



OUR VISION

A county with collaborative communities and stakeholders equipped with resources, opportunities, and environments to maximize health and well-being for all.

OUR VALUES

Diversity, Health Equity, Collaboration, Access, Education

Health Priorities Definitions

as defined in the Community Health Assessment

Access to Care

Appropriate access to care means everyone receives the services and supports they need to maintain optimal health and wellbeing throughout their lifetimes. This encompasses both medical and non-medical care which effectively prevents, treats, and/or minimizes the effects of health problems and supports quality of life.

This requires that care services be obtainable, accessible, and affordable to all, and be designed to ensure individuals understand how to navigate efficiently through the care delivery system to meet their needs. Such care must also impart the best possible health outcomes, and be delivered through a respectful relationship between the caregiver and recipient which is based on mutual trust and understanding.

Access to Healthy Food

Appropriate access to healthy food means all individuals can easily obtain high quality, fresh, affordable and nutritious food. In both urban and rural settings, regular access to healthy food retailers and other healthy food outlets which offer fruits, vegetables, and other staples at affordable prices contributes to a more equitable food environment.

Such a food environment reduces food insecurity and hunger, supports nutritious diets which lead to healthier lifestyles, and provides opportunities for thriving local economies. Special attention must be paid to ensure culturally appropriate healthy food options are available to all communities.

Early Childhood Development

Appropriate early childhood development means all young children grow up in safe and supportive environments and receive the nurturing care and interaction needed to promote their physical, mental, and emotional growth and resilience which enables them to become healthy, happy, and productive in later life. This requires that children be protected from harm, neglect, and other undue adverse experiences.

It also means families, parents, and other caregivers must have the physical, social, and economic means to provide for their children's needs as well as their own. Adequate support, education, and other services must also be available for children and their families to address any problems during early childhood when these interventions are most likely to be effective.

Visit hipmc.org to find out more about the priorities and the Community Health Assessment.