

# Renfrew County Community Study

## OVERVIEW

## **BACKGROUND**

The **Healthy Communities Partnership** (HCP) is a multi-sector collaborative partnership with a shared vision of *improving health, well-being and quality of life for everyone in Renfrew County*. Built on an understanding of the Social and Environmental Determinants of Health, HCP co-ordinates and integrates multi-sector planning, research, knowledge sharing, community engagement, and policy development. Our aim is to make a positive, collective, and measurable impact on the health, well-being and quality of life for everyone in Renfrew County.

## **MEASURING OUR HEALTH AND WELL-BEING**

A key goal of the Healthy Communities Partnership is to develop a deeper understanding of community needs and aspirations. More than 58 organizations and community champions across Renfrew County and the Champlain Region have identified the **Renfrew County Community Study** (RCCS) as a priority. Guided by a Working Group comprised of representatives from these organizations, the RCCS is working to develop a collective measurement tool that we can use to collect, analyze, map, and share information about community well-being.

By enhancing our understanding of local strengths and needs, the RCCS will contribute to achieving our shared vision to improve the health, well-being and quality of life for everyone in Renfrew County, through evidence-based programming and evaluation. The project will also help to tell the story of Renfrew County, building local capacity and communication tools to make a positive impact on our community well-being.

## PHASE 1: COMMUNITY DATA PROJECT

The **Community Data Project** represents the **Phase 1** of the Renfrew County Community Study. It incorporates a number of research tasks, designed to gather necessary background information to inform the development of a shared measurement and planning tool. The *Renfrew County Community Study* is building from best practices that 'measure what matters' (including the Ottawa Neighbourhood Study model and the Canadian Index of Wellbeing) while meeting the unique needs of our region. We are identifying local and relevant data and indicators which define our health and well-being.

Over the Fall of 2014, the project team will complete an extensive literature review and survey of community well-being models, conduct key informant interviews, and organize and host community engagement sessions, all of which have been designed to create a deeper understanding of well-being in Renfrew County and what's needed to build a sustainable and accessible data repository and community measurement tool.

The Healthy Communities Partnership is working in partnership with the Canadian Council on Social Development (CCSD) to conduct the Community Data Project. The CCSD is a not-for-profit research organization based in Ottawa with expertise in social research using both quantitative and qualitative methodologies, with a particular emphasis on community research.

## **HCP** Priorities

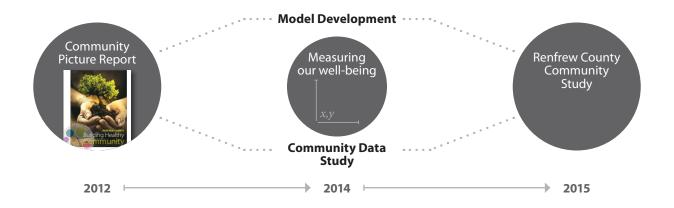
Shared Measurement Tool
Healthy Policy Development
Community Engagement
Collaborative Communication

## **HCP** Objectives

- » increase community engagement
- » improve local capacity for positive change
- » include health in all policies
- » increase access to local research and data
- increase access to healthy environments (social, built, natural)
- » co-ordinate a multi-sector strategy and action plan

## Renfrew County Community Study

In 2015, the HCP will move into **Phase 2** of the RCCS: developing and vetting a model of the well-being measurement tool for Renfrew County. Collecting and mapping local level data will provide an effective visual tool to improve co-ordinated planning and effectively measure our well-being. The new tool will complement existing reporting initiatives at the County level, leveraging our community partnerships and assets, to achieve greater collective impact on the health and well-being of Renfrew County residents.



## **Members of the Healthy Communities Partnership**

Algonquins of Pikwakanagan

Barry's Bay and Area Seniors Home Support

Best Start Network\*

Carefor Health and Community Services

Champlain Healthline

Champlain Cardiovascular Disease

Prevention Network\*

Children and Youth Health Network

of Eastern Ontario\*

Columbus House (Pembroke) Inc

Physical Activity Network—Renfrew County\*

CCAC—Community of Care Access Centre

Community Resource Centre, Killaloe

County of Renfrew Child Care Services

County of Renfrew Paramedic Service

Deep River and District Hospital

Deep River Food Bank

Eganville and District Seniors Centre

Food for Learning (Upper Canada Leger Centre)\*

Hope Reins Assisted Therapy Programs

KidActive

Madawaska Valley Circle of Health\*

North Renfrew Family Health Team

Ottawa Valley Health and Wellness Centre

Parent Resource Centre

Pathways Alcohol and Drug Treatment Services

Pembroke Regional Hospital

Rainbow Valley Community Health Centre

Renfrew and Area Seniors' Home Support

Renfrew County Child Poverty Action Network

Renfrew County and District Health Unit

Renfrew County and District

Aboriginal Friendship Centre

Renfrew County and District Health Unit

Renfrew County and District School Board

Renfrew County Catholic District School Board

Renfrew County Child Poverty Action Network\*

Renfrew County District School Board

Renfrew County Family and Children's Services

Renfrew County Legal Services Clinic

Renfrew County United Way

Renfrew Victoria Hospital

Rotary Club of North Renfrew

Société Alzheimer Society Ottawa

and Renfrew County

St. Francis Memorial Hospital

The Phoenix Centre for Children and Families

Town of Arnprior

Township of Killaloe Hagarty Richards

University of Ottawa Heart Institute

West Champlain Healthy Community Corporation

Whitewater Bromley Community Health Centre

Township of Head, Clara, Maria

Women's Sexual Assault Centre of Renfrew County

\* Indicates a network or collaboration of many organizations and members.

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#### For further information about the project, please contact:

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