

# Health Improvement Plan of Washtenaw County

## HIP: Partnerships, Data, Strategies

Beginning in 1995, the Washtenaw County Public Health Department has led a county-wide voluntary partnership of organizations and individuals called the Health Improvement Plan (HIP). Under the umbrella of the Community Health Committee (CHC), HIP partners work to improve the community's health. Partners include health systems, community agencies, land-use planners, schools, coalitions, funders, government, academics, and individual residents.

HIP collects and analyzes health data that is utilized to identify needs and develop county-wide, long-range health improvement objectives. HIP partners are encouraged to implement evidence-based strategies towards achieving the objectives.

## Become a HIP Partner

It's easy to become a HIP Partner!

"Being a partner" simply means that you or your organization:

- Attend CHC meetings or HIP workgroups, or
- Use HIP data and reports to inform and guide your programming efforts, or
- Network with other partners working towards improving community health, or
- Help fund the HIP Survey, a county-wide health behavior risk factor survey conducted every five years.

To have your organization listed on the HIP partner webpage, complete the on-line form at <http://hip.ewashtenaw.org>

## Use HIP Data!

HIP data is invaluable to local health improvement efforts because it:

- Informs and drives goal-setting, program development, implementation, and evaluation
- Unifies efforts and helps prioritize resource needs and program activities
- Strengthens grant proposals and resource requests
- Guides advocacy efforts
- Informs future research agendas

## Attend a CHC Meeting or Join a Workgroup

The benefits include:

- Shaping HIP Objectives and Focus Areas
- Having a diverse cross-county audience and support system for sharing and obtaining feedback
- Joining forces with others to more effectively influence policy decisions
- Identifying partners for collaboration

## Consider Funding the HIP Survey

Funding the survey benefits your organization by:

- Allowing for an expanded sample size of your impact population, yielding more reliable data
- Gaining recognition for your organization's investment in monitoring efforts to improve the community's health
- Offering an opportunity to help shape the direction of county-wide health improvement objectives and HIP data collection activities

For more information, to access HIP data, or to join the listserv, contact Washtenaw County Public Health at 734-544-6700 or go to <http://hip.ewashtenaw.org>