

# 2018 Greater Worcester Community Health Assessment (CHA)

**What is a CHA?** A CHA, or a Community Health Assessment, is a way of gathering information about what the community's needs and resources are when it comes to being healthy. A CHA should answer the questions: What does a healthy region look like, and what more do we need to get there? The 2018 CHA will bring together information on the health of the Greater Worcester region from dozens of sources and through information provided by thousands of people.

**Who is involved?** The Worcester Division of Public Health, lead agency of the Central MA Regional Public Health Alliance (CMRPHA), in partnership with UMass Memorial and Fallon Health is leading the effort. Dozens of agencies serve in an advisory manner for the CHA including local governments, non-profits, healthcare institutions, and many more.

**What is the process?** The CHA process engages local residents to provide input and insight into the region's health challenges and positive resources through individual interviews, group conversations, community events, and a survey. Information from hospitals, the US Census, and existing reports will also be used to complete the CHA.

**How does it benefit the community?** A CHA is meant to be a tool for the community to know more about the health concerns, resources, and priorities of the residents, students, and workers of the region. An effective CHA allows resources to go towards the issues that are most pressing, that organizations will work together to improve health in key areas, and that decisions are made with health in mind.

Thank you for your participation and helping achieve the CHA's vision of the healthiest you, in the healthiest city, in the healthiest region.

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