Northwoods LEAN Encourages Healthy Living

**Background:** Oneida County’s most recent Community Health Needs Assessment identified four priorities: chronic disease prevention, alcohol and other drug abuse (AODA), mental health and physical activity. Because Oneida County already had AODA and mental health coalitions, this project focused on developing a chronic disease coalition.

The county’s Public Health Department and the Steering Committee of Healthy People Healthy Oneida County led the needs assessment process, which included representatives from businesses, medical centers, ancillary health care providers, churches, schools, local governments and community coalitions addressing health-related issues to participate.

**Project Goals:** This project focused on building the capacity to address chronic disease by creating a broad-based Chronic Disease Prevention Coalition, developing a strategic plan and identifying sustainable funding and capacity for disease prevention and management programs.

**Results:** The Northwoods LEAN coalition used Wisconsin Partnership Program funds to create a sustainable coalition with an active leadership team, vision and strategic plan. In addition to accomplishing all of the grant goals, the coalition was chosen for the Healthy Wisconsin Leadership Institute and received a Partnership Program implementation grant. This grant also led to several other programs, including:

- **CHANGE (Community Health Assessment aNd Group Evaluation) grant** to conduct a more detailed community needs assessment specifically related to chronic disease
- **CHANGE 2.0 grant** to work with local convenience stores to offer healthy items, alter displays and make other changes
- **Security Health grant** to implement a bicycle education program, build bike racks and hold a bike rodeo
- **Wisconsin Department of Health Services grant** to conduct focus groups with local businesses to better understand worksite wellness and tailor activities to meet employers’ needs