

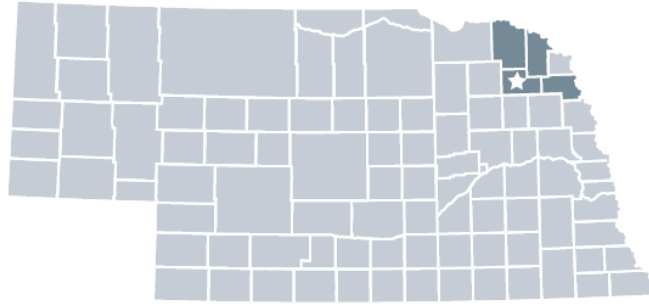


2023

ANNUAL REPORT

NORTHEAST NEBRASKA PUBLIC HEALTH DEPARTMENT

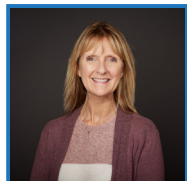
"We work to prevent disease and injury, promote optimal health, and protect the health of the public."



CEDAR, DIXON, THURSTON, WAYNE

Our Priorities

The Community Health Improvement Planning (CHIP) process launched during this year based upon the assessment work conducted in the previous year. The work was directed by the board of the Northeast Nebraska Rural Health Network (NNRHN) which is led by Northeast Nebraska Public Health Department (NNPHD) and includes representatives from Pender Community Hospital, Providence Medical Center, University of Nebraska Medical Center, and Winnebago Public Health Department. New NNRHN Board Members were added in 2022 including Wayne Family Medicine and Midtown Health Center. More than 40 participants were involved in development of the CHIP. Priority areas decided upon by the group include Behavioral Health and Health Promotion. Coalitions were formed for these priority areas with goals and action steps being developed for each. These coalitions continue to meet to collaboratively address the goals with the intent to decrease stigma and improve access to healthcare for all populations.



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21 employees | population 30,429

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Only **2 out of 12 local dental clinics** take new Medicaid patients

MATERNAL, CHILD, & FAMILY HEALTH

What we do: NNPHD provides oral health education, cleaning, fluoride, and sealants to people of all ages. We connect those with immediate needs to dentists for further care.

Why we do it: At one school screening, NNPHD's oral health team found a child with severe dental needs, in discomfort, and doing poorly in school. Staff secured free services from partners and the child is now doing well.

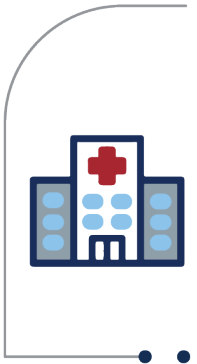


Syphilis cases increased locally by **133%** (18 to 42) in one year

COMMUNICABLE DISEASE CONTROL

What we do: NNPHD monitors and investigates infectious diseases to identify and respond to outbreaks. Last year, NNPHD responded to outbreaks of avian flu, chickenpox, RSV in a daycare, and COVID-19.

Why we do it: NNPHD followed up on 386 cases of infectious disease other than COVID-19; 58.8% were sexually transmitted infections.

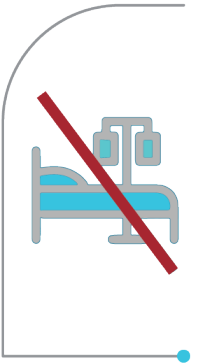


80% of what makes us healthy lies **outside** the healthcare system

ACCESS TO & LINKAGE WITH CLINICAL CARE

What we do: Community Health Workers (CHWs) link people to services that address needs that impact their health such as housing, food, transportation, and health care services.

Why we do it: "Nationally, over 34 million school hours and more than \$45 billion in productivity are lost each year as a result of dental emergencies." ~CDC. People are missing school and work due to pain.



72.5% of adults in the health district are **overweight or obese**

CHRONIC DISEASE & INJURY PREVENTION

What we do: NNPHD and partners are working to help people who have prediabetes and diabetes get healthcare and other services. We are also offering a weight management program for adults.

Why we do it: Public health works through partnerships. NNPHD's partnerships are tackling major health problems like diabetes and obesity through education, encouragement, and support to individuals.



237 red-meat-allergy-causing **Lonestar ticks** were found in NNPHD in **2023**

ENVIRONMENTAL PUBLIC HEALTH

What we do: NNPHD provides: free radon and drinking water test kits; surveillance and education for lead poisoning in children; trapping and testing ticks and mosquitoes to identify the presence of vector-borne disease.

Why we do it: NNPHD counties have some of the highest levels of radon in Nebraska. Over 50% of ticks trapped in the health district in 2023 were positive for B. burgdoferi (Lyme Disease).

NORTHEAST NEBRASKA PUBLIC HEALTH DEPARTMENT (NNPHD)

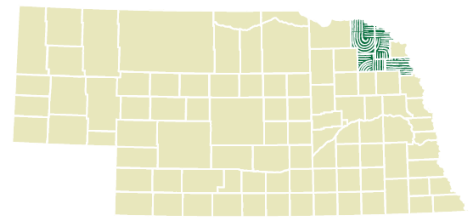
CEDAR DIXON THURSTON WAYNE

Minority population: **22.4%**



Hispanic American Indian Black Asian Hawaiian/Pacific Islander

4 Rural counties:



Rural & Micropolitan
 Metropolitan

6% of residents speak languages other than English
Common Languages: Spanish

Minority Health Initiative (MHI)



MHI eligible residents: **7,161**



Funds Received FY 2022-2023: **\$44,203**



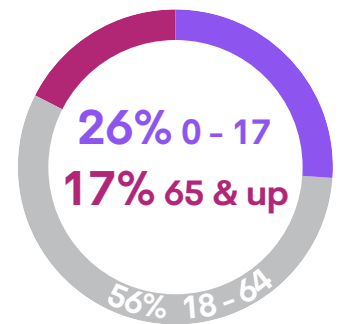
12%

Persons with disabilities

Strategies & Outcomes

Cultural awareness and sensitivity was a primary focus for NNPHD minority health work. The focus was to engage with minority groups and communities to better understand their personal, cultural, social, and environmental realities. The Voz Latina en Colaboración was formed and met regularly. Members were encouraged to speak about their strengths and challenges to good health. Healthcare professionals were invited to attend and participate in the conversation. Cultural and linguistic competency was another priority for this work. The Northeast Nebraska Health Equity Advisory Council (HEAC) was formed. Members learned from each other. A highlight was a formal presentation provided by the Winnebago Public Health Director to members of the HEAC.

Ages:



Other work helping all communities thrive

NNPHD developed a Culturally and Linguistically Appropriate Services in healthcare (CLAS) self-assessment with help from HEAC members and provided it to healthcare organizations throughout the district with over 100 professionals participating. Results were analyzed by a research design class at Wayne State College and then aggregated and shared with the Health Equity Advisory Council. Results will next be shared with the participating organizations and more learning opportunities will be identified to support improved CLAS compliance.



www.nnphd.ne.gov

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We speak English & Spanish!