

## **Mid-South Congregational Health Survey**

### **TALKING POINTS FOR PASTORS**

#### **What is the Mid-South Congregational Health Survey?**

- This survey is being provided to churches in the Mid-South region as part of a study to understand the health needs of congregations in this area.
- We hope that knowing more about your congregation's health needs we can assist you in addressing health needs that are important to your congregation and your community.
- The survey will be taken by congregation members and leaders in each participating church. It includes questions about the people who take the survey (age, race, marital status); questions about your church (denomination, zip code, attendance); questions about health needs in your congregation and community; and questions about programs or services available in your church that can be used to address those health needs

#### **Who Developed the Survey?**

The survey was developed and is being shared through a partnership between:

- Congregational Health Network of Methodist Le Bonheur Healthcare (CHN)
- Congregational Health Promoters Program (CHP)
- University of Memphis School of Public Health (UofM)

#### **What Benefit is there to Your Church Participating?**

- You will have access to the findings from your church, which you can use to develop and grow your health ministry efforts.
  - These findings will provide you with tangible ways to meet the needs of your congregation.
  - Participation provides you access to tailored resources based on your congregation's needs (e.g., future workshops on grant writing, workshops on specific health needs, notice of opportunities related to your identified needs).
- Congregational Health Network navigators also can help your congregation develop strategies and programs to address needs identified by the survey.

#### **What Risks are there in Your Church Participating?**

- There is a rare but potential risk of loss of confidentiality due to your participation in this study.
  - The survey responses will be confidential
  - There will be no identifying information attached to the survey responses
  - Participants will not put their name or the name of their church on the survey
  - In presentations of findings, we will not present individual names, church names, or information that would make it easy to identify an individual or church.
  - All findings provided to churches will be summarized with any individual or identifying information removed.
- Participants completing the survey may become tired, uncomfortable, or emotional from answering survey questions.
- Participation is voluntary. If you choose to not participate, your decision will not result in any penalty or affect our rights, or the relationship between your church, Methodist Le Bonheur Health Care, Church Health, University of Memphis, or University of Tennessee Health Science Center

#### **If Your Church Participates, how will Church Members be Selected to Complete the Survey?**

- One percent of your congregation will take the survey

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- If your church has 500 or fewer members, 5 members will take the survey
- If your church has 3000 or more members, 30 members will take the survey
- Members who take the survey must be:
  - At least of 18 years old
  - Able to read, write and comprehend English
  - Willing to spend 20-30 minutes taking the survey.
- The pastor or pastor's representative should take the survey.
- Additional survey participants should be:
  - Active in the congregation
  - Diverse in age, gender, role in the church
  - Participants must be willing to spend the time and effort to answer the survey honestly and completely
- The group who completes the survey should be a good representation of your congregation.

**Do you have Additional Questions about the Study?**

- Study Team Leader: Dr. Brook Harmon at [bharmon1@memphis.edu](mailto:bharmon1@memphis.edu) or [harmonbe1@appstate.edu](mailto:harmonbe1@appstate.edu)
- CHN NAVIGATOR INFO HERE/CHP STAFF INFO HERE