



NEWS RELEASE
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LiveWell to mark 10 years with new mission, name

(Lawrence, KS) – LiveWell Lawrence is marking its tenth anniversary with a new mission to help build communities where everyone can thrive in Douglas County. To reflect its work, it has a new name: LiveWell Douglas County.

“LiveWell has been a strong community-based coalition leading change for the past 10 years,” said LiveWell Chair-elect Christina Holt, of the KU Center for Community Health and Development. “We are updating our name to reflect our desire to build communities that support the health and well-being of all Douglas County residents.”

When LiveWell was founded in 2008, it had 16 members and its work centered on improving access to healthy foods, physical activities and tobacco-free lifestyles in Lawrence. Since then, the membership has grown to more than 150 people and its work has expanded to include prevention of sexual violence and health equity.

“LiveWell is committed to being an inclusive coalition, not just by expanding our geographic reach from Lawrence to Douglas County, but by doing a better job of listening to community needs and supporting communities impacted by health inequities,” said Chair Jeff Severin, of the KU Center for Sustainability.

Among the coalition’s goals for 2018-2019:

- Supporting development of the new five-year Douglas County Community Health Improvement Plan.
- Improving health equity by engaging impacted residents in discussions and decision-making.

To help achieve these goals, LiveWell is hosting a Community Health Planning Meeting from 5:30 p.m. to 7 p.m. Thursday, July 12, at the Douglas County Fairgrounds in Building 21, 2120 Harper St. Participants will help set priorities for increasing access to nutritious foods and physical activity in Douglas County. It is open to the public and food will be provided. This is a kickoff event to a series of meetings that will be held this summer.

For more information about the Community Health Planning Meeting, follow LiveWell’s Facebook or Twitter accounts at LiveWellDGKS or contact Christina Holt at 785-864-0719 or chh@ku.edu.