



The Portage County LIFE Report is a comprehensive overview of the quality of life in Portage County. Over a ten-month period, community partners from the county work together to assess needs in our community and encourage action plans to address the most urgent challenges.

Purpose of the LIFE Report

- Identify community strengths, challenges and priorities that help guide and mobilize action to improve life in Portage County
- Be an effective tool in raising awareness in our community on quality of life issues and to monitor trends and underlying causes
- Serve as a resource: a centralized easily accessible source of data to non-profit organizations, policy makers, government entities, faith based organizations, foundations, corporations and others

Overview of the LIFE Report

The LIFE Report project is guided by a steering committee and sub-committees comprised of more than 70 Portage County community leaders and volunteers from local business, government, education, public safety and health, and social service organizations.

Community input is obtained through a survey sent to 4,000 Portage County residents and a targeted survey distributed to approximately 1,000 low-income residents. In addition, information will be gathered through listening sessions with key stakeholders in the community and an analysis of key community indicators.

The report will also identify top priorities and “Calls to Action” to serve as a catalyst for continued discussion and progress on critical issues in our community. The last LIFE Report was conducted in 2012, and has proven to be a valuable resource for groups in the community who have used it for decision-making, priority setting, grant writing, recruitment purposes, and program development.

Benefits of the LIFE Report

- The LIFE Report will be used as a reference and foundation to improve lives in Portage County
- By tracking data we will effectively address key priorities
- Continued tracking ensures effective use of resources
- An investment in this project has a great return . . . a stronger community

Report Categories:

- Basic Needs and Supports
- Community Safety
- Economic Environment
- Education
- Environment, Energy & Transportation
- Health and Wellness
- Community Engagement

Sponsors

- **Partners:** United Way of Portage County | Saint Michael’s Hospital | Portage County Government | Portage County Health and Human Services | Aspirus
- **Other Sponsors:** Marshfield Clinic Health System | Community Foundation of Central Wisconsin | Wisconsin Public Service | UnitedHealthcare Community Plan