

# The HEALTH OF Citrus County



OVERALL HEALTH AND QUALITY OF LIFE IS RATED WELL AMONG CITRUS COUNTY CITIZENS.

CITIZENS FEEL THAT CITRUS COUNTY IS A SAFE PLACE TO LIVE WITH INFREQUENT CRIME AND BEAUTIFUL NATURAL RESOURCES.



ACCESS TO HEALTHCARE IS A PROBLEM FOR MANY IN CITRUS COUNTY DUE TO POVERTY, AVAILABILITY OF PHYSICIANS AND THE NEED TO TRAVEL LONG DISTANCES TO OBTAIN VARIOUS HEALTHCARE SERVICES.

ADULT OBESITY, AS IN THE REST OF THE COUNTRY, IS A MAJOR PROBLEM.

## CITRUS COUNTY COMMUNITY HEALTH ADVISORY PARTNERSHIP (C-CHAP)

FLORIDA DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH IN CITRUS COUNTY  
*Glenn Bryant, Carmen Hernandez, Aaron Kissler,  
Dr. Thomas Poirier, Merton Rashley, Janora Wade,  
Nancy Witty*

BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS *Amy Engelken*

CITRUS COUNTY SCHOOL DISTRICT *Chuck Dixon*

CITRUS COUNTY HABITAT FOR HUMANITY *George Rusaw*

LOCAL BUSINESS OWNER *Jim Anderson*

CITRUS 95.3 RADIO *Laura Grady*

CITRUS COUNTY COUNCIL *Theodora Rusnak*

INDEPENDENT CONSULTANT *Rebecca Martin*

NATURE COAST BANK *Rhonda Lestinsky*

Download a copy of the 2015 Citrus County Health Needs Assessment from the following sites:

[www.WellFlorida.org](http://www.WellFlorida.org)

<http://Citrus.Floridahealth.Gov/>

The Florida Department of Health in Citrus County, with locations in Inverness and Lecanto, provides services in women's health, dental care, family planning and much more. Call 352-527-0068 or visit <http://Citrus.Floridahealth.Gov>.



## Citrus County HEALTH NEEDS ASSESSMENT



### AREAS FOR IMPROVEMENT

- ✓ Access to healthcare
- ✓ Obesity in adults
- ✓ Availability of healthy foods
- ✓ Mental health and substance abuse services





Citrus County has long demonstrated its commitment to community health by investing in research and creating change where improvements are needed.

In 2015, the Florida Department of Health in Citrus County formed the **Citrus County Community Health Advisory Partnership**, known as C-CHAP. This group of dedicated community leaders from various professions and geographic areas of Citrus County were tasked with oversight of assessing the county's most pressing health needs and working towards solutions.

Florida Department of Health in Citrus County contracted WellFlorida, the region's health planning council and consultants for health causes, to research and develop the **2015 Community Health Assessment**.



The Community Health Assessment is based on a nationally recognized model called **Mobilizing for Action through Planning and Partnerships (MAPP)**. Through the MAPP process, the following assessments were completed:

**Community Health Status Assessment.** A technical overview of data highlights and trends for Citrus County and the state.

**Community Themes and Strengths Assessment.** Research and analysis of input from the community on the most pressing health issues and needs in Citrus County. Community input was gained through:

**Community Surveys** aimed at citizens, business leaders and health providers.

**Community Focus Groups** which were conducted at four district library locations throughout the



county in order to capture a diverse pool of participants and collect meaningful data.

**Forces of Change Assessment.** A diverse gathering of community leaders were brought together to participate in a strategic *Forces of Change* meeting to identify events, trends and factors in the Citrus County community that have an impact on public health in the county.

The purpose of these three assessments is to identify common themes in order to uncover key community health needs. Assessments also provide a rich source of data to use in community health improvement planning. Florida Department of Health in Citrus County will use the overall Community Health Assessment to develop programs and policies that contribute to the health and well-being of Citrus County residents.

## WHAT IS A COMMUNITY HEALTH ASSESSMENT?

A community health assessment is a process that uses quantitative and qualitative methods to systematically collect and analyze data to understand health within a specific community.

## HOW DO WE RESEARCH THE NEEDS OF OUR COMMUNITIES?



data



surveys



focus  
groups



community  
leaders

## HOW WILL THE COMMUNITY HEALTH ASSESSMENT BE USED?

Community health assessments inform community decision-making, the prioritization of health problems, and the development, implementation and evaluation of community health improvement plans.