

# Around The Area

## The Marion County Community Health Assess

Creating a healthier, more vibrant community does not happen in a vacuum. It requires collaboration, determination, and information.

Which is why the Florida Department of Health in Marion County and its partners at AdventHealth Ocala and the WellFlorida Council are seeking the community's input for our new health survey.

As of today, we are inviting the Marion County residents to visit [tinyurl.com/MarionHealthSurvey](http://tinyurl.com/MarionHealthSurvey) to help us learn which health and wellness issues are most important to them. The survey takes about 10 minutes to complete.

A separate survey is available to gain feedback from local healthcare providers. That can be found at [tinyurl.com/MarionProviderSurvey](http://tinyurl.com/MarionProviderSurvey).

Responses are gathered anonymously, protecting the privacy of respondents. The information provided by the respondents will be compiled in a report that will be released this fall. Community leaders will use that report to chart strategies to make all of Marion County healthier.

In years past, AdventHealth Ocala also has done its own assessment. For 2022, DOH-Marion and AdventHealth decided to combine forces to better gauge our community's overall health and wellness needs. WellFlorida Council, our region's health council and a consultant for health causes in our area, is facilitating the survey.

"Our partnership with AdventHealth in conducting the Community Health Assessment is a force multiplier in working toward a healthier Marion County," said Mark Landier, administrator of the Department of Health in Marion County.

"But the process starts with the residents of our

community. The assessment is like a GPS system guiding us on how to improve the health and wellness of all of Marion County. But we need the community's help in determining which direction to go. That's why I encourage residents to assist us by taking a few minutes to complete the survey."

Kimberly Williams, director of Community Benefit for AdventHealth West Florida Division, said, "AdventHealth is committed to building a stronger, healthier community in Marion County and we look forward to working with the Marion County Department of Health to identify and better understand the needs of the communities we serve."

## LWHS Class Of 1982 40th Reunion

Are you from the Lake Weir High School Class of 1982? Are you a teacher from Lake Weir High School? If so, Save the Dates: June 10 - 12, 2022, Ocala, Florida. we are planning the 40th Year Reunion.

If you are interested in attending and getting periodic updates, please send your name and contact information to [lakeweirclassof1982@gmail.com](mailto:lakeweirclassof1982@gmail.com) to stay informed.

You can also follow us on Facebook at <https://www.facebook.com/groups/95563872241>

## Are Your Loved Ones Receiving The Care They Need?

According to the National Alliance of Mental Illness, depression affects more than 6.5 million of the 35 million Americans aged 65 or older. Most people in this stage of life with depression have been experiencing episodes of the illness during much of their lives. Others may experience a first onset in late life—even in their 80s and 90s. Depression in older persons is closely associated with dependency and disability and causes great distress for the individual and the family.

"Medicare beneficiaries with severe mental illness have complex health needs and often don't adhere to their treatment plans, resulting in exacerbations that require high cost services," said Katie Hartman, RN, BSN, Branch Manager for Angels Care Home Health in Lincoln.

Did you know that patients with clinical depression and other psychiatric diagnoses may have no physical limitations to qualify for home health skilled services? Some of the common diagnoses served by Home Health, include:

- Alzheimer's disease and other dementias
- Anxiety disorder
- Bipolar disorder
- Depression
- Obsessive-compulsive disorder
- Panic disorder
- Schizophrenia
- Social anxiety phobia

"Psychiatric diagnoses most likely qualify for home health care services, which integrate behavioral health with skilled nursing to positively impact quality of care," added Hartman. "A reduction in costs and better patient outcomes are achieved."

Through its Behavioral Health at Home program, Angels Care can address the following:

- Medication Education and Compliance Monitoring
- Administration of Long-Acting Injectable psychotropics
- Monitoring of Therapeutic Drug Levels
- Counseling
- Patient education on coping skills, problem solving, and social skills.
- Transitional Care for patients new to Assisted Living
- Caregiver Education and Support
- All visits done by a Behavioral Health nurse (RN)
- Standardized testing to include Montreal Cognitive Assessment, PHQ-9 Depression screening,

Hamilton, Anxiety Test, AIMS scale

If you have a friend, family member or loved one that is experiencing depression as a result of a chronic illness or other condition, contact Angels Care in Ocala today at 352-854-2041 or [angelscarehealth.com](http://angelscarehealth.com) to learn more about the Behavioral Health at Home program and how we can help you. At Angels Care...We Serve Patients!



# Do you still need health insurance?

You may qualify for a Special Enrollment Period (SEP)

## What qualifies me for a SEP?



Loss of employer health coverage



Got married or had a baby



Changes in residence



For free assistance contact:



386-230-9400



[navigator@srahec.org](mailto:navigator@srahec.org)