

Show us the way...



to Better Health.....

In October of 2005, the staff of the Whitewater Bromley Community Health Centre Satellite (WBCHCS) began work on the completion of a situational assessment in the process of developing the strategic plan for the Centre from 2006-2011. To quote from the Executive Summary attached, the definition of a "situational assessment" is: "A situational assessment influences planning in significant ways by examining the legal and political environment, stakeholders, the health needs of the population, the literature and previous evaluations, as well as the overall vision for the project. The phrase "situational assessment" is now used rather than the previous term "needs assessment". This is intentional. The new terminology is used as a way to avoid the common pitfall of only looking at problems and difficulties. Instead it encourages considering the strengths of and opportunities for individuals and communities. In a health promotion context, this also means looking at socio-environmental conditions and broader determinants of health."

-The Health Communication Unit, The Centre for Health Promotion, University of Toronto, Health Promotion Planning Course Description, Step 2: Situational Assessment. Retrieved June 12, 2006, from <http://www.thcu.ca/infoandresources/planning.htm>

The situational assessment involved three main components: 1) the delivery of a community health survey in a booklet form to all registered households in the Whitewater and Admaston-Bromley Townships; 2) community partner surveys done through telephone and face-to-face interviews with 46 community partners; and 3) focus groups. For more information and to see the executive summary final report and strategic plan for the Centre please go to the following links:

<http://www.wbchc.on.ca/PDFs/Strategic%20Plan/FinalReport.pdf>

<http://www.wbchc.on.ca/PDFs/Strategic%20Plan/ExecutiveSummary.pdf>