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News Release

*For Immediate Release*

### **Community survey seeks input on health, quality of life**

The Springfield-Greene County Health Department is asking area residents to help assess our community's strengths and assets as part of an ongoing accreditation process.

The department is seeking national accreditation through the Public Health Accreditation Board (PHAB), and the multi-faceted process includes a number of evaluations of not only the department's services, but of the health of the community as a whole.

The Community Strengths and Themes Assessment is a simple, 28-questions survey that is open to any resident of Greene County. The survey will help the department better understand community issues and concerns about health, perceptions about quality of life, and an account of community assets. The questions are tied not only to the state of health issues here, but also to themes in the biannual Community Focus Report and its "red flags" and "blue ribbons," as well as the Field Guide 2013 community strategic plan.

"We're encouraging anyone and everyone who lives in Greene County to take the survey and pass the link around to friends, co-workers or neighbors," said Pam Bryant, Maternal & Child Health Administrator, who is leading the department's accreditation effort. "The more people take it, the better our results will be."

The survey can be found online at: [www.surveymonkey.com/s/2013Health](http://www.surveymonkey.com/s/2013Health). Paper surveys are also available at certain health department locations, such as WIC; and are available upon request by contacting Carol Daniel at (417) 864-1655 or [cdanielcovey@springfieldmo.gov](mailto:cdanielcovey@springfieldmo.gov).

The survey will remain open until Friday, Dec. 13.

The Springfield-Greene County Health Department expects to submit its intent for PHAB accreditation in late 2014.

#### About PHAB Accreditation

PHAB's public health department accreditation process seeks to advance quality and performance within public health departments. Accreditation standards define the expectations for all public health departments that seek to become accredited. National public health department accreditation has been developed because of the desire to improve service, value, and accountability to stakeholders.

More information: [www.phaboard.org](http://www.phaboard.org)

Media contact: Mike Brothers, Public Information Administrator, (417) 874-1205.