

Seminole County Forces of Change Assessment

The Seminole County Health Planning Partnership conducted the Forces of Change Assessment at an all day Lock-In meeting. The group held a brainstorming session on the trends, factors and events that comprise the forces of change affecting public health in Seminole County. The following forces were identified:

1. Increasing number of ethnicities (language barriers, cultural competency and non-Western treatment options)
2. Medicaid cap (1115 waiver) – will affect 1 in 6 children and will most likely be by executive order
3. County Commissioner request for assessments
4. Lack of uniform healthcare system
5. Availability of doctors – affected by malpractice insurance, Florida Constitutional amendments, access requirement for medical data
6. Partnering across county lines – perceptions of Seminole County re: health needs, issues, funding (“Seminole didn’t play”) – “There are no new dollars, only new efficiencies and new partnerships.”
7. Disaster preparation (Bio-terrorism, hurricanes)
8. MAPP – Seminole County as a model for MAPP (increase its credibility) – Challenge is to synthesize data-driven decision making into action plan.
9. Stable single-family housing is becoming out of range for lower-end demographic groups. New affordable housing is not being built in the County. The #1 call for help on the 211 line is for housing.
10. Racial disparity and high per capita income.
11. Flu campaign – lessons learned
12. Prescription drug cost
13. Access to care – Cf. Statewide Volunteer Program
14. Environment, diet, sedentary lifestyle
15. Trends: increasing numbers of seniors, increasing use of technology, increasing life spans.

Community Report Card

The Health Council prepared a report comparing Seminole County with the State of Florida using 18 indicators identified by the national study “America’s Health: State Health Rankings” as presenting a comprehensive view of the overall health of an area. Based on the 18 criteria, Seminole County compares favorably to the State as a whole in every area except for Cardiovascular Deaths.

Another tool was presented for prioritizing health issues: “Proposed Essential Criteria for Ranking Health Issues/Topics.”

Strategic Plan

The following health issues have been identified and should be addressed in the county-wide strategic plan:

- A. Cardiovascular Disease/Health Risk Behaviors
- B. Maternal and Child Health/Racial Disparity
- C. Obesity/Diet/Exercise
- D. Mental Health
- E. Increasing Numbers of Uninsured/Access to Care