



Marion County
OREGON
Health Department



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Headline: Two-County Health Assessment Completed

Salem, Oregon – Marion and Polk County Health Departments have joined with a group of community partners to conduct a comprehensive community health assessment. The assessment is complete and ready for the public to view.

“We recognized that several of our partner agencies use demographic, socio-economic and health data for program planning, so we decided to bring everyone together to plan and implement one assessment”, explained Pam Hutchinson, Public Health Division Director at Marion County Health Department.

In addition to data about health issues such as diabetes, the assessment includes information about the local health care system and the findings from two surveys to help describe the health of the community from the individual’s perspective. A survey of health, education and social service providers serving Marion and Polk county residents provided information about health trends and unmet service needs. A second survey supplied information from residents about their experiences in obtaining health care and what they believe are health issues present in their community.

Through this process, depression screening, access to prenatal care, obesity and tobacco prevention were identified as priorities and the two health departments will hold community health improvement planning meetings in the next few months.

The assessments are posted on each health department’s webpage at <http://www.co.marion.or.us/HLT/> and <http://www.co.polk.or.us/ph>.

For more information about the community health improvement plan, contact:

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