

Conclusion and Next Steps

The findings from this 2007 Community Health Assessment suggest that Durham is poised to become not only a *City of Medicine* but also a *Community of Health*. The work of the *Partnership for a Healthy Durham*, which is currently planning and implementing several far-reaching health initiatives, will be critical to bringing about this transition.

Several important issues that require further exploration were identified during the 2007 Community Health. They include:

- The mental health of Latino youth in Durham;
- The continuing increase in cancer rates and
- The possible relationship between gang activity, substance abuse and perceptions of safety in the City of Durham.

The next steps are to:

- Report to the many neighborhoods and organizations in Durham County in print and at public forums. This reporting will be coordinated by *The People's Clearing House* – a Committee of *The Partnership for a Healthy Durham*;
- Review/revise the priorities of the Partnership for a Healthy Durham in light of the assessment findings and

Develop Action Plans to be submitted to the State of North Carolina by June 1, 2008.