PLACE MATTERS WHEN WE TALK ABOUT HEALTH OUTCOMES

- The neighborhood where we live can impact health outcomes in a positive or negative direction.\(^1\)
- Fear of violence and crime negatively affects health behaviors. For example, parents may be unwilling to allow children to play, walk or bike outside if they fear for their safety.\(^2\),\(^3\)

NEIGHBORHOOD SAFETY

- Residents in the city are more likely than their suburban counterparts to have assault related emergency department visits and higher mortality rates (Graph-1).
- Residents in the 14604 ZIP code experience 510 percent more assault related emergency visits than the Monroe County average.
- The City of Rochester also has almost double the amount of homicide mortalities than the Monroe County Average (Graph-2).

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• Children and seniors face a rate of assault hospitalization that is twice as high as the Monroe County average (Graph-3).

• According to the Rochester Institute of Technology, TIPS Survey residents’ top three greatest community fears revolve around drugs (34 percent), violence (36.3 percent), and youth safety (21.9 percent) (Graph-4).4

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Sixty percent of families in the City of Rochester say they are concerned about the lack of safe places to play in their neighborhood.\(^5\)

Studies from Healthi Kids Coalition at Common Ground Health demonstrate that crime and neighborhood perceptions of safety are a key barrier to walking, biking and playing in the neighborhood.\(^6\)

In results from Healthi Kids walkability assessment in the Southwest Quadrant, parents indicated the presence of additional crossing guards would ensure more “eyes on the road,” which would in turn would improve their perceptions of neighborhood safety (Graph-11).

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For More information about Neighborhood Perceptions of Safety Visit:

www.healthikids.org

Healthi Kids is an initiative of Common Ground Health. Our Coalition advocates for policies, systems and environmental changes that support whole child health in children 0-8 in the Greater Rochester and Finger Lakes Region of New York.

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