



Sheree L. Hukill, Project Director
Integrated Concepts, Inc.
417 West Rogers Boulevard
Skiatook, Oklahoma 74040
www.iconceptsinco.com
www.washingtoncountywellness.org

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

WASHINGTON COUNTY WELLNESS INITIATIVE DISTRIBUTING COUNTY-WIDE COMMUNITY HEALTH CARE NEEDS SURVEY

Win a Chance to Receive Up to \$200 in Gift Cards

Bartlesville, OK (November 15, 2014) – Washington County Wellness Initiative, Inc. (WCWI), is a grassroots collaboration seeking to strengthen and transform the public health infrastructure through community-based action. As part of their Health Resources and Services Administration Rural Health Network Development Planning Grant project, WCWI is distributing a county-wide Community Health Needs Survey. The assessment will aid WCWI in focusing on ways to build capacity, coordinate care, and increase access to health care for Washington County communities.

"The Community Health Needs Survey is one of four surveys that will be used to obtain feedback about the current availability and quality of health care from the community," said M'Liss Jenkins, WCWI Coordinator. Jenkins states: "Our local health care providers and workgroups, greatly rely on information from the community to identify health care needs and to improve the services available." Everyone who completes the survey will be eligible to receive up to \$200 in Braum's gift cards.

In addition to the Community Needs Survey, WCWI is also distributing surveys to the providers currently listed in the Free and Low-Cost Healthcare Resource Guide, WCWI Workgroups, Primary Care Providers, and WCWI Sector Representatives. These surveys will be focused specifically on the needs and contributions of these groups. To follow-up on the group-specific surveys, WCWI will conduct four focus groups during the first few months of 2015. The data received from these surveys and focus groups, along with the information from the Community Needs Survey, will be utilized to create the 2015 Community Needs Assessment.

Washington County Wellness Initiative, Inc.

The residents of Washington County came together in January, 2004 to talk about community needs and concerns. Forty-five individuals attended the first meeting from various community sectors including concerned citizens, businesses, government, social services, schools, law enforcement, neighborhoods, faith community, youth serving organizations, health care, and tribal. The group identified areas of concern which included: access for adult indigent health care, lack of affordable health care, lack of adult counseling and mental health issues, need for employee health/wellness programs, lack of affordable housing, lack of dental care, lack of transportation, high costs of medications, need for youth prevention programs, late/no prenatal care especially in the Hispanic population, as well as, medical/health literacy issues among Hispanics, need for advocacy on health issues, daycare for teen moms, children not getting immunized, and the need to educate voters on current issues. In an effort to respond to these concerns, the group formed the WCWI with a mission to

strengthen and transform the public health infrastructure in Washington County. The WCWI is an Oklahoma Turning Point Coalition formed as part of the Oklahoma State Department of Health, Office of Public Health Innovation, Oklahoma Turning Point Community Partnerships initiative. WCWI has grown to a diverse group of 190 public health partners.

The survey is also available at www.wcwiok.org. Surveys can be completed online or completed using the paper version and returned to WCWI, P.O. Box 3812, Bartlesville, Oklahoma 74006 or the Bartlesville Public Library at the Reference Desk.

For more information please contact:

Sheree L. Hukill, HRSA Grant Project Director
INTEGRATED CONCEPTS, INC
417 West Rogers Boulevard
Skiatook, OK 74070

Phone: 918-629-9742

Email: sheree.hukill@iconceptsync.com