

# Public Health Newsletter

MARION COUNTY



## Marion County Public Health

### Healthy Hometowns Project - Combat Cancer Prevention and Screening!

Marion County Public Health has received the Notice of Intent to Award from the State of Iowa to lead this contract and we are very excited!

Through this initiative, we will partner with local public health departments across the state of Iowa to promote early detection, prevention, and screenings- especially for residents in rural communities.

Iowa currently ranks second in cancer incidence rates in the nation! Early detection is very important.

### Focus Areas

- Bring screening & education close to where people live!**
- Improve access to care through telehealth & financial assistance!**
- Reduce cancer risks like radon exposure!**

We will purchase in home radon test kits for rural Iowa households, provide financial assistance for radon mitigation services, offer scholarships for contractors to become certified mitigation specialists and measurement specialists, distribute FIT kits for colorectal cancer screenings, and purchase dermatoscopes for healthcare workers to provide skin cancer screenings.

“Iowa’s cancer rates have been concerning for some time and the Healthy Hometowns Combat Cancer Prevention and Screening program enables us to fight back. We will promote early detection and screening, educate the public on available resources, and ensure no one walks alone. Local public health departments have spent decades serving their communities and we are grateful to partner with departments across the state through this program, supporting each other and caring for our residents along the way.”

Public Health Director, Linsey Spoelstra

#### Marion County Programs/Services

- Care for Yourself
- Communicable Disease Follow up
- Environmental Health
- Foot Care Clinics
- General Assistance
- Immunizations
- Preparedness (Emergency Response)
- Private Well Grants
- Senior Meals
- Tobacco Cessation

#### Community Education

- CPR/First Aid Classes
- Dementia Friends Sessions
- Narcan Training
- Stop the Bleed Course



# The Friendship League of Marion County!

The Friendship League is a welcoming social group for adults with special needs that provides opportunities to play games, build friendships, and connect with others in a supportive community where everyone is included.



**What:** Beanbag Baseball

**When:** Knoxville: Wednesday, March 25 @ 10:00am  
Marion County Public Health  
2003 N. Lincoln Street

Pella: Thursday, March 26 @ 10:00am  
Pella Manor (West Social Room)  
608 E. 2<sup>nd</sup> Street

**Who:** Adults with special needs living at home or independently, accompanied by a family member or caregiver.

## ALERT IOWA



**Scan the QR code to sign up for Marion County/Alert Iowa Alerts!**

This is a free service provided by Marion County and the state of Iowa. In the event of an emergency or severe weather, an alert will be sent to the phone number and/or email address provided by voice, text and/or email.



Scan the QR code  
to receive this  
newsletter electronically!

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### SPECIAL EVENTS

Board of Health Meeting  
Marion County Public Health Training Room  
Tuesday, March 17, 2026 @ 5:00pm