

# Dakota County Public Health PROGRAMS AND RESOURCES

For children and families in Dakota County



## Services for Dakota County residents

The [Dakota County Public Health Department](#) provides a broad range of services to individuals, families, and communities to promote and protect the health of the residents of Dakota County.

The [Dakota County Resource Guide](#) provides a full list of services available in the community. The guide is available in [English](#), [Spanish](#), and [Somali](#). Printed copies are available through our [request form](#).

For more information on these programs, call 651-554-6100 or email [public.health@co.dakota.mn.us](mailto:public.health@co.dakota.mn.us). You can also learn more online at [www.co.dakota.mn.us](http://www.co.dakota.mn.us), search "Health Services."

## Asthma Program

The [Dakota County Asthma program](#) is free for children 17 and younger who live in Dakota County and have been diagnosed with asthma. It includes visits from a public health nurse. Families may be eligible to receive equipment to reduce asthma triggers in the home.

## Child and Teen Checkups

The [Child and Teen Checkups program](#) works with families, community partners and health professionals to increase access to regular, high-quality preventive medical and dental care for youth birth to age 21 who receive Medical Assistance. Staff can help find a doctor or dentist, make an appointment, find transportation, or an interpreter.

## Child Passenger Safety

Expecting families and parents with children up to age 9 who receive Medical Assistance Fee for Service (Straight MA) or are uninsured may be able to receive a free car seat.

## Family Home Visiting

The [Family Home Visiting program](#) focus on promoting the health and wellbeing of families by providing home visits to support families during pregnancy, after delivery, and the first years of a child's life. Staff can provide growth and development checks for infants and children, and resources for children with special needs.

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## Disease Prevention

- **Vaccine Clinics:** [Free or low-cost vaccines](#) are available for eligible children and adults at appointment clinics.
- **Tuberculosis Testing:** Mantoux ([Tuberculin Skin Testing](#)) is available at our Western Service Center Public Health Clinic for a flat fee of \$20. Appointments necessary. NOTE: We do not currently offer the TB blood test (IGRA).
- **Radon Testing:** Two out of five homes in Dakota County have radon levels above acceptable EPA guidelines. [Free radon test kits](#) are available for county residents at our Northern and Western Service Centers.
- **Sexually Transmitted Disease (STD) Resources:** Knowing STD status is a critical step to stopping STD transmission. Our team has resources and a list of [low-cost clinics](#).

## Follow Along Program

The [Dakota County Follow Along Program](#) is a free development and social-emotional screening program for children birth to 5 years of age. Families fill out questionnaires that ask how their child is growing, playing, talking, moving, and acting. Families receive results along with fun age-appropriate activities and connection to community resources.

## Mothers and Babies

[Mothers and Babies](#) helps perinatal parents build skills to manage stress and promote mental wellbeing. This program is available for pregnant people and families with children under the age of one, who live in Dakota County, regardless of income or insurance. This program is delivered in under 9 visits and can occur in-person or virtually. Home visitors are multilingual and have access to interpreter services.

## Smoke Free Housing

Dakota County partners with the Association for Nonsmokers-Minnesota to increase the number of smoke-free multi-unit housing options. ANSR's [Live Smoke Free program](#) provides smoke-free housing assistance to residents, property managers and owners including a [smoke-free housing directory](#), presentations, sample policies, and promotional tools.

## Substance Use Resources

Dakota County has several [substance use resources](#) including a [substance use treatment finder map](#). The county also offers [free nasal and intramuscular naloxone kits](#) and fentanyl test strips available to community members. No insurance or personal information is needed.

## Women, Infants & Children (WIC) Program

[Dakota County WIC](#) is for families. WIC stands for Women, Infants and Children. WIC is a nutrition program that helps families eat well and stay healthy. WIC provides [nutrition information](#), [healthy foods](#), [lactation support](#), and information on [health and community programs](#).

There are three ways to apply for WIC:

- Call 952-891-7525. The WIC phone line is open Monday through Friday, from 8 a.m. to 4 p.m.
- Text "DakotaWIC" to the phone number 855-11 and a WIC staff person will contact you.
- Fill out the [online application](#) and a WIC staff person will contact you.

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