



Summary and Next Steps

Hundreds of organizations and community residents have taken part in various pieces of the Community Healthy Assessment over the past eighteen months. Their ideas and input have been woven into the six priorities identified by the Steering Committee.

Now that the assessment is complete, the real work of identifying strategic action to create change will begin. The Department of Health and Health Partners ran a test of the strategic action process through late 2009 and 2010 with the Healthy Living planning process and the Healthy Living Network. That effort will continue to grow in the years ahead. Additional efforts to address some of the other five health priorities are underway in Buncombe County. Before action planning around those priorities begins, the Department of Health will be strategic about investigating and aligning with other local efforts so that maximum impact can be achieved.

The Department of Health is now in the process of reorganizing its assessment process so that on-going monitoring and facilitation of community health outcomes becomes a significant piece of the service it offers. Beginning in early 2011, the Department of Health will facilitate the creation of a Community Health Scorecard. Such a scorecard can become a tool that many partner organizations can contribute to and use to assess community health improvement