

2006 HERKIMER COUNTY RISK ASSESSMENT PROFILE

March 9, 2006

Dear Agency Director,

Presented here is a copy of the 2006 Herkimer County Risk Assessment Profile Update, a data-based assessment of community strengths and challenges that affect the health and well being of Herkimer County residents.

The Profile was created by Herkimer County Integrated County Planning and Herkimer County Health Net, Inc., in collaboration with the members of the Comprehensive Assessment Task Force. The Profile is organized utilizing the six Life Areas of the *New York State Touchstones* model; Community, Citizenship, Physical and Emotional Health, Family, Economic Security, and Education. This format has allowed for a more comprehensive look at the needs of Herkimer County residents, and an enhanced focus on community demographics, physical and emotional health, the elderly, and children 0 - 5. The data collected within the Profile gives us a snapshot of the level of risk that exists in our community and the areas in which there is a need to work collaboratively to improve outcomes.

We hope that the 2006 Risk Assessment Profile will help you and your agency to assess the scale and scope of community needs. We also hope that it can be used as a tool as you plan for services that impact the health and well-being of Herkimer County residents.

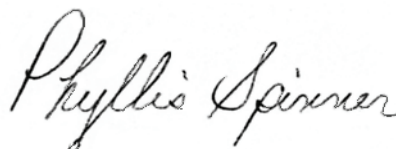
The 2006 Herkimer County Risk Assessment Profile Update will be available on the Herkimer County HealthNet, Inc. website at www.herkimerhealthnet.com.

If you have any questions regarding the Risk Assessment Profile, please contact Herkimer County Integrated County Planning or the Herkimer County HealthNet, Inc.

Sincerely,



Darlene Haman
Strategic Planning Coordinator
Herkimer County Integrated County Planning
Co-Chair Comprehensive Assessment Task Force



Phyllis Spinner
Executive Director
Herkimer County HealthNet, Inc.
Co-Chair Comprehensive Assessment Task Force

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

Herkimer County Integrated County Planning and Herkimer County HealthNet, Inc. would like to acknowledge with appreciation the following individuals, agencies and planning groups for their contributions in the development of the 2006 Risk Assessment Profile:

- The Herkimer County Legislature and James Wallace, County Administrator, for their leadership, vision and support of this initiative.
- The members and the Executive Committee of the Comprehensive Assessment Task Force, for contributing countless hours of their time to collecting, organizing, interpreting and evaluating the data collected. Without your hard work, this project could never have been completed.
- The Herkimer County Health Net, Inc. Board of Directors and the Integrated County Planning Human Resource Planning Team for their vision, leadership and financial support.
- The New York State Office of Children and Family Services and the Department of Health - Charles D. Cook Office of Rural Health for their guidance and support.
- The ICP Human Development Committee for their continued commitment to improving the health and well being of children, youth and families in Herkimer County.
- The focus group participants, especially our youth participants, who volunteered their time to provide valuable insight into the issues that affect the residents of Herkimer County.
- The many agencies and individuals that provided the valuable information included in the 2006 Risk Assessment Profile.
- Bart Carrig for donating the cover photo of the Mohawk Valley, taken from the Route 167 Scenic Overlook .
- Jeffrey Whittemore, our volunteer, for collating and assembling the Profile document.

Without the support and collaboration of all the individuals and agencies listed, the creation of the 2006 Update of the Herkimer County Risk Assessment Profile would not have been possible. Thank You.

Herkimer County Comprehensive Assessment Task Force (CATF)

<p>Darlene Haman, Co-Chair * Strategic Planning Coordinator Herkimer County Integrated County Planning</p>	<p>Phyllis Spinner, Co-Chair * Executive Director Herkimer County HealthNet, Inc.</p>
<p>Mark Barbano * Regional Economist New York State Department of Labor</p>	<p>Chip Bassett * Principal Planner Herkimer—Oneida Counties Comprehensive Planning</p>
<p>Steve Canipe * Executive Director Valley United Way</p>	<p>Christopher Farber Sheriff Herkimer County Sheriff Department</p>
<p>Mark Feane Executive Director Herkimer County IDA</p>	<p>Gina Giacobelli * Director Herkimer County Youth Bureau</p>
<p>Laurie Hedges Assistant Superintendent for Instruction Herkimer County BOCES</p>	<p>Adam Hutchinson * Administrative Assistant Herkimer County HealthNet, Inc.</p>
<p>Sandra Jones * Supervisor Special Programs for Children Herkimer County Public Health</p>	<p>Deborah Kinney * Director of Services Herkimer County Department of Social Services</p>
<p>Mary Kline Director, Migrant Education & Even Start Herkimer County BOCES</p>	<p>Terry Leonard Executive Director Catholic Charities</p>
<p>Dorothy Massinger Senior Caseworker, Adult Protective Services Herkimer County Department of Social Services</p>	<p>Arlene Miller Senior Employment Specialist Herkimer County Employment & Training Adm.</p>
<p>Dale Miller * Principal Planner Herkimer—Oneida Counties Comprehensive Planning</p>	<p>Christine Murphy Assistant Director Herkimer County Department of Mental Health</p>
<p>Linda Robbins * Assistant Director Cornell Cooperative Extension of Herkimer County</p>	<p>JoAnne Salamone Program Director Herkimer County Prevention Council</p>
<p>Mary Scanlon * Director Herkimer County Office for the Aging</p>	<p>Lydia Sexton Health & Assistance Program Director Catholic Charities</p>
<p>Josephine Sohnn Supervisor Herkimer County Probation</p>	<p>Susan Streeter Program Director Herkimer Area Resource Center</p>
<p>Carolyn Trimbach Community Representative</p>	<p>Michelle Ward Assistant to the Dean of Academic Affairs Herkimer County Community College</p>

* Denotes Executive Committee Member

Introduction

The 2006 Herkimer County Risk Assessment Profile is an update to the previous Risk Assessment Profiles published in October 2000 and May 2003. It represents the collaboration between Herkimer County Integrated County Planning (ICP), Herkimer County HealthNet, Inc. and the various agencies that make up the Comprehensive Assessment Task Force.

The Profile is organized in accordance with the six Life Areas of the *New York State Touchstones* model; Community, Citizenship, Physical and Emotional Health, Family, Economic Security, and Education. This format has allowed for a more comprehensive look at the needs of Herkimer County residents than either the 2000 or 2003 Profiles provided. The 2006 Profile also provides an enhanced focus on community demographics, physical and emotional health, the elderly, and children 0 - 5. The data collected within the Profile gives a snapshot of the level of risk that exists in our community and the areas in which there is a need to work collaboratively to improve outcomes.

Background

Herkimer County HealthNet, Inc. has been in existence since 1990 when the Herkimer County Health Care Consortium successfully applied for funding from New York State Department of Health to establish itself as a Rural Health Network. Its membership comprised of governmental agencies, health and human services providers has as its mission to improve the health and well being of Herkimer County residents.

In 1998, Herkimer County developed a collaborative, integrated planning process to address the needs of children, youth, families and vulnerable adults. This planning process combines the planning requirements of the Department of Social Services and the Youth Bureau, and includes other county departments, service providers and community-wide collaborations that address needs.

Herkimer County Integrated County Planning (ICP) has identified issues that affect the health and well-being of youth and families, improved coordination of human service delivery, reduced fragmentation and duplication of effort, and made more efficient and effective use of federal, state, and local tax dollars.

Input and involvement from the community remains a vital component of Integrated County Planning. Community members, along with representatives from the areas of health, human services, education and law enforcement, began meeting in January of 1999 to collaboratively identify and respond to the needs of children, youth and families. The

Communities That Care model of risk-focused prevention was adopted as a strategic planning tool to accomplish this goal.

Since 1999 Integrated County Planning and Herkimer County HealthNet, Inc. have been working collaboratively to provide a comprehensive assessment of health and human service needs in Herkimer County. They have co-chaired the Comprehensive Assessment Task Force, whose mission is to assemble a diverse group of stakeholders in government, health, education, and human services to facilitate comprehensive long term planning geared to improve the quality of life for the residents of Herkimer County.

In 2000, data - based predictors were collected and organized into the *Communities That Care* format. Focus groups were held with community stakeholders, including youth, to review data and identify priority needs. Out of the Risk Assessment process in 2000, five risk factors emerged as priorities for Herkimer County:

- Extreme Economic Deprivation
- Family Management
- Family Conflict
- Early and Persistent Antisocial Behavior
- Early Initiation of the Problem Behavior

In October 2000, the Herkimer County Risk Assessment Profile was published. Herkimer County departments, service providers and various community groups began to discuss ways to better support children, youth and families in order to address identified needs. A Resource Inventory was created to identify gaps in services, and promising approaches were researched that would reduce risks. Resources were allocated to address the issues identified, and various grants were pursued to address major service gaps.

In March 2003, ICP again partnered with the Herkimer County HealthNet, Inc. to update the data collected within the original profile. An analysis of the 2003 Herkimer County Risk Assessment Profile confirmed the need to address the five priority risk factors identified during the 2000 planning process. In addition, other risk factors were identified in 2003 as emerging areas of concern: the Availability of Drugs, Lack of Commitment to School, and Alienation and Rebelliousness. Herkimer County planning groups continued to meet to address these concerns.

In 2006 Herkimer County HealthNet, Inc. and Integrated County Planning partnered for the third time to create a current/updated Risk Assessment Profile. The new *Touchstones* format has expanded the scale and scope of the document and has allowed for a more comprehensive look at the needs of Herkimer County residents. Herkimer County remains committed to the collaborative identification of needs and to developing programs and services that address and prevent the issues identified.

Table of Contents

Acknowledgements	i
Task Force Members	ii
Introduction.....	iii

Life Areas

• Community.....	1
• County Description	1
• Population by Age/Community	7
• Older Adults in the Community	18
• Housing.....	23
• Religious Affiliation.....	28
• Transportation.....	31
• Employment & Industry.....	35
• Quality of Life.....	41
• Youth Perceptions of the Community	45
• Youth Development/Employment.....	48
• Availability of Daycare	52
• Citizenship.....	55
• Voting.....	55
• Engaged & Informed Citizens	59
• Youth Citizenship	63
• Firearms.....	66
• Youth Arrests.....	68
• Adult Arrests & Convictions.....	71

- DWI 75
- Probation and Correctional Alternatives 78
- Juvenile Delinquency 84
- Persons in Need of Supervision (PINS)..... 87
- Incarceration..... 92
- Physical & Emotional Health 95
 - Overweight & Obesity 95
 - Physical Activity..... 99
 - Tobacco Use..... 103
 - Substance Abuse 106
 - Responsible Sexual Behavior 114
 - Mental Health..... 116
 - Injury & Violence 120
 - Immunization 125
 - Birth Outcomes 128
 - Access to Healthcare 133
 - Oral Health 139
 - Health Status & Risk..... 142
- Family..... 147
 - Household Composition 147
 - Family Management 155
 - Family Conflict..... 161
 - Parental Attitudes & Family Norms..... 167
- Economic Security 171
 - Employment & Income..... 171
 - Poverty (Extreme Economic Deprivation) 177
 - Economic Assistance for Basic Needs 182
 - Health Coverage..... 190
- Education 196
 - K-12 Demographics & Environment 196

- Attendance & Completion Rates202
- Academic Proficiency.....206
- Perceptions & Attitudes Towards School 214
- Continuing & Adult Education..... 217

Evaluation

- Children, Youth & Families.....219
- Community..... 228
- Aging Population/Elderly 232
- Health..... 235

Appendices

Index of Tables & Graphs 238

Herkimer County HealthNet, Inc. Board of Directors..... 249

Human Resource Planning Team of ICP.....251