## Mission:

To protect, promote & improve the health of all people in Florida through integrated state, county & community efforts.



John H. Armstrong, MD, FACS

State Surgeon General & Secretary

**Rick Scott** 

Governor

Vision: To be the Healthiest State in the Nation

## FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

January 5, 2015

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## Florida Department of Health Recognizes 2015 Healthy Weight Community Champions

TALLAHASSEE - The Florida Department of Health is recognizing 65 communities as the 2015 Healthy Weight Community Champions. Florida's county and municipal governments play an important role in increasing the prevalence of healthy weight in their jurisdictions. Local governments can implement a variety of evidence-based policies that increase physical activity and improve nutrition. Between August and December 2014, local governments were invited to submit best practice policies they have implemented in their jurisdictions over the year. A list of the 2015 Champion Communities and best practices can be found online at: HealthiestWeightFlorida.com/recognition.

"The health of Florida's children, adults, and families improves with local solutions," said State Surgeon General and Secretary of Health Dr. John Armstrong. "The number of recognized counties and municipalities for 2015 has nearly doubled from last year and shows the continuing commitment of local governments to shape healthy communities."

The Community Champions program is part of the Department's Healthiest Weight Florida initiative. Healthiest Weight Florida is a public-private collaboration bringing together state agencies, not-for-profit organizations, businesses and entire communities to help Florida's children and adults make consistent, informed choices about healthy eating and active living.

## 2015 Healthy Weight Community Champions:

Alachua County	City of Live Oak	City of Tampa
Broward County	City of Madison	City of West Miami
Calhoun County	City of New Smyrna Beach	City of Weston
City of Apalachicola	City of Newberry	City of Winter Haven
City of Archer	City of Oakland Park	City of Winter Park
City of Bradenton	City of Orlando	Collier County
City of Cape Coral	City of Ormond Beach	Columbia County
City of Clearwater	City of Oviedo	Gulf County
City of Coconut Creek	City of Palm Coast	Hamilton County
City of Crescent City	City of Panama City	Hendry County
City of Deerfield Beach	City of Pembroke Pines	Hillsborough County
City of Doral	City of Pensacola	Indian River County
City of Fernandina Beach	City of Perry	Jefferson County
City of Ft. Lauderdale	City of Pinellas Park	Liberty County
City of Ft. Walton Beach	City of Plantation	Marion County
City of Hawthorne	City of Port St. Joe	Nassau County
City of Jacksonville	City of Safety Harbor	Polk County
City of Jasper	City of Sanford	Putnam County
City of Lakeland	City of St. Cloud	Sarasota County
City of Largo	City of Tallahassee	St. Johns County

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Town of Penney Farms
Town of Pomona Park

Town of Ponce Inlet Town of White Springs Wakulla County

The Department works to protect, promote and improve the health of all people in Florida through integrated state, county and community efforts. During 2014, the Department is recognizing 125 years of public health in Florida with educational opportunities and events. Please visit <a href="https://www.FLHealth125.gov">www.FLHealth125.gov</a> for more information.

Follow us on Twitter at @HealthyFla and on Facebook. For more information about the Florida Department of Health please visit <a href="https://www.floridahealth.gov">www.floridahealth.gov</a>.

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