

For Immediate Release

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Living Well in Healthy Communities Summit June 19th at Martin Community Center in Marshall, MO

Missouri Valley Community Action Agency (MVCAA) and the Health Care Collaborative (HCC) of Rural Missouri are hosting the *Living Well in Healthy Communities* Summit on Tuesday, June 19th at the Martin Community Center, 1985 South Odell in Marshall, MO from 11:00 a.m. until 7:15 p.m. Information booths open to the public at 10:30 a.m. and free health screenings begin at 3:30 p.m. Event sponsors include the PowerGroup and the City of Marshall.

“The purpose of this health care summit is to engage everyday people in a discussion that goes beyond the usual health care dialogue,” said Pam LaFrenz, executive director at MVCAA. “We want to engage them in a dialogue about their own health and wellness and what their health status means to them, personally. Understanding the impact of the community’s health status is equally imperative. We also want those who are in the trenches daily helping to shape policy to collaborate on solutions to remove access to care barriers.”

Special guests include Jay Angoff, acting director of Health and Human Services, Region VII, Andreas Dominguez of the Health Care Foundation of Greater Kansas City, and William Moore executive director of the REACH Healthcare Foundation.

The day-long event features two sessions. Session one, from 11:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m., includes panel discussions about economic disparities that pose barriers to access to care for the underserved. Sessions include lessons and strategies to combat these barriers as well as a complimentary lunch and screening of the PBS acclaimed documentary Unnatural Causes...is inequality making us sick? Session two, from 3:30 p.m. to 7:15 p.m., includes a host of panel discussion designed for community residents to learn more about the resources available where they live. Topics include:

- Children’s health and nutrition
- Senior health and aging
- Access to health related services
 - Understanding Federally Qualified Health Centers
 - Working together for the good of the community
 - Mental health services
 - Legal services
- The future of health care
 - The Affordable Care Act
 - Telehealth services
 - Health home services
 - MO HealthNet services
 - Focus on the healthcare provider and end-user

For more information, to register for the event or to download the complete agenda, visit MVCAA.net. You may also contact , MVCAA’s Director of Community Development and Planning Melanie Corporon at 660.886.5868 or Toniann Richard, HCC executive director at 660.259.2440, HCCNetwork.org.

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