

**Partners for a Prosperous Athens
Mental and Physical Health Subcommittee
June 26, 2006**

In the fourth, meeting of PPA, the Mental and Physical Health Subcommittee participated in a discussion facilitated by Lynne Kernaghan, Central Georgia Regional Coordinator for Georgia Health Decisions. The facilitated discussion will be included in study on the uninsured being developed by the Georgia Health Policy Center located in the Andrew Young School of Policy Studies at Georgia State University. The participants were asked to rank different options for covering the uninsured. Lynne then presented information about the uninsured developed by the Planning Grant Staff. A copy of her presentation can be found on the Partners for a Prosperous Athens website. The group then participated in a discussion of the options and was given the opportunity to re-rank the previous choices.

Following the presentation and discussion, sub-committee members were asked by Chairman Howard Stroud to consider volunteering to facilitate the community forums that will be held during July. Volunteer facilitators will be required to attend one of the facilitator training sessions scheduled on June 28 and 29.

Based on earlier input from the sub-committee population groups, Chairman Stroud proposed the following questions for a consensus approval of the group. These proposed questions will be used by the community facilitators as they gather input from a broad base of focus groups.

1. What health services do you currently use (Private physician, hospital emergency room, health center, other) for the following:
 - a) common cold, upset stomach, stomachache, severe toothache, headache, earache, other etc.)
 - b) mental health, substance abuse, suicide prevention;
 - c) child abuse/ neglect
 - d) obesity/healthy living

2. If you could receive health care assistance today, what would you need (i.e. transportation, other) ?

3. Do you know what health care services are available to you in the Athens- Clarke County Community?

Chairman Stroud reminded the group that the July meeting would wrap up the information gathering process. The August and September meetings will be devoted to developing recommendations and proposals for the PPA Steering Committee.