



## News Release

### **Immediate Release**

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### **Board Contact**

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### **Pinellas: Suncoast Health Council vacancies announced**

*Council members represent concerns of health care consumers, providers, and purchasers*

Applications are now being accepted to fill three appointments to the Suncoast Health Council. Applications are due by 3 p.m. on Friday, August 19<sup>th</sup>. The application can be found at [www.pinellascounty.org/boards](http://www.pinellascounty.org/boards).

The Suncoast Health Council's purpose is to plan and advise for the health needs in Pasco and Pinellas counties. The Suncoast Health Council board is comprised of 12 members; eight members are appointed by the Pinellas County Board of County Commissioners and four members are appointed by the Pasco County Board of County Commissioners.

Applications are currently being accepted for Health Care Provider (two appointments), and Health Care Consumer (one appointment). The two-year term will expire on September 30, 2024. Applications are still being accepted for one vacancy as a Health Care Purchaser. This vacancy represents a current 2-year term set to expire March 31, 2023.

Suncoast Health Council is an independent, private non-profit organization governed by a volunteer Board of Directors to represent the concerns of health care consumers, providers and purchasers in Pinellas and Pasco counties. The Health Council collects and analyzes health care data; describes community health status; identifies health care needs and resources; and works with community partners to design programs and services to respond to current and emerging health care needs. The board is made up of consumers, providers, and purchasers of health care. Members are appointed to specific member categories: Health Care Provider, Health Care Consumer and Health Care Purchaser.

A Health Care Provider is someone who provides health care services, such as a doctor. A Health Care Consumer is defined as an individual who is neither a purchaser nor provider, who receives medical care from licensed practitioners, resides in or receives services from a health care facility and who may or may not access public and/or private health insurance coverage. A Health Care Purchaser is defined as an individual licensed to provide or who provides health care services to individuals and/or groups, such as insurance executives. A

Purchaser may also purchase health care services on behalf of others, provided they don't also provide direct medical care. Examples include human resource managers and business owners purchasing health coverage for employees.

Meetings of the Suncoast Health Council are held on the third Wednesday of alternating months, from 11:30 a.m. until 1 p.m., in the Madison Building located at 9600 Koger Blvd., St. Petersburg. To learn more about the Suncoast Health Council, visit [www.suncoasthealthcouncil.org](http://www.suncoasthealthcouncil.org).

The Board of County Commissioners will review all applications and make its selection at an upcoming meeting.

Please Note: All materials submitted to Pinellas County government are subject to the public records law of the State of Florida.

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