

+ 2024-2025 Annual Report

Central District Health Department (CDHD)

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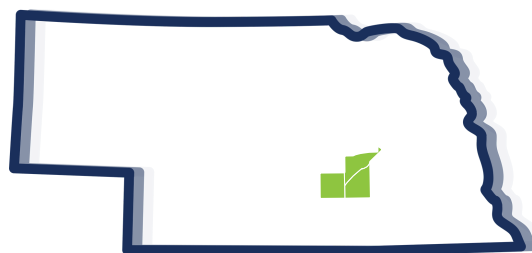
47 employees ++
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79,563 residents ++
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CHIP Priorities:

- ▶ Expand Access to Care
- ▶ Increase Availability of Culturally Appropriate Behavioral Health
- ▶ Improve Access to Quality Childcare & Family Support



3 rural & micropolitan counties
Hall, Hamilton, & Merrick Counties



1 of 18

NE LHDs implementing
Nat'l accreditation
standards



5.93

FTEs per 10,000
(Nat'l average is 5.6)



19%

of adults report
fair to poor health

"In all our work, we root our actions in science and public health best practices."

—Teresa Anderson, Health Director
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Central District Health Department (CDHD) 2024-2025

Examples of Foundational Public Health Services



2,100+ children & parents served each month

Maternal, Child, & Family Health

Our WIC, Collective Impact, and Home Visitation programs work to connect families to community resources like food banks, breastfeeding education, employment, healthcare, housing, and utility assistance. This support, from preconception through the age of 19, empowers hundreds of local families to live healthier lives and improve long-term health outcomes by reducing preventable illnesses and addressing social needs that impact health.



400+ residents educated on bicycle safety

Chronic Disease & Injury Prevention

Our community-level work to support safe streets and walkable communities is ongoing. CDHD provided 385+ bike safety booklets and additional handouts on bike and pedestrian safety to children and adults. We gave 50 bikes to the Barr Middle School Summer Program. At the Grand Island Police Department's annual Back-to-School Bash, we educated about bike helmet fit and gave out 25 free helmets.



4,450 public and private water samples tested

Environmental Health

CDHD has a robust Environmental Health division. We sampled public and private water to ensure drinking water is free from harmful bacteria, chemicals, and pollutants. We also completed 1,350 food service inspections and related education, distributed 400 radon test kits, and followed up on 74 elevated blood lead level cases in children. Our 6 PurpleAir sensors allowed residents to access real-time data on local air quality.



384 children given oral health treatments

Access to & Linkage with Clinical Care

Healthy Smiles is CDHD's community-first dental program delivering free in-school screenings, fluoride treatments, and sealants. Led by public health dental hygienists, this is one example of how CDHD removes barriers, reaches families where they are, and connects them to prevention and care.



18,300 vaccinations given

Communicable Disease Control

CDHD administered vaccines at our main clinic year-round and at 74 seasonal, off-site clinics. We served 5,780 people in Vaccines for Children (VFC) and other immunization programs. By prioritizing education and outreach, routine vaccination coverage has improved for area children. CDHD also limited the spread of communicable diseases by following up on 605 cases of reportable diseases this year.

From the Director

We continue to expand our existing programs as well as add new programs as opportunities and needs arise. Our key areas of focus continue to be access to healthcare, access to behavioral health, and available and affordable quality childcare. New this year is Healthy Families America - Central District, an evidence-based home visitation program focused on relationship building with families to promote safety, comfort, predictability, and joy. All pregnant persons and families with children aged birth to three months in our district are welcome to participate. HUD awarded us a 3-year HUD grant, enabling us to build capacity to detect and prevent childhood lead poisoning. In partnership with the City of Grand Island, we work with childcare providers to improve childcare settings to meet DHHS standards for licensure. Additional partnerships with Nebraska Children and Families Foundation and DHHS Child and Family Services give us an opportunity to work with families with young children to secure emergency funds to prevent homelessness. Furthermore, we provide coaching on budgets along with ongoing support for families to assist them in securing stable futures. We have expanded our Infectious Disease Program through the Ryan White Program, aimed at improving medical outcomes and access to care for those living with HIV. Long-standing programs continue. One example is our successful WIC Program, which has one of the highest breastfeeding rates in our state. In all our work, we root our actions in science and public health best practices.

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