



MISSION STATEMENT COMMUNITY HEALTH SECTION

🌿 🌿 The purpose of the Community Health Section (CHS) 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, CHS staff:

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

Rev. November 2015 🌿 🌿

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Division of Cancer Prevention and Control

Mission:

☞ ☞ The mission of the Division of Cancer Prevention and Control is working together to reduce the incidence and impact of cancer for all North Dakotans. ☞ ☞

Programs and services within the division include:

- **Behavioral Risk Factor Surveillance System (BRFSS)** – An ongoing state-based telephone health survey that annually collects information on health conditions, behaviors, preventive practices, and access to health care. BRFSS data are used to identify emerging health problems, establish health objectives and track their progress, and develop and evaluate public health policies and programs to address identified problems.
- **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 assemble 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.
- **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 over 12,900 eligible women have benefited from this program.

Division of Children's Special Health Services

Mission:

☞ ☞ The mission of the Division of Children's Special Health Services (CSHS) is to provide services for children with special health care needs and their families. CSHS promotes family-centered, community-based, coordinated services and systems of health care. ☞ ☞

Programs and services within the division include:

- **Autism Spectrum Disorder (ASD) Database** – CSHS administers an ASD database that includes records of all reported cases of ASD in North Dakota.
- **Care Coordination Program** – CSHS supports community-based programs to help families who have children with special health care needs access services and resources. County social service staff that help administer CSHS programs are primary partners. Staff also provide care coordination services for children and their families who contact the state office.
- **Children with Special Health Care Needs (CSHCN) Service System** – CSHS supports initiatives that lead to a community-based system of services for all families, children, and youth with special health care needs. Activities focus on screening, transition, medical home, family partnership and satisfaction, adequate insurance, and community-based service systems.
- **Information Resource Center** – CSHS provides health care resource information to families and service providers.
- **Metabolic Food** – CSHS provides medical food and low-protein modified food products to individuals with phenylketonuria and maple syrup urine disease.
- **Multidisciplinary Clinics** – CSHS funds and administers clinics that support coordinated management of 10 different types of chronic health conditions. Clinics 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.
 - Cleft lip/palate
 - Metabolic disorders
 - Cerebral palsy
 - Developmental
 - Myelodysplasia
 - Diabetes
 - Neurorehabilitation
 - Asthma
 - Autism
 - Cardiac
- **Russell Silver Syndrome Program** – CSHS pays for growth hormone treatment and medical food for individuals with Russell-Silver syndrome.
- **Specialty Care Diagnostic & Treatment Program** – CSHS helps families pay for medical services for eligible children, including health care visits and tests to diagnose chronic health conditions early and specialty care needed for treatment.
- **State Systems Development Initiative (SSDI)** – CSHS administers the State Systems Development Initiative (SSDI) grant. The purpose of SSDI is to develop, enhance, and expand State Title V Maternal and Child Health (MCH) data capacity. Improved data capacity supports effective, efficient and quality programming for women, infants, children and youth, including children and youth with special health care needs in North Dakota.

Division of Chronic Disease

Mission:

☞ ☞ To prevent chronic diseases and improve quality of life for North Dakota residents by promoting healthy behaviors, supporting health care improvement measures, developing community policies and practices and increasing disease risk awareness. ☞ ☞

Programs and services within the division include:

- **Coordinated Chronic Disease Prevention Program** – Builds capacity to address chronic disease prevention and health promotion in a coordinated, collaborative approach to change policies, practices and environments. This will lead to improved quality of life and health outcomes and promote education and management skills for those diagnosed with or at risk for chronic diseases.
- **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.
- **Tobacco Prevention and Control Program** – Provides grants, training and technical assistance for tobacco 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.
- **Tobacco Cessation Services** – Provides grants for city, county and state employee cessation programs and supports a statewide tobacco cessation quitline and Internet-based cessation service (NDQuits) for all tobacco users who want to quit.
- **Tobacco Surveillance** – Commissions multiple surveys designed to measure a variety of factors related to tobacco use among North Dakota citizens and assess how these factors change over time. The Tobacco Prevention and Control Program also provides input and funding for the tobacco-related portions of the following surveys:
 - **Behavioral Risk Factor Surveillance System (BRFSS)** – The BRFSS is an ongoing state-based telephone surveillance system that collects data about the behaviors and conditions that place people at risk for chronic diseases, injuries and preventable infectious diseases. Results are reported annually.
 - **Youth Risk Behavior System (YRBS)** – The YRBS monitors priority health-risk behaviors among youth and young adults. The North Dakota Department of Health partners with the North Dakota Department of Public Instruction to conduct this survey biennially.

Division of Family Health

Mission:

☞ ☞ The Division of Family Health administers state and federal programs designed to improve the health of North Dakota families. The division provides funding, technical assistance, training, needs assessment, educational materials and other resources to local public health units, schools and other public and private entities that offer health services in North Dakota communities. ☞ ☞

Programs and services within the division include:

- **Abstinence Education Program** – Provides grant oversight to promote the health of youth through abstinence education.
- **Cribs for Kids Program** – Provides infant safe-sleep education and portable cribs to pregnant women and new mothers through partner agencies.
- **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.
- **Fetal Alcohol Syndrome** – Provides grant oversight to the University of North Dakota's Fetal Alcohol Syndrome Center for program activities.
- **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.
- **MCH/Oral Health Epidemiology** – Provides epidemiological support on all matters concerning the development, evaluation and prioritization of MCH and Oral Health Programs.
- **Newborn Screening Program** – Identifies infants at risk and in need of more definitive testing to diagnose and treat affected newborns. Provides regional coordination for North Dakota, South Dakota and Iowa focusing on quality assurance and education.
- **Optimal Pregnancy Outcome Program (OPOP)** – Provides nursing, social and nutritional services to pregnant women.
- **Oral Health Program** – Provides prevention programs, education, access, screening, consultation and strategic planning to address the oral health needs of North Dakotans.
 - **DentaQuest Foundation** – Provides funding to assess the needs of older adults.
 - **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.
- **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.
- **Title V Maternal and Child Health** – Provides consultation, technical assistance and comprehensive services to improve the health, safety and well-being of mothers and children.

- **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.

Division of Injury Prevention and Control

Mission:

☞ ☞ The Division of Injury Prevention and Control is dedicated to reducing injuries to North Dakotans through leadership, education, resources and policy. ☞ ☞

Programs and services within the division include:

- **Injury Prevention Program:** The overall goal of this program is to reduce unintentional injuries to North Dakotans, with special emphasis on children and women. The program uses a variety of best practice strategies, including primary prevention theories, data collection and analysis, intervention design and development, training and technical assistance, policy advocacy, and evaluation. Projects include:
 - Coordinating a State Injury Prevention Coalition to address the impact of injury in North Dakota.
 - Coordinating poison prevention educational activities in conjunction with the North Dakota Poison Control Center (Hennepin Regional Poison Control Center).
 - Participating in injury prevention work groups.
 - Collaborating with other state and local agencies to address injury prevention.
 - Providing education and information to the general population of North Dakota in regard to unintentional injury topics, such as home, playground and bike safety.
 - Training a network of Stepping On leaders around the state. Stepping On is a program that offers older adults a way of reducing falls by incorporating and discussing a range of issues that include falls and risks, strength and balance exercises, initiating a medication review, vision exams, home safety, safe footwear and what to do and how to prevent or cope after a fall.
 - Monitoring and providing technical assistance to funded agencies.
 - Serving as the state designee for the U.S. Consumer Product Safety Commission by conducting recall effectiveness checks and participating in special Consumer Product Safety Commission campaigns. Publishing a quarterly newsletter.
- **Child Passenger Safety Program:** The goal of the Child Passenger Safety Program is to decrease injuries and death to children due to motor vehicle crash events. The program uses a variety of best practice strategies, including data collection and analysis, design and development of initiatives, training and technical assistance, policy and advocacy, and evaluation. Activities include:
 - Coordinate statewide car seat distribution programs.
 - Providing ongoing technical assistance to professionals and consumers in regard to child passenger safety best practices.
 - Coordinating and supporting child passenger safety trainings throughout the state to professionals.

- Providing child passenger safety best practice information and education to North Dakotans to promote correct use of car seats and seat belts.
- Coordinating, conducting and supporting existing car seat checkups.
- 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, stalking and human trafficking crimes in North Dakota by:
 - Implementing primary prevention strategies using the public health approach to prevent sexual violence and intimate partner violence by promoting healthy relationships, social norms change, and bystander intervention.
 - Funding projects specifically addressing domestic violence, sexual assault and stalking including supervised visitation and exchange services.
 - Supporting coordinated community response to strengthen effective law enforcement and prosecution strategies to combat domestic violence, sexual assault, dating violence, stalking and human trafficking crimes and to develop and strengthen victim services.
 - Emphasizing implementation of comprehensive strategies that are sensitive to the needs and safety of victims and that hold offenders accountable for their crimes.
 - Supporting trauma informed intervention measures for victims of domestic violence, sexual assault, dating violence, stalking and human trafficking.
 - Collecting and analyzing domestic violence and sexual assault data, attitude surveys, and crime statistics.
 - Monitoring and providing technical assistance to funded agencies.
 - Partnering with stakeholders to develop and implement policies, advocate, provide training and technical assistance, and evaluate projects or programs.
- **Suicide Prevention Program:** The overall goal of the Suicide Prevention Program is to reduce the number of attempted and completed suicides across all ages and races of North Dakota residents by:
 - Collecting data on completed suicides and supporting expansion of data collection to include suicide attempts.
 - Promoting public awareness of suicide and suicide prevention strategies.
 - Collaborating with the North Dakota Suicide Prevention Coalition to apply suicide prevention and early intervention strategies within the members' professional work and communities and to reduce the stigma of help-seeking.
 - Providing grants for suicide prevention activities.
 - Seeking funding sources to expand suicide prevention and early intervention work in North Dakota.
 - Collaborating with other state and local agencies to address suicide prevention in North Dakota.

Division of Nutrition and Physical Activity

Mission:

☞ ☞ To support growth and development and to prevent overweight, obesity, and chronic diseases through programs designed to improve healthful eating and physical activity. ☞ ☞

Programs and services within the division include:

- **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.

Visit www.ndhealth.gov/wic/ for more information about the ND WIC program.

- **Healthy Communities and Prevention** – This program is a coordinated approach to support growth and development, prevent and reduce risk factors associated with obesity and diabetes, and to address management of diabetes. 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.
- **Chronic Disease Prevention** – This program provides guidance and expertise to partners working to expand access to healthy foods and beverages and increase opportunities for physical activity. These approaches reach North Dakotans in schools, childcare, worksites, healthcare and communities and make it easier for North Dakotans to take charge of their health. Initiatives include:
 - Chronic Disease Community grants
 - Early Care and Education: *Active Play and Healthy Foods*
 - Hunger Free North Dakota
- **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:
 - Identifying Increasing the number of Diabetes Self-Management Education Programs in underserved areas and increasing awareness about these programs to eligible participants
 - Supporting the National Diabetes Prevention Program
 - Increasing prediabetes awareness
 - Supporting the educational needs of those providing services to people with diabetes and prediabetes.
 - Reducing barriers to self-management opportunities.

For more information about diabetes and diabetes resources please visit www.diabetesnd.org/.

- **MCH Nutrition & Breastfeeding** – 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/. The WIC Program, Maternal and Child Health Nutrition 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.

Section Support

- **Grants Management** – Provides fiscal and contract management support for the department's Community Health Section.
- **Information Technology** – Implements and supports the technology activities within the Community Health Section including determination for data processing needs; installation; modification; maintenance of software and data processing equipment; and training for the effective use of software and equipment.

Healthy North Dakota

The Community Health Section is linked closely to *Healthy North Dakota*, which is a partnership that brings together partners and stakeholders to identify common strategies to address health issues. For more information about *Healthy North Dakota* visit www.healthynd.org.