Communication & Planning

Division of Acute Disease Prevention & Emergency Response
Phone: 515-242-5224
www.idph.state.ia.us/adper/cap.asp

Promoting & Protecting the Health of Iowans

IDPH Iowa Department of Public Health

Loss of cognitive functioning—thinking, remembering, and reasoning to such an extent that it interferes with a person's life—exacts a tremendous toll on Iowans with Alzheimer's disease and family caregivers. An estimated 34,500 Iowans have been diagnosed with the disease; with the steady increase in baby boomers turning 65, the number is expected to grow substantially in the next 20 years. Lack of early diagnosis and treatment of those with the disease may create such serious issues as safety, failure to follow prescribed medications, and fall-related injuries. Through collaboration among all 99 Iowa counties, and more than 500 members of organizations in the public and private sectors, Iowa is one of four states that identified this unique need and included strategies to address the disease in its state health improvement plan, *Healthy Iowans*.

In developing *Healthy Iowans, the* Bureau of Communication is responsible for facilitating discussions about the health needs of Iowa, documenting critical health needs Identified by Iowa partners, and monitoring progress towards meeting those needs. There are 39 critical needs within *Healthy Iowans* with 60 organizations providing data and strategies they will use to improve the health of Iowans.

Did you know?

Healthy Iowans is Iowa's 5-year health improvement plan and has more than 50 health improvement goals and nearly 150 strategies.

Why is Communication and Planning important to promoting and protecting the health of Iowans?

- CAP facilitates local, state, and department assessment and planning activities that improve the function of public health for all Iowans.
- Clear and accurate information helps Iowans stay healthy, live with diseases like cancer or arthritis, and be ready for and cope with public health threats or emergencies.
- CAP works on modernizing the public health system, quality improvement, and performance improvement. These activities contribute to increasing our ability to meet the health needs of Iowans.
- A highly trained and competent workforce strengthens the public health infrastructure. This infrastructure allows IDPH to prevent epidemics and the spread of disease; protect against environmental hazards; promote healthy behaviors; prevent injuries; and prepare for, respond to, and recover from public health emergencies.

Which Iowa Public Health Goals are we working to achieve?

Strengthen the public health infrastructure

What do we do?

- Help set health goals, create plans to meet them, and then track the progress toward meeting those goals.
- Provide information to the public about the department's administrative rules.
- Make sure that public health data are available to make decisions about what public health services are provided.
- Help IDPH programs set targets and measure their progress in meeting their program goals.
- Provide accurate information to the public about health-related issues.
- Coordinate planning for changes in Iowa's public health system.
- Provide technical assistance to communities in assessing their needs and writing health improvement plans.
- Recruit and work to retain qualified public health professionals.
- Handle all human resources issues including benefits, payroll, and employee relations.
- Offer trainings that improve performance of IDPH employees and enhance their knowledge base.
- Coordinate a state process to make sure that the planning for a new or changed institutional health service will be cost-effective.

How do we measure our progress?

❶ **Local public health agencies within Iowa that have staff trained in quality improvement activities.**

Data Source: Program Training Records.

How are we doing? Since 2010, IDPH has been training local public health employees on how to implement quality improvement within their agencies. With a goal of 60% by 2012, currently 72% of local public health agencies have had staff complete training in quality improvement.

❷ **The number of IDPH employees that participate in internal training and find it useful in their daily work.**

	Calendar Year				
Performance Measure	**2008**	**2009**	**2010**	**2011**	**2012**
# of employees attending training	316	505	531	574	765
% of employees rating training as useful	97.0%	96.0%	97.5%	99.5%	99.3%
Target	**90%**	**90%**	**90%**	**90%**	**90%**

Data Source: IDPH Employee Development Surveys. Data are available annually.

How are we doing? IDPH has more than 400 employees. Training coverage has increased substantially. More than 700 employees participated in training in 2012, indicating some employees attended more than one training. About 99.3% of those who participate rate the trainings as useful in their daily work or potentially useful in their future work. Internal trainings utilize the unique skills and experience of department staff. The trainings convey skills to other employees with little to no cost and with large benefits in productivity and efficiency. The training also improves employee satisfaction and performance, reducing turnover.

What can Iowans do to help?

1. All Iowans should learn about important public health issues and policies. Visit the IDPH homepage at www.idph.state.ia.us.
2. All Iowans should be aware of the public health services they can expect from local and public health, no matter where they live. For more information, go to www.idph.state.ia.us/mphi/.
3. All Iowans can participate in assessing health needs and planning improvements. To learn more, go to www.idph.state.ia.us/chnahip/ and www.idph.state.ia.us/adper/healthy_iowans.asp.
4. All Iowans can learn more about public health and the wide variety of careers and services in the field. To learn more, go to www.idph.state.ia.us/Employment/.

Expenditures

General fund, federal indirect funds, private grants*, private donations,* & registration fees*: K09-0969; K19-1963; K21-2211; 0153-2110/2236/2238/2240/2242.

	State Fiscal Year 2011 Actual	State Fiscal Year 2012 Actual	State Fiscal Year 2013 Estimate
State funds	$372,202	$349,260	$335,618
Federal funds	$1,207,352	$1,343,509	$1,310,097
Other funds*	$237,250	$36,105.17	$2,075
Total funds	**$1,816,804**	**$1,728,874**	**$1,647,790**
FTEs	16.47	16.55	19.05

Note: Funding information is intended to provide an overview of funding related to the program area. It does not include all federal and state requirements and/or restrictions for the use of funds. Contact the program area for more detailed budget information.

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Phone: 515-242-5224 ◆ Fax: 515-281-3121 ◆ www.idph.state.ia.us/adper/cap.asp
5th & 6th Floors, Lucas Building ◆ 321 E. 12th Street ◆ Des Moines, IA 50319-0075