



**For Immediate Release**

**Tuesday, July 28, 2015**

**Sent on behalf of the Ozarks Health Commission**

**PARTNERS ANNOUNCE REGIONAL HEALTH ASSESSMENT PLAN, ASK FOR COMMUNITY FEEDBACK**

A variety of organizations working across the spectrum of health in our community have come together to better understand the health status, behaviors and needs of the populations they serve.

And now they need your help.

Under the authority of the local Ozarks Health Commission, this first-time collaboration of this size in the region spans four states—Missouri, Oklahoma, Arkansas and Kansas—50 counties and four hospital systems.

This massive effort will result in a Regional Health Assessment.

The working group aims to use this systematic, data-driven assessment to inform decisions and guide efforts to improve community health and wellness.

Participants include healthcare partners Burrell Behavioral Health, Citizens Memorial Healthcare, CoxHealth, Freeman Health System and Mercy; as well as public health partners the Springfield-Greene County Health Department, Taney County Health Department, Polk County Health Department, Newton County Health Department, Jasper County Health Department and Joplin City Health Department.

The resulting Regional Health Assessment will allow decision-makers to have a more holistic and up-to-date picture with which to strategically address community health concerns.

In preparing for the Regional Health Assessment, organizations will be collecting data, as well as feedback and direction from partners and the public.

To that end, partners involved with this effort are asking for public feedback on their local healthcare needs and experiences in the below survey link.

Questions are simple and are available in English and Spanish.



English version: <https://www.surveymonkey.com/s/Regional15>

Spanish version: <https://es.surveymonkey.com/s/RegSurveyHisp>

Thank you for your help in making your community healthier!

For more information, contact:

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