



Macon County Public Health

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Press Release

Data Collection Taking Place to Help Improve Macon County Health

Franklin, N.C. (February 5, 2018) – Macon County is one of sixteen counties involved in community health 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 Macon 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 Macon County, the last community health assessment, completed in 2015, helped highlight “something significant that has been highlighted in past survey or other data that helped drive the selection of a certain priority area,” says Jim Bruckner, Macon County Health Director. “Our community also identified Heart Disease, Domestic Violence/Sexual Assault, and Economic Development as it relates to Health as areas of focus.”

Our 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 Macon County, we need to build on our strengths and continue working together in the same direction. 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](http://www.wnchealthyimpact.com). For more information on Macon County, visit <http://www.wnchealthyimpact.com/macon> or www.maconnc.org or call Lynn Baker at (828) 349-2437.

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