

Contacts: Marcia Knol, OCDPH Epidemiologist
(616)494-5598, mknol@miottawa.org or
Kristina Wieghmink, OCDPH Communications
(616)494-5597, kwieghmink@miottawa.org



News Release
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Survey Participants Help Ottawa County to be Healthier

Confidential survey gives residents opportunity to help address health challenges.

OTTAWA COUNTY – Ottawa County residents, 18 years of age and older, have an opportunity to give input about local health related needs and concerns. Barnes Research, Inc. is randomly selecting residents to participate in a confidential 15 minute survey, *Behavioral Risk Factor Survey (BRFS)*. Questions include topics such as nutrition, exercise, tobacco use, doctor visits and health insurance. Participant's responses will help local health care and non-profit organizations determine how and where to direct resources that will address the greatest health challenges within our community.

The goal of the BRFS is to collect feedback from 2,000 Ottawa County residents. So far, 641 surveys have been completed. To accommodate different lifestyles and work schedules, calls are made at various times of the day and days of the week. Calls will continue in July and through August. The results are expected to be available before the end of the year.

"Information from this survey will help hospitals and other organizations focus their efforts on the greatest needs within our community. We're asking residents, who receive a call, to please contribute 15-20 minutes of their time. This way, we all help make Ottawa County a healthy place to live, work and play."

- Marcia Knol, OCDPH Epidemiologist

The Ottawa County BRFS is an initiative of the Ottawa County Community Health Needs Assessment Committee. Committee members are from the Ottawa County Department of Public Health, Holland Hospital, North Ottawa Community Health System, Spectrum Health-Zeeland Community Hospital, Community Mental Health of Ottawa County and the Greater Ottawa County United Way. For more information about Ottawa County surveys, assessments and reports, visit www.miOttawa.org/healthdata.



@miOttawa residents, tell us your health needs and concerns! @miOCDPH



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2011 BRFS Research Results http://www.miottawa.org/Health/OCHD/pdf/data/2011_BRFS.pdf