

The Health Equity Alliance of Rock County would like to express our deepest thanks and appreciation to everyone who participated in the 2017 Rock County HEAR Community Conversations. The 2017 Rock County HEAR Community Conversations would not have been possible without the help of the community volunteers and community organizations.

HEAR welcomes the opportunity to further collaborate with the community to improve the health of Rock County.
To join us, please email us at hearcoordinator@co.rock.wi.us.

HEAR PARTNERS

Making Rock County a healthier place to live, work, learn, play and grow!

This project is funded in whole by the Advancing a Healthier Wisconsin Endowment at the Medical College of Wisconsin.

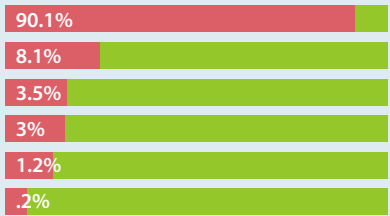


COMMUNITY CONVERSATIONS

OUR COMMUNITY CONVERSATIONS

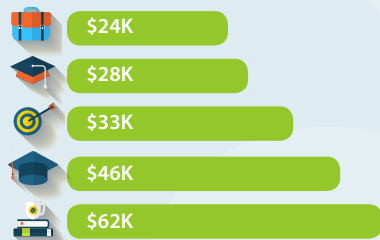
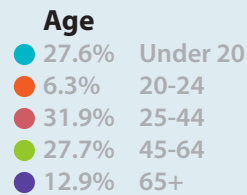
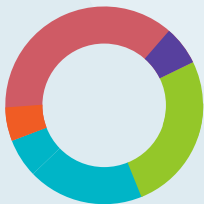
The HEAR Community Conversations brought together residents to discuss all elements of health in their community. These conversations were conducted March-May 2017, and over 130 Rock County residents shared their views and perspectives. Below are the areas for improvement that were identified in each community. This information will be used in our Community Health Improvement Plan which serves as a roadmap to improve the health of Rock County.

Who Lives in Rock County?



Race and Ethnicity

90.1% White (non- Hispanic)
8.1% Hispanic/Latino
3.5% Black/African American
3% Two or more races
1.2% Asian (Non-Hispanic)
0.2% American Indian/Alaska Native



Education and Household Income

Median earnings in the past 12 months in 2015 (inflation-adjusted dollars)
\$24,017 Less than high school graduate
\$28,115 High school graduate (includes equivalency)
\$32,000 Some college or associate's degree
\$46,187 Bachelor's degree
\$61,698 Graduate or professional degree

The Health Equity Alliance of Rock County (HEAR) is committed to health equity, through community collaboration, to ensure that Rock County reaches its full health potential.

Questions We Asked

1. What do you see as the top three health challenges in your community?
2. What are the barriers to good health in your community?
3. What are some of the changes that could be made in your community?

Top 5 Reasons People Love Living in Rock County

1. Community members are dedicated to making our communities stronger
2. Small town feel but centrally located near larger cities
3. Many parks and bike trails—places to be outside with their families
4. Great schools
5. Wonderful libraries

Orfordville

- Easy access to sugar-sweetened beverages and energy drinks
- Limited amount of fresh food and produce
- Limited resources for children with behavioral health issues

Evansville

- Limited mental health providers in town
- Difficulty navigating health and social services
- Lack of transportation

Edgerton

- Lack of awareness of community events and resources
- Limited nutrition and physical activity education in schools
- Lack of available AODA treatment

Milton

- Not enough services for adolescent mental health
- Transportation for elderly
- Difficulty navigating the healthcare system

Clinton

- Mental health
- Chronic conditions: cancer, heart disease, obesity
- Lack of services in the community

Low-income Janesville Community

- Limited services for AODA treatment: no inpatient services
- Lack of resources for teen parents
- Limited dental: not enough dentists accept the Forward card

Latino Community

- Lack of bilingual staff to assist with healthcare navigation
- Lack of information in Spanish
- High costs of healthcare: insurance and deductibles

African American Community

- High blood pressure
- Mental health
- Lack of communication with regard to community and health services

Beloit

- Lack of educational resources in Spanish for nutrition, cancer, diabetes, etc.
- Language and cultural barriers, especially with medical terminology and care
- Limited mental health providers

Low-income Beloit Community

- Access to transportation to get to appointments
- Limited dental: not enough dentists accept the Forward card
- Behavioral health issues affecting families, services for children are limited

Addiction Recovery Community

- Limited public transportation, no Sunday bus service, limited routes and times
- Limited AODA treatment options, not enough methadone clinics and outpatient services, no inpatient treatment
- Limited mental health providers

Janesville

- Limited public transportation, no Sunday bus service, limited routes and times
- Lack of mental health services
- High rates of substance abuse, limited treatment options