Data Collection Taking Place to Help Improve Henderson County Health

Hendersonville, NC (April 16, 2015) – Henderson County is one of sixteen counties involved in telephone surveys that are underway across western North Carolina to gain better insight into the current health of the region. This survey is part of the community health assessment for Henderson County. Data collected during the health assessment represents a broad look at health including: demographics, socioeconomics, health status, health behavior, clinical care, physical environment and quality of life. This data helps partners identify the health issues they will focus on addressing together over the next three years.

For Henderson County, the last community health assessment helped highlight “the gains made in reducing infant mortality, reducing the number of mothers who smoked during pregnancy and the increase in mothers receiving prenatal care during the first trimester as examples,” said Steve Smith, County Health Director. “Data from our community helped to identify obesity, substance abuse, access to mental health care, prenatal health, disease prevention, screening and early detection as areas of focus.”

The Henderson County Department of Public Health, the Partnership for Health, Pardee Hospital and Park Ridge Health are working together to collect data and identify health issues. Henderson County is part of a larger community health assessment and improvement effort taking place in the region called WNC Healthy Impact. WNC Healthy Impact is a regional collaboration between hospitals, health departments and their partners working to improve community health.

“We know that many factors influence health in our community. To best address pressing and complex health needs in Henderson County, we need to build on our strengths and continue working together in the same direction,” said Smith. “Many efforts are already underway, and we continue to look at the results we are getting, what improvements are needed and what gaps remain.”

Reports and other details are available on the WNC Healthy Impact website: www.WNCHealthyImpact.com. For more information on Henderson County, visit www.hendersoncountync.org/health and look for the Community Data link, or call Stacy Taylor at (828) 694-6063.

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www.hendersoncountync.org/health