In North Carolina, the state requires each local health department to conduct a Community Health Assessment (CHA) every three or four years. During the years between health assessments, health departments submit an abbreviated State of the County Health report (SOTCH).

Every three years, Harnett County Health Department conducts a Community Health Assessment (CHA). Through this assessment process, the Health Department works with other crucial partners and stakeholders in comprehensively reviewing the health status of the community as well as collecting information about perceptions of health and quality of life in the county.

The CHA document summarized these assessment efforts and provides the foundation for community health improvement planning over the next three years. In January 2020 through a series of meetings, highlights from the CHA report were shared with specific stakeholders and three specific health priorities were identified.

Priority Areas: (**1**) **Diabetes/ Nutrition (2) Heart Disease (3) Cancer**

The community health priorities identified include the following health concerns to be addressed over the next three years which align with county residents input and using the Healthy North Carolina 2020 priority focus areas and objectives.

Next Steps
As this report is now completed, several next steps are needed to move the CHA from assessment to action:

1. Results from the 2019 Community Health Assessment will be disseminated to the community via online access, community organizations, media, and promotion through partnerships.

2. Action plans outlining evidence-based strategies to address the county's health priorities will be developed and submitted to the state.

3. An annual State of the County's Health (SOTCH) Report will be compiled and released to provide timely updates on health indicators related to our community and the work surrounding our health priorities.

For more information please call the Harnett County Health Department 910-893-7550 and ask for the Health Education Division.