

Jan. 10, 2019

## HEALTH PRIORITIES IDENTIFIED IN 2019 ESCAMBIA-SANTA ROSA COMMUNITY HEALTH NEEDS ASSESSMENT



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**Pensacola, Fla.** – The Florida Department of Health in Escambia and Santa Rosa counties, in conjunction with the Live Well Partnership and other community organizations, released the 2019 Escambia – Santa Rosa Community Health Needs Assessment. The document identifies the top health priorities for both counties based on a community-wide survey and an analysis of each county's leading causes of death and illness.

Both counties will focus on diabetes, infant health, and mental health. Additionally, Escambia County will focus on child health (ages 1-5) and sexually-transmitted diseases while Santa Rosa County will add drug use and abuse to its priority areas.

Over the next three years, these health priorities will be the focus of the Community Health Improvement Plan, which organizes community-wide goals and strategies to address contributing factors to each priority. Public forums will be announced in the spring to discuss the development of these goals and strategies.

“Looking at the data and listening to community feedback are important strategies for assessing our community’s health,” said FDOH-Escambia’s director and health officer, John J. Lanza, MD, PhD, MPH, FAAP, FHPS. “The community input gives perspective to the data so that we can prioritize our efforts to protect, promote, and improve our community’s health, starting with those issues of greatest purpose.”

View the entire document at the following websites: [escambiahealth.com](http://escambiahealth.com); [ebaptisthealthcare.org](http://ebaptisthealthcare.org); [healthcarewithinreach.org](http://healthcarewithinreach.org); [santarosa.floridahealth.gov](http://santarosa.floridahealth.gov)

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