EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

RECOMMENDATIONS TO REDUCE HEALTH DISPARITIES IN MONTGOMERY COUNTY

APRIL 2011

The Advisory Council of Public Health - Dayton & Montgomery County’s (PHDMC) Dayton Council on Health Equity is comprised of a diverse cross-section of community partners. The Chair is the Program Coordinator of the Dayton Council on Health Equity, and the Advisory Council includes public health, city government, public schools, college researchers and academicians, health provider organizations, ethnic coalitions, members of the minority community, community organizations, area business, media, hospitals, churches, and faith-based groups.

The Advisory Council has been meeting since April 2009 with goal of developing strategies to address health disparities. Each member of the Advisory Council brought his or her own expertise and a sincere determination to see changes implemented locally that would reduce the rates of chronic disease and improve the health status of Montgomery County’s minority population.

The Advisory Council and its ad hoc subcommittees met in person to review and discuss a broad range of information, which included:

- local health and census tract data,
- recommendations from local conversations to address health disparities,
- national frameworks and strategies to reduce or end health disparities,
- contributing factors and root causes of poor minority health outcomes, and
- reports and studies on topics of chronic disease and population health outcomes.

The Advisory Council decided to narrow its initial focus to two areas of chronic disease in order to provide the best opportunity to achieve measurable results. Based on the local health data, the two areas targeted were diabetes and infant mortality/low birth weight.

The Dayton Council on Health Equity Advisory Council respectfully submits this summary report, *Recommendations to Reduce Health Disparities in Montgomery County*, to Public Health, in support of its mission to achieve the highest possible health and well-being for Dayton and Montgomery County residents and to address health issues of concern to the community, through collaboration with community partners.