## **News Release**

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## Missoula City-County Health Department Invites Households to Take 2023 Community Health Assessment Survey

The Missoula City-County Health Department is encouraging Missoula County households who live outside Missoula city limits to take the 2023 Community Health Assessment. The assessment, which is online at Missoula County Voice, will be open through Sunday, Aug. 20.

Households within city limits will receive a postcard inviting them to take the survey. The postcard will have a code to verify they live within one of the randomly selected areas within the city. Residents must be 18 years or older to participate.

The Health Department conducts a community health assessment to look at Missoula County's broader community health and engage with residents to better understand what influences their health needs, such as access to healthcare facilities, air quality, age, housing affordability and other factors. In prior years, MCCHD has only surveyed rural households, and some select populations. This year, the Health Department has randomly selected city residents, based on a range of household incomes, to gain more insight into community needs.

The MCCHD has had accreditation through the Public Health Accreditation Board since 2014, which holds health department programs to a higher level of effectiveness, transparency and accountability. The Public Health Accreditation Board is a nonprofit organization dedicated to improving and protecting public health by advancing the quality of public health departments, and it requires a community health assessment to advance collective community health initiatives.

Residents who are seeking accommodations, do not have access to internet connection or have questions about the survey should contact Accreditation and Workforce Development Coordinator Michael Garder at <a href="mailto:mgarder@missoulacounty.us">mgarder@missoulacounty.us</a> or 406-258-3391, or visit the health department at 301 W. Alder St. More information can be found on Missoula County Voice.

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