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Link to survey: <https://ashlandclimate.org/shipsurvey/>



Tell the State Your Priorities for Health Ashland Climate Collaborative Seeks Community Input

ASHLAND - Every five years, Oregon's Public Health Department updates its State Health Improvement Plan (SHIP), also known as Healthier Together Oregon (HTO). This year, state authorities have started to gather feedback to update the plan by working with 11 community-based organizations. Locally, the nonprofit [Ashland Climate Collaborative](#) will undertake this work on behalf of the state health plan.

The goal of Healthier Together Oregon is to ensure all Oregonians can achieve optimal health. Local feedback gathered this spring will be shared with a state steering committee, which will review responses and decide which priorities will be included in the updated health plan for 2025-2029.

Be sure to let health authorities know what is important to you! You can fill out [an online survey](#) at AshlandClimate.org, talk to a field worker at local events like the Tuesday Growers Market, or send an email to info@ashlanclimate.org to seek more information. You do NOT need to give your name or other identifying information to be part of the survey.

There are two parts to the information-gathering project. The first identifies which of the proposed state health priorities you feel are the most important. Residents will choose from a list of seven proposed priorities. This section is due by April 26. A second part of the project seeks more detailed information about the chosen priorities and will happen mid-May to July 30. You can participate in either, or both parts.

“This is a wonderful opportunity to have your voice heard at the state level,” said Erin O’Kelley Muck , executive director of the Ashland Climate Collaborative. “What is important to you and your family? Every voice is important and we urge you to participate. Please take three minutes to complete [this survey](#) online now.”

You can also share your opinions by talking to Ashland Climate Collaborative representatives when you encounter them in the field.

Oregonians will be asked to rank their top three priorities from the following list - or you can add your own priority item. Proposed priorities this year include:

- **Healthy environments** - To reduce threats to human health from exposure to environmental and climate change hazards where people live, work, play and learn.
- **Emergency preparedness and response** - State, local and community organizations work together to prepare for and respond to public health emergencies.
- **Health across the lifespan** - People have different health and prevention needs that change with things like age, life circumstances and environment. This priority supports these needs with policies and programs that keep people healthy and prevent illness.

- **Disease prevention and health promotion** - Prevention of chronic, acute and communicable diseases is the foundation of public health work.
- **Physical, mental, and community safety** - Everyone deserves safety and to be treated with dignity. Public health plays a key role in preventing, addressing, and tracking violence and abuse.
- **Mental well-being and behavioral health** - People in Oregon deserve mental and behavioral health care delivered in culturally and linguistically appropriate ways. Public Health helps improve mental and behavioral health by creating policies and practices that can affect many people. It focuses on preventing problems and finding solutions that help the whole community.
- **Equitable social conditions** - Equitable social conditions are the things in the places where people are born, live, learn, work, play, worship, and grow old that affect their health and well-being. While we can't control all of these factors in public health, it's important to recognize them and try to include them in our work whenever we can.

For more information about the state SHIP steering committee members, [please click here](#).

For more information about Ashland Climate Collaborative's role in gathering feedback for this project, please email info@ashlandclimate.org.

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