



## HAYWOOD COUNTY HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES AGENCY

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Ira Dove, Agency Director

Public Health	828-452-6675	Social Services	828-452-6620
Dental Office	828-452-6701	Meals on Wheels	828-356-2442
Environmental Health	828-452-6682	Maple Leaf Adult Respite	828-456-9488

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**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

**April 5, 2019**

For more information, please contact:

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(828) 452-6675 or [lauren.wood@haywoodcountync.gov](mailto:lauren.wood@haywoodcountync.gov)

### **Haywood County Announces Priority Health Issues for the Next Three Years and Release of Community Health Assessment**

In collaboration with community partners, Haywood County Health & Human Services Agency has worked since fall 2018 to prioritize key health issues and complete a community health assessment (CHA). Every three years we collect and review current data that reflects our county's health and use this information to determine what actions are needed improve the community's health.

Our newest Community Health Assessment is now available to the public, and it highlights the process and data our county used to determine our health priorities. For 2019-2021, the priority health areas are:

- **Mental Health & Substance Use**
- **Perinatal & Early Child Health**
- **Chronic Disease Prevention**

Haywood County's CHA report is available on our County website, Healthy Haywood website, in County Government offices and with other community partners.

"We were pleased with the robust community interaction and input that led to this Community Health Assessment. But it's more than a report – it's an effort to create a healthier Haywood County to shape how well we live and how long we live," said HHSA Public Health Director Patrick Johnson. "We're also grateful for the support provided by Haywood Regional Medical Center in our community health assessment process."

Our next step, community health strategic planning, will create a plan to address these issues. We welcome additional community input in the next phase over the next few months.

If you're interested in helping our community take action on one of these issues, contact Lauren Wood at (828) 452-6675 or [lauren.wood@haywoodcountync.gov](mailto:lauren.wood@haywoodcountync.gov) or keep informed by reviewing updates and upcoming meeting dates at [www.healthyhaywood.com](http://www.healthyhaywood.com).

#### **Further Resources:**

- Read the full Community Health Assessment Report [here](#)
- Read a 2-page overview of the Community Health Assessment [here](#)  
(Full link to documents: <https://www.haywoodcountync.gov/417/Public-Health-Services>)

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***"Enhancing the health, safety and full potential of our community"***

Haywood County HHSA is an equal opportunity provider and employer

- View a brief overview video [here](#)
- For more information on Haywood County, visit [www.haywoodcountync.gov](http://www.haywoodcountync.gov) or <https://www.wnchn.org/wnc-healthy-impact/reports/haywood/>

Our county is part of a larger community health assessment and improvement effort taking place in the region called [WNC Healthy Impact](#), a partnership and coordinated process between public health agencies, hospitals, and key regional partners in western North Carolina. This regional effort is supported financially by all the hospitals in the region, and is housed and coordinated by **WNC Health Network**.

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