
HEALTH DEPARTMENT
NEWS RELEASE



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Community Health Needs Assessment Survey Now Open

GRAND RAPIDS, MI. – The Kent County Health Department (KCHD), local health systems, and multiple community partners are now in the process of conducting the 2020 Community Health Needs Assessment (CHNA). The results of the survey will be used by health professionals and community organizations throughout the county to guide and inform health improvement efforts and services.

The CHNA survey is conducted every three years and asks participants about what they believe are the most pressing health issues impacting the people of Kent County. In addition to questions about health, the survey also seeks opinions about the social determinants of health such as transportation, housing and access to parks and recreation. This year's survey will also ask questions related to the impacts of COVID-19.

Anyone who works, lives or plays in Kent County is eligible to take the anonymous survey and participants can register to win one of twenty \$50 Visa gift cards as an incentive to complete the survey.

“This is truly a community effort. Kent County is a huge area with many diverse communities and not everyone has the same needs or faces the same challenges,” says Maris Brummel, Public Health Epidemiologist at KCHD. “To get the most accurate data and understand differences between communities, we need to hear from a wide range of people across the county.”

The survey will be open for at least eight weeks. The survey, which is available in Spanish as well as English, takes about fifteen minutes to complete and is available online at <https://bit.ly/kentcounty20>. Paper copies are also available.

The last CHNA, completed in 2017 surveyed more than 6000 people and found mental health, substance use disorders, obesity and poor nutrition to be the top health concerns at that time. Those results can be found here <https://accesskent.com/Health/CHNA/pdf/2017CHNA.pdf>.

Results from this year's survey will be available in the first quarter of 2021.

Community groups that are interested in disseminating or receiving information about the survey are encouraged to contact Maris Brummel at Maris.Brummel@KentCountyMi.Gov.

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KCHD has been in the business of providing health services to Kent County since 1931. The Health Department is home to nearly 260 employees including public health nurses, sanitarians, health educators, technicians, public health administrators, and specialized staff at the Kent County Animal Shelter. The Health Department operates one main clinic and three satellite clinics located in Kentwood, Rockford, and Grand Rapids. To learn more about KCHD services, visit www.accesskent.com/health.

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