

# The Commonwealth Medical College Regional Health Assessment

**Table 1. The Commonwealth Medical College Regional Health Assessment County Focus Groups**<sup>1</sup>

County	# Participants	Focus	County population (2008)
Bradford	7	General	61,233
Carbon	14	General	63,558
Clinton	12	General	37,038
Columbia**	Not yet held	Drug and Alcohol	65,004
Lackawanna	12	Youth	209,408
Lackawanna	9	Seniors	
Lackawanna	8	Minorities	
Lackawanna	8	Minorities	
Luzerne	11	Youth	311,983
Luzerne	9	Seniors	
Luzerne	11	Minorities	
Luzerne	11*	General	
Lycoming	9	Youth	116,670
Lycoming	9	Seniors	
Monroe 1	9	General	165,058
Monroe 2	8	General	
Montour**	Not yet held	Drug and Alcohol	17,705
Pike**	7	Mental Health	59,664
Schuylkill 1	6	General	147,254
Schuylkill 2	8	General	
Sullivan	9	General	6,124
Susquehanna	11	General	40,831
Tioga	12	General	40,574
Wayne**	11	Mental Health	52,016
Wyoming	10	General	27,759

\*Focus group made up of representatives of perspectives underrepresented in previous focus groups: higher education, media, government, and business.

\*\*Counties with community assessments recently completed or in process. Specific health issue identified jointly with those assessment investigators.

**Table 2. Agencies and Sectors that Participated in Focus Groups**

County and state government	K-12 schools
County human services	Colleges and universities
County assistance offices	Non-profit and community based organizations
County children and youth services and Head Start	Hospitals
Area agency on the aging and other senior services	Health systems/health insurers
County and private mental health services	Health Centers and clinicians
County and private substance abuse services	Legal and justice system
County coroners	Faith organizations
Public health	Community leaders
Businesses	

<sup>1</sup> Focus groups were conducted in 2009

**Table 3. Main Themes**

<b>Needs (in rank order)</b>
1. Mental Health
2. Access to healthcare: transportation
2. Access to healthcare: insurance
2. Access to healthcare: lack of providers
2. Prevention and wellness
2. Specific diseases, injuries, risk factors (e.g. diabetes, cancer, STIs, motor vehicle crash, obesity etc.)
3. Drug & alcohol
4. Access to healthcare: knowledge and culture
4. Seniors
5. Coordination of care
6. Dental health
6. Vulnerable populations
7. Regional demographic changes
<b>Strengths and Resources (in rank order)</b>
1. Specific Programs (e.g. Nurse Family Partnership, Meals on Wheels, YMCAs, and senior centers)
2. Interagency collaboration
3. Schools and Churches
4. Volunteers and volunteerism
5. State Health Improvement Plan (SHIP) partnerships
<b>Expectations from TCMC (in rank order)</b>
1. More physicians
2. A different kind of physician
3. Better healthcare in the region
4. Connection with community