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Report to be released on Sarasota County health ranking

The Robert Wood Johnson Foundation and University of Wisconsin will release the "County Health Rankings – Mobilizing Action Toward Community Health" Report tomorrow, Wed., Feb. 17 on www.countyhealthrankings.org.

Following the national media briefing in Washington, D.C., local health and county officials will discuss the report and answer questions about Sarasota County's ranking in the Florida report.

Time: 1–2 p.m., Wed., Feb. 17
Conference call number: 888-808-6959
Conference phone code: 7681920529

Media also may listen to the conference call at the Sarasota County Health Department, 2200 Ringling Blvd., Sarasota. Sign-in at the desk at the School Avenue entrance. Staff will direct media to the room for the conference call. Media are urged to be on time for the call. This is not a news conference.

Panelists will be available to provide comments:

- Dianne Shipley, public information officer, Sarasota County Health Department.
- Kate Irwin, data and indicators coordinator, Sarasota County Openly Plans for Excellence (SCOPE).
- Kari Ellingstad, M.P.H, director, Community Health Improvement Partnership (CHIP).
- John Hickey, air quality and storage tank program manager, Sarasota County government.
- Chuck Henry, R.S., M.P.A., environmental administrator; Sarasota County Health Department.
- Pam Meunier, substance abuse and mental health policy coordinator, Sarasota County Health and Human Services.
- Pauline Tracy, human services policy coordinator, Sarasota County Health and Human Services.

Other conference call resources will be Scott Ferguson, public information officer, Sarasota County School District; Kim Savage, public information officer with Sarasota Memorial Healthcare System; Kathy Turner, director of marketing for Venice Regional

Medical Center; Linda Stone, Ph.D., program administrator for Sarasota Healthcare Access, and Scott Pritchard, MPH, county epidemiologist.

Toll charges for the conference will be paid by the Sarasota County Health Department.

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