

Pickett County Priorities

To ensure the accuracy of the council's ranking, the prioritization table provided a means of comparison of all top issues addressed. Teen alcohol and drug abuse ranked 6th on the Behavioral Risk Factor Survey and ranked 2nd on the Community Health Assessment Survey. Tobacco use ranked number 1 on both surveys.

After reviewing and analyzing all primary and secondary data and open discussion among the health council members, the health problems are judged for the factors of:

Propriety - Is the program for the health problem suitable?

Economics - Does it make economic sense to address the problem? Are there economic consequences if a program is not carried out?

Acceptability - Will the community accept a program? Is it wanted?

Resources - Is funding available or potentially available for a program?

Legality - Do current laws allow program activities to be implemented?

The initial letters of these factors make up the acronym "**PEARL**". After applying the PEARL factors to Pickett County's community, the council focused on teen alcohol/drug abuse issues. A Community Awareness Partnership support group had been formed in the community for adults, teens, and their families to look at alcohol and drug abuse. The community as a whole had expressed great concern over alcohol and drug abuse issues occurring among teens. The (CAP) Community Awareness Partnership and the health council joined forces to begin to address the alcohol and drug abuse concerns among their adolescents. The prioritization table also revealed that the Upper Cumberland region ranks 4th in the state in alcohol related crashes thus supports the health council's need to address this issue.

The following issues are identified as priorities by the Pickett County Health Council:

1. **Teen Alcohol/Drug Abuse**
2. **Tobacco Use**
- 3) **High Blood Pressure**
- 3) **Heart Conditions**
- 4) **Teen Pregnancy**
- 5) **Cancer**