



## April 2026

### 3rd Annual Chili for Charity was a Huge Success!

We had our largest crowd yet at over **170 community advocates** attend our 3rd annual Chili for Charity crowd voted luncheon awards! This year, thanks to partnership with the **City of Lima** and the **Allen County Commissioners**, we were able to use One Ohio Funds to support Opioid prevention and education. Over 15 organizations applied for funding, 6 were brought to the event and **4 were voted by the crowd as \$10,000 award winners** to bring innovative and exciting projects and programming to our Lima/Allen County residents in need. A huge thank you to **Happy Daz Restaurant** for once again donating the wonderful Chili. Additional sponsor and supporters included the **United Way of Greater Lima**, **Cenovus Lima Refinery**, the **Mental Health and Recovery Services Board**, **Mercy Health** and the **Lima/Allen County Chamber of Commerce**. See page 3 for more photos! **Winners: Andrew's House of Hope, Church on the Rock, Youth Connect 4 Mental Health, and YWCA of Northwest Ohio**



# FREE Mental Health Workplace Wellness Symposium

Our next event is just around the corner! Our **2nd Annual Workplace Wellness Mental Health Symposium** will be on **Friday, May 1st at 7:30 am** in the **Cenovus Rec Hall**. **FREE** hot breakfast and a great speaker to help us tackle PTSD support in the workplace. More information below! **Link to register:** [Mental Health Symposium 2026 - May 1, 2026 - Lima/Allen County Chamber of Commerce](https://business.limachamber.com/events/details/mental-health-symposium-2026-5115)

Cenovus Energy Lima Refinery presents:

## MENTAL HEALTH SYMPOSIUM 2026

This Symposium will explore how PTSD can impact the workplace, focusing on reducing stigma and increasing understanding among employers and teams. Attendees will learn practical strategies to support employees affected by PTSD while fostering more informed and supportive work environments. Featuring Veteran mental health awareness, highlighting the importance of workplace support for those who have served.



May 1, 2026



7:30am - 9:00am



1150 S Metcalf St, Lima, OH 45804  
Cenovus Rec Hall (Parking across street)

Event is **FREE** and includes a **FREE HOT BREAKFAST**. Open to any community resident, employee or employer.

Featured Speaker:  
**Andrew Siepka**

Please RSVP at the link below to ensure accurate food count:

[HTTPS://BUSINESS.LIMACHAMBER.COM/EVENTS/DETAILS/MENTAL-HEALTH-SYMPOSIUM-2026-5115](https://business.limachamber.com/events/details/mental-health-symposium-2026-5115)

**cenovus**  
ENERGY

Lima  
Refinery

Activate  Allen County



West Central Ohio  
Safety Council

# FREE Tobacco Cessation is Available!



Department of Health  
Tobacco Prevention and Cessation  
Quit Line: ohioquits.org

There is no safe level of nicotine use and the benefits of quitting begin immediately.

There is **free** help available.

- ▶ **1-800-QUIT-NOW (1-800-784-8669)**
- ▶ **ohioquits.org**



## More 2026 Chili for Charity Photos



# South Jackson Garden to Host Education Series

## SOUTH JACKSON COMMUNITY GARDENS *Education Series*

JOIN ACTIVATE ALLEN COUNTY & CENTRAL  
STATE UNIVERSITY EXTENSION THIS SUMMER  
FOR A 4 PART GARDEN EDUCATION SERIES

*May 9<sup>th</sup> 11am-Noon*

We will be learning about growing for food insecurity and budgeting. How your garden can reduce costs at the grocery store!

*June 13<sup>th</sup> 11am-Noon*

This class will be focused on pollinators and beneficial insects. What is good and bad for your garden and organic ways to prevent insects you don't want.

*July 11<sup>th</sup> 11am-Noon*

Soil Health & Regenerative Gardening, Composting, cover crops, mulching strategies, natural fertilizers, soil testing and water usage management.

*August 15<sup>th</sup> 11am-Noon*

Canning! Discover how to safely can and preserve fresh produce so your garden's abundance can nourish your family beyond the growing season.

📍 200 South Jackson St. Lima, OH 45804

📞 419-222-6045

🌐 [activateallencounty.com](http://activateallencounty.com)

**FREE! NO  
REGISTRATION  
REQUIRED**

PRESENTED BY:



**EXTENSION**  
1890 LAND-GRANT INSTITUTION



Our **South Jackson Community Garden** now has a covered pavilion and restrooms and we want to use this space for community education! **Activate has partnered with Central State Extension to provide 4 FREE, open to the public, education opportunities that we hope you take advantage of.** Dates include: May 9, June 13, July 11 and August 15 all from 11am-Noon. For garden location and more information, check out the **event page:** <https://www.facebook.com/share/1CE5pYMs7m/>

# FREE Community Bike Rodeo Coming Soon!



## JOIN US FOR THE BIKE RODEO

AT

## Safety City

Bring your own bike or borrow one of ours for bike fun and safety demos!



**FREE  
EVENT**

TICKET CODE  
I234567890

**SATURDAY  
MAY 09,  
2026**

**12-3PM**

**700 S.  
COLLETT ST  
LIMA, OH  
45804**



*Activate* **Allen County**

Mark your calendars and join us along with the **Allen County Bike and Pedestrian Task Force** for a **FREE Bike Rodeo at Safety City on Saturday, May 9th from Noon-3pm**. Need a helmet for your kiddo for the upcoming riding season? Come and get one at no cost during the rodeo! We will also have other safety items, resources and a fun course for the kids to try! See you there!

## Dates to Note

April 11th- **Bridging the Gap** FREE Health Fair at Lima Senior

May 1st- **MH Symposium**, FREE at Cenovus Rec Hall 7:30am

May 9th- **South Jackson Garden Education Series #1**, 11am-Noon, FREE, Open to all, Families welcome!

May 9th- **Bike Rodeo at Safety City**, Noon- 3 PM, FREE

June 13th- **South Jackson Garden Education Series #2**, 11am-Noon, FREE, Open to all, Families welcome!



# 2026 Newsletter, April

**YOU Are Activate!** Please follow us on Facebook if you have not already done so! Website: [www.ActivateAllenCounty.com](http://www.ActivateAllenCounty.com)

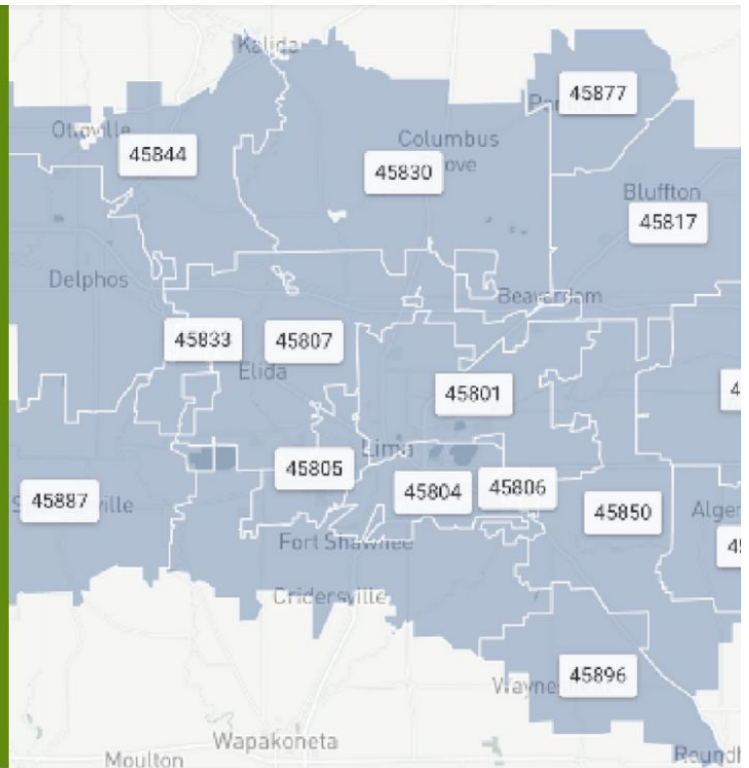
These avenues are great ways to stay up to date with what is happening! Also, do not forget about the **Allen County Health Atlas as your data source!**

[www.allencountyhealthatlas.org](http://www.allencountyhealthatlas.org)

## About the Allen County Health Atlas

Mercy Health, Allen County Public Health, Activate Allen County & our partner agencies believe data should be accurate, transparent, and easy to understand. The Allen County Health Atlas was created so that you can review, explore, and compare health-related data over time and across communities throughout Allen County. In addition, the Allen County Health Atlas provides a place for residents to see our progress implementing our county's Community Health Improvement Plan to improve health equity across our region.

Our hope is that you will use this data to both better understand health in Allen County and identify opportunities to improve health and well-being. The Allen County Health Atlas is, by design, an evolving tool. Through new partnerships, improved data, and continuous updates to the site, we will be better equipped to understand and improve our county's health.



**Have a community success story to share?**

**facebook**

[facebook.com/ActivateAllenCounty](https://facebook.com/ActivateAllenCounty)



**Interested in more information about Activate Allen County and how to get involved? Please contact us today!**

Contact us: 419-222-6045 • Email: [kmonfort@activateallencounty.com](mailto:kmonfort@activateallencounty.com)