



COMMUNITY HEALTH ASSESSMENT

Bristol



The Bristol Community Health Assessment was held at the Bristol County Elks, on November 3, 2014. Aside from organizers and representatives from sponsor organizations, 30 Bristol community members attended the event. Residents were asked to name the health issues that most concerned them in their community. This report summarizes key issues expressed by Bristol residents.

HEALTH ISSUES VOICED BY BRISTOL RESIDENTS:

Appreciation of community collaboration and social cohesion in Bristol

- “In other communities they have a community wide activity, like Bristol is doing with recycling. Maybe we can do something like that where the community gets involved about getting people to be healthier.”

Need to create healthy living opportunities such as healthy eating and physical activity

- “We came up with the farmer’s market and having availability of fruits and vegetables, and having some guided exercise programs with different age groups and the issue around lack of exercise for children.”

Concern about mental health needs of the community

- “A concern is mental health services, about availability but also the stigma that is attached, and the people who can afford the services.”

Attention to the health needs of the elderly

- “Another issue is aging. I don’t know where to go to navigate the services, don’t know who to call, who to turn to, and other people have had the same experiences.”

Recognize and address drug and alcohol abuse among young adults

- “A concern would be substance abuse and the impact in community health in the future, because if you grow up on abuse of some substance, drug or alcohol, the chances of you bringing up a productive family are quite a bit less.”



Department of Health Director, Michael Fine, MD, spoke with community members.