

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

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**TRI-COUNTY LOCAL HEALTH DEPARTMENTS AND HEALTH SYSTEMS IDENTIFY TOP HEALTH PRIORITIES**

**(MENASHA, WI)** – The Fox Valley Community Health Improvement Coalition comprised of five area public health departments and five health care systems in the tri-county service area of Calumet, Outagamie, and Winnebago, announces the release of regional community health reports. Much like physicians review an individual’s health status, the Coalition analyzes new and historical health data and interviews community stakeholders to determine the most pressing community health needs. These findings are used to help develop local community health improvement plans.

**Community Health Survey Reports:** Between December 2017 and April 2018, 1,124 random telephone interviews (cell and land line) were completed in the tri-county region. The respondents answered questions about behavioral and lifestyle habits, risk factors and disease conditions. Health data is compared to previous health studies, state and national measurements. In addition to the telephone surveys, the Coalition conducted over 100 interviews with community members and stakeholders from diverse backgrounds and sectors (businesses, law enforcement and community planners). The interviews complement the survey results and identify community strengths, gaps and opportunities. This project was completed by JKV Research, an independent research firm specializing in community assessments.

**Top Tri County Health Priorities listed in alphabetical order:**

- Access to affordable health care
- Behavioral health (stigma, navigation)
- Chronic diseases (heart disease, cancer, diabetes)
- Infectious diseases (vaccine preventable diseases, sexually transmitted infections, influenza)
- Overweight and obesity
- Substance use (alcohol, prescription and other drugs)

Results are available on the local public health department websites. For more information contact your local health department or hospital community outreach coordinator listed below.

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