

2016

Harrison County  
Hospital Community  
Health Needs  
Assessment

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Prepared by the Indiana Rural Health Association

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## Process

Harrison County Hospital (HCH) contracted with the Indiana Rural Health Association (IRHA) to conduct the Community Health Needs Assessment (CHNA).

IRHA first identified the community served by HCH through conversations with the hospital. Based on a review of patient zip codes, the hospital was able to define the community served as all postal codes within the geographic area of Harrison County. The hospital provided a primary service area map with zip codes, which can be found in Appendix A.

To quantifiably describe the community, census reports were commissioned from United States Census Bureau Reports. Quantifiable statistics and reports for health-related community data were obtained from Harrison County Hospital, the Community Health Rankings & Roadmaps from the Robert Wood Johnson Foundation, and the Indiana Community Asset Inventory and Rankings 2016 from the Center for Business and Economic Research and Ball State University. The full versions of these reports can be viewed in Appendix A. Additional reports on chronic disease were pulled from the Centers for Disease Control website and the Indiana State Cancer Registry. Excerpts from these reports can also be found in Appendix A.

Next, a steering committee of Harrison County representatives was organized with the help of the Harrison County Hospital CEO, Steven L. Taylor. Business owners, local officials, healthcare providers, minority leaders, clergy, student representatives, and any other interested parties were invited to attend the meeting to discuss the health-related needs of the county with a view to identifying the areas of greatest concern. The list of invitees and their positions can be found in Appendix B.

From the information obtained in the steering committee, a 41-question survey was developed to gain the perspective of the inhabitants of the community. Questions included queries about the effect of various factors (such as illegal drugs, teen pregnancy, and obesity), as well as probes into the perceived need for various services and facilities in the county. The survey was widely disseminated to the residents of Harrison County through inclusion on the Harrison County Hospital's and face-to-face polling at Corydon's YMCA. An online survey posted on SurveyMonkey.com was also made available to the public. The survey may be viewed in Appendix C.

To identify all healthcare facilities and resources that are currently responding to the healthcare needs of the community, the IRHA contacted HCH to ascertain the facilities that are currently available to the residents of Harrison County. The hospital was able to provide a listing of the facilities and resources, including but not limited to clinics, family practices, and nursing facilities. The list of existing community resources can be found in Appendix D.

At this point, the entirety of the collected data was submitted to Harrison County Hospital to explain how the needs identified by the CHNA are currently being met, as well as to write a plan of action for those needs that are not currently being met. HCH was also able to identify the information gaps limiting the hospital's ability to assess all of the community's health needs. The completed CHNA was then publically posted on the hospital's website. Hard copies of the full report were made available to the community upon request at the hospital, as well.

## **Community Served**

The community served by Harrison County Hospital is defined as follows: All people living within Harrison County, Indiana, at any time during the year. To be determined as living within the service area of Harrison County, a person must reside within one of the following postal zip codes: 47107, 47110, 47112, 47114, 47115, 47117, 47135, 47136, 47142, 47160, 47161, 47164, or 47166.

## **Description of Community**

### **Physical**

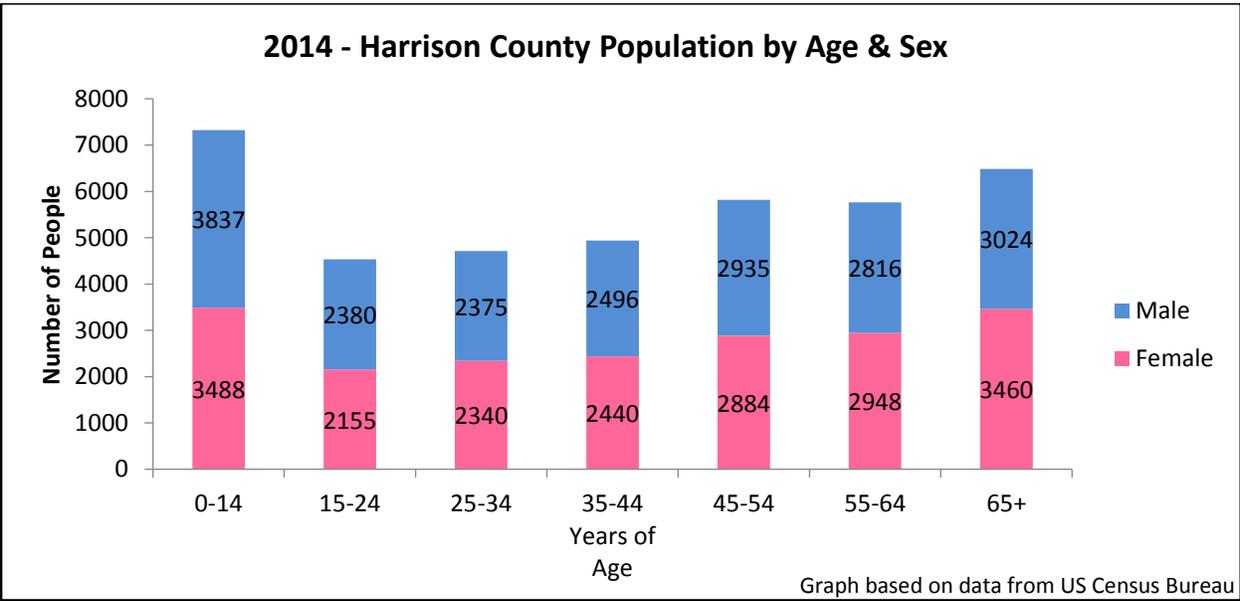
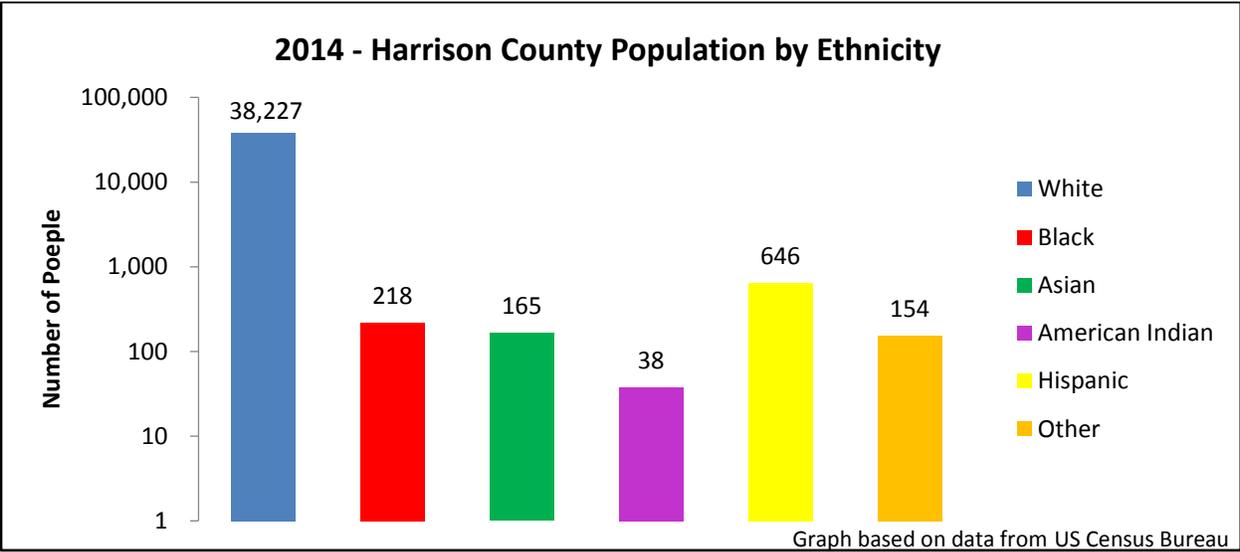
Harrison County is located in the far southern part of Indiana. The county is largely rural and is the fourteenth largest county in Indiana at approximately 484.52 square miles.

### **Population – Ethnicity, Age, Households, & Income**

According to the U.S. Census Bureau, the total population of the county is 39,216; and the median age in the county is 41.3 years old. Females make up 49.7% of the overall populace. Minority populations make up 2.6% of the total inhabitants of the county. There are 14,678 households comprised of approximately 2.65 persons each. The average household income is \$53,483; and the average per capita income is \$24,469.

Subject	Harrison County, Indiana			
	Estimate	Margin of Error	Percent	Percent Margin of Error
<b>SEX AND AGE</b>				
Total population	39,216	*****	39,216	(X)
Male	19,722	+/-153	50.3%	+/-0.4
Female	19,494	+/-153	49.7%	+/-0.4
Under 5 years	2,301	+/-152	5.9%	+/-0.4
5 to 9 years	2,158	+/-230	5.5%	+/-0.6
10 to 14 years	3,044	+/-217	7.8%	+/-0.6
15 to 19 years	2,445	+/-106	6.2%	+/-0.3
20 to 24 years	2,187	+/-93	5.6%	+/-0.2
25 to 34 years	4,563	+/-59	11.6%	+/-0.2
35 to 44 years	4,935	+/-82	12.6%	+/-0.2
45 to 54 years	6,247	+/-86	15.9%	+/-0.2
55 to 59 years	3,078	+/-228	7.8%	+/-0.6
60 to 64 years	2,378	+/-219	6.1%	+/-0.6
65 to 74 years	3,451	+/-29	8.8%	+/-0.1
75 to 84 years	1,820	+/-133	4.6%	+/-0.3
85 years and over	611	+/-134	1.6%	+/-0.3
Median age (years)	41.3	+/-0.4	(X)	(X)
18 years and over	30,156	+/-111	76.9%	+/-0.3
21 years and over	28,898	+/-169	73.7%	+/-0.4
62 years and over	7,265	+/-221	18.5%	+/-0.6
65 years and over	5,882	+/-48	15.0%	+/-0.1
18 years and over	30,156	+/-111	30,156	(X)
Male	14,961	+/-147	49.6%	+/-0.4
Female	15,195	+/-111	50.4%	+/-0.4
65 years and over	5,882	+/-48	5,882	(X)
Male	2,664	+/-27	45.3%	+/-0.4
Female	3,218	+/-42	54.7%	+/-0.4

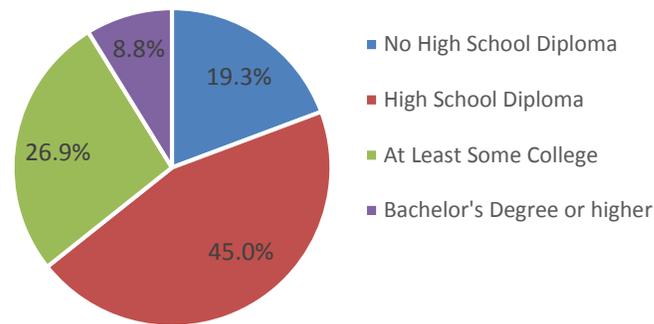
Source: U.S. Census Bureau, 2010-2014 American Community Survey 5-Year Estimates



**Education**

The Robert Wood Johnson Foundation reports that approximately 92% of the county residents have high school diplomas compared with a statewide average of 87%. However, only 58% of the community has at least some college education compared with a statewide average of 61%. The educational achievements of the county earned Harrison a grade of C+ from the CAIR report.

### Harrison County Education Attained



Based on population 18 to 24 years

Graph based on data from US Census Bureau

The full reports from U.S. Census Bureau, the Robert Wood Johnson Foundation, and the Center for Business and Economic Research and Ball State University can be viewed in Appendix A.

#### Health Summary

The overall health grade for Harrison County from the CAIR report stands at a C-. The CAIR provides a detailed asset inventory of variables that describe the education attainment and health of Hoosier citizens, as well as the availability of natural resources and cultural amenities. All of the data has been carefully selected from secondary sources and is reviewed as to the contribution to the quality of life for the residents within the county. The data sets have been aggregated and a grade, noted above, has been given to Harrison County. Based on data from the 2016 County Health Rankings & Roadmaps report, Harrison County ranks 56<sup>th</sup> in Health Outcomes and 31<sup>st</sup> in Health Factors out of a total of 92 counties in the state. The Health Outcomes ranking was based on a reported 3.7 days of poor physical health by Harrison County residents compared to a national average of 3.8 and a statewide average of 4.1 and a reported 3.9 days of poor mental health days by Harrison County residents compared to a nation average of 3.7 and statewide average of 4.3. The Health Factors ranking was based on Health Behaviors, Clinical Care, Social and Economic Factors, and Physical Environment.

A high instance of adult smoking (at 20% of the population compared to a national average of 17% and a statewide average of 23%), a high instance of physical inactivity (at 32% compared to a national average of 23% and a statewide average of 28%), a high instance of adult obesity (at 35% compared to a national average of 27% and a statewide average of 31%), an extremely low access to exercise opportunities (at 34% compared to a national average of 84% and a statewide average 75%) and a low instance of alcohol-impaired driving deaths (at 22% of deaths compared to statewide 25% and nationally 31%) all combined to earn Harrison County a moderate rank of 56<sup>th</sup> out of 92 counties in Health Behaviors.

The county ranked 24<sup>th</sup> out of 92 counties on Clinical Care due in large part to the high patient-to-primary physician ratio at 1860:1 compared with the national average of 1320:1 and the statewide average of 1490:1. The Clinical Care rankings also indicated that approximately 15% of the population is uninsured compared to 17% nationally and 16% statewide.

High performances in both percentage of high school graduates (92% of the community compared to a statewide average of 87% and 82% nationally) and unemployment rate (5.7% compared to 6.0% statewide and 6.2% nationally), and low violent crime rate (86 incidents compared with 334 statewide and 392 nationally) all resulted in a top third rank of 33<sup>th</sup> out of 92 counties in Social and Economic Factors.

The Physical Environment score was especially low for Harrison County resulting in a ranking of 62<sup>nd</sup> out of 92 Indiana counties. The low ranking is due to a combination of air pollution-particulate matter (13.7 average density of fine particulate matter compared to a statewide average of 13.5 and a national average of 11.4) and severe housing problems (11% compared to 14% statewide and 19% nationally). A moderately high number of individuals in the county driving alone to work (85% of the total county population compared to 83% statewide and 76% nationally) did impede the county's score.

The County Health Rankings measures the population living with limited access to healthy foods using the USDA Food Environment Atlas. Individuals are counted who have both low access to a supermarket or large grocery store and a low income. "Low access" is greater than ten miles away in a rural county. "Low income" individuals are classified if they fall into the government definition of poverty or have a median family income at or below 80% of the county's median family income.

## County Health Rankings & Roadmaps

Building a Culture of Health, County by County

### Harrison (HR)

	Harrison County	Error Margin	Top U.S. Performers <sup>^</sup>	Indiana	Rank (of 92)
<b>Health Outcomes</b>					<b>56</b>
<b>Length of Life</b>					<b>62</b>
Premature death	8,400	7,300-9,500	5,200	7,500	
<b>Quality of Life</b>					<b>44</b>
Poor or fair health**	16%	15-16%	12%	19%	
Poor physical health days**	3.7	3.6-3.9	2.9	4.1	
Poor mental health days**	3.9	3.7-4.1	2.8	4.3	
Low birthweight	8%	7-9%	6%	8%	
<b>Health Factors</b>					<b>31</b>
<b>Health Behaviors</b>					<b>56</b>
Adult smoking**	20%	19-21%	14%	23%	
Adult obesity	35%	28-41%	25%	31%	
Food environment index	8.2		8.3	7.2	
Physical inactivity	32%	25-38%	20%	28%	
Access to exercise opportunities	34%		91%	75%	
Excessive drinking**	16%	15-17%	12%	16%	
Alcohol-impaired driving deaths	22%	14-29%	14%	25%	
Sexually transmitted infections	230.0		134.1	498.7	
Teen births	34	30-38	19	37	
<b>Clinical Care</b>					<b>24</b>
Uninsured	15%	13-16%	11%	16%	
Primary care physicians	1,860:1		1,040:1	1,490:1	
Dentists	2,310:1		1,340:1	1,930:1	
Mental health providers	4,370:1		370:1	710:1	
Preventable hospital stays	61	54-69	38	63	
Diabetic monitoring	83%	76-91%	90%	84%	
Mammography screening	66%	58-75%	71%	62%	
<b>Social &amp; Economic Factors</b>					<b>33</b>
High school graduation	92%		93%	87%	
Some college	58%	52-63%	72%	61%	
Unemployment	5.7%		3.5%	6.0%	
Children in poverty	16%	11-20%	13%	21%	
Income inequality	4.1	3.6-4.6	3.7	4.4	
Children in single-parent households	29%	23-35%	21%	34%	
Social associations	10.0		22.1	12.6	
Violent crime	86		59	334	
Injury deaths	79	67-92	51	63	
<b>Physical Environment</b>					<b>62</b>
Air pollution - particulate matter	13.7		9.5	13.5	
Drinking water violations	No		No		
Sewer housing problems	11%	9-13%	9%	14%	
Driving alone to work	85%	83-87%	71%	83%	
Long commute - driving alone	51%	46-55%	15%	30%	

<sup>^</sup> 10th/90th percentile, i.e., only 10% are better.

Note: Blank values reflect unreliable or missing data

\*\* Data should not be compared with prior years due to changes in definition/methods

2016

## Primary and Chronic Diseases

Harrison County Hospital generated a report of the Most Common Diagnosis for discharges from November 1, 2015 through October 31, 2016. From this report, the top ten most common diagnoses for their service area were identified. A further examination of the payer mix for each diagnosis resulted in an additional report to identify the issues that were most often seen in low-income, disabled, and/or older populations. (\*Note: It is important to understand the key characteristics of the HCH population. This includes identifying the low-income, disabled, and/or elderly population. The population trends help provide an indication of patterns within the residents of the community and assist in identifying the needs around this populace.)

The following list contains the top ten most common diagnoses and the percentage of Medicare and Medicaid patients for each diagnosis:

- Essential (Primary) Hypertension – 12,589 cases (67.62% Medicare and Medicaid)
- Type 2 Diabetes Mellitus Without Complications – 6,410 cases (69.19%)
- Hyperlipidemia, Unspecified – 5,057 cases (65.63% Medicare and Medicaid)
- Gastro-esophageal Reflux Disease without Esophagitis – 2,898 cases (66.15% Medicare and Medicaid)
- Hypothyroidism, Unspecified – 2,883 cases (65.28% Medicare and Medicaid)
- Low Back Pain – 2,686 cases (54.21% Medicare and Medicaid)
- Encounter for General Adult Medical Examination without Abnormal Findings – 2,320 cases (36.16% Medicare and Medicaid)
- Chronic Obstructive Pulmonary Disease, Unspecified – 2,314 cases (83.58% Medicare and Medicaid)
- Encounter for Immunization – 2,249 cases (61.81% Medicare and Medicaid)
- Anxiety Disorder, Unspecified – 2,229 cases (57.65% Medicare and Medicaid)

The full list of top discharge diagnoses and payer mix report can be found in Appendix A.

The cancer rates in Harrison County are lower than most counties when compared to the state average. The rate of cancer (per 100,000 people) in Harrison County comes in at 457.9 compared to a statewide rate of 466.6. Harrison also comes in below average on rates of prostate cancer (71.9 versus a statewide rate of 106.9), breast cancer (118.1 versus a statewide rate of 118.1) and a colon/rectum cancer (33.8 versus a statewide rate of 44.4). Harrison County comes in above average on rates of lung cancer (82.0 versus a statewide rate of 73.9). Cancer mortality rates for all types of cancer in the county are lower than the state average at a rate of 173.6 versus Indiana's overall rate of 187.3. Lung cancer mortality in Harrison county is above average (56.7 versus a statewide rate of 57.5). However, the mortality rates for breast, and colon/rectum cancers all came in below the state averages. Prostate cancer mortality rates were not included due to insufficient data.

Continuing the trend of higher instances of chronic disease, data from the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention Division for Heart Disease and Stroke Prevention ranks Harrison County 68<sup>th</sup> out of Indiana's 92 counties in all heart disease mortality rates. The county has a mortality rate of 180.3 per 100,000, which is slightly lower than the state's rate of 187.2 per 100,000 and higher than the national rate of 171.6 per 100,000.

The CDC's Diabetes Data & Trends report also relates that Harrison County comes in above the state average in rates of diabetes. The county has an age-adjusted rate of 9.9% compared to an Indiana-wide average of 9.3% and a national rate of 8.3%.

Portions of the Indiana State Cancer Registry's Indiana Cancer Facts & Figures, as well as both CDC reports, can be found in Appendix A.

### **Existing Healthcare Resources**

Harrison County Hospital provided a complete listing of the currently available healthcare facilities and services that are accessed by those living in Harrison County. This list includes, but is not limited to, one Critical Access Hospital, thirty-one community-based physicians, one county health department, and a variety of specialty clinics, oral care providers, eye care providers, mental health services, nursing homes, and assisted living facilities. HCH will be able to use this listing when creating their action plan to fully incorporate all available resources.

- |  |  |
|--|--|
| A Bountiful Harvest                      | Dr. Richard Brown  |
| Amedisys                                 | Dr. Scott Cobel  |
| American Home Healthcare Services, LTD   | Dr. Stephen Bodney                                       |
| Anytime Fitness                          | Dr. Steven Perkins                                       |
| At-Home Care of Harrison County Hospital | Eunice Beard Mini Home                                   |
| Beehive Mini Homes                       | Family Health Centers of Southern Indiana                |
| Big Brothers Big Sisters of Kentuckiana  | Five Steps   |
| Blue Rivers Services                     | Floyd Memorial Home Health                               |
| Bottles Manor                            | Gena Lyell, FNP  |
| Boys & Girls Club of Harrison County     | Gentiva  |
| Butt Drugs                               | Gerdon Youth Center                                      |
| Caretenders                              | Golden Guardians   |
| Caretenders of Meade County              | Harrison County Community Services                       |
| Cedar Court                              | Harrison County Educational Learning and Progress Center |
| Corydon Baptist Church                   | Harrison County Health Department                        |
| Corydon Nursing & Rehab                  | Harrison County Hospital                                 |
| CVS-Corydon                              | Harrison County Lifelong Learning                        |
| Deer Valley Assisted Elderly Care        | Harrison Health & Rehab                                  |
| Dr. Andre Morton                         | Harrison Springs Health Campus                           |
| Dr. Angella Talley                       | Hoosier Uplands Home Health and Hospice                  |
| Dr. Brian Albertson                      | Hoosier Uplands Home Health Care and Hospice             |
| Dr. Brandon Connerly                     | Hosparus   |
| Dr. Bruce Burton                         | Indian Creek Health & Rehab                              |
| Dr. Candace Embry                        | Katrina's Elderly Care                                   |
| Dr. Christopher Day                      | Caritas of Kentucky                                      |
| Dr. Deborah Hall                         | Laconia United Methodist Church                          |
| Dr. Devi Pierce                          | LifeSpring Mental Health Services                        |
| Dr. Elpidio Pena                         | Lincoln Hills Development Corp                           |

Dr. Emily Pittman  
Dr. George Estill  
Dr. J. Brent Murphy  
Dr. John Gonzaba  
Dr. John McCollum  
Dr. John Norton  
Dr. John Reinoehl  
Dr. Joseph Sauer  
Dr. Kelly Grossman  
Dr. Kenneth Renner  
Dr. Kerrin Dunn  
Dr. Lisa Clune  
Dr. Maria de la Cruz  
Dr. Mark Adams  
Dr. Mark Glasgow  
Dr. Michael Bonacum  
Dr. Reggie Lyell

Meadow View Health and Rehabilitation Center  
Medco Center  
Our Father Provides  
Purdue Cooperative Extensions  
Rite Aid-New Salisbury  
Salem Crossing  
Salvation Army  
St Mary's-Breaking Bread  
The Willows  
Todd Dickey Nursing & Rehab Center  
Vibrant, Inc.  
Victory Baptist Church  
VNA Nazareth Home Care  
VNA of Perry County  
Walgreens-Corydon  
Walmart Pharmacy  
YMCA or Harrison County

A complete listing of the facilities including any associated practitioners, location, and phone number can be found in Appendix D.

## **Identifying Health & Service Needs**

A steering committee of Harrison County representatives was organized with the help of Harrison County Hospital CEO, Steven L. Taylor. Business owners, local officials, healthcare providers, minority leaders, clergy, student representatives, and any other interested parties were invited to attend the meeting to discuss the health-related needs of the county with a view to identifying the areas of greatest concern. Anyone who was unable to attend was invited to submit a letter detailing the needs of the community.

The invitation letter, list of those who were invited, list of attendees, and the letters submitted by invitees who were unable to attend can be found in Appendix B.

The steering committee was encouraged to brainstorm all areas of need or concern in the health field in Harrison County in both large and small group settings. Once a master list of all concerns was agreed upon by the full group, attendees were separated into two smaller groups (Group A and Group B). The small groups were asked to list what they perceived to be as the greatest strengths and values in their county. Then, they were asked to identify the highest priorities from the master list of concerns.

By analyzing all three prioritized lists from the small groups and the submitted letters from those who were unable to attend, the IRHA was able to pull out the items that appeared most frequently and identified the community's areas of greatest concern:

- Affordability of insurance
- Aging population
- Diabetes
- Health Education

Lack of access to healthy foods  
Lack of homeless shelters  
Lack of non-emergent and public transportation  
Lack of psych/mental health treatment  
Poor internet access  
Poverty  
Substance abuse of all kinds  
Underemployment  
Brain drain  
Infrastructure problems

The master list, each group’s priority list, and the list of areas that were determined to be of the greatest need can be found in Appendix B.

The identified areas of greatest need were used to create a 41-question survey, addressing demographics, county issues, community services, and amenities, which can be found in Appendix C. The survey was widely disseminated via internet access, community bulletins, and the local newspaper to the residents of Harrison County through inclusion on the Harrison County Hospital’s website and a publically available survey posted on SurveyMonkey.com. Face-to-face polling was also implemented at the YMCA of Harrison County. To conduct the in-person survey, two members of the IRHA staff greeted all county residents as they approached the business and asked for their participation in the survey. Hard copies of the survey were also left at some locations around Harrison County, as well as HCH for anyone who preferred to complete a paper copy of the survey. The general public was alerted to take the online polls through HCH newsletters, an announcement in the local newspaper, and at local high schools. At the end of polling, there were a total of 570 online responses and 33 face-to-face responses. The majority (71.48%) of the respondents were from zip code 47112, and 57.71% of all respondents were 18 or under.

Respondents were first asked to assess the effect of various factors on their community by selecting “very negative effect, some negative effect, no effect, some positive effect, or very positive effect.” The second portion of the survey required respondents to assess the need for various services and facilities in their community by selecting “no need, slight need, definite need, or extreme need.” In the needs section, respondents were also able to select “no opinion.”

As the effectiveness of the currently existing service organizations was also called into question during the steering committee meeting, respondents were asked “Do you feel that the current community services, programs, and organizations in Harrison County are effective?” to which they could select either “yes” or “no.” Respondents who selected “no” were asked to explain their choice.

When asked “how do these issues affect your community,” the standout answers by all respondents were:

1. Heroin use – 77.6% responded some negative effect or very negative effect
2. Prescription drug abuse – 75.58% responded some negative effect or very negative effect
3. Alcohol use – 74.42% responded some negative effect or very negative effect
4. Methamphetamine use – 74.33% responded some negative effect or very negative effect
5. Tobacco use – 72.22% responded some negative effect or very negative effect

When asked “do you see a need for the following services/facilities in your community,” the standout responses were:

1. Affordable health insurance – 72.34% responded definite need or extreme need
2. Internet access – 70.12% responded definite need or extreme need
3. Illegal drug education – 69.17% responded definite need or extreme need
4. Higher quality employment – 69.12% responded definite need or extreme need
5. More local businesses – 65.28% responded definite need or extreme need

The most common responses in the open comments portion of the survey dealt with the need for more health services, illegal drugs, and health insurance. A sampling of the comments from the survey is below and the full results for the online survey, face to face survey, and the combined results of the online and face-to-face surveys can be found in Appendix C.

Open comments regarding health services:

“As far as medical (EMS and AirMedical) our county has the best! As for Fire our county needs major work and reorganization. More jobs for high school students, so many people that cannot get health care insurance (don’t qualify for Indianas Insurance or Obamacare), the drug problem is rising and we need to get a handle on it.”

“Our community needs more services for the homeless members of our community and easier access to public transportation.”

Open comments regarding illegal drugs:

“I believe the main community issues currently are r/t drug and alcohol use followed by tobacco use, diet, and exercise. It is important to address the issues driving the individuals needs to engage in these types of unhealthy behaviors, which usually r/t untreated anxiety, depression and other underlying mental conditions. Until we focus our energy getting more behavioral health treatment availability that is affordable and easy to access I believe the drug, alcohol, tabbacco, and unhealthy eating behavior will continue. When healthcare providers refer individuals to get mental health care there is usually a 3-6 month wait due to the high # of demand and limited specialist.”

“Poverty and LEGITIMATE (ie. No lies or exaggerations) drug information. Lying about what some drugs do if often obvious and it’s always better to tell the truth. Don’t make it seem any better OR WORSE than it is, because that won’t help anyone.”

“the things we find highschoolers do is illegal and harmful so we need an education class to show them how serious this is”

Open comments regarding the affordability of health insurance:

“We have such a high poverty rate, that many, if not most, people do not have internet access or access to health insurance and other necessities.”

“The affordability of health insurance is terrible, I work for a facility that charges us a very large amount of our paycheck each pay period and a very high deductible. My husband and I both work and could use help with food and such but we make too much money, but people that don’t want to work or can’t work get all the help while the “middle class” suffers. There has to be a way to make it better. I shouldn’t have to travel so far away from home just so my family can have affordable health insurance.”

Complete reports of the survey results can be found in Appendix C.

## Summary of Findings

Based on the information gathered as part of the Community Health Needs Assessment, the Indiana Rural Health Association has identified the areas of greatest need in Harrison County. Through the collection of health data and community input on the county's assets, values, and weaknesses within the hospital's service area, the following needs were identified as being of the highest importance:

### Identified Needs

- Drugs: Illegal drug use/alcohol abuse/methamphetamines/tobacco
- Health Insurance: Access and affordability
- Economy & Infrastructure: Local business/better employment opportunities/Internet access

Additionally, to aid Harrison County Hospital in the creation of an action plan, the IRHA has made preliminary recommendations for addressing the defined areas of need. \*\*\*Please note these are opportunities for improvement and in no way constitute required actions, but rather are recommendations for further attention.

### Opportunities

Drugs:

- Education regarding the effects of drugs on health
  - Discuss individual responsibility and ways to enhance it
  - Involve social service agencies
  - Market specific drug education classes with possible coordination of classes at various venues around the county to reach different age groups and education levels
- Treatment
  - Consult with Behavioral Health and Addiction specialists on addiction education
  - Identify opportunities to help patients, family, members, etc. detect potential addiction problems
  - Collaborate with providers on education regarding the effects of drugs on health
    - Discuss individual responsibility and ways to enhance it
    - Involve social service agencies
  - Market specific drug education classes with possible coordination of classes at various venues around the county to reach different age groups and education levels
  - Create a culture of health
  - Create parent and accountability groups
- Alternatives
  - Fitness & exercise programs indoors and outdoors
  - Supported through local programs/grants/fundraisers/campaigns
- Wellness programs
  - Screenings for blood pressure/heart rate and BMI
  - Community activities
    - Events in the park
    - Family nights out/adventure nights

#### Health Insurance:

- Communicate availability of services
  - Initiate a point of contact to share Harrison County Hospital's services
  - Engage individuals within different service organizations to help convey service options
  - Engage department educators to share service information within the community
  - Focus on new methods of communicating with residents
    - Evaluate opportunity for monthly citizens' roundtable
- Invite HCH insurance broker or invite one in and hold a community information event
- Connect with state FSSS to increase education on Medicaid coverage
- Connect with local HR executives to discuss the need for better coverage from local employers
- Work with certified Insurance "Navigators" to find the best options
- Education regarding affordable health screening tools
  - Review target of educational tools
  - Create a culture of health – all ages
- Behavioral health challenges
  - Populations of concern youth, teen, and adult
  - Evaluate potential for tele-mental health: tele-behavioral health services
- Access to care
  - Medicaid patients
    - Access to physicians who take new Medicaid patients
    - Reproduction Education
      - Birth control options / availability

#### Economy & Infrastructure:

- Invite local governmental and civic leaders in for a summit meeting
- Invite local business owners in, discuss what can be done to enhance local business
- Work with local community leaders to launch a "shop local/hire local" program
- Meet with IRHA & IRHA business partners to discuss available options
- Internet Access
  - Hospital engaging in Healthcare Connect Fund to bring high-speed connections to the community as an "anchor" institution
    - Extend to small towns outside of Corydon
  - E-rate funding for schools and libraries
  - Partner with local economic development groups to expand speeds and access

Harrison County Hospital has a unique opportunity to become more focused in the health and well-being of its constituents. These efforts can become more successful by directing and marketing to the community they are trying to touch and evaluating different methods to reach them, such as upgrading current efforts, including newsletters, websites, and other communication methods.