



HAMILTON COUNTY
PUBLIC HEALTH

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Community Health Assessment

Message from the Health Commissioner

A community relies on the health and vitality of its members to thrive. Creating and maintaining a healthy community is a team effort in which community members and community agencies put forth a vast amount of effort, time and dedication to support such an initiative.

A community health assessment is a systematic process in which data is collected regarding the public health issues that present the most concern for community members and leaders. The health assessment results are an important reference when attempting to develop strategies to mobilize communities and address critical public health issues.

Releasing the community health assessment findings is an important first step in creating healthier communities within Hamilton County. In conjunction with community members, leaders and organizations, the Health District will utilize this report to mobilize communities to achieve the desired outcome – a healthier Hamilton County.

Tim Ingram,
Hamilton County Health Commissioner

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INTRODUCTION

A community may be defined by more than a set of physical boundaries; sometimes a set of shared characteristics or interests are used to define a community. The health status of a community plays a large role in social and economic prosperity, hence it is important that a community strives to continually improve and maintain its health. Government agencies (city, county, state and federal health departments) may provide health services, however not all health programming comes from these organizations. Successful health programming must also include input from community agencies and community members.

The first step in improving the health status of any community is to complete a community health assessment and share the findings with the community. A community health assessment is a systematic collection and analysis of information about the health of the community. By using the findings of the assessment, communities can initiate strategies to begin improving the health of their residents.

Hamilton County Public Health (HCPH) conducted a county-wide community assessment and this report outlines the findings of the assessment.

Hamilton County Public Health is committed to maintaining and protecting the health and environment of the communities it serves. Furthermore, HCPH is committed to building lasting partnerships with the communities it serves to improve the health status of the county. HCPH hopes community members and other agencies will find this report helpful as they continue their efforts to identify the health issues and work to address priorities in their community.

COMPONENTS OF A COMMUNITY HEALTH ASSESSMENT

For community health assessments to be accurate, data collected must be comprehensive and representative of the community it serves. HCPH collected information from many sectors of the population via community focus groups and surveys to gather a representative sample.

Community Focus Groups

Information collected in focus groups are often more comprehensive than surveys due to the unstructured format that allows for exploration and in-depth discussion of topics that are of interest to participants, making them an important supplement to verbal or written surveys. During the summer of 2005, HCPH held nine focus groups throughout the county to learn about community members' opinions, attitudes and beliefs about health issues that affect them personally and their community. Specifically, HCPH wanted to learn:

- Which public health issues should be included or excluded in program development?

- How should issues be prioritized?
- Which strategies are suggested or preferred to address these issues?
- Which resources currently exist to address or attempt to address the issues identified?

Surveys

In addition to expand the findings of the focus groups, HCPH also surveyed community members and leaders.

Community Members

Three hundred and sixty nine surveys were distributed to community members. In order for the sample to be representative of Hamilton County residents, 300 completed surveys were required (for demographics of survey participants, see Appendix A). HCPH staff attended community festivals, fairs, community group meetings, mailed surveys to community groups and visited county parks in each quadrant of the county to find community members to participate in the survey process.

Community members were asked their opinions about public health issues, individual health concerns, behaviors they experienced in the past year, community and environmental issues and access to care. See Appendix B for a copy of the community member survey.

Community Leaders

For the purposes of this report, a community leader was defined as an elected or non-elected community official, a community police or fire chief, or a school district superintendent. On two separate occasions, HCPH staff mailed surveys to each community leader in the 43 political jurisdictions the Health District serves.

Community leaders were asked about their perception of individual health issues, public health or environmental health issues they think impact the residents of the community they serve. They were also asked if they thought residents of their community were able to receive the medical services they needed. See Appendix C for a copy of the community leader survey.

HCPH Staff

Health District Staff were surveyed about which public health issues have the greatest impact on the communities where they routinely work, public health needs they see and are not being addressed, and common public health questions they receive from residents or community agencies. Staff was also asked about their perceptions of the quality of current public health services and programming as well as which services or programs they thought could be administered in a more effective or efficient manner. See Appendix D for a copy of the HCPH staff survey.

ABOUT HAMILTON COUNTY, OHIO

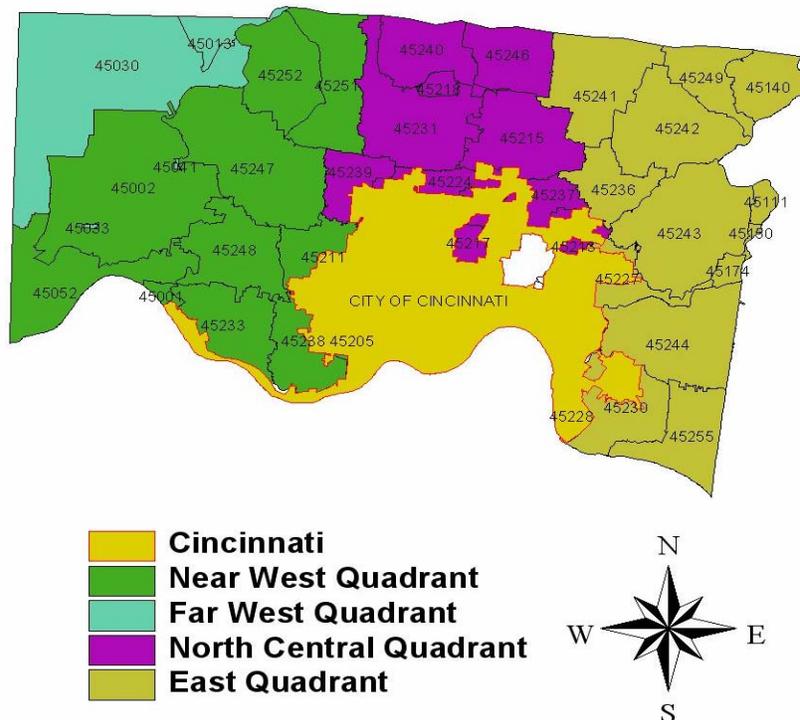
Established in 1790 (12 years before Ohio was officially recognized as a state), Hamilton County was named for Alexander Hamilton, the first Secretary of the U.S. Treasury and was the second county in the Northwest Territory. Settled on some of the most fertile land in the state, the county was once a large farming community and attracted many German and Irish immigrants to the area.

Today Hamilton County is located in southwestern Ohio and is bordered on the south by the Ohio River, on the west by Dearborn County Indiana, on the east by Clermont County and the north by Warren and Butler counties. It remains as diverse as it is historic. In addition to being home to numerous major corporations and urban communities, the county also has several communities that take pride in maintaining a rural, small town atmosphere.



Quadrant Descriptions

Figure 1. Map of Hamilton County Quadrants



Townships by Quadrant

East Quadrant

- Anderson Township
- City of Blue Ash
- City of Evendale
- Village of Fairfax
- City of Loveland
- City of Madeira
- Village of Mariemont
- City of Montgomery
- Village of Newtown
- Sycamore Township
- Symmes Township
- Village of Terrace Park

North Central Quadrant

- Amberley Village
- Arlington Heights
- Columbia Township
- Village of Deer Park
- Village of Elmwood Place
- City of Forest Park
- City of Glendale
- Village of Golf Manor
- Village of Green Hills
- City of Lincoln Heights
- City of Mt. Healthy
- City of North College Hill
- City of Reading
- City of Silverton
- Springfield Township
- Village of Woodlawn
- City of Wyoming

Near West Quadrant

- Village of Addyston
- City of Cheviot
- Village of Cleves
- Colerain Township
- Delhi Township
- Green Township
- Miami Township
- Village of North Bend

Far West Quadrant

- City of Harrison
- Crosby Township
- Harrison Township
- Whitewater Township

Although the survey sample for community members was proportional to the size of the quadrant, the number of surveys collected in the Far West quadrant was significantly smaller than the other quadrants. A small sample size allows for as few as two or three answers to impact survey results.

COMMUNITY ASSETS FOR HEALTH IMPROVEMENT

The most important assets for health improvement communities have to offer are their residents, community organizations and businesses. They have the ability to network, influence and mobilize other community members to take action and create a lasting change in the health status of the community. It is important to remember that community leaders may be formally or informally elected, or appointed.

Although the quantity of existing health services may vary among quadrants they are viewed as a valuable asset to the communities they serve. Existing health services may include:

- Pharmacies
- Wellness Centers
- Mental Health Services
- Dental Services
- Health services offered at schools
- Rehabilitation centers
- Hospitals, clinics (mobile, VA, flu, etc.) and physicians

Other community resources include land, parks, protective services (fire, police), libraries, etc. These resources often attract a large number of people and are an important resource to foster health improvement.

Major Findings

Focus Group Results

- Residents living in the North Central and East quadrants were more concerned about behavioral issues (heart disease, stroke, mental health and teen births), contrary to residents from the Near and Far West quadrants who were more likely to identify environmental issues (air pollution, septic system run-off, littering) as top health concerns.
- Participants were generally not aware of the purpose of HCPH or the services the agency provides. Exceptions include community leaders and residents who had a problem addressed by HCPH.

Public Health and Environmental Issues

- Community leaders across the county identified heart disease, obesity and physical inactivity as the top public health or environmental issues affecting residents in their communities.
- Community members identified obesity, tobacco and physical inactivity to be the top public health issues in their community. Top environmental health issues identified include air pollution, exposure to tobacco smoke and unsafe roads or highways.

Individual Health Issues

- Top issues community leaders believe affect residents of the community they serve belonged to the “other” category, aging problems and cancers. Community members identified allergies, aging problems and high blood pressure as top individual health concerns.
- Community members commonly reported lack of exercise, being overweight and poor eating habits as health behaviors they’ve experienced in the past year.

What HCPH Can Do to Assist Communities in Addressing the Identified Issues

- Community leaders, members and HCPH staff identified increasing awareness, education and programming as strategies for HCPH to assist communities with identified problems.

Access to Healthcare

- The majority of community members and leaders did not identify access to care as an issue for themselves or their residents. Community members and leaders identifying access to care as an issue were more likely to live in or serve the North Central quadrant of the county.
- Community leaders reported that if residents could not access care, it was because they did not have health insurance. This is contrary to community members, who

said if they could not access care it was because they were unable to pay for services.

HAMILTON COUNTY HEALTH

Community Member Survey Results

Focus Group Findings

In addition to surveying community members, HCPH held focus groups throughout the county. The purpose of the focus groups was to give residents from each quadrant the opportunity to openly talk about the public health issues that are of concern or affect their community.

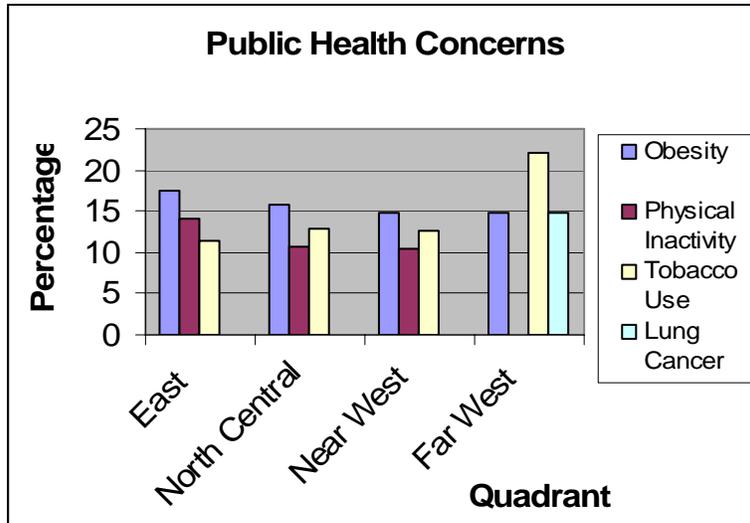
In general, focus group participants were not aware of the Health District’s mission or the services they offered unless they contacted the Health District specifically to address a public health problem they had. Residents of the Near West and Far West quadrants tended to be concerned with environmental issues, while community members from the East and North Central communities were more likely to be concerned with behavioral issues (heart disease and stroke, physical inactivity and obesity).

Public Health Concerns

At the county level, Hamilton County residents ranked their top three public health concerns as:

- Obesity (15.7%)
- Tobacco use (12.8%)
- Physical inactivity (11.4%)

Figure 2. Community Member Public Health Concerns by Quadrant



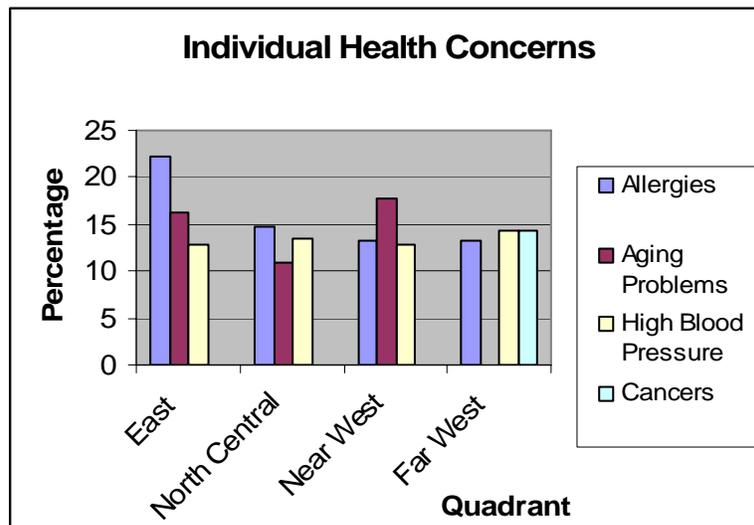
Stratified by quadrant, public health issues of concern were largely behavioral with the exception of lung cancer which was prioritized by participants in the Far West Quadrant.

Individual Health Concerns

When asked about the health conditions the survey participant or their family was impacted by in the previous year, responses for the entire county included:

- Allergies (15.3%)
- Aging problems (14.4%)
- High blood pressure (13.2%)

Figure 3. Community Member Individual Health Concerns by Quadrant



Aging problems include health conditions such as arthritis, vision and hearing loss, etc. High blood pressure was also commonly mentioned among quadrants. Paralleling public health concerns, participants from the Far West quadrant identified cancers as a top concern.

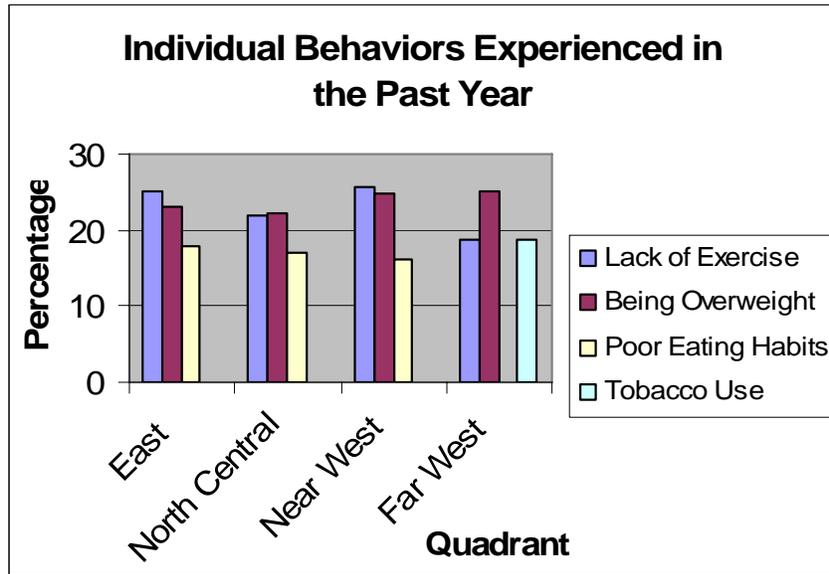
Behaviors experienced within the Past Year

Community members were also asked about behaviors that they or their families experienced in the previous year. Rankings for the county are as follows:

- Lack of exercise (23.8%)
- Being overweight (22.9%)
- Poor eating habits (17.2%)

Responses in the East, North Central and Near West were similar to the issues identified above. Participants from the Far West quadrant reported experiencing slightly different behaviors.

Figure 4. Behaviors Community Members Experienced in the Previous Year by Quadrant



Environmental Health Concerns

Countywide, community members’ top environmental concerns are:

- Air pollution (25.7%)
- Exposure to tobacco smoke (23.3%)
- Unsafe roads and highways (11.9%)

Table 1. Community Members’ Ranked Environmental Health Concerns by Quadrant

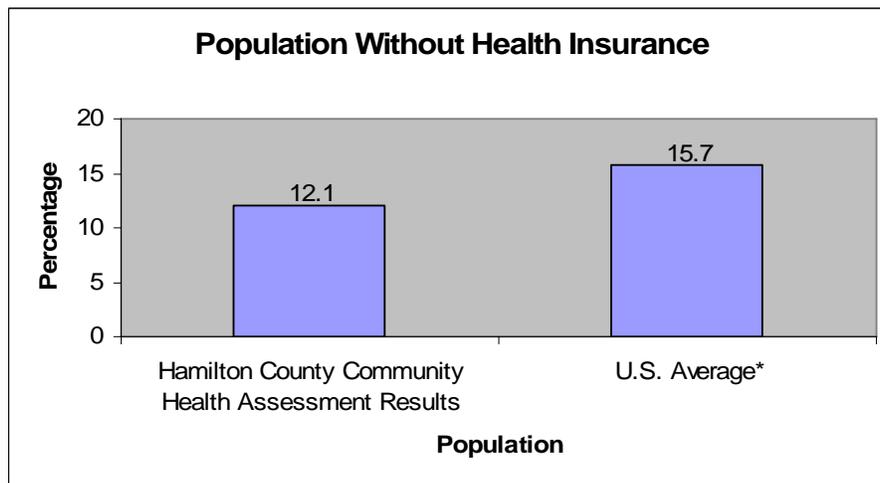
East	North Central	Near West	Far West
Air pollution (23.7%)	Air pollution (29.2%)	Exposure to tobacco smoke (25.6%)	Exposure to tobacco smoke (40%)
Exposure to tobacco smoke (21.3%)	Exposure to tobacco smoke (23.1%)	Air pollution (24.8%)	Unsafe roads, highways (13.3%)
Unsafe roads, highways (14.2%)	Lack of safe recreational areas (13.1%)	Other (11.6%)	Open dumping (13.3%)

“Other” items include issues such as soil contamination, cancer, smog, drugs, violence, litter and crime.

Access to Healthcare

At the county level, a large number of community members (40.1%) identified access to health care as being problematic for themselves or their family. The primary reason cited for difficulty in accessing care was lack of health insurance.

Figure 5. Local and National Comparison of the Population Without Health Insurance*



Other top reasons community members cited for having difficulty accessing healthcare include inability to pay (10.9%) and appointments not being available or convenient (6.3%). A person may have health insurance but still be unable to pay for medical services. Below are the percentages of people in each quadrant who had difficulty accessing healthcare and the reason why obtaining care was difficult:

Table 2. Community Members’ Perceptions of Barriers to Accessing Healthcare

Quadrant	% with difficulty accessing healthcare	Reason #1	Reason #2
East	28.8%	Inability to pay (7.6%)	No appointment was available (6.1%)
North Central	51.7%	No insurance (15.9%)	Inability to pay (15.2%)
Near West	28%	No appointment was available (8.6%)	No insurance (8.6%)
Far West	28.6%	Provider did not speak my language (14.3%)	Inability to pay (14.3%)

As the result of a small sample size, “provider did not speak my language” was identified as a top reason people in the Far West Quadrant experienced problems accessing health care.

*DeNavas-Walt, Carmen, Bernadette D.Proctor, and Cheryl Hill Lee. U.S. Census Bureau, Current Population Reports, P60-231, *Income, Poverty, and Health Insurance Coverage in the United States: 2005*, U.S. Government Printing Office, Washington, DC, 2006. p. 27.

Community Leaders Survey Results

Individual Health Issues

Community leaders were asked to list the top three individual health issues they think affect the residents of the community they serve. Across the county, community leaders thought their residents were most impacted by:

- Aging problems (16.4%)
- Cancers (11.3%)
- Drug abuse (9.5%)

Table 3. Community Leaders' Perceptions of the Top Individual Health Issues Within Their Community by Quadrant

East	North Central	Near West	Far West
Aging problems (20.4%)	Aging problems (18.1%)	Drug abuse (13.2%)	Cancers (26.7%)
Cancers (11.7%)	Drug abuse (10.9%)	Cancers (8%)	High blood pressure (20%)
Being overweight (9.7%)	Mental health issues (10.1%)	Being overweight (8.8%)	Aging problems (20%)

Both community leaders and community members viewed aging problems to be an issue in the East Quadrant. Community leaders also viewed cancers and being overweight as problematic for their residents; contrary to community members who are concerned about allergies and high blood pressure.

Community leaders and members in the North Central quadrant also viewed aging problems to be a problem in their community. Community members reported allergies and high blood pressure as individual concerns.

The community leaders and community members in the Near West quadrant had different opinions about the individual health issues community members are affected by. Community members ranked individual health concerns as aging problems, allergies and high blood pressure.

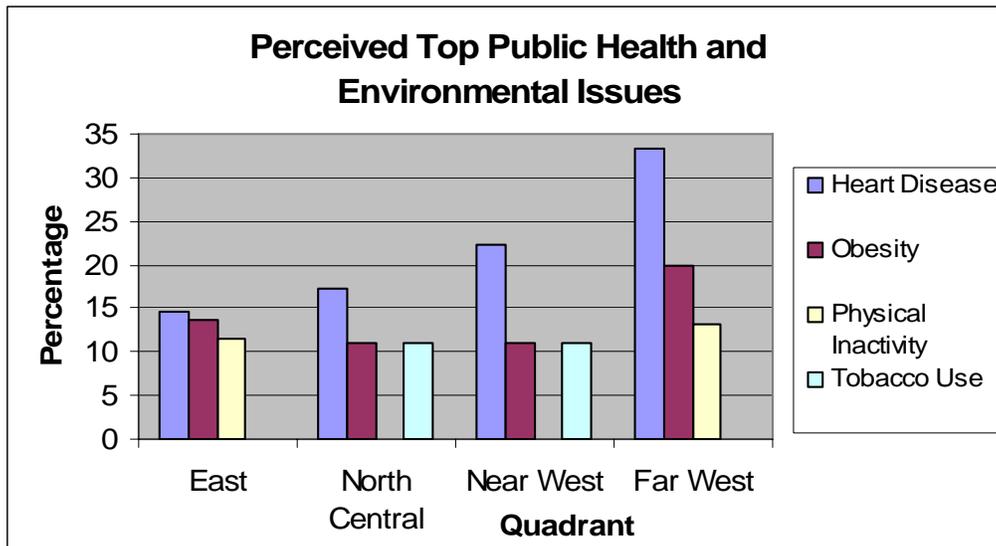
There was minimal discrepancy between Far West community leaders and community members about individual health concerns. Community members identified allergies instead of high blood pressure as an issue of individual health concerns.

Public Health and Environmental Issues

Public health and environmental issues were condensed into the same list for community leaders in order to keep the survey at a reasonable length. The top three issues identified were:

- Heart disease (18%)
- Obesity (12.2%)
- Tobacco use (9.8%)

Figure 6. Community Leaders' Perceptions of the Top Public Health and Environmental Health Issues Within Their Community



Community leaders did not identify any of the environmental health issues that were commonly identified by community members (air pollution, exposure to tobacco smoke, unsafe roads).

It should be noted that Superintendents throughout the county identified mental health as the primary health issue facing students in their school district.

Access to Healthcare

Paralleling community members, the minority of community leaders think access to healthcare is an issue for their constituents (24%); however community leaders underestimated the number of their residents who face this issue.

Figure 7. Comparison of Beliefs Regarding Access to Care in Hamilton County

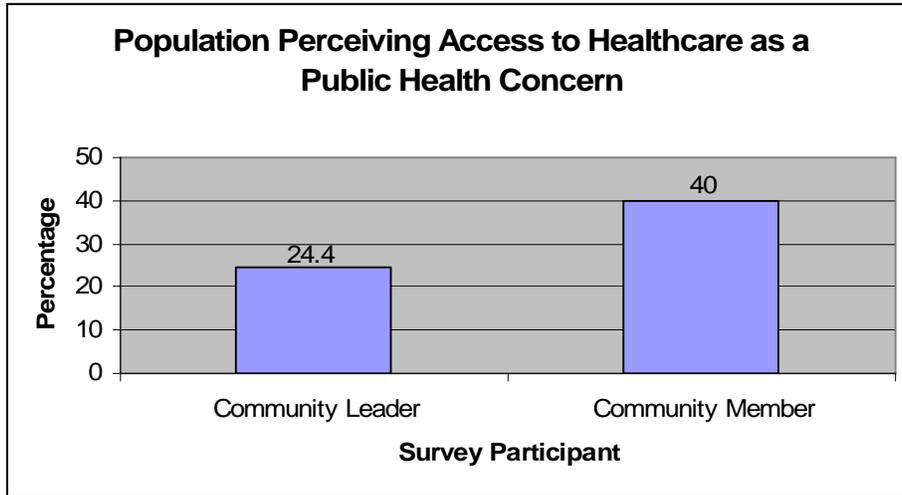
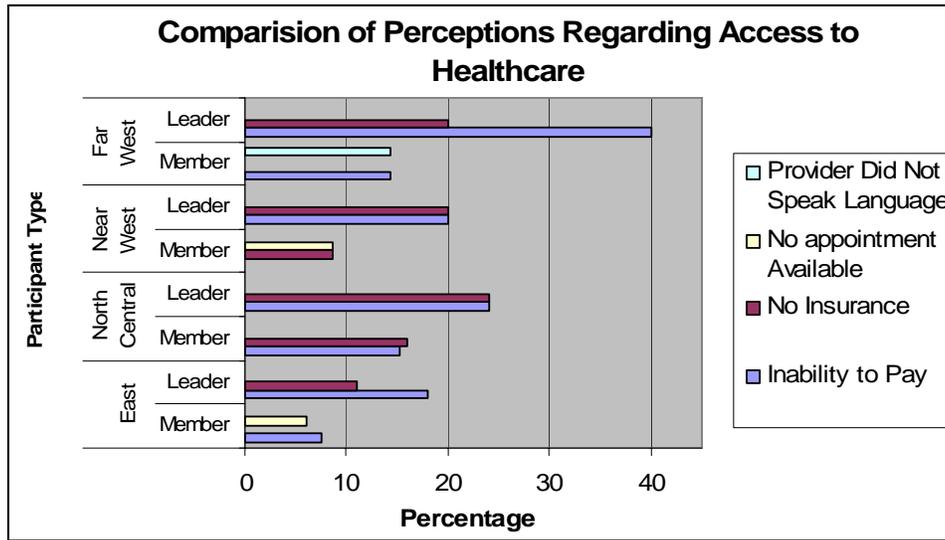


Table 4. Community Leader Perceptions of Barriers to Accessing Healthcare

Quadrant	% with difficulty accessing healthcare	Reason #1	Reason #2
East	18%	Inability to pay (18%)	No insurance (11%)
North Central	29%	No insurance (24%)	Inability to pay (24%)
Near West	20%	Inability to pay (20%)	Inability to pay (20%)
Far West	20%	Inability to pay (40%)	No insurance (20%)

Like community members, more community leaders in the North Central quadrant than other quadrants believe their residents have problems accessing health care.

Figure 8. Community Leader vs. Community Member Perceptions of Barriers Encountered when Trying to Access Healthcare



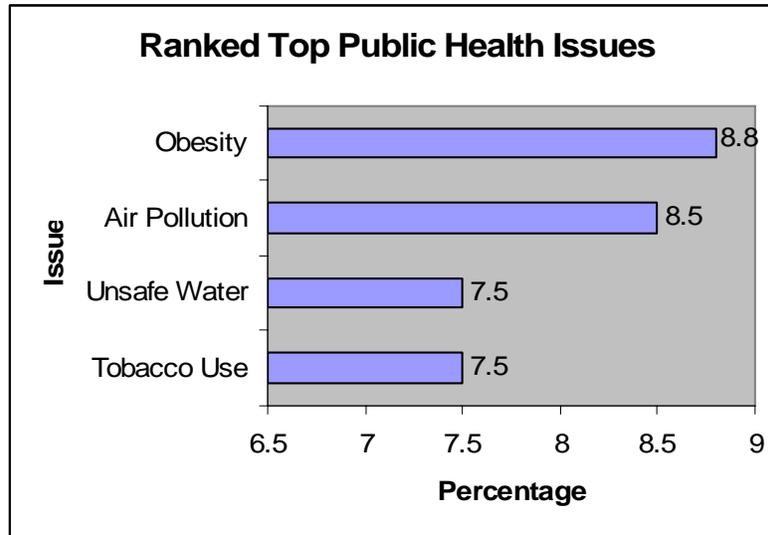
In all quadrants the percentage of community leaders identifying inability to pay or lack of health insurance as a barrier to healthcare was higher than the percentage of community members identifying these barriers, suggesting community leaders may not be aware of the other barriers community members face when attempting to access healthcare. Community members living in the Near West and East quadrants reported problems scheduling an appointment with their healthcare provider.

HCPH Staff Survey Results

Public Health Issues

HCPH staff were asked which public health issues they considered to be a problem in the communities they serve as a Health District employee. The top responses are as follows:

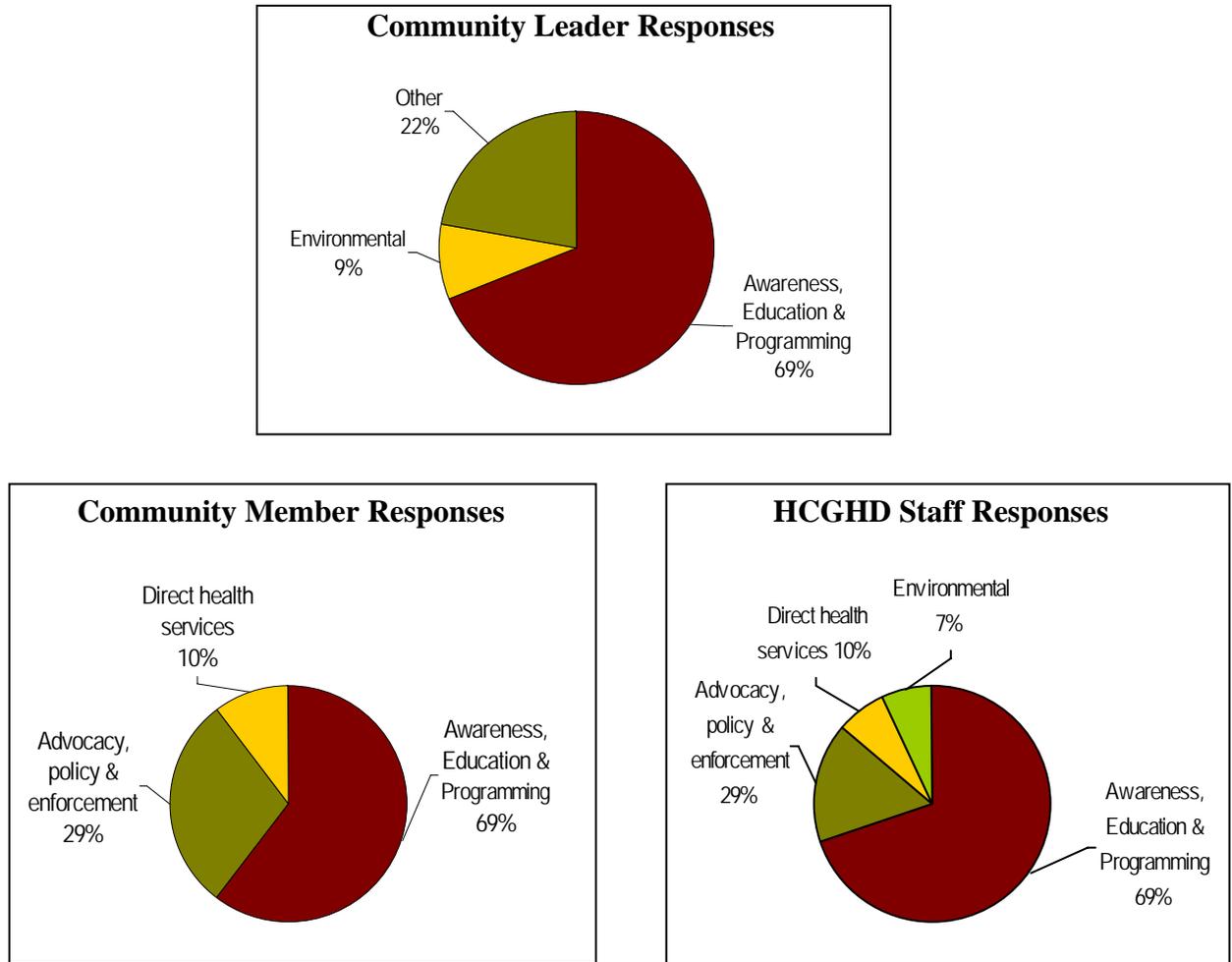
Figure 9. HCGHD Staff Perceptions of the Top Public Health Issues Within the Communities the Health District Serves



Other issues HCPH staff identified as top public health priorities include physical inactivity, food borne illness, septic system run-off and mental health illnesses. The majority of staff stated they thought these issues were prevalent throughout the entire county as opposed to concentrated in a few areas.

What can HCPH do to Help Assist Communities with the Identified Issues?

Figure 10. Comparison of Opinions Regarding Actions the Health District can Take to Assist Communities with Identified Issues



Survey participants from all three groups identified increased awareness, education and programming as the primary action HCPH can take to assist the communities they serve in addressing the issues identified in the surveys.

Community leaders requested assistance with environmental issues, and other issues such as data collection, faster response time by HCPH staff, providing clinics for the uninsured, and develop and enforce more severe penalties for people who violate codes.

Community members indicated they would like to see HCPH advocate for policy changes and enforce regulations to a greater extent. Health issues frequently mentioned include anti-tobacco initiatives, physical activity and exercise and nutrition. Community members also asked the health district to provide more direct health services such as health clinics, screenings and increased mental health services.

NEXT STEPS

The publication of this report is the first step to a healthier Hamilton County. It is the Health District's intention that the contents of this report be used to inform Hamilton County residents of what their peers believe are the most pertinent public health issues in their community. Furthermore this report serves as a foundation to build lasting relationships between Hamilton County communities and HCPH.

This report also serves as a stepping stone to further investigations of community health concerns, the enhancement of public health services offered to the community and community mobilization to create and promote community partnership that address the public health needs of the community.

This report provides the communities with a unique opportunity to become actively involved in creating a healthier Hamilton County:

Community Members

- Review the findings of the Hamilton County Community Assessment
- Support community initiatives to create a healthy community
- Integrate lifestyle modifications into your daily activities

Community Leaders

- Review the findings of the Hamilton County Community Assessment
- Encourage community members to actively participate in opportunities to create a healthier community
- Stay informed of and support initiatives sponsored by HCPH

Healthcare Service Provider

- Publicize services available to community members
- Consider making services offered to community members more convenient and accessible (offering more locations where the services is available or extend the period of time in which the service is available)
- Create services to address community needs
- Collaborate with other service providers to maximize the scope and accessibility of services

Appendix A

Survey Participant Demographics

Table 4. Demographics of Survey Respondents Compared to the Hamilton County Population, by Quadrant*

	East			North Central			Near West			Far West		
	Number	Percent	2000 Hamilton County Census Estimate	Number	Percent	2000 Hamilton County Census Estimate	Number	Percent	2000 Hamilton County Census Estimate	Number	Percent	2000 Hamilton County Census Estimate
Population												
Total	73	20%	35%	135	37%	33%	113	31%	31%	8	2%	2%
Male	30	41%	48%	50	37%	47%	48	42%	48%	4	50%	49%
Female	38	52%	52%	75	56%	53%	63	56%	52%	4	50%	51%
Average age of participant	41			45			54			44		
Race/Ethnicity**												
White	60	88%	90%	100	73%	61%	109	100%	88%	7	88%	98%
African American	4	6%	6%	25	18%	35%	0	0%	9%	0	0%	0.2%
Other	4	6%	4%	18	13%	4%	0	0%	3%	1	13%	2%
Education Level												
No response	7	10%		7	5%		16	14%		1	13%	
Elementary	1	1%		6	4%		1	1%		0	0%	
High School Graduate	13	18%		44	33%		33	29%		2	25%	
Some College or Technical School	21	29%		51	38%		29	26%		1	13%	
College Graduate	18	25%		17	13%		19	17%		1	13%	
Post-Graduate	13	18%		10	14%		15	13%		3	38%	

*City of Cincinnati demographics not included in 2000 Hamilton County Census Estimate

**According to 2000 Census population data, Whites accounted for ~81% of the population within the four quadrants; African Americans accounted for ~16% of the population. 86% of the survey participants were white and 9% of the survey participants were African American.

Appendix B

Community Member Survey

HAMILTON COUNTY COMMUNITY HEALTH ASSESSMENT SURVEY

Please take a minute to complete the survey below. The purpose of this survey is to get your opinions about community health problems in Hamilton County. The Hamilton County General Health District will use the survey results and other information to help identify issues which can be addressed in the Health District or through community action. Please only complete one survey per adult. Remember - your opinion is important! If you have any questions, please contact us at (513) 946-7845. Your individual survey will be confidential. Thank you for your assistance.

PUBLIC HEALTH CONCERNS

In the following list, which public health issues do you consider to be a problem in your community (check all that apply)?

- | | | |
|------------------------|-----------------------|-------------|
| Falls | Mental health | Stroke |
| Foodborne illness | Motor vehicle crashes | Teen births |
| Heart disease | Obesity | Tobacco use |
| Hepatitis B/C | Physical inactivity | _____ |
| Low birthweight babies | Pneumonia | _____ |
| Lung cancer | Poisonings | _____ |

From the public health issues you identified above, please rank the top three issues with 1 being the most important issue, 2 being the second most important issue, and so on.

- 1) _____
- 2) _____
- 3) _____

What are three things you think the Health District could do to assist your community in addressing the public health issues you ranked above?

- 1) _____
- _____
- 2) _____
- _____
- 3) _____
- _____

INDIVIDUAL HEALTH CONCERNS

In the following list, what health issues have you or a family member had in the last year (check all that apply)?

- | | | |
|--|---------------------|--------------------------|
| Aging problems
(arthritis,
hearing/vision loss,
etc.) | Cancers | Dog Bites |
| Allergies | Child abuse/neglect | Domestic violence |
| | Dental problems | Falls |
| | Diabetes | Firearm-related injuries |

Heart disease and stroke	Liver disease	Sexually Transmitted
High blood pressure	Mental health problems	Disease (STD)
HIV/AIDS	Motor vehicle crash	Suicide
Homicide	injuries	Teenage pregnancy
Infant death	Rape/sexual assault	Other
Infectious disease(e.g. hepatitis, TB, etc.)	Respiratory/lung disease	_____

In the following list, what behaviors have you or a family member experienced in the last year (check all that apply)?

Alcohol abuse	Not using birth control
Being overweight	Not using seat belts/child safety seats
Dropping out of high school	Poor eating habits
Drug abuse	Tobacco use
Lack of exercise (less than two times each week)	Unsafe sex
Not getting “shots” to prevent disease	Other _____

COMMUNITY & ENVIRONMENTAL ISSUES

I believe the following issues exist in my community (check all that apply):

Air pollution	Unsafe drinking water
Exposure to tobacco smoke	Unsafe river/creek/stream water
Lack of safe recreational areas	Unsafe roads, highways
Open dumping	Other _____
Septic System run-off	

What are the three environmental health issues you think are the biggest concern in your community?

1) _____
 2) _____
 3) _____

ACCESS TO CARE COMMUNITY HEALTH ACTION COUNCIL

If there was a time in the past year that you or anyone in your family needed medical care but could not get it, what were the reasons you did not get care (check all that apply)?

Does not apply	Other _____
Inability to pay	
No appointment was available	
No access for people with disabilities	
No insurance	
No transportation	
No child care	
Provider did not speak my language	

Would you be interested in participating on a Community Health Action Council?

The Health District will work with Community Health Action Councils to review identified and emerging health issues in Hamilton County communities. The Health District will provide assistance to council members as they implement solutions in their communities.

- Yes
- No

If so, please provide a name and contact number and a Health District staff member will contact you.

Name _____ Phone _____

Please complete the following demographic information (all information will remain confidential):

Age: _____

What is your gender:

- Male
- Female

Are you Hispanic or Latino?

- Yes
- No

Which one or more of the following would you say is your race?

- White
- Black or African American
- Asian
- American Indian
- Native Hawaiian or other Pacific Islander
- Alaskan Native
- Other

Neighborhood (Village, Township or City) where you live: _____

Neighborhood (Village, Township or City) where you work: _____

What is the highest grade or year of school you completed?

- Never attended school or only attended kindergarten
- Grades 1-8 (Elementary)

- Grade 12 or GED (High School graduate)
- College 1 year to 3 years (Some college or technical school)
- College 4 years or more (College graduate)
- College more than 4 years (Post-graduate)

How many children (under 18 years of age) do you care for in your household?

- 0
- 1
- 2
- 3 or more

Additional Comments:

Please return this completed survey to:

The Hamilton County General Health District
C/O Jennifer Luca
250 William Howard Taft, 2nd Floor
Cincinnati, Ohio 45219

Or you may fax your completed survey to:

ATTN: Jennifer Luca
(513) 946-7890

Appendix C

Community Leader Survey

HAMILTON COUNTY COMMUNITY HEALTH ASSESSMENT SURVEY

1) In the following list, please identify the top three *individual health issues* you think affect the residents of your community by placing a 1,2 or 3 next to the issue. “1” indicates you think this is the most significant problem in your community and a “3” indicates you think this is the least significant problem of the three conditions you identified.

- | | | |
|--|---|--------------------------------------|
| Aging problems (arthritis, hearing, vision loss, etc.) | Firearm-related injuries | Rape/sexual assault |
| Alcohol abuse | High blood pressure | Respiratory/lung disease |
| Allergies | High cholesterol | Sexually Transmitted Diseases (STDs) |
| Being overweight | HIV/AIDS | Suicide |
| Cancers | Homicide | Unsafe sex |
| Child abuse/neglect | Infant death | Other _____ |
| Dental problems | Lack of safe recreational areas | _____ |
| Diabetes | Liver disease | _____ |
| Dog bites | Mental health issues | |
| Domestic violence | Not using seat belts/child safety seats | |
| Drug abuse | | |

2) In the following list, please identify the top three *public health or environmental issues* you think affect the residents of your community by placing a 1,2 or 3 next to the issue. “1” indicates you think this is the most significant problem in your community and “3” indicates you think this is the least significant problem of the three conditions you identified.

- | | | |
|--|-----------------------|---------------------------------|
| Air pollution | Motor vehicle crash | Tobacco use |
| Falls | Obesity | Unsafe river/creek/stream water |
| Food borne illness | Open dumping | Unsafe roads, highways |
| Heart disease | Physical inactivity | Other _____ |
| Infectious disease (TB, hepatitis, etc.) | Pneumonia | _____ |
| Low birth weight babies | Poisonings | _____ |
| Lung Cancer | Septic system run-off | |
| Mental Health | Stroke | |
| | Teen Pregnancy | |

3) What are the three things you think the Health District could do to assist your community in addressing the public health and/or individual health issues you ranked from questions 1 and 2 listed above?

- 1) _____
- 2) _____
- 3) _____

4) Do you think residents in your community have difficulty getting the medical services they need (circle one)?

If you answered NO, please skip down to question 5.

YES NO

If you circled YES to the previous question, how significant an issue is this for your community residents (circle one)?

1	2	3	4
To a great extent	Somewhat	Very little	Not at all

If you circled YES in the first part of question 4, please check the reason(s) why you think community residents have difficulty getting medical services they need

- | | | |
|---|---|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Inability to pay | <input type="checkbox"/> No access for people with disabilities | <input type="checkbox"/> No childcare |
| <input type="checkbox"/> No appointment was available | <input type="checkbox"/> No insurance | <input type="checkbox"/> Language barriers |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Other | <input type="checkbox"/> No transportation | <input type="checkbox"/> Available appointments are not convenient |

5) What other health-related concerns or issues are residents in your community facing that were not addressed in previous questions?

6) Please rate the Health District staff in the following areas regarding our ability to *meet your needs as a community leader.*

	Strongly Disagree					Strongly Agree				
Staff is willing to help	1	2	3	4	5	1	2	3	4	5
Staff is knowledgeable	1	2	3	4	5	1	2	3	4	5
Staff is resourceful	1	2	3	4	5	1	2	3	4	5
Staff is prompt	1	2	3	4	5	1	2	3	4	5
Staff is polite	1	2	3	4	5	1	2	3	4	5

7) Please rate the Health District staff in the following areas regarding our ability to *meet the needs of residents in your community.*

	Strongly Agree					Strongly Disagree				
Staff is willing to help	1	2	3	4	5	1	2	3	4	5
Staff is knowledgeable	1	2	3	4	5	1	2	3	4	5
Staff is resourceful	1	2	3	4	5	1	2	3	4	5
Staff is prompt	1	2	3	4	5	1	2	3	4	5
Staff is polite	1	2	3	4	5	1	2	3	4	5

Please indicate which village, township or city you represent _____

Please fax your surveys back to the Hamilton County General Health District at (513) 746-7800 or return them in the envelope provided to the Health District.

Appendix D

HCPH Staff Survey

The Health District would like your opinions regarding the health issues in the communities serviced by the Health District. Please take a minute to complete the staff survey below- your opinion is highly valued! The Health District will use the survey results to help identify issues which can be addressed in the Health District or through community action. Your individual responses will be kept confidential. Thank you for your assistance.

1) In the following list which public health issues do you consider to be a problem in the areas the Health District serves (circle all that apply)?

- | | |
|------------------------|---------------------------------|
| Air Pollution | Poisonings |
| Falls | Septic system run-off |
| Foodborne illness | Stroke |
| Heart disease | Teen births |
| Hepatitis B/C | Tobacco use |
| Low birthweight babies | Unsafe river/creek/stream water |
| Lung cancer | Unsafe roads/highways |
| Mental health | Other: _____ |
| Motor vehicle crashes | _____ |
| Obesity | _____ |
| Open dumping | |
| Physical inactivity | |
| Pneumonia | |

Based on the communities you serve please rank the top three issues you identified above with 1 being the most important issue in your opinion.

	Which community(ies) does this issue affect?
1. _____	_____ _____
2. _____	_____ _____
3. _____	_____ _____

2) What are three things the Health District could do to assist the

community(ies) you serve in addressing the public health issues ranked above?

1. _____

2. _____

3. _____

3) What are the most common questions community residents ask of you either over the phone or while in the field?

1. _____
2. _____
3. _____

What are the most common questions other community agencies ask of you either over the phone or while in the field?

1. _____
2. _____
3. _____

4) What available Health District services is the public not utilizing?

1. _____
Why? _____

2. _____

Why? _____

5) What additional programs, resources, or services are needed in the community that are not currently available?

Why? _____

6) Which of the following health issues are a concern for you or your family (circle all that apply)?

Aging problems

Alcohol abuse

Allergies

Being overweight

Cancers

Child abuse/neglect

Dental problems

Diabetes

Dog bites

Domestic violence

Drug abuse

Falls

Firearm-related injuries

Heart disease/stroke

High blood pressure

High cholesterol

HIV/AIDS

Homicide

Infant death

Infectious disease (TB, hepatitis, etc.)

Lack of exercise

Liver disease

Mental health issues

Motor vehicle crash injury

Not using seat belts/child safety seats

Rape/sexual assault

Respiratory/lung disease

Sexually Transmitted Disease (STD)

Suicide

Teen Pregnancy

Tobacco use

Unsafe sex

Other _____

7) Based on the programs you currently manage or administer, which program(s) are *not* as effective as they could be?

Example:

Program: Inspections

Issue: Takes too long to record findings

What can be done: Make inspections digital

Is your opinion based on personal experience or customer feedback:

personal experience

Program: _____

Issue: _____

What can be done: _____

Is your opinion based on (circle one)?

Personal experience

Feedback from a customer

Program: _____

Issue: _____

What can be done: _____

Is your opinion based on (circle one)?

Personal experience

Feedback from a customer

8) Based on the programs you currently manage or administer, which programs *are* effective?

Program: _____

Why is it effective? _____

Is your opinion based on (circle one)?

Personal experience

Feedback from a customer

Program: _____

Why is it effective? _____

Is your opinion based on (circle one)?
Personal experience Feedback from a customer

9) How long have you been a Health District Employee (circle one)?

<6 months	5-10 years	20 years or more
7-12 months	10-15 years	
1-5 years	15-20 years	

10) Additional comments: _____

