

08/26/2024

Dear Lake County,

Every year on August 26th we commemorate Women's Equality Day, a significant milestone in the ongoing struggle for gender equality. This day marks the anniversary of the 19th Amendment in 1920, which granted women the right to vote in the United States. While we celebrate today, it is crucial to reflect on the broader implications of equality, particularly in the realm of health.

Women's health is influenced by a multitude of factors, including socioeconomic status, access to healthcare, and cultural attitudes towards gender roles. Despite advancements in many areas, disparities in health outcomes persist. Women are often disproportionately affected by various health issues, including health challenges, and chronic diseases. For example, **women in Lake County are 9.3% more likely to delay or have difficulty obtaining care**. Addressing these disparities requires a commitment to health equity -ensuring that all women, regardless of their background, have access to the resources and support they need.

As Hope Rising and its collaborative partners focus on the three priorities of our Community Health Improvement Plan, Access to Care, Mental Health, and Health Risk Behaviors, we are committed to addressing disparities for women in Lake County.

To get more information or to participate further in Hope Rising initiatives, please email grossme01@ah.org.

The Hope Rising team

