

# King's Daughters' Health Community Needs Assessment

Conducted September 2016

Among 47 Individuals attending a  
Dance for Senior Citizens

## Background on Meeting to Obtain Input Specifically From Seniors

- Carri Dirksen attended a Senior Citizen's Dance on September 30, 2016 at the Brown Gym in Downtown Madison.
- There were 75 seniors present - both males & females.
- Individuals were offered an opportunity to complete paper surveys asking their opinions about the extent to which various topics are or are not problems in the community. If individuals preferred, the survey was read to them and their responses recorded.
- 47 individuals completed the survey.
- Individuals also had an opportunity to state any additional comments about health issues they believe are important.

List of Health Issues With Choice of Major Problem, a Minor Problem, or Not a Problem in this Community:

|   | Major Problem | Minor Problem | Not a Problem |
|---|---------------|---------------|---------------|
| People abusing drugs, alcohol, meth or other substances               | 95%           | 5%            | 0%            |
| People being overweight or obese.                                     | 95%           | 5%            | 0%            |
| People using tobacco.   | 59%           | 41%           | 0%            |
| People needing mental health care.                                    | 68%           | 23%           | 0%            |
| People not getting enough exercise.                                   | 75%           | 25%           | 0%            |
| Not being able to get an appointment with a doctor when you need one. | 30%           | 25%           | 40%           |
| Chronic disease such as kidney, heart & lung disease.                 | 61%           | 39%           | 0%            |

## Comments from the Seniors

- Many mentioned that they felt tobacco is less of a health concern in the community.
- Several cited the need for the community to address the substance abuse issue.
- All of those interviewed have utilized a physician whom is affiliated with KDH. The majority said they do not have a problem getting a doctor's appointment with their primary doctor, but that it is difficult to get an appointment with a specialist when one is needed.
- Cancer was cited as one of the chronic diseases they hear most among their friends and acquaintances.
- Several expressed the need for more activities and affordable entertainment for seniors.
- A few seniors wished that there was a place to walk their dogs in the winter, so both they and their pets could get exercise.
- Public transportation for seniors was a concern of several interviewed.
- The proposed new senior center at the site of the former KDH emergency room was a major concern of the seniors interviewed. Although the site is now owned by Trilogy Health Services, several felt KDH was involved in the new center perhaps due to its location. Every senior who expressed an opinion on the proposed new senior center was against the venture.