



For Immediate Release
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The Health Care Coalition of Lafayette County Awarded Social Innovation for Missouri Grant to Address Tobacco Cessation & Obesity Programs in County

The Coalition is the Grant Administrator and is Working with the Health Department and Missouri Extension to Implement Programming

(CORRECTION) Lexington, MO – The Health Care Coalition (HCC) of Lafayette County has been awarded a grant by the Missouri Foundation for Health (MFH) to develop and implement programs that address obesity and tobacco cessation in Lafayette County. The \$450,000 Social Innovation for Missouri (SIM) grant, awarded to the HCC over a two-year period, will be used to provide tobacco prevention and control programs, improve sidewalks and connectivity routes among other initiatives.

The HCC is collaborating with the Lafayette County Health Department and the Missouri Extension to implement these programs. The funds the Health Department and the Extension receive will be used for SIM program activities only.

“The Extension and the Health Department are serving as the HCC’s collaborating partners to implement tobacco cessation and obesity prevention programs throughout the County,” said Toniann Richard, HCC’s executive director. “The HCC was awarded the grant and is responsible for administering the grant. The organizations we collaborate with are responsible for developing and executing programs that grant supports. The funds they receive are used for programming purposes, only.”

For more information about the SIM grant or obesity and tobacco cessation programs planned for the County, call Toniann Richard at 660.259.9019 or visit HCCNetwork.org.

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About the HCC

The Health Care Coalition of Lafayette County collaborates with area agencies, businesses and other non-profits to advocate for the health and well being of Lafayette County residents.

Current efforts include a

- Rural Missouri Health Co-op—with a workplace wellness component—aimed at creating a healthier workforce and reducing insurance premiums;
- Health information technology initiatives to equip health care providers with the resources needed to offer telemedicine and telehealth services that increase patient access to quality health care;
- Social Innovation for Missouri (SIM) that addresses tobacco cessation and obesity prevention; among other programs.

To learn more, visit HCCNetwork.org, WellnessWorks.HCCNetwork.org, 4everfit.HCCNetwork.org or follow us on Facebook, Twitter and YouTube.

