

ANNUAL REPORT 2016



BUILDING HEALTHY FAMILIES AND COMMUNITIES IN DAKOTA COUNTY THROUGH PARTNERSHIPS

**Dakota County
Public Health Department**



Message to the Community



2016 was a year of new beginnings, continuous improvements, and sustained excellence for the Public Health Department. We were proud to measure our department's performance against a set of nationally recognized, practice-focused and evidenced-based standards, to receive national accreditation by the Public Health Accreditation Board.

The dedicated work of our Public Health staff and many community partners helps to improve the health of individuals, families, and communities across Dakota County. Our programs and services prevent disease, promote wellness, and protect health for residents of all ages and needs.

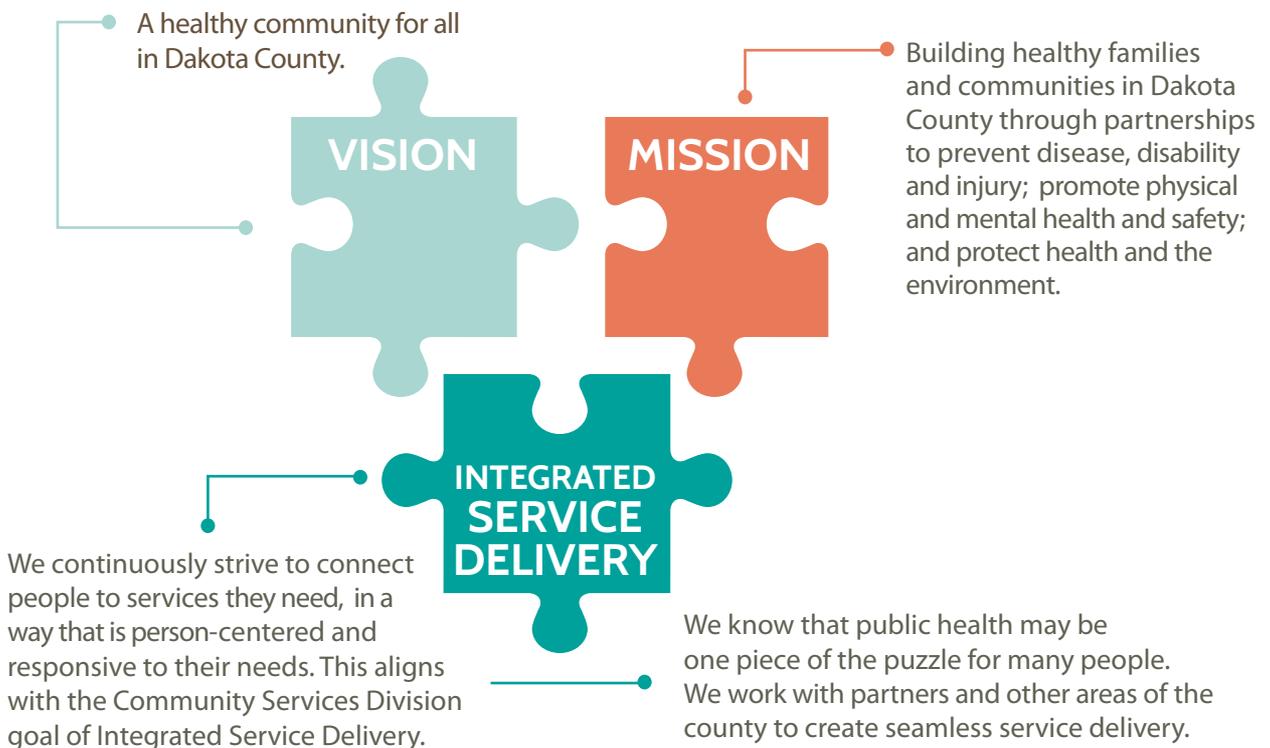
Our vision of a healthy community for all in Dakota County drives us to build essential partnerships, expand the capacity of services to address health inequity and help shape the social factors that affect an individual's health and wellness.

I am happy to present this annual report and share the work of the Public Health Department. You can find more information about specific programs or services on our website, or by calling us directly. We always welcome opportunities for partnerships or improvements.

Healthy regards,

Bonnie Brueshoff, Director
Dakota County Public Health Department

VISION, MISSION & INTEGRATED SERVICE DELIVERY



Making the Good Great!

Five years ago, the Public Health Department started the process to become nationally accredited. In August of 2016 we received accreditation status through the Public Health Accreditation Board. The accreditation program works to improve and protect the health of the public by advancing and transforming the performance of public health departments. In Minnesota, Dakota County is one of six local health departments to achieve this recognition, in addition to the Minnesota Department of Health. Accreditation helps ensure the services we provide are as responsive as possible to the needs of our community. The application involved a rigorous, multifaceted, peer-reviewed assessment process. The process helped our Public Health department identify areas of strength and opportunities for improvement. It also required us to demonstrate that we effectively collaborate and work with many partners across our community.

"Your staff should be very proud of Dakota County Public Health. You make this county better. Thanks - from a person who lives and works here." –Comment from a community partner

These partnerships benefit our community by strengthening programs and initiatives, streamlining certain processes, and sharing ideas and information. We have the accreditation for the next five years, after which we will go through a reaccreditation process.

Awards and Recognition

Creating friendly environments for breastfeeding

The American Public Health Association (APHA) recognized Bonnie Brueshoff, Public Health Director, Debra Thingstad Boe, Public Health Supervisor, and Paula Mazour, Public Health Coordinator for their work in creating the Breastfeeding Friendly Health Department Toolkit. This national award recognizes groups whose work has made a significant contribution to effective public health practice within maternal and child health.

Protecting from disease

Disease Prevention and Control staff accepted the 2016 Immunization Gold Award from the Minnesota Department of Health, on behalf of Dakota County, for the "Highest pediatric immunization series rate for a county with more than 4,000 children two years of age in the Minnesota Immunization Information Connection (MIIC)."

Mentoring future generations

Debra Thingstad Boe received the University of Minnesota School of Public Health's Star Award. Individuals are chosen for their contribution and dedication to the education, training, and guidance of the next generation of public health leaders.

Connecting families to early childhood services

The Humphrey School of Public Affairs chose Dakota County Public Health for a 2016 Local Government Innovation Award, for the successful pilot with South St. Paul Schools on the Birth to Age Eight Initiative. These awards recognize the creative ways counties, cities, townships and schools are making Minnesota better and doing things differently.



By the **NUMBERS**



1,604

immunizations administered at clinics

98

community groups and organizations Public Health partners with

2,350

people in Dakota County received training on mental health awareness and skills



841 children and pregnant women received dental care through a partnership with Children's Dental Services

11 City Profiles highlighted key components that demonstrate an age-friendly community

411 families were referred to their school district for early childhood and school readiness through the Birth to Age Eight Initiative

773 people walked and improved their health with the Simple Steps program

25 additional multi-unit housing complexes have policies to protect residents from secondhand smoke

424 participants in 8 emergency preparedness drills and exercises



1,317 high-risk pregnant and parenting families received home visits from a public health nurse

399 radon test kits distributed to keep homes safe



127 women attended the monthly Breastfeeding Discussion Groups



9,930

low-income women and children received nutritious foods, education on breastfeeding and referrals through WIC

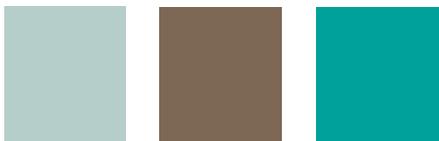
1,162 referrals processed for family health services

12,137 Child & Teen Checkups outreach calls



1,285 infants and children have increased opportunities for healthy eating and physical activity at childcare or preschool

33 low-income families who have children with asthma received support and education



568 car seats distributed

376 Child & Teen Checkups outreach events provided health information and referrals to families

3,439 home visits made by Dakota Healthy Families staff and nurses

Partnership Highlights

Honoring advocates of health

Every April, the County Board recognizes the contributions of people who devote their time, energy and talents to create a healthy future for all Dakota County residents. The 2016 honorees were recognized during National Public Health Week.

★ **GROUP AWARD - Nickie Carrigan Fitness: The Warehouse**

Nickie Carrigan and her team were recognized for their enthusiasm promoting health-related events that benefit people of all ages and abilities.

★ **INDIVIDUAL AWARD – Trudy Matthys**

Trudy Matthys was recognized for her role in starting immunization clinics at the Mission Outpost food shelf.

★ **YOUTH AWARD - Dakota County 4-H Youth Teaching Youth Mentoring Program**

Twelve high school youth mentors were recognized for being positive role models to elementary and middle school students.

Offering culturally appropriate mental health training

For the last two years, the Dakota County Public Health Department has been working closely with Fairview Ridges hospital to provide Mental Health First Aid (MHFA) training for staff and the community. Stemming from the strong partnership with the Department, Fairview trained 16 new MHFA instructors in 2016, including two teams of Spanish and Somali speakers and three African American instructors.

Public health ethics

In October 2016, Dakota County Public Health hosted a training from two members of the Presidential Commission for the Study of Bioethical Issues, located in Washington D.C., for Public Health staff and partners. The training covered basic public health ethics skills and methods for resolving ethical dilemmas. Dakota County partnered with the Minnesota Department of Health to promote the live training to other local public health departments, and offered it statewide through a recorded version on their website. A total of 128 people attended, including Dakota County staff, Fairview Hospital, guests from the Minnesota Department of Health and staff from 11 other county health departments.



Birth to Age Eight Initiative

The Birth to Age Eight Initiative brings essential partners together – the county, schools, and non-profits – to assure children reach key developmental milestones from birth to age eight. The goal is to see 100% of identified children meet the state proficiency reading target by the spring of third grade. Research shows children who do not reach this milestone are less likely to graduate and succeed as adults.

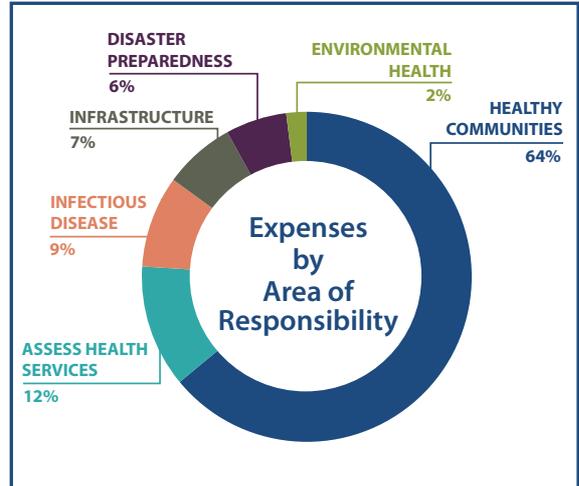
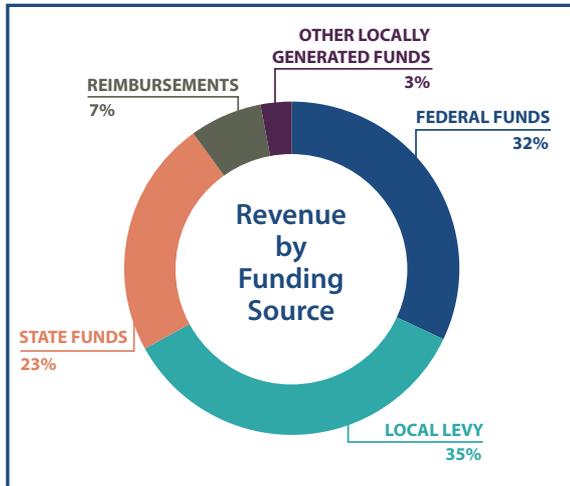
The Initiative also wants to have parents and the whole family receive the necessary support to succeed. In 2016, a collaboration between the Dakota County Women, Infants, and Children (WIC) program and four local school districts saw great success.

Using an innovative consent form and referral process, WIC staff sent 411 referrals to the participating school districts. Of these families, 71% would not have been contacted by the school without the referral: 55% were new to the census and 16% needed updated contact information. Families were then connected to early childhood services and support.

Key Financial Stats

2016 Budget: \$9,913,123 • Total 2016 FTEs = 93.12

2016 Public Health Revenues and Expenditures



Grant Funding

Minnesota Department of Health (MDH)

- Women, Infants, and Children (WIC) Program \$1,196,139
- Statewide Health Improvement Partnership \$775,704 per year (2 years)
- Local Public Health Act Grant \$967,617
- Maternal, Infant, Early Childhood Home Visiting (MIECHV) \$402,002
- Temporary Assistance for Needy Families (TANF) Grant \$325,356
- Maternal and Child Health (MCH) \$303,233
- Immunization Practice Improvement and Perinatal Hepatitis B Grant \$26,345
- Children and Youth with Special Health Needs \$24,200
- Health Disparities \$20,469
- Asthma Mentoring \$5,000
- Follow Along Program \$1,933

Minnesota Department of Human Services

- Child and Teen Checkups (C&TC) \$906,592

Greater Twin Cities United Way

- Metro Alliance for Healthy Families \$500,000 per year (3 years)

Centers for Disease Control (CDC)

- Public Health Emergency Preparedness \$221,753
- Cities Readiness Initiative \$76,258
- Ebola Preparedness \$20,000

Local Collaborative Time Study (LCTS)

- Dakota Healthy Families \$42,000

University of Washington School of Nursing

- Chart of Accounts \$15,000

National Association of County & City Health Officials (NACCHO)

- Medical Reserve Corp Challenge Award \$3,500



Dakota County
 Public Health Department
 1 Mendota Road West, Suite 410
 West St. Paul, MN 55118-4771
 651-554-6100
www.DakotaCounty.us



Dakota County
 Government



@DakotaCountyMN

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