

Rowan County Completes 2025 Community Health Assessment

Assessment Identifies Behavioral Health, Housing, and Healthy Lifestyles as Top Priorities for 2025–2028

Rowan County Public Health, in partnership with Healthy Rowan, Novant Health Rowan Medical Center, Rowan County United Way and Healthy Rowan announced the completion of the 2025 Community Health Needs Assessment (CHNA)—a comprehensive evaluation of the health needs, strengths, and priorities of Rowan County residents.

The CHNA was officially approved by Rowan County Public Health leadership and partners on March 2nd, 2026, following an extensive, community-driven process that included resident surveys, focus groups, expert consultations, and analysis of local, state, and national health data.

Community-Driven Process

The 2025 CHA was developed through a collaborative regional approach led by the Central Carolina Community Collaborative (CCCC) and guided by a diverse CHNA Steering Committee representing healthcare, education, nonprofit organizations, local government, faith communities, business, media, and community advocates.

More than 1,300 Rowan County residents contributed input through a bilingual community health survey, and additional insight was gathered through focus groups held during the Rowan Community Health Forum. This robust engagement ensured that the assessment reflected lived experiences from across the county, including historically underrepresented populations.

Key Health Priorities Identified

Based on combined community input and data analysis, Rowan County identified three priority health areas for 2025–2028:

- Behavioral Health, including mental health and substance use
- Housing, focusing on affordable, accessible, and livable housing
- Healthy Lifestyles, encompassing chronic disease prevention, access to healthy food, physical activity, and primary care

These priorities address root causes of health outcomes and reflect the strong connection between social, economic, and environmental conditions and overall well-being.

Next Steps: Community Health Improvement Plan

Findings from the CHA will directly inform the development of Rowan County’s Community Health Improvement Plan (CHIP). Led by the Healthy Rowan Coalition, community partners will work together to create measurable, action-oriented strategies aligned with the identified priorities. Progress will be tracked and shared publicly through annual updates and a Community Health Improvement scorecard.

“The CHA is not the finish line—it’s the starting point,” Harris added. “Our next step is turning these findings into action that makes a real difference in people’s lives.”

Access the Full Report

The complete 2025 Community Health Assessment, executive summary, and supporting materials are available online at:

<https://www.rowancountync.gov/2038/2025-Community-Health-Needs-Assessment>

Community members, organizations, and partners are encouraged to review the findings and engage in upcoming planning efforts.

Download: [Press Release: 2025 CHNA Released](#)

This press release has been prepared by the Rowan County Public Health Department through interdepartmental collaboration, with the purpose of informing the public about current or emerging public health matters. For more information, please contact the Public Information Officer (PIO).

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