

The Giles County Health Council has successfully completed the first phase of the Community Diagnosis process. Alice Velten was elected chair in July of 1998. The Giles County Health Council chose to start meeting on a bi-monthly basis in May 1998.

The Council has reviewed primary and secondary data from several sources concerning the health status of Giles County residents, availability of health care resources, effectiveness of resources, and utilization of resources across the county.

The data that was reviewed by the Council, and specifics concerning data sources and collection methods are described in detail within this document. After comparing community perception with actual incidence and prevalence of certain health problems and accessibility issues, the Council applied a scoring mechanism to the list of health problems. The Council agreed upon a list of 4 priority health problems. These 4 health and social problems have served as the focal point of the council since that time. The council will spend a total of two (2) years planning and implementing interventions toward these priorities.

- 1. Access to Health Care & TennCare**
- 2. Heart Disease, Cancer, High Blood Pressure**
- 3. Diabetes & Wellness Education**
- 4. Teen Pregnancy**