



Press Information

Guilford County 2012-2013 Community Health Assessment

Background: Every four years, Guilford County Department of Public Health and Guilford County Healthy Carolinians provide leadership to a comprehensive community health assessment process. Together, they partner with other health-related organizations from across the county to assess a wide range of local health data. Through this process, the Community Health Assessment identifies the priority health issues in our county and develops community action plans to address those issues. The goal is to create a more healthy community.

The Community Health Assessment process is required by NC General Statute 130A-34.1 as part of the local health department accreditation process. More information can be found on the NC Division of Public Health website at <http://publichealth.nc.gov/lhd/cha>

Results of the two most recent Assessments can be found on the Department of Public Health's website at www.guilfordhealth.org under Health Statistics.

Partnership Involvement:

From Guilford County Department of Public Health:

“In public health, we see the community as our patient. The Community Health Assessment is one of the ways in which we diagnose the community’s health. Through this process, our Department works together with residents to identify meaningful ways to protect and enhance the health and well-being of all people in our county. It is important that residents take this opportunity to make their voices heard by participating in one of the community meetings. The experiences and concerns of the public, combined with data specific to our county, will provide the most complete assessment results. ”

Merle Green, MPH, MBA, Health Director

Media contacts:

Lynne Beck
Media Relations Manager/Health Educator
Office: 336-641-6667
lbeck@co.guilford.nc.us

Connie Lawson
Community Health Educator
Office: 336-641-7722
clawson@co.guilford.nc.us

From High Point Regional Health System:

“The Affordable Care Act requires that health systems participate in community health assessments. However, that is not the only reason we are participating in this special effort. Changes in the health care industry require us to manage the health and wellness of the population of our community.”

“We can only be successful in this endeavor if we know the needs of the community - needs that are not always readily apparent. The issues are complex and certainly include many factors outside the walls of a

hospital. This assessment will give us detailed findings from which a three-year action plan can be created to address these needs by many agencies, health care providers and the community at large.”

Linda M. Roney, FACHE
Senior Vice President
High Point Regional Health System

Media contacts:

Tracie Blackmon
Director of Public Relations and Marketing
Office: 336-878-6202
Cell: 336-442-9064
tracie.blackmon@hprhs.com

Becky Alley
Public Relations and Marketing Specialist
Office: 336-878-6888
Cell: 336-706-1886
becky.alley@hprhs.com

From Cone Health and Cone Health Foundation:

“Community Health Assessments simply mean better healthcare. The assessment is a great tool for Cone Health to better understand the health issues that are important to the public. Adding public comments to the data we collect gives us a road map for creating the services to more accurately meet the needs of the communities we care for and serve.”

“It is important that we hear from as many people as possible in this process. Community Health Assessments give the public a voice in setting the priorities and direction of the healthcare services available in our community.”

“We use this information in a number of ways. It helps us to plan for new services, to add additional services and to develop community education classes and support groups on the issues that most concern people. Community Health Assessments allow us to be a better partner in meeting the healthcare needs of our community.”

Tim Clontz, Executive Vice President, Health Services, Cone Health

Media contacts:

Doug Allred
External Communications Manager
Office: 832-8659
Pager: 319-2919
douglas.allred@conehealth.com

Deborah Humphrey
Director of Communications
Office: 832-9455
Cell: 908-9900
Deborah.humphrey@conehealth.com

Research Partner: UNC Greensboro, Center for Social, Community and Health Research and Evaluation

Public Input Sought in Community Health Assessment (Health Events)

The Guilford County Department of Public Health, Cone Health, Cone Health Foundation, High Point Regional Health System and UNC Greensboro's Center for Social, Community and Health Research and Evaluation are working together on the Guilford County 2012-13 Community Health Assessment. The Community Health Assessment is the process used to examine the health of Guilford County and identify areas where organizations, policy makers and residents can work together to improve our community's health. This assessment typically takes place every three or four years. Gathering and reviewing statistical information, such as the rate of deaths from heart disease and prevalence of risk factors that affect health outcomes, is underway. The next step is to ask residents their thoughts on the health of our community.

A series of six meetings will be held around Guilford County during October and November. These meetings are designed to share current county and community specific health data. Attendees will have an opportunity to share their views about health issues and health needs in their communities. All meetings are open to the public and anyone may attend any or all of the meetings.

The schedule is as follows:

Tuesday, October 16, 9 – 11 a.m., Guilford College United Methodist Church, 1205 Fleming Road, Greensboro, NC, 27410

Tuesday, October 23, 2-4 p.m., Advanced Home Care, 4001 Piedmont Parkway, High Point, NC 27265

Tuesday, October 30, 9-11 a.m., Summerfield Town Hall, 4117 Oak Ridge Road, Summerfield, NC 27358

Monday, November 5, 10 a.m. - 12 p.m., Northeast Park, 4010 High Rock Rd, Gibsonville, NC 27249

Tuesday, November 13, 9 - 11 a.m., Mount Zion Baptist Church, 1301 Alamance Church Road, Greensboro, NC 27406

Tuesday, November 20, 9 - 11 a.m., Millis Health Education Center, 601 N. Elm Street, High Point, NC 27262

For more information about the Community Health Assessment, please contact Laura Mroska or Dr. Mark Smith at the Department of Public Health at 336-641-7777.