



Community Health Conversations

Summary of Findings

Project Summary

In order to improve health in our community, it's important to first understand what the greatest needs are and where public health can have the greatest impact. The Community Health Assessment is an evidence-based approach designed to do just that. Through this process, information is gathered from multiple data sources (e.g. the Healthy Kids Colorado Survey, focus groups with residents, etc.) to develop a deeper understanding of the community's health and to focus on interventions. Conversations with groups of residents – called Community Health Conversations – were one part of the Boulder County Public Health 2017 Community Health Assessment.

Project Goal

The goal of the Community Health Conversations was to ensure that the community perspective was included, particularly from those who are experiencing barriers to health (e.g. health inequities).

Methods

Staff from Boulder County Public Health met with Boulder County residents at established meetings of neighborhoods, churches, organizations, etc. from February through April 2017. Participants were asked one question: "If you could wave a magic wand and improve your health (including mental health) or the health of your friends, family, and/or loved ones living in Boulder County, what would happen or change?"

Meeting attendees wrote down their answers to this question, engaged in conversation on the topic with peers, and then selected their own top three responses. Boulder County Public Health staff used a [Health Equity Model](#), developed by the Colorado Department of Public Health and Environment, to categorize these top responses into factors according to the framework. Factors that came up most often were categorized into key themes.

Participants

Boulder County Public Health staff facilitated this conversation with 53 groups (over 600 people) throughout the county. The groups represented populations that are facing barriers to health from various ages, races/ethnicities, income levels, and life experiences.

Key Findings

In total, the residents provided 3,021 ideas about things that could improve their health; marking 1,776 of these ideas as priorities.

Thank You

Our public health community consists of the public, staff and partners. Boulder County Public Health staff volunteers visited as many community groups and staff meetings as possible between Feb-April 2017. We recognize that there are many other groups in Boulder County who we hoped to but could not visit due to time and staff constraints. We sincerely thank participants from these 53 groups for speaking with us!

- Allenspark Lunch Group
- Area Agency on Aging
- Atlas- Boulder County AIDS Project
- Attention Homes
- Bailes de mi Tierra- Longmont Senior Center (dance group)
- BCPH Boulder Facilitator Training
- BCPH Communicable Disease & Emergency Management Division Meeting
- BCPH Community Engagement Learning Circle Meeting
- BCPH Community Health Division Meeting
- BCPH Environmental Health Staff Meeting
- BCPH Family Health Division Meeting
- BCPH Longmont Facilitator Training
- BCPH Strategic Initiatives Branch Division Meeting
- Boulder County AIDS Project Staff Meeting
- Boulder County Jail- Women's Group
- Boulder County Latino Coalition Meeting
- Boulder Meals on Wheels
- Boulder OASOS
- Boulder Senior Center
- Boulder Youth Opportunities Advisory Board (YOAB)
- Caminando Juntos- Association for Community Living
- Chinook Café -Mental Health Partners
- CIRCLES
- Coal Creek Meals on Wheels
- CU Health Promotion Group
- Early Childhood Educators Director's Meeting
- ELPASO Parent Group
- GENESISTER Group
- Head Start Lafayette
- HEAL course of ECE providers
- Health, Safety and Nutrition- FRCC course
- Hearing Voices Network
- I Have A Dream Foundation- Boulder High
- Infant/Toddler Theory Class1
- Infant/Toddler Theory Class2
- Lafayette Youth Advisory Council
- LifeBridge Christian Single Mom's Group
- Livewell Longmont Promotoras Group
- Longmont OASOS
- Louisville Senior Center

- Louisville Youth Advisory Board
- Lyons Lunch Group
- Nederland Area Senior Group
- Nurturing Parent Group- Whittier Elementary
- OUR Center
- Patient Voices - Clinica Patient Advisory Group
- Programa Companeras- El Centro Amistad
- Sister Carmen Family Leadership Training Institute- Latina Group
- St. John the Baptist- Men's Group
- St. John the Baptist- Women's Group
- Teens Inc.
- THRIVE Conference
- Wild Plum Policy Council

