# Community Health Assessment 2014 Chatham County

## Executive Summary

### Health Priorities

#### Obesity
- Encourage healthy lifestyles through changes in the built environment (community design)
- Promote physical activity
- Promote healthy eating

#### Access to Mental Health Services
- Work collectively to prevent substance abuse
- Promote mental health treatment services
- Promote substance abuse treatment and counseling services

#### Access to Healthcare
- Promote, provide, and assist in coordination of healthcare services
- Examine gaps in healthcare services
- Promote and increase enrollment in the health insurance marketplace

The three health priorities will be the focus of action planning for the next three years. The bullet points are focus areas within each issue.

### Who’s involved?

The CHA is a collaborative effort between the Chatham County Public Health Department and Chatham Hospital.

The Steering Committee led the CHA process and determined the health priorities.

Chatham residents shared their perspectives through surveys and focus groups.

### What is the Community Health Assessment?

The Community Health Assessment, or CHA, fosters a better understanding of the health needs of Chatham County residents. This year-long process is used to establish health priorities for the next three years and culminates in an action plan to address these priorities. The CHA helps local agencies and organizations working on health issues to plan and coordinate their efforts, and to ensure that the most pressing health concerns are being addressed. It is also utilized by the Chatham County Public Health Department in its strategic planning process.
**CHA PROCESS**
1. Form Steering Committee
2. Hold meetings
3. Conduct survey and focus groups
4. Collect data from local, state, and national sources
5. Compile data and present findings
6. Select health priorities
7. Draft report
8. Share report with Steering Committee, Board of Health, and public
9. Develop Action Plan

**Leading Causes of Death, 2009–2013**
- 1. Cancer
- 2. Heart Disease
- 3. Cerebrovascular disease
- 4. Respiratory disease (COPD)
- 5. Diabetes

**Key Stats**
- 26% of Chatham adults are obese
- 7.6% of high school students said they had attempted suicide in the past year
- Around 1 in 5 adults 18–64 do not have health insurance

**Chatham County...**
- ★Lowest unemployment rate (Nov ‘14)
- ★Second longest life expectancy

...in the state

**Economics & Health**

**Next Steps**

**STEP 1:**
Establish Chatham Health Alliance, the coordinating coalition for health-related efforts in Chatham County

**STEP 2:**
Develop Action Plan to address health priorities

**STEP 3:**
Work together to improve the health and well-being of Chatham County residents

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