



## 2023 Annual Report




### Who is PHSCO?

PHSCO is the Public Health Services Council of Ohio, the state’s only public health Regional Council of Governments. It was established in 2017 after three years of research among interested local health districts in Northwest Ohio. Councils of Governments (COGs) are organizations that represent member local governments (like local health districts) under the authority of Chapter 167 of the Ohio Revised Code. Services offered are determined by the COG and its members. PHSCO members selected the COG structure because it allows them to retain their own identities while gaining opportunities to expand the provision of foundational public health services to their residents.

### Why was PHSCO Established?

PHSCO members recognize that they share a common desire to provide the best possible public health services in their respective counties, but resources often limit their ability to provide all foundational public health services. They determined that viable solutions could be achieved by collaborating with one another to ensure their respective residents benefit and are better served.

### What are PHSCO’s Strategic Goals and Objectives?

<b>VISION</b>	 <b>INNOVATING FOR THE FUTURE OF PUBLIC HEALTH</b>			
<b>MISSION</b>	 <b>PHSCO OFFERS SOLUTIONS FOR TODAY’S PUBLIC HEALTH NEEDS.</b>			
<b>VALUES</b>	 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>◆ <b>RESPONSIVE</b></li> <li>◆ <b>FORWARD-THINKING</b></li> <li>◆ <b>WORKING TOGETHER</b></li> </ul> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>◆ <b>FLEXIBLE</b></li> <li>◆ <b>EAGER FOR KNOWLEDGE</b></li> <li>◆ <b>RESULTS-FOCUSED</b></li> </ul>			
	<b>LEARNING &amp; GROWTH</b>	<b>INTERNAL PROCESS</b>	<b>CUSTOMER</b>	<b>FINANCIAL</b>
<b>STRATEGIC GOALS</b>	<b>Develop robust workforce system</b>	<b>Effectively deliver current and expanded services</b>	<b>Expand customer footprint</b>	<b>Increase its financial sustainability</b>
<b>STRATEGIC OBJECTIVES</b>				
<b>FINANCIAL</b>	<div style="background-color: #00AEEF; color: white; padding: 5px; border: 1px solid black; margin: 0 auto; width: 80%;">Strengthen Financial Position</div>			
<b>CUSTOMER</b>	<div style="background-color: #70AD47; color: white; padding: 5px; border: 1px solid black; margin: 0 auto; width: 40%;">Develop Marketing Plan</div>		<div style="background-color: #70AD47; color: white; padding: 5px; border: 1px solid black; margin: 0 auto; width: 40%;">Improve Listening to Customer</div>	
<b>INTERNAL PROCESSES</b>	<div style="background-color: #FFD700; color: black; padding: 5px; border: 1px solid black; margin: 0 auto; width: 40%;">Improve Operational Efficiencies</div>		<div style="background-color: #FFD700; color: black; padding: 5px; border: 1px solid black; margin: 0 auto; width: 40%;">Increase Service Offerings</div>	
<b>LEARNING AND GROWTH</b>	<div style="background-color: #FF6347; color: white; padding: 5px; border: 1px solid black; margin: 0 auto; width: 40%;">Improve IT</div>		<div style="background-color: #FF6347; color: white; padding: 5px; border: 1px solid black; margin: 0 auto; width: 40%;">Strengthen Workforce</div>	



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### Financial Results

- ❖ PHSCO pursued and was awarded a Public Health Workforce grant of \$337,500 (for July 1, 2023-November 30, 2027), from the Ohio Department of Health. This enabled PHSCO to hire Anne Goon, MS, RD, LD, public health consultant and former health commissioner, as Executive Director in December 2023.

### Customer Results

- ❖ PHSCO currently has five member Boards of Health, each represented on the PHSCO Board by their health commissioner. Shared services provided to members in 2023 were accreditation, epidemiology, and emergency planning support services.

### Internal Process Results

- ❖ Executive Director Goon introduced an array of potential service lines to the PHSCO Board in December 2023.

### Learning and Growth Results

- ❖ PHSCO employed two full-time staff in 2023- Mendon Thomas, an epidemiologist, and Mike Shultz, emergency planner- and contracted for interim executive director services from the Mid East Ohio Regional Council (MEORC).
- ❖ Epidemiology services were discontinued mid-year due to decreased interest in sharing these services.

### Looking to the Future

- ❖ In 2024, the PHSCO Board and Executive Director are focused on achieving three primary objectives that connect to PHSCO's strategic goals. These objectives are:
  1. **Offer a greater array of affordable shared public health services to local health departments.** The services offered will be based upon 1) the needs identified by local health districts through surveys and focus groups, and 2) the viability of filling these needs with shared service arrangements.
  2. **Increase the number of health departments that are members of PHSCO and/or contracting for services.** A marketing plan will be created and implemented to support achievement of this objective.
  3. **Recruit, hire/contract, and retain diverse, well-qualified staff to provide an expanded array of shared services.** Staffing for emergency planning support services changed from an employed to a contract position in January 2024, allowing PHSCO members to get and pay for the specific services they want and need.
- ❖ In the first few months of 2024, PHSCO has already...
  - **Been contracted by the Ohio Public Health Institute to provide Accreditation Learning Community (ALC) support services** by surveying health departments about their reaccreditation learning needs and providing ALC sessions to address these needs.
  - **Partnered with seven local health departments to pursue funding to provide nurse newborn home visiting services** through the new Ohio Department of Children and Youth (ODCY). The Association of Ohio Health Commissioners (AOHC) and the Ohio Public Health Association (OPHA) supported this application. Although not selected for the first round of funding, PHSCO has been invited to participate in an ODCY learning community this year in anticipation of the next funding cycle.
  - **Submitted a contract to provide reaccreditation support services to a local health department (not currently a PHSCO member) for its consideration.**

If you want to learn more about PHSCO or suggest a shared service that it should consider offering, please contact Executive Director Anne Goon at [director@phsco.org](mailto:director@phsco.org) or (419) 553-4316.