



# **2008 Grant County Wisconsin Community Health Needs Assessment/Community Health Improvement Plan**

Prepared by the Grant County Health Department and the  
Grant County UW-Extension Office

August 2009



**Public Health**  
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## *Part I - Summary*

## Summary

Grant County has a population of 48,890 according to the U.S. Census Bureau (2005-2007). The county experienced a slight decline in population between 2000 and 2008. There may be several reasons for this decline that include a declining birth rate and people moving out of the county. In addition, the percentage of the population over the age of 65 was slightly higher than the state's average as well as the national average from 2005-2007. Support for the elderly population will be an important issue for the county now and in the foreseeable future.

For this assessment, Grant County was compared to the southern region of Wisconsin, the state of Wisconsin as a whole, and the United States (US). Grant County had a lower teen birth rate than the southern region of Wisconsin and the state of Wisconsin as a whole. Housing characteristics in Grant County were similar to those of Wisconsin and the US. However, Grant County was found to be more rural with 43 people per square mile compared to Wisconsin's average of 98 people per square mile. The rate of death from ischemic heart disease and heart failure was found to be substantially higher in Grant County than in the region and state; while death caused from all other diseases and respiratory disease occurred at a lower rate.

During the 1990s the county's economy experienced a slight shift from manufacturing toward service industries; this shift caused an increase in lower paying service jobs. This may have contributed to the lower per capita income of \$20,745 and a median household income of \$42,219 (2005-2007) compared to Wisconsin's average of \$25,742 per capita and \$50,309 household income during the same time period. However, Grant County had a lower percentage of children living in poverty than the state and US.

Another factor effecting income was the educational attainment level of the workforce in Grant County. According to census data from 2005-2007, the percentage of adults over the age of 25 in Grant County with a college diploma (28.6%) was slightly lower than the state average (34.4%). However, the percentage of adults over the age of 25 with a high school diploma was comparable to the state and US average.

In addition to Wisconsin and US statistics, surveys and focus groups were used to reveal the health concerns of Grant County residents. These instruments were the Grant County Community Health Survey (see appendix A) returned by over 250 residents, and four Focus Group Interviews (appendix B). The table below shows the top priority issues identified in the Grant County Community Health Survey. The top issues overall are listed below by ranking.

| Issue                                 | Concern for Self/Family | Concern for County |
|---------------------------------------|-------------------------|--------------------|
| Price of energy                       | <b>1</b>                | <b>1</b>           |
| Safe drinking water                   | <b>2</b>                | <b>7</b>           |
| Cost/availability of insurance        | <b>3</b>                | <b>4</b>           |
| Cost of prescription medication       | <b>4</b>                | <b>5</b>           |
| Safe food                             | <b>5</b>                | <b>&gt;10</b>      |
| Unemployment/lack of well paying jobs | <b>&gt;10</b>           | <b>2</b>           |
| Farm injuries                         | <b>&gt;10</b>           | <b>3</b>           |

The top issues identified by the Focus Group Interviews included: health and dental insurance affordability and coverage, environmental health threats, and healthy living. A wide variety of other issues were raised in addition to the priorities during the needs assessment. For a detailed discussion of all the issues, see the appropriate section of the needs assessment (e.g. review of county-wide survey and focus groups results) and/or the appendices.

The priorities chosen for the Grant County Community Health Needs Assessment based on the Grant County Community Health Survey and Focus Group Interviews were as follows:

- ❖ Access to Health Care
- ❖ Access to Dental Care
- ❖ Environmental Health
- ❖ Substance Abuse

Based upon the Grant County Community Health Needs Assessment priorities a set of recommendations were created.

- Improve access to health care for Grant County residents who do not have health insurance or cannot afford it, and for residents who face other obstacles such as lack of transportation.
- Strengthen the health care sector of Grant County's economy by recruiting and retaining more providers.
- Reduce unhealthy behaviors, such as substance abuse, among Grant County residents, while increasing the number of programs and education available related to chronic disease prevention.
- Increase the ability of organizations and interested community members to advocate with state legislators for the health care needs of Grant County residents.
- Stabilize and enhance environmental health.
- Promote Injury Prevention.

*Part II – Demographic and  
Economic Profile*

## Demographic and Economic Profile

### *Grant County Demographic Profile*

#### Population Characteristics

Grant County had a population of 48,890 according to the U.S. Census Bureau (2005-2007). The county experienced a -0.7% decline in population between 2000 and 2008, which is lower than the growth rate for Wisconsin (4.9%) in the same period (US Census, State and County QuickFacts, 2009). The decline in population may have resulted from declining birth rates combined with a pattern of people moving out of the county (Grant County Workforce Profile, Wisconsin Department of Workforce Development, 2000).

#### Age

Grant County had a higher percentage of people age 65 and older (16.2%) than Wisconsin (13%) and the U.S. (12.4%). This may challenge the county's economic and social health if this percentage continues to increase and birth rates continue to decrease. Grant County had a similar percentage of people under the age of 19 (27%) to Wisconsin (26.7%) and to the U.S. (27.6%). The percentage of the Grant County's population composed of individuals age 20-44 (32.2%) and 45-64 (24.7%) was similar to the same age groups in the population of Wisconsin and the United States. The table below compares the population characteristics of Grant County to the state of Wisconsin and the US in 2005-2007.

| Age Profile 2005-2007 |               |              |                  |                    |
|-----------------------|---------------|--------------|------------------|--------------------|
|                       | Grant County  |              | Wisconsin        | US                 |
| Age                   | Number        | % Of Total   | % Of Total       | % Of Total         |
| 0-19                  | <b>13,190</b> | <b>27.0%</b> | <b>26.7%</b>     | <b>27.6%</b>       |
| 20-44                 | <b>15,729</b> | <b>32.2%</b> | <b>34.1%</b>     | <b>35.0%</b>       |
| 45-64                 | <b>12,064</b> | <b>24.7%</b> | <b>26.2%</b>     | <b>25.1%</b>       |
| 65+                   | <b>7,907</b>  | <b>16.2%</b> | <b>13.0%</b>     | <b>12.4%</b>       |
| Total                 | <b>48,890</b> |              | <b>5,571,593</b> | <b>298,757,310</b> |

Source: US Census Bureau, ACS Demographic and Housing Estimates: 2005-2007



## Race

Grant County's population consisted of predominantly white persons (97.9%). This percentage was higher than the state (88.6%) and the United States (75.7%) percentage. African American persons made up 1.2% of Grant County's population, followed by Hispanic or Latino persons 0.7%, Asian persons constituted 0.6%, American Indian and Alaska Native constituted 0.2% of the population (US Census Bureau, American Community Survey, 2005-2007).

## Household Characteristics

Grant County had 19,093 households. Family households made up the majority with 64.7%; non-family households made up 35.3%. The county had a similar percentage of households with single female parents and children (5.0%) than Wisconsin (6.5%) and the U.S. (7.4%). Grant County's percentage of households with married couples and children was comparable to the state, and the US (U.S. Census Bureau, American Community Survey, 2005-2007). Selected household characteristics are listed in the following table:

| <b>Household Characteristics for 2005-2007</b>              |              |              |              |
|---|--------------|--------------|--------------|
|   | Grant County | WI           | US           |
| Household containing married couple with own children       | <b>20.5%</b> | <b>21.3%</b> | <b>21.7%</b> |
| Household containing single female parent with own children | <b>5.0%</b>  | <b>6.5%</b>  | <b>7.4%</b>  |
| Household with no children (Non-family Households)          | <b>35.3%</b> | <b>34.8%</b> | <b>33.1%</b> |
| Householder living alone                                    | <b>28.5%</b> | <b>28.3%</b> | <b>27.3%</b> |

Source: U.S. Census Bureau, ACS Selected Social Characteristics: 2005-2007

## Population Density

Grant County ranked 38<sup>th</sup> out of 72 Wisconsin counties in terms of population density in the year 2000. Grant County had approximately 43 people per square mile which was considerably less than the state average of 98 people per square mile (US Census Bureau 2000). This indicates that Grant County is more rural than other counties in Wisconsin.

## Birth Characteristics

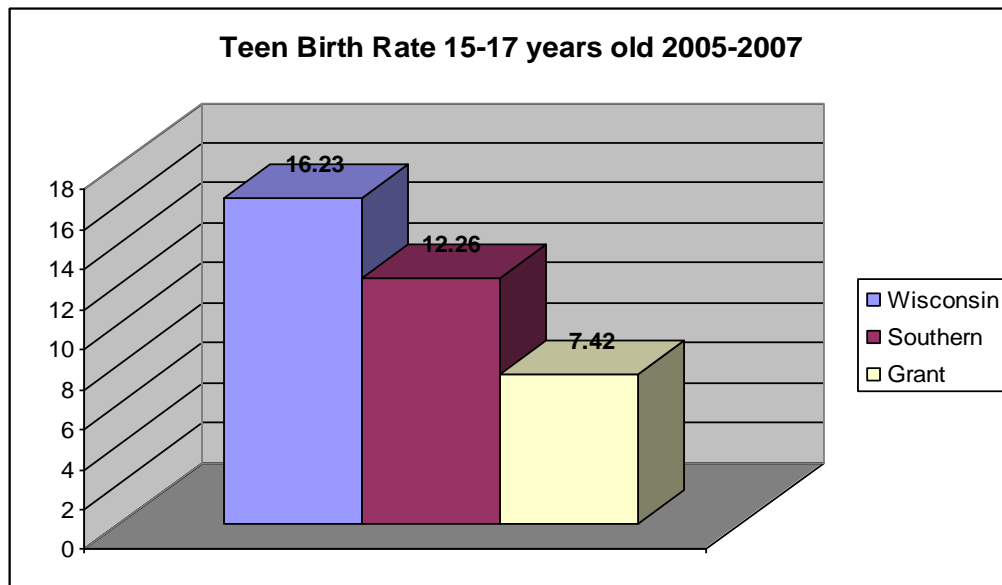
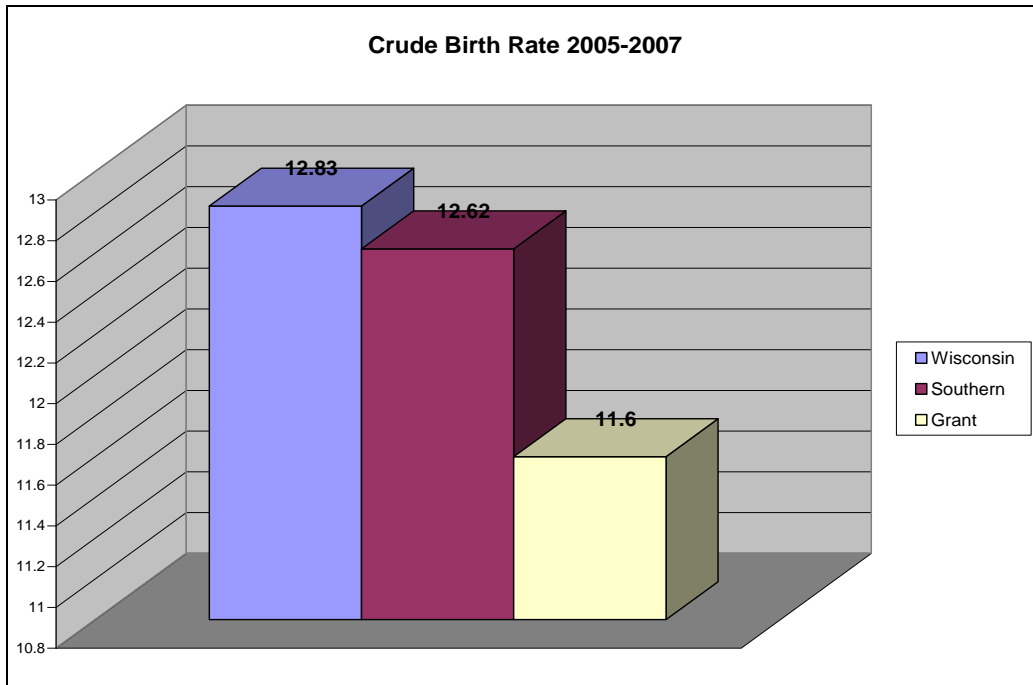
There were 3,472 births in Grant County from 2005-2007 (Wisconsin Interactive Statistics on Health). Grant County had a teen births rate of 7.4% among women ages 15-17 years old. This rate is notably lower than the Southern Region (12.26%) and Wisconsin (16.23%) according to Wisconsin Interactive Statistics on Health 2005-2007.

The average crude birth rate and average general fertility rate for Grant County was comparable to the Southern Region and Wisconsin. The averages for crude birth rate and general fertility rate for 2005-2007 are located in the following table.

| Birth Characteristics 2005-2007                              |              |                 |           |
|--|--------------|-----------------|-----------|
|  | Grant County | Southern Region | Wisconsin |
| Average crude birth rate per 1,000                           | 11.6         | 12.6            | 12.8      |
| Average general fertility rate per 1,000 for women age 15-44 | 61.2         | 60.6            | 63.0      |
| Average teen birth rate per 1,000 age 15-17                  | 7.4          | 12.3            | 16.2      |

Source: Wisconsin Interactive Statistics on Health, 2005-2007

The following graph shows birth and teen birth rate averages from 2005 to 2007 for Grant County, the Southern Region, and the State of Wisconsin.



Source: Wisconsin Interactive Statistics on Health, 2005-2007

### Causes of Death

Heart Attack was the leading cause of death in Grant County between 2005 and 2007. The rate of death due to acute myocardial infarctions (102.33 annual deaths per 100,000) was drastically higher than the Southern Region (52.00) and Wisconsin (46.63). Grant County also had higher rates of death due to heart failure (33.18) than and the Southern Region (23.40) and the state of Wisconsin (21.74).

In contrast, deaths due to all other diseases (residual) were lower in Grant County (65.72) than the southern region (74.96) and the state (81.96). Grant County also had lower rates of malignant neoplasms of the trachea, bronchus, and lungs as well as other chronic lower respiratory diseases.

The ranked detailed causes of death from 2005-2007 are shown in the table below. The table compares the top ten causes of death in Grant County to death rates in the region and the state. The results are deaths per 100,000 population.

\* The causes of death are defined by the National Center for Health Statistics International Classification of Diseases (ICD-10) coding structure.

| Causes of Death 2005-2007  |              |                    |           |
|--|--------------|--------------------|-----------|
| Ranked Detailed Causes of Death:<br>Age-adjusted rate (deaths per<br>100,000 population) | Grant County | Southern<br>Region | Wisconsin |
| Acute Myocardial Infarction  | 102.33       | 52.00              | 46.63     |
| All Other Diseases (residual)  | 65.72        | 74.96              | 81.96     |
| Malignant Neoplasms of Trachea,<br>Bronchus and Lung                                     | 43.1         | 48.61              | 47.7      |
| Cerebrovascular Diseases   | 41.70        | 45.3               | 43.4      |
| All other Forms of Chronic Ischemic Heart<br>Disease                                     | 36.03        | 48.33              | 51.40     |
| Heart Failure  | 33.2         | 23.40              | 21.74     |
| Alzheimers Disease   | 31.96        | 27.03              | 23.41     |
| All Other Forms of Heart Disease   | 30.4         | 36.7               | 34.4      |
| Other Chronic Lower Respiratory Diseases   | 26.13        | 33.7               | 33.52     |
| All Other and Unspecified Malignant<br>Neoplasms   | 22.5         | 20.80              | 21.20     |

Source: Wisconsin Interactive Statistics on Health, 2009, Mortality Module: Ranked Detailed Causes of Death

### Key Findings

- No population growth to a slight decline from 2000-2008.
- Aging population, slightly higher percentage of people over the age of 65 than the state and US.
- Comparable household characteristics to the state and the US.
- Low population density, more rural than other counties in Wisconsin.
- Significantly lower teen birth rate than the southern region and the state.
- High death rate due to heart attack and heart failure compared to the southern region and the state.
- Lower rate of death from all other diseases (residual) and from respiratory disease than the southern region and state.

## Demographic and Economic Profile

### *Grant County Economic Profile*

#### **Employers, Industry, and Wages**

The table below shows the Top 10 employers in Grant County. Two of the top 10 largest employers in Grant County in 2007 were in higher education. The top two employers employed 500-999 people. Employers ranked third through tenth employed between 250-499 people.

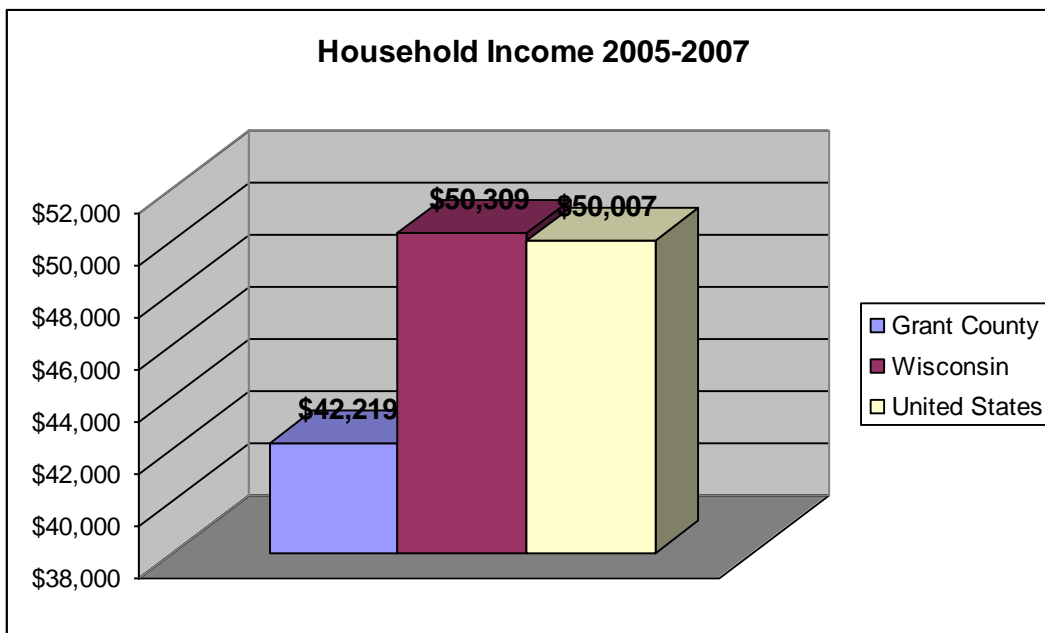
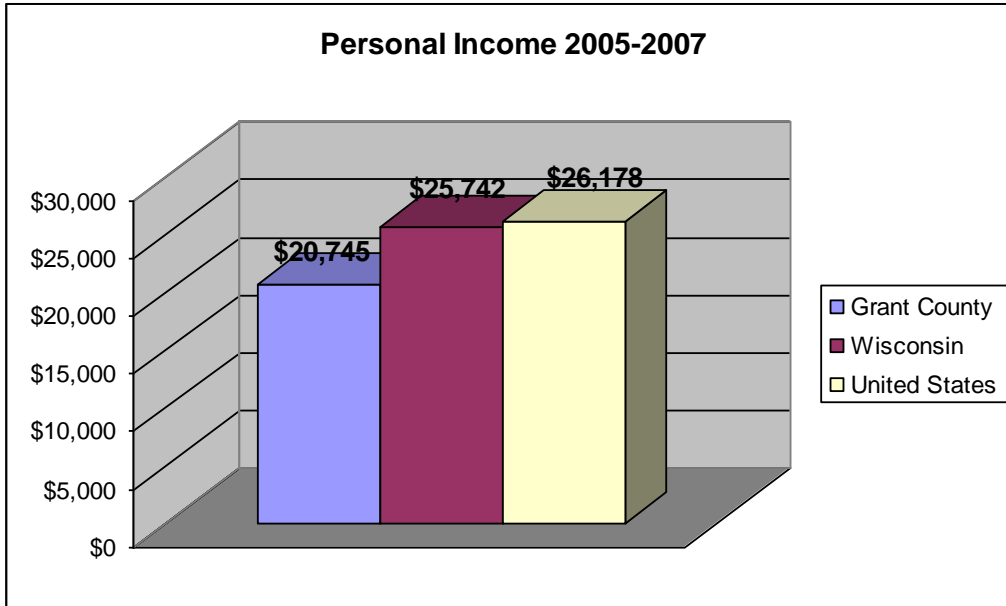
| Employer                                       | # Employed |
|--|------------|
| 1. UW – Platteville                            | 500-999    |
| 2. Grant County                                | 500-999    |
| 3. Dick’s Supermart (Broadbeck Enterprises)    | 250-499    |
| 4. Southwest Health Center, Inc.               | 250-499    |
| 5. Wal-Mart Associates,                        | 250-499    |
| 6. Babcock & Wilcox Construction Co.           | 250-499    |
| 7. Milprint Inc.                               | 250-499    |
| 8. Rayovac Corp (spectrum Brands)              | 250-499    |
| 9. Advanced Transformer (Phillips Electronics) | 250-499    |
| 10. Southwest WI Technical College             | 250-499    |

Source: Office of Economic Advisors- Wisconsin Department of Workforce Development: June 2007

NOTE: Since the Wisconsin Department of Workforce Development published the latest data, #9 above - Advanced Transformer is closed and #3 Piggy Wiggly bought Dick’s Supermart.

## Income

Grant County had a per capita income of \$20,745 which was lower than the state (\$25,742) and US average (\$26,178) from 2005-2007 (U.S. Census Bureau, Selected Economic Characteristic: 2005-2007). The median household income of Grant County (\$42,219) was also lower than the state (\$50,309) and the US (\$50,007) as shown in the graph below (U.S. Census Bureau, Selected Economic Characteristic: 2005-2007).



Sources: U.S. Census Bureau, Selected Economic Characteristic: 2005-2007

## Labor force participation

Labor force is defined as the number of residents age 16 and older who are either working or looking for work. The total labor market in Grant County was 65.7%, which was comparable to the state rate of 68.7% and the US rate of 64.7% according to the U.S. Census Bureau, Selected Economic Characteristic: 2005-2007.

## Unemployment

During the late 1990's, the unemployment rate of the county rose above the US average due to losses in electronic component manufacturing. However, because of gains in nondurable goods employment offset those losses by the end of the decade. In May of 2008, 3.9% of the labor workforce was unemployed (Grant County Workforce Profile, Wisconsin Department of Workforce Development, 2008).

| <b>Unemployment Rates 1998-2007</b> |      |       |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |               |
|-------------------------------------|------|-------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|---------------|
|                                     | 1998 | 1999  | 2000 | 2001 | 2002 | 2003 | 2004 | 2005 | 2006 | 2007 | 2008          |
| <b>Grant Co.</b>                    | 3.9% | 3.55% | 3.3% | 4.5% | 4.8% | 5.1% | 4.6% | 4.4% | 4.5% | 4.8% | 3.9%<br>(May) |
| <b>Wisconsin</b>                    | 3.3% | 3.1%  | 3.4% | 4.4% | 5.3% | 5.6% | 5.0% | 4.8% | 4.7% | 4.9% | 4.2%          |

Source: Office of Economic Advisors- Wisconsin Department of Workforce Development: 2008

## Poverty

Grant County had a comparable percentage of people living in poverty (11.1%) to the state (10.8%) and the US (13.3%) in 2005-2007. As shown in the table below, Grant County had a lower percentage of children living in poverty than the state and the US during the same time period.

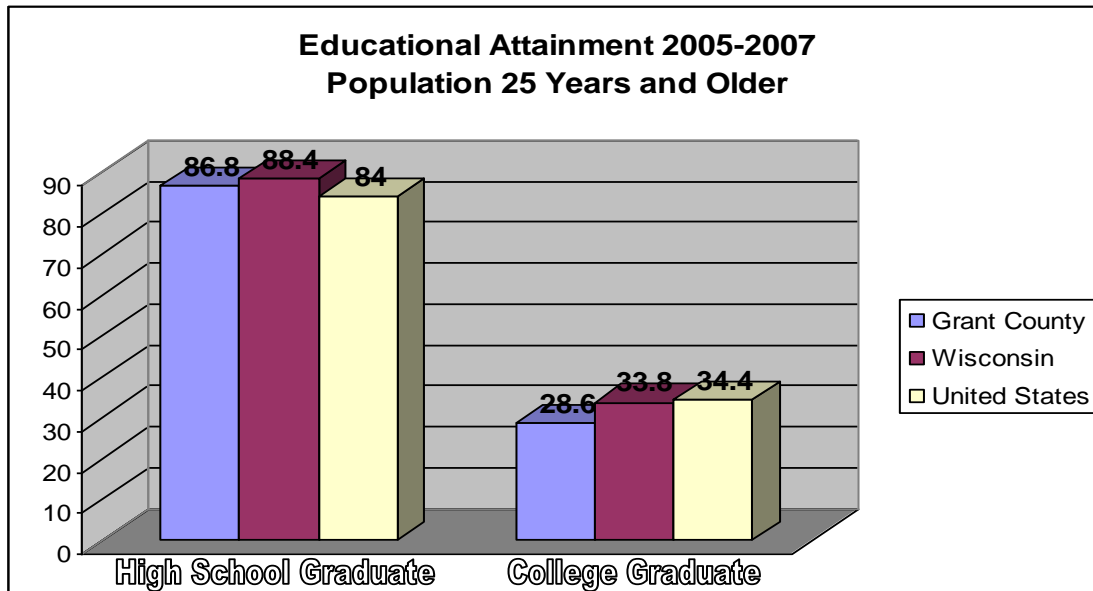
| <b>Estimated Poverty Rates 2005-2007</b>      |  |
|---|--|
| <b>% Living in poverty</b>                    | <b>2005-2007<br/>US Census Estimates</b> |
| <b>Grant County</b>                           | 11.1%                                    |
| <b>Wisconsin</b>                              | 10.8%                                    |
| <b>US</b>                                     | 13.3%                                    |
| <b>% Under 18 years old living in poverty</b> |  |
| <b>Grant County</b>                           | 10.2%                                    |
| <b>Wisconsin</b>                              | 14.6%                                    |
| <b>US</b>                                     | 18.3%                                    |

Source: U.S. Census Bureau, Selected Economic Characteristic: 2005-2007



## Education

The educational attainment of residents in Grant County is similar to the state average and the US average. Over 86% of Grant County's population over the age of 25 has obtained a high school diploma. However, the percent of people over the age of 25 that have a college degree (28.6%) is lower than the state (33.8%) and the US (34.4%).



Source: US Census Bureau, Selected Social Characteristics: 2005-2007

## Key Findings

- **Two of the top ten largest employers are in higher education.**
- **Lower per capita income and household income than the state and the US.**
- **Comparable labor force participation and unemployment to the state and the US.**
- **Lower percentage of children living in poverty than the state and the US.**
- **Low percentage of college graduates when compared to the state and the US.**

## *Part IV – Methods*

## Methods

### General

The following section describes the methods used to carry out each element of the Grant County Community Health Needs Assessment. The Grant County Health Department and the Grant County UW-Extension Office worked jointly to conduct this process.

Planning for the needs assessment began in April 2007. Focus Group Interviews were held in 2007. The Grant County Community Health Survey was mailed to county residents in January of 2008. Data collection was completed in August of 2008. The final report was completed in August 2009.

In December of 2008, the Grant County Board of Health and other interested community leaders met to prioritize the health issues identified in the needs assessment.

### Demographic and Economic Profile

The Grant County Demographic and Economic Profile consists of the most recent data from the US Census, Wisconsin Interactive Statistics on Health, and Wisconsin Department of Workforce Development.

### Community Health Surveys

In January 2008, Grant County Community Health Survey was mailed to 1,000 households in Grant County. Four hundred surveys were sent to addresses from the Health Department's Community Edition Newsletter mailing list. The other 600 addresses were randomly selected from a mailing list provided by the Grant County Tax Assessor Office. The purpose of the survey was to obtain information about consumers' satisfaction with health care services and their perceptions about health problems and issues that jeopardize the health of Grant County's residents. The response rate was approximately 27% with 265 surveys returned. The results were analyzed by the Grant County Health Department.

### Focus Group Interviews

The UW Extension and Grant County Health Department staff conducted four Focus Group Interviews in 2007. Focus groups are particularly useful in identifying and discussing major issues and commonly held perceptions. The focus groups were convenience samples of five to nine individuals from a School Nurse Focus Group, Board of Health Focus Group, Grant County Parents Focus Group, and Drug Free Communities Focus Group. Each group session lasted from one to one-and-a-half hours, and was recorded by handwritten notes. Each staff member wrote a narrative account of the focus group he or she led. The narratives included the participants' responses to each question and a summary of the main themes. Based on these narratives, a summary was written on the common issues from all four focus groups.

*Part V – Review of  
Grant County Community  
Health Survey*

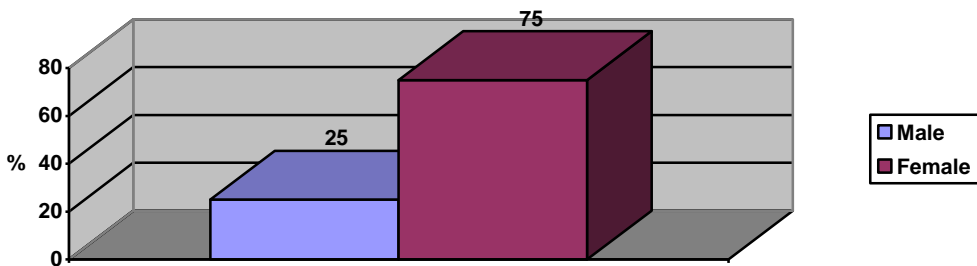
# Review of Grant County Community Health Survey

The Grant County Community Health Survey was divided into five parts. The first four sections asked questions specific to health care services, health insurance coverage, health and wellness behaviors, and community health concerns. The final section collected demographic information about survey respondents. Demographics are reported first here.

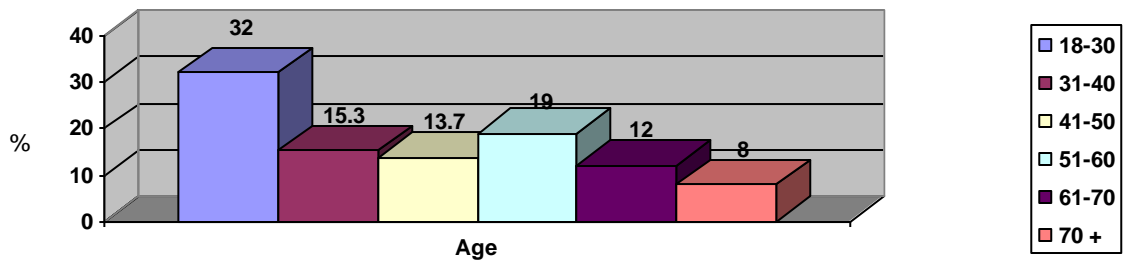
## Survey Demographics

The majority of the respondents were married females over 50 years of age. The percent of respondents by gender and age are shown below.

Gender of Survey Respondents

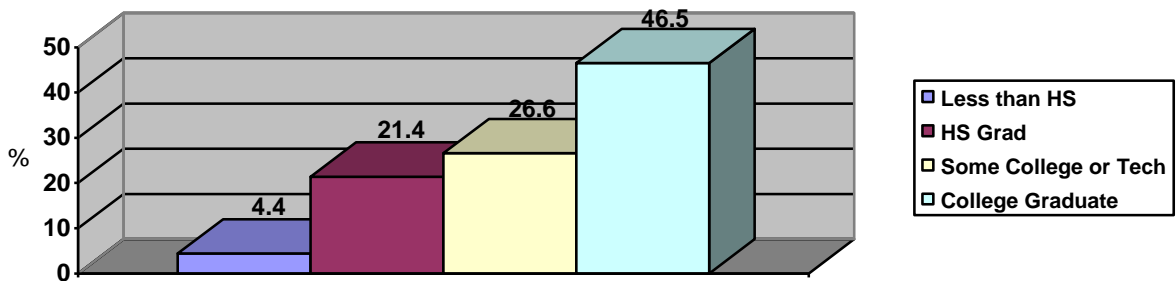


Ages of Survey Respondents



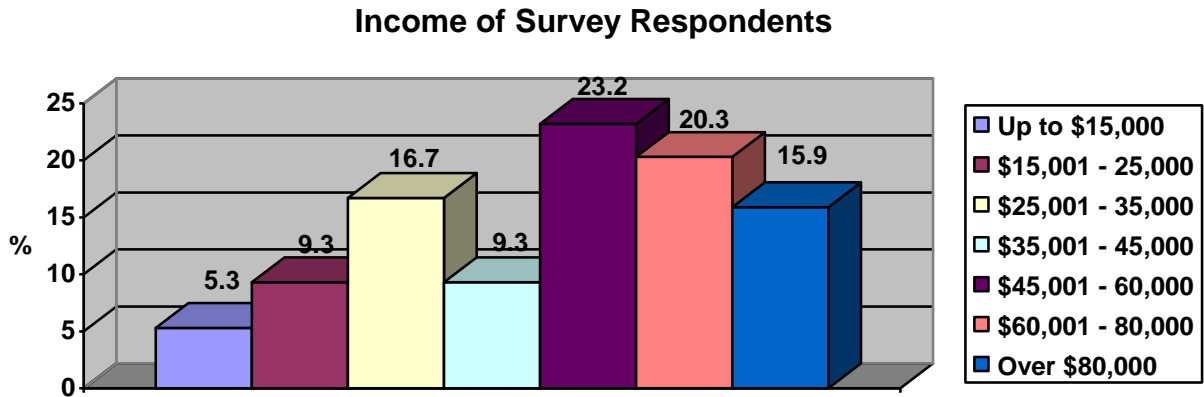
The majority of the survey respondents had a high school education or above. The respondents' educational levels are shown below.

Education Level of Survey Respondents



Almost 90% of survey respondents were married. The next largest group of respondents was single/never married (3.9%). The remaining respondents identified themselves as unmarried.

Finally, respondents were asked to indicate the range of their family income. The results were as follows:



Twenty zip codes from Grant County were represented in the survey. Zip codes for Platteville (18.3%) and Fennimore (11.0%) had the largest number of respondents. The percentage of respondents from each zip code are shown in the table below.

| Zip Code | % of Respondents | Zip Code | % of Respondents |
|----------|------------------|----------|------------------|
| 53818    | 18.1%            | 53554    | 3.4%             |
| 53813    | 7.9 %            | 53569    | 1.9%             |
| 53805    | 6.4%             | 53808    | 2.3%             |
| 53809    | 10.9%            | 53816    | 3.0%             |
| 53807    | 6.0%             | 53812    | 0.4%             |
| 53806    | 4.5%             | 53825    | 1.5%             |
| 53573    | 5.3%             | 53827    | 1.9%             |
| 53811    | 7.9%             | 53573    | 0.4%             |
| 53820    | 7.9%             | 53817    | 1.1%             |
| 53804    | 4.5%             |          |                  |
| 53801    | 4.5%             |          |                  |

## Health Care Services

There were five questions focusing on health care services in the first section of the survey. The purpose of this section was to ask community members about types of traditional and non-traditional health care services they used and their satisfaction with Grant County health care services.

### *Usage of Grant County Health Care Services*

The first question on the survey asked where the respondents and their families received the majority of their health care. Respondents could choose one option from a list of 18 facilities in Grant County. An "Other" option was also offered.

The Dean Clinic in Platteville and the Grant Community Clinic in Lancaster were the local clinics used most often by respondents. However, almost 39% of respondents selected "Other"; indicating that they receive health services outside the county. In 2002, 30% of survey respondents indicated that they traveled outside the county for routine health care services. Dubuque, Prairie du Chien, and Richland Center were the most common places respondents received care outside of Grant County.

### *Usage of Local Health Care Services*

| Facility                              | % of Respondents |
|---------------------------------------|------------------|
| Doctors Park/Dean-Platteville         | 12.3             |
| Family Medical Center-Lancaster       | 9.7              |
| Medical Associates- Platteville       | 9.0              |
| Grant Community Clinic-Lancaster      | 8.1              |
| High Point Family Medicine-Lancaster  | 7.5              |
| Boscobel Clinic                       | 6.7              |
| Boscobel Bluff Street Clinic          | 3.2              |
| Muscoda Family Practice               | 1.0              |
| Grant Community Clinic-Cassville      | 1.0              |
| Associated Hearing & Balance-Boscobel | 0.6              |
| Doctors Park/Dean- Cuba City          | 0.6              |
| Medical Associates-Cuba City          | 0.3              |
| Reproductive Health Care Center       | 0.0              |
| In Health Community Wellness Clinic   | 0.0              |
| Fennimore Family Medicine             | 0.0              |
| Blackhawk Clinic-Monfort              | 0.0              |
| Riverside Family Practice-Muscoda     | 0.0              |
| <i>Other</i>                          | <i>38.6</i>      |

### ***Reasons for Not Using Grant County Services***

The second question of this section asked respondents who did not receive health care from any of the facilities listed in Question #1 to explain why. A full list of reasons for seeking care elsewhere is provided below:

#### *Reasons for Not Using Grant County Health Care Services*

| Reason   | # of Respondents |
|--|------------------|
| Concerns about the quality of care/services provided in Grant County         | 34               |
| It is easier to obtain services elsewhere                                    | 34               |
| Insurance or HMO requires us to seek health care elsewhere                   | 26               |
| It is closer to use health care services outside the county/less travel time | 23               |
| Have been treated unprofessionally by service providers in Grant County      | 16               |
| Service not available  | 8                |
| Confidentiality concerns   | 4                |
| Do not have a regular health care provider                                   | 4                |
| Unable to afford health care   | 3                |
| Unresolved issues  | 0                |
| The local provider does not take new clients                                 | 0                |
| No transportation  | 0                |
| <i>Other</i>   | 26               |

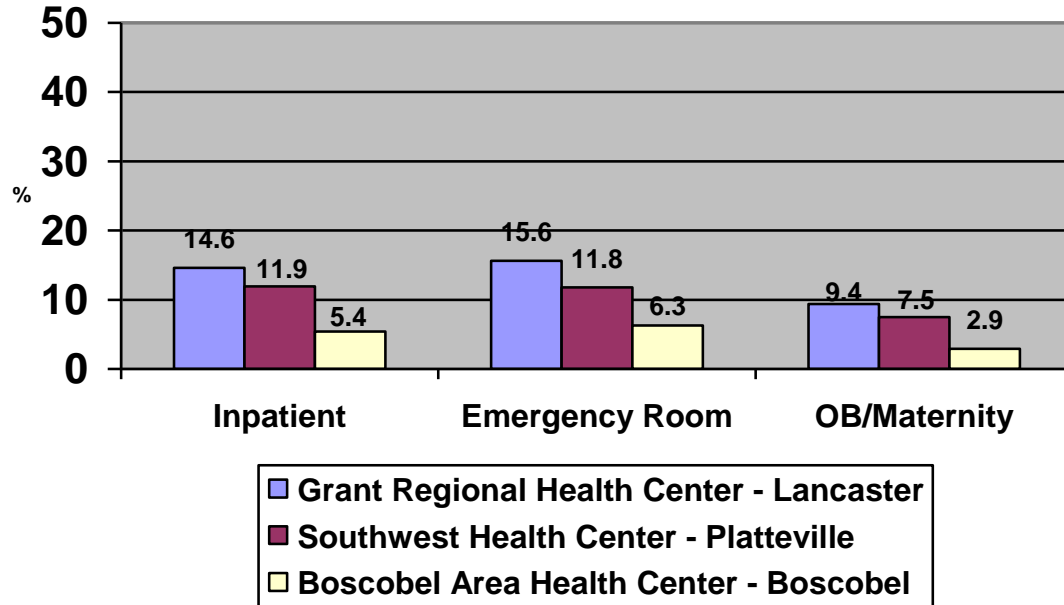
### ***Location of Inpatient Health Care Services***

The third question asked where respondents obtained inpatient care, emergency/urgent care, and obstetric/maternity care. If the respondent had never needed care in the past, he or she was directed to answer where he/she would obtain care in the future. The usage rates followed the same pattern for each type of inpatient care. As shown in the graph, Grant Regional Health Center in Lancaster was the facility used to most for all types of inpatient care. Southwest Health Center in Platteville was the second most used facility, and Boscobel Area Health Care was the used the least by the survey respondents.

Fourteen percent (14%) of individuals received inpatient care outside of Grant County. This result is in part due to the close proximity of several inpatient facilities outside of Grant County. Dubuque was named the most often as where the respondents' inpatient facility of choice was located.



## Inpatient Care



### ***Usefulness of Social Service Programs***

Next, respondents were asked to evaluate the usefulness of services that they or their family members may have used within the previous 12 months.

The top five services and the percentage of respondents who found them helpful were:

1. Badger Care Health Insurance (64%)
2. Chiropractic Care (60%)
3. Flu Shots (58%)
4. Women, Infants, & Children (57%)
5. Grant County Health Department Programs (55%)

The five least helpful services, and the percentage finding them not helpful, were:

1. Grant County Social Services Programs (6%)
2. Alcoholics Anonymous (4%)
3. Boscobel Counseling Services (4%)
4. Adult Day Care (3%)
5. Food Stamp Program (3%)

The first question asked whether anyone in the respondent's family had used educational or social services or whether they anticipated using any of the services in the future. Respondents could select as many items as were applicable. The table below shows the percentage of respondents that found the service to be helpful or not.

| <b>Service</b>                            | <b>Helpful</b> | <b>Not Helpful</b> |
|---|----------------|--------------------|
| Adult Day Care                            | 70%            | 30%                |
| Alcoholics Anonymous                      | 60%            | 40%                |
| Badger Care Health Insurance              | 96%            | 4%                 |
| Birth to Three Program                    | 96%            | 4%                 |
| Boscobel Counseling Services              | 78%            | 22%                |
| Chiropractic Care                         | 97%            | 3%                 |
| Grant Co Health Dept Programs             | 95%            | 5%                 |
| Grant Co Social Services Programs         | 88%            | 12%                |
| Food Stamp Program                        | 88%            | 12%                |
| Early Head Start                          | 100%           |                    |
| Even Start Family Literacy                | 100%           |                    |
| Family Advocates (Domestic Abuse Prgm)    | 100%           |                    |
| The Family Center                         | 100%           |                    |
| Flu Shots                                 | 98%            | 2%                 |
| Food Pantry                               | 100%           |                    |
| Grant Co Extension                        | 92%            | 8%                 |
| Head Start                                | 100%           |                    |
| Health Check                              | 100%           |                    |
| Healthy Start                             | 100%           |                    |
| Home Delivered Meals                      | 100%           |                    |
| Home Health Care – Allied Home Care       | 100%           |                    |
| Home Health Care – Grant Co Health Dept   | 92%            | 8%                 |
| Home Health Care – Homeward Bound         | 100%           |                    |
| Home Health Care – Home Health United     | 100%           |                    |
| Home Health Care – Mercy Home Care        | 100%           |                    |
| Home Health Care – Prairie Home Care      | 100%           |                    |
| Home Visit Program – Even Start Fam Lit   | 100%           |                    |
| Home Visit Program – The Family Center    | 80%            | 20%                |
| Home Visit Program – Grant Co Health Dept | 89%            | 11%                |
| Hospice – Home Health United              | 83%            | 17%                |
| Hospice – Grant Co Health Dept            | 93%            | 7%                 |
| Hospice – Prairie Hospice                 | 100%           |                    |
| Immunization Pgm – Grant Co Health Dept   | 96%            | 4%                 |
| Lead Blood Screening                      | 94%            | 6%                 |
| Long-Term Support                         | 100%           |                    |
| Narcotics Anonymous                       | 66%            | 33%                |
| Parenting Classes                         | 100%           |                    |
| Prenatal Care Services                    | 100%           |                    |
| Pregnancy Testing                         | 100%           |                    |
| Personal Care Services                    | 100%           |                    |
| Quitting Smoking Services                 | 75%            | 25%                |
| Reproductive Health Care Center           | 92%            | 8%                 |
| Respite Care                              | 87%            | 13%                |

|                                  |      |     |
|----------------------------------|------|-----|
| Sick Child Care                  | 75%  | 25% |
| Transportation Services          | 94%  | 6%  |
| Unified Community Services       | 85%  | 15% |
| Upland Hills                     | 100% |     |
| Well Woman Program               | 86%  | 14% |
| Women, Infants, & Children (WIC) | 100% |     |

### ***Interest in Non-traditional Health Care Services***

Question #5 asked respondents which types of non-traditional health-related services they or their families used in the past or expected to use in the future. Respondents could select multiple items from a list of non-traditional services. The results were as follows:

| Service             | In Past | In Future |
|---------------------|---------|-----------|
| Massage Therapy     | 5.2%    | 22.5%     |
| Herbal Therapy      | 10.2%   | 4.4%      |
| Acupuncture         | 6.3%    | 18.0%     |
| Yoga                | 13.4%   | 9.8%      |
| Aroma Therapy       | 7.9%    | 5.3%      |
| Homeopathic Therapy | 4.7%    | 9.8%      |
| Acupressure         | 3.9%    | 10.7%     |
| Energy Therapy      | 1.6%    | 8.2%      |

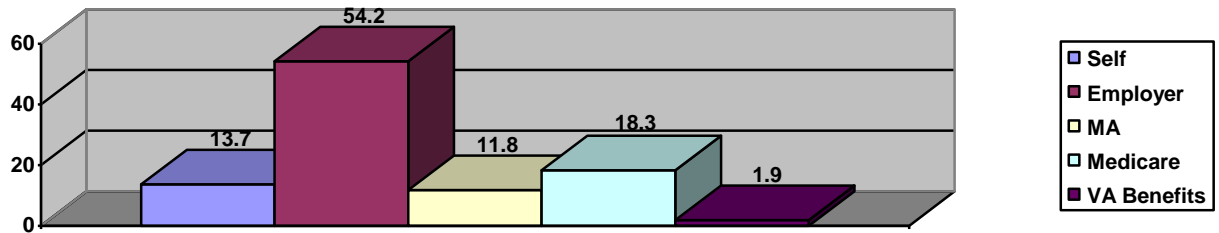
### **Health Insurance Coverage**

This section contained seven questions relating to insurance coverage and its effect on usage of health care services.

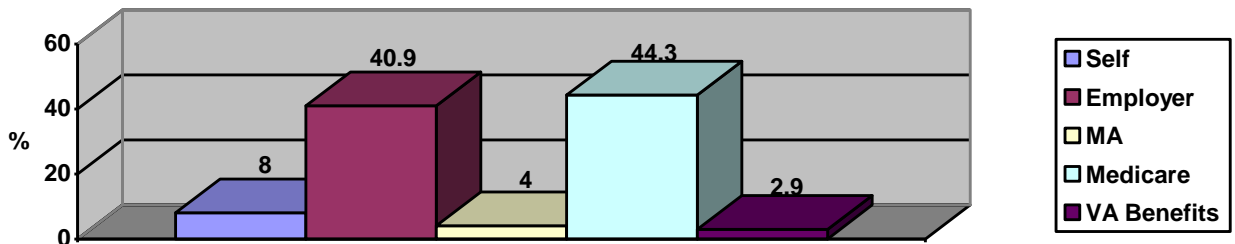
#### ***Household Members Covered by Health Insurance***

The first question of this section inquired about insurance coverage of household members. A high percentage of respondents (96%) reported being covered by health insurance. If the respondent and his/her family had insurance, the survey then asked the source of insurance coverage for the respondent, his/her spouse, and his/her dependents. The results are shown on the graphs below. The most common provider of insurance for all three groups was an employer. The graph below shows the percent of respondents that receive health insurance from self, employer, Medical Assistance, Medicare, or VA benefits.

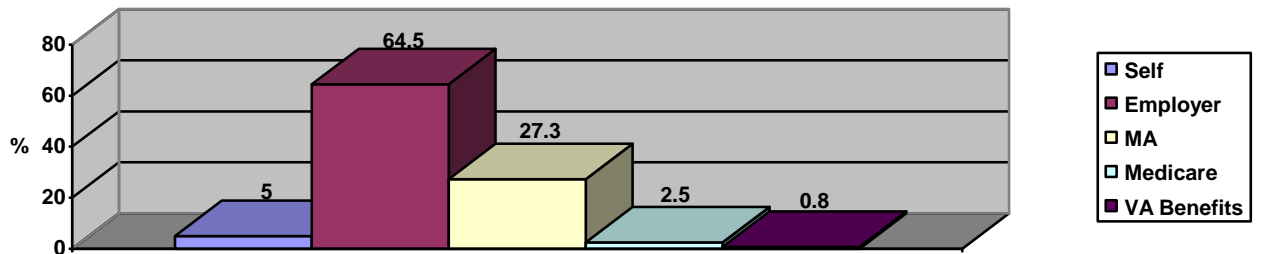
**Survey Respondents' Source of Insurance Coverage**



**Spouses' Source of Insurance Coverage**



**Dependents' Source of Insurance Coverage**



***Reasons for Lack of Coverage***

The second question concerning health insurance asked the 4% of respondents who had uninsured family members to explain why they had not obtained coverage. Respondents could select any applicable response from a list of 10 reasons, plus "Other". The chart below shows the responses:

*Reasons for Lack of Health Insurance*

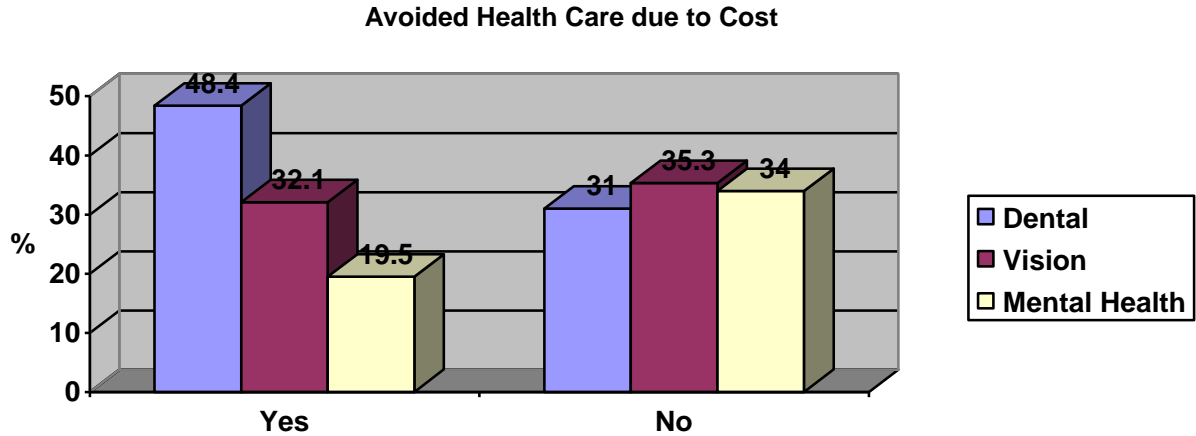
| Reason                       | Respondent | Spouse | Children/<br>Dependents |
|------------------------------|------------|--------|-------------------------|
| Monthly cost is too high     | 5          | 7      | 1                       |
| Not offered by employer      | 6          | 7      | 1                       |
| Not currently employed       | 2          | 0      | 0                       |
| Own/Operate a small business | 3          | 2      | 0                       |
| Own/Operate a farm           | 5          | 4      | 3                       |
| High deductibles & co-pays   | 3          | 4      | 1                       |

|                            |   |   |   |
|----------------------------|---|---|---|
| Pre-existing condition     | 3 | 3 | 1 |
| Recently changed jobs      | 0 | 3 | 0 |
| Denied coverage            | 1 | 3 | 1 |
| Student status has changed | 2 | 0 | 0 |
| <i>Other</i>               | 2 | 2 | 2 |

When it came to children and dependents, the most common reason for lack of coverage was that it was not offered by employers. A number of respondents made comments such as, "Low paying jobs don't include a health plan as a benefit."

***Avoidance of Care Due to Lack of Coverage***

Next, respondents were asked whether anyone in their household had avoided getting dental or vision exams, or filling prescriptions due to lack of insurance or inability to pay. The majority of the respondents reported that cost did not dissuade them from receiving these health care services. However, more than a quarter of the respondents indicated that they avoided dental care due to cost or lack of insurance.



**Access to Dental Care**

The next question asked respondents to indicate whether anyone in their family had not been able to obtain dental care during the previous year. Approximately 19.4% of respondents answered "Yes", while the remaining 80.6% reported having no problem obtaining dental care. The table below shows the reasons given for not being able to obtain dental care. Cost and lack of insurance coverage for dental care were the most common reasons cited.

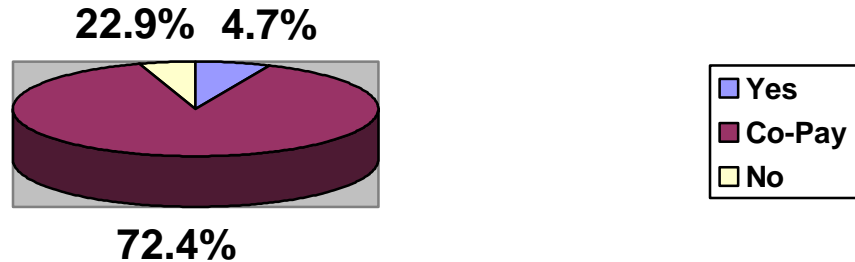
*Reasons for Not Obtaining Dental Care*

| Reason   | # of Respondents |
|--|------------------|
| Cannot afford it   | 31               |
| Dentists in Grant County do not take Medical Assistance or Badger Care | 24               |
| Insurance does not cover dental care                                   | 21               |
| Dentists do not take new clients                                       | 11               |
| Dentist in Grant County do not take my insurance                       | 11               |
| Dentist unavailable in Grant County                                    | 9                |
| Other  | 3                |

### ***Prescription Drug Costs and Coverage***

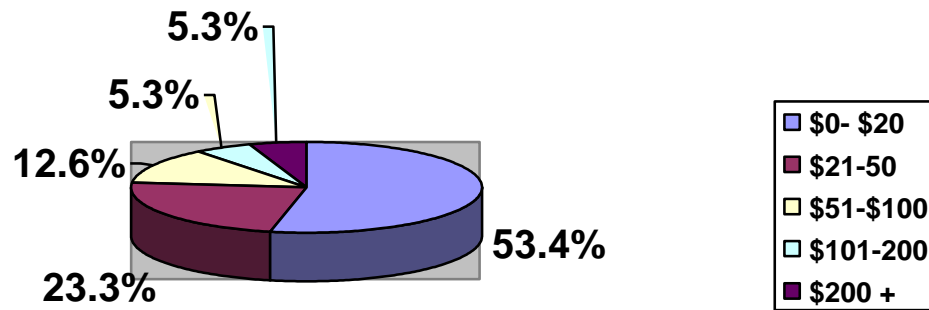
The last three questions from this section of the survey asked about prescription drug costs and coverage. First, respondents were asked about their prescription drug coverage. Over 72% of the respondents had prescription drug coverage with co-pay.

**Prescription Drug Coverage**



Next, the survey asked about the average cost of prescription drugs. Nearly 95% of respondents answered that their family spent \$0-200 on prescription drugs per month with over 53% reporting that they spend \$0-20 per month. Others reported higher costs, with 5% spending over \$200 per month on prescription drugs.

**Prescription Drug Coverage**



Finally, nearly 12% of respondents' family members reduced dosage during the previous two years or were not able to purchase needed medications because of lack of insurance for prescription drugs.

The survey also questioned whether or not individuals were aware of the Family Care Initiative. Out of 255 people who answered the question, 224 individuals were not aware of the program. Of the 31 individuals who were aware of the program, 21 of them believed it would benefit them or someone they know.

## **Healthy Living**

The healthy living section of the survey asked 14 questions about issues such as diet, exercise, nutrition, injuries, and chronic disease.

### ***Additional Programs Desired***

Respondents were asked what additional preventive programs they wished were offered in Grant County. Their suggestions are listed below.

#### *Behavior Modification or Educational and Counseling Programs*

- More child care centers in the area
- Lyme disease awareness
- Variety of exercises
- Self-defense
- Abstinence
- Support groups for teenage mothers
- Self esteem
- Suicide prevention/education, especially for teenagers
- Availability of a midwife for prenatal counseling-in home post partum and newborn check up
- Mental pain control
- Marriage
- 55+ years old
- Alcoholism

#### *Costs*

- Affordable health insurance
- Assistance with prescriptions
- Coverage of prenatal vitamins by insurance plans
- Financial management

#### *Health Promotion and Disease Prevention*

- Dental
- Vision
- Swim therapy
- Fitness center
- Noise abatement
- Bike trails
- Physical therapy
- Animal therapy
- Financial/credit counseling

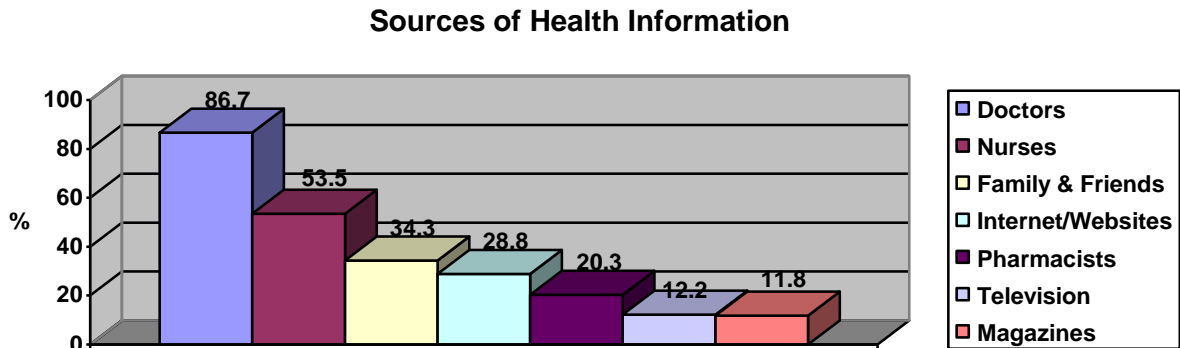
Respondents were asked what non-traditional health-related services they used in the past or what services they were likely to use in the future.

| Service                          | Used in Past | Might use in Future |
|----------------------------------|--------------|---------------------|
| Acupressure                      | 5            | 55                  |
| Acupuncture                      | 8            | 44                  |
| Aroma Therapy                    | 10           | 13                  |
| Energy Therapy                   | 2            | 31                  |
| Herbal Therapy                   | 13           | 26                  |
| Homeopathic Therapy              | 6            | 31                  |
| Massage Therapy                  | 66           | 20                  |
| Yoga                             | 17           | 24                  |
| Alcohol Abuse                    | 4            | 7                   |
| Child development screening      | 9            | 26                  |
| Diabetic education               | 8            | 17                  |
| Domestic abuse prevention        | 0            | 2                   |
| Drug abuse assistance            | 2            | 4                   |
| Exercise fitness                 | 21           | 68                  |
| Nutrition programming            | 10           | 34                  |
| Prevention and wellness programs | 11           | 31                  |
| Public immunizations             | 64           | 46                  |
| Sexual abuse prevention program  | 0            | 1                   |
| Stop smoking program             | 3            | 8                   |
| Stress reduction/management      | 1            | 43                  |
| Weight Loss                      | 9            | 65                  |



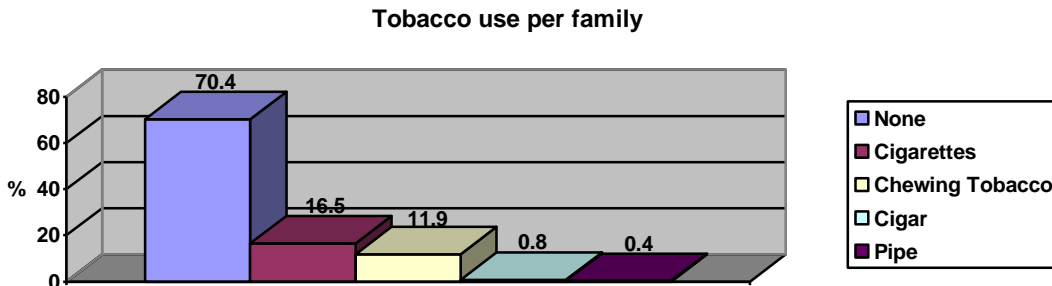
### Source of Health Information

The purpose of the next question on the survey was to find out where the community was obtaining health information. Respondents were asked to select the source they used for health care information from a list of 16 options, plus "Other". Respondents could choose as many sources that were applicable. Doctors were cited by 86.7% of respondents as a source of health information; the next highest source was Nurses (53.5%). Family & Friends (34.3%) was followed by Internet/Websites (28.8%), Pharmacists (20.3%), Television (12.2%), and magazines (11.8%). The sources that were selected the most are shown in the chart below.



### Tobacco Use

The survey also asked respondents about tobacco use by members in their families. The following chart shows that most respondents (70.4%) reported no tobacco use. Of those who did report use, cigarettes were the most common form of tobacco (16.5%).



### ***Nutrition***

Next, the survey asked whether respondents felt it was difficult to provide healthy and nutritious meals to their family. The majority (84.3%) answered that it was not difficult. Those who answered that it was difficult cited the reasons listed in the table below as obstacles to serving nutritious meals. Most people responded that making healthy meals was either too time consuming, cost too much, or did not suit their family's tastes. Some also responded that they needed more information about good nutrition and how to prepare nutritious food. Respondents checked all of the reasons that they felt applied to them.

| Reason   | Percent |
|--|---------|
| Healthy foods cost too much                                  | 34      |
| Healthy meals are too hard to make / take too much time      | 24      |
| My family doesn't like fruits / vegetables                   | 11      |
| There isn't much variety to choose from at the grocery store | 8       |
| <i>Other</i>   | 7       |
| Not enough fruits / vegetables available                     | 5       |
| Need more information about nutrition                        | 4       |
| Prefer "fast food"   | 2       |
| Not enough bread / grains available                          | 2       |
| My family doesn't like breads / grains                       | 1       |

The survey also asked whether or not schools in Grant County offered nutritious foods to the students. The majority (77%) responded they felt the children were offered nutritious foods in school; while 23.4% felt nutritious foods were not offered.

### ***Physical Activity***

In response to Question #6 of the Healthy Living section, "Do you consider yourself to be physically active?" most respondents (77.5%) stated "Yes". The 22.5% who replied they did not exercise regularly indicated that they either did not have the time or they were not able due to a physical restriction.

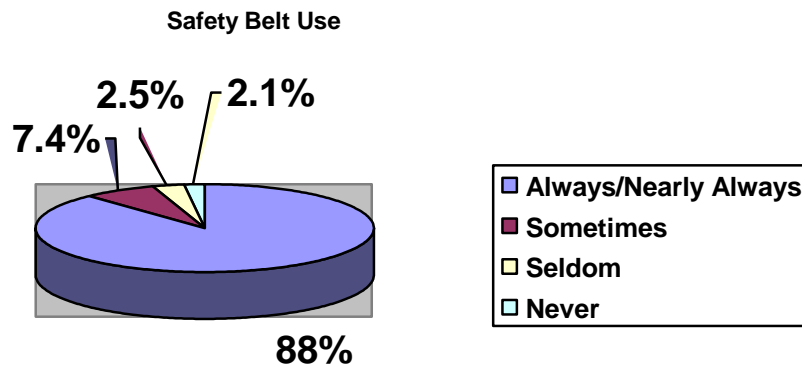
### ***Use of Emergency Plans***

The next survey question asked if the respondents and their families have taken steps to prepare for an emergency. The results were close with 50.6% answering "Yes" and 49.4% answered "No". The respondents who answered "Yes" were then asked to choose from a list of emergency steps they have taken. The answers were as follows.

1. Have one or more of the following: radio, flashlight, batteries (76.6%)
2. Created an emergency plan (43.8%)
3. Stockpiled food (33.6%)
4. Created a contact list (33.6%)
5. Copied important papers (27.3%)
6. Stockpiled water (18%)
7. Stockpiled medications (9.4%)

### ***Use of Safety Belts***

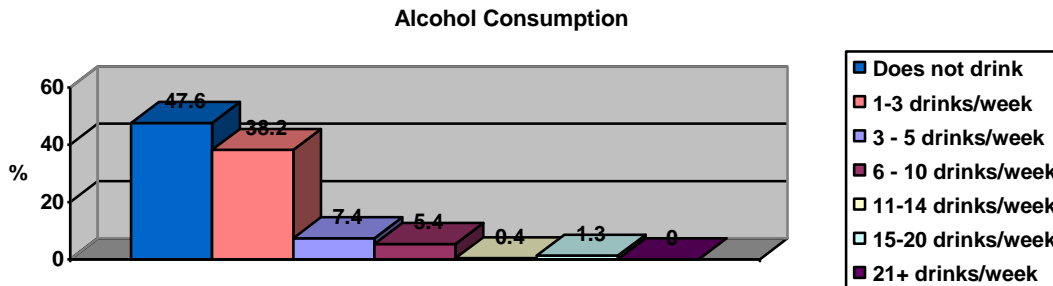
The next survey question asked how often respondents wore safety belts in cars or other motor vehicles. The chart below shows that while almost 65% of respondents said they always wore safety belts, 12% of respondents indicated they used safety belts seldom or never.



The next question asked if the respondent used car safety seats for their children and if the seat met the regulations for the size of the child. Of those who had children nearly 95% reported always using child passenger safety seats. Another 4.4 % reported using them nearly always, and none reported seldom or never using them.

## ***Alcohol Consumption***

When asked about consumption of alcohol beverages, 52% of respondents indicated they consumed at least one alcohol beverage in one week. Over 47% stated that they do not consume alcohol. About thirty eight percent of respondents stated they drank 1-3 drinks/week. The table below shows that 14% of the population consumed alcohol at a higher frequency.



## ***Injuries***

Respondents were asked whether they had experienced an injury during the previous five years that caused them to see a doctor or think about seeing a doctor. Fifty-five percent of respondents answered "Yes".

The follow-up question inquired about the nature of the injury. From a list of 12 options describing potential injuries, most respondents selected answers related to the circumstances of the injury; for example, farm-related, sports-related, etc. More respondents indicated having an injury that happened in their home (40) than work-related injuries (33). There were 37 respondents who attributed their injury to a fall of some kind.

## ***Chronic Diseases and Conditions***

The next question asked the respondents if anyone in their family had been diagnosed with a chronic disease. The table below shows the percentage of respondents who said someone in their family had been diagnosed with each disease.

| Disease  | % of Respondents |
|--|------------------|
| Allergies  | 33.2%            |
| High Cholesterol   | 32.1%            |
| High Blood Pressure or Hypertension                          | 31.3%            |
| Arthritis  | 14.1%            |
| Cancer   | 10.7%            |
| Diabetes   | 10.3%            |
| Heart Disease  | 8.9%             |
| Asthma   | 7.4%             |
| Osteoporosis   | 5.9%             |
| Other Chronic Condition of the Heart or Circulatory Problems | 3.3%             |
| Emphysema or Chronic Bronchitis                              | 3.0%             |
| Heart Attack   | 3.0%             |
| Other Lung Disease or Chronic Breathing Problems             | 2.6%             |
| Kidney Disease   | 1.8%             |
| Stroke   | 1.5%             |

The following question was similar, but asked about addictions, diagnosis of mental illness, and violence. The table below shows the percentage of respondents who said someone in their family been told by a doctor, psychologist, or psychiatrist that they suffered from one of the following:

| Condition                   | % of Respondents |
|-----------------------------|------------------|
| Depression                  | 15.5%            |
| Anxiety Disorder            | 5.3%             |
| Panic Disorder              | 3.0%             |
| Bi-Polar (Manic/Depression) | 2.3%             |
| Alcoholism                  | 1.1%             |
| Other                       | 1.1%             |
| Victim of Sexual Abuse      | 1.1%             |
| Victim of Domestic Abuse    | 1.1%             |
| Drug Dependency             | 0.4%             |
| Psychosis                   | 0.4%             |
| Anorexia                    | 0.0%             |
| Bulimia                     | 0.0%             |
| Schizophrenia               | 0.0%             |

### ***Childcare***

The thirteenth question of the Healthy Living section addressed childcare. Most of the respondents (19.2%) said they did not have difficulty finding care for school-aged or daycare-aged children when they went to work. Of the 18.4% who said they did have difficulty, 39% reported that they would simply stay home from work when their child was sick. Some of the other responses indicated that they used a paid sick day (25%); used paid time off (non sick days) (12%); left their child with a neighbor or relative (12%); or sent the child to school/daycare anyway (7%).

### ***Respite Care***

The final question asked about respite care for elderly, disabled, or chronically ill family members. Only 4.5% of respondents said they had a need for respite care. It seems that knowledge of respite services was not widespread, because 57% of the respondents who said they needed respite services commented that they did not know how to access respite services in Grant County or did not know how to obtain respite care services. Approximately 21% reported being satisfied with the respite services they used.

## Community Health Issues

The last section of the survey contained one question focusing on the respondents' perceptions about community health issues. Respondents were asked to select any items from an extensive list of community health issues that they felt were issues for their own family or for Grant County. The graph below shows the selected issues

### Community Health Issues

\* (blue: actual order) (red: when expense-based questions are removed)

| Issue/Concern                               | Concern for Me/My Family | Concern for Grant County |
|---|--------------------------|--------------------------|
| Safe Drinking Water                         | 48.3% (128) (2) (1)      | 45.3% (120) (7) (5)      |
| Safe food                                   | 38.5% (102) (5) (2)      | 32.1% (85)               |
| Pollution/toxic substances                  | 33.6% (89) (4)           | 43.0% (114)              |
| Clean outdoor air                           | 32.8% (87) (6)           | 36.2% (96)               |
| Indoor air quality                          | 28.3% (75)               | 19.6% (52)               |
| Odors/noise                                 | 21.5% (57)               | 25.3% (67)               |
| Natural or man made disaster                | 32.5% (86) (7)           | 44.5% (118)              |
|   |                          |                          |
| Illegal Drug Use                            | 21.5% (57)               | 56.6% (150) (3) Tie (1)  |
| Alcohol Abuse                               | 16.2% (43)               | 45.6% (121) (4)          |
| Tobacco Use                                 | 16.2% (43)               | 42.2% (112)              |
| Depression                                  | 17.7% (47)               | 33.6% (89)               |
| Suicide                                     | 8.3% (22)                | 33.9% (90)               |
| Domestic Abuse                              | 8.3% (22)                | 41.1 % (109)             |
| Gambling                                    | 9.4% (25)                | 35.0% (93)               |
| Mental Health                               | 12.5% (33)               | 38.9% (103)              |
|   |                          |                          |
| Lack of Adequate Housing                    | 10.9% (29)               | 34.3% (91)               |
| Price of Energy                             | 52.5% (139) (1)          | 60.0% (159) (1)          |
| Homelessness                                | 6.0% (16)                | 34.3% (91)               |
| Hunger/not enough to eat                    | 9.1% (24)                | 34.7% (92)               |
| Illiteracy                                  | 5.7% (15)                | 34.7% (92)               |
| Unemployment/Lack of Well Paying Jobs       | 30.2% (80)               | 58.9% (156) (2)          |
|   |                          |                          |
| Farm Injuries                               | 21.1% (57)               | 56.6% (150) (3) Tie (1)  |
| Motor Vehicle Accidents                     | 27.2% (72)               | 46.4% (123) (3)          |
| Driving without Seatbelts                   | 13.9% (37)               | 40.0% (106)              |
| Riding Bicycles/Motorcycles without Helmets | 15.8% (42)               | 42.6% (113)              |
| Gun/Firearm Safety                          | 18.9% (50)               | 36.2% (96)               |
|   |                          |                          |
| Communicable diseases                       | 17.0% (45)               | 35.1% (93)               |
| Influenza                                   | 20.0% (53)               | 35.8% (95)               |
| Diabetes                                    | 24.5% (65)               | 32.5% (86)               |
| Lung Disease                                | 15.1% (40)               | 26.8% (71)               |
| Heart Disease                               | 26.8% (71)               | 30.2% (80)               |

| <b>Issue/Concern</b>             | <b>Concern for Me/My Family</b> | <b>Concern for Grant County</b> |
|----------------------------------|---------------------------------|---------------------------------|
| Stroke                           | 19.2% (51)                      | 24.9% (66)                      |
| Cancer                           | 35.1% (93) (3)                  | 37.0% (98)                      |
| Obesity                          | 27.9% (74)                      | 38.1% (101)                     |
| Nutrition                        | 25.7% (68)                      | 34.3% (91)                      |
| Teen Pregnancy                   | 11.3% (30)                      | 47.9% (127) (5) Tie (2)         |
| Child Care                       | 22.2% (59)                      | 41.1% (109)                     |
| Long Term Care                   | 22.6% (60)                      | 36.6% (97)                      |
| Parenting Skills                 | 13.6% (36)                      | 40.4% (107)                     |
| Access to Health Care            | 29.4 % (78)                     | 41.5% (110)                     |
| Cost/Availability of Insurance   | 44.5% (118) (3)                 | 52.8% (140) (4)                 |
| Cost of Prescription Medicine    | 41.9% (111) (4)                 | 47.9% (127) (5) Tie             |
| Shortage of Health Professionals | 24.5% (65)                      | 35.5% (94)                      |
| Dental Health                    | 33.3% (88) (5)                  | 37.4% (99)                      |
| Vision Care                      | 27.2% (72)                      | 27.9% (74)                      |

(blue actual order)

(red when expense based questions are removed)

*Part VII – Review of Focus  
Group Interviews*



# **Review of Focus Group Interviews**

## **Summary**

The most common ideas discussed by participants in the four Grant County focus groups are categorized by theme.

### ***Healthy Aspects of Grant County***

Participants named several aspects of Grant County that they felt made it a healthy place to live. Many participants felt that the rural environment of Grant County fostered clean surroundings, a relaxed lifestyle, and a strong sense of community. They felt that these factors made it a particularly good place to raise children. Participants felt that Grant County had a low crime rate and commented on their satisfaction with the air quality. Some participants also complimented the quality of Grant County's programs and services. The Health Department and the schools were mentioned, as well as the health resources available due to partnerships formed between health organizations.

### ***Health and Dental Insurance***

Concern over health and dental insurance affordability and coverage was possibly the most prominent issue discussed in the focus groups. Participants cited concerns that county residents were either uninsured or under-insured, and this led them to avoid getting appropriate health care. Many services including primary health care, dental care, prescription drugs, long-term care, mental health services, and substance abuse treatment were mentioned as under-utilized due to residents being uninsured or underinsured. Some participants felt that more free care and Medical Assistance would improve the health of county residents struggling with health insurance costs.

### ***Environmental Health Threats***

Water quality and proper trash disposal were the major concerns of the participants when asked about environmental threats. Many participants were concerned about the inadequate disposal of trash and tires. Some participants were also concerned about the disposal of prescription drugs. Participants also mentioned a worry about high lead levels.

### ***Parenting***

Parents' ability to supervise their children was a common concern in the focus groups. Some participants suggested that other health issues in the county, such as drug and alcohol abuse, teen pregnancy, and poor nutrition, all related to ineffective parenting. Many participants advocated for more programs to help parents who had difficulty raising their children due to financial troubles or work schedules. Educational programming in various life skills for parents and children was also mentioned. Finally, participants stressed the obstacles parents face in finding daycare.

### ***Local Government and Services***

A number of participants felt that Grant County's local government and Social Services could do more to help residents in need. Some participants suggested that a greater commitment to service was in order. It was also suggested that the schools needed more funding to provide for the children in the county. In addition, some participants wanted local organizations to actively advocate more with the Wisconsin Legislature for their needs.

### ***Healthy Living***

The focus groups expressed several concerns about behaviors that interfere with healthy living in Grant County. Many said that alcohol abuse was common, in part because of the cultural acceptance of alcohol use by teenagers and adults. Smoking by teenagers and teen pregnancy were also considered major health issues. Some participants suggested providing recreational activities for teenagers to support healthy living.

### ***Health Care System***

Some participants felt that the health care system in Grant County has suffered from provider shortages particularly for medical specialists and dentists. Participants said these shortages have led to delays in receiving care. They suggested that bringing more providers into the county would help all areas of care: primary, dental health, mental health, and EMS. A number of participants also indicated that more focus on preventive health care and education would be beneficial.

### ***Economy***

A number of participants believed that economic problems in Grant County had a negative effect on the health of the residents of the county. These participants related the economic well-being of the county to the ability of residents to afford insurance, as well as the ability of employers to provide it for employees. Several participants also said that poor economic conditions made it hard to recruit much-needed providers to the county. Some participants believed that parents experience additional stress if they had difficulty paying for basic housing and health care costs.

## *Part IX – Priorities*

## Priorities

Access to health care, access to dental care, environmental health, and substance abuse were the top priorities identified from the results obtained in the Grant County Community Health Survey and Focus Group Interviews.

### Access to Health Care

Limited access to health care related to high insurance cost, inadequate coverage, and lack of local providers was a concern to many residents of Grant County. A major concern for participants of the focus groups was that residents are avoiding necessary healthcare because of being uninsured or underinsured. Primary health care, dental care, prescription medications, long-term care, mental health services, and substance abuse treatment were mentioned as less accessible due to health insurance restrictions. Participants suggested that having more free care and providers accepting Medical Assistance would improve the health of county residents struggling with health insurance costs.

According to the county-wide survey the most common reason respondents did not have insurance was because it was not offered by their employer. One respondent made the comment "Low paying jobs don't include a health plan as a benefit."

Lack of providers in Grant County was a major concern identified related to access to health care. The county-wide survey showed that 39% of the respondents received care outside of Grant County. The majority of health care providers used were in Dubuque, Prairie de Chien, and Richland Center. Concern about quality of care/services provided in Grant County, the ease of obtaining services elsewhere, and insurance or HMO requirements were the top three reasons for not using health care services in Grant County.

### Access to Dental Care

Limited access related to cost, insurance coverage, and lack of providers was not only a concern for access to health care but also access to dental care. More than a quarter of the respondents in the county-wide survey indicated that they avoided dental care due to cost or lack of insurance. One respondent made the comment: "We (or my employer) pay a lot of money for health insurance, but I do not use it because of high deductibles and co-payments. I have no dental or vision insurance." Another respondent commented: "I think dental is a very big issue. We travel 60 miles for our child's dentist."

Nineteen percent of respondents in the county-wide survey indicated that at least one of their family members was not able to obtain dental care in the previous year. The table below shows the reasons given for not being able to obtain dental care.

### *Reasons for Not Obtaining Dental Care*

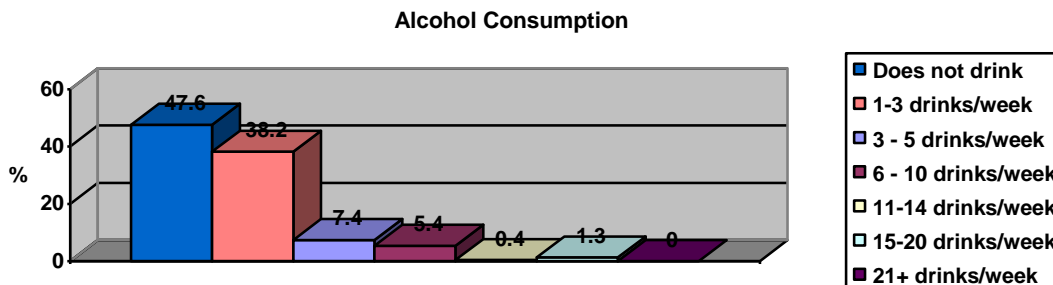
| Reason   | # of Respondents |
|--|------------------|
| Cannot afford it   | 31               |
| Dentists in Grant County do not take Medical Assistance or Badger Care | 24               |
| Insurance does not cover dental care                                   | 21               |
| Dentists do not take new clients                                       | 11               |
| Dentist in Grant County do not take my insurance                       | 11               |
| Dentist unavailable in Grant County                                    | 9                |
| Other  | 3                |

### **Environmental Health**

The high cost of energy, safe drinking water, safe food, and pollution/toxic substances ranked high as personal concerns (concern for me/my family) in the county-wide survey. The survey asked respondents to identify what they felt were the most concerning community health issues for them personally and for the county. High cost of energy was both the number one personal concern (53%) and tied as the number one community health concern for the county (60%). Safe drinking water was the number two personal concern (48%). Safe food and pollution/toxic substances ranked in the top five in the personal concern category. Ground water quality and the dumping of tires and trash were environmental health issues that were a concern for the focus groups.

### **Substance Abuse**

Substance abuse by teenagers and adults was a reoccurring concern in the county-wide survey and focus groups. During the focus group sessions many participants stated that alcohol abuse was common among teenagers, in part because the culture of the area did not truly discourage this behavior. Some participants concluded that teenagers in Grant County should be provided more opportunities for healthy recreational activities as an alternative to drinking. Other participants suggested that other health issues in the county, such as drug and alcohol abuse, teen pregnancies, and poor nutrition, all related to ineffective parenting. Illegal drug use tied as the number one county concern in the county-wide survey; while alcohol abuse was in the top five of country concerns. When asked specifically about alcohol consumption in the county-wide survey about 38% percent of respondents stated they drank 1-3 drinks/week. The table below shows that 14% of the population consumed alcohol at a higher frequency.



*Part X – Recommendations for  
the Future*

## **Recommendations for the Future**

1. Improve access to health care for Grant County residents who do not have health insurance or cannot afford it, and for residents who face other obstacles such as lack of transportation.
2. Strengthen the health care sector of Grant County's economy by recruiting and retaining more providers.
3. Reduce unhealthy behaviors, such as substance abuse, among Grant County residents, while increasing the number of programs and education available related to chronic disease prevention.
4. Increase the ability of organizations and interested community members to advocate with state legislators for the health care needs of Grant County residents.
5. Stabilize and enhance environmental health.
6. Promote Injury Prevention.

## *Part XI – Reference List*



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## *Part XII – Appendices*

## **Appendices**

**Appendix A – Grant County Community Health Survey Instrument**

**Appendix B–Focus Group Interviews Instrument**

**Appendix A – Grant County Community Health Survey Instrument**

**Grant County Community Health Survey**

Administered by the Grant County Health Department  
 111 South Jefferson Street, Lancaster, WI 53813-1672

[www.co.grant.wi.gov](http://www.co.grant.wi.gov)

**(608) 723-6416**

*Your household has been selected to participate in a county wide community health needs assessment. As required by state law, assessments are completed about every five years to determine the needs of the county and to help match services to needs without duplicating services or being wasteful. We ask that the head of the household or primary household care giver answer the following questions and return the survey.*

*Please note that the postage to return the survey is prepaid. All answers will remain confidential and the final report will not contain any identifying information as to how a particular individual or household answered a question. If you have any questions regarding the survey please do not hesitate to contact the Grant County Health Department at (608) 723-6416. Thank you for helping us improve the health of our communities!*

**A. Community Health Issues**

**1. From the following list, please check the issues that are of concern for you and your family and/or those issues that should be addressed on a community level. Check all that apply.**

| <b>Issue/Concern</b>         | <b>Concern for Me/My Family</b> | <b>Concern for Grant County</b> |
|------------------------------|---------------------------------|---------------------------------|
| Safe Drinking Water          |                                 |                                 |
| Safe food                    |                                 |                                 |
| Pollution/toxic substances   |                                 |                                 |
| Clean outdoor air            |                                 |                                 |
| Indoor air quality           |                                 |                                 |
| Odors/noise                  |                                 |                                 |
| Natural or man made disaster |                                 |                                 |
|                              |                                 |                                 |
| Illegal Drug Use             |                                 |                                 |
| Alcohol Abuse                |                                 |                                 |
| Tobacco Use                  |                                 |                                 |
| Depression                   |                                 |                                 |
| Suicide                      |                                 |                                 |
| Domestic Abuse               |                                 |                                 |
| Gambling                     |                                 |                                 |
| Mental Health                |                                 |                                 |
|                              |                                 |                                 |
| Lack of Adequate Housing     |                                 |                                 |

|   |                                 |                                 |
|---|---------------------------------|---------------------------------|
| Price of Energy                             |                                 |                                 |
| Homelessness                                |                                 |                                 |
| Hunger/not enough to eat                    |                                 |                                 |
| Illiteracy                                  |                                 |                                 |
| Unemployment/Lack of Well Paying Jobs       |                                 |                                 |
| <b>Issue/Concern</b>                        | <b>Concern for Me/My Family</b> | <b>Concern for Grant County</b> |
| Farm Injuries                               |                                 |                                 |
| Motor Vehicle Accidents                     |                                 |                                 |
| Driving without Seatbelts                   |                                 |                                 |
| Riding Bicycles/Motorcycles without Helmets |                                 |                                 |
| Gun/Firearm Safety                          |                                 |                                 |
|   |                                 |                                 |
| Communicable diseases                       |                                 |                                 |
| Influenza                                   |                                 |                                 |
| Diabetes                                    |                                 |                                 |
| Lung Disease                                |                                 |                                 |
| Heart Disease                               |                                 |                                 |
| Stroke                                      |                                 |                                 |
|   |                                 |                                 |
| Cancer                                      |                                 |                                 |
| Obesity                                     |                                 |                                 |
| Nutrition                                   |                                 |                                 |
|   |                                 |                                 |
| Teen Pregnancy                              |                                 |                                 |
| Child Care                                  |                                 |                                 |
| Long Term Care                              |                                 |                                 |
| Parenting Skills                            |                                 |                                 |
|   |                                 |                                 |
| Access to Health Care                       |                                 |                                 |
| Cost/Availability of Insurance              |                                 |                                 |
| Cost of Prescription Medicine               |                                 |                                 |
| Shortage of Health Professionals            |                                 |                                 |
| Dental Health                               |                                 |                                 |
| Vision Care                                 |                                 |                                 |
| Other (Specify:                             |                                 |                                 |

**B. Health Care Services**

**1. Where do you and your family (spouse/partner and dependent children) currently receive the majority of your health care services? (Please check only one answer)**

- |   |   |
|---|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Associated Hearing and Balance – Boscobel<br><input type="checkbox"/> Doctors Park/Dean/ - Cuba City<br><input type="checkbox"/> Medical Associates – Platteville<br><br><input type="checkbox"/> Family Medical Center - Lancaster<br>Lancaster | <input type="checkbox"/> Doctors Park/Dean/-Platteville<br><input type="checkbox"/> Maski & Maski Clinic - Platteville<br><input type="checkbox"/> Medical Associates – Cuba City<br><br><input type="checkbox"/> High Point Family Medicine- |
|---|---|

- Fennimore Family Medicine Lancaster
- Grant Community Clinic – Cassville
- Boscobel Bluff Street Clinic
- Reproductive Health Care Center Muscoda
- InHealth Community Wellness Clinic
- Other (Please list:)
- Grant Community Clinic -
- Blackhawk Clinic - Montfort
- Boscobel Clinic
- Riverside Family Practice –
- Muscoda Family Practice

**2. If you do not receive health care services from one of the Grant County providers listed on page 2, which of the following describes the reason(s) why? Check all that apply.**

- Do not have a regular health care provider
- Insurance or HMO requires us to seek health care elsewhere
- It is easier to obtain services elsewhere
- Concerns about the quality of care/services provided in Grant County
- Have been treated unprofessionally by service providers in Grant County
- Confidentiality concerns
- Service not available
- Unable to afford health care
- Unresolved issues
- The local provider does not take new clients
- No transportation
- It is closer to use health care services outside the county/less travel time
- Other (specify)

**3. Where do you and your family receive hospital care? If you have not needed hospital care in the past, where would you obtain these services if you needed them in the future?**

| <i>Facilities:</i>                       | <i>Inpatient Care</i>    |                          | <i>Emergency/Urgent</i>  |                          | <i>Obstetric/Maternity</i> |                          |
|--|--------------------------|--------------------------|--------------------------|--------------------------|----------------------------|--------------------------|
|  | Past Use                 | Future Use               | Past Use                 | Future Use               | Past Use                   | Future Use               |
| Grant Regional Health Center – Lancaster | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/>   | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Southwest Health Center – Platteville    | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/>   | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Boscobel Area Health Care – Boscobel     | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/>   | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Other (Please list)                      | _____                    |                          |                          |                          |                            |                          |

**4. Following is a list of health and human services offered in Grant County. If you or someone you know have used the service in the last 12 months, please tell us if the services were helpful.**

| Service                                 | Helpful | Not Helpful | No Opinion |
|---|---------|-------------|------------|
| Adult Day Care                          |         |             |            |
| Alcoholics Anonymous                    |         |             |            |
| Badger Care Health Insurance            |         |             |            |
| Birth to Three Program                  |         |             |            |
| Boscobel Counseling Services            |         |             |            |
| Chiropractic Care                       |         |             |            |
| Grant County Health Department Programs |         |             |            |
| Grant County Social Services Programs   |         |             |            |
| Food Stamp Program                      |         |             |            |
| Early Head Start                        |         |             |            |

|  |                |                    |                   |
|--|----------------|--------------------|-------------------|
| Even Start Family Literacy                             |                |                    |                   |
| Family Advocates (Domestic Abuse Program)              |                |                    |                   |
| The Family Center                                      |                |                    |                   |
| Flu Shots  |                |                    |                   |
| Food Pantry  |                |                    |                   |
| Grant County Extension                                 |                |                    |                   |
| Head Start   |                |                    |                   |
| Health Check   |                |                    |                   |
| Healthy Start  |                |                    |                   |
| Home Care Select                                       |                |                    |                   |
| Home Care to You                                       |                |                    |                   |
| <b>Service</b>   | <b>Helpful</b> | <b>Not Helpful</b> | <b>No Opinion</b> |
| Home Delivered Meals                                   |                |                    |                   |
| Home Health Care – Allied Home Care                    |                |                    |                   |
| Home Health Care – Grant County Health Department      |                |                    |                   |
| Home Health Care – Homeward Bound                      |                |                    |                   |
| Home Health Care – Home Health United                  |                |                    |                   |
| Home Health Care – Mercy Home Care                     |                |                    |                   |
| Home Health Care – Prairie Home Care                   |                |                    |                   |
| Home Visit Program – Even Start Family Literacy        |                |                    |                   |
| Home Visit Program – The Family Center                 |                |                    |                   |
| Home Visit Program – Grant County Health Department    |                |                    |                   |
| Hospice – Home Health United                           |                |                    |                   |
| Hospice – Grant County Health Department               |                |                    |                   |
| Hospice – Prairie Hospice                              |                |                    |                   |
| Immunization Program – Grant County Health Department  |                |                    |                   |
| Lead Blood Screening                                   |                |                    |                   |
| Long-term support (keeping elderly in their homes)     |                |                    |                   |
| Narcotics Anonymous                                    |                |                    |                   |
| Parenting Classes                                      |                |                    |                   |
| Prenatal Care Services                                 |                |                    |                   |
| Pregnancy Testing                                      |                |                    |                   |
| Personal Care Services                                 |                |                    |                   |
| Quitting Smoking Services                              |                |                    |                   |
| Reproductive Health Care Center                        |                |                    |                   |
| Respite Care (for care givers of the elderly/children) |                |                    |                   |
| Sick Child Care  |                |                    |                   |
| Transportation Services                                |                |                    |                   |
| Unified Community Services                             |                |                    |                   |
| Upland Hills   |                |                    |                   |
| Well Woman Program                                     |                |                    |                   |
| Women, Infants, & Children (WIC)                       |                |                    |                   |

**5. Following is a list of non-traditional health-related services. Please check all that you and your family has used in the past or may use in the future.**

- |                    |                          |                          |                   |                          |                          |
|--------------------|--------------------------|--------------------------|-------------------|--------------------------|--------------------------|
| <i>Program:</i>    | <i>Used</i>              | <i>Might use</i>         | <i>Program:</i>   | <i>Used</i>              | <i>Might use</i>         |
| a. Massage therapy | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | e. Acupressure    | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| b. Acupuncture     | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | f. Herbal therapy | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |



- c. Aroma therapy
- d. Yoga

- g. Energy Work
- h. Homeopathic  
Therapy

**C: Health Insurance Coverage**

- 1. Are you and your family members (spouse/partner and dependent children) currently covered by health insurance?**  
 Yes                       No

*Please tell us how the coverage is provided*

|  | <i>You</i>               | <i>Spouse</i>            | <i>Children/<br/>Dependents</i> |
|--|--------------------------|--------------------------|---------------------------------|
| a. Purchased myself                            | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/>        |
| b. Provided through employer/spouse's employer | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/>        |
| c. Medical Assistance/Badger Care Plus         | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/>        |
| d. Medicare                                    | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/>        |
| e. Medicare Replacement Plan                   | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/>        |
| f. Medicare Part D                             | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/>        |
| g. Senior Care                                 | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/>        |
| h. VA Benefits                                 | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/>        |
| i. Other (specify) _____                       | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/>        |

- 2. If you and/or members of your family are not covered by health insurance, check all that apply.**

|                                 | <i>You</i>               | <i>Spouse</i>            | <i>Children/<br/>Dependents</i> |
|---------------------------------|--------------------------|--------------------------|---------------------------------|
| a. Not offered by employer      | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/>        |
| b. Recently changed jobs        | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/>        |
| c. Own/operate a small business | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/>        |
| d. Own/operate a farm           | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/>        |
| e. Denied Coverage              | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/>        |
| f. Not currently employed       | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/>        |
| g. High deductibles & co-pays   | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/>        |
| h. Monthly cost is too high     | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/>        |
| i. Pre-existing condition       | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/>        |
| j. Student status has changed   | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/>        |
| k. Other: _____                 | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/>        |

- 3. Has anyone in your family avoided exams or treatment for the following due to lack of insurance or inability to pay?**

- |                |                              |                             |
|----------------|------------------------------|-----------------------------|
| Dental Care:   | <input type="checkbox"/> Yes | <input type="checkbox"/> No |
| Vision Exams:  | <input type="checkbox"/> Yes | <input type="checkbox"/> No |
| Mental Health: | <input type="checkbox"/> Yes | <input type="checkbox"/> No |

- 4. Has anyone in your family (spouse/partner and dependent children) been unable to obtain dental care in the past year?**  
 Yes                       No

**If yes**, which of the following best describe the reason you and your family member(s) have

been unable to receive care? (Check all that apply):

- Dentists unavailable in Grant County
  - Insurance does not cover dental care
  - Cannot afford it
  - Dentists in Grant County do not take my insurance
  - Dentists in Grant County do not take Medical Assistance or Badger Care Plus
  - Dentists do not take new clients
  - Other (specify):
- 

**5. Does your health insurance cover prescriptions/drugs?**

- Yes, it fully covers prescriptions
- Yes, but I have a co-payment
- No

**6. How much does your family (you, spouse/partner, and dependent children) usually pay per month for prescriptions?**

- \$0.00 – \$20.00
- \$21.00 – \$50.00
- \$51.00 – \$100.00
- \$100.00 - \$200.00
- over \$200.00

**7. In the past 24 months, has lack of coverage for prescription drugs kept you or any member of your family from purchasing needed prescriptions or reducing the amount of medication that is taken?**

- Yes
- No

**8. Are you aware of the Family Care initiative for long term care that the State is proposing?**

- Yes
- No

**If yes**, do you feel that Family Care would benefit you or someone you know?

- Yes
- No

**D: Other Issues**

**1. Please check the box if you or anyone in your family has used any of these programs/ counseling in the past and/or if you might be willing to attend such programs in the future.**

| <u>Program/Counseling:</u> | <i>Used<br/>in past</i>  | <i>Might use<br/>in future</i> |
|----------------------------|--------------------------|--------------------------------|
| a. Prevention & wellness   | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/>       |
| b. Public immunization     | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/>       |
| c. Weight loss             | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/>       |
| d. Nutrition               | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/>       |
| e. Alcohol Abuse program   | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/>       |
| f. Stop Smoking program    | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/>       |
| g. Domestic Abuse          | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/>       |
| h. Drug Abuse Program      | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/>       |
| i. Diabetic education      | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/>       |
| j. Exercise/fitness        | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/>       |

- k. Stress reduction/management
- l. Child Development Screening    
(physical and cognitive)
- m. Sexual Abuse

2. What additional health related programs do you wish to see offered in Grant County? \_\_\_\_\_

3. Where do you turn for most of your health care and safety information? (Check your top three (3) sources)

- |  |  |   |
|--|--|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> a. Doctors                          | <input type="checkbox"/> g. Community Center                         | <input type="checkbox"/> l. School newsletter |
| <input type="checkbox"/> b. Nurses                           | <input type="checkbox"/> h. Family & friends                         | <input type="checkbox"/> m. Newspapers        |
| <input type="checkbox"/> c. Church/Parish nurse              | <input type="checkbox"/> i. Health fairs                             | <input type="checkbox"/> n. Television        |
| <input type="checkbox"/> d. Other health care providers_____ | <input type="checkbox"/> j. Bulletin boards at local grocer/business | <input type="checkbox"/> o. Magazines         |
| <input type="checkbox"/> e. Pharmacists                      | <input type="checkbox"/> k. Local radio stations                     | <input type="checkbox"/> p. Internet/website  |
| <input type="checkbox"/> f. Other_____                       |  | <input type="checkbox"/> q. Health Dept./WIC  |

4. Do you or anyone in your family (spouse/partner and dependent children) use any type of Tobacco? (Check all that apply)

- None       Cigarettes       Cigar       Chewing tobacco       Pipe

5. Is it difficult for you to serve healthy/nutritious meals to your family?

- Yes       No

*If yes*, which of the following best describes the reason. (Check all that apply)

- My family doesn't like fruits/vegetables
- My family doesn't like breads/grains
- Healthy meals are too hard to make/take too much time
- Healthy foods cost too much
- There isn't much variety to choose from at the grocery store
- Not enough fruits/vegetables available
- Not enough bread/grains available
- Prefer "fast food"
- Need more information about nutrition
- Other (please specify: )\_\_\_\_\_

6. Do you feel that Grant County Schools offer nutritious foods to our children?

- Yes       No

7. Do you consider yourself to be physically active (30 minutes or more 5 days per week)?

- Yes       No

*If no*, what stops you from getting regular exercise? (Check all that apply)

- |  |  |
|--|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Too Expensive                 | <input type="checkbox"/> Not enough time,  |
| <input type="checkbox"/> No program/facility available | <input type="checkbox"/> Not enough recreational areas<br>(parks, pools, trails etc) |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Physician restriction,        | <input type="checkbox"/> Don't know what type of exercise is best for me             |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Lack of child-care,           | <input type="checkbox"/> Other (Please specify: )_____                               |

**8. Have you or your family taken steps to prepare for an emergency?**

- Yes       No

*If yes*, which of the following have you done?

- |  |   |
|--|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Stockpile food            | <input type="checkbox"/> Stockpile water                                  |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Stockpile medications     | <input type="checkbox"/> Created a contact list                           |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Created an emergency plan | <input type="checkbox"/> Have one or more of radio, flashlight, batteries |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Copied important papers   | <input type="checkbox"/> Other _____                                      |

**9. How often do you wear a safety belt when driving or riding in a car or other motor vehicle?**

- Always       Nearly Always       Sometimes       Seldom       Never

**10. If you have children, how often do you restrain them in a car safety seat or booster seat appropriate for their age and size (Infants seats and booster seats for children under 8 yrs old, less than 80 pounds, under 4'9" tall)?**

- Always       Nearly Always       Sometimes       Seldom       Never
- Do not have children in this category

**11. How many alcoholic beverages (wine, beer, mixed drinks) do you drink in a week?**

- |   |   |
|---|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> I do not drink alcoholic beverages | <input type="checkbox"/> 11-14 alcoholic drinks/week        |
| <input type="checkbox"/> 1-3 alcoholic drinks/week          | <input type="checkbox"/> 15-20 alcoholic drinks/week        |
| <input type="checkbox"/> 3-5 alcoholic drinks/week          | <input type="checkbox"/> More than 20 alcoholic drinks/week |
| <input type="checkbox"/> 6-10 alcoholic drinks/week         |   |

**12. In the past five years (since January 2002) have you experienced any injuries that made you go to the doctor or think about seeing one?**

- Yes       No

*If yes*, which of the following best describes the kind of injury?

- |   |   |
|---|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Farm-related         | <input type="checkbox"/> Motor vehicle (auto/truck)     |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Bicycle              | <input type="checkbox"/> Work-related injury            |
| <input type="checkbox"/> In-home injury       | <input type="checkbox"/> Fall                           |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Sports-related       | <input type="checkbox"/> ATV                            |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Snowmobile           | <input type="checkbox"/> Motor cycle                    |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Fire-arm/gun related | <input type="checkbox"/> Other (please describe): _____ |

**13. Have you or anyone in your family (spouse/partner and dependent children) been told by a doctor that you have one or more of the following? (Check all that apply)**

- |  |   |
|--|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Arthritis   | <input type="checkbox"/> Kidney Disease           |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Allergies (specify: _____)                                      | <input type="checkbox"/> Alzheimer's/<br>dementia |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Osteoporosis  | <input type="checkbox"/> Cancer                   |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Emphysema or Chronic Bronchitis                                 | <input type="checkbox"/> Asthma                   |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Other lung disease or chronic breathing problem                 | <input type="checkbox"/> Diabetes                 |
| <input type="checkbox"/> High blood pressure or hypertension                             | <input type="checkbox"/> Stroke                   |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Heart Disease   | <input type="checkbox"/> Heart Attack             |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Other Chronic Condition of the Heart<br>or circulatory problems | <input type="checkbox"/> High Cholesterol         |

**14. Have you or anyone in your family (spouse/partner and dependent children) been told by a doctor, psychologist, or psychiatrist that you have one or more of the following?**

**(Check all that apply)**

- |  |   |
|--|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Anxiety Disorder            | <input type="checkbox"/> Panic Disorder           |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Bi-Polar (Manic/Depression) | <input type="checkbox"/> Schizophrenia            |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Bulimia                     | <input type="checkbox"/> Anorexia                 |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Psychosis                   | <input type="checkbox"/> Drug Dependency          |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Victim of Sexual Abuse      | <input type="checkbox"/> Victim of Domestic Abuse |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Alcoholism                  | <input type="checkbox"/> Depression               |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Other (specify) _____       |   |

**15. Is it difficult for you and/or your family members to find care of your sick school-aged or day-care aged child/children while you go to work?**

- Yes       No       Does not apply (skip to 16)

*If yes*, which of the following best describes what you do most often

- Send the child to school/day care anyway
- Miss work to stay home with the child without pay
- Use a paid sick day
- Use paid time off (non sick days)
- I can't afford to stay at home with a sick child
- Child stays with neighbor/relative
- Other (specify): \_\_\_\_\_

**16. Do you have a need for respite care (temporary outside care) for an elderly, disabled, or chronically ill family member you care for?**

- Yes       No

*If yes*, which of the following best describes your use of respite care? (Check all that apply)

- I am generally satisfied with the program that I use
- I do not know what respite programs are available in Grant County
- I do not know how to obtain respite care services
- Respite services cost too much
- Schedule is not convenient
- Other (Specify): \_\_\_\_\_

E. **Information About You**

1. **What is your gender?**       Male       Female

2. **How old were you on your last birthday?** Age: \_\_\_\_\_ years

3. **What best describes your race/ethnicity?**

- |  |   |
|--|---|
| <input type="radio"/> White                                | <input type="radio"/> African American                    |
| <input type="radio"/> American Indian or Alaskan Native    | <input type="radio"/> Asian                               |
| <input type="radio"/> Hispanic Latino (regardless of race) | <input type="radio"/> Native Hawaiian or Pacific Islander |

**4. What is the highest level of school you have completed?**

- a. Eighth grade or less
- b. Some high school (no diploma)
- c. High school graduate or GED certificate
- d. Some technical / vocational school
- e. Technical school graduate
- f. Some college or associate degree
- g. College graduate
- h. Post-graduate degree
- i. Other (specify) \_\_\_\_\_

**5. Number of members in household (you, your spouse/partner and dependent children): \_\_\_\_\_**

**6. Number of dependents under age 18:**

| <i>Age</i>      | <i># In your household</i> |
|-----------------|----------------------------|
| Birth – 5 years |                            |
| 6 – 14 years    |                            |
| 15 – 18 years   |                            |

**7. What is your marital status?**

- a. Single – never married
- b. Separated/Divorced
- c. Married
- d. Widowed
- e. Member of unmarried couple
- f. Living with a life partner

**8. What is your Household Income?**

- Up to \$15,000
- \$15,001 – \$25,000
- \$25,001 – \$35,000
- \$35,001 – \$45,000
- \$45,001 – \$50,000
- \$50,001 – \$60,000
- \$60,001 - \$70,000
- \$70,001 – \$80,000
- \$80,001 - \$90,000
- \$90,001 - \$100,000
- Over \$100,000

**9. Would you say that in general your health is:**

- Excellent
- Very good
- Good
- Fair
- Poor
- Do not know/not sure

**10. Now thinking about your physical health including physical illness and injury, for how many days during the past 30 days was your physical health not good?**

\_\_\_\_\_ days

**11. Now thinking about your mental health which includes stress, depression, and problems with emotion, for how many days during the past 30 days was your physical health not good?**

\_\_\_\_\_ days

**12. During the past 30 days, for about how many days did poor physical or mental health keep you from doing your usual activities, such as self-care, work, or recreation?**

\_\_\_\_\_ days

13. What is your zip code?

|  |  |  |  |  |
|--|--|--|--|--|
|  |  |  |  |  |
|--|--|--|--|--|

***Additional Comments:***

***Thank you for completing this survey!***

**Please return your completed survey in the enclosed envelope to:  
Grant County Health Department  
111 South Jefferson Street  
Lancaster, WI 53813-1672**

**Appendix B –Focus Group Interviews Instrument**

**Focus Group Interview Instrument**

*Grant County*  
**Key Informant Interview Questionnaire**

Key Informant's Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

City: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone Number: \_\_\_\_\_ FAX: \_\_\_\_\_

E-mail: \_\_\_\_\_

Occupation: \_\_\_\_\_

Gender: \_\_\_\_\_ Age: \_\_\_\_\_

Do you work in Grant County? \_\_\_\_\_Yes \_\_\_\_\_No

Do you live in Grant County? \_\_\_\_\_Yes \_\_\_\_\_No Length of time (In  
Years)\_\_\_\_\_



**Opening Statement.** The Grant County Health Department is currently in the process of completing a comprehensive community needs assessment. The needs assessment process incorporates a survey mailed to randomly selected Grant County households, interviews of community leaders and health care providers, and four focus groups. The results of this process will help community leaders plan for the future health care needs of Grant County residents.

You have been selected as a key informant and today through your interview we hope to begin to determine Grant County residents' perceptions about health concerns, issues, and resources for the county. We have developed a series of structured open-ended questions that will help us to determine how we can best meet future health care needs for the people of Grant County. For the purpose of this study, when we ask you questions about your community, please use Grant County as the community. If some of the questions seem irrelevant to your situation, please try to respond in the best way you can. If any questions seem unclear or confusing, do not hesitate to ask for clarification.

I will be taking notes during your interview so that we may compile the results of this part of the assessment in a final report to the community. Your responses will be reported as a composite of the entire group that is interviewed. Your individual responses will be kept confidential.

Do you have any questions at this time?

7. I will begin by asking a few questions so that we can gain a better understanding of you and your life in Grant County. Can you tell me how long have you been a resident of Grant County and what type of work you do? (Check information above)
8. What are three or four aspects of your community (Grant County) that you feel make it a healthy place to live?
9. What do you think are the major health and health care issues facing **Grant County** at this time? Why do you think these are major issues?
10. What do you think are the greatest **environmental health threats or problems** in Grant County?
11. Of the issues that you identified (or any additional issues that you did not), are there any that you feel are specific concerns for **families/children** in Grant County at this time? Why do you think these are the major issues for families/children?
12. Of those problems or issues that you have identified, what do you perceive as the **one most compelling** health issue/problem facing Grant County **families/children**?
13. If you had a golden opportunity (or had all the human, financial, and other resources you needed), how would you address your most compelling issue? What would you do to address it?
14. Do you believe there are sufficient resources available in Grant County to **maintain or promote the health of its residents/families**? Why?

Yes \_\_\_\_\_

No \_\_\_\_\_

a. If no, what is lacking? Please explain your answer.

15. Do you believe there are sufficient resources available in Grant County to **maintain or promote the health of the environment**? Why?

Yes \_\_\_\_\_ No \_\_\_\_\_

b. If no, what is lacking? Please explain your answer.

16. Thinking about the current health care system in Grant County, what you perceive as problems or issues, and what you see as insufficiencies, where do you, as a community want to be (related to health) in five years?

17. The interview is now finished. Do you have any additional comments or further information that you would like to add about the health care system or health in general in Grant County that you think would be helpful to understanding your community?

**Thank you very much for participating in this process!**