

Public Health

Key Informant Interviews

Summary Report



Report of the Key Informant Interviews

- Done February 2008
- Allamakee, Clayton, Fayette, Howard, and Winneshiek Counties
- Survey tool developed by Public Health
- Surveys done by student nurse interns



Interview Process

- 10 to 15 key health informants were identified for each county
- Students called asking the 10 questions and recording the responses.
- A county report was developed by compiling all that county's responses
- The summary report is a compilation of all the county reports.



Interview Outcome

- A total of 24 interviews were done.
- Howard interviews were the smallest number at 3.
- Most done in any county was 9.
- This report is a compilation of all respondents.



1. What are some of the greatest assets or strengths of your county?

- Great geographic location, beautiful, good recreation, parks, paths, pools. **13**
- Strong medical community, good providers, good local hospitals. **13**
- Warm, caring people, friendly, helping, strong teams and partnerships on projects, good work ethic, up- beat attitudes. **12**



2. What challenges do the people of your county face in making change?

- Finances, low incomes, low income families, Poor economics, low paying jobs. **7**
- Losing people and businesses, hard to draw industry to the area, need to pull together to support community. **5**
- Change in general, Communication about why things need to change, getting people ready to change. **2**



3. How vocal and active are citizens about community issues?

- Very vocal, high level of involvement, extremely active, willing to pitch in **6**
- Most not real vocal unless the issue is near and dear to their hearts... **6**
 - Going green
 - Coal emissions
 - Cost of wellness center memberships
- Fairly vocal, "follows a bell curve", 20% lumps, 20% very vocal and 60% active if asked. **4**



4. What are some of the major health issues or unmet needs that you see?

- Inactivity, obesity, diabetes: Battle of obesity and chronic disease, immobility **10**
- High cost of medical care, funding, uninsured, underinsured, high deductibles self employed, uninsured children **9**
- Access to health care, lack of access to services, need for specialized cares not available in the community **6**
 - Psych services
 - Dermatology, ENT
 - Rehab
 - Alcohol abuse treatment



5. What is your impression of the current health services in your county?

- Good, Good services, skilled people, wonderful, terrific, best around for county services. **10**
- Emergency services see a lot of non-emergency people due to no open appointments in clinics, shortage of doctors, very busy doctors. **6**
- We have generalists, need more access to specialists. Need dentists and mental health access, especially for children. Have to travel to outlying specialty services **6**



6. What Organizations or Groups are essential to improving health status?

- Luther Admin and public schools, school programs, tobacco prevention, health in schools wellness and school systems, school fitness. **9**
- Public health crew, county health, VNA, clinics Public Helth provides information and education, Public health and home health. **6**
- Food and fitness coalition, efforts of food and fitness, getting groups and businesses active Kellogg's grant for food and fitness **4**
- City and municipal government needs to be active Bring more supervisors and legislators to the meetings **5**



7. What are some things that you see as future county health concerns?

- Chronic Disease, early diagnosis important **16**
 - Obesity and Obesity in Children
 - Diabetes
 - Hypertension, heart disease, blood vessel disease
- Aging population, higher demand for cares And aging health providers, fewer youth be coming health providers. **12**
- Keep people active, engaged and healthy longer Learn to eat healthier and exercise, inactivity: lack of activity by younger generation. **5**



8. What do you see as potential opportunities for health improvement?

- Wellness center is a huge opportunity More for physical activity like a activity center Wellness center - healthy life style promotion A fitness center that can be used by everyone **6**
- Fitness trails, need people to utilize them Getting young children involved in physical activities Keeping children active for future health reasons **4**
- Like to see people insured or some kind of health care. Utilize insurances provided like T-19 Funding - improved funding - probably needs state and legislative solutions **4**



9. What lessons have been learned from current and previous initiatives?

- Failed initiative then approved - info out in more detail, communication, initiatives take a broad base of support and good organization to move things forward. Don't close ranks **4**
- Organizations communicate with each other And help each other out. Need to partner with groups typically not partnered with -reach beyond the comfort zone. **2**
- Need to have everyone on the same page and do that by detailed planning, coordination of services, and open communication. inactivity; lack of activity by younger generation. **2**



10. Do you have comments you would like to add?

- Thought provoking interview
- Information collected via survey will be helpful
- Information brought to surface will be beneficial to everyone
- Interested to see how survey comes out
- Need to get people together looking for new ideas
- Many of these questions positive or negative all tie into each other
- Very exciting time for the communities, we need to get as many people involved as possible.



Key Health Leaders

- Consistent in message
 - Access issues of specialty care and financing
- Showed pretty good understanding of the issues of poverty
- Demonstrated disparities in health access in the community
- Concerned about chronicity and our children's future.

Next Steps

- Communicate the survey results to community at county meetings
- Develop county data profile
- Using interview summary, county meeting dialog and data profiles to develop a survey to as a measure of the people
- Implement the survey
- Analyze the data
- Share the data in presentations and reports.

Questions? Comments!

...suggestions