

Andover CHIP

What is a CHIP?

A community health improvement plan, or CHIP, is an actionable strategic plan. It outlines priority health issues for a community. A CHIP details how issues will be addressed to improve the health of the community. CHIPs contain goals, objectives, and strategies to be achieved. In early 2023, the town of Andover and partners created a three-year CHIP.

Why These Priorities?

The Andover CHIP focuses on three priorities. A town Advisory Committee identified them based on a recent community needs assessment. The priorities are:

Mental Health Across the Lifespan

Affordable Housing

Diversity, Equity, & Sense of Community



Mental Health Across the Lifespan

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| Goal | Embrace those living with mental health challenges by informing and referring them to evidence-based resources and encouraging individuals of all identities to access meaningful support across the lifespan. |
| Objective 1.1 | Increase the availability and reach of diverse, age-appropriate training and education for residents, municipal and school staff, and care givers to address all aspects of mental health needs by the end of fiscal year (FY) 2024. |
| Objective 1.2 | Increase availability and reach of age-appropriate evidence-based resources that address both prevention and intervention needs by March 30th, 2024 with annual reviews. |
| Objective 1.3 | Reduce social isolation across the community, focusing on age and cultural sensitivities by the end of FY 2025. |
| Objective 1.4 | Increase resources to recognize and assist persons with high-risk behaviors, including substance use, problem gambling, social isolation, and excessive screen time by the end of June 2024. |

Affordable Housing

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| Goal | Ensure sustainable affordable housing options and resources to support the health of anyone seeking to join or remain a part of the Andover community. |
| Objective 2.1 | Increase the affordable housing stock by 2% by 2026 to lower the cost-of-living burden. |
| Objective 2.2 | Increase the number of transit-oriented housing units to promote use of public and active transportation means by 5% by 2026. |
| Objective 2.3 | Increase the support for multi-family and affordable housing development by 2026. |
| Objective 2.4 | Increase the funding for the local housing trust fund and seek other municipal resources to facilitate moving to or staying in Andover. |

Diversity, Equity, and Sense of Community

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| Goal | Establish the community of Andover as a welcoming, inclusive, accepting, respectful, and safe place for all who live, work, or visit here in order to promote health and racial equity and reduce health disparities. |
| Objective 3.1 | By the end of 2023, identify and assess incidences of racism and bias in the town of Andover for the purpose of establishing a baseline. |
| Objective 3.2 | Increase the participation and visibility of underrepresented populations in civic engagement/ leadership opportunities (e.g., serving on Board Committees or Commissions, running for office, etc.). |
| Objective 3.3 | Reduce barriers to accessing equitable health care in order to reduce health disparities. |
| Objective 3.4 | Increase visible town support for the LGBTQ+ community in Andover. |

How Do I Learn More and Get Involved?

For more information, contact:
Andover Health Division
Email: health@andoverma.gov
Phone: 976-623-8640



For the complete Community Health Improvement Plan, please visit:
<https://andoverma.gov/162/Health>