



# Community Health Needs Assessment (CHNA) Report

## WELLSTAR KENNESTONE HOSPITAL

Identification and assessment of the health needs of the community served by WellStar Kennestone Hospital. Submitted in fiscal year ended June 30, 2013 to comply with federal tax law requirements set forth in Internal Revenue Code section 501(r) and to satisfy the requirements set forth in IRS Notice 2011-52 and the Affordable Care Act for hospital facilities owned and operated by an organization described in Code section 501(c)(3).

# Community Health Needs Assessment (CHNA) Report / 2013

## WellStar Kennestone Hospital

677 Church Street | Marietta, GA30060

### *WellStar Health System's CHNA Principal Assessor:*

**Allen M. Hoffman, MD**, Executive Director, WellStar Community HealthCare  
52 Tower Road, Marietta, GA 30060

### *Organization Operating Hospital Facility:*

**Kennestone Hospital, Inc.**/ EIN#:58-2032904  
677 Church Street, Marietta, GA 30060

### *Senior Leadership Oversight:*

**Kim Menefee**, Senior Vice President, Public and Government Affairs, WellStar Health System

Date of written CHNA report:	May 15, 2013
Website CHNA report is publicly available:	<a href="http://www.WellStar.org/chna2013">www.WellStar.org/chna2013</a>
Date CHNA report made publicly available:	<u>June 30, 2013</u>
Date CHNA report required to be made publicly available (per Notice 2011-52):	June 30, 2013

**A Community Health Needs Assessment (CHNA) was conducted in order to comply with federal tax law requirements set forth in Internal Revenue Code section 501(r) requiring hospital facilities owned and operated by an organization described in Code section 501(c)(3) to conduct a community health needs assessment at least once every three years. The required written plan of implementation strategy is set forth in a separate written document. This written plan is intended to satisfy each of the applicable requirements set forth in IRS Notice 2011-52 regarding conducting the CHNA for the Facility.**



## Table of Contents

<b>1.</b>	<b>Executive Summary</b>	<b>1</b>
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>▪ Overview</li><li>▪ Objectives and Key Findings</li><li>▪ Methodology</li><li>▪ Emergent Themes</li></ul>	
<b>2.</b>	<b>Introduction</b>	<b>15</b>
<b>3.</b>	<b>Community Served</b>	<b>16</b>
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>▪ Defined, Determined and Described</li><li>▪ Maps</li></ul>	
<b>4.</b>	<b>Community Collaboration and Process</b>	<b>28</b>
<b>5.</b>	<b>Data Collection, Process and Methods</b>	<b>32</b>
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>▪ Rationale for Common Indicators</li><li>▪ Secondary Data Sources</li><li>▪ Primary Data Sources</li><li>▪ Information Gaps</li><li>▪ Health Indicators</li><li>▪ Process for Collection, Review and Interpretation of Data</li></ul>	
<b>6.</b>	<b>Community Health Needs</b>	<b>45</b>
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>▪ Description of Prioritized Identified Health Needs</li><li>▪ Methodology and Criteria for Selection</li></ul>	
<b>7.</b>	<b>Community Facilities, Assets and Resources</b>	<b>53</b>
<b>8.</b>	<b>Appendix</b>	<b>54</b>

## Overview:

Recognized as the fifth most integrated healthcare delivery system in the country, **WellStar Health System** is one of the largest not-for-profit health systems in Georgia and serves a population of nearly 1.3 million residents in five counties. The vision of WellStar is to deliver world-class healthcare. A national leader in the transformation of healthcare delivery, WellStar launched two initiatives in late 2012 – the Center for Health Transformation and the Georgia Health Collaborative – that will have far reaching effects on healthcare both locally and nationally.

WellStar includes WellStar Kennestone Regional Medical Center (anchored by WellStar Kennestone Hospital) and WellStar Cobb, Douglas, Paulding and Windy Hill hospitals;<sup>1</sup> the WellStar Medical Group; Urgent Care Centers; Acworth Health Park; Health Place; Homecare; Hospice; Atherton Place; Paulding Nursing Center; and the WellStar Foundation.

To assess the current health and well-being of the communities served, **WellStar Kennestone Hospital** conducted a Community Health Needs Assessment (CHNA),<sup>2</sup> a collaborative effort involving hospital leadership, public health agencies,<sup>3</sup> Cobb2020, and a diverse coalition of community stakeholders. Partners represented a broad knowledge base of the hospital's primary service area comprising Cobb, Cherokee, Paulding and Bartow counties and some outlying zip codes determined by utilization.

Online posting of this written report detailing the evidence-based CHNA process spanning from April 2011 to June 2013, means WellStar Kennestone Hospital has complied with the public display of this written report with the Internal Revenue Service and the Affordable Care Act (ACA) tax law requirements section 501(r). The law requires hospital facilities owned and operated by an organization described in Code section 501(c)(3) to conduct a community health needs assessment once every three years.

To assess the current community health status and capture a broad base of input, collaborators engaged a strategic process called Mobilizing for Action Through Planning and Partnerships (MAPP)<sup>4</sup> launched by Cobb & Douglas Public Health (CDPH). MAPP provides the framework for creating a community-driven health improvement plan through different assessments to evaluate:

---

<sup>1</sup> See <http://www.wellstar.org/about-us/pages/authority-board.aspx> for more about the hospital operating entities of WellStar Health System.

<sup>2</sup>“A community health needs assessment is a systematic process involving the community, to identify and analyze community health needs and assets in order to prioritize these needs, and to plan and act upon unmet community health needs. “ *Assessing and Addressing Community Health Needs*, Discussion Draft March 2011, Catholic Health Association.

<sup>3</sup>Including Cobb and Douglas Public Health, Cherokee Public Health, Bartow Public Health, Northwest Georgia Health District (Rome)(Bartow and Paulding County), North Georgia Health District (Dalton)(Cherokee County).

<sup>4</sup> MAPP developed by the National Association of County and City Health Officials (NACCHO) and the federal Centers for Disease Control and Prevention(CDC) to provide a framework for community-driven strategic planning for improving community health. Since its inception in 2001, MAPP is used by more than 700 local health departments nationwide.

- Prevalent health issues
- Health issues that are important to the community members
- Availability of health services
- Forces that impact community health

This process enabled WellStar Kennestone Hospital to collaborate with public health experts, the private sector and the community to fulfill community benefit<sup>5</sup> requirements and assess health needs.

To enact these health needs assessments, a coalition was formed in Cobb County called the **Cobb2020** partnership,<sup>6</sup> the springboard for WellStar Kennestone Hospital's CHNA work. It consists of partners from more than 20 sectors including:

- Local and State Public Health
- Hospitals
- Community mental health
- Existing healthcare alliances and groups
- Federally Qualified Health Clinics (FQHCs), free and community-based clinics
- Community and business leaders
- State and national organizations- Georgia Department of Public Health and the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC)
- Other organizations and individuals serving vulnerable populations: faith-based, medically underserved, low-income, minority, seniors, and chronic diseases

Much of the data in this written report was gleaned from research collected and processed by Cobb2020, WellStar Health System and MAPP partners. WellStar Kennestone Hospital's principal health needs assessor served in numerous capacities with Cobb 2020 and provided leadership in engaging community stakeholders from Cherokee, Paulding and Bartow counties in the process.

CHNA collaborators served in critical roles including assessment implementation team and workgroup members, key informants, consultants, and community focus group facilitators and surveyors. The community collaborative was foundational in designing an innovative and integrated partnership among health sectors and providing a broader channel for communication.

To meet the assessment and analysis objectives, more than 25 meetings encompassing close to 200 hours were invested from July 2011 (initial needs assessment meeting with CDPH) to June 2013 (WellStar Health System's Board of Trustees meeting).

---

<sup>5</sup> Community benefit is central to the mission of non-profit hospitals and is a basis for their tax exemption. New revisions to the Internal Revenue Code now require hospitals to take a more strategic approach with CHNA and implementation strategy requirements. Taken from *MAPP and Non-Profit Hospitals: Leveraging Community Benefit for Community Health Improvement*. National Association of County & City Health Officials, Fact Sheet, July 2010.

<sup>6</sup>**Cobb2020** is a partnership of community organizations and individuals that contribute to the delivery of essential health service in Cobb County. Their mission is to promote wellness, prevention and sustain quality of life of the community. Funded through the Cobb & Douglas Public Health Department by a federal Community Transformation Grant supported by the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC).

As a 501(c)(3) not-for-profit hospital organization, many of WellStar Kennestone Hospital's resources are allocated and reinvested to improve community health and care for the uninsured. To meet mandated federal requirements, the prioritized health needs of the community assessed in this written report must intersect with an outcomes-based, strategic community benefit plan.

This report serves as the bedrock for a community-wide implementation strategy<sup>7</sup> for this plan to address how the assessed, prioritized healthcare needs of the community served by WellStar Kennestone Hospital will be enacted.

For the implementation plan to effectively improve outcomes, the ability to influence the community stakeholders to move from rows to circles is required. This subtle shift in posture represents a new model of cooperation to more effectively and cost-efficiently meet the complex health needs and issues of vulnerable populations.

WellStar Kennestone Hospital began the reorientation process by examining the following community benefit ACA qualifiers:<sup>8</sup>

- *Identifying community health needs*
- *Improving access to healthcare services*
- *Enhancing health of the community*
- *Advancing medical or health knowledge*
- *Reducing the burden of government or other community efforts*

By helping connect the fragmented local public health system into a unified coalition for a healthier community, WellStar Kennestone Hospital and its assessment partners have collaboratively and proactively taken the first step toward innovating and improving the community's model for care. Together, increasing the investment into preventing and managing chronic disease ultimately leads to decreasing need for unreimbursed care which totaled \$231 million for WellStar Health System in 2012. Nearly \$100 million was spent on indigent and charity care in 2012, with more than \$51.6 million of this care delivered by WellStar Kennestone Hospital.<sup>9</sup>

Health leaders reported that leveraging a full spectrum of community-based resources will yield higher quality and more accessible care. This, in turn, will help drive costs down to help the hospital achieve better population health management.

This is the linchpin for a successful community benefit program as WellStar Kennestone Hospital and its community partners build and strengthen a collaborative, multi-sectorial care access team to make an

---

<sup>7</sup>An implementation strategy is the hospital's plan for addressing community health needs, including health needs identified in the community health needs assessment. The implementation strategy is also known as the hospital's overall community benefit plan.

<sup>8</sup>Qualifiers for meeting the new Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act (ACA) "community benefit" law.

<sup>9</sup>Historically, the majority of community benefit funds are spent on charity care (WellStar Kennestone Hospital spent \$51.6 million on charity care), while a smaller portion is invested in community-based efforts such as community health improvement planning. Ten percent of all care WellStar provided in FY2012 was to the uninsured population.

indelible, sustainable mark on the community’s health. This is aligned to the Internal Revenue Service definition of community benefit - “the promotion of health for a class of persons sufficiently large so the community as a whole benefits.”

**Community Overview:**

Residents of Cobb, Cherokee, Paulding, and Bartow counties make up the community served by WellStar Kennestone Hospital with surrounding counties geographically designated to other WellStar hospital markets. There’s no clear line of delineation as residents in surrounding counties also utilize the hospital’s services.

The population tally for the four counties in 2012, 1,179,951,<sup>10</sup> continues to trend upward with a projected 2017 population of 1,276,134. According to the 2010 Census, Paulding County experienced the largest boom with a 74.25 percent population increase from the 2000 Census. Cherokee’s population grew 51 percent, Bartow 31.75 percent and Cobb 13.22 percent. The median age of the service area is 34.97 and 50.93 percent is female.

Research shows people who live in poverty, are uninsured and did not graduate high school have poorer health outcomes. Those three level key drivers<sup>11</sup> are reflective of a vulnerable population’s health behaviors and level of clinical care access as outlined in the table below.

**Table 1:<sup>12</sup>  
Key Drivers of Health and Related Vulnerable Populations**

Key Driver of Health		Cobb	Cherokee	Paulding	Bartow	GA	National benchmark
Poverty	Children under the age of 18 in Poverty	18%	13%	16%	29%	27%	14%
	Total population in poverty* (Living below 200% of FPL)	24.93%	21.71%	24.22%	33.30%	35.29%*	Overall poverty rate 15% (2011)
Uninsured	Uninsured population under the age of 65	20%	18%	18%	22%	22%	11%
Undereducated	Low educational attainment (% of 9 <sup>th</sup> grade cohort graduating in 4 years)	72%	75%	76%	68%	67%	n/a

<sup>10</sup>U.S. Census Bureau Quickfacts. Updated March 2013 & 2010 Census 2006-2010, American Community Survey 5-Year Estimates. Source: Kaiser Permanente’s CHNA Data Platform. March 2013. Unless noted, other statistics come from same source.

<sup>11</sup>Key drivers are powerful predictors of population health reflecting WellStar Kennestone Hospital’s primary service areas counties of Cobb, Cherokee, Paulding, and Bartow.

<sup>12</sup>Data Sources: County Health Rankings, 2013. University of Wisconsin’s Population Health Institute. \*U.S. Census Bureau, 2006-2010, American Community Survey 5-Year Estimates. \*\*American Community Survey Brief: <http://www.census.gov/prod/2012pubs/acsbr11-01.pdf>.

## Objectives and Key Findings:

The paramount objective of WellStar Kennestone Hospital’s written report is to provide the groundwork and data to help transform the health of the community served.

Transformational community benefit programming reflects a healthcare model that is community-based, patient-centered, equitable, accessible, prevention-focused, efficient, timely, measurable, and safe.<sup>13</sup>

The community input and data reveals that in order to achieve this there must be a coordinated and unified hospital and community-wide shift from reactive care to proactive care to:

- Connect vulnerable populations to more resources *to improve outcomes and lower costs*
- Translate research findings into community action *to improve outcomes and lower costs*

WellStar Kennestone Hospital CHNA objectives coupled with an overview of key findings are:

<u>Table 2:</u> WellStar Kennestone Hospital CHNA Objectives and Key Findings	
<i>Objectives</i>	<i>Key Findings</i>
I. <b>To identify community collaborators</b> to engage, invest and become stakeholders in the community assessment and long-term community benefit programs	See <i>Community Collaboration and Process</i> section, page 28.
II. <b>To assess the local public health system</b> <sup>14</sup>	<p>The MAPP <i>Local Public Health Systems (LPHS) Assessment</i> answered the questions: <i>What are the components, activities, competencies and capacity of local public health system and how are the essential services being provided to the community?</i></p> <p>High priority/low performance of the LPHS’ Essential Services performance score areas were:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Evaluate services (better profiling of population-based community health and identifying populations with barrier to personal health service to avoid gaps)</li> <li>2. Assure workforce</li> <li>3. Link to health services (connecting community to needed services)</li> </ol> <p>The MAPP <i>Forces of Change Assessment</i> examined what is occurring that affects the LPHS. Ranked factors included:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Health equity</li> <li>• Public policies</li> </ul>

<sup>13</sup>Institute of Medicine. *Crossing the Quality Chasm*. 2001 National Academy Press, Washington D.C.

<sup>14</sup> Appendix: Local Public Health System egg diagram: *How it contributes to health and delivery of Essential Public Health Services in the community*, page 55.



	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Access to quality education</li> <li>• Unstable economy</li> <li>• Transient populations</li> <li>• Technology</li> <li>• Access to quality healthcare</li> <li>• Reducing high risk behaviors</li> <li>• Aging population</li> </ul>
<b>Objectives</b>	<b>Key Findings</b>
<p>III.  <b>To assess the health needs of the community served</b><sup>15</sup></p> <p><i>WellStar Kennestone Hospital's target populations were derived from this assessment</i></p>	<p>Secondary and primary data guided by health indicators<sup>16</sup> and <i>Community Themes and Strength Assessment</i><sup>17</sup> focus groups and key informant interviews revealed:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Health issues were not rated by residents as highly as other issues (like highly ranked issue of transportation in Cobb). 50 percent of respondents from the Cobb MAPP Survey<sup>18</sup> didn't have a response or didn't know what the community biggest health issue was.</li> <li>• Across the board, obesity and poor nutrition, health disparities and access to care were mentioned by Key Informants as primary areas and conditions of concern.</li> <li>• In Cobb, only two health outcomes and leading causes of death were named as the biggest health issue - five percent of respondents said cancer and two percent of respondents said heart disease.</li> <li>• Fair to good quality of life among the majority of community polled with Hispanic, non-white, less education and income populations ranking lower. This is also indicative of the how the availability of medical care rated among populations.</li> <li>• Although 20 percent of the community served is uninsured, according to the Cobb MAPP Survey report, 85 percent of participants said they have not had to forgo a doctor's visit in the past year due to cost. Those who did were females, Hispanics, non-Whites and with less education and income.</li> <li>• High incidence of cancer, cardiovascular disease and stroke  <b>Cancer:</b> Bartow County has the highest rate of age-adjusted cancer death (202.62 per 100,000 population) above the state and national rates (178.88 and 176.66 respectively). Cobb and Cherokee ranked at 154.11 and 149.91 under the Healthy People benchmark of &lt; 160.6.<sup>19</sup>  -Of interest are breast cancer incidence rates in Cobb County which rank higher than state or national benchmarks at 123.80 per 100,000  <b>Heart disease:</b> Although below U.S. statistics, Bartow ranked above state incidence (112.57) and national benchmarks (100.8) for age-adjusted death</li> </ul>

<sup>15</sup> See comprehensive health need assessment covered in Data Process & Methods section, page 32 and Community Health Needs list, page 46.

<sup>16</sup> "A characteristic of an individual, population or environment which is subject to measurement and can be used to describe one or more aspects of the health of an individual or population." *Health Promotion Glossary*, World Health Organization, 1998.

<sup>17</sup> Appendix: Top community needs chart, page 55.

<sup>18</sup> Respondents answered the phone survey from Nov. 21, 2011 – Jan. 19, 2012 conducted by the A.L. Burruss Institute of Public Service and Research at Kennesaw State University.

<sup>19</sup> *Data Source:* Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, National Center for Health Statistics, Underlying Cause of Death, 2006-2010 accessed through CDC WONDER (Wide-ranging Online Data for Epidemiologic Research).

	<p>from heart disease at 115.26 per 100,000 population. Cobb and Cherokee were below the national benchmark at 76.54 and 87.69.</p> <p><b>Stroke:</b> Mortality rates in Bartow surpass both the state and national benchmark with 57.68 per 100,000</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Above national benchmark rates of tobacco use in adults</li> <li>• On average, 25.45 percent of adults in the four counties are obese. The overweight population is another 36.68 percent, totaling an overall 62.13 percent dealing with weight management.</li> <li>• Child poverty rates surpass the national benchmark of 14 percent</li> <li>• Almost 30 percent of ninth graders don't graduate high school in four years<sup>20</sup></li> <li>• The matters of health barriers and limited access to healthcare for disparately affected populations were dominant themes among all counties' Key Informants</li> <li>• Low income, low education population reported more health issues than other demographic groups</li> </ul>
<b>Objectives</b>	<b>Key Findings</b>
<p><b>5. To determine priorities</b></p>	<p>Thematic analysis from survey, focus group and key informant interviews, the <i>County Health Rankings</i><sup>21</sup> model and secondary data were methods used to prioritize health needs:</p> <p><b>HIGH priority needs</b><sup>22</sup></p> <p><i>Related to access to care:</i></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Cardiovascular disease</li> <li>2. Cancer (lung, breast, colon, prostate)</li> <li>3. Stroke</li> <li>4. Diabetes</li> <li>5. Chronic obstructive pulmonary disease</li> <li>6. Mental health</li> </ol> <p><i>Related to healthy lifestyles:</i></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Healthy eating</li> <li>2. Obesity</li> <li>3. Smoking</li> <li>4. Physical activity</li> <li>5. Education</li> </ol> <p><i>(These assessed priorities address the community's leading causes of death)</i></p> <p>Related to improving health disparities and inequities:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Access to care disparity among the medically uninsured and underserved</li> </ol> <p><b>Medium priority needs:</b></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Prenatal care</li> <li>2. Breast cancer (screening)</li> <li>3. Prostate cancer (screening)</li> <li>4. Colon cancer (screening)</li> </ol>

<sup>20</sup>Education levels positively influence a variety of social and psychological factors. Increased education improves an individual's self-perception and sense of personal control and social standing, which also have been shown to predict higher self-reported health status.

<sup>21</sup>The *County Health Rankings & Roadmaps* program is a collaboration between the Robert Wood Johnson Foundation and the University of Wisconsin Population Health Institute, 2013. [www.countyhealthrankings.org](http://www.countyhealthrankings.org).

<sup>22</sup>See **Community Health Needs** section, page 45.

	<p>5. Alcohol</p> <p><u>Low priority needs:</u></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Transportation</li> <li>2. Air quality</li> <li>3. Dental care</li> <li>4. Sexually transmitted infections</li> <li>5. Teen pregnancy</li> </ol>
<b>Objectives</b>	<b>Key Findings</b>
<p><b>6. To develop and implement strategies</b> to meet the prioritized needs of the community served</p>	<p>Referenced in WellStar Health System’s <i>Implementation Strategy</i>. Centered on promoting healthy lifestyles and increasing access to care with a collaborative, community-wide approach.</p>

**Methodology:**

To meet the cardinal objective of identifying community partners, WellStar Kennestone Hospital joined forces with Cobb & Douglas Public Health (CDPH), the Public Health Departments of Paulding, Cherokee and Bartow Counties and State Public Health Districts representing the communities served.

The multi-year assessment process yielded more than 150 community collaborators and key stakeholders in five counties who demonstrated dedication to the health of the community and to future implementation strategies to reduce health disparities<sup>23</sup> and costs while improving access to preventive care, education and services.

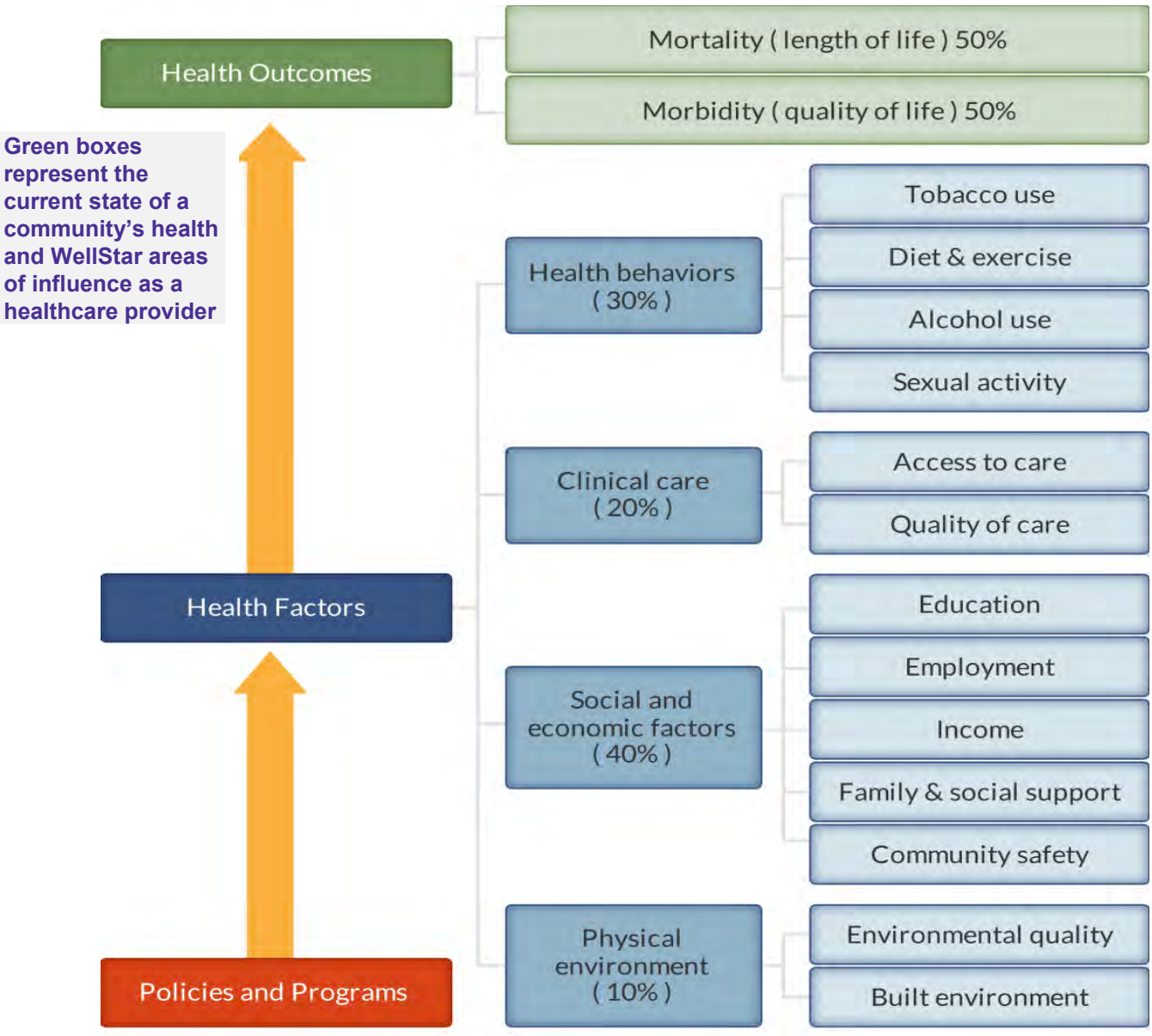
The MAPP strategic process for community assessments to identify where policy, systems and environmental changes are needed was funded by CDPH in the initial planning and development stages (fall of 2010). A five-year CDC Community Transformation Grant<sup>24</sup> was awarded to CDPH in September 2011 to help address the barriers and determinants to chronic disease prevention and improve community health with more robust assessments. Granting writing was a collaborative effort between CDPH, WellStar Health System and Cobb County.

An evidence-based model for population health developed by the University of Wisconsin Population Health Institute provided WellStar Kennestone Hospital with a baseline to assess factors, that when improved, can greatly impact a community’s health (Figure 1).

<sup>23</sup>“The differences in the incidence, prevalence, mortality and burden of disease and other adverse health conditions that exist in among specific population groups.” National Institute of Health Working Group on Health Disparities, Draft Trans-NIH Strategic Research Plan on Health Disparities, Bethesda, MD: National Institute of Health, 2000.

<sup>24</sup>The CDC awarded \$103 million to 61 state and local government agencies, tribes and territories, and non-profit organizations in 36 states, along with nearly \$4 million to six national networks of community-based organizations. Awardees are engaging partners from multiple sectors, such as education, transportation, and business, as well as faith-based organizations to improve the health of their communities’ approximately 120 million residents. Awardees also provide funding to community-based organizations to ensure broad participation in creating community change.

**Figure 1:**  
**Model of Population Health: WellStar Kennestone Hospital CHNA<sup>25</sup>**  
*Illustrates how the community where people live, work and play has a direct impact on overall health*



County Health Rankings model ©2012 UWPHI

Blue boxes are predictors of a community's future health – modifiable areas for improving population health, but not necessarily a hospital priority when it's cultural and/or policy-driven. **WellStar can best affect Health Behaviors (prevention) and Clinical Care (focus on access to care).**

<sup>25</sup>This model of population health used by WellStar Kennestone Hospital emphasizes the many factors that, if improved, can help make communities healthier. From the University of Wisconsin Population Health Institute, [www.countyhealthrankings.org](http://www.countyhealthrankings.org).

How WellStar Kennestone Hospital counties (designated as its community served) rank in health outcomes and health factors as compared to other Georgia counties:

<b>Table 3:</b> <b>County Health Outcomes and Factors</b> <i>(Rankings based on Georgia's 159 counties)</i>				
	<b>Cobb</b>	<b>Cherokee</b>	<b>Paulding</b>	<b>Bartow</b>
<b>Health Outcomes:<sup>26</sup> How healthy is the county</b> <i>(Ranked based upon an equal weight of mortality and morbidity measures)</i>	6/159	5/159	25/159	61/159
<b>Health Factors:<sup>27</sup> What influences the health of a county</b> <i>(Factors: behavioural, clinical, social and economic, and environmental)</i>	7/159	5/159	16/159	50/159

### **Data Sources and Methods:**

Community stakeholders contributed to the CHNA through various quantitative<sup>28</sup> and qualitative<sup>29</sup> research methods:

#### **Quantitative or Secondary Data -Sources included: (not all-inclusive)**

1. Georgia Department of Public Health, OASIS - Online Analytical Statistical Information System
2. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC), National Vital Statistics System
3. Agency for Healthcare Research and Quality (AHRQ), U.S. Department of Health & Human Services
4. U. S. Census Bureau
5. U.S. Department of Health and Human Services
6. Kaiser Permanente Web-Based CHNA Platform
7. Catholic Health Association CHNA resources
8. *County Health Rankings & Roadmaps*, University of Wisconsin Population Health Institute
9. Healthy People 2020<sup>30</sup>
10. Behavioral Risk Factor Surveillance System (BRFSS)

<sup>26</sup> Appendix: County Health Factor Rankings: Map of Georgia Outcomes, page 56.

<sup>27</sup> Appendix: County Health Outcomes: Map of Georgia, page 56.

Complete Georgia 2013 Rankings available: [http://www.countyhealthrankings.org/sites/default/files/states/CHR2013\\_GA.pdf](http://www.countyhealthrankings.org/sites/default/files/states/CHR2013_GA.pdf)

<sup>28</sup>Quantitative data is gathered in numerical form (statistics, percentages) for demographic and census data, risk factors and health incidences that can be generalized to a larger population.

<sup>29</sup>Qualitative research is gathered first hand and asks broad questions and collects word data from participants. The researcher looks for themes and describes the information in themes and patterns exclusive to that set of participants in a manner that does not involve mathematical models.

<sup>30</sup>Healthy People 2020 provides science-based, 10-year national objectives for improving the health of all Americans – [www.healthypeople.gov](http://www.healthypeople.gov).

11. WellStar Health System – WellStar Kennestone Hospital’s FY2012 utilization data to assess service area zip codes accounting for 90 percent of hospital admissions and visits and primary service areas

## Qualitative or Primary Data

### Sources include:

1. Cobb County Focus Group Report.<sup>31</sup> 58 people participated in six focus group representing 14 zip codes. Demographics varied among the groups indicative of the zip codes represented. Two groups were conducted in Spanish and reflected low-income, low education attainment and medically underserved populations.
2. MAPP Assessment Workgroups conducted four community assessments which helped develop the Cobb2020 Community Health Improvement Plan. This included the 2011 Field Test Local Public Health System Assessment by the National Public Health Performance Standards Program (NPHPSP)<sup>32</sup>
3. Cobb Key Informant Interview Report.<sup>33</sup> 20 participants identified by Cobb 2020’s *Community Strengths and Themes Workgroup* to represent different sectors of the Cobb community who possessed above average knowledge of the healthcare issues, healthcare system or the community.<sup>34</sup>
4. Cobb MAPP Community Survey Report.<sup>35</sup> 44-question telephone surveys of 1,244 adults ages 18-94 performed by the A.L. Burruss Institute for Public Service and Research, Kennesaw State University
5. Cobb County 2010 – *How Healthy Are We?*<sup>36</sup>
6. Cobb County MAPP Forces of Change Assessment Summary Report<sup>37</sup>
7. Cherokee County Key Informant interviews\* of nine community stakeholders led by Ron Chapman, Principal, Magnetic North, LLC, a third-party consultant<sup>38</sup>

---

<sup>31</sup>MAPP Cobb County Focus Group Report:  
<http://cobb2020.com/images/mapp/MAPP%20Focus%20Groups%20Report%20Website%20Final%201.24.13.pdf>

<sup>32</sup>NPHPSP partner organizations include: Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC); American Public Health Association, Association of State and Territorial Health Officials; National Association of State and Health Officials; National Association of Local Board of Health; National Network of Public Health Institutes; and the Public Health Foundation.

<sup>33</sup>MAPP Cobb Key Informant Report, Spring 2012:  
[http://cobb2020.com/images/mapp/Community\\_Themes\\_Strengths\\_Assessment\\_Report.pdf](http://cobb2020.com/images/mapp/Community_Themes_Strengths_Assessment_Report.pdf)

<sup>34</sup> Cobb, Cherokee, Paulding, and Bartow Key Informants are included on the Community Collaborator list, Appendix, pages 71.

<sup>35</sup> Cobb MAPP Survey Report, 2012: [http://cobb2020.com/images/mapp/Cobb\\_MAPP\\_Report\\_FINAL.pdf](http://cobb2020.com/images/mapp/Cobb_MAPP_Report_FINAL.pdf)

<sup>36</sup>Cobb MAPP *How Healthy Are We?*, 2010: [http://cobb2020.com/documents/The\\_Cobb\\_County\\_Health\\_Status\\_Report.pdf](http://cobb2020.com/documents/The_Cobb_County_Health_Status_Report.pdf)

<sup>37</sup>Cobb MAPP Forces of Change Assessment Summary, January 2012:  
[http://cobb2020.com/images/mapp/Forces\\_of\\_Change\\_Assessment\\_Report.pdf](http://cobb2020.com/images/mapp/Forces_of_Change_Assessment_Report.pdf)

<sup>38</sup> Appendix: Cherokee, Bartow and Paulding Key Informant Reports, page 58.

8. Bartow County Key Informant interviews\* of nine community stakeholders facilitated by Magnetic North, LLC
9. Paulding County Key Informant interviews\* of five community stakeholders primarily focused on children's needs facilitated by Magnetic North, LLC

\*Substantial findings from Cobb County data were generalizable to Paulding, Cherokee and Bartow counties given geographical and demographic similarities. Data was presented and discussed with Public Health Department representatives from these counties in meetings held January 2013. Public health officials were in general agreement as to the validity of the findings from Cobb and their applicability to their health districts.

Targeted Key Informant interviews, following a similar Cobb MAPP *Community Strengths & Themes* survey template, further validated the findings while adding valuable information on variations and gaps from the unique perspectives of key county stakeholders.

### **Information Gaps:**

- Inaccessibility of reliable, consistent and current data caused some information gaps. Some statistics are not current indicators of the current health status and socio-economic state of the community since data was gathered before the 2007 recession.
- Conflicting numbers from myriad resources made it difficult to extrapolate reliable and timely statistics or the data descriptors did not include a broad population base. *For example:* Available county data regarding number of women getting a mammography screening was based on women age 65 or older on Medicare.
- What the community cited as a top issue or need (ex: transportation and more safe areas/parks) sometimes conflicted with WellStar Kennestone Hospital's ability to modify or improve upon the area of need.
- Paulding County's Key Informants were disproportionately focused on children's needs.

### **Emergent Themes from the Findings:**

Themes centered on lack of care access, education, transportation, health disparities, and a robust willingness to partner to improve health issues in the community. They included:

1. Optimism from the community about their quality of life – lower among minorities and younger populations
2. Inequitable health services (barriers to care access)<sup>39</sup> due to the disparate numbers of primary care physicians, unwillingness of providers to accept Medicare/Medicaid and TRICARE and lack or limited transportation, insurance or money

---

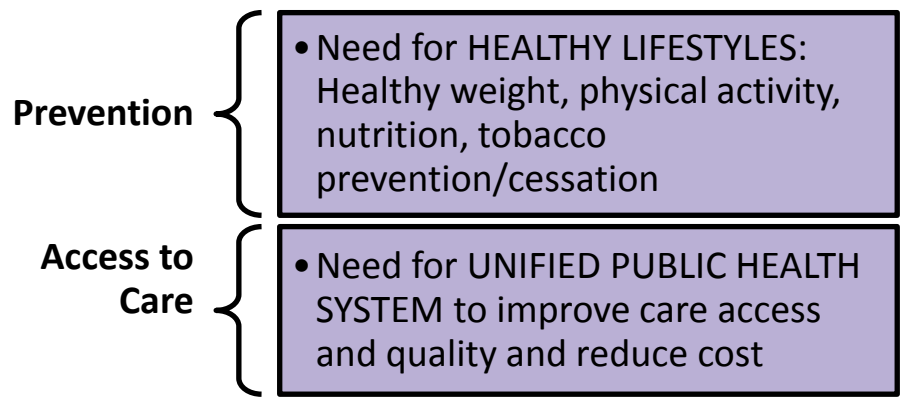
<sup>39</sup>Access to Health Services Report, Cobb MAPP Steering Committee, March 5, 2013



3. Health disparities among people living in poverty, the uninsured and minority, young and linguistically isolated populations
4. Lack of access to healthcare<sup>40</sup> to at-risk populations due to an inadequate supply of low or no cost medical services (especially dealing with the care, treatment and interventions required to manage chronic disease and mental health) and insufficient information or knowledge of available health options
5. Disconnect of community perceptions and community statistics between leading causes of morbidity and mortality and top cited community issues
6. Importance of healthcare education focused on prevention especially among vulnerable populations with socioeconomic disparities
7. Alarming increases in obesity and related factors such as physical inactivity and poor nutrition
8. High tobacco use and its impact on chronic disease

With strategic, overarching goals of prevention and improved access to health services,<sup>41</sup> the cost and accountability of meeting the mounting needs of the medically uninsured and underserved<sup>42</sup> will be shared among stakeholders.

**Figure 2:**  
**Target areas of change: Basis of Implementation Strategy & Community Benefit Plan<sup>43</sup>**



<sup>40</sup> Cobb County Focus Group Report, Cobb and Douglas Public Health Department & MAPP, October 2012 and Cherokee Key Informant interviews, March 2013.

<sup>41</sup> These goals are also Healthy People 2020's top two health indicators – high priority health issues representing significant threats to the public's health. Source: U.S. Department of Health & Human Services website: [healthypeople.gov](http://healthypeople.gov). Link to [http://healthypeople.gov/2020/TopicsObjectives2020/pdfs/HP2020\\_brochure\\_with\\_LHI\\_508.pdf](http://healthypeople.gov/2020/TopicsObjectives2020/pdfs/HP2020_brochure_with_LHI_508.pdf)

<sup>42</sup> U.S. Department of Health and Human Services Health Resources and Services Administration: *Medically underserved (people) who face economic, cultural or linguistic barriers to health care*. [www.hrsa.gov/shortage](http://www.hrsa.gov/shortage).

<sup>43</sup> Based upon the Cobb2020 findings for its Community Improvement Plan, 2012.



## **Prevention/Healthy Lifestyles:**

Preventive care helps reduce the risk factors for approximately half of morbidity and mortality.<sup>44</sup>

1. *Primary prevention*– Avoids health issues by behavior and lifestyle modifications<sup>45</sup>
2. *Secondary prevention* – Provides education and resources for disease management / control
3. *Tertiary prevention*– Manages complications to avoid unnecessary healthcare

## **Access to Care (through a seamless continuum of care):**

1. Connects vulnerable populations to care by building community capacity to serve and cooperate to achieve a synergistic, cost-efficient model of care
2. Reduces health disparities through improved access to primary care physicians and other specialty medical services to vulnerable populations
3. Educates the community about available health resources and facilities to serve the medically uninsured and underserved

## **Conclusion:**

WellStar Kennestone Hospital’s CHNA laid the groundwork to:

- Achieve a high level of success at population health management by identifying pressing health needs that have the most influence on improving health outcomes and lowering healthcare costs.
- Transform the care delivery model by building collaborative coalitions to help navigate and deliver care to best serve the needs and improve the health of the community, especially its vulnerable populations.

A prevention and access to care focus leans on the local public health system and community stakeholders for expertise and multiplication of efforts. It also aligns with and supports the Affordable Care Act strategy, its National Prevention Strategy<sup>46</sup> and the National Quality Strategy Framework.

# # #

---

<sup>44</sup> Despite spending more than twice what most other industrialized nations spend on health care, the U.S. ranks 24th out of 30 such nations in terms of life expectancy. A major reason for this startling fact is that only 3 percent of our healthcare dollars is spent on preventing diseases (as opposed to treating them), when 75 percent of our healthcare costs are related to preventable conditions.

<sup>45</sup>The World Health Organization estimates that 80 percent of all heart disease, stroke, and type 2 diabetes, as well as more than 40 percent of cancer, would be prevented if Americans would stop using tobacco, eat healthy and exercise. From the Harvard School of Public Health slide on the cost of non-communicable diseases.

<sup>46</sup><http://www.surgeongeneral.gov/initiatives/prevention/strategy/>

Data and thematic analysis from the Community Healthcare Needs Assessment (CHNA) report revealed a mounting responsibility and opportunity to proactively meet healthcare needs, improve the overall health of the community and offset government expense of caring for the uninsured and underserved in the community.

WellStar Kennestone Hospital leadership and community collaborators worked to uncover the barriers to care and to assess the community health status and needs with the goal of coordinating its efforts for evidence-based practices and outcomes for the medically uninsured and underserved.

This written report is foundational to redesigning how preventive healthcare is delivered and accessed in the WellStar Kennestone Hospital community for this population. The hospital's role is integral to leveraging its broad reach and history in the community and working with and supporting the efforts of the local public health system.

With healthcare providers working at the height of their licensure within a new community benefit model of coordinated and accessible care, achieving better health outcomes at lower costs to vulnerable populations is attainable.

Community benefit activities must have accountable oversight and integrate into the hospital's overall strategic planning process. WellStar Health System's senior management team, WellStar Kennestone Hospital's President Dan Woods, Board of Trustees, Cobb County Kennestone Hospital Authority, Kennestone Regional Health Board and Foundation Boards continually evaluate the community's emerging needs to improve accessibility and quality delivery of healthcare, education and services.

***Community Defined, Determined and Described:***

WellStar Kennestone Hospital determined the definition and scope of its community served in two ways:

- 1) Assessing the zip codes of community members with hospital admissions / visits in 2012.  
*This determination is data-driven rather than a geographically-driven. Compiling service statistics provides an unequivocally accurate snapshot of the community served.*
- 2) Assessing the zip codes within the hospital's pre-determined market determined by the geographic area served by the hospital, known as WellStar Kennestone Hospital's primary service area.

\*WellStar Kennestone Hospital's primary and secondary service areas (see Table 4) are not exclusive of "pockets of poverty" - low-income and medically underserved populations. If so, it would be contrary to WellStar Health System's mission to create and deliver high quality hospital, physician and other healthcare related services that improve the health and well-being of the individuals and communities we serve. This includes uninsured and medically underserved populations.

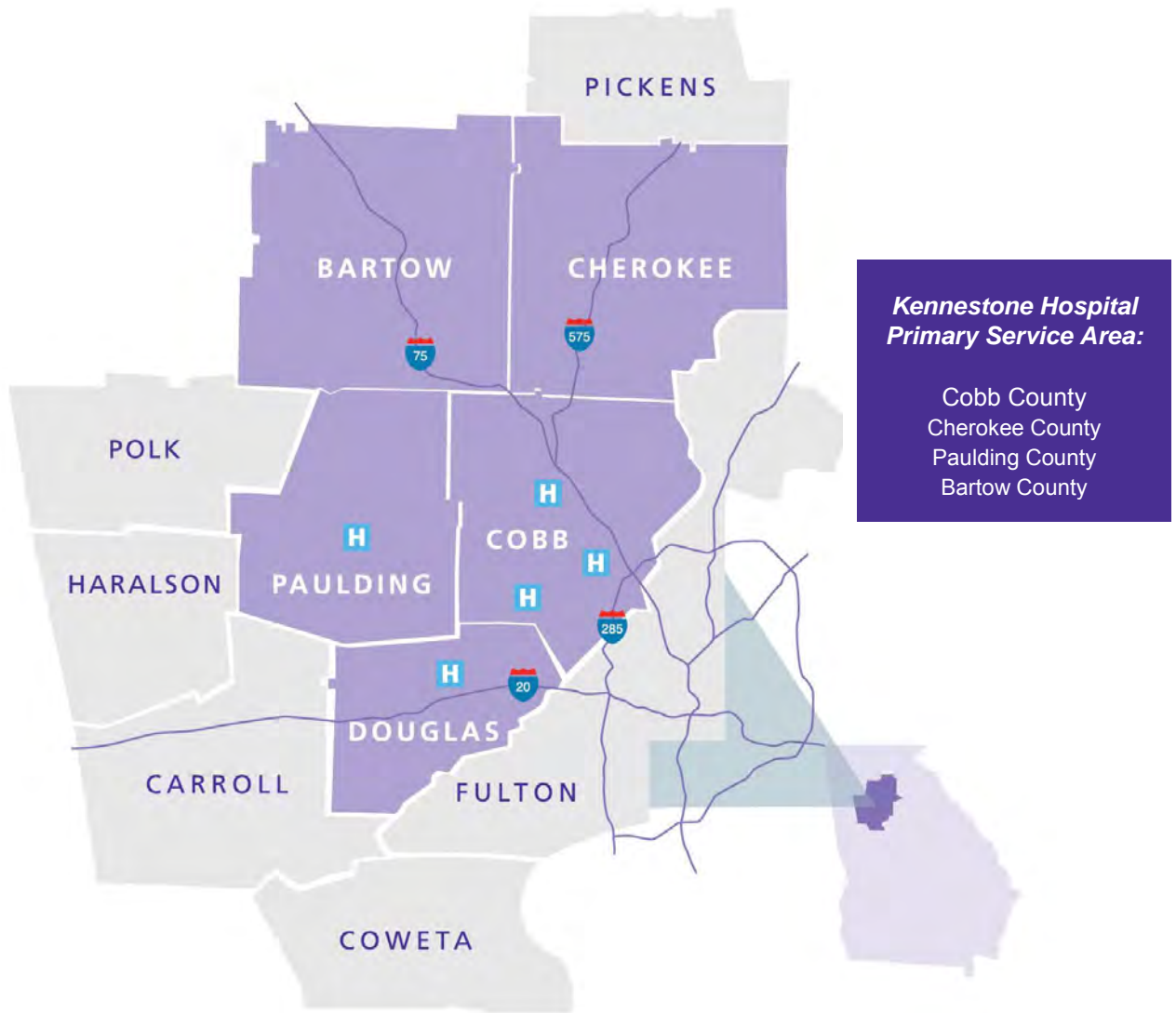
*More than 10 percent of all healthcare provided by WellStar Health System in fiscal year 2012 was to the medically uninsured. WellStar provided nearly \$100 million in charity care with more than \$51.6 million of this care delivered by WellStar Kennestone Hospital.*

The target populations assessed include both vulnerable populations and the top chronic disease needs of the community. Methods to uncover the health needs of WellStar Kennestone Hospital's targeted populations included secondary data gathering and well-informed input from multi-sectorial representatives of the community serving these people groups.

As expected, most community members came from zip codes within the hospital's pre-determined market determined by geographic proximity. WellStar Kennestone Hospital serves the geographic area comprising Cobb, Cherokee, Paulding, and Bartow counties, its primary service area. *(The area is represented by zip codes and includes cities outlined below in Table 4.)* Surrounding counties inside and outside other designated WellStar hospital service areas also utilize WellStar Kennestone Hospital's services (known as the secondary service area).

Last year, the hospital delivered care during 750,514 inpatient admissions and outpatient visits. Out of the grand total, 676,012 represented 90 percent of all admissions and visits from a 30-zip code area primarily in the hospital’s four-county primary service area of Cobb, Cherokee, Paulding, and Bartow counties.

**Map 1:  
Primary Services Area – County Map**



As part of an integrated health system,<sup>47</sup> WellStar Kennestone Hospital’s overlap with other WellStar hospitals is common (see Map 2). This cross-over’s impact is not easily determined by a county by county analysis, but all are included within a health system-wide community benefit program (see Map 3). A notable example of service area overlap outside WellStar Kennestone Hospital’s primary service area is zip code 30101. It yields the hospital’s second largest volume of patient admission and visits (26,958 in FY2012).<sup>48</sup> With its U.S. Census population cited as 58,499 in 2012, 30101 in the city of Acworth spans four

<sup>47</sup> WellStar’s 2012 Community Benefit Report: <http://wellstar.org/about-us/documents/wellstar-community-benefits-report.pdf>

<sup>48</sup> Internal WellStar Health System data. Report published March 29, 2013.

counties – Paulding, Cobb, Bartow, and Cherokee. The zip code yielded 26,958 admissions/visits in FY2012. It is second behind Marietta’s 30066 zip code with 29,677 patients.

**Map 2:  
WellStar Kennestone Hospital Service Area Overlap**

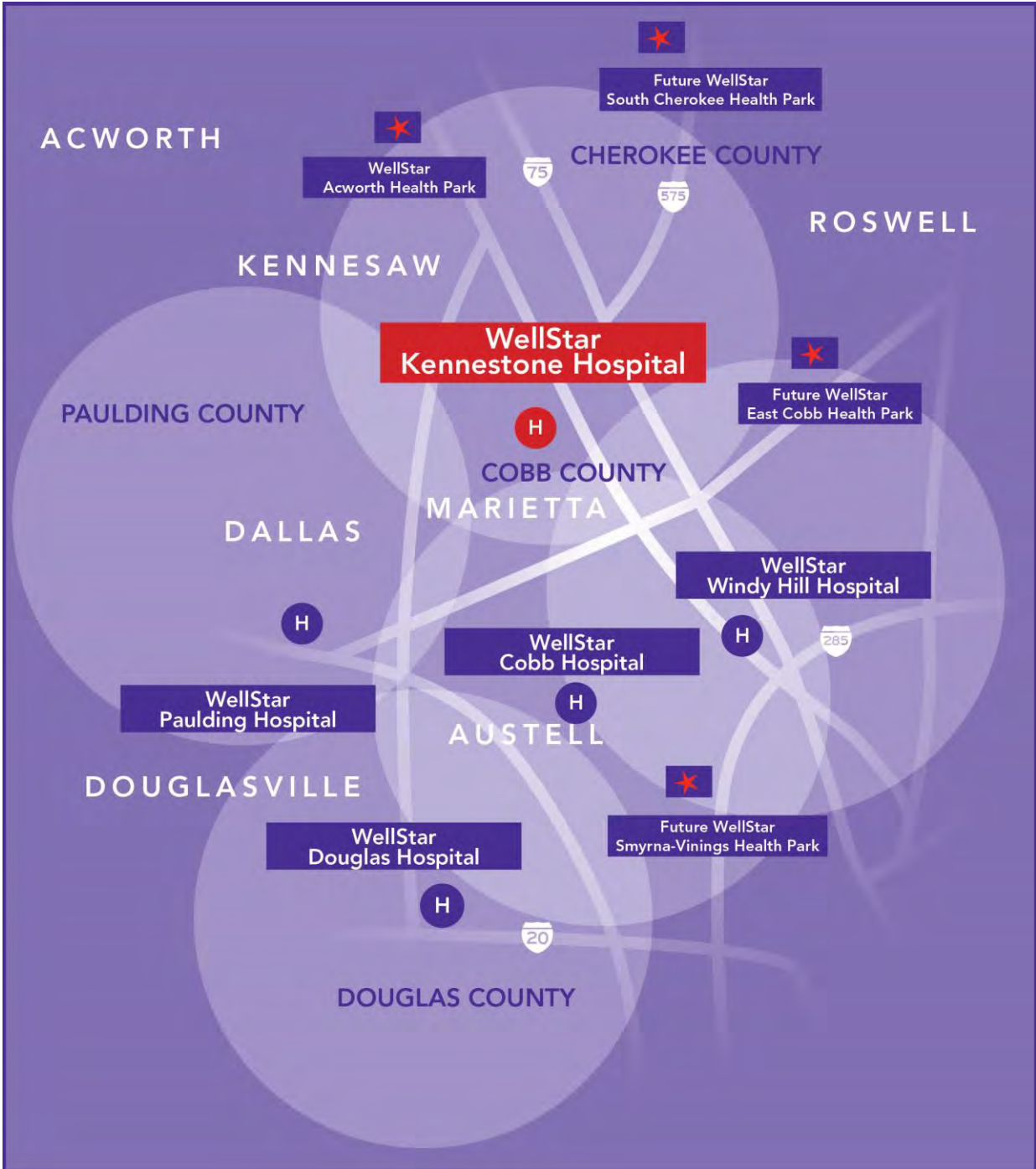


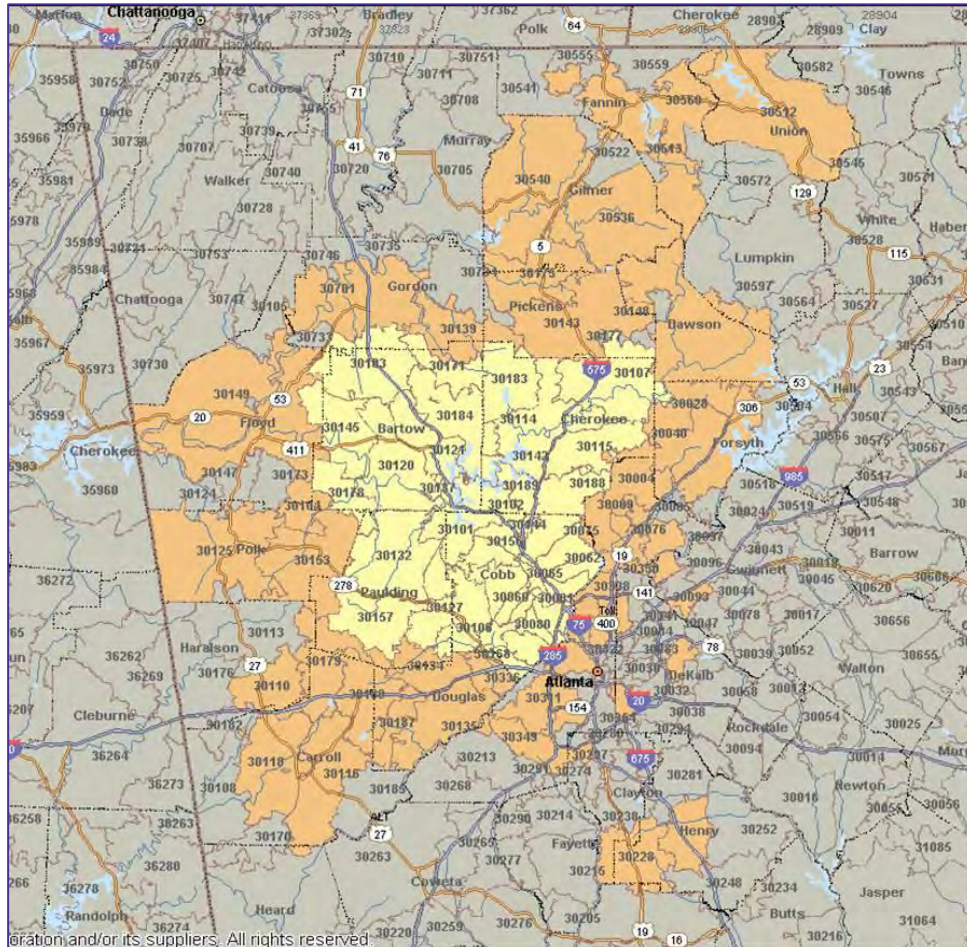
Table 4: WellStar Kennestone Hospital Primary Service Area				
COUNTY	CITY	ZIP CODE	2012	2017
<b>Bartow</b>	Adairsville	30103	15,288	16,825
	Cartersville	30120	38,863	42,004
		30121	23,588	25,941
	Emerson	30137	1,596	1,706
	Kingston	30145	8,080	8,857
	Rydal	30171	3,444	3,806
	Taylorville	30178	3,938	4,293
White	30184	7,456	8,328	
<b>Cherokee</b>	Acworth	30102	37,629	39,542
	Ball Ground	30107	14,334	16,270
	Canton	30114	52,533	62,391
		30115	37,551	43,566
	P.O. Box	30142		
		30169		
	Waleska	30183	5,450	6,129
	Woodstock	30188	55,027	61,299
30189		38,337	40,399	
<b>Cobb</b>	Acworth	30101	58,499	65,453
	Atlanta	30339	19,570	20,608
	Austell	30106	21,375	22,589
		30168	24,562	25,734
	Kennesaw	30144	52,556	55,797
		30152	42,975	47,722
	Mableton	30126	37,601	41,668
	Marietta	30008	30,707	31,285
		30060	34,082	33,431
		30062	62,333	63,811
		30064	45,384	47,268
		30066	55,048	57,286
		30067	45,512	45,527
		30068	31,877	32,247
	P.O. Box	30061		
		30065		
		30069		
30081				
30156				
Powder Springs	30127	62,055	67,500	
Smyrna	30080	48,894	51,204	
	30082	27,642	29,290	
<b>Paulding</b>	Dallas	30132	33,538	38,977
		30157	48,732	55,837
	Hiram	30141	23,170	26,452

WellStar Kennestone Hospital Secondary Service Area				
COUNTY	CITY	ZIP CODE	2012	2017
Carroll	Carrollton	30116	23,738	25,637
		30117	35,314	36,808
	Temple	30179	17,817	20,226
	Villa Rica	30180	36,570	42,368
Dawson	Dawsonville	30534	26,915	30,220
DeKalb	Atlanta	30319	40,170	41,513
	Stone Mountain	30083	50,685	49,431
Douglas	Douglasville	30134	44,084	48,341
		30135	64,564	72,389
	Lithia Springs	30122	24,210	26,482
	Winston	30187	8,723	9,669
Fannin	Blue Ridge	30513	11,460	12,317
	Morganton	30560	4,559	4,966
Floyd	Rome	30161	35,271	35,630
		30165	40,825	42,040
Forsyth	Cumming	30028	23,356	27,551
		30040	58,713	69,025
		30041	55,623	63,633
Fulton	Alpharetta	30004	54,612	63,390
		30009	15,509	16,829
		30022	64,889	69,145
	Atlanta	30305	23,729	24,880
		30311	32,260	32,280
		30318	54,983	57,506
		30327	22,105	22,872
		30328	30,499	31,716
		30331	56,702	62,177
		30342	30,984	32,632
		30344	31,497	30,079
		30349	69,339	75,938
	30350	34,818	36,066	
	P.O. Box	30316		
	Roswell	30075	52,748	54,920
30076		44,471	46,155	
Gilmer	Ellijay	30536	8,555	9,181
		30540	17,608	19,107
Gordon	Calhoun	30701	41,235	44,787
	Fairmount	30139	3,995	4,176
Gwinnett	Norcross	30092	33,047	33,025
		30093	52,521	54,247
Haralson	Bremen	30110	12,924	13,555
Henry	Hampton	30228	39,749	45,903
	McDonough	30253	51,829	61,773
Pickens	Jasper	30143	22,382	24,360
	Talking Rock	30175	6,422	7,004
Polk	Aragon	30104	4,616	4,828
	Cedartown	30125	24,320	24,838
	Rockmart	30153	18,960	20,720
Union	Blairsville	30512	19,797	21,460



Two zip codes not within WellStar Kennestone Hospital's geographically-based primary service area are included on the high hospital utilization zip code list. These zip codes are Jasper (30143 ranked 25/30 of the 30 zip codes comprising 90 percent of the hospital's admissions and visits) and Douglasville (30135 ranked 29/30).

**Map 3:  
WellStar Kennestone Hospital Patient Origin<sup>49</sup>**



**Total population:**

The total population for Cobb, Cherokee, Paulding, and Bartow counties in 2012 was 1,179,951<sup>50</sup> with a projected 2017 population of 1,276,134. According to the 2010 Census, Paulding County experienced the largest boom with a 74.25 percent population increase from the 2000 Census. Cherokee's population grew 51 percent, Bartow 31.75 percent and Cobb 13.22 percent. The median age of the service area is 34.97 and 50.93 percent is female.

<sup>49</sup>Source: Internal WellStar Health System data, April 25, 2013.

<sup>50</sup>U.S. Census Bureau Quickfacts. Updated March 2013 & 2010 Census 2006-2010, American Community Survey 5-Year Estimates. Source: Kaiser Permanente's CHNA Data Platform, March 2013. Unless noted, other statistics come from same source, but are based on a three county population total of 971,612 not current 2012 estimated population.



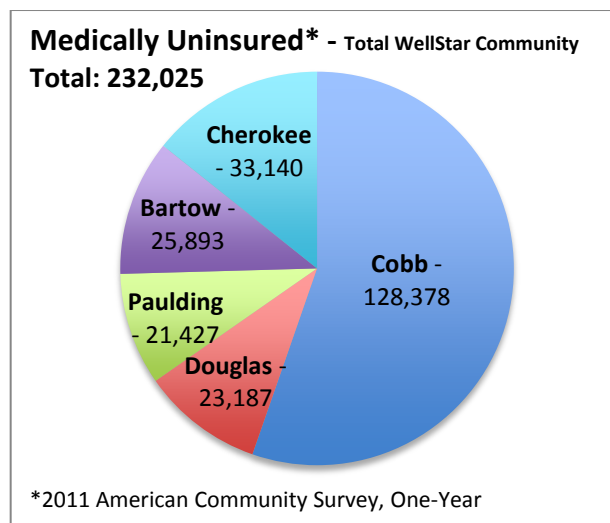
## WellStar Kennestone Hospital Targeted Vulnerable Populations:

These population groups include those identified by Key Informants as groups affected by health disparities. \*Designates the targeted population as also a priority population of the Agency for Healthcare Research and Quality.<sup>51</sup>

### ➤ Impoverished

- **Uninsured** - 19.5 percent of the people residing in the four counties under the age of 65 are uninsured which is well above the national benchmark of 11 percent and within close range of Georgia (22 percent).<sup>52</sup>

Low-income populations generally are uninsured and have less access to primary care and therefore a lack of access to broader healthcare services including specialty care and outpatient procedures. Even among individuals with private insurance coverage, those with low incomes were less likely to have regular healthcare providers and less likely to access preventive care.



- **Underserved** – The medically underserved are people facing multiple barriers to primary care including lack of insurance and associated financial difficulties, language and culture, transportation as well as lack of access to physicians willing to treat them.<sup>53</sup> Access to care issues from being uninsured or stemming from barriers such as language, legal status or lack of education about available resources were frequently cited in Key Informant interviews.

<sup>51</sup>See [www.ahrq.gov](http://www.ahrq.gov)

<sup>52</sup>Data from *County Health Rankings*. [www.countyhealthrankings.org](http://www.countyhealthrankings.org). April 2013.

<sup>53</sup>National Association of Community Health Centers, The Robert Graham Center, and Capital Link. "Access Denied: A Look at America's Medically Underserved." August 2007. 2/08/09. [www.nachc.com/research-reports.cfm](http://www.nachc.com/research-reports.cfm).

Bartow County is a designated “Health Professional Shortage Area (HPSA)”<sup>54</sup> defined as having a shortage of primary care, dental or mental health professionals. The percentage of designated HPSA population underserved is 68.77 percent. This relevant statistic aligns with the poorer health status of the county compared to Cobb, Paulding and Cherokee and contributes to access issues.

Another measure of an underserved community is the percentage of population ages five and older who speak a language other than English at home or speak English less than “very well.” Cobb County ranks high at 8.19 percent above the state and national percentages. Paulding, Bartow and Cherokee rank below state and national averages at 1.88 percent, 4.19 percent and 4.69 percent respectively.

- **\*Low-income** – This indicator is relevant because poverty creates barriers to access including health services, healthy food and other necessities that contribute to poor health status.

Measured by living below 200 percent of the Federal Poverty Level (FPL) – thresholds set based on size and age of family members: In Bartow County, 33.90 percent of people are living under 200 percent of the FPL. Cobb follows at 24.93 percent, Paulding at 24.82 percent and Cherokee at 21.71 percent.<sup>55</sup>

According to data from the Behavioral Risk Factor Surveillance System (BRFSS), the percentage of people who reported the inability to see a doctor in the past 12 months due to cost was reflective of the poverty level statistics. Eighteen percent of Bartow residents reported money as a factor, followed by Paulding (15 percent), Cherokee (13 percent), and Cobb (12 percent). The state of Georgia comparison is 16 percent.

Poverty is directly correlated to poorer health outcomes. According to a Cobb2020 report, children and adults with incomes at or below the poverty line often face issues including inadequate nutrition, substandard housing, environmental hazards, unhealthy lifestyles, and decreased access to and use of healthcare services.

### ➤ Children\*

School-aged children under 18 make up 26.97 percent of total four-county population ranking higher than state and national percentages.<sup>56</sup> This is a notable opportunity area to impact the population with health education and prevention.

*County Health Ranking* cites the percentage of children living in poverty<sup>57</sup> as 18 percent in Cobb, 13 percent in Cherokee, 16 percent in Paulding, and a staggering 29 percent in Bartow. This affects one-

---

<sup>54</sup> U.S Health Resources and Services Administration, Health Professional Shortage Area File, 2012. CHNA Data Report.

<sup>55</sup> U.S. Census Bureau, 2006-2010 American Community Survey, 5 Year Estimates.

<sup>56</sup> *County Health Rankings*, April 2013 - Census Bureau's Population Estimates Program

fifth of the children in the WellStar Kennestone Hospital primary service area and is another notable area of opportunity for better education and access to care.

➤ **Women:\***

*Key influencers:* Women make approximately 80 percent of the healthcare decision for their families and utilize most health services due to reproductive health accounting for 60 percent of all expenses incurred at doctors' offices in 2004.<sup>58</sup>

Breast cancer incidence is high in Cobb County (123.80 per 100,000 population)<sup>59</sup> surpassing state and national levels. By comparison, the incidence of breast cancer was 118.60 in Paulding, 117 in Cherokee and 115.60 in Bartow.

➤ **Overweight/Obese:**

More than one-fourth of the population ages 18 and under self-reports a Body Mass Index (BMI) of more than 30 signifying obesity. This is in line with more recent *County Health Rankings* of 26 percent. A significantly higher number of adults are overweight (BMI between 25-30). 40 percent of adults age 18 and older self-report an overweight BMI in Bartow, 32.83 percent in Cherokee, 36.29 percent in Paulding, and 37.57 percent in Cobb. Bartow and Cobb counties exceed the state and national percentages (36.18).

➤ **Smokers:**

Almost one-fifth of the adult population from *County Health Rankings* are smokers reflecting Georgia statistics and above the national benchmark of 13 percent. This is notable and measureable area of opportunity especially via smoking cessation programs in the community and schools. Smoking is a leading contributor to cancer, especially lung cancer, the leading cause of cancer mortality in Cobb County.

Also, tobacco use is a contributing factor to the high incidence of vascular/heart disease, the leading cause of death in Cobb, Cherokee, Paulding, and Bartow counties (see Table 5). 16 percent of the deaths in Georgia from 2003-2007 among adults age 35 and older were attributed to smoking with deaths resulting from cardiovascular disease (30 percent), respiratory diseases (27 percent) and cancer (43 percent.)<sup>60</sup>

---

<sup>57</sup>Percentage living below 100 percent Federal Poverty Level.

<sup>58</sup> United States Department of Labor, General Facts on Women and Job-Based Health, <http://www.dol.gov/ebsa/newsroom/fshlth5.html>

<sup>59</sup>*County Health Rankings*. Source: The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention and the National Cancer Institute, State Cancer Profiles, 2005-2009.

<sup>60</sup>From Georgia Department of Public Health, 2012 Georgia Tobacco-related Cancers Report. Source: [http://health.state.ga.us/pdfs/epi/Tobacco-Related%20Cancer%20Report\\_111612.pdf](http://health.state.ga.us/pdfs/epi/Tobacco-Related%20Cancer%20Report_111612.pdf).

➤ **Under-educated:**

The community has a 72.75 percent on-time graduation rate<sup>61</sup> which is below the 82.4 percent Healthy People 2020 Target<sup>62</sup> the state of Georgia and national rate of 67.80 and 75.50 respectively.

A glaring health disparity is associated with low education attainment. The years of schooling a person has is linked with health knowledge and behaviors, employment and income, and social and psychological factors. Individuals with higher education are likely to have a longer life span, to have better health outcomes and to practice healthy behaviors.

➤ **Physically Inactive:**

Averaged among the four counties, 22.95 percent of people are physically inactive. When physical environments factors are reviewed by County Health Rankings, access to recreational facilities is lacking in all four counties below the national benchmark of 16 per 100,000 population.<sup>63</sup> Cherokee County offers the most facilities at 15 per 100,000, followed by Cobb at 12, Paulding at 11, and Bartow at six.

➤ **Unhealthy Diet/Lack of Nutrition:**

-Three-fourths of the population 18 years of older eat less than five servings of fruits and vegetables per day reflecting state and national averages. The accessibility of fast food in the counties ranks on par with Georgia making nutritionally poor food an easy and inexpensive choice.

➤ **Chronic disease population:**<sup>64</sup> \*Reflects leading causes of death in the community served

More than one in four Americans have multiple (two or more) concurrent chronic conditions (MCC),<sup>65</sup> including, for example, arthritis, asthma, chronic respiratory conditions, diabetes, heart disease, human immunodeficiency virus infection, and hypertension. In addition to comprising physical medical conditions, chronic conditions also include problems such as substance use and addiction disorders, mental illnesses, dementia, and other cognitive impairment disorders.

---

<sup>61</sup> The University of Wisconsin, Population Health Institute, County Health Rankings, 2012 and the U.S. Department of Education, National Center for Education Statistics, Common Core of Data, Public School Universe Survey Data, 2005-6, 2006-7 and 2007-8.

<sup>62</sup> Healthy People 2020 benchmarks established by the U.S. Department of Health & Human Services.

<sup>63</sup> Data Source: County Business Patterns provides data on the total number of establishments, mid-March employment, first quarter and annual payroll, and number of establishments by nine employment-size classes by detailed industry for all counties in the United States and the District of Columbia.

<sup>64</sup> Chronic illnesses are "conditions that last a year or more and require ongoing medical attention and/or limit activities of daily living." Warshaw G. *Introduction: advances and challenges in care of older people with chronic illness*. Generation 2006;30(3):5-10.

<sup>65</sup> As the number of chronic condition in an individual increases the risks of the following outcomes also increase: mortality, poor functional status, unnecessary hospitalizations, adverse drug events, duplicative tests, and conflicting medical advice. The resource implications for addressing MCC are immense: 66 percent of total health care spending is directed toward care for the approximately 27 percent of Americans with MCC and is a key factor in the overall growth in spending on American's healthcare. *Citation: U.S. Department of Health and Human Services. Multiple Chronic Conditions-A Strategic Framework: Optimum Health and Quality of Life for Individuals with Multiple Chronic Conditions*. Washington, DC. December 2010.

- **\*Heart disease:** The overall leading cause of death in the community served as measured by prevalence and mortality are ranked lower in Cobb and Cherokee than in Bartow and Paulding which surpass the national and state percentages and the state age-adjusted mortality rate per 100,000 population. Health behaviors such as smoking, obesity, physical inactivity and poor nutrition are contributing factors.
- **\*Cancer:** Lung cancer is the second leading cause of death in WellStar Kennestone Hospital's primary service area. Cancer (all types) mortality in Cobb County is below the Healthy People 2020 target (< =160.6) at 154.11 per 100,000 population. Cherokee County has better outcomes at 116.70, yet Bartow is an alarming 202.62.

The age-adjusted incidence of colon cancer in the counties is above the Healthy People 2020 benchmark and above the state rates. With the exception of Paulding County, prostate cancer incidence ranks at or above state and national statistics.

Breast cancer incidence is the highest in Cobb County at 123.80 per 100,000 population and above state and national incidence rates.

- **\*Stroke:** Stroke (cerebrovascular disease) is the fourth leading cause of death in the community served (see Table 5) and a byproduct of unmanaged hypertension which can be related to physical inactivity and obesity. The age-adjusted death rate from stroke per 100,000 population<sup>66</sup> in Bartow is 57.68, Paulding 44.8, Cobb 41.58, and Cherokee reports 39.72, above the Healthy People 2020 target of <33.8.
- **Diabetes:** The percentage of adults age 20 and older with a diabetes diagnosis is 10 percent in Paulding, nine percent in Bartow and Cobb and seven percent in Cherokee.<sup>67</sup> The statistics don't take into accounting the daunting number of undiagnosed diabetes (7 million) and people with prediabetes (79 million) in the United States,<sup>68</sup> specifically type 2, in obese children and adults, a prevalent health factors in the community served.

As diabetes is a cardiovascular disease, the condition increases the risk of death from heart disease or stroke in people with diabetes two to four times higher than people without the chronic disease.

---

<sup>66</sup>Source: OASIS, Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, National Center for Health Statistics, Underlying Causes of Death, 2006-2010. Accessed through CDC WONDER.

<sup>67</sup> County Health Rankings Data Source: The National Diabetes Surveillance System provides county-level estimates of obesity, physical inactivity, and diabetes using three years of data from CDC's Behavioral Risk Factor Surveillance System (BRFSS) and data from the U.S. Census Bureau's Population Estimates Program.

<sup>68</sup>2011 National Diabetes Fact Sheet uses both *fasting glucose and A1C levels to derive estimates for undiagnosed diabetes and pre-diabetes*. From the American Diabetes Association website: <http://www.diabetes.org/diabetes-basics/diabetes-statistics/>.

Table 5: Top Five Leading Causes of Death <sup>69</sup>				
Cobb <sup>70</sup>		Cherokee	Paulding	Bartow
1	Heart disease			
2	Lung cancer			
3	Mental and behavioral disorders	Chronic Obstructive Pulmonary Disease (except asthma)		
4	Stroke			
5	Chronic Obstructive Pulmonary Disease (except asthma)	Mental and behavioral disorders		

Table 6: Community-Specific Demographics						
	Cobb	Cherokee	Paulding	Bartow	Georgia	U.S.
Years of Potential Life Lost (YPLL) <sup>71</sup> - Premature Death	5,432	5,465	<b>7,465</b>	<b>9,287</b>	8,050	7,131
Total population *2012 estimates from the US Census Bureau	700,660	224,758	151,046	103,487	9,919,945	303,956,271
Female	51%	50.57%	50.99%	50.97%	51.14%	50.85%
Median age	34.9	35.70	33.90	36.10	35	26.90
Age 65 or older	8.26%	8.67%	6.71%	10.21%	10.26%	12.75%
Linguistically isolated population: Language other than English spoken at home	8.19%	4.69%	1.88%	4.19%	5.87%	8.70%
Georgia School District rankings <sup>72</sup>  <i>Interesting disparity between county and city school rankings</i>	Cobb County: #34 / 164 <i>Second largest school system in Georgia</i>  Marietta City: #64 / 164	Cherokee County: #26 / 164	Paulding County: #78/164	Bartow County: #70 / 164  Cartersville City: #11 / 164	n/a	n/a

Unless noted, county-specific data sourced from the Kaiser Permanente CHNA Data Platform, April 2013.

<sup>69</sup> Georgia Department of Public Health statistics, *Ranked Causes and State/County Comparisons, Age-Adjusted Death Rate, Last 5 Year Aggregate*(National Center for Health Statistics), OASIS, CHNA Dashboard.

<sup>70</sup> Appendix: Leading Causes of Death chart for Cobb County and National Age-Adjusted Death Rate for Top 5 leading causes of death, pages 69-70.

<sup>71</sup>YPLL before age 75 per 100,000 for all causes of death age adjusted to the 2000 standards. This measure provides a unique look at health status of a community. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, National Vital Statistics System, 2008-2010 (as reported in the 2012 County Health Rankings).

<sup>72</sup>Source: National Center for Education Statistics, U.S. Dept. of Education and Georgia Department of Education

### *Internal:*

Allen M. Hoffman, MD, Executive Director, WellStar Community HealthCare, spearheaded WellStar Health System's Community Health Needs Assessment (CHNA) process commencing in the fall of 2010. Using the aforementioned MAPP process and other primary and secondary data gathering methods to meet assessment requirements, Dr. Hoffman was a catalyst for engaging the local public health systems and recruiting community health stakeholders from all five counties for the five non-profit, community-based hospitals in the WellStar Health System service area.<sup>73</sup>

Dr. Hoffman served in multiple capacities including Cobb MAPP Steering Committee member representing WellStar Health System hospitals and as a Cobb2020 advisory group member providing assessment oversight and team member in assessment workgroups. He also procured and managed third-party consultants to help generate a wider base of community input and was assisted in the strategic planning process by Caroline Aultman, Executive Director of Strategic Planning, WellStar Health System. Dr. Hoffman reports to Robert Jansen, MD, Senior Vice President, WellStar Medical Group President and Chief Administrative Medical Officer.

The WellStar Health System CHNA Steering Committee, representing WellStar Kennestone Hospital, met from December 2012 to June 2013 to provide assessment input and oversight. Committee members included Kim Menefee, Senior Vice President, Public and Governmental Affairs; Dr. Hoffman; Jimmy Swartz, Vice President, Accounting; Ebenezer Erzuah, Director of Reimbursement; and David Englett, Reimbursement Project Manager.

### *External:*

Input from numerous people representing the broad interests of the community and who have a robust knowledge base concerning healthcare needs and disparities were sought to provide:

- Expertise in local and state public health
- Resources- current data and relevant information regarding community health needs
- Advocacy and leadership for the targeted, vulnerable populations - medically underserved, low income, chronic disease, and minority groups

---

<sup>73</sup> See WellStar Health System's website for a list of hospitals and other locations: <http://www.wellstar.org/locations/pages/default.aspx>

These community-based representatives from organizations and public health / government agencies, community representatives of high need populations and third party consultants represented a wide array of sectors including:

Local and state health departments	National health agency
Health care systems / hospitals	Employers
Children’s health	Community health centers
Health providers	Pharmaceuticals
Community-based coalitions	Minority organizations
Behavioral health	Education
Parks and recreation departments	Faith-based organizations
Senior services	Transit services
State public health	Economic Development
Fire, Police, Corrections	Mass Transit
Schools	Civic Groups
Managed Care organizations	Elected Officials

### **Cobb County:**

Originating from Cobb & Douglas Public Health’s MAPP, Cobb2020 was funded by a five-year federal Community Transformation Grant<sup>74</sup> to help transform the health of the community with a focus on chronic disease. In addition to Cobb2020’s sphere of influence on the health needs assessment process led by Chairman Jay Dillon and Assistant Chairman John (Jack) Kennedy, M. D., MBA,<sup>75</sup> additional Cobb County-based collaborators conjoined multiple layers of public health data and shared expertise, experience and input regarding health needs and community benefits programming. They also developed questions for MAPP focus groups, Key Informant interviews, surveys, and, along with a sampling of Cobb2020 partner representatives, hosted four local public health system days.

### **Paulding, Cherokee and Bartow Counties:**

In January 2013, representatives of the District and County Public Health Departments for Paulding, Cherokee and Bartow counties were presented key Cobb2020 MAPP findings (from Cobb and Douglas counties) in which they concurred aligned with the health needs of their counties. County Public Health Departments provided a list of 10-12 well-informed key stakeholders in order to supplement data with county-specific Key Informant interviews. Key Informants included representatives from senior services, local commerce, community-based coalitions and organizations, public officials, faith-based community, and public health.

Public Health debriefings on the findings were held in April 2013 with Paulding Public Health Department representatives, Northwest Georgia Public Health Director C. Wade Sellers, MD, MPH, the Bartow County

---

<sup>74</sup> Appendix: CDC Community Transformation Grant Awards – map of recipients, page 70.

<sup>75</sup> Dr. Kennedy, as District Health Director 3-1, Cobb & Douglas Public Health, has been a driving force behind the MAPP process for purposes of Cobb/Douglas accreditation from the independent accrediting body, Public Health Accreditation Board (PHAB). See <http://www.cdc.gov/stltpublichealth/accreditation/>. The ACA and PHAB are aligned in their goals and outcomes to engage community stakeholders to perform a community health assessment, identify priority health issues and develop a community health improvement plan/implementation strategy for community benefit.



Manager, Louise W Hamrick, BSN, MBA, RN, FNP-BC, District Deputy Director, North Georgia Health District; Paulding County Nurse Manager Teresa Knight, RN PHNS; Bartow County Nurse Manager Cathy Green, RN, BSN, MPH; and Cherokee County Nurse Manager Denise Bowman RN.

*To reference CNHA collaborators, their names, titles, represented organizations or agencies, capacities served and a description of expertise/focus, see Appendix – page 71.<sup>76</sup>*

#### **Areas of collaboration:**

- **Key Informants (KIs):**

Cobb: Influential health and community leaders within Cobb County were identified by Cobb2020's MAPP Steering Committee. Through snowball sampling, 20 KIs were interviewed for up to one hour. *Per Cobb and Douglas Public Health, the identities of the Key Informants are not able to be disclosed.* KIs represented different sectors of the Cobb community including healthcare, government, business, social service agencies, law enforcement, and the religious community and were in their current job position for an average of 7.42 years and Cobb County residents for an average of 19.56 years.

Paulding, Cherokee and Bartow: KIs from these counties were identified by representatives from the Public Health Departments. The survey instrument was a slightly modified version of the one developed and validated in Cobb County.<sup>77</sup>

- **Cobb2020 Advisors/Steering Committee:**

Organization and individual partners/key leaders from many parts of the community on a state, regional and local level who contributed resources and time to the Cobb MAPP process. Led by Jay Dillon, Director of Communications for Cobb County School District and Dr. Jack Kennedy, District Health Director, Cobb & Douglas Public Health.

- **Community Strengths and Themes Workshop participants'** (one of four community assessments conducts by MAPP) work resulted in the Cobb2020 focus group report.

- **Cobb MAPP Implementation Teams - Healthy Lifestyles & Access to Health Services** formed in the summer of 2012 worked to improve access to quality services for the medically underserved population in Cobb County.

---

<sup>76</sup> Appendix: List of WellStar CHNA Collaborators, page 71.

<sup>77</sup> Appendix: Key Informant Reports from Cherokee, Paulding and Bartow, page 58.

- **Cobb MAPP Survey Committee Members**-Developed the 44-question telephone survey conducted by Kennesaw State University's A.L. Burruss Institute for Public Service and Research polling 1,244 adults ages 18-94.
- **Community Transformation Grant (CTG) Leadership Team** gave oversight to the grant awarded from the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) in October 2011 to Cobb & Douglas Public Health in support of community level efforts to reduce chronic disease such as heart disease, cancer, stroke, and diabetes. The CTG promotes healthy lifestyles especially to population groups experiencing the greatest burden of chronic disease, to improve health, reduce health disparities and control healthcare spending.
- **The *Forces of Change* Assessment Day** (Sept. 30, 2011) and ***Local Public Health Systems* Assessment Day** (Oct. 4, 2011) community participants. Attendee rosters are included in the appendix.<sup>78</sup>
- **WellStar Health System Advisors** - Senior leadership representing WellStar's five non-profit, community-based hospitals.

---

<sup>78</sup>Appendix, page 85.

WellStar Kennestone Hospital’s more than two-year process for gathering information involved integrating multiple sources of data from national and state web-based data platforms with multiple primary data gathering methods.

The hospital leveraged the findings from community health needs assessments conducted in 2012 as a partner in the strategic planning process utilized by Cobb and Douglas Public Health (CDPH), Mobilizing for Action through Planning and Partners (MAPP).<sup>79</sup>

WellStar Kennestone Hospital expanded its reach to encompass the needs of Cherokee and Bartow counties using a slightly modified version of the instrument developed and validated in Cobb and Douglas counties. A substantial part of Cobb MAPP findings were agreed to be generalizable following a CDPH presentation to representatives of the District and County Public Health Departments for Cherokee and Paulding counties in January 2013. The representatives agreed to identify well-informed key stakeholders which were interviewed by a third-party consultant.

In April 2013, Key Informant findings were reviewed and confirmed to be an accurate snapshot of the health, quality of life, barriers to health, primary conditions of concern, disparately affected populations, and key actions, policies and funding priorities.

**Table 7:  
Description of CHNA Data Sources and Dates**

Source	Data Description	Date(s) Accessed or Conducted
<b><i>Secondary Data</i></b>		
Georgia Department of Public Health	OASIS – Online Analytical Statistical Information System – tool for public health and public policy data analysis <a href="http://oasis.state.ga.us/oasis/">http://oasis.state.ga.us/oasis/</a>	2012-2013
Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC)	National Vital Statistics System	2011-2013
Agency for HealthCare Research and Quality (ADHQ) – U.S. Department of Health and Human Services	Identifies preventive service and interventions   <a href="http://www.ahrq.gov">www.ahrq.gov</a> Quality indicators: <a href="http://www.qualityindicators.ahrq.gov/pqi_overview.htm">www.qualityindicators.ahrq.gov/pqi_overview.htm</a>	2011-2013
WellStar Health System	Hospital utilization data for the community served	March 29, 2013

<sup>79</sup>MAPP is designed to improve public health and a method to help communities prioritize public health issues, identify resources for addressing them, and take action. The MAPP tool was created in 2001 by a workgroup of local public health practitioners and several national partners including the National Association of County and City Health Officials (NACCHO) and the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC). Since its creation, over 700 local health departments have implemented the MAPP process and over 300 have successfully shown improvements in community health as a result of their initiatives.

Source	Data Description	Date(s) Accessed or Conducted
U.S. Department of Health and Human Services	Community Health Status Indication Report	2011-2013
Healthy People 2020	Healthy People 2020 provides national benchmarks for health indicators   <a href="http://www.healthypeople.gov">www.healthypeople.gov</a>	2011-2013
Behavioral Risk Factor Surveillance System (BRFSS)	Data on health risk behaviors, preventive health practices and health care access   <a href="http://www.cdc.gov/BRFSS">www.cdc.gov/BRFSS</a>	2011-2013
<i>National Health and Nutrition Examination Survey</i>	Assessment of the health and nutritional status of adults and children   <a href="http://www.cdc.gov/nchs/nhanes.htm">www.cdc.gov/nchs/nhanes.htm</a>	2013
Kaiser Permanente Web-Based CHNA Platform	A web-based resource to facilitate community health needs assessments and foster community collaboration. <a href="http://www.chna.org/kp">www.chna.org/kp</a>	2013
<i>County Health Rankings &amp; Roadmaps</i> , University of Wisconsin Population Health Institute	The <i>County Health Rankings &amp; Roadmaps</i> program is a collaboration between the Robert Wood Johnson Foundation and the University of Wisconsin Population Health Institute. The web-based data provided rankings of counties in the community served.	2013
Catholic Health Association	<i>Assessing and Addressing Community Health Needs</i> – discussion draft document outlining the CHNA process	March 2011
<b>Primary Data</b>		
MAPP Assessments – Implementation Teams	Results of four assessments facilitated by Cobb2020: Examined: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Community Strengths and Themes</li> <li>• Forces of Change</li> <li>• Community Health Status</li> <li>• Local Public Health System</li> </ul>	2012
Cobb MAPP Focus Groups	58 people participated in six focus group representing 14 zip codes. Demographics varied among the groups indicative of the zip codes represented. Two groups were conducted in Spanish and reflected low-income, low education attainment and medically underserved populations. Conducted by the Cobb and Douglas Public Health Department and Cobb MAPP. Facilitated by Kennesaw State University Associate Professors Drs. Anne Hicks-Coolick and Janice Long. Rosana Farias Ayala, KSU Spanish lecturer, served as translator and data transcribe for two of the groups with a high Spanish-speaking population.	June 21, 2012 – Sept. 13, 2012  <i>Report published:</i> October 2012
Cobb Key Informant Interviews	20 participants were identified by Cobb 2020's <i>Community Strengths and Themes</i> Workgroup to represent different sectors of the Cobb community who are well-informed regarding healthcare issues, the healthcare system or the community.	2012
Cobb MAPP Community Survey	44-question telephone surveys of 1,244 adults ages 18-94 in Cobb County performed by the A.L. Burruss Institute for Public Service and Research, Kennesaw State University revealed: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ 16.9 percent No Health Insurance</li> <li>▪ 26 percent High Blood Pressure</li> <li>▪ 11.8 percent Smoking</li> <li>▪ 32.9 percent High Cholesterol</li> </ul>	Nov. 21, 2011 – Jan. 19, 2012

Source	Data Description	Date(s) Accessed or Conducted
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ 19.1 percent No Exercise</li> <li>▪ 36 percent Overweight</li> <li>▪ 22.3 percent Obese</li> <li>▪ 26.7 Average BMI</li> <li>▪ Health Disparities</li> </ul>	
Cobb & Douglas Public Health: Cobb County Health Policy Scan Report	Report addressing: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ tobacco free living</li> <li>▪ active living and health eating</li> <li>▪ increased use of high-quality clinical preventive services</li> <li>▪ social and emotional wellness</li> <li>▪ healthy and safe physical environment</li> </ul>	August 16, 2012
WellStar Health System	WellStar Kennestone Hospital’s FY2012 utilization data to assess service area zip codes accounting for 90 percent of hospital admissions and visits and maps	March 2013
Paulding County Key Informant interviews	Five community stakeholder interviews identified by local public health officials led by Ron Chapman, Principal, Magnetic North, LLC, a third-party consultant	March 2013

**Description of Analytical Processes Applied to Identify Community Health Needs**

1. **MAPP strategic process using the “Action Cycle”**- designed to plan, implement and evaluate for sustainable health improvement.

As a community-wide health improvement process, WellStar Kennestone Hospital’s involvement in MAPP (funded by the CDC) demonstrated community collaboration and accomplishes the following:

- Includes a comprehensive assessment phase that identifies local public health strengths, challenges, and unmet healthcare needs;
- Emphasizes primary prevention;
- Strengthens partnerships among healthcare providers, public health professionals, and other stakeholders;
- Mobilizes community members to identify and act on strategic health issues; and
- Institutionalizes a collaborative approach to planning, implementing, and evaluating community health improvement strategies.<sup>80</sup>

MAPP workgroups, focus groups, survey, Key Informant interviews, and implementation teams identified strategic issues in the community served via four assessments portrayed in the MAPP “Action Cycle” (Figure 3).

<sup>80</sup> National Association of County & City Health Officials (NAACHO) Fact Sheet, July 2010: *MAPP and Non-Profit Hospitals: Leveraging Community Benefit for Community Health Improvement*.

Figure 3:  
MAPP "Action Cycle" / Assessments



Community health needs were identified based on primary and secondary data using various research platforms and web-based tools to assess different data sets. These included a list of common health indicators based upon the model from the University of Wisconsin Population Health Institute and chosen by the Cobb2020 (via the MAPP assessment strategic process) and WellStar Health System CHNA steering committees.

From the MAPP strategic process using the four assessments, the following key issues and themes were revealed:

**Table 8:  
MAPP Assessment and Emergent Themes**

Assessment Focus Areas	Key issues to uncover	Emergent Themes
<b>Community Themes and Strengths<sup>81</sup></b>  <i>(Prevalent health issues)</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• What is important to the community?</li> <li>• How is quality of life perceived in the community?</li> <li>• What assets exist that can be used to improve community health?</li> </ul>	<p>Community needs to be educated and informed about health issues.</p> <p>Education and transportation were identified as a top needs.</p> <p>Existing collaborative organizations and community cooperation were cited as a plus to improving care.</p>
<b>Local Public Health system<sup>82</sup></b>  <i>(Availability of health services)</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• What are the components, activities, competencies, and capacities of the local public health system?</li> <li>• How are the essential services being provided to the community?</li> </ul>	<p>Community needs affordable and accessible access to healthcare and services.</p> <p>Clinics are not located in many areas and are overcrowded.</p> <p>Most, if not all, of the health disparities cited by WellStar community stakeholders were attributed to low income, low educational attainment, lack of care access and education, and being medically underserved and uninsured. Unhealthy behaviors lead to unfavorable health outcomes, which greatly affect morbidity and mortality rates<sup>83</sup> among these populations.</p>
<b>Community Health Status</b>  <i>(Health issues important to the community)</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• How healthy is the community?</li> <li>• What does the health status of the community look like?</li> </ul>	<p>Community has barriers to seeking healthcare due to lack of information, insurance/finances and education.</p> <p>Chronic disease is prevalent due to unhealthy lifestyles and limited access to care.</p>
<b>Forces of Change<sup>84</sup></b>  <i>(Things that affect the context in which the community and its public health system operate)</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• What is occurring or might occur that affects the health of the community or the local public health system?</li> <li>• What specific threats or opportunities are generated by these occurrences?</li> </ul>	<p>Forces that affect the local public health system:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ <i>Health inequity</i></li> <li>▪ <i>Transient population</i></li> <li>▪ <i>High-risk behaviors</i></li> <li>▪ <i>Lack of access to quality care and education</i></li> <li>▪ <i>Technology infrastructure for healthcare</i></li> <li>▪ <i>Unstable economy</i></li> <li>▪ <i>Public policies</i></li> <li>▪ <i>Aging population</i></li> </ul>

<sup>81</sup> Appendix: Area in Need of Most Improvement graph: page 90.

<sup>82</sup> Appendix: Local Public Health System Assessment (LPHSA) chart: page 91.

<sup>83</sup> Many of these indicators reflect the Healthy People 2020 Leading Health Indicators which represent significant threats to the public's health. For a more exhaustive list of indicators to gather additional community statistics, see Appendix, page 88.

<sup>84</sup> Appendix: Forces that impact community health: page 91.

- 2. Thematic analysis:** Conducted by categorizing qualitative data to discover patterns and emergent themes (frequently mentioned topics, issues or needs). The results, coupled with statistical data, helped inform community needs and, along with quantitative data revealed health disparities. (Health disparities were assessed by socioeconomic status, geography, language barriers from ethnicity, access to care, and age.)

This analytical process was used to assimilate primary data gathered via key informant interviews, community surveys and focus groups upon review of the notes, survey results or recorded transcripts. Through Kaiser Permanente’s CHNA Data Platform, *County Health Rankings* and other national and Georgia-specific web-based tools, robust secondary data provided statistical evidence to primary data thematic analysis.

**3. Establishment of baseline data points:**

- Core health indicators (see below)
- Health drivers (uninsured, low education attainment and living in poverty)
- Model of population health to identify prioritized community health needs

This enabled assessors to compare the prevalence of chronic disease to selected indicators (ex: physically inactive people in Bartow County) with health outcomes (ex: high rates of obesity and premature death in Bartow County) to identify health needs.

Using an evidence-based population health model<sup>85</sup> helped WellStar Kennestone Hospital assign assessed community needs to health factors and outcomes that, when addressed in an implementation strategy, will improve the community’s health outcomes<sup>86</sup> summarized by morbidity (quality of life) and mortality (length of life/measured by premature death).

- 4. Strategy Grid data processing tool** for assessing the local public health system was used by Cobb2020 collaborators.<sup>87</sup> This method facilitates refocusing efforts by shifting emphasis toward addressing problems yielding maximum results with limited resources. This is accomplished by categorizing and prioritizing findings in high and low performance and priority quadrants.

---

<sup>86</sup> Health outcomes are snapshots of diseases in a community that can be described in terms of morbidity and mortality. They are measurable health indicators that may be used to identify and prioritize health needs. Catholic Health Association (March 2011) *Assessing & addressing community health needs*.

<sup>87</sup> Appendix: Local public health system assessment – priority/performance strategy grid, page 92.



### ***Rationale for Core Health Indicators:***

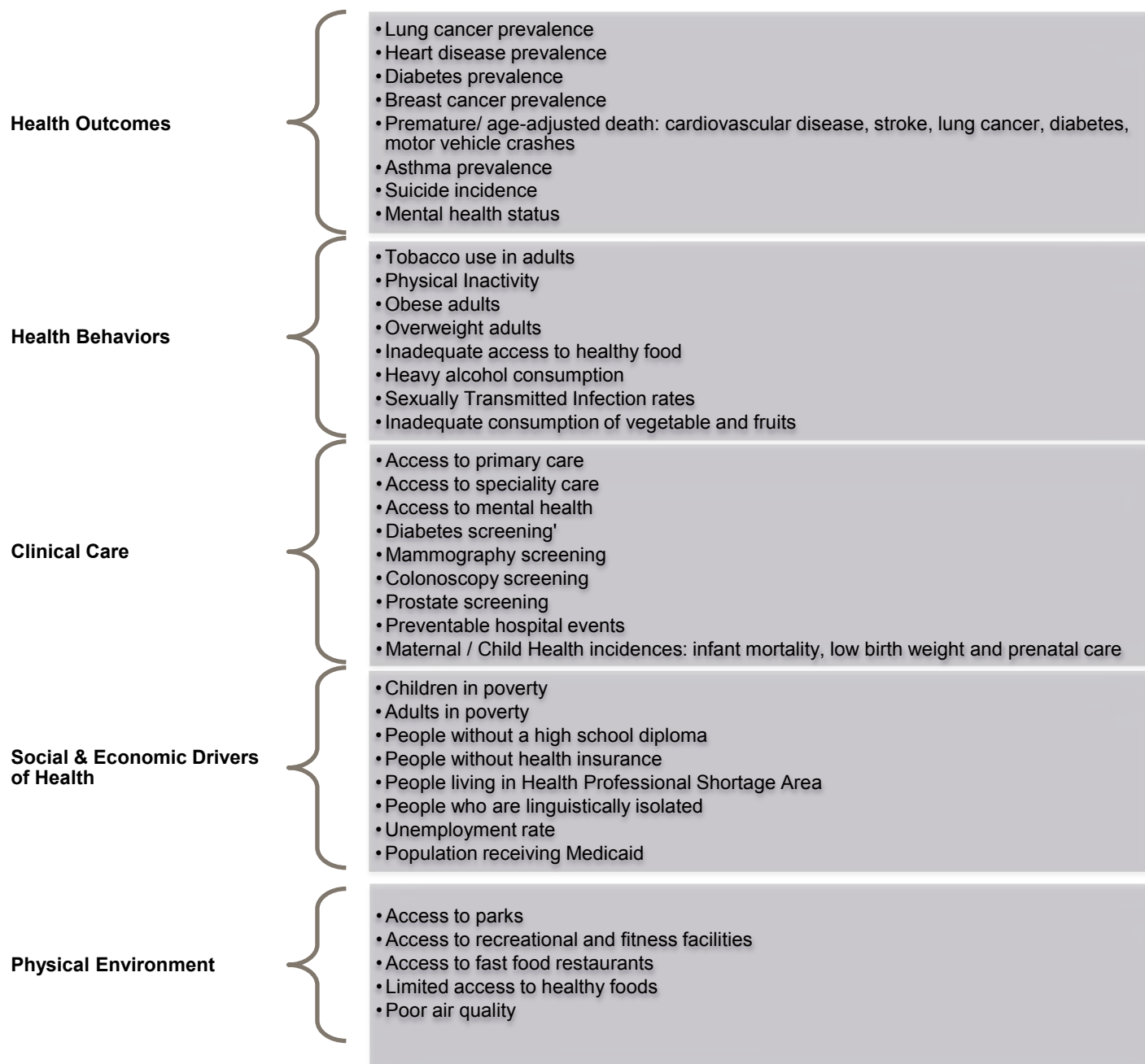
When selecting core indicators for the assessment the following were considered:

- Indicators with national benchmarks
- Indicators which reflect issues of known importance to the community generated from primary data gathering
- Indicators which inform about target geographic areas, priority populations and social determinants of health
- Quality and usability of data indication

Selected indicators are organized using the University of Wisconsin's Population Health Institute's model and include socio-economic factors affecting health which are directly associated with unhealthy behaviors.

The indicators used combine some of the Cobb MAPP indicators with the hospital's chosen indicators reflecting those included in the University of Wisconsin's County Health Rankings and the CHNA Data Set. Assigning recent statistical findings to the indicators supported gathered qualitative data and in the future will enhance WellStar Kennestone Hospital's ability to track progress and measure success.

**Figure 4:**  
**Core Health Indicators<sup>88</sup>**  
**Organized using the Population Health Model**



The list of common indicators were measured and compared to state and national benchmarks to identify the community's health status, assess health needs and determine gaps in care. Supplemented with

<sup>88</sup> "A characteristic of an individual, population or environment which is subject to measurement and can be used to describe one or more aspects of the health of an individual or population." *Health Promotion Glossary*, World Health Organization, 1998.

primary data by engaging the MAPP process, community leaders, residents and Key Informants, the collective data revealed emergent themes and areas of improvement backed by fact and anecdotal evidence.

Refer to the revised **Cobb2020 Health Indicator Comparison Chart**<sup>89</sup> per county and the **Core Health Indicators** below for a snapshot on how WellStar Kennestone Hospital communities fair against benchmarks and state and national statistics. Baselines and targets for core health indicators are expressed as rates and percentages to compare and track current and future standings.

Demographics of the community served described in Section 3 of this written report also are indicators but are descriptive only and not compared to benchmarks or viewed as negative or positive.

**Table: 9**  
**WellStar Kennestone Hospital Core Health Indicators**<sup>90</sup>  
*Underlined, RED statistics indicate poor performance as compared with benchmarks / national data*

Indicator	Cobb	Paulding	Cherokee	Bartow	GA	Benchmark or National Statistic
<b>Lung Cancer Incidence</b> <i>(per 100,000 population)</i>	58.90	<u>93.90</u>	<u>82.30</u>	<u>100.40</u>	71.60	67.20
<b>Prostate Cancer Incidence</b> <i>(per 100,000 population)</i>	<u>169.60</u>	132.10	<u>176.90</u>	167.40	167.80	151.40
<b>Heart Disease Prevalence</b> <i>(percent of people age 18 or older told they have angina or heart disease)</i>	2.94%	<u>5.12%</u>	2.01%	<u>6.54%</u>	3.83%	4.26%
<b>Diabetes Prevalence</b> <i>(% of adults age 20 or older with diabetes diagnosis)</i>	<u>9.10%</u>	<u>10.90%</u>	7.80%	<u>9.30%</u>	10.32%	8.77%
<b>Breast Cancer Incidence</b> <i>(per 100,000 population)</i>	<u>123.80</u>	118.60	117	115.30	119.7	122
<b>Colon and Rectum Cancer Incidence</b> <i>(age-adjusted incidence rate - cases per 100,000 population per year)<sup>91</sup></i>	<u>39.90</u>	<u>53</u>	<u>42.30</u>	<u>57.90</u>	45	40.20 <38.6 (HP2020)

<sup>89</sup> Appendix: Page 88. Slightly modified and updated from the original Cobb2020 indicator list, 2012. Updates made April 2013.

<sup>90</sup> Statistics derived from Kaiser Permanente CHNA data platform in April 2013 unless otherwise noted. Includes data sources such as CDC BRFSS and National Vital Statistics, U.S. Census Data, American Community Survey, National Traffic 48.7 Safety Administration Fatality Analysis, CDC National Diabetes Surveillance System, the National Environment Public Health Tracking Network, and the Dartmouth Atlas of Healthcare Selected Measures of Primary Care Access

Indicator	Cobb	Paulding	Cherokee	Bartow	GA	Benchmark or National Statistic
<b>Premature Death</b> <i>(Years of Potential Life Lost (YPLL) before age 75 per 100,000 population)</i>	5,432	<u>7,465</u>	5,465	<u>9,287</u>	8,050	7,131
<b>Age-Adjusted Death Rate<sup>92</sup></b> <i>(per 100,000 population)</i>						
-Cardiovascular Disease	207.1	181.7	241.5	<u>263.8</u>	252.1	252.1
-Stroke	34.8	38.2	<u>45.7</u>	<u>59.8</u>	44.8	39.05
-Lung Cancer	42.2	<u>57.6</u>	40.6	<u>71.6</u>	48.7	48.7
-Diabetes	14.8	19.1	11.3	13	22.7	22.7
-Motor Vehicle Crash Rate	6.64	9.04	6.38	<u>16.97</u>	13.70	11.13 <12.4 (HP 2020)
<b>Suicide Incidence</b> <i>(per 100,000 population – an Indicator of mental health)</i>	9.75%	<u>12.61%</u>	<u>11.80%</u>	<u>16.29%</u>	11.02%	11.57 <10.2 (HP2020)
<b>Asthma Prevalence</b> <i>(age 18 or older reporting they have asthma)</i>	12.06%	<u>12.16%</u>	<u>15.34%</u>	<u>12.21%</u>	12.11%	13.09%
<b>Mental Health Status</b> <i>(measured in number of days out of 30 ranked as poor mental health days)</i>	<u>2.9</u>	<u>2.9</u>	<u>4.5</u>	<u>4.2</u>	3.4	2.3 (90 <sup>th</sup> percentile)
<b>Tobacco Use in Adults</b> <i>(County Health Rankings)</i>	<u>15%</u>	<u>20%</u>	<u>18%</u>	<u>24%</u>	19%	13% (90 <sup>th</sup> percentile)
<b>Physical Inactivity</b> <i>(County Health Rankings)</i>	<u>21%</u>	<u>23.80%</u>	<u>22%</u>	<u>25%</u>	24%	21% (90 <sup>th</sup> percentile)
<b>Obesity in Adults</b> <i>(adults age 18 and older reporting a Body Mass Index above 30)</i>	23.30%	26%	27.20%	25.30%	28.18%	27.35%
<b>Prevalence of Overweight Adults</b>	<u>37.57%</u>	<u>36.29</u>	32.83%	<u>40.05%</u>	36.18%	36.31%
<b>Heavy Alcohol Consumption</b> <i>(2 drinks daily for men – 1 drink per day women)</i>	<u>15.90%</u>	10.30%	<u>16.50%</u>	<u>16.10%</u>	13.20%	16.61%

<sup>91</sup>The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, and the National Cancer Institute: State Cancer Profiles, 2005-2009.

<sup>92</sup>Data from the Georgia Department of Community Health, Division of Public Health, Office of Information and Policy. Online Analytical Statistical Information System (OASIS) – 2010.

Indicator	Cobb	Paulding	Cherokee	Bartow	GA	Benchmark or National Statistic
<b>Sexually Transmitted Infection Incidence</b> <i>(County Health Rankings – chlamydia rate<sup>93</sup> per 100,000 population)</i>	<u>321</u>	<u>224</u>	<u>123</u>	<u>187</u>	466	92* (90 <sup>TH</sup> percentile)
<b>Inadequate consumption of vegetables and fruits</b> <i>(adults 18 or older reporting less than 5 servings daily)</i>	70.10%	74.60%	<u>76.60%</u>	<u>77.60%</u>	76%	75.92%
<b>People with Access to Primary Care</b> <i>(County Health Rankings)</i>	<u>1,712:1</u>	<u>7,933:1</u>	<u>2,760:1</u>	<u>2,443:1</u>	1,611:1	1,067:1
<i>Per 100,000 population</i>	<u>60.74</u>	<u>13.34</u>	<u>36.38</u>	<u>41.93</u>	69.10	84.70
<b>-People who didn't see a doctors in past 12 months due to cost<sup>94</sup></b>	12%/2,267	15%/434	13%/1,048	<u>18%/365</u>	16%	n/a
<b>**Diabetes Screening</b> <i>(County Health Rankings – percentage of Medicare enrollees that receive HbA1c screening in 2010)<sup>95</sup></i>	86%	84%	<b>85%</b>	<b>86%</b>	84%	-
<b>Mammography Screening</b> <i>(percentage of female Medicare enrollees ages 67-69 who had at least one mammogram over a two-year period)</i>	<u>67.6%</u>	<u>64.21%</u>	<u>63.8%</u>	<u>64.3%</u>	64%	73%
<b>Prostate Screening<sup>96</sup></b> <i>(Statewide - men age 40 and up)</i>	59.2% statewide. High school and college grads – 62.5/62.3/ Less than high school – 34.4 perc Ages 45-54 – 52.7 %/ Ages 55-64 – 74.7 %/ Age 65+ - 83.5%					
<b>Colon Cancer Screening</b> <i>(men age 50 and older who have had a sigmoid/colonoscopy)</i>	62.40%	62.40%	No data	No data	48.42%	51.79%

<sup>93</sup>Chlamydia is the most common bacterial Sexually Transmitted Infection (STI) in North America and is one of the major causes of tubal infertility, ectopic pregnancy, pelvic inflammatory disease, and chronic pelvic pain. STIs are associated with a significantly increased risk of morbidity and mortality, including increased risk of cervical cancer, involuntary infertility and premature death.

<sup>94</sup>BRFSS. Self-reported by people ages 18 and up. National Center for Health Statistics and the CDC – aggregated over seven years.

<sup>95</sup>Weakness in data as it indicates only Medicare claims which limits population evaluated to mostly ages 65 and older and may miss trends and disparities in younger age groups.

<sup>96</sup>OASIS Behavioral Risk Factors – BRFSS survey: prevalence of adult men over the age of 40 who have had a prostate screening in the last two years in the state of Georgia.

Indicator	Cobb	Paulding	Cherokee	Bartow	GA	Benchmark or National Statistic
<b>Preventable Hospital Events</b> <sup>97</sup> (Discharge rate per 1,000 Medicare enrollees for conditions that are ambulatory care sensitive)	59.30	<b>93.23</b>	64.98	<b>81.30</b>	68.39	66.54
<b>Maternal/Child Health Incidences per 1,000 Population</b>						
-Teen Birth (ages 15-19 giving birth)	59.30	33.40	64.98	<b>81.30</b>	68.39	66.54
-Infant Mortality	<b>6.37</b>	<b>6.26</b>	4.91	<b>6.85</b>	8.10	6.71 <6.0 HP2020
-Low Birth Weight	8.06%	7.38%	7.31%	7.72%	9.36%	8.10%
-Late or No Prenatal Care (2011 – OASIS)	2.8%	1.7%	2.8%	<b>6.2%</b>	4.1%	-
<b>Poor Dental Health</b> (percentage who report having lost teeth from decay, infection and disease)	9.57%	<b>17.71%</b>	12.27%	<b>23.19%</b>	16.72%	15.57%
<b>Poor Dental Utilization</b> (percentage who report not going to the dentist within the year)	23.21%	23.22%	26.95%	<b>29.96%</b>	29.12%	30.14%
<b>Access to Mental Health Providers</b> <sup>98</sup>	3150:1	<b>5979:1</b>	<b>23799:1</b>	<b>10017:1</b>	3504:1	-
<b>Children in Poverty</b> (percentage living below 100% Federal Poverty Level)	18%	9.37%	13%	<b>29%</b>	27%	14%
<b>People in Poverty</b> <sup>99</sup> (percentage living below 200%FPL)	24.93%	24.82%	21.71%	<b>33.30%</b>	35.29%	31.98%
<b>KEY DRIVER OF HEALTH</b>						

<sup>97</sup>Conditions that are ambulatory care sensitive (ACS) are conditions that could have been prevented if adequate primary care were available and accessed. **This statistic is relevant because ACS discharges demonstrate a possible return on investment from interventions that reduce admissions of uninsured or Medicare patients through better access to primary care, specialty care and preventive resources.**

<sup>98</sup>Ratio of population to mental health providers – County Health Rankings. Source: HRSA Area Resource File, 2011-2012 - a collection of data from more than 50 sources, including: American Medical Association, American Hospital Association, US Census Bureau, Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services, Bureau of Labor Statistics, and the National Center for Health Statistics.

<sup>99</sup> U.S. Census Bureau, 2006-2010 American Community Survey 5 Year Estimates

Indicator	Cobb	Paulding	Cherokee	Bartow	GA	Benchmark or National Statistic
<b>People with No High School Diploma</b> <i>(total population age 25 or older)</i> KEY DRIVER OF HEALTH	9.85%	14.13%	11.06%	<b>21.65%</b>	16.52%	14.97%
<b>People without Health Insurance</b> <sup>100</sup> <i>(percentage of total county population under age 65 who are uninsured)</i> KEY DRIVER OF HEALTH	24%	22%	22%	<b>28%</b>	27%	15.7% -2011 <sup>101</sup>
<b>People Living in a Health Professional Shortage Area</b> <sup>102</sup> (HPSA)	0%	0%	0%	<b>68.77%</b>	63.13%	60.80%
<b>People who are unemployed</b> <sup>103</sup>	7.40%	7.80%	6.90%	<b>9%</b>	8.50%	8.10%
<b>Population receiving Medicaid</b> <sup>104</sup>	9.11%	10.86%	7.79%	12.92%	15.44%	16%
<b>Linguistically Isolated People</b> <sup>105</sup>	<b>8.19%</b>	1.88%	4.69%	4.19%	5.87%	8.70%
<b>Access to Parks</b> <i>(park accessibility with a half a mile from home)</i>	23.96%	<b>3.32%</b>	6.42%	<b>1.41%</b>	13.39%	-
<b>Access to Fast Food Restaurants</b> <i>(percentage of fast food per 100,000)</i>	<b>75.72%</b>	40.75%	51.79%	58.91%	71.17%	69.14%
<b>Limited Access to Healthy Foods</b> <sup>106</sup> <i>(County Health Rankings –percentage of people living in a “food desert”)</i>	<b>9%</b>	<b>6%</b>	<b>6%</b>	<b>12%</b>	8%	1%
<b>Poor Air Quality</b> <i>(percentage of days with particulate matter 2.5 levels above the National Ambient Air Quality Standard (35 micrograms per cubic meter per year)</i>	<b>3.60%</b>	<b>2.94%</b>	<b>2.47%</b>	<b>3.32%</b>	2.32%	1.16%

<sup>100</sup>County Health Rankings, [www.countyhealthrankings.org](http://www.countyhealthrankings.org). *Data resource:* U.S. Census Bureau's Small Area Health Insurance Estimates (SAHIE) program produces estimates of health insurance coverage for all states and counties.

<sup>101</sup> U.S. Census Bureau, Health Insurance, 2011.

<sup>102</sup> A HPSA is an area with a shortage of primary care, dental or mental health professionals.

<sup>103</sup>Percentage of civilian non-institutionalized population age 16 and older that is unemployed. *Source:* U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics, Local Area Statistics, December 2012.

<sup>104</sup>*Source:* U.S. Census Bureau 2006-2010 American Community Survey, 3-Year Estimate.

<sup>105</sup>Percentage of the population ages five and older who speak a language other than English at home and speak English less than "very well."

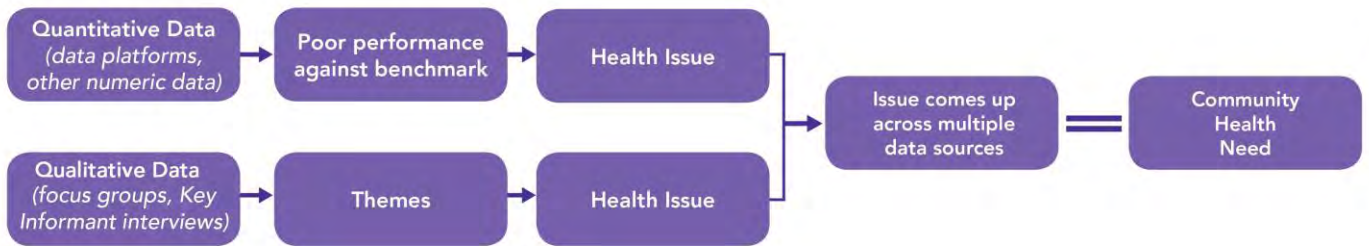
<sup>106</sup>Defined as the percentage of low-income people living less than 10 miles from a grocery store, whereas in non-rural areas, it means less than one mile. Low income is defined as having an annual family income of less than or equal to 200 percent of the Federal Poverty Level for the family size. *Data source:* United States Department of Agriculture (USDA) Food Environment Atlas.



The Cobb MAPP strategic process followed in all counties served by WellStar Kennestone Hospital was the conduit for identifying health indicators and collecting primary data to expose community health needs and winnable battles to achieve better population health, improve patient satisfaction and reduce cost.

Health needs<sup>107</sup> were identified through interpretation and analysis of secondary and primary data utilizing the following CHNA assessment process and criteria:

**Figure 5:  
Process and Criteria Used to Assess Community Health Needs<sup>108</sup>**



**Quantitative Data – Top Community Needs**

Assigning statistics to core health indicators gave a broader, overarching view of the health status of the community served.<sup>109</sup>

**Qualitative Data – Top Community Needs**

Health disparities from socio-economic factors, low education attainment and limited access to care were overarching themes. The necessity for more education about available resources, preventive care and care access was thematic across all counties. *A sampling of expressed needs:*

*Cobb County:*

- Inadequate public transportation
- Traffic congestion
- Obesity, poor nutrition, lack of physical activity

<sup>107</sup> Health outcomes that are disproportionately impacting a population identified through secondary and primary data.

<sup>108</sup> From Kaiser Permanente CHNA Toolkit Part 2: Identifying Community Needs (page 10).

<sup>109</sup> See WellStar Indicators list on page 39 and in Appendix, page 88.

- Lack of safe parks and facilities
- Lack of services for cited vulnerable populations including impoverished, uninsured, minorities, elderly, immigrants, homeless, mental health, and special needs/disabilities

*Cherokee County:*

- Decreasing quality in food and nutrition
- Diminishing physical activity
- Increasing obesity levels
- Insufficient supply of specialty medical providers – especially pediatrics

*Paulding County:*

- Obesity and nutrition
- Diabetes
- Lack of insurance and inadequate supply or low or no cost medical services especially mental health
- Limitation of public transportation
- Lack of information or knowledge on health
- Teen pregnancy
- Drug and alcohol use
- Asthma
- Dental care

*Bartow County:*

- Obesity
- Nutrition
- Physical activity
- Diabetes
- Teen pregnancy
- Drug and alcohol use
- Cardiovascular health
- Dental care
- Chronic disease prevention
- Mental health issues

## **Health Needs**

All identified health needs are grouped by how they impact the overall health of the community, not by importance:

### [Links to leading causes of death](#)

- **Cardiovascular Disease** is a health need as it's the leading cause of death, premature death and illness in the communities served and is often a by-product of physical inactivity, poor nutrition, obesity, smoking, and diabetes.
- **Stroke** is a health need based on mortality rates among all four counties – all ranked poorly compared against national benchmark and is caused by obesity and being overweight, smoking, high blood pressure and cholesterol, poor nutrition, diabetes, cardiovascular disease, and heavy consumption of alcohol.

*Nine modifiable risk factors account for more than 90 percent of the population attributed risk for cardiovascular disease and stroke: smoking, dyslipidemia, hypertension, diabetes, abdominal obesity, psychosocial factors, daily consumption of fruits and vegetables, excess alcohol consumption and lack of physical activity.*

- **Lung cancer** is a health need since it's a leading cause of death and is linked to behaviors like smoking and even environmental factors like poor air quality. Incidence of lung cancer exceeds national levels in Cherokee and Bartow counties. The CDC notes two-thirds of cancer deaths are associated with behavioral and lifestyle factors like tobacco use, diet, obesity, and lack of exercise.
- **Breast Cancer** is a health need based on incidence especially Cobb County where its incidence surpasses the national benchmark and based on the lower rates of mammography screenings – an effective tool for early diagnosis for a better prognosis. Some modifiable risks for breast cancer are reduction in daily alcohol consumption, avoidance of tobacco, weight management, and an increase in physical activity.
- **Prostate Cancer** is a health need based on incidence levels in Cobb and Cherokee and the lower rates of prostate screenings – an effective tool for early diagnosis for a better prognosis. May indicate a lack of access to preventive care.
- **Colon Cancer** is a health need since all counties rank above the Healthy People 2020 benchmark of <38.6 per 100,000 population. This indicator is relevant because engaging in preventive behaviors allows for early detection and treatment of health problems. This indicator can also highlight a lack of access to preventive care, a lack of health knowledge, insufficient provider outreach, and/or social barriers preventing utilization of services.
- **Chronic obstructive pulmonary disease** is a health need since it's a top five leading cause of death in the WellStar five-county service area and may be related to smoking and environmental factors.

### Current behaviors that are determinants to future health

- **Physical Activity** is a health need since the lack of physical inactivity may lead to significant health issues like obesity and chronic conditions such as poor cardiovascular health, diabetes and cancer. Healthy lifestyle prevention-based priorities like physical activity address 75 percent of the preventable deaths and illness, especially the leading cause of deaths - heart disease, cancer and stroke. Community members cited the need to do more education about healthy lifestyle choices and offer incentives and more opportunities and resources to promote change.
- **Healthy Eating** is a health need since poor eating choices and inadequate consumption of healthy foods is a cause of significant issues like obesity and diabetes, along with other chronic diseases. Community members agreed that lack of accessibility to healthy foods (also noted in the indicators)

made it difficult to eat healthy as well as the lack of education to understanding how to choose healthy foods.

- **Smoking** is a health need because it's significant factor to causing future health issues and possibly premature death from the leading causes of death including lung cancer, chronic obstructive pulmonary disorder, and cardiovascular disease. Tobacco use surpasses the national benchmark in all counties. Hypertension and coronary artery disease leading to heart attacks is more likely to happen in smokers. Smoking was cited as a winnable battle for public health.
- **Obesity (and overweight)** is a health need because it indicates unhealthy lifestyle choices of poor nutrition and physical inactivity and puts the community at risk for other issues like chronic disease, especially cardiovascular disease and stroke, and mental health (depression) conditions. Obesity is related to unhealthy eating, the lack of community access to grocery stores, parks, recreational facilities, and the over- abundance of fast food restaurants especially in Cobb County. Obesity was the first specific "biggest health need" among MAPP survey respondents and mentioned as a priority in Key Informant interviews. The estimated average hospital length of stay for obese individuals is 60 percent longer than for normal-weight individuals nationwide.<sup>110</sup>
- **Alcohol** is a health need since heavy consumption<sup>111</sup> can lead to health issues like cirrhosis, motor vehicle death and cancers. It also may indicate untreated mental and behavioral health issues which are cited as being underserved areas in the community.

### Cause significant health issues

- **Diabetes** is a health need as it causes significant health issues if left unmanaged and contributes to other chronic illness including cardiovascular disease, stroke and hypertension. The risk for type 2 diabetes increases with obesity, being overweight and poor nutrition and is related to lack of care access in underserved communities, a lack of health knowledge, insufficient provider outreach, and/or social barriers preventing utilization of services. It commonly is an underlying factor in premature death from other chronic diseases.
- **Mental Health** is a health need since overall health depends on both physical and mental wellbeing. An indicator of poor mental health is often suicide incidence rates which surpass national benchmarks in Cherokee and Bartow counties. Key Informants also cited the lack of accessible mental health services as a health need and community concern.
- **Air Quality** is a health need indicated by poor air quality levels in the communities served contributes to respiratory issues and overall poor health. This environmental factor, along with

---

<sup>110</sup>Zizza C, Herring AH, Stevens J, et.al. Length of Hospital Stays Among Obese Individuals. *Am J Public Health*, 2004; 94: 1587-91.

<sup>111</sup> Heavy consumption is defined as more than two drinks per day for men and one drink per day for women.

safety, could possibly keep people indoors and not engage in physical activity. Traffic congestion in Cobb was cited as a top community need which contributes to poor air quality as well as our communities' proximity to the major urban area of Atlanta.

- **Asthma** is a health need because it's a prevalent problem often exacerbated by poor environmental conditions (related to poor air quality levels in all counties).

#### Highlights a lack of access to preventive care

- **Breast Cancer Screening** is a health need as the community is below national measures and is link to early diagnosis of breast cancer for better survival rates. Preventive care was mentioned by Key Informants as a privilege for those with insurance – those without had no access to get proper screening and healthcare check-ups.
- **Colon Cancer Screening (sigmoid/colonoscopy)** is a health need because engaging in preventive behaviors allows for early detection and treatment of health problems. The lack of preventive screening for colon cancer highlights a lack of access to preventive care, a lack of health knowledge, insufficient provider outreach, and/or social barriers preventing utilization of services.
- **Prostate cancer screening** is a health need since it points to a lack of access to preventive care, a lack of health knowledge, insufficient provider outreach, and/or social barriers preventing utilization of services. Without appropriate screening and early intervention, prostate mortality rates will increase.
- **Dental Care** is a health need as it's a sign of a medically underserved area and disengagement from preventive behaviors which decrease the likelihood of developing future problems. It also highlights possible social barriers to utilization. Bartow was cited by primary and secondary data as an improvement area.

#### Highlights a lack of health knowledge

- **Teen Pregnancy** is a health issue since it indicates unsafe sex which may or may not be linked to a lack of education. In many cases, teen parents have unique social, economic and health support services. Teen pregnancy was cited as a key winnable battle area for public health.
- **Education** is a health issue since a lack of health promotion and literacy contributes to a decrease use of preventive care and unhealthy lifestyle choices. Better health education was cited in the Forces of Change Assessment Summary as an area of improvement and opportunity. In the MAPP phone survey half of the respondents "don't know/not sure/none" when asked what was the community's biggest health issue. In fact, the leading cause of death in the community and among

women is heart disease and heart conditions were mentioned by only two percent of the respondents.

A common theme among focus group participants was the need for education and information about available services in the county. MAPP Key Informants noted the lack of continued adult education on daily lifestyle choices with nutrition and exercise. Others noted that educating children about lifestyle choices at an early age was a key issue in Cobb County. Education and prevention programs were seen as equally important.

- **Sexually Transmitted Infections (STIs)** are a health issue since they are a measure of poor health status and signify the prevalence of unsafe sex practices which may or may not be linked to a lack of education. STIs are cited as a key winnable battle for public health.

### Highlights the existence of health disparities

- **Transportation** is a health need since limited transportation is a barrier for accessing health services and public transportation was cited by many in the community as a hindrance to care and a top community health issue as well as traffic/congestion and roads.
- **Access to care** is a health need since it contributes to health disparities and is a leading barrier to improving the health of the community. Affecting access is the insufficient supply and accessibility of facilities and primary care physicians causing preventable hospital stays which could otherwise be prevented if adequate primary care, specialty care and preventive resources were available and accessed. Bartow County ranked well above the national benchmark (and is a designated Health Professional Shortage Area) with Cobb and Cherokee ranking just below. Across the board, Bartow exemplified the differences in health that exist between urban and more rural counties due in large part to care access issues.

The uninsured population surpasses the national benchmark in the communities served and is a key driver of poor health. It affects access to care with many uninsured people refusing doctor visits due to financial hardship. For people who do have coverage, many cited frustration with coverage limitations - non-acceptance of Medicaid and Medicare. An uninsured community is limited to receiving needed primary and specialty care which directly relates to poor health status.

Economic barriers were frequently mentioned as a major barrier to care access. MAPP focus group participants noted the excessive cost of medical expenses and health insurance along with the inequities in healthcare services as external impediments to living a healthy life.

Linguistic challenges in Cobb County creates barrier to healthcare access, provider communication and health literacy education. This was reflected in Cobb Hispanic focus groups where participants rated quality of life lower and access issues higher than other populations.

- **Prenatal care** is a health issue since infant mortality in Cobb and Bartow counties surpass the national levels. It indicates the existence of broader issues pertaining to access to care and maternal and child health. The prevalence of maternal and child health issues are higher with women who are medically underserved, uninsured, under-educated, and without adequate access to care. Other maternal/child health issues, including low birth weight, highlight these health disparities.

### Health needs not assessed and why

All STIs and the issue of teen pregnancy were not assessed leaving awareness education with schools, family and churches. From a health system standpoint, STI education can be offered, but the issue is more cultural and societal.

Improvement to health needs stemming from socioeconomic and physical environmental issues get traction from public policy and education. A health system can complement efforts to impact policy, but has to rely on public health, state and local municipalities and federal governmental agencies to drive these types of health improvements.

### **Prioritized Health Needs:**

Selection criteria for WellStar Kennestone Hospital’s prioritized health needs was primarily based upon the bandwidth to build a sustainable community benefit model focused on preventable health behaviors and access to care. The goal – to make the largest impact on the overall health of the community, including vulnerable populations. Other criteria included:<sup>112</sup>

- Severity of issue/degree of poor performance against the benchmark
- Clear disparities/inequities
- Existing attention, facilities and resources dedicated to the issue
- Effective and feasible interventions exist
- A successful solution has the potential to solve multiple problems
- Opportunity to intervene at the prevention level

WellStar Kennestone Hospital used the CHNA Prioritization Matrix<sup>113</sup> to choose priority health needs by rating identified health needs against the above criteria using 3 = criterion met well; 2 = criterion met; 1 = criterion somewhat met; 0 = criterion not met. A health needs’ priority score was the sum of the ratings for each criterion. The resulting prioritized needs are ranked by the priority score – high, medium and low:

<sup>112</sup>Guidelines found in the Kaiser Permanente CHNA Toolkit 2, September 2012.

<sup>113</sup> Appendix: Prioritization Toolbox template, page 92. Kaiser Permanente CHNA Toolkit Part 2, September 2012.



**Table 10:  
WellStar Kennestone Hospital's Prioritized Health Needs**

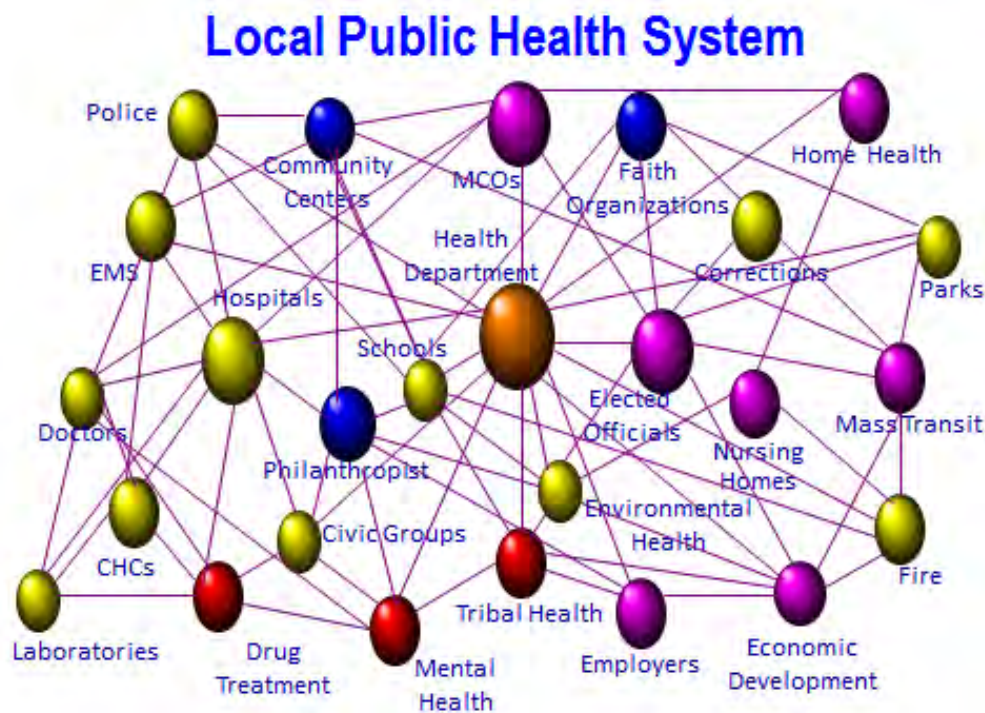
HIGH		MEDIUM	LOW
<b>Access to Care</b>		Breast Cancer (Screening)	Transportation
<b>Chronic Disease*</b>	Cardiovascular Disease	Prostate Cancer (Screening)	Air Quality
	Cancer <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Lung</li> <li>▪ Colon</li> <li>▪ Breast</li> <li>▪ Prostate</li> </ul>	Colon Cancer (Screening)	Dental Care
	Stroke	Alcohol	Sexually Transmitted Infections
	Chronic Obstructive Pulmonary Disease	Prenatal Care	Teen Pregnancy
	Diabetes		
	<b>Healthy Lifestyles</b>		
Physical Activity			
Healthy Eating			
Obesity			
Smoking			
Education			
<b>Mental / Behavioral Health</b>			

The WellStar Kennestone Hospital community has myriad facilities, assets and resources to serve the needs of its community. One of the most valuable assets to achieve a sustainable community benefit model is a collaborative, integrated local public health system (see Figure 6).

A list of community facilities, assets and resources (many CHNA collaborators) available to respond to the health needs of the communities served include can be found in the Appendix on **page 93**. This list will be periodically updated for accuracy and inclusiveness.

Also, the Atlanta Regional Commission compiled a comprehensive catalogue list of services in the WellStar Health System five-county service area. Click to access the resource list for [Bartow](#), [Cherokee](#) or [Cobb](#) County.

Figure 6:  
Integrated Local Public Health System<sup>114</sup>



<sup>114</sup> This egg diagram shows the many contributors to health and delivery of the Essential Public Health Services in the community and the benefits of CHNA coalitions and collaborations.

**Table Citations:**

Table #	Title	Page #
1	Vulnerable Populations and Related Key Drivers of Health	4
2	CHNA Objectives and Key Findings	5
3	County Health Outcomes and Factors Rankings	10
4	WellStar Kennestone Hospital Primary Service Areas by Sub-Markets and Zip Codes	19
5	Leading Causes of Death	27
6	County-Specific Demographics	27
7	Description of Data Sources and Dates	32
8	MAPP Assessment and Emergent Themes	36
9	Core Health Indicators / Data	40
10	Prioritized Health Needs	52

**Map Citations**

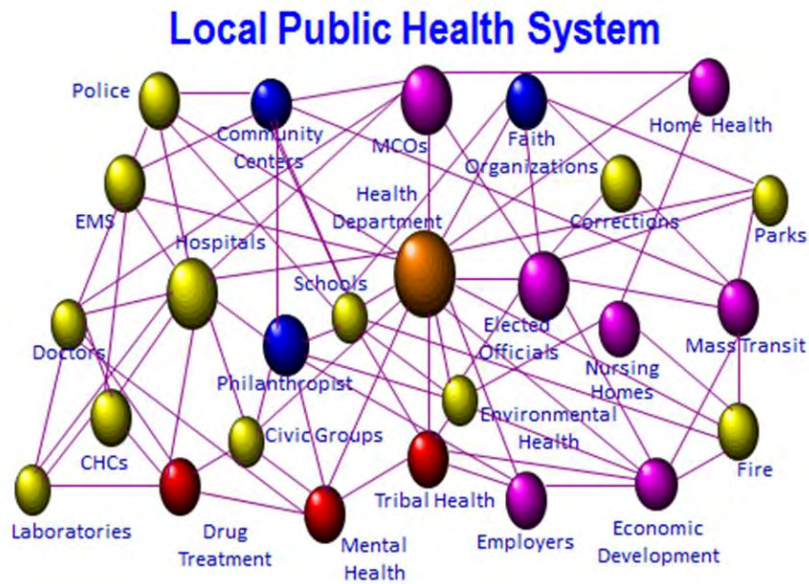
Map #	Title	Page #
1	County Map	17
2	WellStar Kennestone Hospital / WellStar Health System Service Area Overlap	18
3	Patient Origin	21

**Figure Citations:**

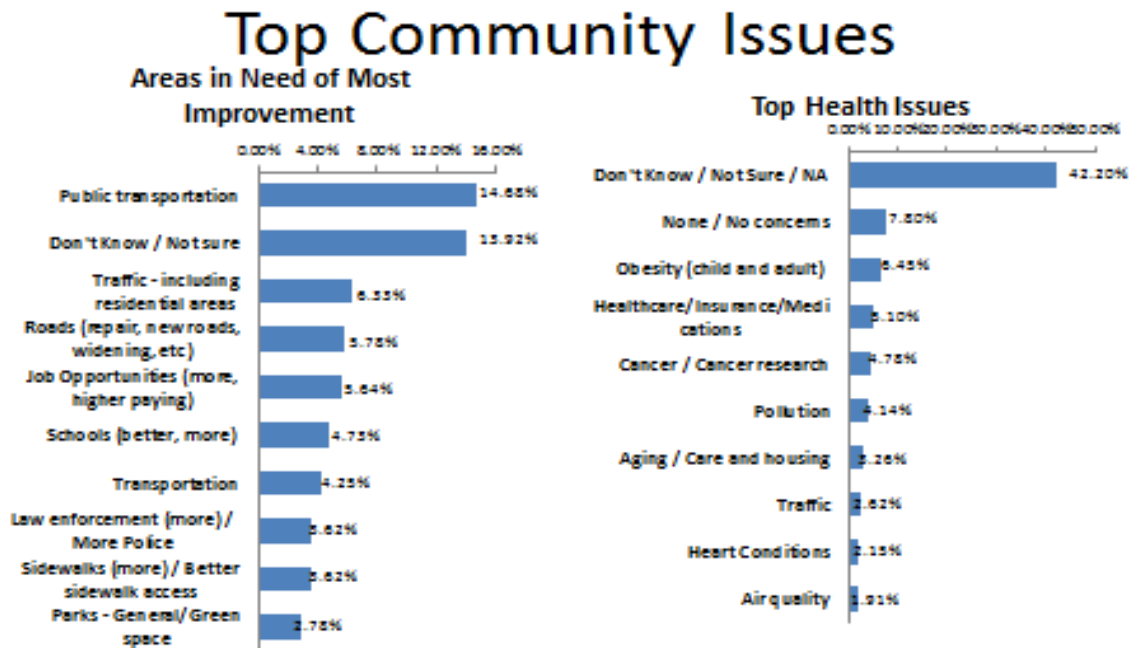
Figure #	Title	Page #
1	Model of Population Health	9
2	Targeted Areas of Change: Basis of Implementation Strategy & Community Benefit Plan	13
3	MAPP "Action Cycle"	35
4	Core Health Indicators	39
5	CHNA Health Needs Process	45
6	Integrated Local Public Health System	53

**Executive Summary**

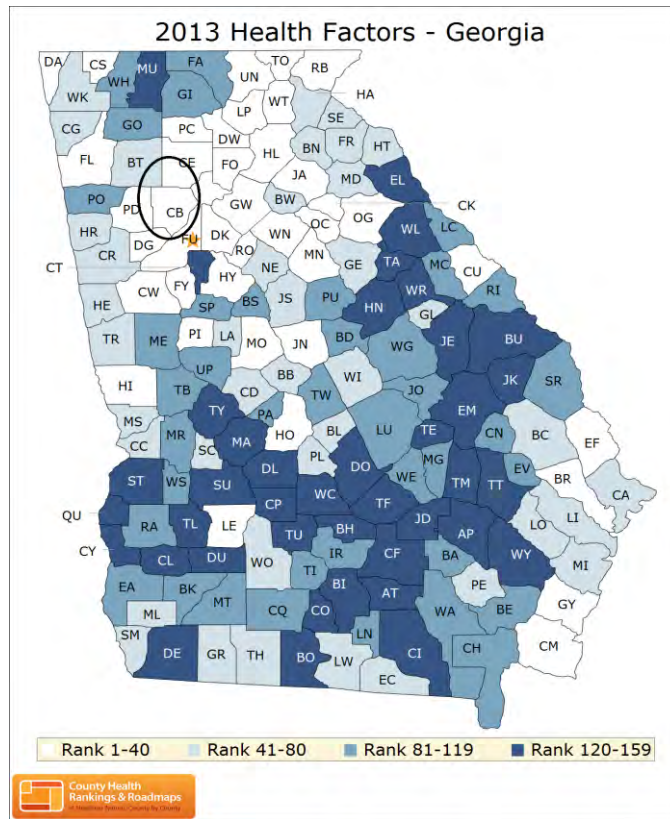
**1. Local Public Health System Egg Diagram**



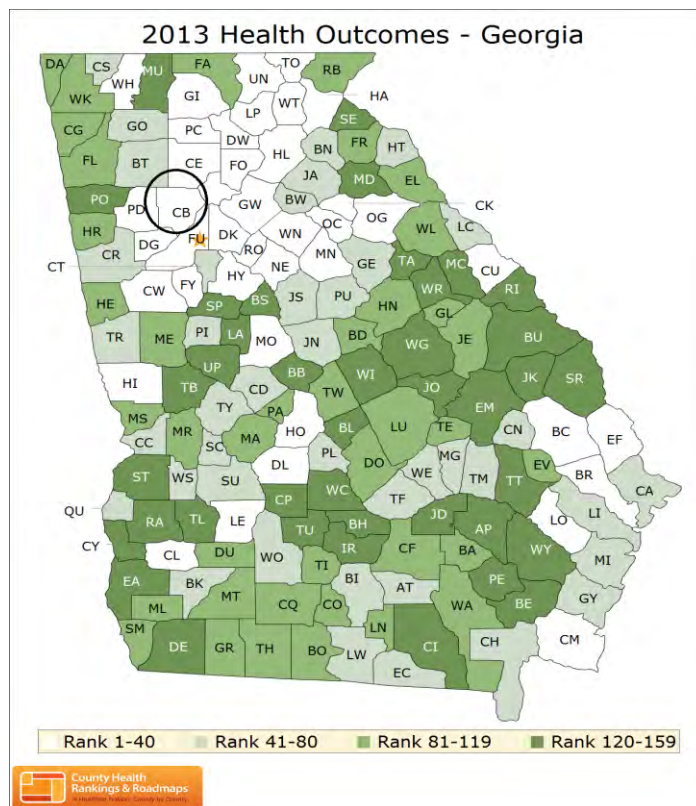
**2. Top Community Health Needs Chart – Cobb County**



3. County Rankings 2013 Health Factors: Map of Georgia (Service areas highlighted)



4. County Ranking 2013 Health Outcomes: Map of Georgia (Service area highlighted)



**5. Community Strengths & Themes Assessment – Key Informant Interview Survey Template for Cherokee, Paulding and Bartow counties (follows Cobb MAPP template)**

**KEY INFORMANT INTERVIEW**

Community Themes & Strengths Assessment  
Cherokee/Paulding/Bartow

Interviewer's Initials: \_\_\_\_\_

Date: \_\_\_\_\_ Start time: \_\_\_\_\_ End time: \_\_\_\_\_

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Title: \_\_\_\_\_

Agency/Organization: \_\_\_\_\_

#of years living in county: \_\_\_\_\_ # of years in current position: \_\_\_\_\_

**Introduction:** Good morning/afternoon. My name is [interviewer's name]. Thank you for taking time out of your busy day to speak with me. I would like to remind you that your participation in this interview is completely voluntary. I'll try to keep our time to 30 minutes only.

WellStar is gathering local data as part of developing a plan to improve health and quality of life in Bartow/Cherokee/Paulding County. Community input is essential to this process.

You have been selected for a key informant interview because of your knowledge, insight and familiarity with the community. The themes that emerge from these interviews will be summarized and made available to the public; however, individual interviews will be kept strictly confidential.

To get us started, can you tell me briefly about the work that you and your organization do in the community?

Thank you. Next I'll be asking you a series of questions about health and quality of life. As you consider these questions, keep in mind the broad definition of health adopted by the World Health Organization: 'Health is a state of complete physical, mental and social well-being and not merely the absence of disease or infirmity,' while sharing the local perspectives you have from your current position and from experiences in this community.

Questions:

1. In general, how would you rate health and quality of life in Bartow/Cherokee/Paulding County?
2. In your opinion, has health and quality of life in the County improved, stayed the same, or declined over the past few years?
  - a. Can you briefly explain why you think the health and quality of life in the County has improved, stayed the same, or declined over the past few years?
3. Are there people or groups of people in the County whose health or quality of life may not be as good as others?



- a. Who are these persons or groups (whose health or quality of life is not as good as others)
- b. Why do you think their health/quality of life is not as good as others?
4. What barriers, if any, exist to improving health and quality of life in the County?
5. In your opinion, what are the most critical health and quality of life issues in the County?
6. What needs to be done to address these issues?
7. What specific actions, policy or funding priorities would you support because they would contribute to a healthier County?
8. In your opinion, what else will improve health and quality of life in the County?
9. What support systems currently exist within the County during times of need and stress?

**Close:** Thanks so much for sharing your concerns and perspectives on these issues. The information you have provided will contribute to develop a better understanding about factors impacting health and quality of life in the County. As a reminder, summary results will be made available by WellStar and used to develop a community-wide health improvement plan.



Community Health Needs Assessment (CHNA) – Cherokee County, Georgia  
 Process and Key Informant Reporting for WellStar Health System  
 Prepared by Ron Chapman, Consultant and Facilitator  
 April 2, 2013

### Overview and Background

In 2012, the Public Health Department of Cobb and Douglas Counties (Georgia) performed a comprehensive Community Health Needs Assessment (CHNA) for the purpose of developing a Community Health Improvement Plan (CHIP). WellStar Health System participated in that process as part of the Steering Committee established to oversee the CHNA, the CHIP and its implementation. This consultant has been involved in that process as a designer and facilitator as well as in targeted consultative activities.

Late in 2012, WellStar explored the possibility of expanding the reach of the assessment performed in Cobb and Douglas into adjacent counties (Bartow, Cherokee, and Paulding) in which it operates. The basic premise was that a substantial part of the findings from Cobb and Douglas should be generalizable to these additional areas given the many geographical and demographic similarities. Furthermore, that targeted key informant interviews in the counties could further validate the findings while adding valuable information on variations and gaps unique to these additional communities.

In order to validate the premise, in January 2013 WellStar and the consultant met with representatives of the District and County Public Health Departments for Cherokee and Paulding Counties. During that session, a representative from Cobb and Douglas presented their results, which are included as a supplement to this report. On the whole, the group concurred in large part with the findings as well as the



planned key informant approach. In February, a similar briefing occurred with a public health representative in Bartow County.

This total body of information will be used by WellStar in strategic planning to determine how best to respond to the needs in all five counties. This strategic dialogue would take place between April and June 2013.

### Process Overview

Representatives from the Public Health Departments in Bartow, Cherokee and Paulding Counties agreed to each identify ten to twelve well-informed key stakeholders in their communities. Subsequently, the consultant interviewed as many as possible using a slightly modified version of the instrument developed and validated in Cobb Douglas. That tool is also provided as a supplement to this report.

This report will be reviewed for feedback and enhancement with the representatives from the Public Health Departments in Bartow, Cherokee and Paulding Counties. Their comments will be incorporated into this reporting. That final compilation will be provided to the Public Health Departments as well as the key informants. WellStar will then incorporate the information into their strategic processes.

Recommendation: WellStar has engaged in enhancing their collaboration and partnership with these Public Health Departments through this process, which in turn extends to key informants. To further that community partnership, WellStar would benefit from reporting the results of their strategic dialogue to the departments and communities. Indeed, it would be extremely beneficial to all parties and the public's health for the reporting to expand into community dialogue.

### Cherokee County – Findings

A total of nine key informants were interviewed representing senior services, local commerce, education, community-based coalitions and organizations, public officials, family and children's services, faith communities, health providers and public health.

- Overall Health and Quality of Life
  - Most respondents provided a ranking between fair and good, with two indicating very good and one indicating poor.
  - Key factors in this moderately positive perspective include:
    - A mix of both rural and urban character and benefits,
    - Proximity to the many features of a major metropolitan center, and
    - A high degree of collaboration within the community as reflected in community-based coalitions working effectively to address needs and concerns.
  - Travel and commuting requirements with associated stress and reduction in quality time are noteworthy as a negative factor.
  - All of those interviewed reported populations or sub-populations that are significant outliers with poor to very poor rankings as described below.
- Trending for Health and Quality of Life
  - The dominant theme was of slight improvement over the past few years though one informant reported an overall downward trend over the past twenty-five years.

- The primary contributors to improvement are largely related to economic growth with the addition of more medical facilities, increase in the number and variety of healthcare providers, increasing income and education, and better programming throughout the community.
- Certain factors were observed to be negative in nature including decreasing quality in food and nutrition, diminishing physical activity, increasing obesity, and an insufficient supply of specialty medical providers such as pediatrics.
- Disparately Affected Populations or Sub-Populations
  - Those lacking medical, dental and vision insurance,
  - Persons of low socio-economic status including those with insufficient education,
  - Middle income residents who have been negatively affected by recent economic downturns,
  - “Pocketed, rural, isolated” residents, many of whom represent generational history in the county, who lack sufficient health and medical information as well as access,
  - Children and elders who lack access to health systems, quality food, opportunities for physical activity, and
  - Immigrants and those with limited English who may be fearful of law enforcement or lack sufficient health and medical information and access.
- Barriers to Health and Quality of Life
  - Nearly every respondent mentioned lack of access in some form or another including:
    - Lack of insurance,
    - Few providers willing to accept patients via Medicaid,
    - An inadequate supply of low or no cost medical services especially mental health services,
    - Limitations of public transportation,
    - Insufficient information or knowledge on health as well as options available to them, which includes several reports of culture or norms that do not encourage health and wellbeing, and
    - The cumulative deleterious effect of health neglect.
- Primary Conditions of Concern
  - Obesity, nutrition and physical activity
  - Tobacco use prevention
  - Diabetes
  - Teen pregnancy
  - Drug and alcohol use
  - Cardiovascular health
  - Dental care
- Key Actions, Policies or Funding Priorities
  - Increased medical solutions that are no or low cost including alternatives for financial support for community-based, low or no cost providers
  - Programs and built environment that support physical activity, especially in the schools

- Open access solutions to information and knowledge
  - More services and programs related to healthy foods
  - Private sector prevention and wellness efforts that incentivize health
  - Easy to use, affordable public transportation
  - Increased mental health services including substance abuse
  - Maximizing the involvement of community coalitions and collaborations
  - Faith community involvement for spiritual care and well being
- Other Items of Note
    - “WellStar has pulled back from community involvement, [while] Northside is very engaged”

### **Consultant Observations**

While the purpose of this report is not to interpret the findings, a few points seem to be appropriate.

- The dominance of obesity, nutrition and physical activity and tobacco as health concerns is very consistent with the findings in Cobb and Douglas. Teen pregnancy and substance abuse were similarly identified as concerns as well.
- Matters of access are likewise quite similar to Cobb and Douglas, and have the same orientation to the problem that was noteworthy in Douglas.
- Given the access item above, it is not surprising that the disparately affected populations and the barriers that are encountered are comparable.

### **Additional Comments – Department of Health Debriefing**

On April 2, 2013, a debriefing was held with district and local public health representatives. The contents above were accepted without modification, however additional dialogue resulted in the following observations:

- The collaborative capacity of Cherokee County is relatively high and thus is recommended as an integral part of any approach to address health access or prevention activities. This is consistent with the decentralized nature of the local public health system in which WellStar provides critical medical services.  
A well-developed model is readily observed in the approach to emergency preparedness that brings together diverse partners, providers and services as an interconnected system. While that model does not directly translate into one for access and prevention, much of that underlying foundation should inform the approach.
- In addition to the collaborative capacity in the County, the reach of faith communities is a significant strength and point of leverage, and a highly performing public education system is likewise a strength and a possible platform.
- Parochial and vested interests are an inherent challenge in collaborative approaches in any community. Therefore, it would be effective to utilize existing partners who have established credibility, while also establishing strategies to build engagement, buy in and trust.



Community Health Needs Assessment (CHNA) – **Bartow County, Georgia**  
Process and Key Informant Reporting for WellStar Health System  
Prepared by Ron Chapman, Consultant and Facilitator  
April 9, 2013

### Overview and Background

In 2012, the Public Health Department of Cobb and Douglas Counties (Georgia) performed a comprehensive Community Health Needs Assessment (CHNA) for the purpose of developing a Community Health Improvement Plan (CHIP). WellStar Health System participated in that process as part of the Steering Committee established to oversee the CHNA, the CHIP and its implementation. This consultant has been involved in that process as a designer and facilitator as well as in targeted consultative activities.

Late in 2012, WellStar explored the possibility of expanding the reach of the assessment performed in Cobb and Douglas into adjacent counties (Bartow, Cherokee, and Paulding) in which it operates. The basic premise was that a substantial part of the findings from Cobb and Douglas should be generalizable to these additional areas given the many geographical and demographic similarities. Furthermore, that targeted key informant interviews in the counties could further validate the findings while adding valuable information on variations and gaps unique to these additional communities.

In order to validate the premise, in January 2013 WellStar and the consultant met with representatives of the District and County Public Health Departments for Cherokee and Paulding Counties. During that session, a representative from Cobb and Douglas presented their results, which are included as a supplement to this report. On the whole, the group concurred in large part with the findings as well as the planned key informant approach. In February, a similar briefing occurred with a public health representative in Bartow County.

This total body of information will be used by WellStar in strategic planning to determine how best to respond to the needs in all five counties. This strategic dialogue will take place between April and June 2013.

### Process Overview

Representatives from the Public Health Departments in Bartow, Cherokee and Paulding Counties agreed to each identify ten to twelve well-informed key stakeholders in their communities. Subsequently, the consultant interviewed as many as possible using a slightly modified version of the instrument developed and validated in Cobb Douglas. That tool is also provided as a supplement to this report.

This report will be reviewed for feedback and enhancement with the representatives from the Public Health Departments in Bartow, Cherokee and Paulding Counties. Their comments will be incorporated into this reporting. That final compilation will be provided to the Public Health Departments as well as the key informants. WellStar will then incorporate the information into their strategic processes.

Recommendation: WellStar has engaged in enhancing their collaboration and partnership with these Public Health Departments through this process, which in turn extends to key informants. To further that community partnership, WellStar would benefit from reporting the results of their strategic dialogue to the departments and communities. Indeed, it would be extremely beneficial to all parties and the public's health for the reporting to expand into community dialogue.

### **Bartow County – Findings**

A total of nine key informants were interviewed representing behavioral and mental health, health promotion, juvenile services, primary care, public health, community coalitions, and local government.

- Overall Health and Quality of Life
  - Most respondents provided a ranking between fair and good, though an important distinction was made between quality of life being viewed more positively than health. This is indicative of the benefits of a more scenic and rural environment that boosts quality of life.
  - Most respondents also distinguished between those of moderate to higher economic status and those of limited means, consistently indicating those of lower socio-economic status to be considerably disadvantaged in terms of both health and quality of life.
  - A number of those interviewed offered very strong and positive impressions of local coalitions and collaborative activities, crediting these with not only nurturing community vitality, but making exceptional strides in addressing the needs of those residents who are disadvantaged.
  
- Trending for Health and Quality of Life
  - Perceptions with regard to trends were somewhat scattered, which is very likely the result of proximity to or involvement with populations with significant health and quality of life disadvantages.
  - There was agreement that those of better socio-economic status have tended to see moderate improvement in recent years, while others have done no better than hold their own.
  - While overall economic factors and disruption in the real estate market have clearly had negative effects, the emergence of the Lakepoint recreational site as an economic and development engine was mentioned by nearly every respondent.
  - There is general acknowledgement that the rippling development from the larger metropolitan area is bringing a wide array of effects including a greater variety of medical providers and broader improvements in schools, business and social programming.

- Disparately Affected Populations or Sub-Populations
  - Those lacking medical, dental and vision insurance,
  - Persons of low socio-economic status,
  - Individuals with mental illness,
  - Pockets of residents, in some cases those who have a generational and often rural presence in the county, though some are geographic in nature and represent concentrations of those who face significantly higher health, economic and social challenges, and
  - Migrants and immigrants.
  
- Barriers to Health and Quality of Life
  - The theme of lack of access was significantly present in every interview including:
    - Lack of insurance,
    - Few providers willing to accept patients via Medicaid and Tricare,
    - Significant insufficiencies in mental health care including substance abuse,
    - Geographic distance and isolation,
    - Inadequate public transportation,
    - Fragmented health care including health information, and
    - Significant deficiencies in health education and literacy.
  
- Primary Conditions of Concern
  - Chronic diseases broadly including approaches to prevention
  - Mental health including substance abuse
  - Obesity, nutrition and physical activity
  - Tobacco use prevention
  - Diabetes
  - Teen pregnancy
  - Cardiovascular health
  - Dental care
  
- Key Actions, Policies or Funding Priorities
  - Given the strength of coalition-based and collaborative approaches in the community, there is wide agreement that the highest impact will be achieved by expanding collaboration and involvement.
  - Strategies for increasing access, information and knowledge in a myriad of ways, most of which lend themselves to the collaborative approach above.
  - Programs and services that support healthy food, physical activity and built environment.
  - Easy to use, affordable public transportation.
  - Increased mental health services including substance abuse
  
- Other Items of Note
  - The vigor of the local coalitions and collaborations is noteworthy. A number of suggestions were offered to encourage WellStar to join these approaches as a community partner.

- A fairly high degree of suspicion co-exists with the encouragement to collaborate. Community members are concerned that WellStar may prove to be trying to gain a competitive advantage rather than meeting the needs of the community, or may take or continue actions as an independent institution that in fact undermine the overall approach to health access.
- Despite this healthy skepticism, there is some cautious optimism that WellStar could be a significant and valued partner in a collective approach.

### **Consultant Observations**

While the purpose of this report is not to interpret the findings, a few points seem to be appropriate.

- Overall the lack of access and underlying contributors are a dominant theme that is very consistent with the findings in Cobb and Douglas.
- The degree of interest in collaboration and coalition-based approaches is considerably stronger in contrast to other settings. However, it is not at all inconsistent with those findings. It is likely that such approaches would be well received across the counties of interest.
- Conditions of interest are very similar with a focus on chronic disease and prevention, teen pregnancy and substance abuse. However, there is a greater attention to the needs for mental health than occurred in other settings.

### **Additional Comments – Department of Health Debriefing**

On April 8, 2013, a debriefing was held with district and local public health representatives. The dialogue resulted in the following additions:

- Collaborative approaches with already strong coalition-led efforts in Bartow County are indeed the preferred strategy. An appropriate entry would be to engage with established collaborators to determine optimal activities as well as to allay concerns about WellStar's involvement in the community.
- Caution is advised with regard to sustaining community engagement. Given some historical precedents in the community, credibility must be demonstrated and established over time through consistent involvement.
- With regard to oral health needs, there are very good prospects for some co-located solutions with the direct benefit of reducing emergency room visits. It was also noted that the co-location design might then be extended into other venues where clear needs can be identified.



Community Health Needs Assessment (CHNA) – **Paulding County, Georgia**  
Process and Key Informant Reporting for WellStar Health System  
Prepared by Ron Chapman, Consultant and Facilitator  
April 12, 2013

### **Overview and Background**

In 2012, the Public Health Department of Cobb and Douglas Counties (Georgia) performed a comprehensive Community Health Needs Assessment (CHNA) for the purpose of developing a Community Health Improvement Plan (CHIP). WellStar Health System participated in that process as part of the Steering Committee established to oversee the CHNA, the CHIP and its implementation. This consultant has been involved in that process as a designer and facilitator as well as in targeted consultative activities.

Late in 2012, WellStar explored the possibility of expanding the reach of the assessment performed in Cobb and Douglas into adjacent counties (Bartow, Cherokee, and Paulding) in which it operates. The basic premise was that a substantial part of the findings from Cobb and Douglas should be generalizable to these additional areas given the many geographical and demographic similarities. Furthermore, that targeted key informant interviews in the counties could further validate the findings while adding valuable information on variations and gaps unique to these additional communities.

In order to validate the premise, in January 2013 WellStar and the consultant met with representatives of the District and County Public Health Departments for Cherokee and Paulding Counties. During that session, a representative from Cobb and Douglas presented their results, which are included as a supplement to this report. On the whole, the group concurred in large part with the findings as well as the planned key informant approach. In February, a similar briefing occurred with a public health representative in Bartow County.

This total body of information will be used by WellStar in strategic planning to determine how best to respond to the needs in all five counties. This strategic dialogue would take place between April and June 2013.

### **Process Overview**

Representatives from the Public Health Departments in Bartow, Cherokee and Paulding Counties agreed to each identify ten to twelve well-informed key stakeholders in their communities. Subsequently, the consultant interviewed as many as possible using a slightly modified version of the instrument developed and validated in Cobb Douglas. That tool is also provided as a supplement to this report.

This report will be reviewed for feedback and enhancement with the representatives from the Public Health Departments in Bartow, Cherokee and Paulding Counties. Their comments will be incorporated into



this reporting. That final compilation will be provided to the Public Health Departments as well as the key informants. WellStar will then incorporate the information into their strategic processes.

Recommendation: WellStar has engaged in enhancing their collaboration and partnership with these Public Health Departments through this process, which in turn extends to key informants. To further that community partnership, WellStar would benefit from reporting the results of their strategic dialogue to the departments and communities. Indeed, it would be extremely beneficial to all parties and the public's health for the reporting to expand into community dialogue.

### Paulding County – Findings

Only five key informants were able to provide interviews. Those respondents were disproportionately focused on children's needs with representatives from education, children's and juvenile services, community-based organizations and children's health. In addition senior and transit services were represented.

- Overall Health and Quality of Life
  - Perceived health and quality of life are largely good, though there is acknowledgment that this does not extend to those who for various economic or other reasons are excluded from the benefits of the larger community.
  - Key factors in this positive perspective include:
    - Appreciation of the rural and scenic character of the area with some small city benefits, and
    - A fair amount of comfort with overall economic conditions and realities.
- Trending for Health and Quality of Life
  - Consistently, the respondents believe there has been a general downward trend over recent years. This is largely due to erosion in economic vitality. Note: This is not apparently at odds with the relative comfort of overall economic conditions in the county, rather a recognition that those conditions have weakened.
  - There is acknowledgment that economic growth due to proximity to the metropolitan Atlanta area has brought with it improvements associated with growth such as increasing business and retail options, and improvements in education.
  - Several references pointed to gaps in services such as pediatric medicine and other specialties.
- Disparately Affected Populations or Sub-Populations
  - Those lacking medical, dental and vision insurance,
  - Persons of low socio-economic status, and
  - Children and elders who lack access to health systems
- Barriers to Health and Quality of Life
  - Nearly every respondent mentioned lack of access in some form or another including:
    - Lack of insurance,
    - Few providers willing to accept patients via Medicaid and Tricare,

- An inadequate supply of low or no cost medical services especially mental health services,
  - Limitations of public transportation, and
  - A combination of insufficient information or knowledge on health, as well as some historical reluctance to seek care except when the need is significant or dire.
- Primary Conditions of Concern
  - Obesity and nutrition
  - Diabetes
  - Teen pregnancy
  - Drug and alcohol use
  - Asthma
  - Dental care
- Key Actions, Policies or Funding Priorities
  - Increased medical solutions that are no or low cost including better access to specialty care.
  - Approaches to increase health knowledge as well as the options that are available.
  - Easy to use, affordable public transportation.
  - Increased mental health services including substance abuse.

### **Consultant Observations**

While the purpose of this report is not to interpret the findings, a few points seem to be appropriate.

- While the sample of key informants is small and biased toward the needs of children, the tenor and content of the responses is very consistent with that in Bartow, Cherokee, Cobb and Douglas Counties especially when compared to more rural aspects.
- The matters of access are dominant, with very similar barriers and challenges.
- Likewise the array of conditions of concern is very comparable to the other counties.

### **Additional Comments – Department of Health Debriefing**

On April 8, 2013, a debriefing was held with district and local public health representatives. The contents above were discussed with additional information contributed in summary as follows:

- While those interviewed were principally involved in children’s and youth affairs, the issues and concerns identified are applicable to the adult community as well.
- Paulding County has had exceptional development in the past decade as a bedroom community of the Atlanta metropolitan area. Without rigorous community planning, the result has been underdeveloped collaborative capacity with obvious implications for the local public health system. While some coalition presence exists, there is a need for communication and coordination with regard to health and health services.

- One consequence of that growth has been an upwelling of young couples and families. This creates a particular need for obstetric, gynecological and pediatric specialties. On another note, the lack of adequate oral health care is significant.
- Another priority should be health information and literacy, especially in reproductive health and family planning. This affirms feedback from informants that suggested health knowledge and treatment options are insufficiently understood in the community.
- Unfortunately, state and county funding for public health is significantly less than in comparable communities. This is a consequence of historical allocation mechanisms and formulas that are in the process of modification. However, this history leaves a cumulative deficiency in health and well-being.
- Similarly to Cherokee and Bartow Counties, there is some perception that WellStar is not a significant community partner. This should be a factor in any strategy development.

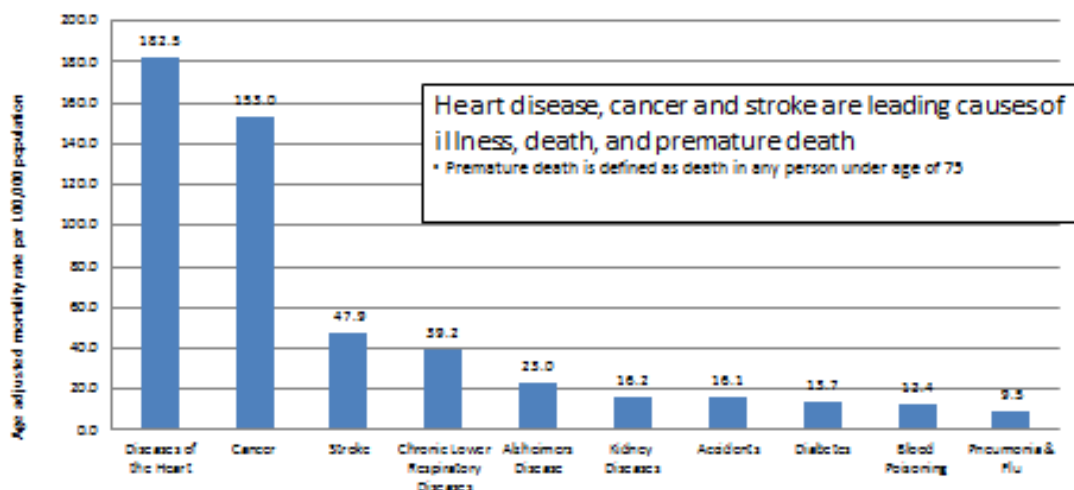
###

## Community Served

### 6 - Leading Causes of Death – Cobb County and National Age-Adjusted Death Rate

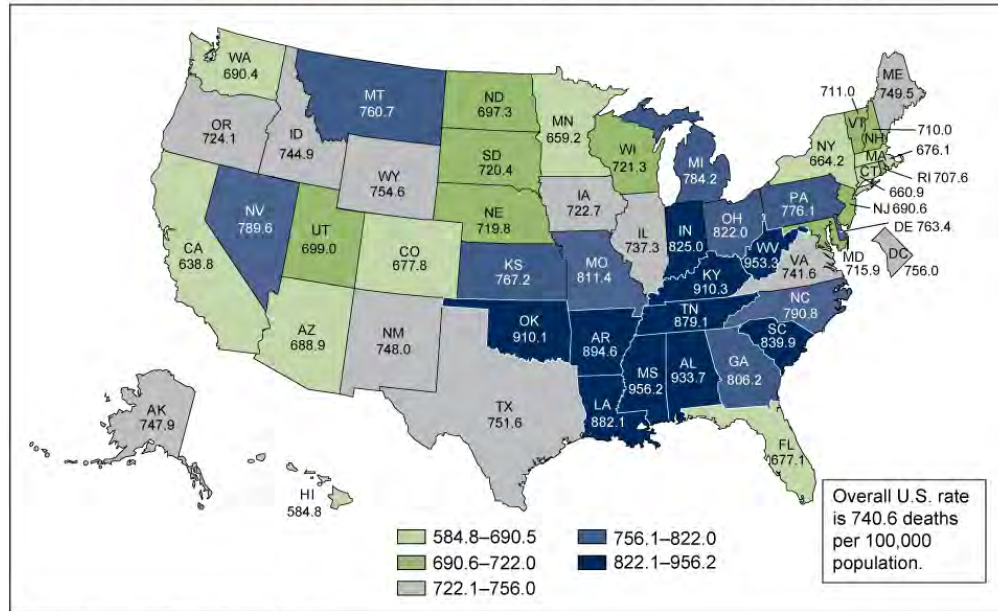
# Leading Causes of Death

Figure 4-1: Leading Causes of Mortality (Age Adjusted) Cobb County, 2003-2007



Source: OASIS

Figure 3. Age-adjusted death rates for each state and the District of Columbia: United States, preliminary 2011



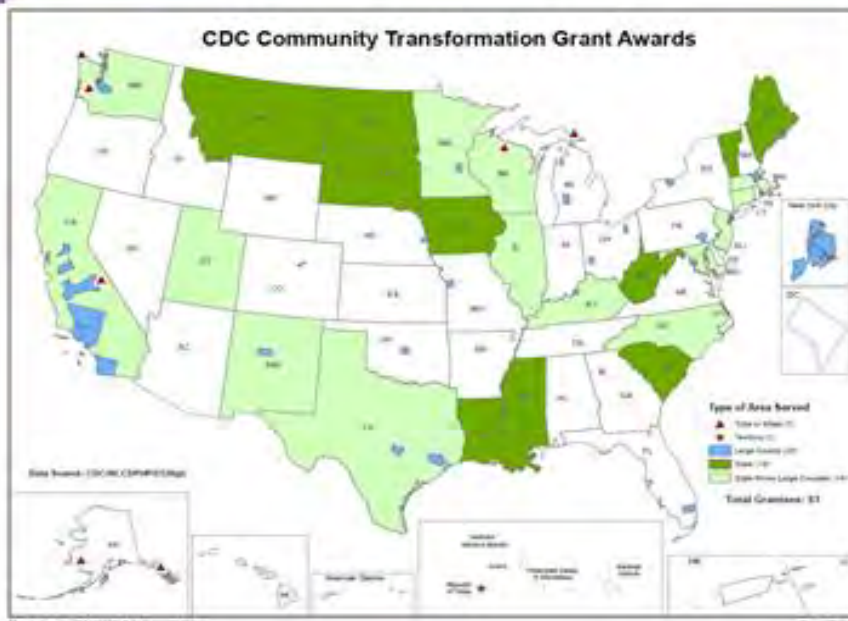
SOURCE: National Vital Statistics System, Mortality.

## Community Collaboration & Process

### 7 - CDC Community Transformation Grant Recipients 2011 (Map of National Award Recipients showcasing Cobb County)



## Community Transformation Grant (CTG)



**8 - WellStar Health System CHNA Collaborators** (not an all-inclusive list—Cobb Key Informant names are undisclosed per an agreement with Cobb & Douglas Public Health.)

**WellStar Health System CHNA Collaborators**

<b>COLLABORATOR</b>	<b>SECTOR</b>	<b>AREAS OF SERVICE*</b>	<b>Description of Expertise</b>
<p><b>A.L. Burruss Institute of Health Policy Research, Kennesaw State University</b></p> <p>Richard Engstrom, Interim Director and Assistant Professor of Political Science and International Affairs</p> <p>Kelleigh Trepanier, Assistant Director</p>	Higher education	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Community Strengths &amp; Themes Workshop Participant</li> <li>Conducted surveys of community stakeholders (Cobb Key Informant interviews)</li> </ul>	Enhances the ability of governmental agencies and non-profit organizations to make informed decisions for the public good by providing relevant data, technical resources and skill development.
<p><b>American Cancer Society</b></p> <p>Barbara Rush, Senior Community Manager(replaced former employee/collaborator)</p>	Local/national health organization	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Cobb2020 partner</li> <li>Cobb MAPP Steering Committee</li> </ul>	Advocates for cancer research, education, prevention and treatment
<p><b>Atlanta Regional Commission (ARC)</b></p> <p>Jennifer Curry, MPH, Health &amp; Wellness Coordinator for the Aging Division</p> <p>Cheryl Mayerik, Lifelong Mableton Manager</p>	Community planning	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Cobb2020 partner</li> <li>Cobb MAPP Steering Committee</li> </ul>	Unifies the region's collective resources to prepare the metropolitan area for a prosperous future. It does so through professional planning initiatives, the provision of objective information and the involvement of the community in collaborative partnerships
<p><b>Austell Community Task Force</b></p> <p>Michael Murphy, Chairman &amp; Senior Executive Public Health Accountant</p>	Neighborhood organization	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Cobb2020 partner</li> <li>Cobb MAPP Steering Committee</li> </ul>	Catalysts for positive change movements in education, employment, and justice
<p><b>Northwest Georgia Public Health / Bartow County Health Department</b></p> <p>Cathy Green , RN, BSN, MPH, County Nurse Manager</p>	Public health	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Key Informant - Bartow</li> </ul>	Provides health care to citizens of Bartow County
<p><b>Bartow County Board of Health</b></p> <p>Peggy Martin, President</p>		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Key Informant - Bartow</li> </ul>	
<p><b>Bartow County Commission</b></p> <p>Lane McMillan, Assistant County Administrator</p>	County government	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Key Informant - Bartow</li> </ul>	Works with the government authority of the county

<b>COLLABORATOR</b>	<b>SECTOR</b>	<b>AREAS OF SERVICE*</b>	<b>Description of Expertise</b>
<b>Bartow County Health Department</b>  Cathy Green, RN, BSN, MPH, County Nurse Manager	Public Health	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Key Informant - Bartow</li> </ul>	<i>Serves the entire population of Bartow County</i>
<b>Bartow County Juvenile Court</b>  Carolyn Johnson, Program Director	Justice System	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Key Informant - Bartow</li> </ul>	<i>Provides insight into juvenile delinquency matters – treated civil or family law matters – deals with truancy or drug dependency issues</i>
<b>Bartow Health Access</b>  Roberta Green, Director  J. Paul Newell, MD, Behavioral and Emotional Health Committee	Healthcare provider to vulnerable populations	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Key Informants - Bartow</li> </ul>	<i>Provides accessible health care for those without insurance; more specifically, to create premier health status in our community, by enhancing, coordinating and providing plans and partnerships, which address accessibility, accountability, and prevention, education and information</i>
<b>Bethesda Community Clinic</b>  Karen Fegely, Chief Executive Officer	Clinic serving vulnerable populations	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Key Informant - Cherokee</li> </ul>	<i>Dedicated to providing quality, affordable health care services to Cherokee County’s “working poor”</i>
<b>The Center for Family Resources</b>  Jeri Barr, CEO	Non-profit serving vulnerable populations	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Community Transformation Grant Leadership Team</li> </ul>	<i>Provides temporary financial assistance to stabilize families in crisis; housing for low-income and homeless families in a safe and secure environment; and education and training to individuals and communities to increase economic capacity and personal growth</i>
<b>Centers for Disease Control (CDC)</b>  Teresa Daub, Public Health Advisor	Federal health agency	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Cobb2020 Advisor</li> </ul>	<i>Collaborates to create the expertise, information, and tools that people and communities need to protect their health through health promotion, prevention of disease, injury and disability, and preparedness for new health threats.</i>
<b>Cherokee Christian Ministerial Association</b>  Fred Goodwin, President	Faith-based organization	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Key Informant - Cherokee</li> </ul>	<i>Provides a means for the Christian community serve needs in Cherokee County</i>
<b>Cherokee County Board of Education</b>  Barbara Jacoby, Director of Public Information, Communication and Partnerships	Education	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Key Informant - Cherokee</li> </ul>	<i>Represents the K-12 in Cherokee County</i>

<b>COLLABORATOR</b>	<b>SECTOR</b>	<b>AREAS OF SERVICE*</b>	<b>Description of Expertise</b>
<b>Cherokee County Chamber of Commerce</b>  Pamela Carnes, Executive Director	Employers	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Key Informant - Cherokee</li> </ul>	<i>Promotes business and the community while enhancing the economy and quality of life.</i>
<b>Cherokee County Division of Family and Children Services</b>  Charity Kemp, Director	County agency representing children	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Key Informant - Cherokee</li> </ul>	<i>Responsible for welfare and employment support, protecting children, foster care and other services to strengthen families.</i>
<b>Cherokee County Senior Services</b>  Nathan Brandon, Director	Non-profit representing elderly	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Key Informant – Cherokee</li> </ul>	<i>A non-profit serving the needs of Cherokee’s senior population</i>
<b>Cherokee FOCUS</b>  Sonia Carruthers, Chief Executive Officer	Non-profit representing families	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Key Informant - Cherokee</li> </ul>	<i>Exists to improve the lives of the children and families of Cherokee County – a collaborative organization</i>
<b>The Church at Chapel Hill</b>  Frank Smith, Outreach Director and founder of The CarePlace	Faith-based organization	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>MAPP partner- Douglas</li> </ul>	<i>Church with campuses in located in Douglasville and Bremen. Outreach Director oversees and develops ways to connect our church body to ministries and outreaches within the community including The Pantry, Hope Project and The CarePlace – a church initiative.</i>
<b>City of Canton</b>  Lorrie Waters, Manager – Human Relations	Municipality & Employers	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Key Informant - Cherokee</li> </ul>	<i>Municipal government representative of city employees</i>
<b>City of Kennesaw</b>  LisaRae Jones, Director of Human Resources	Municipality	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Cobb2020 partner</li> <li>Cobb MAPP Steering Committee</li> </ul>	<i>Provides quality HR services in order to attract, develop and retain a diverse workforce within a supportive and cohesive work environment</i>
<b>City of Marietta</b>  Beth Sessoms, Economic Development Manager	Municipality	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Cobb2020 partner</li> <li>Cobb MAPP Steering Committee</li> </ul>	<i>Cobb’s county seat and has 60,000 residents, five historic districts and its own public school system</i>
<b>Cobb2020 Partnership</b>  Jay Dillon, Chair, Cobb2020 and Director of Communications for Cobb County School District	Community collaborative	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Cobb2020 Chairman</li> <li>Cobb MAPP Steering Committee</li> </ul>	<i>A multi-sectorial strategic partnership to assess the healthcare needs of Cobb via the MAPP process</i>



COLLABORATOR	SECTOR	AREAS OF SERVICE*	Description of Expertise
<p><b>Cobb Chamber of Commerce</b></p> <p>Slade Gullledge, Director, Government Relations</p> <p>Nelson Geter, Economic Development Executive Director</p> <p>David Connell, President &amp; CEO</p>	Employers	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Cobb2020 partner</li> <li>• Cobb MAPP Steering Committee</li> <li>• Community Transformation Grant Leadership Team</li> <li>• Cobb2020 Advisor</li> </ul>	<i>Brings the community and its leaders together to create jobs and strengthen the economy and quality of life so businesses and the community can achieve more</i>
<p><b>Cobb Community Foundation</b></p> <p>Tommy Allegood, Executive Director (replaced former collaborator Robin Bradley)</p>	Foundation	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Cobb2020 partner</li> <li>• Cobb MAPP Steering Committee</li> </ul>	<i>Works with individuals and organizations to create endowment funds helping donors connect their charitable interests to a variety of important community needs through grants, specific gifts, and scholarships</i>
<p><b>*Cobb County Board of Commissioners</b></p> <p>JoAnn Birrell, Commissioner &amp; Tim Lee, Commissioner, District 3 Chairman</p>	County government	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Cobb2020 Advisors</li> </ul>	<i>Works to provide efficient, effective and responsive government that delivers quality services. Cobb County operates under the commission-county manager form of government.</i>
<p><b>Cobb and Douglas Community Services Board</b></p> <p>Bryan Stephens, LPC, MBA, Director of Intake/Access and Outpatient Services</p>	Behavioral health system	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Cobb2020 partner</li> <li>• Cobb MAPP Steering Committee</li> <li>• Community Themes and Strengths Workgroup Participant</li> </ul>	<i>Serves in the behavioral healthcare arena spanning Cobb and Douglas counties - provides citizens challenged by mental health, developmental disabilities and/or addictive disease issues with appropriate care and resources. The agency also serves children, adolescents and adults and offers a wide array of clinical and support services.</i>
<p><b>Cobb &amp; Douglas Public Health</b></p> <p>Jack Kennedy, MD, District Health Director and Vice-Chair of Cobb2020</p> <p>Jennifer Munoz, Planning and Quality Manager</p> <p>Cathy Wendholt-McDade, District</p>	Local health department	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Cobb2020 partner</li> <li>• Cobb MAPP Steering Committee</li> <li>• Community Transformation Grant Leadership Team</li> <li>• MAPP partner – Douglas</li> <li>• Cobb MAPP Key Informant Report Writer</li> <li>• Cobb MAPP Implementation</li> </ul>	<i>Partners, promotes and protects the health and safety of the residents of Cobb and Douglas counties</i>



Healthy Behaviors Director  
 Lisa Crossman, Director for the Center  
 of Community Health  
 +Rose Bishop, Public Health Nurse  
 Supervisor, Family Support Pregnancy  
 Services

Karla Ayers, PH Nursing Supervisor

Beverly Kartheiser, Health Educator

Team Members –  
*Healthy Lifestyles*

- +Access to Health Services
- Access to Health Services  
 Implementation Team –  
 Douglas
- MAPP partner - Douglas

COLLABORATOR	SECTOR	AREAS OF SERVICE*	Description of Expertise
<b>Cobb County Government</b>  Cheryl Mayerik, Mobility Transportation Coordinator, Cobb County Department of Transportation (previously with ARC as the program manager for Lifelong Mableton)  Robert Quigley, Director, Cobb County Government Communications Michael Hughes, Director of Economic Development & Pam Breeden, Executive Director	County government	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Cobb2020 partner</li> <li>• MAPP Steering              Committee</li> <li>• Cobb2020 Advisor</li> <li>• Community              Transformation Grant              Leadership Team</li> </ul>	<i>Plans, designs, manages and              delivers a network of              transportation services and              travel options to the general              public, including older adults,              people with disabilities and              individuals with lower incomes</i>
<b>Cobb County Parks and Recreation</b>  Eddie Canon, Director	Parks and recreation	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Cobb MAPP              Implementation Team              Member – <i>Healthy              Lifestyles</i></li> </ul>	<i>Provides facilities for Cobb              County citizens to use their              leisure time in a constructive,              healthy, gratifying and              inexpensive manner, and give              the county's youth the body-              building and mind-expanding              opportunities</i>
<b>Cobb County School District</b>  Jay Dillon, Director of Communications and Chair of Cobb2020	School system	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Cobb2020 partner</li> <li>• Cobb MAPP Steering              Committee</li> <li>• Community              Transformation              Grant Leadership              Team</li> </ul>	<i>Serves all of the school              district's stakeholders by              providing important              information about the district              as a whole, especially              information about issues that              may impact the educational              process or result in major              change</i>
<b>Cobb County School District</b>  Mark Anderson, Supervisor, Health and Physical Education	School system	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Cobb MAPP              Implementation              Team Member</li> </ul>	“

COLLABORATOR	SECTOR	AREAS OF SERVICE*	Description of Expertise
<b>Cobb County Sheriff's Office</b>  Lynda Coker, Chief Deputy Sheriff	Public safety	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Cobb2020 partner</li> <li>• MAPP Steering Committee</li> </ul>	<i>Targets its prevention programs toward the county's youth working cooperatively with the school system to address specific problems such as truancy and drug abuse</i>
<b>Cobb Senior Services</b>  Pam Breeden, Director	County-based senior service agency	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Cobb MAPP Steering Committee Member</li> <li>• Cobb2020 partner</li> <li>• Community Transformation Grant Leadership Team</li> </ul>	<i>Provides an array of services including the operation of eight senior centers which include three neighbourhood centers, four multi-purpose centers, and the Senior Wellness Center</i>
<b>The Community Health Center of Austell</b>  David Aten, Executive Director	Health clinic	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• MAPP partner - Douglas</li> </ul>	<i>Provide medical and dental health services at discounted, affordable rates to everyone who visits by partnering with businesses, community groups, local governments, and individuals</i>
<b>*/***Division of Family and Child Services (DFCS)</b>  Sabrina Watson, Acting Director	Government agency Vulnerable populations	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• MAPP Implementation Team Member – Access to Health Services</li> </ul>	<i>Investigates child abuse; finds foster homes for abused and neglected children; helps low income, out-of-work parents get back on their feet; assists with childcare costs for low income parents; and provides support services and innovative programs to help troubled families</i>
<b>Douglas County Chamber of Commerce</b>  Kali Boatright, President and CEO	Employers	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• MAPP partner - Douglas</li> </ul>	<i>Promotes, supports and attracts business for the advancement of Douglas County community</i>
<b>Douglas County Government</b>  Richard Hagan, Executive Director, Douglas County Senior Services  Wes Tallon, Director of Communications & Community Relations & Ron Roberts, Division Manager, Department of Transportation	County government	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• MAPP partner – Douglas</li> <li>• Access to Health Services Implementation Team Members – Douglas</li> </ul>	<i>Provides services to Douglas County citizens</i>
<b>Douglas County School System</b>  Gordon Pritz, Superintendent  Carol Lindstrom, School Board Member, District 9 Renee Davis, Parent Mentor	School system	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• MAPP partner – Douglas</li> <li>• Access to Health Services Implementation Team Member – Douglas</li> <li>• MAPP partner - Douglas</li> </ul>	<i>Serves K-12 in Douglas County</i>

COLLABORATOR	SECTOR	AREAS OF SERVICE*	Description of Expertise
<b>Douglas Community Services Board</b>  Christine Steadman, MSW, Grants Specialist	Public agency – vulnerable populations	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>MAPP Partner – Douglas</li> <li>Access to Health Services Implementation Team Member - Douglas</li> </ul>	<i>A public agency created by state law to provide mental health, developmental disability, and substance abuse services in Douglas County</i>
<b>Douglas CORE (Community Organizing Resources for Excellence)</b>  Amanda Bryant, Executive Director	Vulnerable populations	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>MAPP partner – Douglas</li> <li>Access to Health Services Implementation Team Member - Douglas</li> </ul>	<i>A community collaborative representing non-profits, civic organizations, health and human services, education, law enforcement, churches, families and youth. This partnership strives to assess and evaluate present needs and resources for children and families while searching for additional resources to fill in gaps in services and discourage duplication of services</i>
<b>East Cobb Business Association</b>	Employers	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Key Informant - Cobb</li> </ul>	<i>Seeks to transform East Cobb by developing business leaders through networking and education with an emphasis on community.</i>
<b>East Marietta Drugs &amp; the Institute of Wellness</b>  Jonathan Marquess, PharmD	Pharmaceuticals	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Cobb MAPP Implementation Team Member</li> </ul>	<i>Community pharmacy</i>
<b>Emory-Adventist Hospital at Smyrna</b>  Bob Crowe, Assistant VP, Emergency & Imaging Services	Hospital	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Cobb2020 partner</li> <li>Cobb MAPP Steering Committee</li> <li>Cobb MAPP Implementation Team Member – Access to Health Services</li> </ul>	<i>Strengthens the communities by extending the healthcare ministry of the Seventh-Day Adventist Church.</i>
<b>Emory University</b>  James Curran, Dean, Rollins School of Public Health	Higher Education	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Cobb2020 Advisor</li> </ul>	<i>One of the world's leading research universities. Its mission is to create, preserve, teach and apply knowledge in the service of humanity.</i>
<b>Franklin Road Weed &amp; Seed Program</b>	Community collaborative		<i>Helps rebuild and restructure communities that have suffered because of criminal activity and social decay. The program encourages residents to work with law enforcement agencies to deter crime, identify resources and restore the community.</i>

COLLABORATOR	SECTOR	AREAS OF SERVICE*	Description of Expertise
<b>G. Cecil Pruett Community Center Family YMCA</b>  John Hicks, Executive Director	Non-profit for vulnerable populations	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Key Informant – Cherokee</li> </ul>	<i>Focuses work on three key areas, because nurturing the potential of kids, helping people live healthier, and supporting neighbors are fundamental to strengthening communities.</i>
<b>Georgia Department of Public Health</b>  Dan Fesperman, Obesity Project Manager  Brenda Fitzgerald, Commissioner  Yvette Daniels, Director of Health Promotion  Bernita Frazier, MPH, PhD, Performance Improvement Manager	State health department/ Vulnerable populations	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Community Strengths &amp; Themes Workshop Participant</li> <li>Cobb MAPP Implementation Team Member – Healthy Lifestyles</li> <li>Cobb2020 Advisor</li> <li>Community Transformation Grant Leadership Team</li> <li>Community Strengths &amp; Themes Workshop Participant</li> </ul>	<i>The lead department entrusted by the people of the state of Georgia with the ultimate responsibility for the health of communities and the entire population.</i>
<b>Georgia Family Connection Program (Cherokee &amp; Paulding counties)</b>  Gaye Morris Smith, Executive Director	Community collaborative targeting children	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Key Informant - Paulding</li> </ul>	<i>Strives to improve the quality of life for their children and families through collaboration.</i>
<b>GlaxoSmithKline</b>  Eric Klein, Senior Executive, Public Health Account Manager	Pharmaceutical company	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Cobb2020 partner</li> <li>MAPP Steering Committee</li> </ul>	<i>Global healthcare company that researches and develops an innovative medicines and brands in pharmaceuticals, vaccines and consumer healthcare.</i>
<b>Gold's Gym</b>  Tom Butler	Healthy lifestyles	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>MAPP partner - Douglas</li> </ul>	<i>Fitness facility in Douglasville – asset for healthy lifestyles</i>
<b>Good Samaritan Health Center of Cobb</b>  Kacie McDonnell, MPA, Chief Executive Officer	Health clinic Vulnerable populations	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Cobb2020 partner</li> <li>Cobb MAPP Steering Committee</li> <li>Cobb MAPP Implementation Team Member – Access to Health Services</li> </ul>	<i>Exists to provide quality primary care medical and dental services to the working poor of our community delivered at an affordable cost, providing these families with a medical home</i>
<b>GreyStone Power Corporation</b>  Tim Williams, Vice President, Corporate & External Affairs	Employers	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>MAPP partner - Douglas</li> </ul>	<i>A member-owned electric cooperative dedicated to providing our members with the best electric service at the lowest possible rates.</i>

COLLABORATOR	SECTOR	AREAS OF SERVICE*	Description of Expertise
<b>Healthcare Georgia Foundation</b> Andrea Young Kellum, Program Officer	Foundation	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Cobb2020 partner</li> <li>• Cobb MAPP Steering Committee</li> <li>• <i>Community Strengths &amp; Themes</i> Workgroup Participant</li> </ul>	<i>Advances the health of all Georgians and to expand access to affordable, quality healthcare for underserved individuals and communities</i>
<b>HighLand Productions, Inc.</b> Meridith M. Kelly, President	Third-party consultant	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• CHNA written report and Implementation Strategy consultant and writer</li> </ul>	<i>A healthcare marketing communications and consulting company</i>
<b>Highland Rivers Health</b> Jason Bearen, Chief Executive Officer Kathleen Varda, Director of Strategy and Business Development	Safety net provider	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Key Informants – Bartow</li> </ul>	<i>Provides community-based neurobehavioral health care services and resource collaboration for individuals and families to improve quality of life.</i>
<b>Hispanic Health Coalition of Georgia</b> Heidy Guzman, Executive Director	Minority populations	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Community Transformation Grant Leadership Team</li> </ul>	<i>A non-profit organization created to advance health policies that will improve access to services for Hispanic children and adults throughout the state. It was founded in 1990 and currently is Georgia's only state-wide organization focusing on Latino/Hispanic health</i>
<b>Junior League of Douglas County</b> Kathy Patman, Community Volunteer	Service organization	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• MAPP partner - Douglas</li> </ul>	<i>A non-profit organization of women, who have been the driving force behind initiatives to make the Douglas County community healthier and more vital</i>
<b>Kaiser Permanente</b> Beth Spinning, LMSW, Manager, Medicaid and Special Populations	Managed care system	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Cobb2020 partner</li> <li>• Cobb MAPP Steering Committee</li> <li>• Cobb MAPP Implementation Team Member – <i>Access to Health Services</i></li> </ul>	<i>Provides health care plans to its members nation-wide offering integrated care health care plans</i>
<b>Kennesaw State University</b> Drs. Anne Hicks-Coolick & Janice Long, Associate Professors	Third-party consultants	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Cobb Focus Group facilitators</li> </ul>	<i>Integrated managed care consortium</i>
<b>Kaiser Permanente</b> Pat Guerry, Senior Director, Strategic Marketing & Product Development	Managed care system	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Cobb MAPP Implementation Team Member – <i>Healthy Lifestyles</i></li> </ul>	<i>Integrated managed care consortium</i>

COLLABORATOR	SECTOR	AREAS OF SERVICE*	Description of Expertise
<b>Kennesaw State University</b>  Dr. Richard Sowell, Dean	Higher Education	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Cobb2020 partner</li> <li>• Cobb MAPP Steering Committee</li> <li>• <i>Community Strengths &amp; Themes</i> Workshop Participant</li> </ul>	<i>The third-largest university in Georgia with more than 24,600 undergraduate and graduate students representing 132 countries (2013 stats)</i>
<b>Kiwanis Club of Marietta</b>  Lisa Crossman, Director of Clinical & Prevention Services	Civic organization	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Cobb2020 partner</li> <li>• Cobb MAPP Steering Committee</li> </ul>	<i>Service organization with a special outreach to children in our community</i>
<b>Live Healthy Douglas Coalition</b> <i>(Cobb &amp; Douglas Public Health)</i>  Bev Kartheiser, Program Chair & Health Educator	Public health	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• MAPP partner - Douglas</li> </ul>	<i>Empowers Douglas County to create a drug-free and healthy community – part of Cobb &amp; Douglas Public Health</i>
<b>Lockheed Martin</b>  Rania Washington, Human Resources Director	Employers	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Cobb MAPP Implementation Team Member – <i>Healthy Lifestyles</i></li> </ul>	<i>Specializes in research, design, development, manufacture and integration of advanced technology systems, products and services.</i>
<b>Magnetic North, LLC</b>  Ron Chapman, Consultant	Third-party consultant	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Key Informant interview facilitator and report writer – Bartow &amp; Cherokee counties</li> <li>• Cobb MAPP design consultant and facilitator</li> </ul>	<i>Consultant and facilitator</i>
<b>Marietta City Health Clinic</b>  Shannon Barrett, Interim Human Resources Director	Health Clinic	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Cobb MAPP Implementation Team Member – <i>Access to Health Services</i></li> </ul>	<i>Provides healthcare and services to the Marietta community</i>
<b>Marietta City Schools</b>  Donna Ryan, Ph.D., Assistant Superintendent of Special Services  Cindy Culver, Director of School Nutrition	School system	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Cobb2020 partner</li> <li>• Cobb MAPP Steering Committee</li> <li>• Cobb MAPP Implementation Team Member – <i>Healthy Lifestyles</i></li> <li>• Cobb MAPP Implementation Team Member – <i>Healthy Lifestyles</i></li> </ul>	<i>Develops programs, projects and services designed to meet the unique needs of our diverse student population by using system, school, grade level, and student specific data – benchmarks - to meet the needs of all learners</i>
<b>Marietta Daily Journal/Neighbor Newspapers, Inc.</b>  Otis Brumby, III, Executive Vice President	Public service	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Cobb2020 Advisor</li> <li>• Community Transformation Grant Leadership Team</li> </ul>	<i>Community newspaper</i>

COLLABORATOR	SECTOR	AREAS OF SERVICE*	Description of Expertise
<b>McCleskey-East Cobb YMCA</b>  Rebecca Shipley, Executive Director	Community coalition	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Cobb2020 partner</li> <li>• Cobb MAPP Steering Committee</li> <li>• Cobb MAPP Implementation Team - <i>Healthy Lifestyles</i></li> </ul>	<i>Offers programs for youth development, healthy living and social responsibility</i>
<b>MUST Ministries</b>  Dr. Ike Reighard, President and CEO	Non-profit serving vulnerable populations	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Cobb2020 Advisor</li> <li>• Community Transformation Grant Leadership Team</li> </ul>	<i>Serves neighbors in need by transforming and restoring lives and communities in response to Christ's call.</i>
<b>National Alliance on Mental Illness (NAMI)</b>	Mental Health	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Key Informant - Cobb</li> </ul>	<i>Advocates for access to services, treatment, supports and research and is steadfast in its commitment to raise awareness and build a community for hope for all of those in need</i>
<b>Ninth District Georgia PTA</b> Terry Fast, Parliamentarian of the Executive Committee	Residents/PTA	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Cobb2020 partner</li> <li>• Cobb MAPP Steering Committee</li> </ul>	<i>Grows and strengthens the organization to better serve the children)</i>
<b>North Star Church</b>	Faith-based organization	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Key Informant - Cobb</li> </ul>	<i>Exists to show God's love in such a way that people exchange ordinary living for an extraordinary life through the transforming power of Jesus Christ.</i>
<b>Northwest Georgia Public Health District</b>  Lisa Greeby, Health Services Program Manager	Public health	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Key Informant - Bartow</li> </ul>	<i>Protects and improves the health of the more than half million residents of the 10-county Northwest Georgia Public Health district. Through a variety of programs, community partnerships and services, we oversee environmental health, disease control and community and family health.</i>
<b>Paulding County Health Department</b>  Stacey Amsbaugh	Public health	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Key Informant - Paulding</li> </ul>	<i>Takes care of the health needs of the county including screenings, child health checks and immunizations</i>
<b>Paulding County Juvenile Court</b>  Sandra Miller, Juvenile Court Judge	Justice system	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Key Informant - Paulding</li> </ul>	<i>Promotes the protection and safety of children, families, and the community by means of treatment, rehabilitation, and supervision.</i>
<b>Paulding County School District</b>  Christy Ragsdale, Supervising Nurse	School system	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Key Informant - Paulding</li> </ul>	<i>Provides a safe, healthy, supportive environment focused on learning and committed to high academic achievement.</i>



COLLABORATOR	SECTOR	AREAS OF SERVICE*	Description of Expertise
<b>Paulding County Senior Center</b>  Libby Spencer, Director	Senior services	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Key Informant - Paulding</li> </ul>	<i>Conducts programs for those 55 years old and older living in the community. As a nutrition site for the County, over 100 seniors enjoy meals each day, either on-site or through the Meals on Wheels program. Provides transportation to those who need it.</i>
<b>Paulding Family Connection Children's Cabinet*</b>  Nina Lauter, Coordinator  <i>*Part of Family Connection, a Georgia statewide initiative of 159 community collaborative partnerships committed to making measurable improvements for children and families in Georgia.</i>	Child advocacy	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Key Informant – Paulding</li> </ul>	<i>Serves as the local decision-making body, bringing community partners together to develop, implement, and evaluate plans that address the serious challenges facing Georgia's children and families.</i>
<b>Pricewaterhouse Coopers</b>  Matthew D. Petroski PricewaterhouseCoopers LLP Manager, Exempt Organizations Tax Services	Third-party consultant	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Consultants for outlining CHNA tax law requirements</li> </ul>	<i>Consultants focusing on audit and assurance, tax and consulting services and reviewers of CHNA for compliance with tax law requirements</i>
<b>Renovacion Conyugal, Inc. (Marriage Renewal)</b>  Belisa M. Urbina, Founder/Executive Director	Minority organization	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Cobb2020 partner</li> <li>Cobb MAPP Steering Committee</li> </ul>	<i>Supports Latino families in marriage building and parenting</i>
<b>South Cobb Business Association</b>  Wayne Dodd, Past-President	Employers	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Cobb2020 partner</li> <li>Cobb MAPP Steering Committee</li> </ul>	<i>Supports South Cobb's business community</i>
<b>Smyrna City Government</b>	City government	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Key Informant - Cobb</li> </ul>	<i>Represents more than 50,000 residents in Cobb County</i>
<b>United Way</b>  Catherine Owens, Regional Director	Non-profit organization representing vulnerable populations	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>MAPP partner - Douglas</li> </ul>	<i>A non-profit that engages all community segments to drive sustainable change in education, income, health and homelessness</i>
<b>Cynthia Wainscott</b> , Community Mental Health Advocate	Mental Health	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Key Informant - Bartow</li> </ul>	<i>Mental health expert and advocate</i>
<b>WellStar Cobb Hospital</b>  Kem Mullins, President of WellStar Cobb Hospital	Hospital	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>WellStar Health System Advisor</li> </ul>	<i>One of five WellStar non-profit hospitals. Located in Austell primarily serving Cobb, Douglas and Paulding counties</i>



COLLABORATOR	SECTOR	AREAS OF SERVICE*	Description of Expertise
<b>WellStar Community HealthCare</b> Allen M. Hoffman, MD, Executive Director	Community clinics -Cobb -Kennestone -Douglas	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Cobb2020 partner</li> <li>• Cobb MAPP Steering Committee</li> <li>• Key Informant - Cobb</li> <li>• Cobb MAPP Implementation Team Member – Access to Health Services</li> <li>• Lead CHNA Assessor for WellStar</li> <li>• Community Transformation Grant Leadership Team</li> <li>• Cobb MAPP survey committee team member</li> </ul>	<i>Creates and delivers health improvement designed to reduce the health and economic impact of the most common chronic conditions and focus on their prevention. Advocates the patient-centered medical home (PCMH) to guide quality improvement and disease management to meet the needs of the chronically ill in a more proactive, engaging way to prevent and curb the effects of chronic conditions.</i>
<b>WellStar Douglas Hospital</b> Craig Owens, President of WellStar Douglas Hospital  Christopher Shane Greene, Executive Director, Hospital Operations and Finance	Hospital	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• WellStar Health System Advisor</li> <li>• MAPP partner - Douglas</li> </ul>	<i>One of WellStar’s five non-profit hospitals. Located in Douglasville, GA primarily serving Douglas and Paulding counties</i>
<b>WellStar Health Place</b> Allan Bishop, Executive Director, WellStar Retail Services	Healthcare system	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Cobb MAPP Implementation Team Member – Healthy Lifestyles</li> </ul>	<i>A medically-based fitness center to promote healthy lifestyles with degreed exercise specialists, registered and licensed dietitians and massage therapists.</i>
<b>WellStar Health System</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Kim Menefee, Senior Vice President, Public and Governmental Affairs</li> <li>• Jimmy Swartz, Vice President, Accounting</li> <li>• David Englett, Manager of Reimbursement</li> <li>• Ebenezer N.Erzuah, Director of Reimbursement</li> <li>• Joe Brywczynski, Senior Vice President, Health Parks Development</li> <li>• Caroline Aultman, Executive Director, Strategic Planning</li> </ul>	Health system	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• WellStar Kennestone Hospital CHNA Steering Committee members</li> <li>• Community Benefits Program Representatives</li> </ul>	<i>Provided oversight, accountability and work flow timelines for the CHNA process and reporting for WellStar hospitals.</i>
<b>WellStar Health System</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Cecelia Wagoner, Assistant Vice President, Corporate &amp; Community Health</li> <li>• Donna Kremer, MDiv, RN,</li> <li>• WellStar Congregational Nurse Network</li> <li>• Melissa Box, Chief Nursing Officer</li> </ul>	Health system	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Community Strengths &amp; Themes Workshop Participant</li> <li>• Cobb MAPP Implementation Team - Healthy Lifestyles</li> <li>• Community Strengths &amp; Themes</li> <li>• Workshop Participant</li> </ul>	<i>A not-for-profit health system recognized as a national leader in comprehensive care. Creates and delivers high quality, hospital, physician, and other healthcare related services that improve the health and wellbeing of</i>

- *Access to Health Services* Implementation Team Member - Douglas *individuals and communities.*

COLLABORATOR	SECTOR	AREAS OF SERVICE*	Description of Expertise
<b>WellStar Kennestone Hospital</b>  Dan Woods, President of WellStar Kennestone Hospital	Hospital	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• WellStar Health System Advisor</li> </ul>	<i>One of WellStar’s five non-profit hospitals. Located in Marietta, GA primarily serving Cobb, Cherokee, Paulding, and Bartow counties</i>
<b>WellStar Paulding Hospital</b>  Mark Haney, Senior Vice President of Real Estate and Construction and President of WellStar Paulding Hospital	Hospital	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• WellStar Health System Advisor</li> </ul>	<i>One of WellStar’s five non-profit hospitals located in Dallas, GA primarily serving Paulding county</i>
<b>WellStar Windy Hill Hospital</b>  Lou Little, President of WellStar Windy Hill Hospital	Long-Term Acute Care Hospital	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• WellStar Health System Advisor</li> </ul>	<i>One of WellStar’s five non-profit hospitals. It is a Long Term Acute Care Hospital located in Marietta, GA serving all five WellStar service area counties</i>
<b>West End Clinic</b>  Karen Williams, Associate Vice President, Programs	Federally Qualified Health Center (FQHC)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Key informant – Cobb</li> <li>• <i>Access to Health Services</i> sub-committee member</li> </ul>	<i>Serves a variety of Federally designated medically underserved area/populations</i>
<b>West Georgia Technical College</b>  Lisa Doney, Associate Provost	Higher education	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• MAPP partner - Douglas</li> </ul>	<i>A unit of the Technical College System of Georgia (TCSG) providing education for a seven-county service area that includes Carroll, Coweta, Douglas, Haralson, Heard, Meriwether, and Troup.</i>
<b>Young Women’s Christian Association</b>	Vulnerable populations	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Key informant - Cobb</li> </ul>	<i>Dedicated to eliminating racism, empowering women and promoting peace, justice, freedom and dignity for all through programs, economic empowerment, and health and safety.</i>

**\*Areas of Collaboration Defined:**

- **Key informants (KIs):**  
*Cobb:* Influential health and community leaders within Cobb County were identified by Cobb2020’s MAPP Steering Committee. Through snowball sampling, 20 Key Informants were interviewed for up to one hour. *Per Cobb and Douglas Public Health, the identities of the Key Informants are not able to be disclosed.* Key Informants represented different sectors of the Cobb community including healthcare, government, business, social service agencies, law enforcement, and the religious community and were in their current job position for an average of 7.42 years and Cobb County residents for an average of 19.56 years.

*Paulding, Cherokee and Bartow:* Leaders within these counties were identified by representatives from the Public Health Departments. The survey instrument was a slightly modified version of the one developed and validated in Cobb County.

- **Cobb2020 Advisors/Steering Committee:** Organization and individual partners/key leaders from many parts of the community on a state, regional and local level who contributed resources and time to the Cobb MAPP process. Led by Jay Dillon, Director of Communications for Cobb County School District and Dr. Jack Kennedy, District Health Director for Cobb & Douglas Public Health.
- **Community Strengths and Themes Workshop participants** (one of the four community assessments conducted by MAPP) resulted in the focus group report from Cobb2020
- **Cobb MAPP Implementation Teams - Healthy Lifestyles & Access to Health Services** formed in summer of 2012 to improve access to quality services for the medically underserved population in Cobb County. Recommendations form the basis for MAPP Stage 6 – Action Planning.
- **Cobb MAPP Survey Committee Members**-Developed the 44-question telephone survey conducted by Kennesaw State University's A.L. Burruss Institute for Public Service and Research polling 1,244 adults ages 18-94.
- **Douglas MAPP partners and Implementation Team Members** – Access to Health Services – community stakeholders representing Douglas County in the MAPP process lead by Cobb2020 and Cobb & Douglas Public Health.
- **Community Transformation Grant (CTG) Leadership Team** gave oversight to the grant awarded from the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) in October 2011 to Cobb and Douglas Public Health in support of community level efforts to reduce chronic disease such as heart disease, cancer, stroke, and diabetes. The CTG promotes healthy lifestyles especially to population groups experiencing the greatest burden of chronic disease, to improve health, reduce health disparities and control healthcare spending.
- **WellStar Health System Advisor** –Senior leadership representing WellStar's five non-profit, community-based hospitals.

\*\*\***Not included are the Forces of Change Assessment** Day (Sept. 30, 2011) and **Local Public Health Systems** Assessment Day (Oct. 4, 2011) community participants. Attendee rosters below.

### 9 - Additional CHNA Collaborators – MAPP Rosters from *Forces of Change* (Sept. 30, 2011) and *Local Public Health Systems* assessment work days (Oct. 4, 2011)

Partners	Participant	Title
Cobb Community Services Board	Mr. Bryan Stephens	Director Cobb County Outpatient Services
Marietta Kiwanis Club	Ms. Lisa Crossman	Director of Clinical & Prevention Services
Good Samaritan Health Center	Ms. Kacie McDonnell	
Atlanta Regional Commission	Ms. Jennifer Curry	Health & Wellness Coordinator for the Aging Division
City of Marietta	Ms. Beth Sessoms	Economic Development Manager
South Cobb Business Association	Mr. Wayne Dodd	President South Cobb Business Assoc.
Cobb Chamber of Commerce	Mr. Slade Gullede	Government Relations/ Area Councils Manager
Healthcare Georgia Foundation	Ms. Andrea Young Kellum	Program Officer
Cobb Community Foundation	Ms. Robin Bradley	
Emory-Adventist Hospital	Mr. Bob Crowe	Asst. VP Emergency & Imaging Services
WellStar Health System	Dr. Allen Hoffman	Executive Director WellStar Community Clinics

Cobb & Douglas Public Health	Dr. Jack Kennedy (Vice Chair)	District Health Director
American Cancer Society		Senior Community Manager
Kaiser Permanente	Ms. Beth Spinning	Manager Medicaid and Special Populations
Renovacion Conyugal, Inc.	Ms. Belisa M. Urbina	Founder/Executive Director
City of Kennesaw	Ms. LisaRae Jones	Director of Human Resources
Austell Community Task Force	Mr. Michael Murphy	Chairman
GlaxoSmithKline	Mr. Eric Klein	Sr. Executive Public Health Account Manager
Cobb County Sheriff's Office	Ms. Lynda Coker	Chief Deputy Sheriff
District 9 PTA	Ms. Terry Fast	
Marietta City Schools	Dr. Donna Ryan	Assistant Superintendent for Special Services
Cobb County School District	Mr. Jay Dillon (Chair)	Director of Communications
Kennesaw State University	Dr. Richard Sowell	Dean Kennesaw State University
Cobb County Government	Ms. Cheryl Mayerik	
McCleskey-East Cobb YMCA	Ms. Rebecca Shipley	Executive Director

Name	Organization
Charlotte Fulton	Douglas County Schools
Elizabeth Franco	GA Department of Public Health
Erica Tindell	WellStar
Gordon Freyman	GA Department of Public Health
Jason Milhollin	Douglas County EMA
Joy Wells	Cobb & Douglas Public Health
Kevin Eccles	United Way
Pam Blackwell	Cobb & Douglas Public Health
Sabrina Watson	Division of Children and Family Services
Agnes Brown	Cobb & Douglas Public Health
Alicia Thompson	WellStar
Amanda Bryant	Douglas CORE
Bev Kartheiser	Cobb & Douglas Public Health
Darlene Foote	Cobb & Douglas Public Health
David Jenkins	Motivational Fitness
Dorothy Sparks	Les Soeurs
Gabe Delgado	Douglasville Sentinel
Gordon Pritz	Douglas County Schools
James Harper	First Presbyterian Church
John Barker	Douglasville Patch
Judi Davis	Pregnancy Resource Center
Kathy Patman	Junior League
Kelly Hunter	City of Douglasville
Mattie McClurkin	Head Start of Douglas County
Steve Hord	Boys and Girls Club
Sucess Ricks	Douglas County Schools
Tim Williams	GreyStone
Tom Butler	Gold's Gym
Wes Tallon	Douglas County Communications
Winston Jones	Douglas County Sentinel

Bennett Oliver	City of Douglasville Parks and Recreation
Name	Organization
Bernard Griffin	GA Department of Agriculture
Chris Womack	City of Douglasville
Ed Landers	Douglas County Sheriff's Office
Eric Linton	County Manager
Gary Dukes	Douglas County Parks and Recreation
Jack Kennedy	Cobb & Douglas Public Health
Judge Peggy Walker	Douglas County Juvenile Court
Lisa Crossman	Cobb & Douglas Public Health
Robert Gore	Cobb & Douglas Public Health
Scott Spencer	Douglas County Fire/EMS
Tim Collins	Chapel Hill News View
Tom Worthan	Douglas Board of Health
William Osborne	City of Douglasville
Becky Jones	Grace Assisted Living Of Douglas County
Beth Spinning	Kaiser
Christine Steadman	DC Community Services Board
Cindy Richards	The Good Samaritan Center
David Aten	The Community Health Center of Austell
Emily Frantz	Cobb & Douglas Public Health
Frank Smith	The Church at Chapel Hill
Gina Brandenburg	Tanner
Healthier Nutter	United Way
Jane Hibbard	Vista Care Hospice of Douglasville
Jaswant Chaddha	Atlanta West Women's Center
Juanita Clay	Gift of Love Services
Karla Ayers	Cobb & Douglas Public Health
Richard Hagan	Douglas County Senior Services
Shane Greene	WellStar
Teresa Smith	SHARE House Family Violence and Crisis Center
Terri Bradley	The Douglas County Homeless Shelter
Bernita Frazier	GA Department of Public Health
Dee Benitz	Cobb & Douglas Public Health
Jop Durrence	Cobb & Douglas Public Health
Karen Stroud	Public Education Trust
Ken Reaves	Georgia Highlands College
Lisa Doney	West Georgia Technical College
Madison Campbell	American Heart Association
Melissa Box	WellStar
Shawn Smith	Sanofi Pasteur
Stephanie Rakestraw	GreyStone Power Foundation
Carol Jakeway	GA Department of Public Health
Debbie Freeman	American Cancer Society

## Data Collection Process & Methods

### 10- Combined Cobb MAPP and WellStar Health Indicator Comparison Chart

2010 General Population Description	CC*	DC**	PA**	BA**	Ch**	Georgia	US	HP2020 Goal
CRCT Reading Scores 3 <sup>rd</sup> grade meets/exceeds (11-12) <sup>1</sup>	92.4	90	91.6	93.9	96.1	90.51		
<b>Key Drivers of Poor Health</b>	<b>Cobb</b>	<b>Douglas</b>	<b>Paulding</b>	<b>Bartow</b>	<b>Cherokee</b>	<b>Georgia</b>	<b>US</b>	<b>HP2020 Goal</b>
Percentage without a high school diploma <sup>24</sup>	9.85	13.65	14.13	21.65	11.06	16.52	16.8%	
Percent in Poverty (< or = 100% FPL) <sup>2</sup>	10.62	11.30	8.18	14.01	7.39	15.71	15.3%	
Persons without health insurance <sup>25</sup>	18.4	17.7	13.3	20.6	15.2	19.4	15.2%	0% <sup>3</sup>
<b>Maternal /Child Health (per 1,000)</b>	<b>Cobb</b>	<b>Douglas</b>	<b>Paulding</b>	<b>Bartow</b>	<b>Cherokee</b>	<b>Georgia</b>	<b>US (09)</b>	<b>HP 2020 Goal</b>
Infant Mortality Rate (2010) <sup>4</sup>	5.6	8.1	5.7	6.7	4.6	6.3	6.14 (10) <sup>5</sup>	6.0 <sup>3</sup>
% Low Birth Weight (2011) <sup>4</sup>	8.2%	10.1%	6.8%	7.1%	7.2%	9.4%	8.2 <sup>6</sup>	7.8 <sup>3</sup>
% Very Low Birth Weight (2011) <sup>4</sup> less than 1500 grams	1.7%	2.0%	1.2%	0.9%	1.2%	1.8%	1.5 <sup>6</sup>	1.4 <sup>3</sup>
Late or No Prenatal Care (2006) <sup>4</sup>	6.6	15.2	no data	12.2	7.6	1.3	7.1 (07) <sup>7</sup>	
Adolescent Pregnancy Rate (15-17) (2011) <sup>4</sup>	11.3	15.7	8.8	22.1	9.7	18.9	36.8(08) <sup>8</sup>	36.2 <sup>3</sup>
% Repeat Births Teens (15-17) (2010) <sup>4</sup>	11.9%	9.9%	14%	12.3%	8.6%	12.4%		
Births & % Reported Tobacco Use (2011) <sup>4</sup>	1.9	5.8	6.8	13.3	4.9	6.0%		
<b>2008 AA Deaths (per 100,000)</b>	<b>Cobb</b>	<b>Douglas</b>	<b>Paulding</b>	<b>Bartow</b>	<b>Cherokee</b>	<b>Georgia</b>	<b>US (09)</b>	<b>HP 2020 Goal</b>
Cardiovascular Disease (2010) <sup>4</sup>	207.1	263.9	181.7	263.8	241.5	252.1	234.8 <sup>9</sup>	
Stroke (2010) <sup>4</sup>	34.8	47.8	38.2	59.8	45.7	44.8	39.0 <sup>5</sup> (10)	33.8 <sup>3</sup>
Lung Cancer (2010) <sup>4</sup>	42.2	64.0	57.6	71.6	40.6	48.7	48.5 <sup>9</sup>	45.5 <sup>3</sup>
Stroke (2010) <sup>4</sup>	34.8	47.8	38.2	59.8	45.7	44.8		
Diabetes (2010) <sup>4</sup>	14.8	15.5	19.1	13	11.3	22.7	20.9 <sup>9</sup>	65.8 <sup>3</sup>
YPLL 75 Motor Vehicle Crashes (2008) <sup>4</sup>	192.6	453.4	363.1	386.9	247.8	420.1	12.5 <sup>9</sup>	12.4 <sup>3</sup>
<b>2004-2008 AA Cancer Incidence per 100,000</b>	<b>Cobb</b>	<b>Douglas</b>	<b>Paulding</b>	<b>Bartow</b>	<b>Cherokee</b>	<b>Georgia</b>	<b>US</b>	<b>HP2020 Goal</b>
Lung and Bronchus <sup>11</sup>	58.90	82.60	93.90	100.40	82.30	71.60	67.20 <sup>12</sup>	
<b>2010 Hospitalizations per 100,000</b>	<b>Cobb</b>	<b>Douglas</b>	<b>Paulding</b>	<b>Bartow</b>	<b>Cherokee</b>	<b>Georgia</b>	<b>US</b>	<b>HP 2020 Goal</b>
Ambulatory Care Sensitive Conditions (% of Discharges) <sup>4</sup>	15.3	17.0	15.6	19.8	14.7	19.1	30.0 (07) <sup>13</sup>	
Diabetes <sup>4</sup> (discharge rate)	129.5	207.7	130.3	241.6	98.1	179.7	226 (09) <sup>14</sup>	
Pneumonia (2010) <sup>4</sup>	194.2	239.6	241.7	361.3	239.4	303.8	374 (09) <sup>14</sup>	

2010 Self-reported BRFSS Data (%)	Cobb	Douglas	Paulding	Bartow	Cherokee	Georgia	US	HP 2020 Goal
Overweight Adults <sup>24</sup>	37.57	39.15	36.29	40.0	32.83	36.18	36.31	
Obese Adults <sup>24</sup>	23.30	30.70	26	25.30	27.20	28.15	27.35	30.6 (age 20+) <sup>3</sup>
Physical inactivity <sup>24</sup>	19.80	23.90	23.80	21.80	19.60	25.30	24.66	
Less than 5 fruits/vegetables daily <sup>24</sup>	70.10	84.40	74.60	77.60	76.60	76	75.92	
Smoking <sup>24</sup>	14.80	15.40	20.60	26.40	17.60	19.40	19.27	12.0 <sup>3</sup>
Diabetes (Prevalence) <sup>24</sup>	9.10	10.30	10.90	9.30	7.80	10.32	8.77	
High Blood Pressure Management(not taking medications for High Blood Pressure) <sup>24</sup>	17.33	8.33	31.96	7.95	18.46	19.83	21.74	
High Cholesterol (2009) <sup>24</sup>	36.1	33.7 (04-07, District) <sup>20</sup>	No Data	No Data	No Data	37.0	37.4	13.5 <sup>3</sup>
Cholesterol Check (Ever) <sup>24</sup>	87.7	84.75	No Data	No Data	No Data	82.0	80.6	82.1 <sup>3</sup>
Heavy Drinking (Adults) <sup>24</sup>	15.90	10	10.3	16.10	16.50	3.8	4.9	
Cervical Cancer Screening (Pap Smear in past 3 years) <sup>24</sup>	85.50	82.30	80	79.80	86.50	74.32	73.97	
Breast Cancer Screening (% female Medicare enrollees who received Mammogram in past two years) <sup>24</sup>	67.65	62.85	64.21	64.28	63.84	63.61	65.37	
Colon Cancer Screening (Sigmoid/Colonoscopy adult men age and older) <sup>24</sup>	62.40	No data	No data	No data	62.40	48.42	51.79	
Access to Primary Care (number primary care physicians per 100,000 population)	60.74	40.02	13.34	41.93	36.38	21.7	16.7	
Pneumonia shot, 65+ <sup>18</sup>	69.20	No data	74.20	75.90	64.90	38.75	55.68	90.0 <sup>3</sup>
2011-12 GA Student Health Survey Data (% 12 <sup>th</sup> )	CC	DC	PC	BC	CC	Georgia	US	HP 2020 Goal
Alcohol Use, past 30 days <sup>21</sup>	28.11	24.77	31.57	34.39	39.68	29.01	41.8 <sup>20</sup>	
Tobacco Use, past 30 days <sup>21</sup>	16.93	14.88	23	28.92	25.45	19.31	19.5 <sup>20</sup>	16.0 <sup>3</sup>
Marijuana Use past 30 days <sup>21</sup>	19.81	13.44	17.15	19.93	20.13	16.91	20.8 <sup>20</sup>	6.0 <sup>3</sup>
Other Drugs past 30 days <sup>21</sup>	10.91	8.54	7.42	11.46	11.21	8.64		
5 fruits/vegetables <sup>21</sup>	56.43 ****	53.60*** *	46.91*** *	43.03** **	53.92****	51.87** **	22.3 <sup>20</sup>	
More than 4 hours T.V. time daily <sup>21</sup>	16.41	24.35	22.42	17.82	15.46	19.79	32.8 (3hrs +) <sup>20</sup>	26.1 (2 hrs+) <sup>3</sup>
Students Learning about HIV past year <sup>21</sup>	64.11	53.25	43.03	41.27	40.40	50.48	87.0 <sup>20</sup>	
Considered Suicide past year <sup>21</sup>	9.35	9.97	7.91	8.99	10.14	8.92	13.8 <sup>20</sup>	

\*CC – Cobb County School

\*\* DC - Douglas County Schools

\*\*\* Answer to question: Strongly Agree + Agree

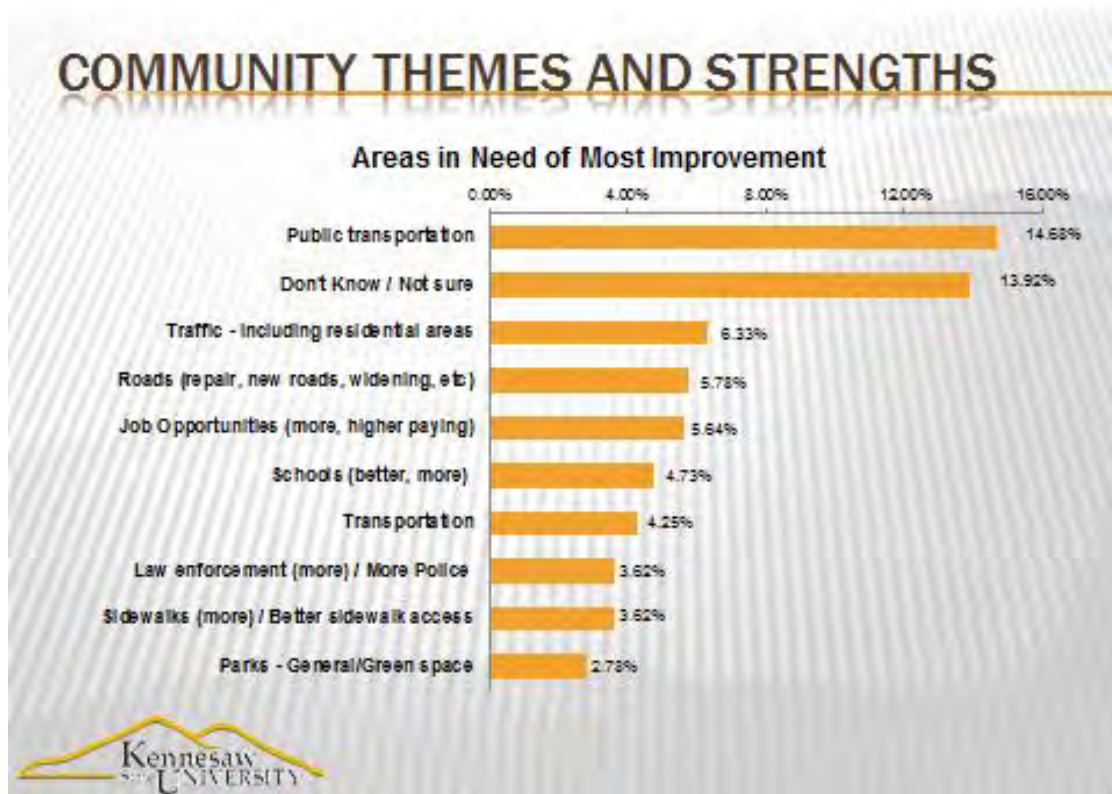
### Sources:

1. Georgia Department of Education, School Reports by District, *2011-2012 Report Card*.
2. U.S. Census Bureau. *American Community Survey 2006-2010, 5 Year Estimates*.
3. Office of Disease Prevention and Health Promotion (ODPHP), U.S. Department of Health and Human Services (HHS). *Healthy People 2020*.
4. Georgia Department of Community Health, Division of Public Health, Office of Information and Policy. *Online*



- Analytical Statistical Information System (OASIS).*
5. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, National Vital Statistics System, *Deaths Preliminary Data for 2010*. <http://www.cdc.gov/nchs/nvss.htm>
  6. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, National Vital Statistics System, Births: Final Data for 2009.
  7. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, National Vital Statistics System, Births: Final Data for 2007.
  8. Guttmacher Institute. *U.S. Teenage Pregnancies, Births and Abortions: National and State Trends and Trends by Race and Ethnicity*.
  9. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, National Vital Statistics System, *2009 Mortality Multiple Cause Micro-data Files*.
  10. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, Injury Prevention & Control: Data & Statistics (WISQARS), *Years of Potential Life Lost (YPLL) 1999-2009*.
  11. Georgia Department of Community Health, Division of Public Health, Georgia Comprehensive Cancer Registry.
  12. National Cancer Institute, Surveillance Epidemiology and End Results, *SEER Stat Fact Sheets: Lung and Bronchus, Nov 10, 2011*.
  13. Center for Disease Control and Prevention, *National Hospital Discharge Survey, 2009*.
  14. Center for Disease Control and Prevention, *Ambulatory Medical Care Utilization Estimates for 2007*.
  15. Center for Disease Control and Prevention. *Sexually Transmitted Diseases in the United States, 2010*.
  16. Georgia Department of Community Health, Division of Public Health, Epidemiology Branch, HIV/AIDS Epidemiology Unit.
  17. Georgia Department of Community Health, Division of Public Health. *Georgia Immunization Study, 2010 Final Report*.
  18. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention. *Behavioral Risk Factor Surveillance System (BRFSS)*.
  19. Georgia Division of Public Health, *Obesity Surveillance Data & Reports, 2010*.
  20. Georgia Division of Public Health, *Behavioral Risk Factor Surveillance Report, 2007*.
  21. Georgia Department of Education. *Georgia Student Health Survey 2011-2012*.
  22. Center for Disease Control and Prevention. *Health Youth! YRBSS: Youth Risk Behavior Surveillance System*.
  23. County Health Rankings, University of Wisconsin. [www.countyhealthrankings.org](http://www.countyhealthrankings.org). 2012
  24. CHNA.org.
  25. U.S. Census Bureau, American Community Survey 2009-2011, 3 Year Estimate

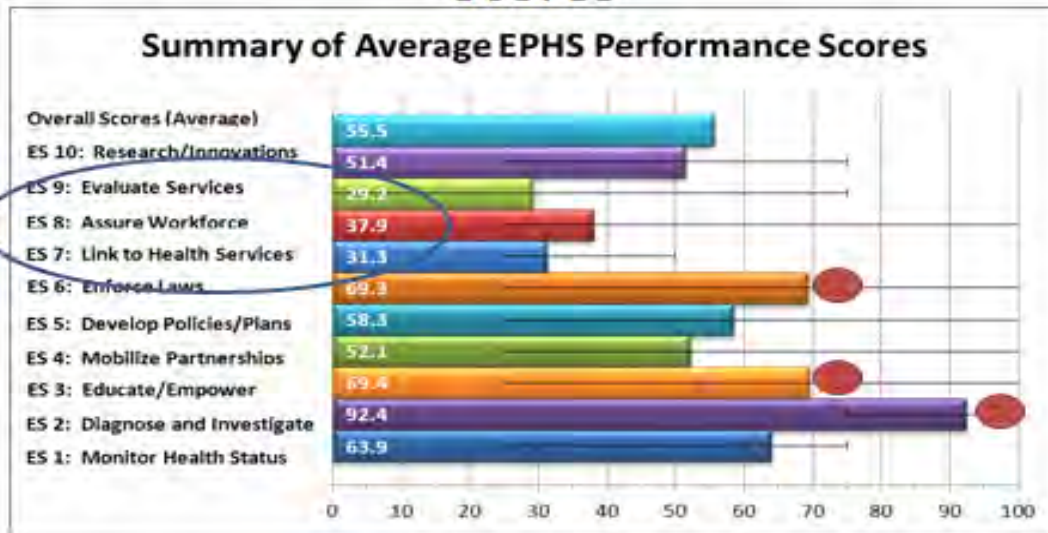
## 11 - Top Community Areas in Need of Most Improvement –Burruss Survey Cobb County





12 - Local Public Health System Assessment Result

## LPHSA Results – Essential Service Scores



13 - Forces of Change Assessment Results – Forces that impact community health



## 14 - LPHS Assessment Priority/Performance Strategy Grid

<b>Quadrant A (High Priority/Low Performance) -</b> <b>These important activities may need increased attention.</b> 1.1 Population-Based Community Health Profile 7.1 Identification of Populations w/Barriers to Personal Health Service 7.2 Assuring the Linkage of People to Personal Health Services 8.1 Workforce Assessment 8.3 Life-Long Learning Through Continuing Education, Training, and Mentoring 9.1 Evaluation of Population-based Health Services	<b>Quadrant B (High Priority/High Performance) -</b> <b>These activities are being done well, and it is important to maintain efforts.</b> 1.2 Access to and Utilization of Current Technology to Manage, Display, Analyze & Communicate Pop Health Data 1.3 Maintenance of Population Health Registries 2.1 Identification and Surveillance of Health Threats 2.2 Investigation and Response to Public Health Threats and Emergencies 2.3 Laboratory Support for Investigation of Health Threats 3.1 Health Education and Promotion 3.3 Risk Communication 5.4 Plan for Public Health Emergencies 6.2 Involvement in the Improvement of Laws, Regulations, and Ordinances 6.3 Enforce Laws, Regulations and Ordinances
4.2 Community Partnerships	
<b>Quadrant D (Low Priority/Low Performance) -</b> <b>These activities could be improved, but are of low priority. They may need little or no attention at this time.</b> 4.1 Constituency Development 5.2 Public Health Policy Development 5.3 Community Health Improvement Process 8.4 Public Health Leadership Development 9.2 Evaluation of Personal Health Care Services 9.3 Evaluation of the Local Public Health System 10.1 Fostering Innovation	<b>Quadrant C (Low Priority/High Performance) -</b> <b>These activities are being done well, but the system can shift or reduce some resources or attention to focus on higher priority activities.</b> 3.2 Health Communication 5.1 Government Presence at the Local Level 6.1 Review and Evaluate Laws, Regulations, and Ordinances 8.2 Public Health Workforce Standards 10.2 Linkage with Institutions of Higher Learning and/or Research 10.3 Capacity to Initiate or Participate in Research

## Community Health Needs

## 15 - CNHA Prioritization Matrix Template (used in ranking and rating priority health needs)


Health Need	Severity of issue – performs poorly against benchmark	Clear disparities and inequities	Community prioritizes the issue over other issues	Existing attention, facilities and resources are dedicated to the issue	Effective & feasible interventions exist	A successful solution has the potential to solve multiple problems	Opportunity to intervene at the prevention level	Score
Cardiovascular Disease								
Lung cancer								
Stroke								
Breast Cancer								
Physical Activity								
Healthy Eating								
Smoking								
Obesity								
Alcohol								
Diabetes								
Mental Health								
Air Quality								
Breast Cancer (screening)								

Dental Care								
Education								
Sexually Transmitted Infections								
Access to Care								
Prenatal Care								

## 16 - Community Facilities, Assets & Resources

### Community Facilities, Assets and Resources *Not an all-inclusive list*

#### Facilities:

	Name	Description
	<b>HEALTH CENTERS: ACWORTH</b> 4489 Acworth Industrial Drive Acworth, Georgia 30101 (770) 974-3330	<i>Promotes and protects the health and safety of the residents of Cobb and Douglas counties.</i>
	<b>COBB COUNTY ENVIRONMENTAL HEALTH</b> 3830 South Cobb Drive, Suite 102 Smyrna, Georgia 30080 770-435-7815	
	<b>SMYRNA</b> 3830 South Cobb Drive, Suite 200 Smyrna, Georgia 30080 770-438-5105	
	<b>EAST COBB</b> 4938 Lower Roswell Road Marietta, Georgia 30068 678- 784-2180	

**LAKE PARK**

1955 Lake Park Drive, Suite  
300  
Smyrna, Georgia 30080  
770-432-0012

**SOUTH COBB**

875 Six Flags Drive  
Austell, Georgia 30168  
678-385-1360

**NORTH DOUGLAS**

6457 East Strickland Street  
Douglasville, Georgia 30134  
770-489-9686

**DOUGLAS COUNTY  
ENVIRONMENTAL HEALTH**

8700 Hospital Drive,  
1<sup>st</sup>Floor  
Douglasville, Georgia 30134  
770-920--7311

**Name Description**



**WellStar Community Clinics:** *Pilot nurse-managed health clinic for indigent care*  
*Kennestone*  
*Cobb*  
*Douglas*  
www.wellstar.org  
770-793-9250

*Serves people ages 55-64 that are uninsured.*

**Senior Wellness Center  
Cobb County Senior Center**  
1150 Powder Springs Road  
Suite 100B  
Marietta, GA 30080  
470-956-2500



**Cobb and Douglas Public Health Centers** *Provides general health information and public health regulatory information to the residents and businesses of Cobb and Douglas Counties*

*Cobb County Health Center*  
1650 County Services Parkway  
Marietta, GA 30008 770-514-2300








*Douglas County Health Center*  
6770 Selman Drive  
Douglasville, GA 30134  
770-949-1970

www.cobbanddouglaspublic  
health.com

	Name	Description
	<p><b>Good Samaritan Health Center at Cobb</b> 1605 Roberta Drive SW Marietta, GA30008 770-419-3120</p> <p>www.goodsamcobb.org</p>	
	<p><b>Federally Qualified Health Center (FQHC)</b></p> <p>The Family Health Center at Cobb 805 Campbell Hill Street Marietta, GA30060 770-919-0025</p> <p><i>Affiliated with West End Medical Centers</i></p>	<p><i>Focuses on outreach, disease prevention and patient education regardless of insurance status of a patient's ability to pay.</i></p>
	<p><b>Community Health Clinic (CHC) at Sweetwater Valley</b> 6289 Veterans Memorial Hwy. Austell, GA 30168 678-398-6548</p>	<p><i>A community development block grant program-funded health clinic and overseen by the Community Action Mission Program. The CHC is a low-cost medical and dental office committed to providing care for those in our community.</i></p>
	<p><b>Community Health Center – Austell</b> 6289 Veterans Memorial Dr. Suite 12-C Austell, GA 30168 770-819-0062</p> <p>www.chcaustell.org</p>	<p><i>Community health clinic.</i></p>
	<p><b>Kennesaw State University at MUST (Ministries United in Service) Community Clinic</b></p> <p>1407 Cobb Parkway NW Marietta, GA 770-427-98621</p>	<p><i>The clinic is a collaborative effort with Kennesaw State University's WellStar College of Health and Human Service, Center for Community Health Care. A wide range of health and wellness services benefit those who are homeless, underserved and/or uninsured. The clinic is an excellent practice site for student nurses and volunteer clinical practice by faculty members from the School of Nursing.</i></p>
<p><b>Luke's Place</b></p>	<p><b>Luke's Place Community Wellness Center</b> 948 Front Street</p>	<p><i>Designed to provide programs and services to those in need in Mableton, Georgia and the surrounding areas. The clinic is not currently receiving funds or aid from any local, state or federal organization. Staffed</i></p>

Mableton, GA 30126

by an all-volunteer group of doctors, nurses, social workers and support personnel to the growing health needs of the community.

	Name	Description
	<p><b>Life University Outreach Clinics</b>            140 Marble Mill Road            Marietta, GA30060            770-426-2946            www.life.edu</p>	<p><i>Services include chiropractic care, digital imaging, functional rehabilitation, health care classes and nutritional counselling</i></p>
	<p><b>YWCA of Northwest Georgia</b>            48 Henderson St. SW            Marietta, GA 30064            770-427-2902            www.ywcanwga.com</p>	<p><i>Domestic Violence Shelter - restricted to females and children who have recently experienced domestic violence in Bartow, Cherokee, Cobb, Douglas and Paulding county</i></p>
	<p><b>Bartow Health Access</b>            31 Pointe North Dr.            Cartersville, GA 30120            678-535-7216</p>	<p><i>Charitable medical clinic - organized exclusively for charitable, scientific and educational purposes, to provide accessible health care for those without insurance; more specifically, to create premier health status, in our community, by enhancing, coordinating and providing plans and partnerships, which address accessibility, accountability, and prevention, education and information</i></p> <p><a href="http://www.bartowhealthaccess.org">www.bartowhealthaccess.org</a></p>
	<p><b>Kaiser Permanente Charity Care</b>  <i>(by referral)</i></p>	<p><i>Managed care organization</i></p>
	<p><b>Emory Adventist Hospital at Smyrna</b>            3949 South Cobb Drive            Smyrna, GA30080            770-434-0710</p>	<p><i>Hospital in Cobb County.</i></p>
	<p><b>Northside Hospital – Cherokee</b>            201 Hospital Road            Canton, GA30114            770-720-5100</p>	<p><i>Hospital in Cherokee County</i></p>
	<p><b>Cartersville Medical Center</b>            960 Joe Frank Harris Pkwy.            Cartersville, GA30120            770-382-1530</p>	<p><i>Hospital in Bartow County</i></p>



**Assets:**

	Name	Description
	<p>Cobb and Douglas Public Health (CDPH) partnerships and coalitions including:  <i>We CAN! In Cobb</i>  <i>Cobb Community Collaborative</i>  <i>Cobb Alcohol Task Force</i>  <i>CATCH Kids Club</i></p>	<p><b>Ways to Enhance Children’s Activity and Nutrition (We Can!)</b> is a nationwide initiative developed by the National Institutes of Health.</p> <p><b>CATCH Kids Club</b> is a social-based physical activity and nutrition education program designed for elementary school-aged children (grades 3 through 5) in an after-school/summer setting in afterschool programs in Marietta City schools, Cobb County schools, faith-based and non-profit programs in Cobb County.</p>
	<p><b>Safe Kids Cobb County</b>          114 Cherry Street Suite G          Marietta, GA 30060          770-793-7185</p>	<p><b>Safe Kids</b> partners with police and fire departments, insurance companies, and schools to ensure the safety of Cobb’s children.          Lead agencies CDPH and WellStar Health System.</p>
	<p><b>Georgia Department of Public Health</b>          Two Peachtree Street, NW          Atlanta, Georgia 30303-3186          404-657-2700</p> <p><a href="http://www.health.state.ga.us">www.health.state.ga.us</a></p>	<p>The lead department entrusted by the people of the state of Georgia with the ultimate responsibility for the health of communities and the entire population.</p>
	<p><b>Cobb and Douglas County Community Services Board</b>          3830 South Cobb Drive          Suite 300          Smyrna, GA 30080          770-429-5000</p> <p><a href="http://www.cobbcsb.com">www.cobbcsb.com</a></p>	<p>Cobb County Community Services Board and the Douglas County Community Services Board (CSB) are public agencies created by state law to provide mental health, developmental disability, and substance abuse services. The service areas are Cobb, Douglas, and Cherokee Counties, Georgia.</p>
	<p><b>Soul Changers Recovery Foundation</b>          5006 Austell Road          Austell, GA 30106</p> <p>770-428-9326</p>	<p>A drug addiction treatment center offering transportation assistance, clothing, daily spiritual group meetings and other related services. The organization also provides educational classes on nutrition, life skills and relapse prevention.</p>



**The Extension**  
 P.O. Box 793  
 Marietta, GA 30061  
  
 770-590-9075  
[www.theextension.org](http://www.theextension.org)

*Serves the community through a long-term, comprehensive Residential Recovery Program for homeless, addicted men and women that is also a source of strength for others suffering from addiction within the community.*

	Name	Description
--	------	-------------

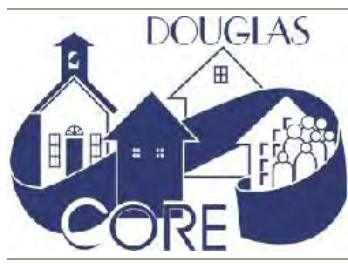


**Good News Counseling Center**  
 2158 Austell Road  
 Marietta, GA 30008  
  
 770-436-3273

*Provides practical, biblical support regarding changing attitudes and behaviors in relation to God and others.*

**Cobb County Community Services Board & Douglas County Community Services Board**  
 3830 South Cobb Drive, Suite 300  
 Smyrna, GA 30080  
 770-429-5000  
[www.cobbcsb.com](http://www.cobbcsb.com)

*Provides mental health, developmental disability, and substance abuse services. The service areas are Cobb, Douglas, and Cherokee Counties, Georgia.*



**Douglas CORE**  
 8565 Courtland Street  
 Douglasville, GA 30134  
 770-920-7438

*A partnership among the government, private sector, citizens, educators, and health and human services organizations of Douglas County. Its mission is to improve the well-being of the community, including support for producing both self-sufficient adults, and strong, healthy, educated families.*



**Healthcare Georgia Foundation**  
 50 Hurt Plaza  
 Suite 1100  
 Atlanta, GA 30303  
 404-653-0990

*Our mission is to advance the health of all Georgians and to expand access to affordable, quality healthcare for underserved individuals and communities.*



**Mobilizing for Action through Planning and Partnerships (MAPP)**




*Developed by the National Association of County and City Health Officials (NACCHO). MAPP provides the framework for community-driven strategic planning for improving community health. Facilitated by public health leaders and involving all community stakeholders, this tool helps communities apply strategic thinking to prioritize public health issues and identify resources to address these issues.*





**Cobb Schools Foundation**  
 514 Glover St.  
 Marietta, GA 30060  
 770-426-3390  
 www.cobbschools  
 foundation.org

*PROJECT 2400, created in 2006, is a strategic partnership between the Cobb Chamber of Commerce and the Cobb County School District to help enhance our students' SAT scores, which is now based on a score of 2400. In 2009, the Cobb Schools Foundation became the fiscal agent of Project 2400.*

	Name	Description
	<p><b>Mableton Farmers Market</b>            The Mable Complex            5239 Floyd Road            Mableton, GA</p>	<p><i>Provides the community of Mableton with readily available access to Georgia grown fresh fruits and vegetables. As an incentive for more of the community to utilize the Farmers Market, vouchers are provided to seniors on a fixed income. In addition, the Farmers Market has a wellness component where organizations including WellStar Kennestone Hospital and Emory Adventist Hospital provide free health screenings for cholesterol, glucose and blood pressure. Supported by Cobb County Parks, Recreation and Cultural Affairs, Cobb Public Health's We Can! in Cobb, and the Mableton Improvement Coalition. Ways to Enhance Children's Activity and Nutrition (We Can!) is a nationwide initiative developed by the National Institutes of Health.</i></p>
	<p><b>Cobb Community Transit</b>            463 Commerce Park Drive            Suite 112            Marietta, GA 30060            770-427-2222            www.cobbcounty.org</p>	<p><i>County bus system</i></p>
	<p><b>Cobb County Senior Services</b>            1150 Powder Springs Street            Suite 100            Marietta, GA 30064            770-528-5366            www.seniors.cobbcountyga.gov</p>	<p><i>Provides an array of services including the operation of eight Senior Centers which include three neighbourhood centers, four multi-purpose centers, and the Senior Wellness Center. List of facilities: <a href="http://portal.cobbcountyga.gov/index.php?option=com_content&amp;view=article&amp;id=678&amp;Itemid=383">http://portal.cobbcountyga.gov/index.php?option=com_content&amp;view=article&amp;id=678&amp;Itemid=383</a></i></p>
	<p><b>Douglas County Senior Services</b>            6287 Fairburn Rd.            Douglasville, GA 30134            770-489-3100</p>	<p><i>Committed to creating opportunities that allow older residents of Douglas County to remain independent and active in their homes and communities.</i></p>
	<p><b>Cobb Community Collaborative</b>            995 Roswell Street, Suite 100            Marietta, GA 30060            770-514-7212            www.cobbcollaborative.org</p>	<p><i>Convenes community stakeholders to facilitate the sharing of ideas, expertise and resources to meet needs and resolve issues in Cobb County.</i></p>



**Cobb Community Foundation**  
 240 Interstate North Parkway  
 Atlanta, GA 30339  
 770-859-2329  
[www.cobbfoundation.com](http://www.cobbfoundation.com)

*Works with individuals and organizations to create endowment funds which are managed by a team of professional investment advisors. Helps donors connect their charitable interests to a variety of important community needs through grants, specific gifts, and scholarships.*






**Marietta City Schools**  
 250 Howard Street  
 Marietta, GA 30060  
 770-422-3500

*Serves some 8,000 students at eight elementary choice schools—one of which is a Science, Technology, Engineering and Math (STEM) Magnet—one middle school, one sixth-grade school, and one high school.*

[www.marietta-city.org](http://www.marietta-city.org)

## Resources:

	Name	Description
Cobb2020 Toolkit Resources	<b>Cobb2020</b>  <a href="http://cobb2020.com/cobb2020-toolkit-resources.html">http://cobb2020.com/cobb2020-toolkit-resources.html</a>	<i>Online resources, toolkits and next steps for healthy change</i>
Live Healthy Georgia Community Resources	<b>OASIS – Online Analytical Statistical Information System</b>  The Georgia Department of Public Health’s online data warehouse  <a href="http://oasis.state.gov.us/oasis/">oasis.state.gov.us/oasis/</a>	<i>Online resource list for the state of Georgia.</i>
Paulding Family Connection Children’s Cabinet 2011/2012 Resource Directory	<a href="http://www.gafcp.org/fcnetwork/paulding">http://www.gafcp.org/fcnetwork/paulding</a>	<i>This directory contains family-oriented resources located within Paulding and the metro Atlanta area.</i>
	<b>Renovacion Conyugal</b> P.O. Box 146 Acworth, GA 30101 678-363-3079  <a href="http://www.renovacionconyugal.com">www.renovacionconyugal.com</a>	<i>The “Renewing Youth” project helps young Latinos to achieve better communication and relationships with family. It provides tools to prevent drug abuse, negative self-esteem, gang involvement, teen pregnancy and alcohol abuse, while helping them adapt to the realities of living in a bicultural society. From the beginning, the program has been prepared, conducted and presented by other teens and young Latinos creating an excellent opportunity for interaction with peers.</i>
	<b>Cobb County School District</b> Cobb County Family Resource Database	<i>Resources are not affiliated with the Cobb County School District.</i>  <a href="http://www.cobbk12.org/FamilyResources.com">www.cobbk12.org/FamilyResources.com</a>
	<b>Cobb County School District Social Workers</b> 514 Glover Street	<i>Cobb County School Social Workers exist to provide services to students, families and schools with the primary focus of removing barriers to academic</i>

Marietta, GA 30060  
770-426-3300

success. School Social Workers are a vital part of the total educational process. They work in collaboration with school psychologists, school counsellors, school nurses, teachers, administrators, parents and various community agencies. Information obtained through these resources is then integrated to provide social, emotional, behavioural, and adaptive functioning support to the student, his or her family, and the school.

<http://www.cobbk12.org/centraloffice/studentssupport/socialworkers/>

	Name	Description
<b>CHILD HEALTH SERVICES</b>	<b>Project Towards No Tobacco Use (TNT)</b>	<i>A classroom-based curriculum designed to prevent or reduce tobacco use in youth aged 10 to 14 years managed by Cobb and Douglas Public Health.</i>
	<b>Adult and Child Health Services</b>	<a href="http://www.cobbanddouglaspublichealth.com/">http://www.cobbanddouglaspublichealth.com/</a>
	<b>Cherokee Family Violence Center</b> 90 North Street Canton GA 30114 770-479-1703 <a href="http://www.cherokeefamilyviolence.org">www.cherokeefamilyviolence.org</a>	<i>Provides emergency shelter and crisis intervention services while fostering affordable housing; offering longer term education and support services; developing community partnerships and institutional awareness of domestic violence issues; and promoting a community standard of zero tolerance for violence in the home.</i>
	<b>Traveler's Aid</b> 995 Roswell St. Marietta, GA30060 770-428-1883 <a href="http://www.travelersaidatlanta.org">www.travelersaidatlanta.org</a>	<i>A social service agencies in Metropolitan Atlanta providing a safety net for low-income travelers, newcomers and residents in crisis.</i>
	<b>New Beginnings Food Outreach</b> 7034 Glade Road SE Acworth, GA 30102 770-529-6353 <a href="http://www.bartowliveunited.org">www.bartowliveunited.org</a>	<i>A food pantry serving Bartow, Butts, Cherokee, Clayton, Cobb, Coweta, DeKalb, Douglas, Fayette, Fulton, Gwinnett, Henry, Paulding, and Rockdale counties</i>
	<b>The Center for Family Resources</b> 995 Roswell St NE # 100 Marietta, GA 30060 770-428-2601 <a href="http://www.thecfr.org">www.thecfr.org</a>	<i>Helps low-income families with employment, education, and housing services; leadership development programs; mentoring opportunities; and temporary financial and food assistance Transitional housing</i>
	<b>Helping Hands of Paulding</b> 228 W Spring St Dallas, GA 30132 770-443-1230  <a href="http://www.helpinghandspauldingga.com">www.helpinghandspauldingga.com</a>	<i>A non-profit organization made up of church, community and professional people working together to provide temporary emergency aid for those in need residing in Paulding County, Georgia</i>




	Name	Description
	<p><b>Osborne Community Coalition</b> 2050 Austell Rd SW #O2, Marietta, GA 770-433-8810 www.socialwelfareservices.org</p>	<p><i>Promote healthy life choices for individuals and families leading to the ownership of positive community development and self-sufficiency.</i></p>
 <p><b>HISPANIC HEALTH Coalition of Georgia</b></p>	<p>http://www.hhcga.org/</p>	<p><i>Advances health policies that will improve access to services for Hispanic children and adults throughout the state. It was founded in 1990 and currently is Georgia's only state-wide organization that focuses on Latino/Hispanic health</i></p>
	<p><b>Salvation Army</b> 8460 Courthouse Square E. #100A Douglasville, GA 30134 770-942-7188</p>	<p><i>An evangelical part of the universal Christian church. Its message is based on the Bible. Its ministry is motivated by the love of God. Its mission is to preach the gospel of Jesus Christ and to meet human needs in His name without discrimination.</i></p>
 <p><b>Tallatoona Community Action Partnership, Inc.</b></p>	<p><b>Tallatoona Community Action Mission</b> 406 Martin Luther King Jr. Dr. Cartersville, GA 30120 770-382-5388 www.tallatoonacap.org</p>	<p><i>Assists low income individuals and families to acquire useful skills and knowledge, to gain new opportunities, and achieve self-sufficiency.</i></p>
	<p><b>African American Crisis Assistance Network</b> 1035 Cobb Industrial Drive Marietta, GA 3066 678-467-7202 www.aacan.org</p>	<p><i>Feeds the hungry, provides clothing and relief assistance to the less fortunate and orphans, assists the sick and disabled, promotes peace, dignity, and hope for the less advantaged.</i></p>
	<p><b>Lighthouse Community Ministries Inc.</b> 5376 Church Street Mableton, GA 30126 770-944-1719</p>	<p><i>Provides the community with a food ministry, bread ministry, clothes closet and also furniture for families in need.</i></p>
	<p><b>Must Ministries</b> 1407 Cobb Parkway Marietta, GA 30062 770-427-9862 www.mustministries.org</p>	<p><i>Servant leaders in caring for those in need in the Marietta, Smyrna and Canton/Cherokee county communities.</i></p>



**Vision Rehabilitation Services of Georgia**

3830 South Cobb Drive  
Suite 125  
Smyrna, GA30080  
770-432-7280  
www.vrsga.org

*Assists individuals who are blind or visually impaired so they may function independently in all of their environments. VRS provides practical tools and proven techniques to help our clients carry out their daily activities.*

	Name	Description
	<p><b>CobbWorks- Workforce Investment Board</b> 463 Commerce Park Drive Suite 100 Marietta, GA30060 <b>770-528-8066</b> <b>www.cobbworks.org</b></p>	<p><i>A web-enabled career and education resource.</i></p>
	<p><b>Communities In Schools of Marietta/Cobb County</b> 316 Alexander Street, Ste. 5 Marietta, GA 30060 678-503-0901 www.cismcc.org</p>	<p><i>The only dropout prevention program in the nation proven to increase graduation rates.</i></p>
	<p><b>The Extension, Inc.</b> P.O. Box 793 Marietta, GA 30061 770-590-9075  www.theextension.org</p>	<p><i>Empowers chemically dependent homeless men and women in Cobb County to become sober, accountable members of society and to serve as a recovery resource for the community. Led by a staff of licensed and certified counsellors, holding some of the highest credentials in the addiction recovery field, we serve the community through a long-term, comprehensive Residential Recovery Program for homeless, addicted men and women that is also a source of strength for others suffering from addiction within the community.</i></p>
	<p><b>The Center for Children and Young Adults</b> 2221 Austell Road, Suite A Marietta, GA 30008 770-333-9447 www@ccyakids.org</p>	<p><i>Provides safe and nurturing environments with comprehensive services for homeless youth and young adults, who have been abused, abandoned, neglected, or are at risk.</i></p>
	<p><b>Live Healthy Douglas County Coalition</b> 6457 East Strickland Street Douglasville, GA 30134 770- 949-3139</p>	<p><i>Making Douglas County a drug-free and healthier place to live by reducing youth substance use and improving lifestyle choices through community collaboration, advocacy and education.</i></p>
	<p><b>Douglas Alcohol Abuse Prevention Initiative (DAAPI)</b></p>	<p><i>Formed through a grant to the Cobb and Douglas Public Health, the organization's vision is for healthy, fully realized Georgians living in communities free of the debilitating effects of substance use &amp; abuse.</i></p>



**The Pantry**  
5960 Stewart Parkway  
Douglasville, GA 30135  
770-217-0729 Ext 1

*A community food ministry in Douglasville.*

---

# # #