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## **SURVEY TO MEASURE ATTITUDES TOWARD DIVERSITY AND INCLUSION IN LINCOLN AND MARATHON COUNTIES**

A recently released survey seeks feedback from residents of Lincoln and Marathon Counties on their perceptions and attitudes toward diversity, inclusion and community welcomeness.

The Lincoln and Marathon County Diversity, Inclusion and Community Welcomeness Study will accept responses from Lincoln and Marathon County residents until June 3, 2022. The survey has been mailed to randomly selected households and can be completed online by any resident of Lincoln County and Marathon County ages 18 years and older.

The topics of diversity, inclusion and welcomeness have been the focus of conversations nationwide, and Central Wisconsin is no exception. Despite these widespread discussions, community leaders and organizations found a lack of concrete information on how residents of Lincoln and Marathon Counties feel about these issues.

Designed to address this lack of data, the survey will provide residents the opportunity to express their opinion on how welcoming their community is, as well as their personal attitudes toward people of different backgrounds. The results of the survey will help community leaders and the public gain a better understanding of relationships between individuals and groups that live in our area.

The study is being conducted by the Wisconsin Institute for Public Policy and Service, a unit of the University of Wisconsin System. Funding was provided by Church Mutual Insurance Company, S.I.<sup>1</sup> and the B.A. and Esther Greenheck Foundation. Key partners include the Aware and Active Citizen Group from Lincoln County and the Mosaic Coalition from Marathon County.

The survey is open to residents of Lincoln and Marathon Counties, ages 18 years and older, and responses will remain anonymous.

“We hope community members will take advantage of this opportunity to be heard and help shape the future for our area,” said Kathy Dregler, chair of Mosaic of North Central Wisconsin.

To learn more about the Lincoln and Marathon County Diversity, Inclusion and Community Welcomeness Study, or to access the online survey, please visit: [wipps.org/LMdiversitystudy](http://wipps.org/LMdiversitystudy).

<sup>1</sup>Church Mutual is a stock insurer whose policyholders are members of the parent mutual holding company formed on 1/1/20. S.I. = a stock insurer