% 50.6%



FULTON COUNTY
SERVES 2,405
VETERANS
(5.7% OF THE POPULATION)

THE SERVICE AREA HAS LESS
MENTAL HEALTH CARE ACCESS
THAN OHIO OVERALL:

POPULATION TO MENTAL
HEALTH PROVIDERS

FULTON
COUNTY
730:1

OHIO
350:1



A MAJORITY OF
THE COUNTY'S
RESIDENTS
IDENTIFY AS
WHITE



8.9%
HISPANIC OR
LATINO

96.4%
WHITE

0.7%
ASIAN

1.6%
BLACK/
AFRICAN AMERICAN

3.7%
MULTI-
RACIAL

1.0%
AMERICAN
INDIAN/AK
NATIVE

4.1%
OTHER

0.1%
NATIVE
HI/PACIFIC
ISLANDER



Fulton County
PARTNERS
FOR HEALTH

PRIORITY HEALTH NEEDS FOR FULTON COUNTY

1



PHYSICAL ACTIVITY 18% OF ADULTS

REPORT NO PHYSICAL ACTIVITY IN PAST WEEK

2



TOBACCO/NICOTINE USE 21% OF ADULTS

WERE CONSIDERED SMOKERS

3



ROUTINE CHECKUP 68% OF ADULTS

HAD A ROUTINE CHECKUP WITH THEIR PROVIDER IN PAST YEAR

4



DEPRESSION & SUICIDE

ADULTS IN OUR AREA
REPORT
4.9 MENTALLY
UNHEALTHY DAYS
PER MONTH VS. 5.2
FOR OHIO

THE SERVICE AREA HAS
A HIGHER ADULT
SUICIDE RATE THAN
OHIO

5



HEART DISEASE & DIABETES

HEART DISEASE IS THE
LEADING
CAUSE OF DEATH
IN THE SERVICE AREA

10% OF ADULTS
HAVE DIABETES, WHICH IS
EQUAL TO THE OHIO RATE



Fulton County
PARTNERS
FOR HEALTH

INTRODUCTION

WHAT IS AN IMPLEMENTATION STRATEGY?



An Implementation Strategy is part of a framework that is used to guide community benefit activities - policy, advocacy, and program-planning efforts. For hospitals, the Implementation Strategy describes their plan to respond to the needs identified through the previous CHNA process. The Implementation Strategy also fulfills a requirement mandated by the IRS in Section 1.501(r)(3). The Implementation Strategy is also called the Community Health Improvement Plan (CHIP). You will see both terms used interchangeably throughout this document. The CHIP fulfills the mandates of the Ohio Department of Health and meets the standards of the Public Health Accreditation Board (PHAB).

OVERVIEW OF THE PROCESS

In order to develop the CHIP, Fulton County Partners for Health followed a process that included the following steps:

STEP 1: Plan and prepare for the implementation strategy.

STEP 2: Develop goals/objectives and identify indicators to address health needs.

STEP 3: Consider approaches to address prioritized needs.

STEP 4: Select approaches.

STEP 5: Integrate implementation strategy with community and hospital plans.

STEP 6: Develop a written implementation strategy.

STEP 7: Adopt the implementation strategy.

STEP 8: Update and sustain the implementation strategy.

Within each step of this process, the guidelines and requirements of both the state and federal governments are followed precisely and systematically.

Affordable Care Act (Federal) Requirements

Enacted on March 23, 2010, the Affordable Care Act (ACA) provided guidance at a national level for CHNAs for the first time. Federal requirements included in the ACA stipulate that hospital organizations under 501(c)(3) status must adhere to new 501(r) regulations, one of which is conducting a community health needs assessment every three years.

Ohio Department of Health Requirements

The Ohio Department of Health (ODH) is required by state law to provide guidance to hospitals and local health departments on community health needs assessments and implementation plans. In July 2016, HB 390 (ORC 3701.981) was enacted by Ohio in order to improve population health planning in the state by identifying health needs and priorities by conducting a CHNA and subsequently developing a CHIP to address those needs in the community.

**THE 2023 FULTON COUNTY COMMUNITY HEALTH IMPROVEMENT PLAN
MEETS ALL OHIO DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND FEDERAL (IRS) REGULATIONS.**



STEP 1 PLAN AND PREPARE FOR THE IMPLEMENTATION STRATEGY



IN THIS STEP, FULTON COUNTY PARTNERS FOR HEALTH:

- DETERMINED WHO WOULD PARTICIPATE IN THE DEVELOPMENT OF THE CHIP
- ENGAGED BOARD AND EXECUTIVE LEADERSHIP
- REVIEWED COMMUNITY HEALTH NEEDS ASSESSMENT





PLAN AND PREPARE FOR THE 2023 FULTON COUNTY COMMUNITY HEALTH IMPROVEMENT PLAN

Secondary and primary data were collected to complete the 2022 Fulton County Community Health Needs Assessment (CHNA) report. (Available at fultoncountyhealthcenter.org and fultoncountyhealthdept.com). Secondary data were collected from a variety of local, county and state sources to present community demographics, social determinants of health, health care access, birth characteristics, leading causes of death, chronic disease, health behaviors, mental health, substance use and misuse, and preventive practices. The analysis of secondary data yielded a preliminary list of significant health needs, which then informed primary data collection.

In August 2022, Fulton County Health Department staff collected primary data by conducting listening sessions, as additional health information from specific populations was desired. The populations identified are some of the most vulnerable: older adults, parents of children 0-11 years old, and Hispanic/Latino residents. Four listening sessions were conducted, some in person and some virtually. There were between five to 14 participants per session.

The primary data collection process was designed to validate secondary data findings, identify additional community issues, solicit information on disparities among subpopulations, ascertain community assets potentially available to address needs and prioritize health needs.

“

While the community health needs assessment considers the “who, what, where and why” of community health needs, the community health improvement plan addresses the “how and when”.

”



STEP 2

DEVELOP GOALS AND OBJECTIVES AND IDENTIFY INDICATORS FOR ADDRESSING COMMUNITY HEALTH NEEDS



IN THIS STEP, FULTON COUNTY PARTNERS FOR HEALTH:

- DEVELOPED GOALS FOR THE CHIP
BASED ON THE FINDINGS FROM
THE CHNA
- SELECTED INDICATORS TO ACHIEVE
GOALS

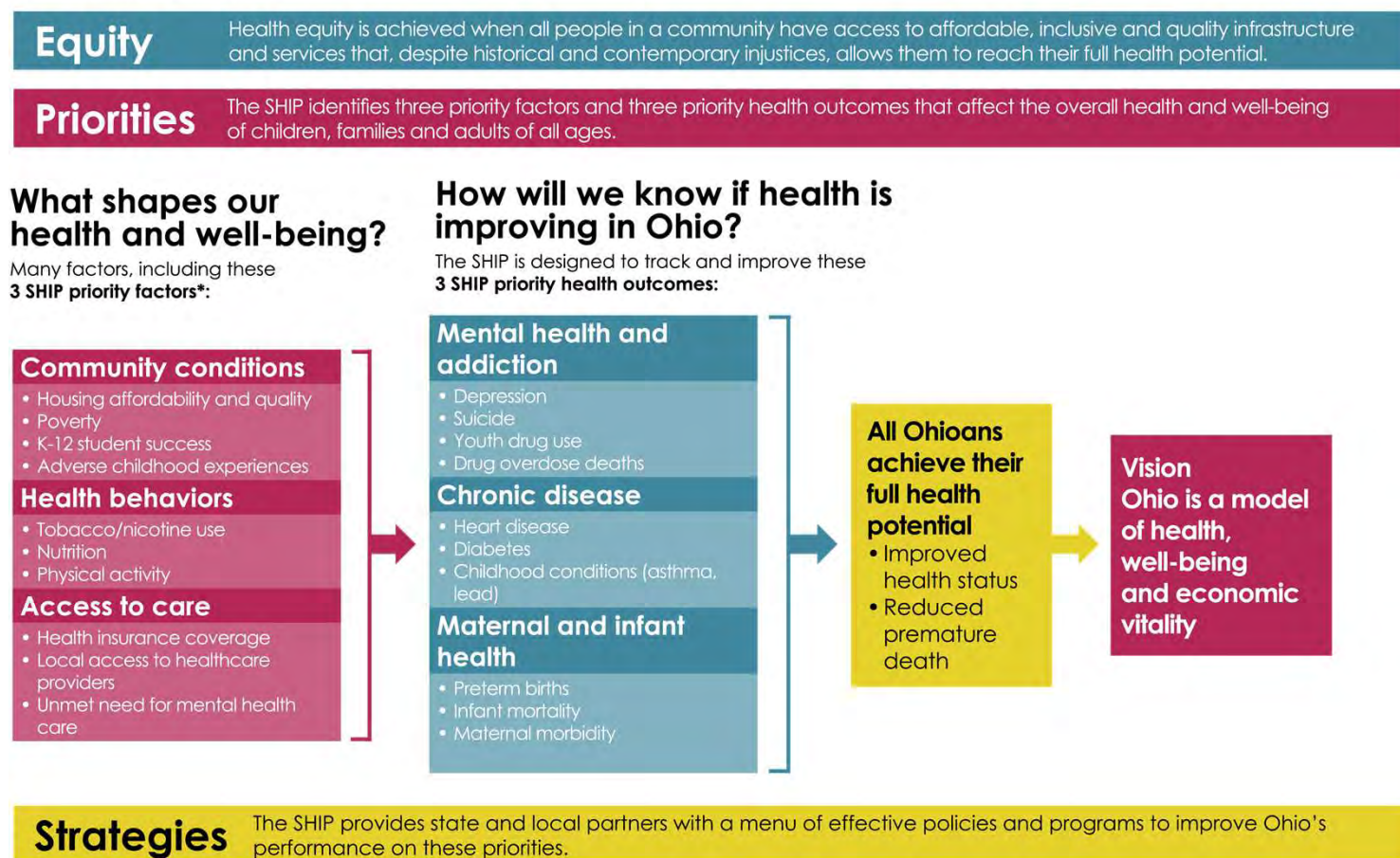


PRIORITY HEALTH NEEDS GOALS, OBJECTIVES, AND INDICATORS

Fulton County Partners for Health desired to align with the priorities and indicators of the Ohio Department of Health (ODH). In order to do this, Fulton County used the following guidelines when prioritizing the health needs of their community.

First, Fulton County Partners for Health used the same language as the state of Ohio when assessing the factors and health outcomes of their community in the 2022 Fulton County Community Health Needs Assessment.

Figure 1.2. SHIP framework



* These factors are sometimes referred to as the social determinants of health or the social drivers of health

Next, with the data findings from the CHNA process, Fulton County Partners for Health used the following guidelines/worksheet to choose priority factors and priority health outcomes. Using the guidance from ODH's State Health Improvement Plan (SHIP) strengthened the ability to align with the state in order to strengthen the efforts to improve the health, well-being, and economic vitality of both the Fulton County service area and the state of Ohio.

Figure 3. Alignment with priorities and indicators

STEP 1 Identify at least one priority factor and at least one priority health outcome

PRIORITY FACTORS	PRIORITY HEALTH OUTCOMES
<input type="checkbox"/> Community Conditions (strongly recommended)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Mental Health and Addiction
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Health Behaviors	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Chronic Disease
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Access to Care	<input type="checkbox"/> Maternal and Infant Health

STEP 2 Select at least 1 indicator for each identified priority factor

PRIORITY FACTORS	
COMMUNITY CONDITIONS	
TOPIC	INDICATOR NAME*
Housing affordability and quality	<input type="checkbox"/> CC1. Affordable and Available Housing Units
Poverty	<input type="checkbox"/> CC2. Child Poverty
	<input type="checkbox"/> CC3. Adult Poverty
K-12 student success	<input type="checkbox"/> CC4. Chronic Absenteeism (K-12 students)
	<input type="checkbox"/> CC5. Kindergarten Readiness
Adverse childhood experiences	<input type="checkbox"/> CC6. Adverse Childhood Experiences (ACEs)
	<input type="checkbox"/> CC7. Child Abuse and Neglect
HEALTH BEHAVIORS	
TOPIC	INDICATOR NAME*
Tobacco/nicotine use	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> HB1. Adult Smoking
	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> HB2. Youth All-Tobacco/Nicotine Use
Nutrition	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> HB3. Youth Fruit Consumption
	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> HB4. Youth Vegetable Consumption
Physical Activity	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> HB5. Child Physical Activity
	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> HB6. Adult Physical Activity
ACCESS TO CARE	
TOPIC	INDICATOR NAME*
Health Insurance Coverage	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> AC1. Uninsured Adults
	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> AC2. Uninsured Children
Local Access to Healthcare Services	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> AC3. Primary Care Health Professional Shortage Areas
	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> AC4. Mental Health Professional Shortage Areas
Unmet Need for Mental Health Care	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> AC5. Youth Depression Treatment Unmet Need
	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> AC6. Adult Mental Health Care Unmet Need



STEP 2 CONTINUED Select at least 1 indicator for each identified priority factor

PRIORITY HEALTH OUTCOMES	
MENTAL HEALTH AND ADDICTION	
TOPIC	INDICATOR NAME*
Depression	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> MHA1. Youth Depression
	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> MHA2. Adult Depression
Suicide Deaths	<input type="checkbox"/> MHA3. Youth Suicide Deaths
	<input type="checkbox"/> MHA4. Adult Suicide Deaths
Youth Drug Use	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> MHA5. Youth Alcohol Use
	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> MHA6. Youth Marijuana Use
Drug Overdose Deaths	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> MHA7. Unintentional drug overdose deaths
CHRONIC DISEASE	
TOPIC	INDICATOR NAME*
Heart Disease	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> CD1. Coronary Heart Disease
	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> CD2. Premature Death - Heart Disease
	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> CD3. Hypertension
Diabetes	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> CD4. Diabetes
Harmful Childhood Conditions	<input type="checkbox"/> CD5. Child Asthma Morbidity
	<input type="checkbox"/> CD6. Child Lead Poisoning
MATERNAL AND INFANT HEALTH	
TOPIC	INDICATOR NAME*
Preterm Births	<input type="checkbox"/> MIH1. Uninsured Adults
Infant Mortality	<input type="checkbox"/> MIH2. Infant Mortality
Maternal Morbidity/Mortality	<input type="checkbox"/> MIH3. Severe Maternal Morbidity



ADDRESSING THE HEALTH NEEDS



The 2022 CHNA identified the following significant health needs from an extensive review of the primary and secondary data. From the significant health needs, Fulton County Partners for Health chose health needs that considered the health system's capacity to address community needs, the strength of community partnerships, and those needs that correspond with the health system's priorities.

THE THREE PRIORITY HEALTH NEEDS THAT WILL BE ADDRESSED IN THE 2023 COMMUNITY HEALTH IMPROVEMENT PLAN ARE:

Priority Area 1: CHRONIC DISEASE

- ✓ Improve Adult Nutrition & Physical Activity
- ✓ Improve Youth Nutrition & Physical Activity
- ✓ Reduce Heart Disease & Diabetes

Priority Area 2: MENTAL HEALTH & ADDICTION

- ✓ Decrease Adult Tobacco/Nicotine Use
- ✓ Decrease Youth Tobacco/Nicotine Use
- ✓ Decrease Drug Overdoses
- ✓ Decrease Adult & Youth Depression

Priority Area 3: ACCESS TO CARE

- ✓ Increase Local Access & Preventive Services

STEPS 3 & 4

SELECT STRATEGIES & ACTION STEPS TO ADDRESS PRIORITIZED HEALTH NEEDS



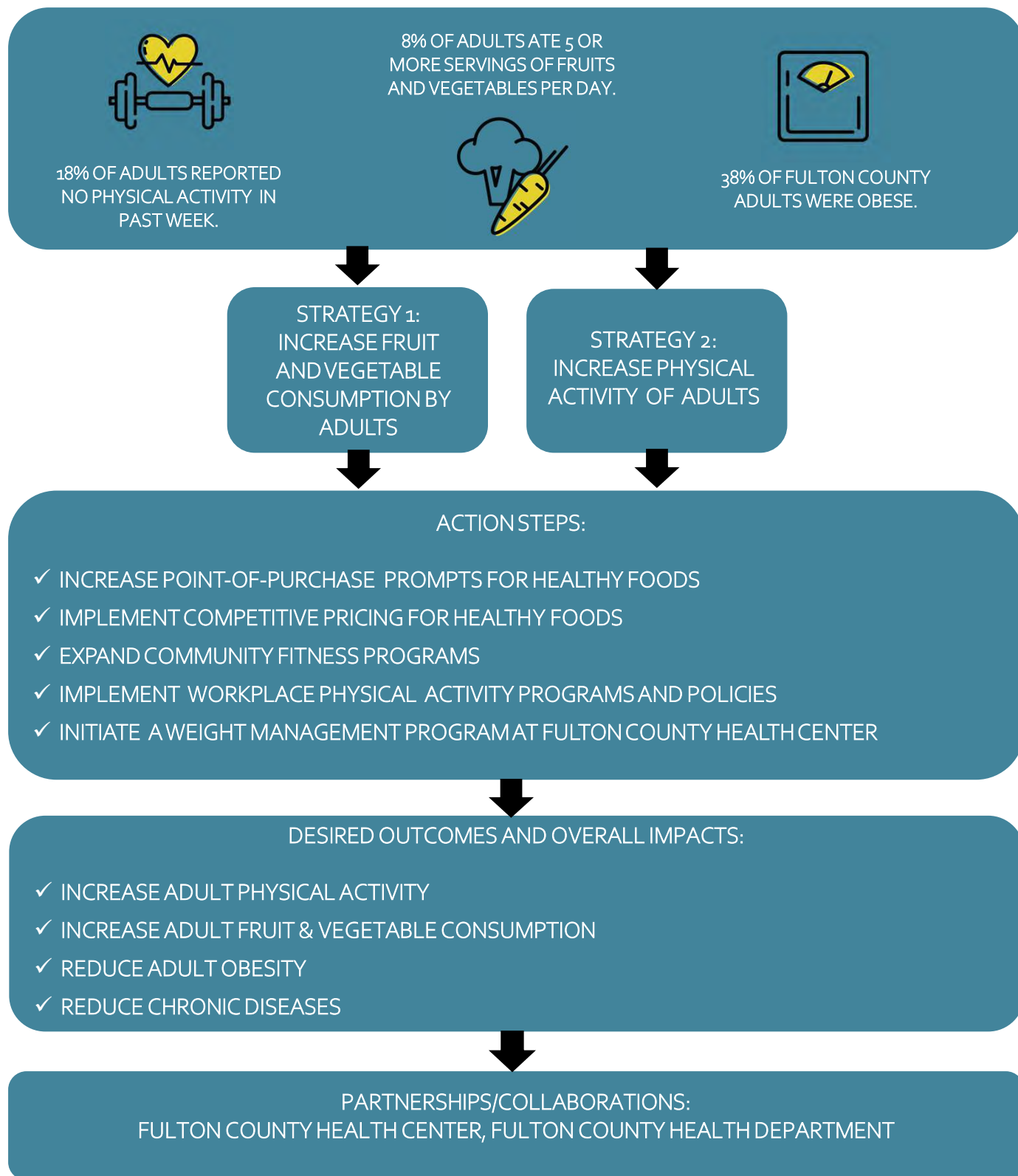
IN THESE STEPS, FULTON COUNTY PARTNERS FOR HEALTH:

- SELECTED APPROACHES TO
ADDRESS FULTON COUNTY'S
SERVICE AREA PRIORITIZED
HEALTH NEEDS



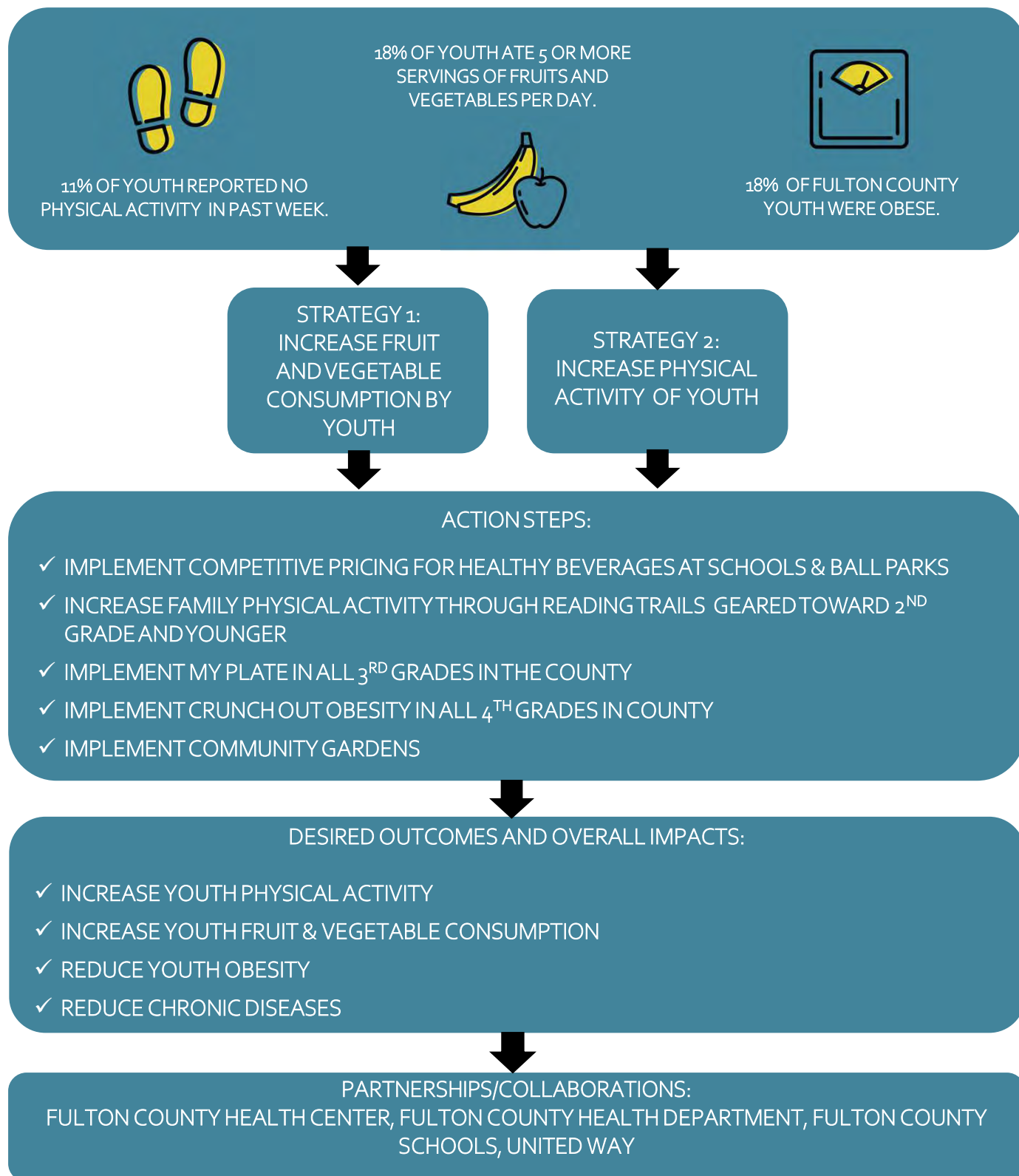
CHRONIC DISEASE

IMPROVE ADULT NUTRITION & PHYSICAL ACTIVITY



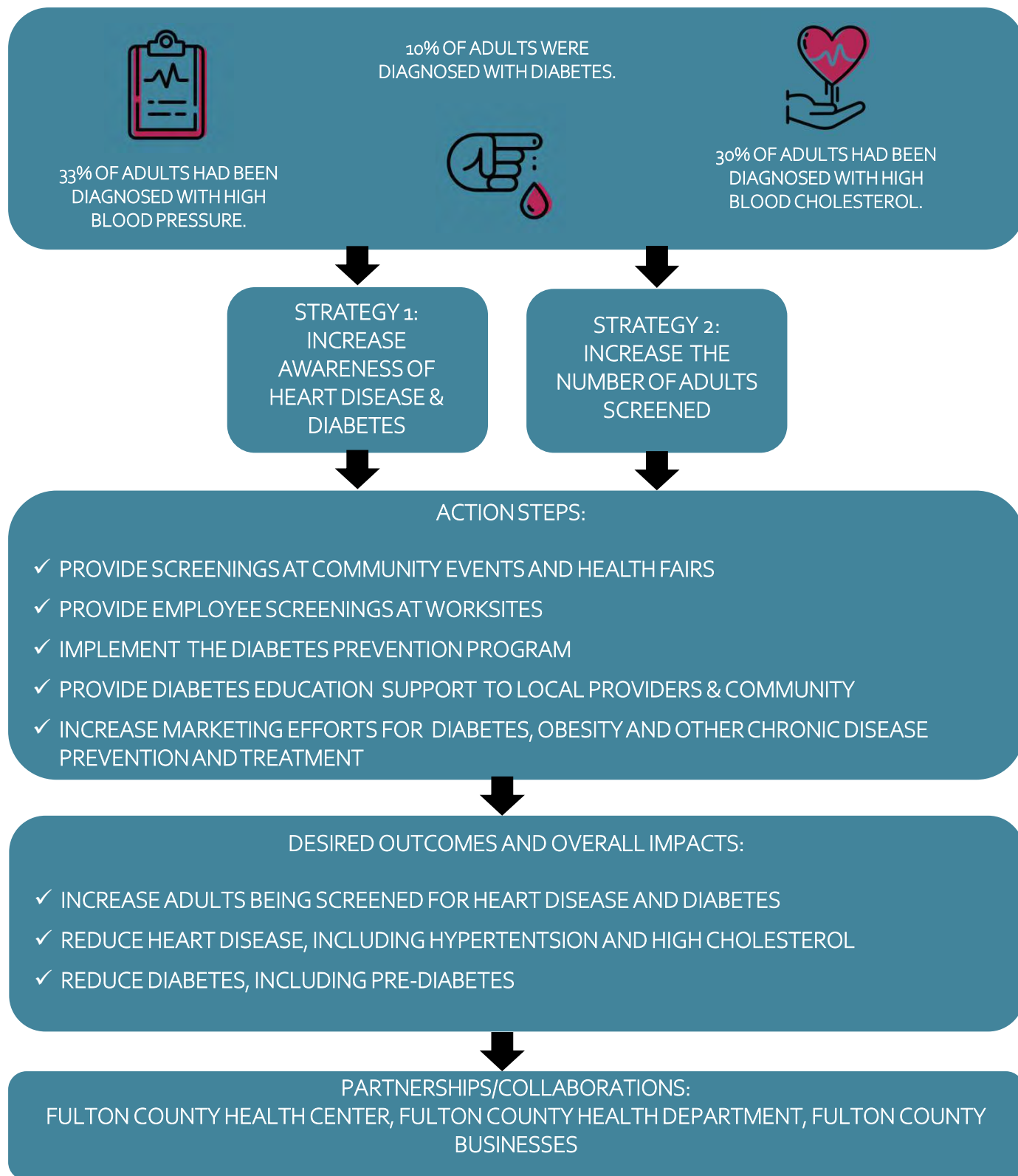
CHRONIC DISEASE

IMPROVE YOUTH NUTRITION & PHYSICAL ACTIVITY



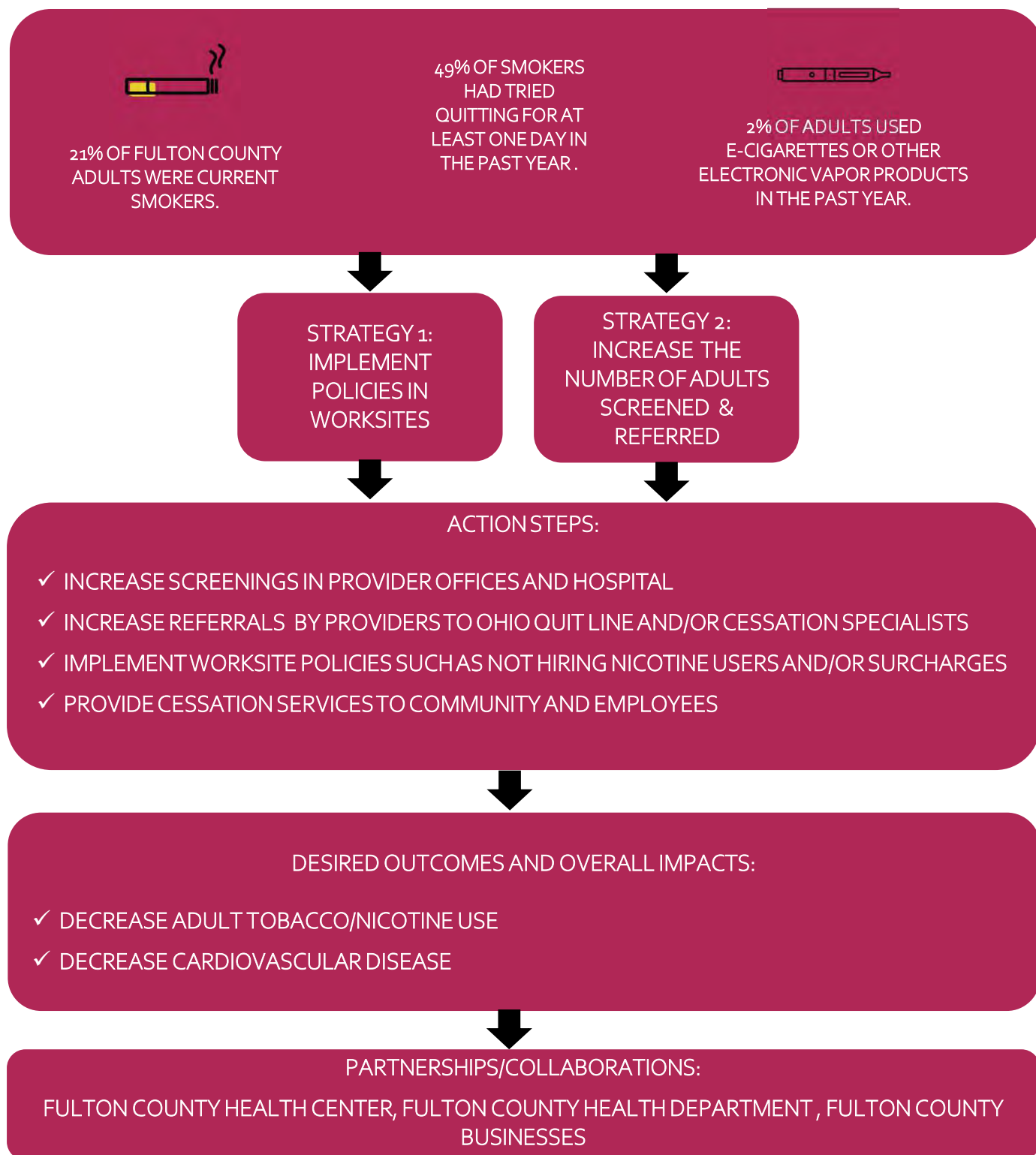
CHRONIC DISEASE

REDUCE HEART DISEASE & DIABETES



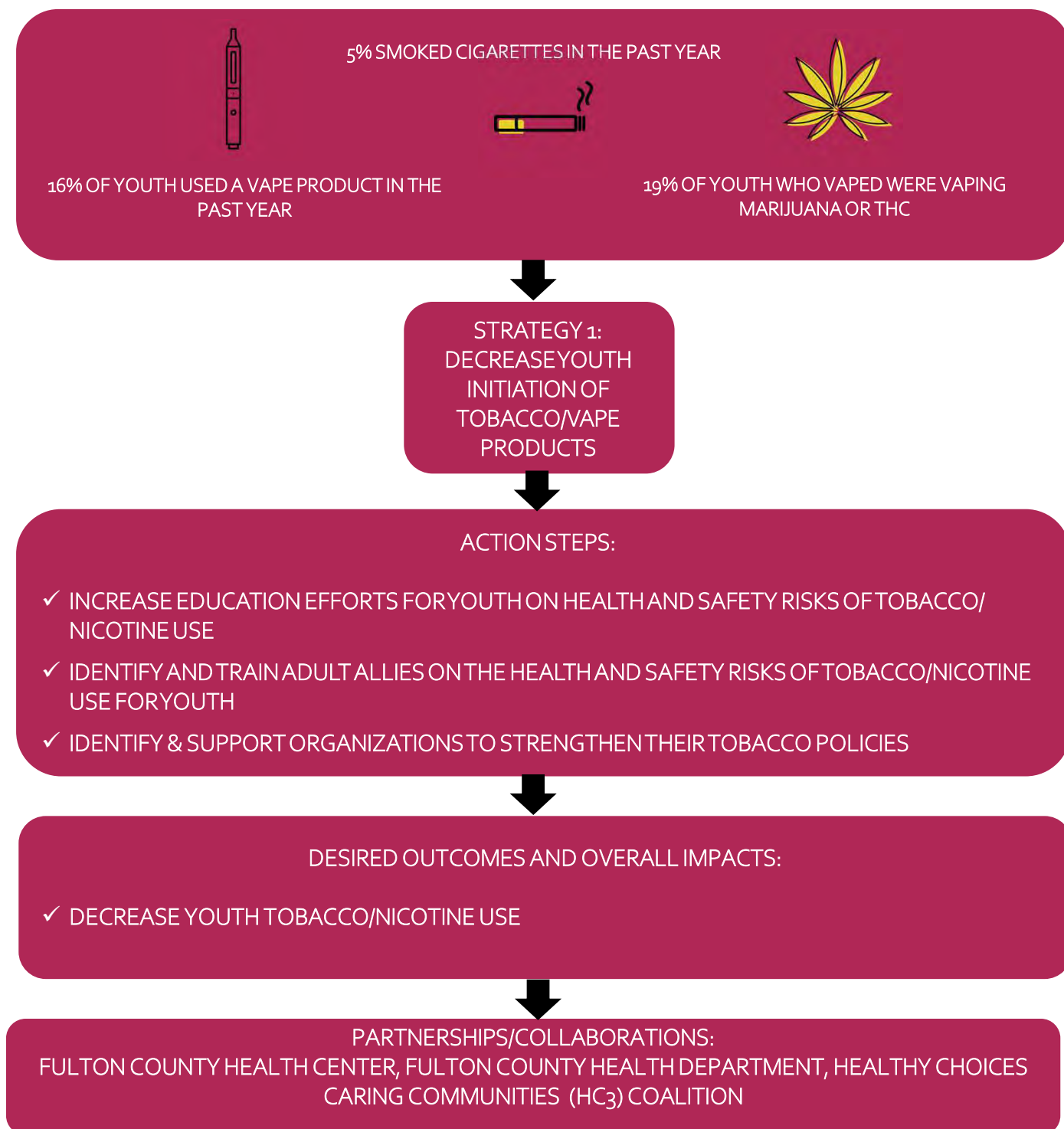
MENTAL HEALTH & ADDICTION

DECREASE ADULT TOBACCO/NICOTINE USE



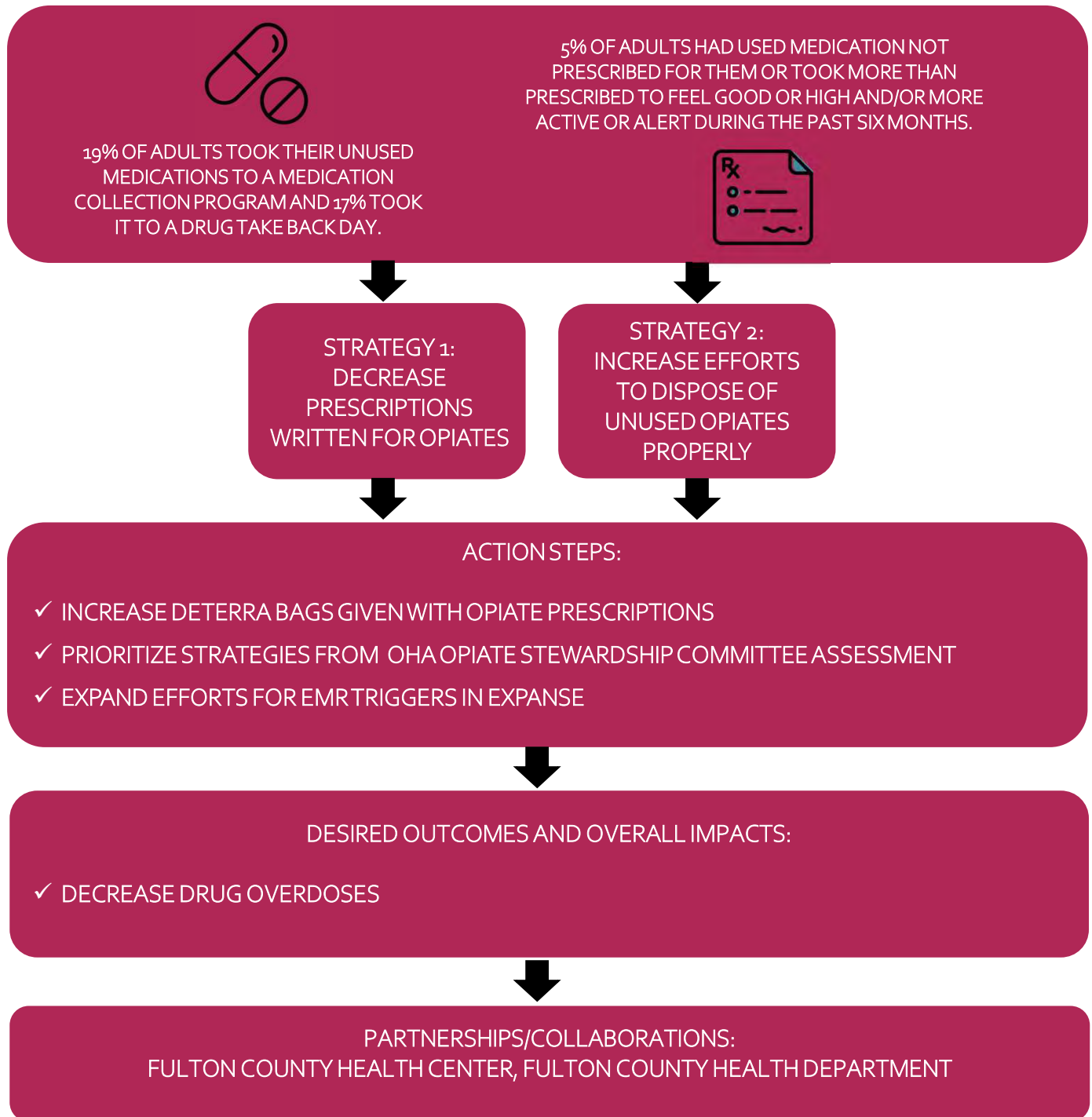
MENTAL HEALTH & ADDICTION

DECREASE YOUTH TOBACCO/NICOTINE USE



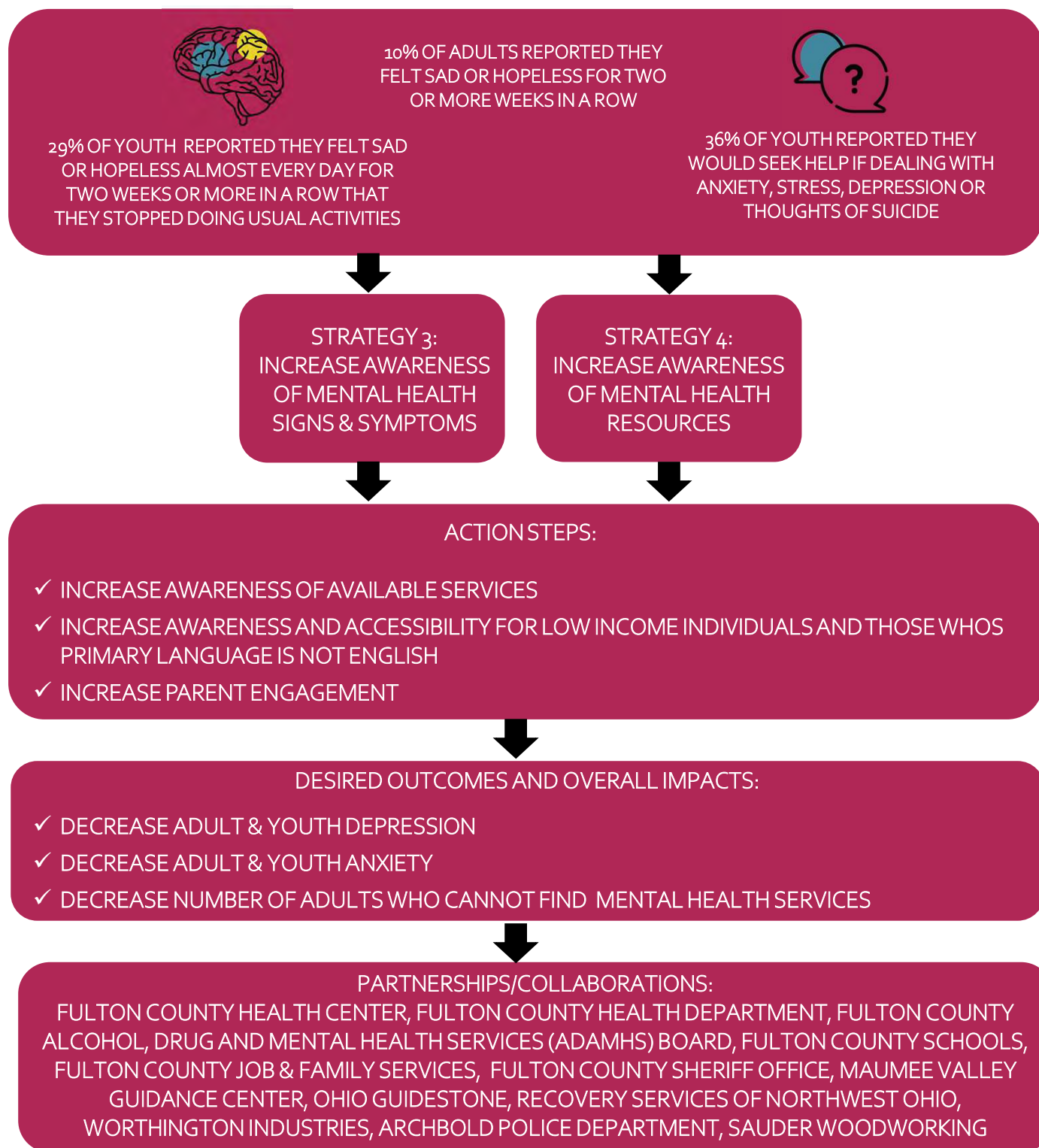
MENTAL HEALTH & ADDICTION

DECREASE DRUG OVERDOSES



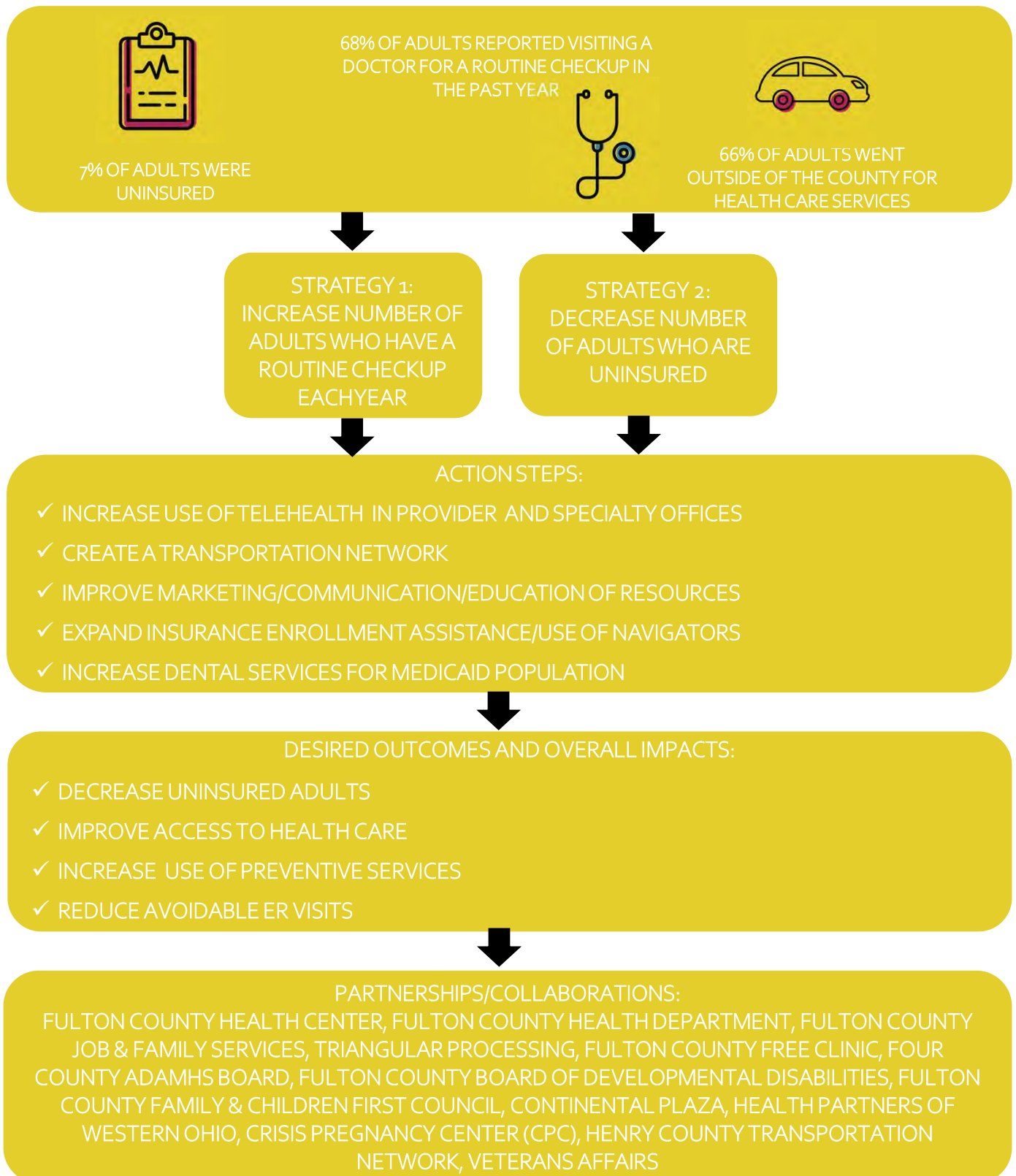
MENTAL HEALTH & ADDICTION

DECREASE ADULT & YOUTH DEPRESSION



ACCESS TO CARE

INCREASE LOCAL ACCESS AND PREVENTIVE SERVICES



STEPS 5-8 INTEGRATE, DEVELOP, ADOPT, AND SUSTAIN IMPLEMENTATION STRATEGY



IN THIS STEP, FULTON COUNTY PARTNERS FOR HEALTH WILL:

- INTEGRATE IMPLEMENTATION STRATEGY WITH COMMUNITY AND HOSPITAL PLANS
- DEVELOP A WRITTEN IMPLEMENTATION STRATEGY
- ADOPT THE IMPLEMENTATION STRATEGY
- UPDATE AND SUSTAIN THE IMPLEMENTATION STRATEGY



NEXT STEPS

ADOPTION OF IMPLEMENTATION STRATEGY

The CHNA and this resulting Implementation Strategy/Community Health Improvement Plan (CHIP) identify and address significant community health needs and help guide the next steps taken by Partners for Health. This document explains how Partners for Health plans to address the selected priority health needs identified by the CHNA. This Implementation Strategy/CHIP was adopted by the FCHC Board of Directors on April 24, 2023, the FCHD Board of Health on October 10, 2023 and presented to attendees at the October 24, 2023 Partners for Health bi-annual meeting. The distribution and integration of the strategies and actions of the Implementation Strategy/CHIP with community, hospital and health department plans will enable a greater health impact. This report is widely available to the public on both the hospital and health department websites: fultoncountyhealthcenter.org and fultoncountyhealthdept.com. Written comments on this report can be submitted to bward@fulhealth.org or kcupp@fultoncountyoh.com.

DEVELOPMENT & COALITIONS

Coalitions were an integral part of the development of the Implementation Strategy/CHIP and are essential in completing the action steps listed for each priority area. Ongoing coalitions include: Healthy Choices Caring Communities (HC3) with a focus on youth substance use prevention; and the Chronic Disease coalition. Newly formed or reengaged coalitions include the Mental Health Coalition and the Access to Care Coalition. Facilitated discussions and decision making by the larger Partners for Health Coalition and within these priority area coalitions informed the contents of this Implementation Strategy/CHIP.

EVALUATION OF IMPACT, UPDATE AND SUSTAIN

The coalitions are working to impact each of the priority health needs. The programs and actions outlined in this report will be monitored and evaluated. The actions taken to address priority health needs are expected to improve health knowledge, behaviors and status, increase access to care, and overall help support good health. Detailed work plans are being developed by the coalitions that span the next three years. Staff of FCHC, FCHD, Four County ADAMh's Board and many additional Partners for Health provide coalition leadership, facilitation and direction. Key indicators will continue to be monitored to assess impact. Our reporting process includes the collection and documentation of tracking measures, such as the number of people reached/served and collaborative efforts to address health needs. A review of the impact of the coalitions' work to address the priority health needs will be reported at least bi-annually at the Partners for Health meetings. The Implementation Strategy/CHIP will be updated at least annually to include the work being achieved and steps made to sustain improvements. Further analysis will be completed as part of the next scheduled Community Health Needs Assessment.





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