



## MISSION STATEMENT

### HEALTHY & SAFE COMMUNITIES SECTION

The purpose of the Healthy & Safe Communities Section (HSCS) is to support individuals, families and communities by providing quality programs that protect and enhance the health and safety of all North Dakotans.

To accomplish our mission, HSCS staff:

- Advocate for healthy behaviors.
- Provide education, resources and services.
- Facilitate systems change and implementation of effective policies.
- Engage in statewide partnerships.

### Healthy & Safe Communities Section

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Bismarck, ND 58505-0200

[www.ndhealth.gov/CH/](http://www.ndhealth.gov/CH/)

|                              |              |
|------------------------------|--------------|
| Community & Health Systems   | 701.328.2306 |
| Health Promotion             | 701.328.2367 |
| Toll-Free                    | 800.280.5512 |
| Fax                          | 701.328.2036 |
|                              |              |
| Special Health Services      | 701.328.2436 |
| Toll-Free                    | 800.755.2714 |
| Fax                          | 701.328.1645 |
|                              |              |
| Health Equity                | 701.328.2493 |
| Injury & Violence Prevention | 701.328.4536 |
| Family Health & Nutrition    | 701.328.2496 |
| Toll-Free                    | 800.472.2286 |
| Fax                          | 701.328.1412 |

## ***Health Equity Program***

Health equity is the attainment of the highest level of health for all people. The Health Equity Program works to understand and reduce health disparities among all North Dakotans. Our goal is to reduce rates of disease by providing opportunities for interventions and improving access to health care. This will ensure all North Dakotans receive the highest quality of health.

## ***Division of Community & Health Systems***

### *Mission:*

The mission of the Division of Community & Health Systems is to prevent disease and promote health at every stage of life through evidence-based and culturally responsive strategies.

### *Programs and services within the division include:*

- **Comprehensive Cancer Prevention and Control Program** – Works with the North Dakota Cancer Coalition, stakeholders and partners to reduce the incidence of cancer, create a coordinated statewide cancer plan and coordinate available resources to carry out the plan.
- **North Dakota Statewide Cancer Registry (NDSCR)** – Is located on the campus of the University of North Dakota – Grand Forks and housed within the Department of Pathology in the School of Medicine and Health Sciences. The purpose of the NDSCR, established in 1997, is to collect cancer incidence, survival and mortality data to monitor cancer trends, promote research, increase survival, develop cancer education, guide policy planning for cancer prevention and screening programs and respond to cancer concerns from patients or the public. The NDSCR is a collaborative partnership between the North Dakota Department of Health (NDDoH) and the University of North Dakota. Data provided by NDSCR is used to guide decisions for the NDDoH cancer programs.
- **Tobacco Prevention and Control Program** – Provides grants, training and technical assistance for tobacco cessation, prevention and control efforts in communities, including American Indian tribes.  
*Our Goal* is to reduce disease, disability and death related to tobacco use by:
  - Preventing initiation among youth and young adults.
  - Promoting quitting among adults and youth.
  - Eliminating exposure to secondhand smoke.
  - Identifying and eliminating tobacco-related disparities among specific population groups.
- **Women's Way (the North Dakota Breast and Cervical Cancer Early Detection Program)** – Works to reduce mortality from breast and cervical cancer by increasing education and screening among low-income, medically underserved, high-risk and minority women. *Women's Way* has provided services since September 1997 and nearly 16,000 enrolled women have benefited from this program.

## *Division of Health Promotion*

### *Mission:*

The mission of the Division of Health Promotion is to improve health through evidence-based strategies that prevent and manage chronic disease.

### *Programs and services within the division include:*

- **Healthy Communities** – This program is a coordinated approach to support healthy behaviors that prevent and reduce risk factors associated with obesity and chronic diseases for people of all ages. This is accomplished by providing technical assistance to partners to develop and implement chronic disease prevention and health promotion programs that have a measurable impact.
- **Worksite Wellness** – Provides education and technical assistance to worksites across the state in the implementation of comprehensive worksite wellness programs.
- **Diabetes Prevention and Control** – Staff work to support diabetes prevention, early diagnosis and disease management by working with communities, health professionals and health systems in the areas of policy, program development, disease management, quality improvement and education. This is accomplished primarily through technical support to emerging education programs, educator network development, collaboration with other disease programs and statewide partners to develop and coordinate joint efforts. Some initiatives include:
  - **Heart Disease and Stroke Prevention** – Works to improve cardiovascular health of North Dakotans by facilitating effective collaborations and partnerships, monitoring critical aspects of cardiovascular disease and developing effective strategies to reduce heart disease, stroke and related risk factors. The overarching statewide emphasis focuses on preventing and controlling blood pressure and reducing sodium intake using population-based strategies. The program provides training, education, resources and technical assistance to communities, health care providers and health organizations.
- **Oral Health Program** – Provides prevention programs, education, access, screening, consultation and strategic planning to address the oral health needs of North Dakotans.
  - **Donated Dental Services** – Provides grant oversight to services that provide essential dental care for disabled, elderly and medically compromised individuals who cannot afford care.
- **Seal! North Dakota** – Provides dental sealants and fluoride varnish application to pre-kindergarten through sixth grade students through school-based programs to prevent dental cavities in molar (back) teeth.

## *Division of Special Health Services*

### *Mission:*

The mission of the Division of Special Health Services (SHS) is to promote a system of care and services that improves the health and well-being of individuals with special health care needs and their families.

### *Programs and services within the division include:*

**Coordinated Services Program** – Provides services and resources that support coordinated management of specific chronic health conditions. Services include:

- **Metabolic Food** – Provides formula and low-protein modified food products for individuals with Phenylketonuria (PKU) and Maple Syrup Urine Disease (MSUD).
- **Cardiac Care for Children** – Provides an initial examination by a participating pediatric cardiologist and routine tests for children with cardiac conditions in addition to linkage and referral services.
- **Multidisciplinary Clinics** – Services that provide access to pediatric specialty care and enable families to see many different medical providers and health care professionals in one place at one time. The eight types of clinics available through SHS include: Asthma, Autism, Cleft Lip/Palate, Developmental, Diabetes, Metabolic Disorders, Myelodysplasia, Neurodevelopmental Coordinated Care.

**Financial Coverage Program** – Helps families pay for medical services for eligible children, youth, and young adults who require specialty care to diagnose and treat their chronic health conditions. Services include:

- **Diagnostic Testing and Evaluation** - Provides coverage for services that promote early diagnosis of SHS- eligible medical conditions.
- **Treatment** - Provides coverage for services to children with chronic health conditions who meet medical and financial eligibility criteria.
- **Russell Silver Syndrome** - Provides coverage for growth hormone treatment and medical food.

**Newborn Screening and Follow-up Program** – The goal of this program is to identify conditions at an early age when treatment and intervention can prevent health problems, support early development, and save lives. Newborn screening consists of three simple tests:

- **Blood Spot** - Includes laboratory screening tests and follow-up services for nearly 50 genetic/metabolic conditions to identify infants that may be at risk for disorders included in the testing panel.
- **Hearing** - Screening tests using specialized equipment are conducted to identify newborn infants who are deaf or hard of hearing so appropriate intervention services can be started as soon as possible.
- **Critical Congenital Heart Disease** - Screening that checks newborns oxygen levels to help identify serious heart defects.

**Children with Special Health Care Needs System Enhancement Program** – Improves health outcomes of children with special health care needs (CSHCN) by advancing a quality, comprehensive system of care that promotes the healthy development and well-being of children and their families. Six core outcomes that describe the system of services for CSHCN include: Family Professional Partnership, Medical Home, Adequate Health Insurance, Early and Continuous Screening and Surveillance, Easy to Use Services and Supports, Transition to Adult Health Care.

## *Division of Injury & Violence Prevention*

### *Mission:*

The mission of the Division of Injury & Violence Prevention is to prevent and respond to unintentional and intentional injury and violence.

### *Programs and services within the division include:*

- **Child Passenger Safety Program: Child Passenger Safety Program** – The goal of this program is to decrease injuries and death to children due to motor vehicle crash events by:
  - coordinating statewide car seat distribution programs;
  - coordinating and supporting child passenger safety trainings; providing child passenger safety best practice information and education;
  - coordinating, conducting and supporting existing car seat checkups; and
  - ensuring child passenger safety technicians have access to re-certification opportunities including access to car seat checkups, continuing education units and updates.
- **Domestic Violence/Rape Crisis Program** – The overall goal is to prevent and reduce domestic violence, sexual assault, dating violence, and stalking in North Dakota by:
  - implementing primary prevention strategies to prevent sexual and intimate partner violence by promoting healthy relationships, social norms change, and bystander intervention;
  - funding projects including supervised visitation and exchange services and domestic violence offender treatment;
  - supporting coordinated community response to strengthen effective law enforcement and prosecution strategies
  - emphasizing implementation of comprehensive strategies that are sensitive to the needs and safety of victims and that hold offenders accountable.
- **Infant and Child Death Services (ICDS) Program** – Provides support, education and follow-up to those affected by an unexpected infant or child death up to age two years.
- **Injury Prevention Program** – The goal of this program is to reduce unintentional injuries, with special emphasis on children and women. Focus areas include home, playground, and bike safety, distracted teen driving, poison prevention and senior falls prevention. This program coordinates with the state Injury Prevention Coalition to implement the state Injury Prevention Plan.
- **Safe Sleep Program** – Works to reduce infant sleep-related deaths due to accidental suffocation, asphyxia, or undetermined causes in unsafe sleeping environments by educating parents and caregivers and, through the Cribs for Kids Program®, provide portable cribs to families who otherwise cannot afford a safe place for their infants to sleep.
- **Suicide Prevention Program** – The goal of the Suicide Prevention Program is to reduce the number of attempted and completed suicides by public awareness of suicide prevention and early intervention strategies to reduce the stigma of help-seeking; and providing grants for evidence-based and culturally-based suicide prevention initiatives and activities. The program coordinates with the state Suicide Prevention Coalition to implement the state Suicide Prevention Plan.

## *Division of Family Health & Nutrition*

### *Mission:*

The Division of Family Health & Nutrition works on initiatives that encourage healthy, active and well-nourished children, youth, women, men and families.

### *Programs and services within the division include:*

- **Abstinence Education Program** – Provides grant oversight to promote the health of youth through abstinence education.
- **Family Planning Program** – Provides reproductive health care services to men and women, giving preference to low-income, adolescent and women-in-need populations. Services include Pap smear, breast exam, testicular exam, infertility level-one services, pregnancy planning, a broad range of birth control methods including abstinence, and STD and HIV testing and counseling.
- **Child and Adolescent Obesity Prevention**
  - **MCH Nutrition** – This program provides leadership and support to local public health nutritionists for the nutritional wellbeing across the lifespan for women, infants, and children. For more information about MCH nutrition, go to [www.ndhealth.gov/nutrition/](http://www.ndhealth.gov/nutrition/).
  - **Breastfeeding** – The Maternal and Child Health Nutrition Program, WIC Program, cancer and chronic disease programs work together to promote breastfeeding and improve support for breastfeeding in all settings. Some activities include providing leadership and technical assistance for the statewide and local breastfeeding coalitions, coordinating programs such as the Infant-Friendly Workplace Designation and the Breastfeeding-Friendly Hospital Initiative and providing breastfeeding education for professionals across the state. For more information about breastfeeding, go to [www.ndhealth.gov/breastfeeding](http://www.ndhealth.gov/breastfeeding).
  - **School Health** – Works in conjunction with the Department of Public Instruction and chronic disease programs to address the close relationship between health and learning. A physical activity specialist and a state school nurse consultant provide consultation, technical assistance and resources for schools and school nurses to use in organizing and managing school health and wellness initiatives.
- **Special Supplemental Nutrition Program for Women, Infants and Children (WIC)** – This program offers healthy food for proper growth and development and helps families choose healthier ways of eating. WIC is for eligible pregnant, breastfeeding and postpartum women, infants, and children under 5 years and is available in all North Dakota counties. WIC offers:
  - A carefully defined package of supplemental nutritious foods.
  - Nutrition education and counseling to improve dietary practices.
  - Breastfeeding promotion and support.
  - Referrals that link participants to other vital health care and social services.
- **Women's Health Services** – Collaborates with programs, public and private, that provide and/or advocate for women's health. Provides national, state and local women's health information across the state.
- **School Nursing** – Supports the educational process by contributing positively and significantly to the health, health attitudes and health behaviors of today's children, and consequently, tomorrow's adults.