

A Message from the Healthy Mendocino Steering Committee — May 2015

DEAR FRIEND OF HEALTHYMENDOCINO.ORG,

You are a vital partner in the campaign to understand and improve health in Mendocino County! HealthyMendocino.org is now in its third year of connecting people and information for better health. Join us in celebrating our accomplishments to date, reviewing what we are learning, and looking ahead to our goals and plans for the future.

CELEBRATE!

- A growing alliance of community partners serves as a hub, not just for supporting Healthy Mendocino but also for joint projects to assess and improve local health. Some are described below.
- More than 13,000 people have visited HealthyMendocino.org to date, for more than 20,000 sessions.
- So far, the Healthy Mendocino Coordinator has trained 38 local organizations to use the website in their work. Trainings are always available.

LEARN

Community members and organizations tell us they are using HealthyMendocino.org to:

- Research data to create persuasive grant proposals, reports and advocacy materials
- Prepare for media interviews and speeches
- Strengthen local grant-seeking and grant-making by requiring Healthy Mendocino data in applications
- Set funding and program priorities based on local data
- Search the [Promising Practices](#) section for interventions that have worked in other communities
- Report on local programs and initiatives in website feature stories
- Publicize their events and activities in the Healthy Mendocino calendar

LOOK FORWARD

- A recent redesign makes the site easier to use and navigate. New features include the [Policy Corner](#) and special pages enabling community members to follow local initiatives.
- The new, collaborative Community Health Needs Assessment (CHNA) project is using data from HealthyMendocino.org plus surveys, focus groups, and other sources. Follow the CHNA project on the [site](#).
- An initiative to learn about homelessness and explore possible solutions will publicize its activities and findings on HealthyMendocino.org.
- Our goals for the future include increasing community members' knowledge and use of the site; encouraging more local initiatives to use HealthyMendocino.org; and working with schools to engage students in using health data. Please send us *your* ideas and suggestions — healthymendocino@ncoinc.org.



Childhood immunizations are a timely and important example of mining the information in [HealthyMendocino.org](#).

[START HERE](#) to find the answers to these questions:

- ◆ What percentage of Mendocino County kindergarteners were immunized in 2014?
- ◆ How does the current kindergarten immunization rate compare to previous years?
- ◆ How does our county's rate compare to that of other counties in our region? In the state?
- ◆ What [Promising Practices](#) have other communities developed to address this issue?

***Thank you for supporting HealthyMendocino.org!
Here's to ever-better health in Mendocino County.***