

A group of students from Harlan County High School are working to change the grim health statistics of Harlan County's residents.

The Harlan County High School Community Problem Solving Team has been tackling the issue of poor health statistics for the county since organizing for competitive purposes last fall.

Their work paid off earlier this week when they were recognized as the state's number two team in the state competition held during the Kentucky Governor's Cup in Louisville. They earned the right to advance in June to the international contest at Iowa State University in Ames, Iowa.

On Saturday, from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. in the HCHS atrium, the team will display their work and will host the Healthy Harlan (H2) Health Fair to assist community residents in identifying resources available to them in health care and lifestyle changes.

Various agencies will have displays for the public to visit at no cost. There will be games for children.

The team's coach, Virginia Rice, said she is hoping everyone will take advantage of this opportunity and attend the fair. She noted the community problem solving team has worked hard to pull it together.

"You will learn about some of the health care opportunities available locally and in the region. Each booth will offer guidance on the importance of being healthy," said Rice.

Among the booths confirmed for the event are Harlan ARH, Humana, Hospice of the Bluegrass, Harlan County 4-H, UNITE, Harlan County Emergency Management and the National Alliance for Mental illness.

In addition to the health fair, students are collecting tennis shoes to share with others in need. If you have good used tennis shoes, please bring those to the fair.

Team members include Chelsey Caldwell, Kersyn Collins, Breanna Epperson, Jay Phillips and Alisha Rhymer.

For more information and updates on the health fair, visit the team's Facebook page at <https://www.facebook.com/HealthyHarlan>.

Healthy Harlan Health Fair

Join us this Saturday, March 21, for the Harlan County High School Community Problem Solving/S.T.A.R.S Team in the HCHS atrium from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. You will learn about some of the health care opportunities the region/state has to offer. Each booth will discuss the importance of being healthy. The health fair is open and free to the public. There will be games with prizes for children. Please come support us at the Healthy Harlan event.

Participants include:

Harlan ARH

Humana

Hospice

4-H

UNITE

Harlan County Emergency Management

National Alliance for Mental Illness (NAMI)

****Also, please bring any unwanted tennis shoes to be donated to needy citizens of the county.****