



# News Release

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

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Department of Public Health

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## **Health Department Releases Community Health Assessment**

FAYETTEVILLE – The Cumberland County Health Department, in partnership with Cape Fear Valley Health, has released the 2016 Community Health Assessment. The assessment, which is a collaborative effort by a team of health professionals, community volunteers and local leaders, describes the overall health of the community by identifying and presenting information on the community's health status, needs and resources.

The CHA provides health data that helps address the health needs of the community and identifies areas where better information is needed, including information on health disparities among various subpopulations, and the quality of health care.

The 2016 assessment found that the following health problems were priorities in the community: obesity, heart disease, cancer, fitness and nutrition, diabetes, chronic lower respiratory diseases, stroke and substance abuse sexually transmitted infections and AIDS, and unwanted teenage pregnancy.

Chronic diseases including heart disease, cancer and diabetes/obesity; STDs and AIDS, unwanted teenage pregnancy; and substance and opioid abuse were identified as the key areas for action.

An action plan to address these key areas will be developed by the CHA team that includes Health Department staff and community members.

The CHA is conducted every three to four years to meet requirements for the Consolidated Agreement between the North Carolina Division of Public Health and State Accreditation of Local Health Departments. Data for the assessment is collected from the community through opinion surveys and compiled from secondary sources such as the North Carolina State Center for Health Statistics and U.S. Census Bureau.

During the years when a CHA is not completed, the health department completes a State-of-the-County's Health Report, which tracks priority issues identified in the CHA, points out emerging issues, and highlights new initiatives.

The 2016 Community Health Assessment can be found online at [www.co.cumberland.nc.us/health.aspx](http://www.co.cumberland.nc.us/health.aspx).

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