

VIII. FINAL PRIORITIZED ISSUES

After reviewing the scores, the council was asked which issues should be addressed. After combining several issues, the McMinn CHC chose the following issues for strategic planning purposes:

1. **CANCER**
2. **TEEN PREGNANCY**
3. **LEADING CAUSE OF DEATH FOR 65+ Y.O. w/MORTALITY RATE PER 100,000 POPULATION (DISEASES OF THE HEART)**
4. **SUBSTANCE ABUSE**
5. **ACCIDENTS AND ADVERSE EFFECTS**

The council will address each issue, one at a time, beginning with #1, Cancer.

IX. CLOSING

This Community Diagnosis Health Status Report has provided a description of the assessment portion of the Community Diagnosis Process. The strategic planning portion will entail the formalizing of strategic interventions to deal with the aforementioned priorities. Soliciting input from additional residents and experts in the community, the McMinn CHC will develop intervention strategies. Strategic planning will require consideration of the entire sequence of interacting factors that contribute to the problem, identifying contributing health links, identifying both public and private resources to address the problem and identifying barriers to reducing the problem. Upon completion of the strategic planning process, the McMinn CHC will publish Volume II: The Community Diagnosis Strategic Planning Document, detailing all goals, objectives and specific interventions. The final edition, Volume III: The Community Diagnosis Evaluation Document will monitor the implementation and evaluation of each intervention.

The Tennessee Department of Health, Southeast Regional Assessment and Planning staff, would like to thank the McMinn County Health Council for their continued support and dedication throughout the Community Diagnosis Process. Their tireless efforts have and will continue to positively affect the health of McMinn County.

If you would like more information about the health council or would like to join the council in their efforts to positively affect the above issues, please call (423) 634-3124 and ask to speak with someone from Assessment and Planning.

This report is also available on the *World Wide Web*, thanks to a joint effort of the Tennessee Department of Health and The University of Tennessee at: *hitspot.utk.edu*, under the reports heading.