Surveying Health Conditions in Wisconsin

SHOW surveys nearly 1,000 Wisconsin residents each year to identify needs and target resources.

► Description: The Survey of the Health of Wisconsin (SHOW) gathers data on critical health conditions in Wisconsin and provides a resource for education and training of undergraduate, graduate and medical students.

► Relevance: Findings from SHOW present a comprehensive picture of the health of Wisconsin residents. SHOW evaluates the success of programs and policies and helps to target resources where they are most needed.

► Results: The program has collected neighborhood data on food and nutrition and statewide objective measures of height, weight and blood pressure. It partnered with the state health department to conduct the first-ever oral health screenings of Wisconsin adults and collected blood samples from Great Lakes fishers, exploring their exposure to persistent chemicals such as PCBs and dioxins. The program has established a biorepository to support research exploring individual susceptibility to environmental threats and to translate clinical findings into population health programs.

SHOW partnered with Wood and La Crosse counties and Milwaukee’s Lindsay Heights neighborhood to conduct targeted community assessments. SHOW has received more than 100 data requests and built an inventory of 50-plus publications on topics such as the impact of the statewide smoking ban on population exposure to second-hand smoke. SHOW staff has presented and disseminated results at more than 150 local, state, national and international conferences. The program has also worked with 15 graduate-level students from UW-Madison, UW-La Crosse and Viterbo University.

The program received a $5.5 million grant from the National Heart Lung and Blood Institute for health disparities research and $500,000 from the National Centers for Disease Control and Prevention for community-based evaluation. SHOW will continue to build its fee-for-service infrastructure, with ancillary study income to date totaling nearly $1 million.

SURVEY OF THE HEALTH OF WISCONSIN (SHOW)

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Grant Program: Targeted Education and Research
Award: $3,825,145 over three years