

Mission:

To protect, promote & improve the health of all people in Florida through integrated state, county & community efforts.



Rick Scott
Governor

John H. Armstrong, MD, FACS
State Surgeon General & Secretary

Vision: To be the **Healthiest State** in the Nation

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

April 6, 2015

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FLORIDA DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH IN NASSAU COUNTY RECOGNIZES COMMUNITY PARTNERSHIPS FOR *HEALTHIEST GENERATION BY 2030*
-National Public Health Week April 6-12, 2015-

NASSAU COUNTY – National Public Health Week (NPHW), April 6-12, 2015, sponsored by the American Public Health Association, is a time to recognize the contributions of public health and highlight issues that are important to improving our nation and local communities. This year, the NPHW theme is the *Healthiest Generation by 2030*, recognizing the importance that lifestyle, access to health care and the community in which one lives, affects health.

The DOH in Nassau County (DOH-Nassau) emphasizes that public health is not the result of a singular effort, but that a healthy community is the result of a combined work that involves the whole community. The Florida Department of Health In Nassau County appreciates the long collaboration with local governments, non-profit organizations, health care facilities, business groups, schools, faith-based organizations, private citizens and many other stakeholders in the efforts to improve public health in Nassau County.

According to Eugenia Ngo-Seidel, MD, MPH, Director, DOH-Nassau: *Many factors affect the health of a community but together, we can make a difference. The Florida Department of Health in Nassau County appreciates the long partnerships with the many residents, community groups and organizations that work together and constantly strive help to make Nassau County a healthy place to live.*

The Florida Department of Health in Nassau County recognizes the value in measuring health outcomes and acknowledged the sixth annual County Health Rankings & Roadmaps tool, which was released on March 25, 2015 by the University of Wisconsin and the Robert Wood Johnson Foundation. This study highlights the many community factors that influence health and uses established data, much of which is available from the department at www.floridacharts.com.

Nassau County continues to improve in overall rankings and specific measures especially in the health factors as we collaboratively focus on those areas that contribute to future health, said Dr. Ngo-Seidel. The rankings are a snapshot of the health of counties across the country. These rankings use data related to physical environments, social and economic factors, health behaviors and clinical care. Specifically, Nassau County has moved up in the county health rankings since 2014 from 30 overall to 24 in the State of Florida.

In Nassau County, the Community Health Improvement Plan (CHIP) is designed to address specific opportunities for improved health that have been identified by the community. The department has partnered with many stakeholders to implement the CHIP and collaborates regularly to track progress. The Partnership for Healthier Nassau leads the process and identified five strategic priority areas addressed in the 2012-15 Plan. Using the Mobilizing for

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Action through Partnerships and Planning (MAPP) model, the next cycle has started. The public is invited to get involved and to attend the visioning and planning meetings for the development of the Community Health Improvement Plan. For more information on future meetings, please contact Linda Powell at 904-548-1800. In addition, for more information about NPHW, visit www.nphw.org/2015

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