What is the Community Assessment?

The community assessment, or CA, uses high-quality data to better understand the needs, perceptions, and experiences of Chatham County residents and enable focused, collective efforts to build an active, thriving community for all. This process is used to select Health Impact Priorities to target efforts on the most pressing community concerns.

### Health Impact Priorities

After reviewing data from a variety of local, state, and national sources, the Chatham Health Alliance prioritized these issues:

- **Obesity**
- **Access to Comprehensive Health Services**
- **Poverty**

The three Health Impact Priorities will be the focus of community action over the next three years.

Who is Involved?

Over 100 volunteers and 45 community organizations contributed to the success of this assessment. The following sponsors helped make this assessment possible:

- Carolina Meadows
- Chatham County Council on Aging
- Chatham County Manager’s Office
- Chatham County Public Health Department
- Chatham Drug Free
- Chatham Health Alliance
- Chatham Hospital
- Silver Thread Senior Living Communities
- United Way of Chatham County

Hundreds of Chatham residents shared their perspectives through community surveys, focus groups, community conversations, and key informant interviews.

What is Next?

New Chatham Health Alliance subcommittees formed in early 2019 to coordinate work in the community around the Health Impact Priorities. Throughout the coming years, community engagement will continue through the Chatham Community Cohort and community conversations. Collective efforts will continue to work towards optimal health and well-being for all Chatham residents.
Who is Chatham?

71,472

2017 Population

Age Distribution

0-5 5%
5-19 15.3%
20-64 56%
65+ 23.7%

“People are proud to live in Chatham County”

11.7%
Speak Spanish at home

10.2%
Had trouble accessing healthcare in the past year

18.1% of Chatham County high school students are overweight and an additional 15.4% are obese

30.6% of Chatham County adults are overweight an additional 28.8% are obese

Percent in Poverty

13.3% Overall
20.8% Children

Race/Ethnicity

White 82.2%
Black or African-American 12.7%
Asian 2%
Hispanic 12.5%

Sources: Chatham County Community Survey, 2018; US Census, 2017; Community Assessment Focus Groups, 2018
For the complete report, visit: www.chathamtalks.org