

Experiences in Media Communication & Community Julie A. Willems Van Dijk RN PhD American Public Health Association Meeting November 8, 2010





## Presenter Disclosure Julie A. Willems Van Dijk

The following personal financial relationships with commercial interests relevant to this presentation existed during the past 12 months:

No relationships to disclose













































# **Moving to Action**

- Where we live matters to our health.
- There are great disparities in health based on where we live.
- Many factors contribute to health. Health is more than health care.
- Health is everyone's business.
- We all need to work together.

### BlueRidgeNow.com

### Health data is everyone's business

By Linda Charping For the Times-News

Published: Wednesday, April 28, 2010 at 4:30 a.m.

Health is not just about medical care, Balth is strongly linked to education and income, which makes it everyone's business. To truly understand the health needs of Henderson County, we need access to data.

Two new sources of data, NC-CATCH and MATCH, will help assess our health status and identify public health priorities. These websites can assist individuals, nonprofits, county government and local organizations to quickly retrieve data, educate our community, enhance grant applications or other petitions for funding and complete community health assessments used to determine community needs.

# PANTAGRAPH.COM

# Healthy ranking still leaves room for improvement

By The Pantagraph Editorial Board | Posted: Wednesday, February 24, 2010 7:00 am

McLean County's ranking of 15th among the healthiest counties in Illinois: Worth taking pride in. However, it is more valuable as a call to action to improve areas in which the county is weak.

The bottom line is that McLean County is doing well, but we can — and should — do better.

# **OrlandoSentinel.com**

## Good health good for business

By Andrew Webber | Guest columnist

#### March 29, 2010

Employers, who spend more than \$700 billion each year of health care for their employees, need to take more ownership for improving it. They should follow the lead of the Florida Health Care Coalition, a group that has partnered with organizations such as the American Lung Association of Central Florida to bring asthma-prevention programs to local schools and the Orange County Health Department to improve nutrition.

#### Editorial: Better health needs a push

A new report on Shelby County should provide the motivation for a vigorous campaign.

It would be easy to sigh, throw up our hands and pronounce the poor health of Shelby County residents a hopeless situation.

The correlation between affluence and healthy lifestyles is obvious, and with a quarter of the Memphis population living in poverty the excuses are not hard to find.

The improvement of our system of parks and recreation is vital in a community where there is an epidemic of child obesity.

Health issues should figure into efforts to fight crime, improve air quality, educate our youth about birth control and sexually transmitted diseases, and address the critical need for mentors.

Churches, employers, civic organizations and government entities should all be involved

http://www.commercialappeal.com/news/2010/feb/19/

### C'EST BON

We like our gumbo and our rice and gravy, but maybe Lafayette isn't so unhealthy after all. The parish ranked fifth healthiest in the state, according to a new County Health Rankings survey. The survey does not stack Lafayette up against any counties outside Louisiana, so the competition wasn't that stout (Louisiana is 47th in a ranking of the healthiest states), and you could even argue this is akin to being the slimmest person to show up at weight loss camp, but hey, we're never one to turn down any accolades. This calls for cake!

http://www.theind.com/pooyie/5764-pooyie-022410?









## Multi-sector Engagement by Local Health Departments N=842

- 2/3 reached out to community leaders, government officials, and health care professionals
- 1/3 reached out to employers and businesses

## Rankings Use LHD Responses

- 68% To guide community health assessment
- 67% To engage local partners from sectors outside of public health
- 54% To communicate with the media
- 44% To take action in response to the Rankings
- 36% To apply for funding
- 35% To communicate with legislators
- 27% To communicate with state government leaders







# **For More Information**

www.countyhealthrankings.org

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