

Geauga County Community Themes and Strengths Focus Group Script

Good morning (afternoon).

I want to thank you for taking time to participate in this focus group. My name is

_____.

The purpose of this discussion is to gather your opinions and concerns about community health issues in Geauga County, Ohio. Your answers will provide a better understanding of the issues Geauga County residents feel are important by answering the questions: “What is important to our community?”, “How is quality of life perceived in our community?”, and “What assets do we have that can be used to improve community health?” Thank you for taking time out of your busy schedule to assist us in this process. We will limit today’s discussion to approximately 90 minutes and we will take a short break about halfway into the discussion.

My job is to moderate the discussion by asking questions and listening to your comments. We will take notes and digitally record the discussion to insure we capture all of your comments. Your answers and names are confidential.

Ground Rules:

Everyone’s opinion is very important, so we want to allow everyone an opportunity to talk. Feel free to express your opinion, even if it differs from your neighbors. We may have to interrupt discussion on one question to make sure we cover all the topics. Your participation is voluntary. It is your right to not answer any particular question or to leave at any time during this discussion without penalty.

Questions:

1. What does a “healthy community” mean to you?
2. What are the pressing health related problems in Geauga County? (probes to capture challenges faced by members of the focus group)
3. Of the problems identified (restate #2 as a list), what are the most important?
4. Why do you think we have these problems (restate most important identified in #3 as a list) in Geauga County?
5. What strengths and resources do we have in Geauga County to address these problems (identified in #2 and #3)?
6. What do you think we are missing or lacking in Geauga County to address these problems (identified in #2 and #3)?

Thank you for taking time to come talk with us today. What you have shared will help us work together to understand more about the strengths and needs of Geauga County.