

# **Haywood County Community Health Council**

## **Community Needs Assessment**



**1998**

### **Volume I**

**A report on the county's health status and strategies  
developed by the community**

Community Development  
Tennessee Department of Health  
295 Summar Avenue  
Jackson, TN

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# INTRODUCTION

## Mission Statement

*The Mission of the Community Health Council is to determine the health needs of the community and develop a plan of action for improving the health status of people in Haywood County, Tennessee.*

## COUNTY DESCRIPTION

### Land Area

Haywood County is located in the heart of West Tennessee cotton country sixty miles east of Memphis and 30 miles west of Jackson.

Brownsville, the county seat and largest city in Haywood County, is located on the scenic Hatchie River just three miles north of Interstate 40. Known for its many antebellum homes, Haywood County residents also enjoy award winning schools, a vibrant arts community, outstanding health care facilities and pristine natural areas.

Haywood County is home to the 11,566 acre Hatchie Wildlife Refuge which includes 17 lakes for fishing, over 200 species of birds and annual seasons for squirrel, rabbit, turkey, deer, racoon, duck, quail and dove hunting.

## ECONOMIC BASE

A reliable workforce, excellent quality of life, and outstanding industrial support services have led to an extended period of economic growth in Haywood County. Primary employers in the community include Haywood Company (garden hose and PVC compound), MTD Products (riding mowers), Lasco Products (plastic pipe fittings) and Dynametal Technologies (metal bearings).

Agriculture remains an important part of the economy. Local crops include corn, cotton, forestry, orchards, peppers, soybeans, squash, and wheat. Cotton and corn are the leading crops. Haywood County is also a leading pig and hog producer in Tennessee.

Haywood County has a strong religious community that traces its roots back more than a century. Many of the historic churches and congregations were founded in the early 1800's and the community has the only active Jewish synagogue in rural West Tennessee.

# Demographics of Haywood County

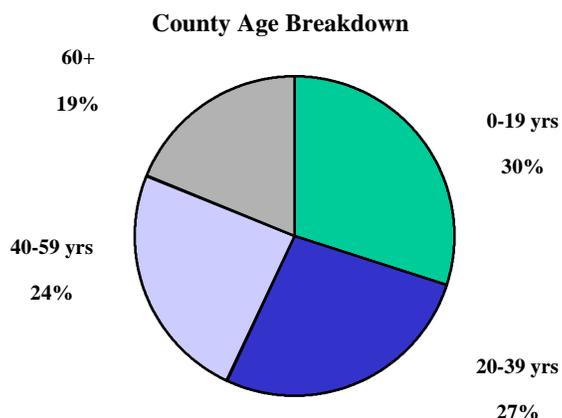
## MEDICAL COMMUNITY

Methodist Hospital – Brownsville Campus is a full-service 62 bed, not-for-profit general acute care facility offering a wide range of services on both an inpatient and outpatient basis. Inpatient services include acute care, general surgery, skilled care, obstetrics/gynecology and pediatrics. Outpatient services include surgery, emergency department, radiology, mammography, ultrasound, CT scanning, laboratory, physical therapy, respiratory therapy and nutrition consultation.

The expanded medical community offers general and family practitioners, dental and orthodontic services, optometrists and opticians. Pathways Counseling Resource Group offers a variety of services from early childhood intervention to stress management. There is one intermediate care facility to meet the nursing home needs of the area. Home health agencies provide services to those in need of special treatment.

The Haywood County Health Department offers a wide range of services including family planning, prenatal care, WIC, nutritional counseling, child immunizations, adolescent dentistry, Resource Mothers, Childrens’ Special Services, STD testing, adolescent pregnancy prevention programs, and health education services.

## DEMOGRAPHICS



## POPULATION CATEGORY

### HAYWOOD COUNTY

SEX	NUMBER	%	TN PERCENT
FEMALE	10,653	54	52
Male	9,145	46	48
<b>Race</b>			
White	10,007	51	83
Black	9,791	49	16
Other	118	-	-

# DEMOGRAPHICS OF HAYWOOD COUNTY

## HOUSEHOLDS

Total Number of Households: 7,014

	County	Region	State
Percent of households that are family households	73.4	74.7	72.7
Percent of households that are families headed by a female with no husband present	18.8	11.8	12.6
Percent of households that are families headed by a female with no husband present and with children under 18 years	10.7	6.4	6.9
Percent of households with the householder 65 and up	28.7	27.5	21.8

## EDUCATION

	County	Region	State
Number of persons age 25 and older	12,043	294,457	3,139,066
Percent of persons 25 and up that are high school graduates or higher	53	56.5	67.1
Percent of persons 25 and up with a bachelor's degree or higher	8.7	7.6	16.0

# DEMOGRAPHICS OF HAYWOOD COUNTY

## EMPLOYMENT

	County	Region	State
Number of Persons 16 and Older	14,458	352,668	3,799,725
Percent In Work Force	58.7	59.6	64.0
Number of Persons 16 and Older in Civilian Work Force	8,465	209,376	2,405,077
Percent Unemployed	8.7	7.4	6.4
Number of Females 16 Years and Older with Own Children Under 6	1,260	26,205	287,675
Percent in Labor Force	63.7	64.9	62.9

## POVERTY STATUS

	County	Region	State
Per capita income in 1989	\$8,696	\$9,850	\$12,255
Percent of persons below the 1989 poverty level	27.5	19.03841	15.7
Families with children under 18 years, percent with income in 1989 below poverty level	33.7	23.8	20.7
Percent of persons age 65 years and older with income in 1989 poverty	36.4	27.4	20.9

Sources: U.S. Department of Commerce, Bureau of the Census, 1990 Census of Population General Population Characteristics, Tennessee, and 1990 Census of Population and Housing, Summary Social, Economic, and Housing Characteristics Tennessee.

# COMMUNITY NEEDS ASSESSMENT

## HISTORY OF THE PROCESS

In 1997 local health care providers and community leaders in Haywood County began an on-going dialogue about the challenges facing the community's health care delivery system. It was becoming apparent that the pressures of reform including changes in Medicaid, AFDC, and reimbursement rates for rural hospitals were beginning to strain the community's limited resources. Local leaders responded by forming a Community Health Council to serve as a mechanism for evaluating the health status of the community and pooling resources to address shared problems. The Health Council conducted a comprehensive assessment of the health status of Haywood County residents and developed a strategy to address the needs identified.

### COMMUNITY DIAGNOSIS

The "Community Diagnosis" process developed by the Tennessee Department of Health was the basis for the assessment. Community Diagnosis is a data-driven assessment process which helps communities identify and prioritize health problems.

Information regarding the community's health status, in addition to data available from the State, was collected and analyzed. Data from a behavioral risk factor survey conducted by the University of Tennessee was also reviewed. Secondary data available from the Department of Health and other sources were then studied in order to focus discussion. Once a comprehensive list of problems had been compiled, the problems were prioritized based on size, seriousness, and effectiveness of interventions. Using this approach a Community Health Problems List was developed. Once this list had been compiled, work groups were developed to begin developing specific goals and designing appropriate interventions.

***"Health Departments across the county have not developed good assessment capabilities, but we must concentrate on this function if we are to enter the 21<sup>st</sup> century with the data and system to recognize health problems as well as resolve them."***

***Fredia Wadley, Commissioner  
Tennessee Department of Health  
February 1995***

# COMMUNITY NEEDS ASSESSMENT

## **COUNCIL MAKE-UP**

The Haywood County Community Health Council consists of a diverse group of community leaders which is representative of the community in terms of geography, race, profession, and institutional factors.

A list of council representatives is attached as Appendix A.

## **DATA GATHERED**

### ***Demographic and Socioeconomic Data***

Population Demographics  
Life Cycle of Residents  
Labor Force Status  
Marital Status  
Poverty Status  
Family/Household Status

### ***Health Professionals Data***

Primary Care Physicians  
OB/GYN Physicians  
Internists  
Pediatricians  
Specialists  
Dentists  
Nurse Practitioners/Nurse  
Midwives

### ***TennCare Data***

Number of Enrollees  
Managed Care Organizations  
Number of Providers by MCO

## ***Health and Vital Statistics Data***

Fertility Data  
Cancer  
Adolescent Pregnancy Rates  
Diabetes  
Live Births by Age and Race  
Heart Conditions  
Birthweight Trends  
Hypertension  
Infant Deaths by Race  
HIV/Aids  
Leading Causes of Death  
Stress  
Mothers Exhibiting Maternal Risk Factors  
Tobacco Use  
Motor Vehicle Mortality  
Hospital Discharge Data  
Accidental Death Mortality  
Violent Deaths  
Sexually Transmitted Diseases  
Obesity

### ***Family Data***

Domestic Violence Patterns  
Child Abuse and Neglect  
Alcohol and Drug Abuse

# COMMUNITY NEEDS ASSESSMENT

## ***Community Health Surveys***

The Council supplemented published data by reviewing survey data regarding behavioral risk factor conducted by the University of Tennessee. Focus groups were also conducted to gather input and identify anecdotal data to support the assessment process.

## ***Community Health Concerns Identified***

- ◆ Teen Pregnancy & STD's
- ◆ Alcohol Tobacco & Other Drugs
- ◆ Youth Violence/Crime
- ◆ Geriatric Health
- ◆ Cancer
- ◆ Domestic Violence
- ◆ Motor Vehicle Accidents/Child Restraints
- ◆ Allergies

## ***PRIORITIZED PROBLEMS***

The Council discussed an increasing range of pressing health problems that the community must address with limited resources. To direct those resources well, the Council established priorities from among the problems identified. For this task the Council chose a modification of the method developed by J.J. Hanlon who is a nationally known public health professional. This method sets priorities on the basis of the size and seriousness of the problem in conjunction with knowledge about the effectiveness of potentially available interventions. Each problem being considered was given a numerical score on a scale of 0 to 10 based on the size of the population affected, the seriousness of the problem and the effectiveness of potential interventions. The following formula was used for the calculation of total scores (D) where A = Size; B = Seriousness, and C = Effectiveness of Interventions,

$$D = A + (2B) \times C$$

# COMMUNITY NEEDS ASSESSMENT

## **Community Health Priorities 1998-99**

### **Adolescent Pregnancy STDs**

The Community Health Council selected two problems from the list of health concerns to be addressed during the first project year. These community health priorities were adolescent pregnancy and sexually transmitted disease. When selecting these priorities for 1998-99, the Council worked through the entire sequence of interacting factors that contribute to each community health problem identified. Links between problems, barriers to effective intervention and the availability of resources were all important considerations.

### **Community Resources**

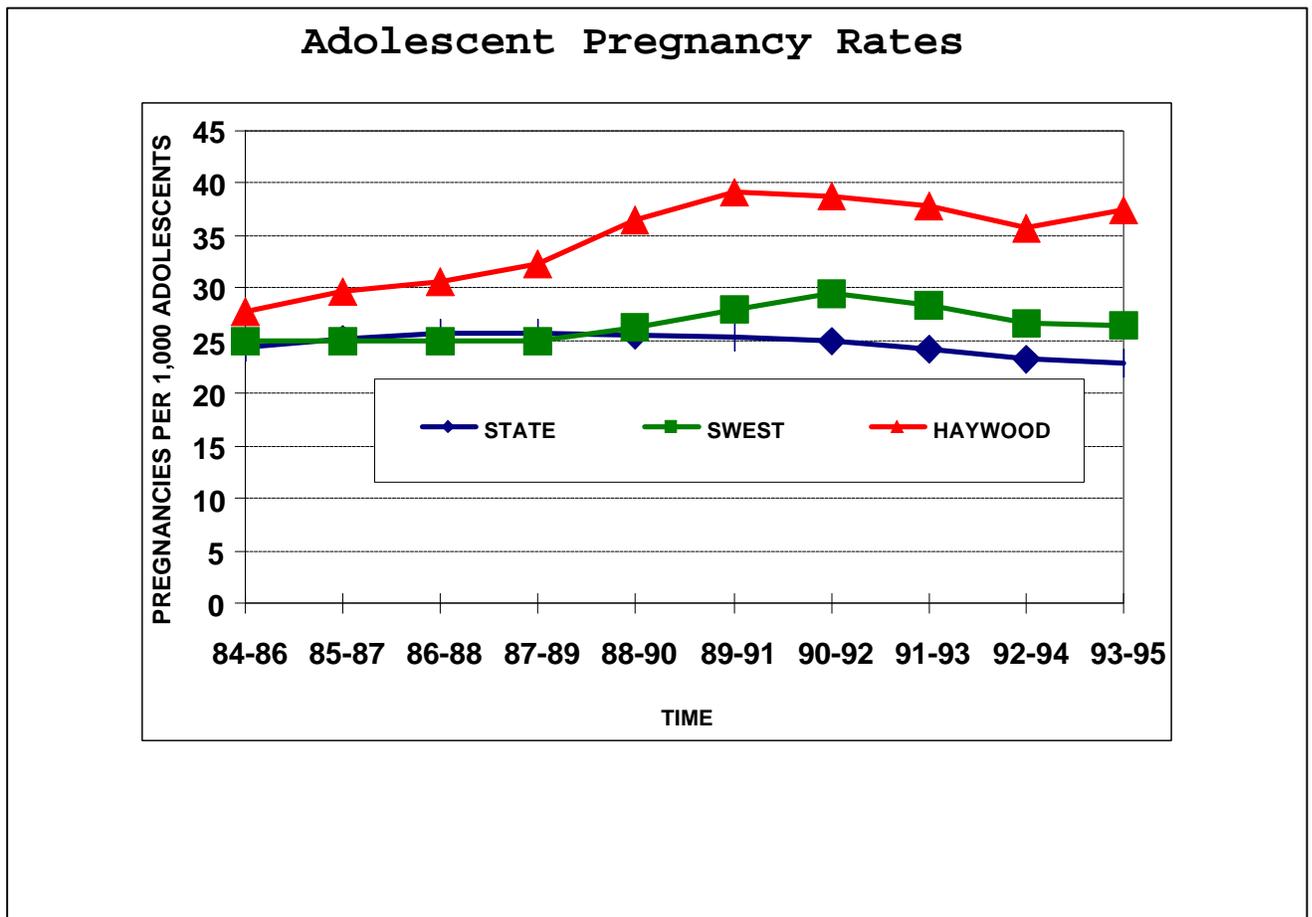
- ◆ Local Physicians
- ◆ Haywood County Health Dept.
- ◆ Regional Health Department
- ◆ Schools
- ◆ TN Department of Children's Services
- ◆ Churches
- ◆ Haywood County Juvenile Court
- ◆ Pathways
- ◆ University of Tennessee Extension Services
- ◆ API Council
- ◆ March of Dimes
- ◆ Resource Mothers
- ◆ CHAD
- ◆ Schools
- ◆ Civic Clubs
- ◆ Methodist Hospital

# COMMUNITY NEEDS ASSESSMENT

## ***ADOLESCENT PREGNANCY***

The adolescent pregnancy rate for Haywood County has been historically among the highest in the region. There are many causal factors related to teenage pregnancy, including low self-esteem, family history of early pregnancy, previous sexual abuse, substance abuse, lack of involvement in community activities, lack of adult supervision, economic factors, lack of knowledge about reproductive health, as well as issues surrounding male involvement and responsibility.

Teenage pregnancy is important because it is associated with prenatal health problems, academic failure, diminished employment opportunities, and increased dependence on public support for sustenance, housing and health care. Community Survey Results indicated that 85 percent of respondents believe adolescent pregnancy is a “Definite” community health problem.

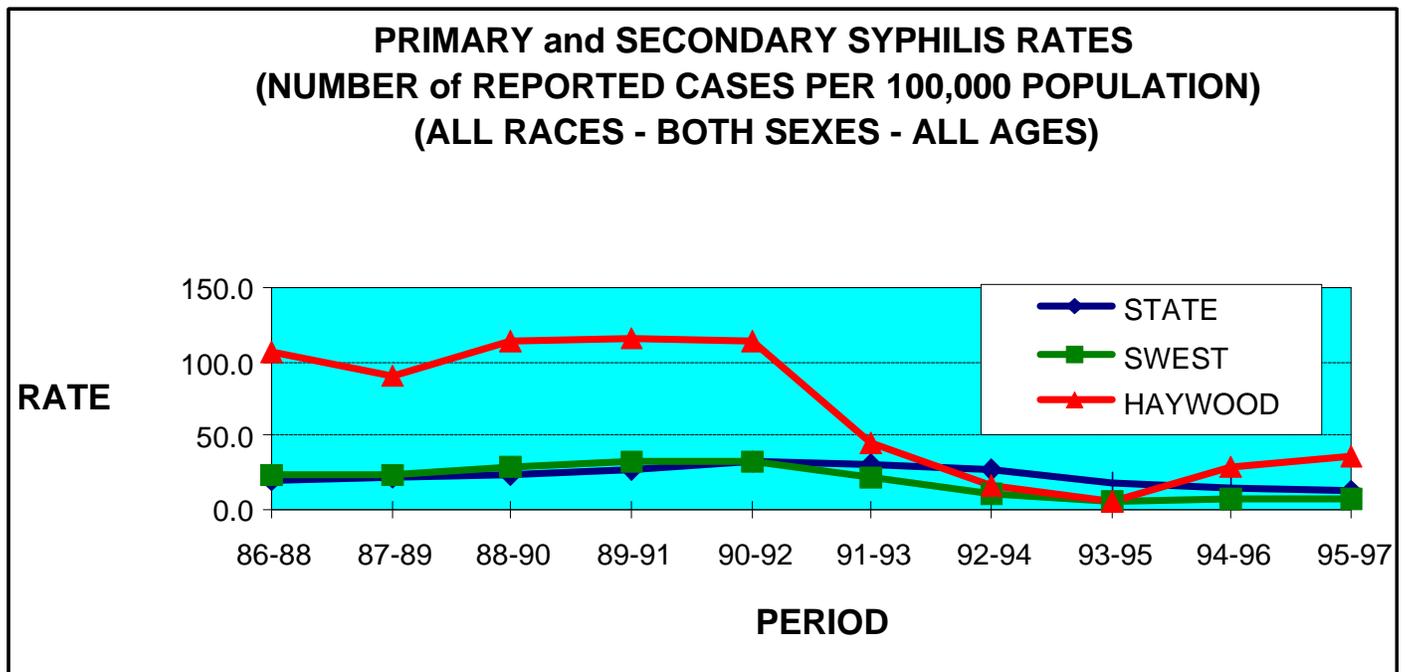


# COMMUNITY NEEDS ASSESSMENT

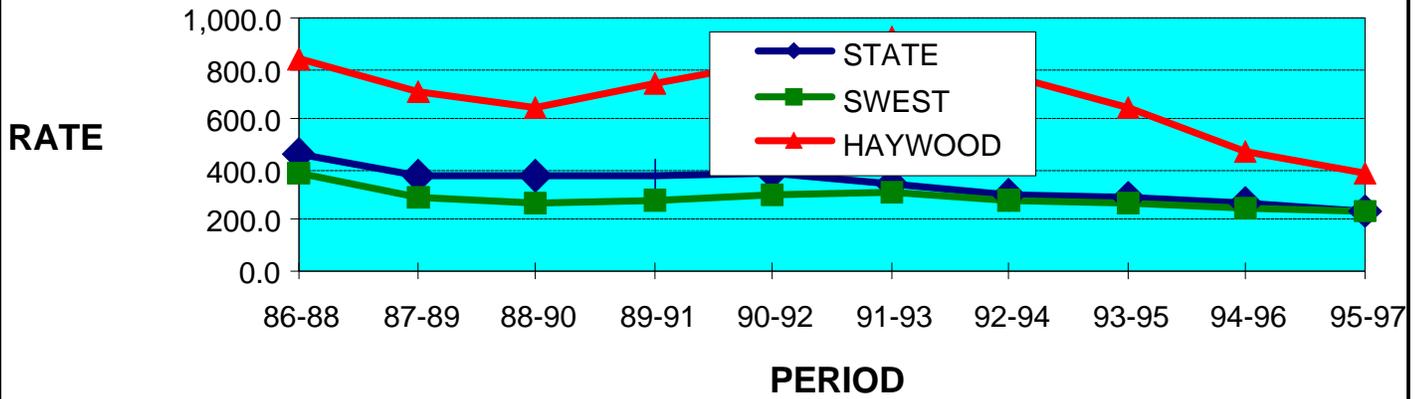
## **SEXUALLY TRANSMITTED DISEASES**

While many of the negative health consequences of STDs manifest themselves in adults, these complications usually are the result of infections or behaviors acquired during adolescence. The rates of STDs are higher among adolescents. Adolescents are at higher risk because they frequently have unprotected sex, are biologically more susceptible to infection and face many obstacles to access treatment. According to a 1995 Tennessee High School Survey, more than 60 percent of high school students report having had sexual intercourse. Over 34 percent of students report having had sexual intercourse before the age of 15.

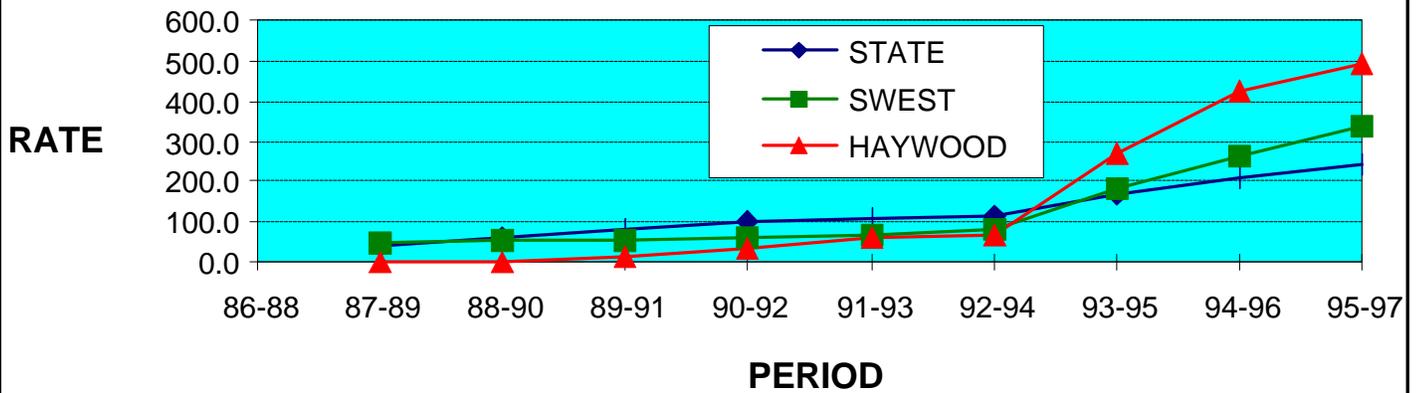
Rates of sexually transmitted disease in Haywood County rank among the highest in the State. In 1998, only Davidson and Shelby Counties reported higher rates of primary and secondary syphilis. Haywood County was second worst among Tennessee's ninety-five counties in terms of the rate of gonorrhea. Only Shelby County reported a higher rate. Haywood County ranks second in the State in terms of the rate of infection from chlamydia. Only Hardeman County reported a greater rate of infection from chlamydia.



**GONORRHEA RATES**  
**(NUMBER of REPORTED CASES PER 100,000 POPULATION)**  
**(ALL RACES - BOTH SEXES - ALL AGES)**



**CHLAMYDIA RATES**  
**(NUMBER of REPORTED CASES PER 100,000 POPULATION)**  
**(ALL RACES - BOTH SEXES - ALL AGES)**



## ***Actions and Strategies***

***Subcommittees were formed to serve as working groups for each priority identified and were expanded to include individuals with knowledge and experience related to each problem. Each subcommittee was charged with the responsibility of developing a plan of action which included objectives, activities and evaluation criteria. Volume II of this report will include those findings and recommendations.***

Haywood County  
Community Health Council

**Myrtle Russell**  
**Regional Health Office**

**Jennifer Coulston**  
**Juvenile Court**

**Bobbie Martin**  
**County Health Dept.**

**Danny Perry, Director**  
**County Health Department**

**Sandra Anderson**  
**Scotts Street Center**

**Lillian Jefferies**  
**Retired Educator**

**Rev. Don Brooks**  
**Christ Episcopal Church**

**Rodney Martin**  
**YMCA**

**Priscilla Steiner**  
**Home Bound Medical Ctr.**

**Leah Simpson, RN**  
**Board of Education**

**Franklin Smith**  
**County Executive**

**The Honorable Roland Reid**  
**Juvenile Judge**

**Ester Gurkin**  
**DHS**

**Sandra Bailey**  
**Methodist Hospital**

**Shavetta Conner, M.D.**  
**County Health Dept.**

**Michael Finan, M.D., J.D.**  
**Local Obstetrician**

**Carolyn Flagg**  
**Housing Authority**

**Pat Weaver**  
**Home Bound Medical Ctr.**

**Margie Stoots**  
**DHS**

**Juanita Williams**  
**Methodist Healthcare**