

2017

# Hendry and Glades Counties Community Health Improvement Plan



Prepared by:

The Glades County Health Department  
and The Health Planning Council of  
Southwest Florida, Inc.



HEALTH PLANNING COUNCIL  
of Southwest Florida, Inc

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## Executive Summary

The Healthier Hendry/Glades Task Force, led by the Hendry County Health Department, is pleased to present the Community Health Improvement Plan (CHIP) for Hendry and Glades Counties. This task force is made up of 54 public health partners and community members, all with the common goal of improving the health of the two counties. The group met to better understand the current public health needs of area residents and to develop a plan for community health improvement. The process consisted of reviewing data, prioritizing health issues and planning the steps to address the needs in our community. The product of this process is the Hendry and Glades Counties Community Health Improvement Plan. The intent of this plan is to identify priority goals and strategies while fostering community partnerships in order to improve the overall health of the community. The Healthier Hendry/Glades Task Force met from October 2016 through February 2017 to update and improve the plan. The Task Force has worked to review and compare the data contained in the 2013 and 2016 Community Health Assessments in preparation for the development of the CHIP. The 2016 Hendry and Glades County Community Health Assessments can be found on the Health Planning Council of Southwest Florida's website (<http://www.hpcswf.com/health-planning/health-planning-projects/>). The health priorities addressed in this plan emerged from the review of the data and the input and discussions of the Healthier Hendry/Glades Task Force.

The Task Force worked to identify the top health priorities in an effort to ensure the CHIP addresses the priorities where we believe we can make a difference in an appropriate and effective manner. The CHIP details the objectives, strategies, action steps, and measures that were developed to address the community's health priorities.

### **Community Health Priorities Identified by Healthier Hendry/Glades Task Force**

- Priority One: Increase Percentage of Children and Adults at a Healthy Weight
- Priority Two: Increase Awareness of Available Services
- Priority Three: Reduce Infant Mortality, Child Trauma and Unintentional Injuries

The Healthier Hendry/Glades Task Force will continue to meet as we work toward our common goal of improving the health of Hendry and Glades Counties. Implementation of these objectives is already underway with positive results expected to follow soon. We look forward to engaging the entire community in our efforts, and we welcome your participation and feedback in our community health improvement efforts.

# Community and Partner Engagement

## Healthier Hendry/Glades Task Force Members

Hendry and Glades Counties' CHIP process engaged a large group of community residents and local public health system stakeholders. Specifically:

- 51 community stakeholders – including representatives from Glades County's local hospital, healthcare providers, and social service organizations
- 3 community volunteers

Listed below are the individuals who worked on the improvement plan as a member of the Healthier Hendry/Glades Task Force.

Nancy Acevedo  
Maricela Morado  
*ACT*

Linda Teasley  
*American Legion Auxillary*

Theresa Davis  
*Area Agency on Aging for SWFL*

Aimee McLaughlin  
*Big Brothers Big Sisters*

Laura Centeno  
*Children's Advocacy Center*

Norm Coderre  
*Children's Medical Services*

Ron Stephens  
*Citizen*

Rom Zimmerly  
*City of LaBelle*

Mary Bartoshuk  
Linda Corbitt  
*Community Volunteers*

Rick Griffiths  
*CSI Health*

Richard Luger  
Charlene Blum  
*Department of Children and Families*

Luci Cisnero  
*Drug Free Hendry*

Patricia Astorga  
*Early Learning Coalition*

Rida Zamaron  
Lillian Colon  
Myrna Velasquez  
*Family Health Centers*

Edwin Melendez  
Jeni Dyess  
Maria C. Gomez  
Vanessa Fischel  
Joe Pepe  
Patty Hansen  
Brenda Barnes  
Melissa Franco  
Mary Ruth Prouty  
Jennifer Hood  
*Florida Department of Health in Hendry and Glades*

Stephanie Dominguez  
Nardina Johnson  
Traci Thomas  
*Florida Community Health Center*

Sally Kreuscher  
Brenda Hernandez  
*Golisano Children's Hospital*

Barbara Ramos  
*Goodwill*

Louise Bain  
*Harry Chapin Food Bank*

Peggy Brown  
Desiree Lopez  
*Health Planning Council of Southwest Florida*

Estela Aguilar  
*Healthy Start SWFL-Help Me Grow*

Janet Papinaw  
*Hendry County BOCC*

Meghan Snell  
*Hendry County EMS*

Donna Hull  
*Hendry Schools*

Ruby Nixon  
*Hope Connections*  
Nikki Yeager  
*Kiwanis/American Legion Auxiliary*

Julie Banker  
*Lehigh Regional Medical Center*

Tammy Lynn  
Taylor Marini  
*Make a Wish Foundation*

Daisy Ellis  
Asly Rodriguez  
*Salvation Army*

Sandy Hoy  
*Staywell*  
Al Jessup  
*U.S. Sugar*

Nancy Olson  
Lisa Sands  
*United Way*

Amanda Arslan  
*WIC*

## CHIP Planning Process and Selected Achievements

Planning process activities are in bold.

- January 2016 – HHG developed and distributed cards to promote the group and boost membership.
- **January 2016 – HHG reviewed and helped to promote community survey for Community Health Assessment (CHA)**
- **March 2016 – HHG reviewed the results of the Community Survey for the CHA.**
- April 2016 – HHG participated in Make a Wish 5K run.
- May 2016 – HHG hosted three events to promote child safety particularly in cars including information on safety in the heat and car seat checks.
- May 2016 – HHG promoted a Children’s Safety Resolution emphasizing the promotion of car seat and seat belt checks, promoting the campaign against smoking in vehicle with children present, the Look Before You Lock campaign, and no texting while driving.
- **May 2016 – HHG reviewed full draft of CHA, gave feedback on content and dissemination plan.**
- August 2016 – HHG participated in a Kid’s Expo.
- October 2016 – HHG participated in Kiwanis Kid’s Day to promote child car safety.
- **October 2016 – HHG reviewed CHA data and had a brainstorming and prioritization session to begin process of updating CHIP. HHG identified CHIP issues and themes and began discussion of action steps.**
- November 2016 – HHG reviewed results of a survey on Healthy Corner Stores and made suggestions on program implementation.
- **January 2017 – HHG reviewed CHIP plan and created a subcommittee to focus on each identified priority.**
- **February 2017 – HHG finalized CHIP and named subcommittee heads.**

## Hendry County Profile

Below is a brief summary of some of the findings from the Hendry County Community Health Assessment. The full document and an Executive Summary can be found at: <http://www.hpcswf.com/health-planning/health-planning-projects/>

### Demographics

- ❖ Residents of Hendry County make up 0.21% of Florida's total population.
- ❖ The county has a population density of about 34 persons per square mile compared to a state average of 357 persons per square mile.
- ❖ Males outnumber females in Hendry County (53.0% vs. 47.0%). Statewide the percentages are 48.9% male and 51.1% female.
- ❖ Nearly half of the population of Hendry County identifies as Hispanic (52.6% vs. 47.4% non-Hispanic). Statewide the percentages are 23.9% Hispanic and 76.1% non-Hispanic.

### Socioeconomics

- ❖ Residents living below poverty level: 25.1% Hendry County vs. 17.1% Florida.
- ❖ Children (ages 0-17) living below poverty level: 38.4% Hendry County vs. 24.8% Florida.
- ❖ Unemployment at 10.6% in Hendry County is significantly higher than the state at 6.3%.
- ❖ Residents aged 25 and older who are high school graduates or higher is 65.6% in Hendry County (2014). Statewide the percentage is 86.5%.

### Health and Healthcare

- ❖ Percent who smoke: 25.0% in Hendry County vs. 16.8% in Florida.
- ❖ The highest rates of current smokers are found to be non-Hispanic white men (40.4%).
- ❖ Percent with diabetes: 21.9% in Hendry County vs. 11.2% in Florida.
- ❖ Percent obese: 26.9% in Hendry County vs. 26.4% in Florida.
- ❖ The most frequent causes of death in Hendry County are heart disease and cancer.
- ❖ Among the types of cancer, lung cancer causes the highest number of deaths in Hendry County.

## Glades County Profile

Below is a brief summary of some of the findings from the Glades County Community Health Assessment. The full document and an Executive Summary can be found at: <http://www.hpcswf.com/health-planning/health-planning-projects/>

### Demographics

- ❖ Residents of Glades County make up 0.1% of Florida's total population.
- ❖ The county has a population density of about 16.32 persons per square mile compared to a state average of 357 persons per square mile.
- ❖ Males outnumber females in Glades County (56.3% vs. 43.7%). Statewide the percentages are 48.9% male and 51.1% female.

### Socioeconomics

- ❖ Residents living below poverty level: 24.1% Glades County vs. 17.1% Florida.
- ❖ Children (ages 0-17) living below poverty level: 36.0% Glades County vs. 24.8% Florida.
- ❖ Unemployment at 7.2% in Glades County is slightly higher than the state at 6.3%.
- ❖ Residents aged 25 and older who are high school graduates or higher is 76.0% in Glades County (2010-2014). Statewide the percentage is 86.5%.

### Health and Healthcare

- ❖ Glades County has a higher rate of infant deaths than the state as a whole (15.5 per 1,000 births vs. 6.1).
- ❖ Percent who smoke: 9.6% in Glades County vs. 16.8% in Florida.
- ❖ Men in Glades County are just as likely to smoke as women (9.6% men vs. 9.6% women).
- ❖ Percent with diabetes: 11.4% in Glades County vs. 11.2% in Florida.
- ❖ Percent obese: 37.3% in Glades County vs. 26.4% in Florida.
- ❖ The most frequent causes of death in Glades County are heart disease and cancer.
- ❖ Among the types of cancer, lung cancer causes the highest number of deaths in Glades County.
- ❖ Glades County has been designated as a Health Professional Shortage Area for primary care.
- ❖ Glades County has been designated as a Health Professional Shortage Area for dental care for its low-income and migrant farmworker populations.



## The Community Health Improvement Plan

The mission of the Healthier Hendry Glades task force as determined by its members is “To improve the health of the people of Hendry and Glades counties through partnership and collaborations”. HHG uses information from the Community Health Assessment and other data sources to regularly review the health of the community and determine issues to address.

The Healthier Hendry/Glades Task Force identified various health-related issues in the county. In an effort to keep the Community Health Improvement Plan (CHIP) realistic and manageable, the Task Force narrowed these issues down to three strategic health priorities for Hendry and Glades Counties. These focused on the identified priorities of weight-related health issues, awareness and access to services, and child safety.

The sections below detail, for each of the three strategic priorities: measurable objectives, responsible parties and action steps.

The strategic priority is a general statement about a desired outcome. It represents the end result the Task Force hopes to reach.

The measurable objectives detail more specifically what the community hopes to achieve.

The action steps detailed in the plan provide the specific steps of how the strategies will be approached.

Healthier Hendry Glades  
Task Force

**Community Health Improvement Plan ~ 2017**

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**Strategic Priority: Increase percentage of children and adults at a healthy weight**

*Objective: Increase the percentage of middle and high school students who are at a healthy weight from 60.1% to 65% in Hendry and from 55.3% to 60% in Glades by December 31, 2018 measured using the results of the Youth Risk Behavior Survey (YRBS).*

*Objective: Increase the percentage of adults in Hendry and Glades who are at a healthy weight from 40.33% to 45% in Hendry and from 21.1% to 25% in Glades by December 31, 2018 measured using the results of the Youth Risk Behavior Survey (YRBS).*

**Community Chair: Traci Thomas, Florida Community Health Centers**

**DOH Chair: Mary Ruth Prouty**

Action Steps

- Conduct at least two campaigns on healthy eating and physical activity
  - Partner with community organizations to promote campaigns including 5210 and at least one other
  - Partner with local restaurants and businesses to offer and promote healthier menu items
- 

**Strategic Priority: Increase awareness of available services**

*Objective: Distribute resource handbook by December 31, 2017 measured through FDOH tracking.*

*Objective: Participate in at least one community outreach event per quarter throughout 2017 measured through FDOH tracking.*

*Objective: Add at least four additional members by December 31, 2017 measured through FDOH tracking.*

**Community Chair: Lisa Sands, United Way**

**DOH Chair: Melissa Franco**

Action Steps

- Develop and distribute community resources handbook (electronic and print)
  - Promote United Way 211
  - Promote community resources at community events
  - Promote participate in Healthier Hendry Glades Taskforce
- 

**Strategic Priority: Reduce infant mortality, child trauma and unintentional injuries**

*Objective: Reduce or maintain infant mortality rate by December 31, 2018 measured by Rate Per 1,000 Live Births by Residence County per The Florida Department of Health.*

*Objective: Participate in at least one community outreach event per quarter throughout 2017 measured through FDOH tracking.*

*Objective: Reduce rate of hospitalizations for children 1-5 for unintentional injuries by December 31, 2018 measured by Hospitalizations ages 1-5 for all non-fatal unintentional injuries per Florida Agency for Health Care Administration*

**Community Chair: Sally Kreuzer, Golisano Children’s Hospital**

**DOH Chair: Vanessa Fischel**

Action Steps

- Increase community education on child car safety (car seats, tobacco, left in car)
- Promote education of prevention of avoidable injuries (poison, drowning etc)
- Promote awareness of need for breastfeeding
- Promote safe sleeping practices

Mission of the Healthier Hendry Glades Taskforce: To improve the health of the people of Hendry and Glades counties through partnership and collaborations.

## Using the Plan and Next Steps

This Community Health Improvement Plan is intended to be a starting point, a beginning that will lead to a healthier community for future generations. The next step in the process is to transform planning into action. The Healthier Hendry/Glades Task Force has already been working on specific programs to implement the strategies contained in the plan and improvements will soon follow. The Hendry and Glades County Health Departments will continue to organize this community collaboration, as well as monitor and report back on the progress of initiatives and successes that this Community Health Improvement Plan will achieve.

The Hendry and Glades County Health Departments are dedicated to improving the health of community residents, and will focus its efforts on collaborating with strategic partners as they work to achieve impacts in health outcomes.

For more information or to get involved in the community health improvement activities, please contact:

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