



 douglascountyhealth.com
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+2024-2025 Annual Report

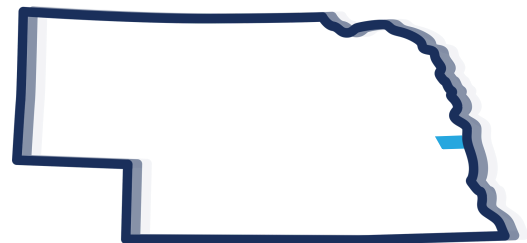
Douglas County Health Department (DCHD)

 **122** employees 

 **585,461** residents 

CHIP Priorities:

-  Connect People to Increased Social Support
-  Reduce Stigma of Mental Health & Substance Use Disorders
-  Increase Connections to Mental Health & Preventive Resources
-  Understanding Trauma



1 metro county
Douglas County



1 of 9
NE LHDs nationally
accredited by PHAB



2.08
FTEs per 10,000
(Nat'l average is 5.6)



16%
of adults report
fair to poor health

"Our core services safeguard the community every day."

—Lindsay Huse, Health Director
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Douglas County Health Department (DCHD) 2024-2025

Examples of Foundational Public Health Services



9,593 children served by DCHD's WIC program

Maternal, Child, & Family Health

DCHD's WIC and Breast Feeding Peer Support programs served nearly 16,000 people. Our Maternal and Child Health (MCH) Landscape assessment also identified over 1,900 MCH activities in the area, with opportunities to improve alignment and amplify work across Omaha. Our Fetal Infant Mortality Review (FIMR) work included: 8 maternal interviews, 6 case reviews, 2 Community Action Team meetings with 3 community recommendations advanced.



600+ individuals reached

Chronic Disease & Injury Prevention

DCHD provided the Diabetes Prevention Program at various locations, including at the Community Health Collaborative and the Juan Diego Community Center. We also screened 206 individuals for high blood pressure at 10 different community events. Community-level work on systems change that support safe streets and walkable communities are ongoing.



796 elevated blood lead level (EBLL) cases investigated

Environmental Health

Our Environmental Health Section worked with families of 796 children with EBLL to identify sources and provide guidance. We completed 4,316 food service inspections and education on the CDC Risk Factors: poor personal hygiene, improper holding and cooking temperatures, unsafe sourcing, and contaminated equipment. We also collected 57 mosquito and tick samples to monitor for vector-borne disease and monitored local air quality, issuing 3 advisories.



129 individuals connected with medical assistance

Access to & Linkage with Clinical Care

Community Health Workers (CHWs) connected individuals to clinical services through translation, health literacy education, and assistance with Medicaid applications and SNAP benefits.



8,206 investigations of reportable diseases

Communicable Disease Control

This year, DCHD completed 8,206 disease investigations, most commonly related to influenza, COVID, and chlamydia. We also administered 3,403 immunizations through the VFC and VFA (Vaccines for Children and Adults) programs, hosting pop-up clinics community wide. DCHD provided immunization education at community locations, including 31 childcare facilities, and engages in the Nebraska Immunization Task Force.

From the Director

Douglas County Health Department (DCHD) is dedicated to protecting and improving the health of all residents. Guided by data, community voice, and strong partnerships, we advanced major milestones this year: drafting a new strategic plan, completing the 2024 Community Health Assessment (CHA), and achieving Public Health Accreditation.

Our core services safeguard the community every day. The disease surveillance team curbed the spread of illnesses like influenza and syphilis. The Environmental Health Division upheld safety at thousands of food establishments, pools, and childcare facilities. Clinical services teams provided immunizations, STI/HIV testing. WIC supported mothers and children. The Emergency Preparedness Program strengthened protocols and trained with partners to ensure readiness for emergencies.

Beyond immediate services, we focus on long-term solutions. With direction from the CHA, we worked to expand mental health access, prevent chronic disease, and improve maternal and child health. Community Health Workers connected residents to vital resources—from lead prevention to diabetes management—while addressing the social and economic factors that shape health.

Looking ahead, DCHD will continue leveraging data, innovation, and policy to make healthy choices easier and ensure Douglas County remains resilient and prepared.

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