

# 2015 Mendocino County Community Health Needs Assessment

*A Summary of Key Findings*

May 2016

Sponsored by the Alliance for Rural Community Health, Frank R. Howard Memorial Hospital, Healthy Mendocino, Mendocino County Health & Human Services Agency, North Coast Opportunities, and Ukiah Valley Medical Center

## — FACT SHEET —

**SPONSORS:** A coalition of six organizations (see above) conducted the assessment and produced the report.

### **PURPOSES:**

- To assess local health and well-being — status, comparisons, perceptions
- To lay the foundation for priority — and goal-setting
- To inform planning for a broad-based effort to improve community health in key areas

### **SOURCES:**

- The health, demographic, and other indicators on [healthymendocino.org](http://healthymendocino.org)
- A survey of local residents (online/print, English/Spanish)
- Interviews with local leaders
- A special meeting to assess the local public health system

### **TOPICS INCLUDE:**

- Extensive data on the health of the county population, with details on age, geographic, economic, racial, and ethnic groups
- Access and barriers to health care and social services
- Determinants of health, e.g., education, income, housing, family life, and the environment
- Community assets and strengths, including community engagement

**WHAT'S NEXT:** Community Health Improvement Planning Workshop — June 8, Ukiah Conference Center  
*(Proposed focuses for action: childhood obesity, mental health services, and poverty)*

### **GUIDING QUESTIONS AS WE DEVELOP A PLAN TO MOVE FORWARD:**

- What factors, positive and negative, have the greatest impact on health in Mendocino County?
- What population groups and geographic areas are most vulnerable?
- What changes would make it easier for local residents to live healthier lives and fulfill their potential?
- What measurable changes should we aim for over the next 1-2 years?
- What existing programs and initiatives are addressing major concerns?
- What other community strengths can we draw on?
- Where can we make a strategic difference by combining our efforts and resources?

*Read the report on [healthymendocino.org](http://healthymendocino.org). For more information, contact Patrice Mascolo, 467-3228*