

- *Memphis Botanic Gardens/Memphis City School Facilities:* investigate the opportunity to open the Memphis Botanic Garden and Memphis City Schools to increase their use for public exercise programs
- The committee plans to initiate an exercise challenge between local neighborhoods. The committee will work with local neighborhood associations and churches, as well as the Memphis Neighborhood Night Out, City Beautiful and Walking in Memphis programs.

Educational & Community-Based Programs

Issues and Priorities

As part of a healthy community, residents should have the necessary knowledge, skills, capacity, and opportunity to enjoy individual, family, school and community health. Citizens should understand and participate in decision-making concerning their health care. Local health care professionals can affect resident participation through educational and community-based programs that spread awareness of health care issues and inform the consumer public.

In Shelby County, a variety of issues need wider awareness and education. Adolescent pregnancy, violence, substance abuse, parenting, public safety and crime are all issues identified by the committee assigned to assess educational and community-based programs. Access to programs that provide tutoring, mentoring, sports and fitness activities, substance abuse treatment and smoking cessation assistance are also key curricula needs.

Activities

The Educational and Community-Based Programs Committee developed a comprehensive community plan to coordinate specific efforts that address the issues affecting health care in the local market. The committee used the diagnosis process to expand networking among the SCRHC members. Collaboration between the different agencies involved proved to be an important benefit of participation in this committee.

The committee generated primary data to establish the needs of the constituents. Organizers used a self-report survey to collect basic demographic information and resident opinions regarding major health concerns. Residents from the Greenlaw/Manassas neighborhood in northwest Memphis were polled. Based on the responses from 355 residents and other supporting information, the committee prioritized the needs for the community and set specific action plans to address these needs.

Accomplishments

- The committee compiled and reviewed the Greenlaw/Manassas survey results. The neighborhood's residents were overwhelmingly concerned