



State/Territory Report

State/Territory: Iowa

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Contact Person: Julie McMahon

Email: jmcmahon@idph.state.ia.us

Phone: 515.281.3104

Fax: 515.242.6384

Projects/Issues Addressed This Year:

- **Finalization of the Iowa Public Health Standards and the endorsement of these standards by the State Board of Health**
http://www.idph.state.ia.us/rphi/common/pdf/final_version.pdf
- **Passage of the Public Health Modernization Act**
http://www.idph.state.ia.us/mphi/common/pdf/governor_law.pdf
- **Passage of the Local Public Health Governance Act – SF2266**
http://www.idph.state.ia.us/mphi/common/pdf/chapter137_governor.pdf
- **Providing leadership for the Implementation phase of Public Health Modernization**
- **Response to the public health emergencies of floods and tornadoes in Iowa. Public health nurses demonstrated leadership in**
 - **coordinating community health needs assessments of flooded communities to better address those needs**
 - **providing vaccinations to those for whom it is recommended**
 - **ensuring clean water supplies and functional sanitary systems**
 - **providing a variety of educational resources on topics such as what to do with a flooded well, cleaning and disinfecting, returning home safely, and preventing CO poisoning and injuries**
 - **promoting efforts to manage stress**
 - **monitoring for acute disease outbreaks**
 - **providing medical information to health care providers about flood related health issues**

- **providing leadership at local and state emergency operating centers**
- **staffing and management of “at risk” Iowans in shelters**
- **Response to H1N1 outbreak in Spring 2009, and planning for control and mitigation strategies and a vaccination program in Fall 2009.**
<http://www.idph.state.ia.us/h1n1/>
- **Providing leadership for the Implementation of Health Care Reform in Iowa. Public health nurses are represented in the following strategies:**
 - **Expansion of the hawk-i and Medicaid programs to provide increased coverage for children**
 - **Electronic Health Information Advisory Council charged with developing a statewide health information technology plan**
 - **A two year patient autonomy in health care decisions pilot project**
 - **Medical Home System Advisory Council**
 - **Prevention and Chronic Care Management Advisory Council**
 - **Health and Long Term Care Access Advisory Council**
 - **Community Wellness**
 - **Direct Care Worker Advisory Council to advise regarding regulation and certification of direct care**

The Check-Up is a health care reform newsletter designed to keep interested Iowans (and others external to Iowa) up to date on the progress of health reform in Iowa!

http://www.idph.state.ia.us/hcr_committees/default.asp

- **Development of a Local Public Health Agency Nurse Leader Orientation Plan**
- **Actively participated in the development and evaluation of a Local Board of Health Toolkit**
<http://www.public-health.uiowa.edu/umphtc/education/boh/>
- **Ongoing efforts to improve and expand “long term living” in Iowa with a focus on “healthy aging” and the provision of home and community based services.**
- **Continuing to develop and implement culturally competent strategies that address the unique needs and health beliefs of Iowa’s growing ethnic and minority populations**

Projects/Issues Pending:

- **Retention and recruitment of public health nurses in a climate of workforce shortages: i.e. aging/retiring workforce, turnover due to stress, salaries that are not competitive, changing expectations of “Generation Y” nurses**
- **Providing culturally appropriate care in an Iowa that is more diverse**

Issues & Special Concerns for Public Health Nursing:

- **Status quo/reduction in funding with expanded need for delivery of services**
- **Compliance with the Iowa Public Health Standards**
- **Accountability and measuring outcomes**
- **Evidence-based, population-based public health strategies**
- **Telling “our story” – marketing the importance of public health nursing to consumers, stakeholders and funders**

Please complete the “State/Territory Report Form” and e-mail it to Janet DeVeny-Edwards at JanetkD@health.ok.gov Reports received by May 21, 2010 will be included in meeting packets. If you do not send by May 21st, please bring 50 copies to the meeting.