

Programs of the Office of Public Health

OFFICE OF
PUBLIC HEALTH



Buildings and Premises Inspection

- Through inspections and technical assistance, assures a safe and healthy environment in buildings where the public visits or congregates (schools and child care centers, and in facilities where persons are confined such as hospitals, nursing homes, group homes and prisons).

Louisiana State Center for Health Statistics

- Provides state health status indicators and analyses for use in health program planning and evaluation, monitoring health problems that may occur in Louisiana, supporting health research data projects in conjunction with universities, private and other public agencies.

Children's Special Health Services

- Plans, coordinates, improves and administers specialized medical care programs for eligible children with severe/chronic medical illnesses or disabilities.

Chronic Disease Control

- Promotes adherence to a risk-reducing life-style, thereby decreasing the prevalence of chronic conditions in the population.

Commercial Seafood Sanitation

- Prevents seafood-borne disease outbreaks and insures that all distributed shellfish and commercially processed seafood are in compliance with the State Food, Drug, and Cosmetic Law, State Sanitary Code and the National Shellfish Sanitation Program.

Communicable Disease Control

Infectious Epidemiology

- Offers a computerized surveillance system to document cases of communicable diseases and to identify disease trends and risk groups. The program also conducts investigations of disease outbreaks, conducts rabies surveillance and evaluates transmission potential; provides consultation and technical assistance to private and public health care professionals; provides educational in-service programs to a variety of health professionals; and publishes timely information to physicians on communicable diseases.

HIV/AIDS

- Provides for surveillance of HIV infection and AIDS cases, with bimonthly and annual reports.
- Prevents the spread of HIV through various services in high risk areas, including targeted HIV/STD prevention education, HIV counseling and testing in parish health units, peer youth and prison programs and one-on-one street outreach in communities with high rates of sexually transmitted diseases.
- Provides HIV infected clients with home health and hospice, medications, transportation, emergency assistance funds and housing.

Sexually Transmitted Diseases

- Provides surveillance and control of sexually transmitted diseases by identifying infected individuals and providing treatment.

Immunization

- Provides leadership, vaccines and supplies to give a full range of immunizations to at least 95 percent of the state's children by the time they enter kindergarten and to give the full range of immunizations to 90 percent of the state's children by the age of two.

Tuberculosis Control

- Provides surveillance for active tuberculosis cases; tracking, testing and medical evaluation of contacts to active cases; outbreak evaluations and control, and provides professional community education.

Community Sewerage Program

- Monitors and regulates sewerage treatment and sanitary sewage disposal by community systems to protect the public from wastewater-borne disease outbreaks, from sewerage treatment systems, whether privately or publicly owned, serving two or more individuals.

Emergency Medical Services

- Provides Emergency Medical Technician training programs that meet the requirements of the National Registry of EMTs and provides the National Registry of EMTs written and practical examinations.

Buildings and Premises Inspections

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LA State Center for Health Statistics

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Children's Special Health Services

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Chronic Disease Control

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Commercial Seafood Sanitation

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Infectious Epidemiology

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HIV/AIDS

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Sexually Transmitted Diseases

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Tuberculosis Control

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Environmental Epidemiology

- Identifies and evaluates the effects that toxic chemicals have on the public's health. Makes recommendations to prevent or reduce illnesses that may be caused by exposure to those chemicals and promote a better public understanding of the health effects of chemicals in the environment.

Family Planning

- Provides health education to women and health care to child-bearing-age women in order to reduce female and infant morbidity and mortality and in order to allow individuals and families to plan family size and spacing of pregnancies.

Food and Drug Control

- Protects the health and welfare of consumers by assuring that foods, drugs, cosmetics and prophylactic devices manufactured, processed, packed or sold in Louisiana are pure, safe, wholesome and perform as they are labeled or advertised.

Individual Sewerage Program

- Monitors, regulates and issues permits for individual sewerage systems to protect the public from wastewater-borne disease, from sewerage treatment systems served by a single dwelling, office building or institution, exclusive of industrial wastes.

Infectious Waste Control

- Protects health by regulating the packaging, transportation and treatment of potentially infectious biomedical waste by health care facilities, commercial transport, storage and treatment facilities and private citizens.

Genetic Diseases

- Provides screening, diagnosis, counseling and educational services to individuals with genetic disorders, their families and the general public.

Injury Research and Prevention

- Serves as an information and technical assistance resource for injury prevention efforts in Louisiana and conducts surveillance of targeted injuries.

Insect Vector Control

- Prevents and controls the transmission of insect- or rodent-borne diseases such as yellow fever, malaria, dengue fever, encephalitis (all carried by mosquitoes) and plague and typhus (carried by fleas).

Laboratory Services

- Laboratory analyses combine screening, prevention, diagnosis and treatment for patients in programs where health services are delivered directly to the client and for monitoring and data collection where epidemiology is the focus. Laboratory analyses also combine inspection and correction of conditions that may cause disease or disorder to Louisiana citizens or to those who buy goods produced in the state.

Maternal and Child Health

- Provides education, counseling, screening, treatment and follow-up to ensure the physical and dental health of infants, children and pregnant women in this state.

Milk and Dairy Control

- Assures safe, wholesome milk and milk products for public consumption and works to maintain a zero level of milk-borne disease in the state. Certifies all dairy farms and processing plants supplying milk for government contracts and interstate commerce.

Nutrition Services

- Provides community nutrition outreach programs and health fairs.
- Provides technical support and training for healthcare professionals.
- Provides training and professional guidance for public health interns and students in graduate, post-graduate and medical programs.
- Provides nutrition screening, assessment and counseling.
- Certified Child Care Consultants

OFFICE OF
PUBLIC HEALTH**WIC Services (Supplemental Program for Women, Infants and Children)**

- When medically necessary, WIC provides a nutritious food package and nutrition counseling to low income infants and children up to the age of five, as well as pregnant, postpartum and breastfeeding women at nutritional risk.

WIC also provides:

- Breastfeeding guidance;
- Breast pump loan program;
- Nutrition activities and group classes;
- Cooking demonstrations and recipes; and
- Nutrition screening, assessment and counseling.

Commodity Supplemental Food Program

- Provides a monthly nutritious food package to low income seniors aged sixty and older, pregnant and postpartum women and infants and children up to the age of six.

Operator Certification Program for Water and Wastewater Operators

- Provides licenses for Water and Wastewater Operators of systems that serve populations over 500 and coordinates training programs with other training organizations

Oyster Water Monitoring

- Prevents infectious disease by providing health certification that shellfish-growing waters do not contain contamination or pollution hazardous to public health.

Pharmacy Services

- Provides the medication requirements for the Family Planning Program, including contraceptive devices and medications for the STD, Tuberculosis, Children's Special Health Services and Hemophilia Programs.

Public Health Social Services

- Provides psychosocial services for children, families and adults, directly or via referral within the community service network. Services are routinely available in the Children's Special Health Services

Program and by referrals in other programs of the OPH.

Retail Food Inspection

- Prevents or minimizes the occurrence of food-borne disease outbreaks through comprehensive programs of consulting.

Safe Drinking Water

- Assures the proper design, construction, operation and quality of public water supplies and provides technical assistance to persons with individual water systems.

Vital Records

- Responds to statutory mandates related to the collection, maintenance, certification, sale and preservation of birth, death, marriage and other vital records.

Emergency Preparedness

- The Office of Public Health works with other state agencies to deal with natural and man-made disasters located within or near the borders of Louisiana. Offers updated information as received by the Emergency Operating Center (EOC) and provides and receives technical advice on:
- Surveillance of food, milk, drugs and cosmetics;
- Collection of food, milk, water and sewage samples and transportation of those samples to the appropriate laboratory for testing;
- Sewage surveillance;
- Potable water surveillance;
- Vector control;
- Provides for the diversion, disposition and salvage of contaminated food, crops and milk;
- Provides for the inspection of adequate sanitary, water and food services at shelter facilities, in conjunction with public health nurses who may be assigned to designated shelters;
- Notifies downstream water purification facilities of problems, if applicable;
- Advises downstream water purification facilities of appropriate protective actions; and
- Monitors infectious disease outbreaks or problems of other human health indicators.

WIC Services

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Operator Certification Program for Water and Wastewater Operators

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Molluscan Shellfish Program

Kenneth Hemphill
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Pharmacy Services

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Public Health Social Services

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Retail Food Inspection

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Safe Drinking Water

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Vital Records

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Emergency Preparedness

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OFFICE OF
PUBLIC HEALTH

Adolescent Health

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Adolescent School Health

- Operates 22 School-Based Health Centers around the state of Louisiana. These centers help to meet the physical and emotional health needs of students and their families in an affordable and accessible manner. The Office of Public Health also assists in the coordination of Comprehensive School Health Education.
- Provides current and comprehensive data, information and resources to facilitate collaborative and community-based adolescent health activities.

Healthy Communities

Scott Whoolery
504-568-7119

Healthy Communities

- Utilizes a proven set of tools that allows a community to identify its strengths, resources and needs.
- Focuses on strengthening the problem-solving capability of the community.
- Builds a community network of relationships that increases cooperation, reduces duplication, stretches resources and fosters a sense of self-reliance.

Nursing Services

Doris Brown
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Nursing Services

- Assesses, evaluates, counsels, and educates clients on chronic disease reduction (heart disease, diabetes, strokes, and chronic respiratory conditions).
- Provides child health services including physical assessments, developmental evaluations, health risk assessments, immunizations, and nutritional guidance.
- Provides early screening and detection of cervical and breast cancer.

Sports Management

Rudy Macklin
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Sports Management

- Develops, coordinates and sponsors services, programs, workshops, clinics and conferences of physical fitness and sports for the people of Louisiana.
- Develops brochures and information on physical fitness and sports; serves as a clearinghouse for information relative to sports and physical education.
- Develops fitness and wellness programs throughout the state for small, medium and large businesses.