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Let Riverside Know What You Think!



Perris residents enjoying a free winter workout as part of the Live Well Perris program.

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Perris residents are getting the chance to tell Riverside County what's on their mind.

That's the emphasis of a public meeting Tuesday, Feb. 17, at the Cesar E. Chavez Public Library, 163 East San Jacinto Avenue in Perris. The one-hour meeting, from 6 p.m. to 7 p.m., kicks off a series of forums across Riverside County where public health officials and representatives of other county agencies hope to gauge major concerns of residents from Jurupa to Blythe.

It's part of the SHAPE (Strategic Health Alliance Pursuing Equity) campaign, said Jose Arballo, a spokesman for the Department of Public Health who addressed the Perris City Council.

SHAPE Riverside County is a community-driven effort that brings together people and organizations from many different sectors with the goal of making Riverside County a healthier place to live and visit.

"We want people to tell us what is on their minds," Arballo said. "Rather than government telling people what it plans to do, we want to respond to the concerns of the residents. The idea is for us to serve the community better."

Those could include public safety, education, mental health and the environment, Arballo said. After all the public meetings conclude, the county will produce a report based on information gathered at the meetings and an online survey, which can be taken at <http://www.rivcoph.org/CommunityForums.aspx>.

Arballo said Perris was chosen to host the first meeting because the City "is very proactive" in supporting public health initiatives, including the award-winning and ongoing Live Well Perris healthy-eating active-living campaign. Perris Mayor Daryl Busch encouraged residents to attend next week's meeting.



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