



# LIBRARY HEROES MAKE HEALTH HAPPEN

*Just as libraries are about more than books, health is about more than healthcare. Public libraries are powerful contributors to the health and vitality of the communities they serve. You and your library can champion health for all.*

## THE OPPORTUNITY FOR LIBRARIES



**40%** of health outcomes are influenced by socioeconomic factors



EDUCATION



EMPLOYMENT



INCOME



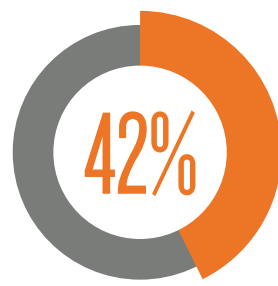
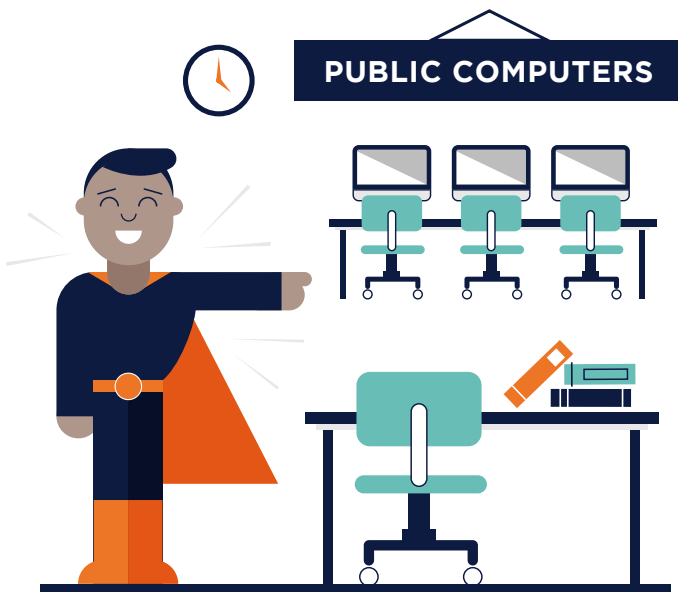
FAMILY &  
SOCIAL SUPPORT



COMMUNITY  
SAFETY

Libraries are in a unique position to bring together the *people, programs, and partners* necessary to make health information and services accessible to everyone.

# PEOPLE



of those who have gone online at a library using its computers, internet connections or Wi-Fi have done so for health-related searches.



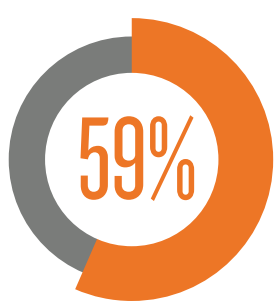
Almost **3 in 4** say libraries help people find the health information they need

When community members don't have access to health information, services, and technology, they

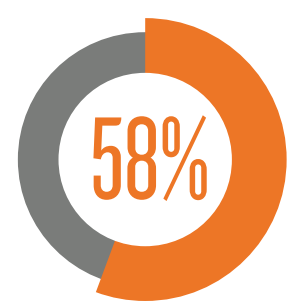
- ▶ USE FEWER PREVENTATIVE SERVICES
- ▶ KNOW LESS ABOUT CHRONIC DISEASE MANAGEMENT
- ▶ ARE HOSPITALIZED MORE OFTEN
- ▶ REPORT POORER HEALTH STATUSES

# PROGRAMS

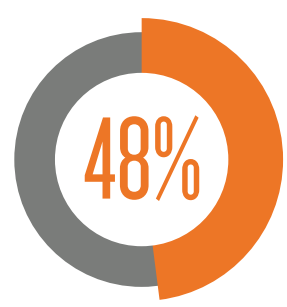
Libraries advance *equal access* to health information and services in many ways.



support patrons in *identifying* health insurance resources



support patrons in *locating and evaluating* free health information online



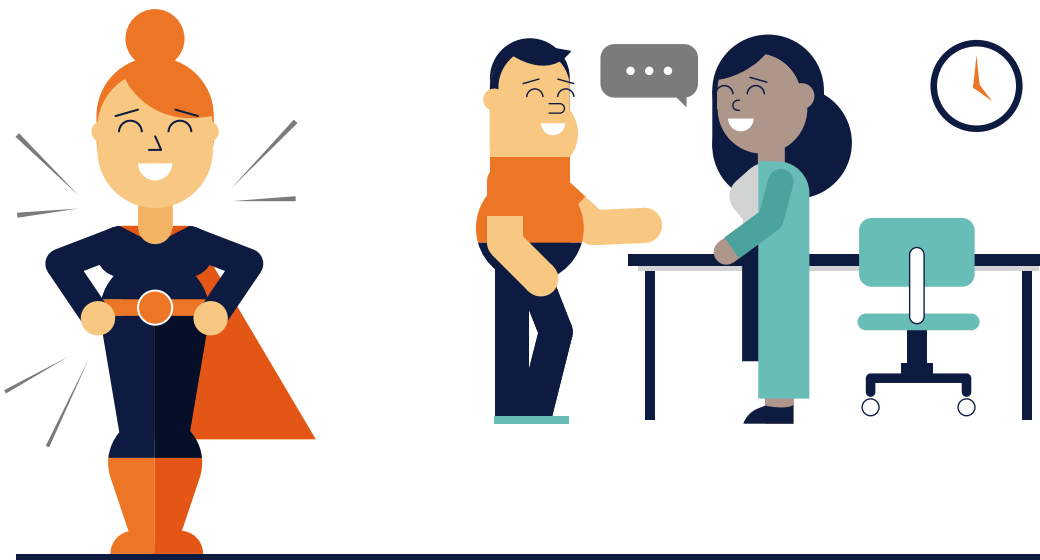
support patrons in *understanding* specific health or wellness topics



support patrons by *offering* fitness classes

# PARTNERS

Working together, libraries and local partners create a **strong network** to address the well-being of all community members.



18%

of libraries bring in healthcare providers to offer limited healthcare screening services

35%

of those screenings include referrals to appropriate health and social service agencies

*You and your library can champion health for all.* Reach out to your public health agency or other potential partners to let them know what the library has to offer, and invite them to share their resources and expertise with your patrons. All public organizations have a role to play in building a healthy community.

Visit <http://oc.lc/ehealth> and learn how you can make your library the health hero your community needs.

This project is made possible by the Institute of Museum and Library Services.

## SOURCES

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