

Public Health

Not just for Nurses

Public Health Policy in North Dakota



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Outline

- Public Health Infrastructure in ND
- Current Scope per NDCC
- Legislative Changes or New Bills
- Public Health Advocacy in ND

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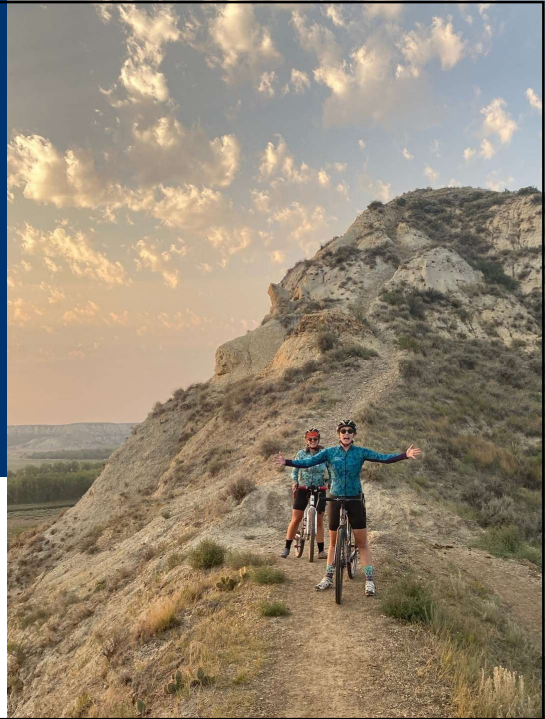
Public Health:

The science and art of preventing disease, prolonging life, and promoting health through organized efforts and informed choices of society, organizations, public and private, communities, and individuals

- C. Winslow, 1920

Health:

Not only the absence of illness, but the presence of wellness. - WHO



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History of Public Health in ND

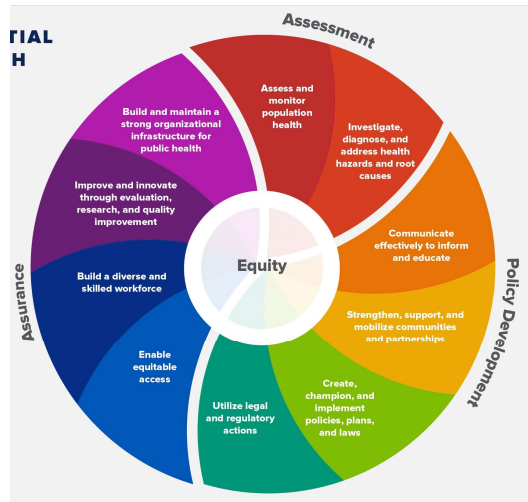
- This year (2023) we celebrate 100 years of Public Health in ND
- 1923 State Department of Health was formed
- 1862 Dakota Territory passed a law prohibiting "adulteration of food or drugs"
- 1873- local public health agencies were put in place until statehood
- 1889- State Board of Health Established
- 1923 State Department formed with divisions including
 - Vital statistics
 - Preventable disease
 - Child hygiene
 - Nursing
 - Engineering



Yanktonai women, Standing Rock, 1923

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10 Essential Public Health Services



CDC.gov

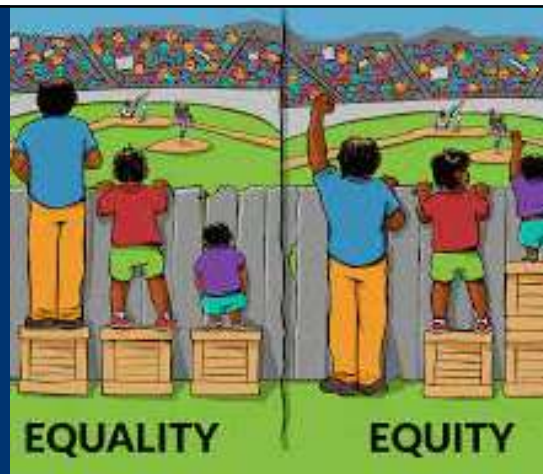
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- **Assess** population health
- **Investigate** health hazards
- **Communicate** to the public
- **Strengthen** & mobilize partnerships
- **Create** policy that advances health
- **Utilize** regulatory actions
- **Assure** system access & services
- **Build** a skilled workforce
- **Improve** public health
- **Maintain** strong infrastructure

Health Equity

Health equity is the state in which everyone has a fair and just opportunity to attain their highest level of health. Achieving this requires focused and ongoing societal efforts to address historical and contemporary injustices; overcome economic, social, and other obstacles to health and healthcare; and eliminate preventable health disparities. - CDC, 2022



Social Determinants of Health:

The conditions in the environments where people are born, live, learn, work, play, worship, and age that affect a wide range of health, functioning, and quality-of-life outcomes and risks. - Healthy People 2030

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NDHHS Health Equity

- Community Engagement Subsection
 - Director
 - Assistant Director
 - 2 Community Engagement Specialists
 - 2 CDC Public Health Associates (grant program)
 - Includes 4 Tribal Health Liaisons
 - 4 Graduate Assistants
- In 2022 a Health Equity Committee was formed to oversee the Community Engagement subsection of the Public Health Division with professionals from all over the state

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Infrastructure Change: NDDHHS

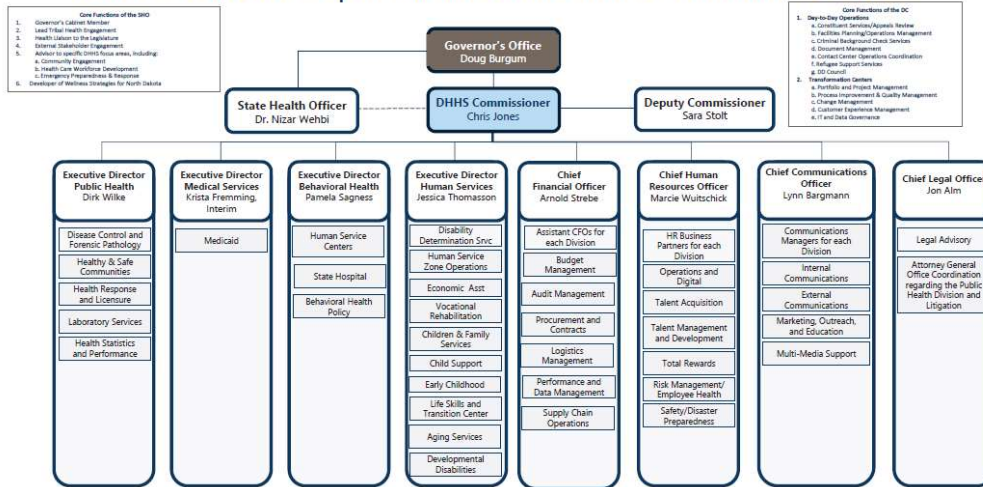
- September 1, 2022 **two** departments (NDDOH and NDHS) merged to create the **North Dakota Department of Health and Human Services**
- **1 Department with 8 Divisions**
 - Behavioral Health
 - Communications
 - Finance
 - Human Resources
 - Human Services
 - Legal
 - Medical Services
 - Public Health



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Org. Chart as of Nov 2022

North Dakota Department of Health & Human Services



North Dakota Department of Health and Human Services

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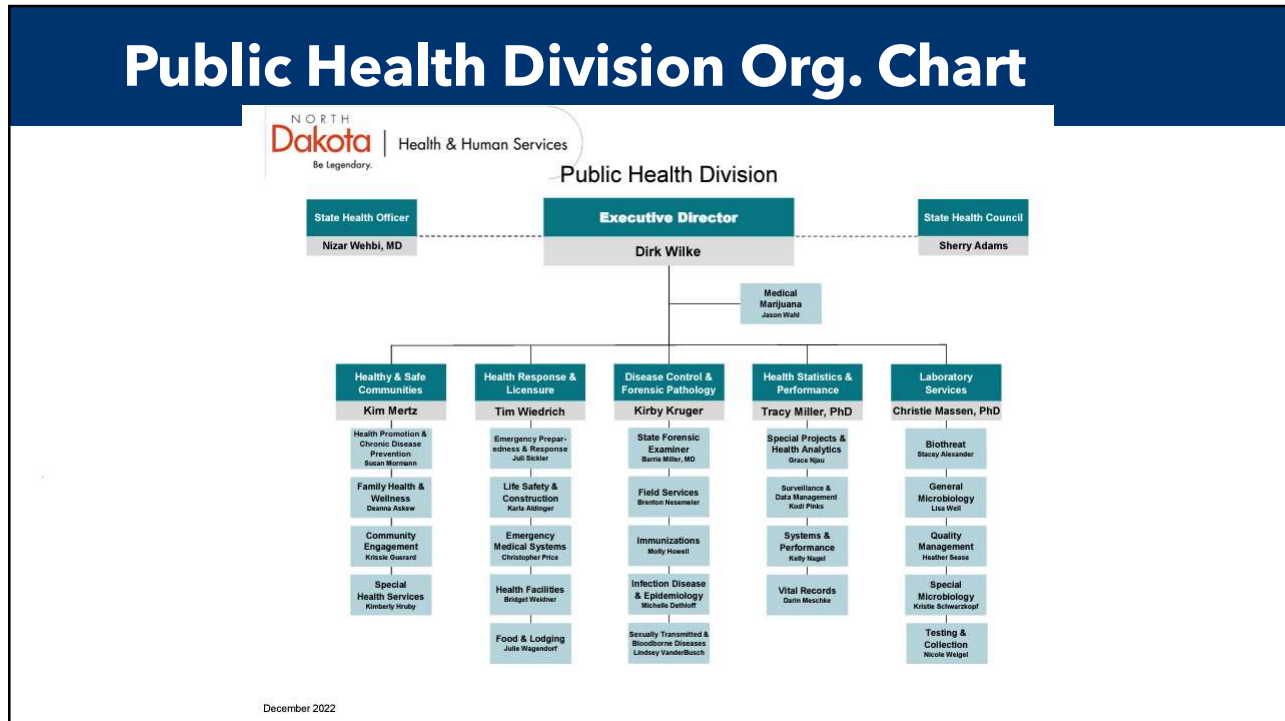
Infrastructure Change: NDDHHS

- Services Include:
 - Adult, Children, Community Health
- Public Health Division 5 Sections
 - Disease Control & Forensic Pathology
 - Healthy & Safe Communities
 - Health Response & Licensure
 - Laboratory Services
 - Health Statistics & Performance

Public Health Division Goals (2022):



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Health Units

- Though departments merged, Health Units and Human Services Zones are DIFFERENT, and will remain so.
- Health Units are defined by NDCC 23-3.
- North Dakota has 28 independent Health Units that fall under 5 structure types:
 - City/County Health Department
 - City/County Health District
 - Multi County Health District
 - Single County Health Department
 - Single County Health District

North Dakota Local Public Health Units

City/County Health Department

City/County Health District

Multi-County Health District

Single County Health Department

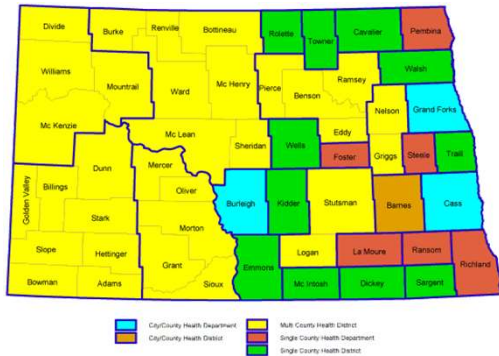
Single County Health District

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Health Units vs. Service Zones

Health Units

- Independent & created through NDCC 23-35



Human Service Zones

- Governed by NDHHS



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Health Units: The 5 Structures

- City/County Health District

Barnes County chose to switch from a City/County department via North Dakota Century Code 23-35-04 in 1992. Rather than county or city commissioners, Barnes County (known as City-County Health District) answers to the District Board of Health for both city and county issues.

- Departments are governed by either city or county commissions
- Districts are governed by boards of health (that can be appointed by (commissioners))



Public Health
Prevent. Promote. Protect.
City-County Health District

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Health Units: The 5 Structures

City/County Health Units:

- **Fargo/Cass (FCPH)**
 - Fargo contracts with Cass County
 - Board is only advisory
 - Governed by Fargo City Commission under Home Rule Charter
- **Grand Forks (GFPH)**
 - Board of Health members are appointed by GF Mayor and confirmed by city council
- **Bismarck/Burleigh (BBPH)**
 - Bismarck Contracts with Burleigh county
 - Separate boards of health appointed by their respective commissions
 - Boards of health are advisory

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Health Units: The 5 Structures

- Single County Health Department
 - Steele
 - Richland
 - Foster
 - Lamoure
 - Pembina
 - Ransom

There are six County Health Departments in North Dakota. These counties have boards of health that are appointed by County Commissioners. Boards in these counties include at least one County Commissioner and a practicing physician as a Health Officer for the county.

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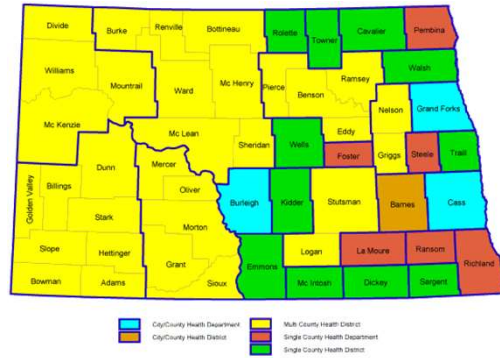
Health Units: The 5 Structures

• Single County Health District

- These county districts are not associated with city health departments and have their own governing board (rather than a board appointed by a city or county commission). However, county commissioners may be on the health board.

Cavalier
Dickey
Emmons
Kidder
McIntosh

Rolette
Sargent
Towner
Traill
Walsh
Wells

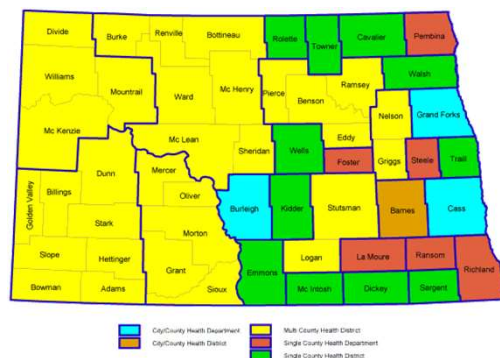


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Health Units: The 5 Structures

Multi-county Health districts

- Custer Health Unit (name change upcoming)
- Southwestern District Health Unit
- Upper Missouri District Health Unit
- First District Health Unit
- Lake Region District Health Unit
- Central Valley Health Unit
- Nelson-Griggs District Health Unit




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Bismarck, ND 58501
www.ndsaccho.org

Current Health Unit Scope



Per NDCC 23-35

- Health Unit formation
 - District Formation
 - District Merger
 - District Dissolution
- Wastewater and Septic
- Nuisance Abatement
- Boards of Health Powers
- Budgeting
- Duties of Local health Officers

NDSACCHO MANUAL

FOR HEALTH UNITS & OFFICERS

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NDCC that applies to Health Units

Also included in the Manual:

- Communicable Disease Confinement (23-07)
- HIPAA (23-01)
- Food & Lodging (23-09)
 - Possible new changes to the century code
- Home Rule Charter
 - Cities (40-05)
 - Counties (11-09)

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SB 2153: 5 Core Functions



- Signed into law 3/28 by Gov. Burgum
- Amends NDCC23-35-02 Public Health Units

1. Communicable Disease Control

- Conduct disease surveillance
- Assure community programs
- Recognize & respond

2. Chronic Disease & Injury Prevention

3. Environmental Health

- Prevent hazards
- Assure services & response

4. Maternal, Child, & Family Health

- Assessment maternal health
- Implement programs

5. Access to Clinical Care

- Collaborate with healthcare systems
- Facilitate care coordination

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ND Executive Budget 2023-2025

- \$55 million for a new Public health and Environmental Quality lab
- \$3 million for Public Health Emergency Response and Preparedness
- \$ 3 million to Public Health and Wellbeing (HHS)
- \$3.3 million to Public Health State Aid
- A recommended supplemental appropriation \$25 million of Special Funds to DHHS for extension of public health emergency and Medicaid enrollment

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NDSACCHO Legislative Priorities 2023-2025



Secure State Aid Funding



Environmental Health



Behavioral Health



Tobacco & Substance Use
Prevention

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ND Policy/ Advocacy Resources

- North Dakota Association of Counties & Association of City County Health Officials
- North Dakota Rural Health Association
- North Dakota Public Health Association
- Center for Rural Health at UND
- National Rural Health Association

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Questions/Comments/Feedback?

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Thank you

