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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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**Building a Healthier Future
Wood County Releases 2024-2027 Community Health Assessment**

(Wood County, WI) – Healthy People Wood County is excited to announce the release of the 2024-2027 Wood County Community Health Assessment (CHA). The CHA tells us how healthy Wood County currently is and where work is needed to create thriving communities for all people in our county.

“Understanding community data and health disparities allows us to focus resources and capacity where they are needed most in communities throughout Wood County,” said Kristie Egge, Supervisor of Strategic Initiatives at Wood County Health Department.

This CHA is the result of a collaborative effort led by Healthy People Wood County with leadership from the Wood County Health Department, Aspirus Riverview Hospital and Clinics, and Marshfield Clinic Health System (MCHS).

Sarah Beversdorf, Community Health Improvement Manager for Aspirus Health, said “Improving our community’s health is a collaborative effort and this assessment provides a strong foundation for that work. We look forward to continued collaboration to create a healthier Wood County for all.”

Each sector plays a critical role in building healthy communities and increasing access to resources for everyone. Healthy People Wood County is currently developing a Community Health Improvement Plan (CHIP) that outlines how we will work on improving the health priorities identified in the assessment.

“Improving the health of our communities requires strong partnerships and careful planning. I want to thank the Wood County Health Department for including us in the planning, but also for their leadership in facilitating the process. MCHS looks forward to continuing to work with community partners to better understand and address various community health needs of Wood County,” said Jay Shrader, Vice President of Community Impact and Social Accountability at MCHS.

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We invite all people who live and work in Wood County to use the Community Health Assessment to improve individual, family, organization, and community health. When everyone is able to live their healthiest lives, we are all better off. You can find the Community Health Assessment online at <https://bit.ly/WoodCHA2024> or request printed copies by calling the health department at 715-421-8911.

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