IMPACT AT A GLANCE · 2026

Regional Community Health Team

Extension
UNIVERSITY OF WISCONSIN-MADISON

Helping Wisconsin communities turn data into action

Training, facilitation, and technical assistance that help community health organizations use community data and input to guide planning and action.

THE CHALLENGE

Local and Tribal health departments, coalitions, community organizations and health systems face limited resources, competing priorities and uncertainty about future public health funding. Many face challenges turning the information they collect into meaningful action on complex community needs.

OUR RESPONSE

Launched in spring 2024, the RCHT gives organizations practical tools and processes to collect and interpret information, engage community members, build collaborations, identify priorities and develop action plans, with targeted support for rural communities.

700+ **participants reached through 38 workshops and learning opportunities since spring 2024**

32
organizations received facilitation and technical assistance

405
community health and coalition participants supported through facilitation and technical assistance

~200
participants in deliberative inquiry projects,from framing issues to community conversations and action steps

WHAT WE OFFER

- Qualitative data analysis
- Focus groups
- Priority-setting
- Strategic planning
- Deliberative inquiry
- Trauma-informed approaches
- Coalition development
- Using data for grant applications

WHERE WE WORK

50+ Wisconsin counties where the RCHT works with organizations



Outcomes

EVALUATION RESULTS

96%

reported increased readiness to incorporate community input into public health decision-making

99%

reported gaining tools and tips to support their community health work

100%

of Prioritization Planning for Impact attendees understood how to use prioritization to align their organization's efforts with community values and needs

SKILLS APPLIED TO

- Community health assessments
- Community health improvement planning
- Coalition initiatives
- Grant proposals
- Organizational strategic planning
- Partner mapping and relationship building

SPOTLIGHT · DOOR COUNTY

From assessment findings to a community health plan

Door County Public Health and community organizations had extensive assessment data identifying priorities such as housing, childcare, aging and social connection, but needed help turning findings into actionable strategies. The RCHT and a Wisconsin Department of Health Services public health strategist guided a structured planning process for the 2026–2030 Community Health Improvement Plan, where participants identified strengths, opportunities for action and measures of success for each priority, then developed strategies.

"

Great engagement, clear instructions, and open discussion.

— Door County CHIP participant

Participants described the process as productive and collaborative.

GREATER CONFIDENCE IN

- Facilitating focus groups
- Analyzing qualitative data
- Engaging community members
- Identifying priorities
- Using data to inform decisions

THE RESULT

Organizations are better equipped to align resources with community priorities and develop coordinated, sustainable responses to local health challenges.

PUBLIC VALUE

Data collection alone does not improve community health. Wisconsin residents benefit when local health organizations use data and community input to decide where to focus limited resources. By strengthening the ability of community health organizations to turn information into meaningful action, the Regional Community Health Team supports effective community health improvement efforts that contribute to healthier, more resilient communities across Wisconsin.

Connect with us

health.extension.wisc.edu · health@extension.wisc.edu

The University of Wisconsin–Madison Division of Extension provides equal opportunities in employment and programming in compliance with state and federal law.

Extension
UNIVERSITY OF WISCONSIN–MADISON