

# Speak To Your Health! Community Survey Access to Healthcare Services in Genesee County



Speak To Your Health! News Brief, No. 10, August 2009

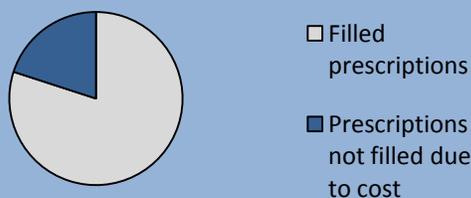
Access to health care affects many people. In America, 43 million people under the age of 65 were not insured as of 2007<sup>1</sup>. Sometimes even people who have insurance do not get all of the care that they need. This can be because sometimes the insurance does not pay the full cost of care. Sometimes people cannot get to a doctor's office because of work or family commitments. Also, people without access to care often do not go to the doctor until after they are very ill. As a result, they are at greater risk of being in the hospital for conditions that could have been prevented<sup>2</sup>. Health care access in Genesee County is an important issue. The good news is that there are many resources in Genesee County that can help.

## DID YOU KNOW?

The *Speak to Your Health! Community Survey* is a resource that provides health information about Genesee County residents. The 2007 survey asked about health care insurance and use. The results of the survey indicate that:

- More than 1 out of 10 people in Genesee County needed to see a doctor in the last 12 months, but couldn't because of cost.
- Almost 1 out of 5 people in Flint needed a prescription in the last 12 months, but didn't get it filled because of cost.

### Prescriptions Not Filled Due to Cost in Genesee County



- About 10% of Genesee County residents are dissatisfied or very dissatisfied with the health care they receive.
- About 26% of Genesee County residents have not seen a doctor in the past year for a routine checkup.

## WHAT CAN YOU DO?

- **There are options available for affordable health coverage in Genesee County.** Check to see if you are eligible for the Genesee Health Plan, MIChild, or other coverage options.
- **If you do have health insurance, be sure to go see your doctor every year for regular check-ups.** Going for regular checkups can help prevent more serious illnesses later on.
- **Contact your Representative and Senators** to learn about health care legislation and express your opinion.

## WHERE CAN YOU GET MORE INFORMATION?

### Genesee County Health Department

<http://www.gchd.us/>

Health Care Access and Enrollment:

(810) 257-3039

CSHCS (Children's Special Health Care Services):

(810) 257-3146

### Genesee County Free Medical Clinic

2437 Welch Boulevard, Flint, MI 48504

(810) 235-4211

### Genesee Health Plan

G3169 Beecher Road, Suite 204, Flint, MI 48532

(810) 232-7740

### Hamilton Community Health Network

<http://www.hamiltonchn.org/>

(810) 789-9141

The Survey is funded by a grant to the Prevention Research Center of Michigan (PRC/MI) from the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention and by the Genesee County Health Department. To see the survey results and learn more about the PRC/MI, visit: <http://www.sph.umich.edu/prc>

<sup>1</sup> Health Insurance Statistics, 2007 <http://www.cdc.gov/nchs/fastats/hinsure.htm>

<sup>2</sup> The Uninsured and Their Access to Health Care. Kaiser Repot, October 2007.