



Step Seven: Create a List of Challenges and Opportunities

Before moving to Phase Four, Identify Strategic Issues, the sub-committee should put together a summary of challenges and opportunities related to health status based on the findings of the CHSA. The summary is a more manageable list of issues that will be compared to the results from the other three assessments.

In creating a list of challenges and opportunities, partners should examine the CHSA results in light of the following questions:

- Does this health problem affect large numbers of people, have serious consequences, show evidence of wide inequity between groups or increasing trends, and is it susceptible to proven interventions?

- Does the issue have broad implications over the long term for potential health improvements?

- By addressing this issue, is there potential for a major breakthrough in approaching community health improvement?

- Is this issue one that has been persistent, nagging, and seemingly unsolvable?

- Does this issue identify a particular strength that can be replicated throughout the community?

- Is ongoing monitoring of this issue possible?

Ideally, the final list will include 10–15 community health status issues that will be more closely examined in Phase Four: Identify Strategic Issues.