

HEALTH EQUITY ZONE

WEST WARWICK

2018 Priority Areas

Health Equity Zone
West Warwick

West Warwick HEALTH EQUITY ZONE FRAMEWORK

Background

The HEZ will build infrastructure for equity.



Collaboration

Partnerships and community participation are highly valued to ensure sustainability



Equity

Programs ensure that all people can reach their highest level of health



Impact

Organizations work together using collective impact to increase effect

Health Equity Zone Response



7

Residents who are community ambassadors that guide the HEZ



13

Community organizations who are partners of the Health Equity Zone



10

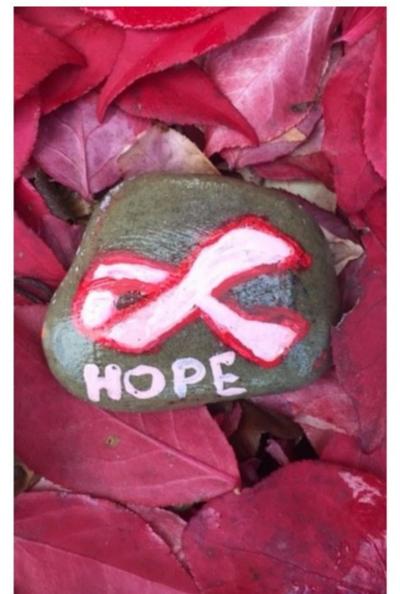
Unique Health Equity Zones across the state of Rhode Island

Community Spotlight

Community Ambassadors

The West Warwick Health Equity Zone (HEZ) hired 7 Community Ambassadors who are residents of West Warwick. The Ambassadors provide invaluable guidance the HEZ initiatives.

The Ambassadors act as community catalysts and use a "bottom-up" approach to raise awareness about health equity. The HEZ trains the Ambassadors about social justice, health equity, community engagement, and advocacy. Each Ambassador participates in HEZ priority-focused collaboratives, and works side-by-side with their group's chair to ensure a community voice is steering the group's work. Each Ambassador develops a community project to engage residents in the work of the HEZ. For example, the West Warwick Rocks project is a creative hide & seek activity that spreads kindness and connects kids, families, businesses, and all residents to each other and to the many assets & healthy environments in their city.



West Warwick: A Health Equity Zone

"Health equity means everyone has an equal opportunity to take advantage of resources that will help them live a long, healthy life. It focuses on differences in population health that are related to unequal economic and social conditions in specific locations. These conditions are both systemic and changeable."-RI Health. The West Warwick Health Equity Zone aims to improve health equity by addressing upstream factors for particularly vulnerable populations in their city.

West Warwick is home to more than 29,000 people and is disproportionately affected by health disparities. Health disparities are preventable differences that are found in socially disadvantaged populations and are driven by upstream factors such as poverty, lack of transportation, toxic stress and abuse, lack of access to nutrition and recreation, and accidental drug overdose. In West Warwick, 22% of children live below poverty line and 21% are known survivors of child abuse; both numbers exceed the state and national average. 43% of WIC eligible people do not access benefits and there are only 2 grocery retailers located in the city. Only 4% of land is use for recreation space and public transportation is lacking. Lastly, West Warwick experienced an increase in opioid-related deaths in 2017 from 2016.

The overall mission of the West Warwick Health Equity Zone is to utilize collective impact and leverage the many community assets and resources to address health disparities in West Warwick by working to reduce preventable differences, or social determinants of health. After conducting a comprehensive review of available data, completing a community assessment, talking to community leaders, and consulting community ambassadors, the West Warwick Health Equity Zone decided to create 5 work-groups with the following focuses, Overdose Prevention & Recovery, Healthy Food Access, Healthy Environments, Teen Health, and Trauma-informed Communities.

Thundermist Health Center is the backbone agency. The Lead Partners are: the West Warwick Police Department, Westbay CAP, Kent County YMCA, West Warwick Public Schools, Farm Fresh RI, The Providence Center & Anchor Recovery Community Center, Town of West Warwick, West Warwick Senior Center/Department of Human Services, West Warwick Public Library, Rhody Food on the Move, and SouthPointe Christian Church.

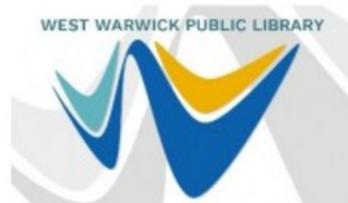
Health Equity Zone Lead Partners



westbay community action
Helping people. Changing lives.



A BEACON OF HOPE
WEST WARWICK SENIOR & COMMUNITY CENTER



The Providence
CENTER

Healthy minds for healthy lives



Anchor
Recovery Community Center
peer-to-peer support services

FARM FRESH RI
A HUB FOR LOCAL FOOD SINCE 2004



Thundermist!
HEALTH CENTER

Health Equity Zone
West Warwick

West Warwick OVERDOSE PREVENTION AND RECOVERY

Background

West Warwick has high rates of substance use and overdose deaths.



6th

Highest rate of overdose deaths in Rhode Island in 2016, down from 3rd in 2015



10

Overdose deaths in West Warwick in 2017, 2 more than 2016



100x

Fentanyl, a synthetic opioid that is up to 100x more potent and responsible for drastic increase in OD's

Health Equity Zone Response



100%

Police trained in Naloxone rescue and carry Naloxone, drug that reverses overdoses



46

Non-fatal opioid related encounters by Behavioral Health Clinician working with WWPD



12

Residents with lived experience completed Peer Recovery Coach Academy

Community Spotlight

Embed Behavioral Health Clinician in West Warwick Police Department

The Providence Center, in partnership with West Warwick Police Department and Thundermist Health Center, implemented a pilot ride along Police Behavioral Health Clinician to facilitate diversion of individuals with SUD, with emphasis on the opioid epidemic and risk of overdose, from criminal/justice system involvement, and instead steer them toward treatment. The clinician increases capacity on the police force by training 100% of force, integrating SUD services, and coordinating care and community response through case conferencing and systems mapping design with the HEZ.



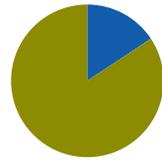
West Warwick HEALTHY FOOD ACCESS Background

Many people in West Warwick do not have access to healthy, affordable, fresh food.



6 in 10

Eligible people are not enrolled in the Women, Infants, and Children (WIC) Program



<13%

of West Warwick residents eat recommended daily servings of fruits and vegetables



Barriers

Many people in West Warwick face barriers to accessing a grocery store

Health Equity Zone Response



6

Pop-up Farmers Markets were sponsored to increase access to fresh fruits and vegetables



Screen

Train organizations to screen clients for food insecurity and refer to community resources



40% more

Provide "bonus bucks" for people using WIC and SNAP at farmers markets

Community Spotlight

Health Equity Zone
West Warwick
PRESENTS
WEST WARWICK
FARMERS MARKETS

EVERY THURSDAY
at THUNDERMIST HEALTH CENTER
186 PROVIDENCE ST
3-6 PM | JUL 6 - OCT 26

MONDAYS
Westbay Farmstand
1351 Centerville Rd
3 - 5:30pm
Jul 10 - Sep 26

JUL 26
West Warwick Civic Center
100 Factory St
2 - 4pm

AUG 2
W. Warwick Library
1043 Main St
11am - 1pm

AUG 23, SEP 6, OCT 4
W. Warwick Senior Ctr
145 Washington St
11am - 1pm

SNAP WIC CASH CREDIT SENIOR COUPONS
Buy \$5, Get \$2 Free with Your EBT Card

Farm Fresh Rhode Island
farmfreshri.org

Weekly & Pop-Up Farmers Markets

The West Warwick HEZ Food Access collaborative aims to increase consumption of fresh fruit and vegetables in West Warwick, a community with limited access to transportation and retail food stores. In 2017, Westbay Farms and Thundermist Health Centers, hosted two weekly summer farmers markets, and Westbay CAP held 4 monthly markets. In addition, the HEZ collaborative sponsored 6 "pop-up" farmers markets designed specifically to increase access for people receiving senior coupons, SNAP benefits, and WIC program vouchers. These 'pop-ups' were held at 4 West Warwick locations: the Public Library, the Civic Center, the Senior Center & WIC office, and the HEZ Hub, and were supported by Farm Fresh RI.

West Warwick HEALTHY ENVIRONMENTS Background

Connecting and creating environments that promote physical activity & social cohesion



4%

Only 4% of land is outdoor recreation space; the smallest of any town in RI



Assets

Residents noted community assets, such as the bike path and community garden



Prevent

Physical activity alone helps to prevent many chronic diseases, including diabetes

Health Equity Zone Response



Survey

255 respondents surveyed to understand ways to improve physical activity



Leverage

Utilize community assets that increase physical activity and walkability



Create

Planted a community orchard & created plans for splash park and playground

Community Spotlight

Community Healthy Living Assessment (CHLI)

Over 255 residents participated in conversations focused on physical activity and access to healthy food. Overall, residents appreciate our town's resources such as sidewalk connectivity, the bike path, River Walk, and the civic center. Many unique and creative ideas emerged from the CHLI process, including short-term and long-term strategies. These ideas included developing a calendar of public recreation programs and a plan to revitalize public transportation throughout West Warwick.



TRAUMA

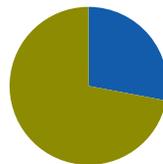
Background

West Warwick is a community deeply affected by trauma.



110

Cases of child abuse and neglect in 2016 in West Warwick



28%

Incidents of domestic violence in West Warwick had a child present



117

Children with a parent who is incarcerated

Health Equity Zone Response



Survey

Survey educators to determine interest becoming trauma-informed



Train

Train 40 educators, counselors, and staff on the effects of toxic stress



Fund

Achieve funding to train all educators and staff on the effects of toxic stress.

Community Spotlight

West Warwick High School: Trauma-informed

West Warwick is a community deeply affected by traumatic stress: too many people experience abuse, violence, and poverty. Traumatic stress, or toxic stress, is a form of chronic and prolonged stress caused by adverse childhood experiences such as abuse, neglect, exposure to violence, or poverty. It has inter-generational and lifelong effects on an individual's physical and mental health, with additional impacts on the social, emotional, and educational development of children and adolescents. The Teen Health work group identified reducing the effects of traumatic stress for students as a top priority with the goal of achieving funding to create a trauma-informed school community by 2021. They are piloting a two-part trauma-informed training for 40-50 high school educators, counselors, social workers, and school staff. The training will provide the knowledge to identify the symptoms of traumatic stress, tools to create a safe learning environment, and ways to mitigate the affects of secondary traumatic stress on the educator.

Health Equity Zone Participants

Backbone Agency: Thundermist Health Center

Lauren Nocera - AVP Program Development and Grants
Susan Jacobsen - Director of Health Equity Zone Initiatives
Krista Handfield - West Warwick Health Equity Zone, Project Manager
Denise Crooks - Health Equity Initiatives Evaluation

Steering Committee

Senator Adam Satchell- West Warwick
Anne McLaughlin - West Warwick Library
Cindy Singleton- WestBay Community Action
Charlotte Boudreau - YMCA of Greater Providence
Chris Imbriglio - RI Department of Corrections
Chris Durigan - Thundermist Health Center
Dale Feldon - West Warwick Community Ambassador
Donna Walker - Sodexo
Earnest Zmyslinski - Town Manger of West Warwick
Jason Messier - West Warwick Town Council
John Magiera - West Warwick Police
Karen Tarasevich - West Warwick School Department
Keith Remillard - West Warwick School Department
Krista Handfield - West Warwick Health Equity Zone
Lauren Nocera - Thundermist Health Center
Manny Murray - West Warwick Senior Center
Major Knott - West Warwick Police
Michelle Mitchell - West Warwick Community Ambassador
Owen Heleen - The Providence Center/Anchor Recovery Community Center
Paul Salera- WestBay Community Action
Richard Silva - West Warwick Police Department
Sheri Griffin - Farm Fresh RI
Susan Jacobsen - Thundermist Health Center
Tanner Green- SouthPointe Christian Church
Thea Upham - Farm Fresh RI
Tom O'Donnell - West Warwick Library

Overdose Prevention & Recovery Workgroup

Catherine Shultz - Anchor Recovery
Chris Imbriglio - RI Department of Correction
Father Dave Martins - Saint Therese Old Catholic Church/ Anchor Recovery
Dale Feldon - West Warwick Community Ambassador
Deb Dettor - Anchor Recovery
Diana Santos - Thundermist Health Center
Dr. Laura Forman - Care New England
Ed Sousa - Community Member
Emma Romano - Thundermist Health Center
Heather Seger - The Providence Center/West Warwick Police
John Magiera - West Warwick Police Department
Jon-Paul Capece - Open Doors
Mark Knott - West Warwick Police Department
Michael Adamowicz - Thundermist Health Center
Dr. Michael Poshkus - Thundermist Health Center
Michelle McKenzie - Prevent Overdose & Naloxone Intervention
Michelle Mitchell - West Warwick Community Ambassador
Rosalind Lewis - West Warwick Community Ambassador
Susan Jacobsen - Thundermist Health Center
Tanner Green - SouthPointe Christian Church

Teen Health Workgroup

Ed Dwyer- West Warwick School Department
Karen Dodd - West Warwick School Department
Karen Moniz - West Warwick School Department
Karen Tarasevich - West Warwick School Department
Keith Remillard - West Warwick School Department
Kimberly Maine - West Warwick School Department
Michael Mascellino - West Warwick School Department
Patricia Keenan - West Warwick School Committee
Paul Salera - WestBay Community Action
Philip Solomon - West Warwick School Department
Susan Jacobsen - Thundermist Health Center
Tamarie Piecyk - Thundermist Health Center
Tina Richardson - WestBay Community Action
Todd Kirschofer - Thundermist Health Center

Healthy Food Access & Health Environment Workgroup

Anne McLaughlin -West Warwick Public Library
Charlotte Boudreau - Kent County YMCA
Cindy Singleton - WestBay Community Action
Coreen St. Jean - Be the Change
Deb Nelson - Saints Rose and Clement Parish
Donna Walker - Sodexo
Joan Carello - Westbay Farm
Katie Mulligan - University of Rhode Island
Keith Remillard - West Warwick School Department
Linda Garvin - West Warwick Community Ambassador
Manny Murray - West Warwick Senior Center
Paul Salera - WestBay Community Action
Peter Prak - Westbay Community Action
Sheri Griffin - Farm Fresh RI
Stephanie Bush - University of Rhode Island
Steve Stycos -WestBay Community Action
Susan Jacobsen - Thundermist Health Center
Tara Cimini - Thundermist Health Center
Thea Upham - Farm Fresh RI
Tom O'Donnell - West Warwick Public Library

Community Supporters & Groups

Alateen
Alcoholic's Anonymous
Chris Imbriglio - Department of Corrections
Geoff Capraro, MD, MPH
Kent County YMCA
Maria Sallient - Community
Mary Bradshaw - Mind and Body Studios
Narcotics Anonymous
Nancy Griffin-Reed - Community
Prevent Overdose & Naloxone Intervention
SNAP Outreach
SMART Recovery
RiteAid Pharmacy
Trans Health Access Team - Thundermist Health Center
URI Expanded Food and Nutrition Program
West Bay Farm
West Warwick Community Ambassador Group
West Warwick Parks & Recreation
West Warwick Town Council