



## HEALTH SERVICES AGENCY

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### Community Health Assessment Provides Insight into the Overall Health of Stanislaus County Residents

Stanislaus County - Forty-two percent of Stanislaus County residents participating in a comprehensive, one of a kind survey went without basic needs such as food, clothes, and health care last year. That's one of the findings reported in the 2008 Community Health Assessment (CHA).

The report will be unveiled Friday, November 21, at Modesto Centre Plaza with a presentation highlighting key issues impacting the health of Stanislaus County's adult, youth, and senior population. Using secondary data from a variety of sources and face-to-face surveys, the report covers more than 70 social, economic, health, and behavioral determinants of health in Stanislaus County.

In all, 2,800 surveys were conducted by agencies and community-based organizations across Stanislaus County. Applied Survey Research, a consulting firm, assisted in data collection and development of the report.

"This assessment is part of an established cycle of surveying that began with our *Mobilizing for Action through Planning and Partnership* Stakeholders in 2002", stated Dr. John Walker, Stanislaus County Public Health Officer. "It provides identification of health issues that will be prioritized and monitored through the development of a strategic action plan with county stakeholders and partners." said Walker.

The comprehensive report is approximately 300 pages and can be downloaded on the project website: [www.healthierstanislaus.org](http://www.healthierstanislaus.org). Executive summaries highlighting key findings will be available at the results presentation. Additional findings include:

- One-third of residents needing health care in the past 12 months were unable to receive it.
- Over one-third of survey respondents were overweight and one-third were obese.
- The percentage of all live births to teen mothers was 12% in 2007, higher than California's.
- Nearly one-quarter (24%) of senior respondents (ages 60+) reported feeling so sad or hopeless almost every day for 2 weeks or more in a row that they stopped doing some usual activities.

The project is funded by Memorial Medical Center, Doctors Medical Center, Kaiser Permanente, Stanislaus County Children and Families Commission, Health Services Agency, Community Services Agency, Behavioral Health and Recovery Services, Department of Aging & Veterans Services, and Anthem Blue Cross.

For more information come to the 2008 CHA Results Presentation:

**Friday, November 21, 2008: 10am -12pm**

**Modesto Centre Plaza, 1000 L St., (Ash and Magnolia conference rooms)**

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