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NORTH DAKOTA
DEPARTMENT *of* HEALTH

Health Resources Section

Food & Lodging

Health Facilities

Life Safety & Construction

Food & Lodging

The Division of Food and Lodging is responsible for protecting public health through licensing and inspection of restaurants, bars, lodging facilities, mobile-home parks, campgrounds, bed-and-breakfast facilities, retail food stores, meat markets, bakeries, assisted-living facilities, tanning facilities, tattoo/body art shops and electrologists. Inspection procedures ensure that these licensed establishments meet both sanitation and certain fire/life safety standards before opening to the public and while in operation.

Under an agreement with the Department of Human Services, staff members also inspect preschools and child care centers that prepare food. In addition, staff members inspect schools and migrant food-service sites through an agreement with the Department of Public Instruction. The division provides educational courses in safe food handling, reviews plans for new establishments and extensive remodeling projects, and helps investigate possible food borne illness outbreaks.

The division serves as the U.S. Food and Drug Administration's (FDA) liaison in the state on issues related to manufactured food and pesticide residues in food.

Goals

- Update memorandums of understanding with local public health units.
- Continue standardization of state and local public health unit inspector procedures.
- Review 2013 FDA Model Food Code for changes we will propose to adopt into our state food code regulations.
- Begin the process to purchase, develop and implement a new information management system.

Goals

- Update construction standards for hospitals, nursing facilities and basic care facilities.
- Conduct surveys at required intervals.
- Continue to educate health care facilities on compliance with codes and standards.

Accomplishments

- Created the division during the 2009-2011 biennium. The Life Safety Code program, which was previously located within the Division of Health Facilities, was moved to this division. In addition, the construction inspection program was created after approval and funding from the 2009 legislature.
- Development of the construction inspection program.



Life Safety & Construction

The focus of the Division of Life Safety & Construction is to protect and safeguard the people in North Dakota by ensuring a safe environment for those receiving services in health care facilities consistent with state and federal requirements.

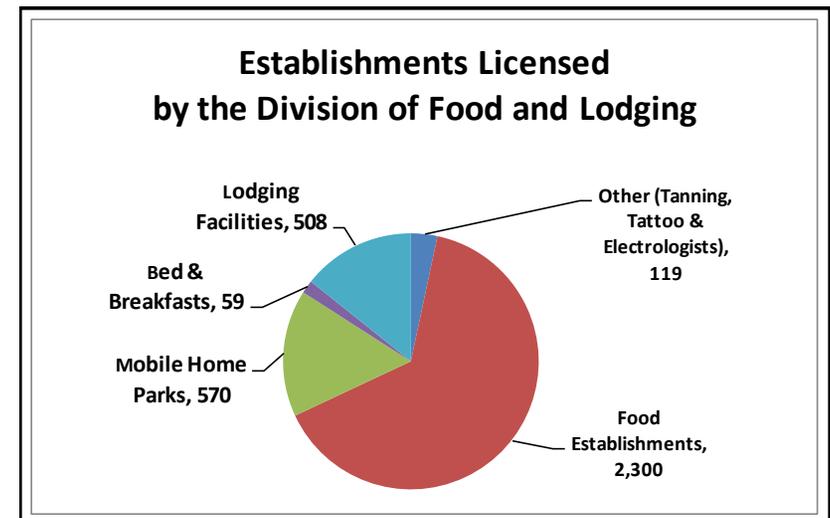
Several types of health care facilities are required to meet specific construction and Life Safety Code (fire safety) requirements in order to be licensed and participate in the Medicare/Medicaid programs. Life Safety Code surveys are done in the following type of facilities: nursing facilities, hospitals, critical access hospitals, basic care facilities, ambulatory surgical centers, end-stage renal dialysis units, and intermediate care facilities for the intellectually disabled.

Staff members conduct periodic surveys to determine compliance with state licensure requirements and federal certification Conditions of Participation contained in Title XVIII (Medicare) and Title XIX (Medicaid) of the Social Security Act. These Life Safety Code surveys are conducted by fire safety surveyors trained and experienced in the enforcement of the Life Safety Code.

The division also reviews construction plans and specifications for licensed health care facilities for compliance with licensing and construction standards. Construction inspections are conducted to verify compliance with these standards. Additions, remodeling and installations in nursing facilities, hospitals, critical access hospitals and basic care facilities require review and approval. This work is performed by staff educated and experienced in design and construction.

Accomplishments

- Conducted more than 6,100 inspections of licensed facilities.
- Increased number of state and local Environmental Health Practitioners (EHP's) standardized on food code regulations.
- Continue to stay current on plan reviews and inspections in the oil impact areas.



Health Facilities

The Division of Health Facilities strives to ensure that the equipment and staff of North Dakota's inpatient care facilities and outpatient programs provide services consistent with generally accepted practice and meet applicable standards.

State licensure responsibilities:

- General acute, primary care and specialized hospitals - 50
- Nursing Facilities - 80
- Home health agencies - 25
- Hospice programs - 13
- Basic care facilities - 68

Federal certification responsibilities:

- Long term care nursing facilities - 80
- Hospitals, including swing beds, general acute services, specialized and critical access hospital - 51
- Transplant hospitals - 2
- Intermediate care facilities for the Intellectually Disabled - 68
- Home health agencies - 18
- Hospice programs - 12
- Rural health clinics - 57
- Clinical laboratories - 601
- Ambulatory surgical centers - 12
- End-stage renal dialysis units - 16
- Portable X-ray units - 1
- Comprehensive outpatient rehabilitation facility - 1
- Psychiatric residential treatment facilities - 6
- Physical therapy/occupational therapy supplier - 1



Staff members conduct periodic surveys to determine compliance with state licensure requirements and federal certification Conditions of Participation or coverage contained in Title XVIII (Medicare), Title XIX (Medicaid) and CLIA of the Social Security Act. In addition, the division is responsible for

investigating quality-of-care complaints in licensed and/or certified facilities.

The licensure and certification surveys are conducted by surveyors who represent a wide range of professional disciplines including licensed social workers, licensed registered dietitians, registered nurses, clinical laboratory scientists, licensed physical therapists, licensed speech pathologists, pharmacists and qualified developmental disability professionals.

The nurse aide training and competency evaluation programs provide for state approval of nurse aide training programs in order to be consistent with federal certification requirements for long term care facilities. In addition, medication aides, home health aides and nurse aides are registered with the division's Nurse Aide Registry.

Goals

- Maintain the average survey interval of 12 months or less for long term care facilities.
- Address complaints in a manner consistent with federal and state guidelines.
- Maintain a 2 to 3 year survey cycle for basic care facilities.

Accomplishments

- Convened and continue to have quarterly meetings of the Long Term Care Advisory Committee consisting of representatives from the long term care community.
- Continued to assist critical access hospitals with maintaining compliance, which allows greater flexibility in use of nursing and medical staff, as well as a more favorable Medicare reimbursement process.
- Continued to provide oversight of licensed basic care facilities.