



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Local health assessments identify top health priorities for Chippewa Valley

Alcohol misuse, childcare among top priorities for three counties

July 9, 2024 – Community Health Assessments have recently been completed in Chippewa, Dunn and Eau Claire counties. These assessments identified the top health issues in each of these three counties.

Reports have been released today for each county. You can find them at the links listed below. The reports dig deeper into each health issue, show useful state and national data, and provide community-driven priorities for improving health across the Chippewa Valley. While some of the health issues were similarly identified in each county, each county has their own unique list of health issues.

You can find these reports on the Chippewa, Dunn, and Eau Claire public health websites:

- **Chippewa County:** bit.ly/2024chipassessment
- **Dunn County:** bit.ly/2024dunnassessment
- **Eau Claire County:** bit.ly/2024ecassessment

Why these assessments occur: Health departments, United Way chapters, and local health systems complete this cycle every three years. After a communitywide assessment, these organizations use the results to identify the top health priorities (see graphic for results). Reports are then created for each county, examining each health issue more closely. The organizations, plus each county’s health coalition, then work together to tackle the top health issues.

Get involved: Read the reports to learn more about the new community health priorities. You’ll find more data and insights there. You’re also encouraged to join your local health coalition in Chippewa, Dunn, or Eau Claire County – they’ll be working on these issues for the next several years. Members of the public are highly encouraged to volunteer their time and join us in creating a healthier community. Find out more:

- Chippewa Health Improvement Partnership – www.chippewacountywi.gov/government/public-health/chippewa-health-improvement-partnership
- Health Dunn Right – www.healthdunnright.org
- Eau Claire Health Alliance – www.echealthalliance.org

TOP HEALTH PRIORITIES

Chippewa County

- Alcohol Misuse
- Low-quality or Lack of Public Transportation
- Health Care is Difficult to Access
- Lack of Access to Childcare or Unaffordable Childcare
- Poor Mental Health

Dunn County

- Lack of Access to Childcare or Unaffordable Childcare
- Environment or Water Pollution
- Health Care is Difficult to Access
- Alcohol Misuse
- Lack of Safe or Affordable Housing

Eau Claire County

- Alcohol Misuse
- Poor Mental Health
- Lack of Access to Childcare or Unaffordable Childcare
- Substance Misuse
- Lack of Safe or Affordable Housing

Who's involved in the partnership: HSHS Sacred Heart and St. Joseph's hospitals, Marshfield Clinic Health System, Mayo Clinic Health System, United Way of Dunn County, United Way of the Greater Chippewa Valley, the Chippewa County Department of Public Health, the Dunn County Health Department, and the Eau Claire City-County Health Department.

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