

To Protect and Promote the Health and the Environment of the People of Kittitas County

PRESS RELEASE

Date: September 20, 2022 Contact: Kasey Knutson, Public Information Officer, 509-962-7515

Tell us What Our Community Needs to Improve the Health of our Residents

Please complete the 2022 Kittitas County Community Health Survey and tell us what you think our communities need to improve the health of our residents. The survey is anonymous and takes less than ten minutes to finish. The survey is available in English at https://kittitas.qualtrics.com/jfe/form/SV_019KiLQhZLZq2X4 and Spanish at https://kittitas.qualtrics.com/jfe/form/SV_019KiLQhZLZq2X4 and Spanish at https://kittitas.qualtrics.com/jfe/form/sV and spanish at <a href="https://kittitas.qualtrics.c

The survey includes questions such as what you think the most important health concerns are and what is impacting health in our county, in addition to basic demographic questions. Responses will be compiled and used to inform the 2023 Community Health Assessment.

A Community Health Assessment (CHA) looks at the health needs in a community. For the Kittitas County Public Health Department (KCPHD) it is a big undertaking. It happens every five years. We get a variety of partners together from different fields and look at a lot of data. The purpose is to understand the needs in our community, so we can respond appropriately. For example, did you know that Kittitas County has medical provider shortages? Provider shortages directly affect access to medical care.

"Access to healthcare is just one piece to the assessment," states Public Health Director Chelsey Loeffers. "The Community Health Assessment includes data and partners, but we also need the voice and participation of our residents, because ultimately all of this work will affect them."

The Community Health Assessments are available at <u>www.co.kittitas.wa.us/</u>. The next CHA will be completed in 2023. For more information or questions about the survey or the Community Health Assessment, please visit <u>www.co.kittitas.wa.us/health</u> or call KCPHD at 509-962-7515.

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