



**NORTH DAKOTA**  
**DEPARTMENT of HEALTH**  
Community Health

**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.
- ☞ Develop effective policies.
- ☞ Engage in statewide partnerships.

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Cancer Prevention and Control	701.328.2333
Chronic Disease	701.328.2367

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Family Health	701.328.2493
Injury Prevention and Control	701.328.4536
Nutrition and Physical Activity	701.328.2496

## *Division of Cancer Prevention and Control*

### *Mission:*

☞ ☞ The mission of the Division of Cancer Prevention and Control is to increase cancer prevention and awareness by engaging in partnerships, collecting and reporting data, assuring quality data, providing public and professional education, and assuring availability of quality services for screening, treatment, rehabilitation and palliative care. ☞ ☞

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

- **Cancer Registry** – Collects, manages and analyzes cancer data with the diagnosis of malignant, in-situ and benign central nervous system. Data is used to evaluate patient outcomes, quality of life, treatment given and research projects and to help develop cancer education, prevention and screening programs. Confidentiality of the patient’s identifying and medical data is strictly maintained, and only aggregated data is released at the county or state level.
- **Comprehensive Cancer Prevention and Control Program** – Provides support for statewide stakeholders and partners using available resources to implement the state cancer plan. This is done by activities such as increasing public and provider education/awareness of cancer issues from prevention to palliative care, facilitating cancer screening, and increasing resources to access cancer treatment based on the identified priorities from North Dakota’s Burden of Cancer report.
- **Women’s Way (the North Dakota Breast and Cervical Cancer Early Detection Program)** – Provides breast and cervical cancer screening services to North Dakota program -eligible women. The program supports collaborations with community-based organizations – including health-care providers and public health – to increase public and health-care provider education, access to care, and screening services.

## *Division of Chronic Disease*

### *Mission:*

☞ ☞ To improve the health and quality of life for North Dakotans who have chronic diseases by promoting healthy behaviors, supporting health-care improvement measures, developing community policies and practices, and increasing disease risk awareness and by reducing the negative health and economic consequences of the state's number-one cause of preventable disease and death – tobacco use. ☞ ☞

The division accomplishes its mission by providing grants, training, community education and technical assistance to communities.

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

- **Heart Disease and Stroke Prevention Program** – Provides leadership for statewide partnerships to improve cardiovascular health for all, reduce the burden and eliminate health disparities associated with heart disease and stroke. The overarching statewide emphasis is education, policy and systems change.
- **State Stroke Program** – Provides grants to local hospitals to improve acute stroke care through adherence to evidence-based guidelines, quality improvement activities, training, technical assistance and community education/awareness.

- **Stroke System of Care Task Force** – Facilitates the sharing of best and promising practices to reduce duplication, identify gaps and advocate for positive policy and systems change. Provides leadership for the development of a statewide stroke system of care and serves on the task force as the state health officer designee.
- **Tobacco Cessation Services** – Provides grants for city, county and state employee cessation programs and supports a statewide tobacco cessation quit line and Internet-based cessation service for all tobacco users who want to quit.
- **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 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.

### *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, data, 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 administered by the division include:*

- **Behavioral Risk Factor Surveillance System** – Tracks health conditions and risk behaviors in the United States and North Dakota via the world’s largest, on-going telephone health survey system, yearly since 1984.
- **Coordinated School Health (CSH) Program** – Works in conjunction with the Department of Public Instruction to address the close relationship between health and learning. CSH provides consultation, technical assistance and resources for schools and school nurses to use in organizing and managing school health and wellness initiatives.
- **Cribs for Kids Program** – Provides infant safe-sleep education and portable cribs to pregnant women and new mothers through partner agencies.
- **Early Childhood Comprehensive Systems (ECCS) Program** – Supports collaborations and partnerships that support families and communities in their development of children who are healthy and ready to learn at school entry.

- **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.
- **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. Serves as the North Dakota/Iowa regional follow-up coordinator 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 and consultation 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.
  - **Healthy Smiles Fluoride Varnish Program** – Provides fluoride varnish for infants, children, adolescents and young adults to 21 years of age in various settings such as local public health, Head Start, clinics and schools.
  - **Seal! North Dakota** – Provides sealants to second and sixth grade students through school-based and school-linked programs to prevent dental decay in molar (back) teeth.
- **Sudden Infant Death Syndrome (SIDS) Program** – Provides support, education and follow-up to those affected by a sudden infant death.
- **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 administered by the division include:*

- **Child Passenger Safety Program** – Promotes child passenger safety activities through educational campaigns, car seat distribution programs, car safety seat checkups and trainings.

- **Domestic Violence/Rape Crisis** – Supports programs to develop effective law enforcement and prosecution strategies to combat domestic violence, sexual assault, dating violence and stalking crimes and strengthen victim services, and partner with stakeholders to develop and implement policies, provide training and technical assistance, and evaluate programs.
- **Injury/Violence Prevention Programs** – Promotes the reduction and elimination of intentional and unintentional injuries using best practice strategies, including primary prevention theories, data collection and analysis, intervention design and development, training and technical assistance, policy advocacy and evaluation.
- **Suicide Prevention** – Collaborates with the North Dakota Suicide Prevention Coalition to implement programs on suicide prevention and early intervention to reduce the number of attempted and completed suicides.

### *Division of Nutrition and Physical Activity*

#### *Mission:*

☞ ☞ To support growth and development; prevent overweight and obesity; and prevent and control diabetes through programs designed to improve healthful eating and physical activity. ☞ ☞

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

- **Breastfeeding Promotion and Support** – Breastfeeding is universally endorsed by the world’s health and scientific organizations as the best way of feeding infants and young children. It is also recognized by the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) as a primary strategy to reduce childhood obesity.
- **Diabetes Prevention and Control Program (DPCP)** – Supports diabetes prevention, early diagnosis and disease management by working with communities, health professionals and health systems in the areas of policy, disease management, quality improvement and education.
- **Healthy Communities Program** – Assists partners in schools, worksites and other community settings build and support environments that make it easier for North Dakota residents to choose healthy foods and be physically active.
- **Healthy People 2020** – *Healthy People 2020* provides science-based, 10-year national objectives for improving the health of all Americans.
- **Maternal and Child Health Nutrition** – Promotes nutritional wellbeing across the lifespan for women (preconception, prenatal, perinatal, breastfeeding and general wellbeing), infants, and children.
- **Special Supplemental Nutrition Program for Women, Infants and Children (WIC)** – 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.

### *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 CHS 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](http://www.healthynd.org).