

with high blood pressure and diabetes. Other responses regarding personal health concerns were cancer, arthritis and heart problems. The residents said that they were addressing these concerns through programs from the Health Department, TennCare and their private doctors. A number of residents (25) noted that they were involved in programs at a local hospital, St. Joseph, that has since closed. When asked about the top health concerns for their community, the respondents overwhelmingly agreed that drugs and violence are the primary issues. Residents also noted that gangs, safety and crime need attention as well. The results showed that the neighbors are shockingly unaware of any programs to address these concerns. Less than 10% of the respondents could name a specific program or service, including the Memphis Police, Shelby County Sheriffs or Neighborhood Watch that could help restore their community.

- In response to the low awareness of service agencies and programs, the committee compiled and updated resource directories for alcohol and drug abuse reduction and prevention, violence reduction and prevention, adolescence pregnancy prevention and parenting skills development. The directories are available to residents through the public library system.
- Four community resource directories detailing agencies or programs which deal with adolescent pregnancy prevention and care, alcohol and drug abuse reduction, violence and abuse prevention and parenting education and training.
- The committee's work also generated some valuable partnerships that have produced grant awards to enact different parts of the action plan.
 - \$50,000 Abstinence grant for enhancing morality in public school students
 - \$30,000 from the Memphis & Shelby County Medical Society for summer enrichment camp for youth in the Greenlaw/Manassas community
 - \$330,000 from the United Way's *Success by 6* campaign to provide intervention programs and quality of life improvement opportunities for students in four downtown schools
 - \$100,000 United Way grant for a family resource center in Carnes Elementary School

Clinical Preventive Services & Health Access

Issues and Priorities

Keeping with the purpose of the council, this SCHRC committee was focused on promoting and maintaining optimum health for all residents by encouraging preventive primary and home health care services and advocating equal access to these services for all segments of their constituency. The council focussed their assessment on the barriers to access, the Health Professional Shortage Area (HPSA)