



Annual Report: July 1st 2010 – June 30th 2011

Early Detection; Intervention; & Prevention of Disease; Disability; & Premature Death.

The Nebraska Health Care Funding Act (LB 692) was passed in 2001. This Act provided funds to local public health departments to implement the ten essential services and the three core functions of public health.

The reports identify which programs and activities were funded by the Act and are categorized under each of the ten essential public health services.

Divided into Three Sections:

First section: reviews the changes in the organization coverage as well as the funding (figure 1).

Second Section: describes the current initiatives, activities, and programs.

Third Section: contains some short stories that describe how local public health departments are improving the lives of people in our communities.

TEN ESSENTIAL SERVICES OF PUBLIC HEALTH

Essential Service 1: Monitor health status and understand health issues facing the community

Essential Service 2: Diagnose and Investigate health problems and health hazards in the community

Essential Service 3: Inform, educate, and empower people about health issues

Essential Service 4: Mobilize community partnerships to identify and solve health problems

Essential Service 5: Develop policies and rules that support individual and statewide health efforts

Essential Service 6: Enforce laws and regulations that protect health and ensure safety

Essential Service 7: Link people to needed medical and mental health services and assure the provision of health care when otherwise not available

Essential Service 8: Assure a competent public health and personal health care workforce

Essential Service 9: Evaluate effectiveness, accessibility, and quality of services within the health care industry and public health departments

Organizational Coverage

West Central District Health Department: Lincoln, Logan, and McPherson.

Funding and Expenditure Levels

District Name	Per Capita & Infrastructure	LB 1060	Total	Population
WCDHD	175,489.19	108,235.89	283,725.08	36,890

Figure 1
LB 692/LB 1060 Local Public Health Departments July 1, 2010 – June , 30 2011
Expenditures

Departments:	LB 692/1060
Total Funds Received (LB 692)	\$175,489.19
Total Funds Received (LB 1060)	\$108,235.89
	} \$283,725.08
Total Funds Expended (LB 692)	\$241,367.66
Total Funds Expended (LB 1060)	\$128,396.90
	} \$369,764.56
Budget Period:	July 1, 2010 – June 30, 2011

LINE ITEMS

EXPENDITURES

	LB 692	LB 1060
Personnel	\$58,581.18	\$19,722.62
Benefits	\$23,403.15	\$7,571.46
Travel	\$10,318.98	\$4,687.70
Office Expense/Printing	\$6,895.60	\$1,164.71
Communications/Advertising	\$6,227.69	\$2,839.17
Contractual	\$21,544.23	\$10,523.06
Public Health Programs	\$----	\$77,074.39
Insurance	\$2,279.32	
Other	\$112,117.51	\$4,813.79
Total	\$241,367.66	\$128,369.90
		
	\$369,764.56	

**West Central District Health Department
Annual Report
July 1, 2010 – June 30, 2011**

Current Initiatives

The following report highlights the progress and activities conducted to protect, preserve, and improved the health of 36,890 residents of Lincoln, Logan, and McPherson counties during the July 1, 2010 to June 30, 2011 fiscal year; categorized by the three core functions of assessment, policy development, and assurance and the associated ten essential series of public health. Activities using 1060 funds are denoted with an *.

Core Function - Assessment

Essential Service 1: Monitor health status and understand health issues facing the community

- West Central District Health Department (WCDHD) updated the Mobilizing for Action through Planning and Partnerships (MAPP) process to meet the needs of improvement planning. This thorough process analyzed the health needs, community health risks, and accessibility of health services. The improvement planning process allowed WCDHD to target high-risk groups through data collection, benefiting community members with resources and tools to improve quality of life (e.g., HEALTHY KIDS/HEALTHY SCHOOLS, FLU & IMMUNIZATION PRESENTATIONS, BLS Classes, and DENTAL EDUCATION). Vital to this process, is the input from the Local Public Health System consisting of a diverse group of stakeholders where the development of high priority implementation is initiated.
- WCDHD's Dental Services: the fixed Dental Clinic WCDHD had nearly 2,000 patient visits new patients, preventative and tertiary. West Central Smiles Dental Mobile Unit provides exams, treatments, and education to students in the schools throughout Lincoln, Logan, and McPherson counties; Partnership and collaboration with Peoples Family Health & WIC office allowed WCDHD to provide Oral health education to WIC clients.
- At local health fair events held by Great Plains Regional Medical Center, Mid Plains Community College, Rape Domestic Program, Union Pacific Railroad, RailFest, and North Platte High School; WCDHD provides handouts and brochures on the services and programs offered at WCDHD.
- WCDHD's Health Services is invited by the North Platte Public Schools Administration to provide the School shot clinic this opportunity allowed WCDHD to provide 161 students with 389 vaccines given while also offering the VFC vaccines when appropriate.
- WCDHD begins Child Well-Being initiative working collaboratively with North Platte Community stakeholders in the collaborative capacity assessment, service array assessment to examine North Platte's Prevention System.
- WCDHD's Emergency Preparedness program provides assistance to community stakeholders throughout the community to provide healthy and safe community.

- *WCDHD conducts daily disease investigations to determine if an outbreak is imminent and what recommendations need to be implemented to limit the spread of infectious diseases. The Surveillance funding supports our disease follow-up, including: TB, hepatitis, West Nile, meningitis, E. coli, campylobacteriosis, influenza, STD's, and more. The local health department receives and follows up on reports from:
 - local hospital
 - medical clinics
 - schools
 - laboratories
 - Epidemiology division of DHHS
- Weekly Schools Surveillance is conducted by WCDHD with 20 schools within Lincoln, Logan, and McPherson Counties. Working closely with the Schools on surveillance allows for an immediate response to any potential outbreak.



WCDHD conducts 2010-2011 MAPP process



**MOB in the Park Sponsored by:
MAPP Disease Prevention/Management Group**



Child Well-Being Initiative Evaluators Steven Fitzgerald (Left), Shannon Vanderheiden (Center), & David Newberry (Right)



Child Well-Being Consortium Group

Essential Service 2: Diagnose and Investigate Health Problems and Health Hazards in the Community

- West Central District Health Department provides prevention education, risk factor screenings for Dental oral health, immunization for adults, and testing for sexually transmitted diseases (STD). The purpose of these activities is detection and early intervention to prevent costly medical treatment.
- WCDHD offers vaccines for Medicaid, Medicare, select private insurance companies, and Underinsured to all individuals to be vaccinated. Fiscal year July 1, 2010- June 30, 2011 WCDHD served 2,044 individuals giving 6,781 vaccines. To name a few: (*This includes Influenza, Hepatitis, Zostavax, Td, Tdap, Typhoid, Yellow fever, Menactra, Rabies, Polio, MMR and Pneumonia*).
- WCDHD collaborates with Community stakeholders to volunteer one Saturday a month to help in the Drug Drop off at the North Platte River Mall.
- *WCDHD investigates numerous environmental issues and nuisance complaints. Examples include:
 - Provided water test kits during the recent floods
 - Worked with the City and Private well waters operators for potential Boil Water Orders due to recent floods.
 - Provide assistance to the city of North Platte in addressing health hazards such as mold, lead abatement, nuisances (animal control, standing water, unsanitary conditions in hotels, environmental health hazards and home safety concerns)
- The local health department has been participating with other agencies throughout the community in organizing key stakeholder meetings for emergency response preparedness planning; this includes Inter-Local Agency meetings, LEPC, Red Cross Disaster Activation Team (DAT), WCMRS, WCNEMRC, planning and other exercises to evaluate the preparedness plans.

Essential Service 3: Inform, Educate, and Empower People about Health Issues.

- Radon risk awareness and risk reduction items and resources made available to residents in our three county area included:
 - 269 short term radon test kits
 - 20 long term radon test kits
 - Print materials include “Consumer’s Guide to Radon Reduction – How to fix your home”, “Home Buyer’s and Seller’s Guide to Radon”. “A Citizen’s Guide to Radon – The guide to protecting yourself and your family from radon” from EPA

Activities accomplished:

- Sharing radon information with people at the Lincoln, Logan, McPherson County Fairs, Rail Fest, North Platte Community College construction trade class, 52 students representing 7 different schools participated in the Radon Poster contest.
 - Both radio and print services in our district were provided with radon information. A prepared article about Radon and availability of radon test kits was made available to print services in the district.
 - Met with West Central District Health Department staff to explain the Radon grant and what Radon is and the health impact of radon.
 - Mark Versch presented Radon Resistant New Construction to 13 students/instructors at North Platte Community College construction trade class.
- The Public Health Nursing Program is utilized to educate and inform families on ways to keep healthy. Providing EPSDT Health Check brochure, lead information, and a variety of other information provides an opportunity to educate the public. Meeting face to face with clients at Arbor allows the public health nurse to review each of the bulleted items in the health check brochure. Other information, such as poison center information and reputable web sites, is provided to people. This program is provided through a contract with the Medicaid and Long Term Care Division of Health and Human Services. The focus is to link Medicaid recipients to needed care. The funding for the program is through a 75% Federal Administrative Medicaid match and 25 % match from the health department. During the fiscal year July 2009 – June 2010 the PHONE program provided:
 - Outreach to 545 Medicaid clients in the health district
 - Provided case management for 110 clients who needed coordination with multiple specialists, immunizations, dental care, assistance with transportation, health checks
 - Received 412 referrals from health care providers related to medical and dental appointments
 - Assisted 209 clients in accessing and establishing a medical, dental and vision homes
 - Provided monthly educational sessions with mothers receiving ADC on accessing preventative care for their children

- Efforts to build greater community capacity among vulnerable, high-risk communities resulted in collaboration between Nebraska Office of Health Disparities & Health Equity and West Central District Health Department. An Unnatural Causes Summit with community stakeholders from Great Plains Regional Medical Center, United Way, Region II Behavioral Health, Rape Domestic Program, Child Well-Being Initiative discussing our communities natural allies to create/improve/strengthen alliances; priorities and the actions to addressing them; these discussions are in-line with what our Core MAPP Team is strategically planning and the efforts from the Summit was merged to help address the health inequalities making our communities sick!
- Cardio Pulmonary Resuscitation (CPR) and first aid is offered to individuals, organizations and schools within our communities. West Central District Health Department provided instruction to over 30 individuals on CPR and First Aid.
- A number of interviews regarding WNV were conducted with media including KNOP news 2, and North Platte Telegraph.
- WNV pamphlets were displayed and insect repellent was distributed at the Sutherland Fourth of July celebration, Military Band concert in Paxton in partnership with Sandhills Health Department. WCDHD provided WNV info also, at area health fairs within Lincoln, Logan, and McPherson counties.
- Health Service presentations were conducted to build a stronger awareness of WCDHD's preventive services i.e. influenza activities, school immunizations, and Vaccine For Children program. Participants included local churches, Kiwanis, EMS, physician groups, foster grandparent groups, schools, nursing homes, and college staff and students.
- Arbor Education and Training is a leading provider of workforce development services to job seekers, workers, employers and communities nationwide. Arbor E&T is the largest single supplier of job-related education, counseling, and employment assistance under federally funded programs such as the Workforce Investment Act and the Temporary Assistance for Needy Families programs. The public health nurse, who works with Medicaid individuals and families, provides a class to parent participants on how to keep themselves and their children healthy. The hour long monthly education class touches on dental, well child check-ups, immunizations, lead screening and current health information such as West Nile Virus, and pertussis. A total of 35 participants were involved in the monthly meetings.
- The number of people who benefited from telehealth at WCDHD was 116. Telehealth was used for educational, community and meeting purposes, some of these groups were:
 - TESH for school nurse;
 - Parkinson's group;
 - Magellan;
 - Standards & Measure's State meetings;
 - Patient Telemedicine;
 - Emergency Response Coordinator monthly meetings;
 - Dietetic Association;
 - Health director conference

Core Function- Policy development

Essential Service 4: Mobilize Community Partnerships to Identify and Solve Health Problems

- A number of staff members, work with a variety of groups to promote health and prevention. Such groups are the Planning Region Team #16, Planning Region Team #27, High Plains Early Childhood Professional Development Partnership Team, Head Start Health Advisory Committee, Region II Behavioral Health, LEPC, LinkUP, WCMRS steering committee, MRC committee, tobacco free Lincoln county coalition, underage drinking coalition, and Transition Team for Mental Health.
- Working closely with Family Planning has strengthened our ability to better serve our community regarding communicable diseases specifically STD's.
- WCDHD is the Co-chair of our WCMRS and participates in monthly planning meetings with key stakeholders, hospitals, health departments, EMS, etc. to better meet the needs of hospital preparedness efforts and EMS in rural areas.
- WCDHD participates in planning, exercising and training Local Emergency Planning Committee (LEPC) meetings led by the Lincoln County Emergency Manager and North Central Region Planning Committee for Logan and McPherson counties and their respectful Emergency Managers. Through this partnership, a number of table exercises, drills, and functional exercises have been completed that involved the health department, schools, hospital, EMS, law enforcement, and local businesses.
- Support to Community Connections Tobacco Free Lincoln County Coalition is provided through a working relationship to assist in preventing youth initiation to tobacco products, eliminating secondhand smoke exposure, reaching underserved populations, and furthering tobacco prevention and control efforts in Lincoln County. WCDHD also provides support through the Smoke Free Housing grant received May 2011. The future plans are to provide assistance with housing surveys, signage, and educational materials in conjunction with Tobacco Free Lincoln County.
- WCDHD and Madison Middle School in North Platte partnered to create a healthier school environment for students. Through this partnership a policy was developed and implemented in the school to provide healthier snacks to students and addressed providing food or drink as a reward or punishment. This policy was accepted into the North Platte Public Schools student handbook.
- WCDHD along with Two Rivers Health Department brought out Dr Walt Larimore to North Platte, to come and provide free information to our community regarding the threat of obesity and ways we can make changes.

Highlights of Backpack Project Process:

- This summer, all 6 Title I schools within the district, provided students in need with nutritious food (including fresh fruits and vegetables) to take home for the weekend. The program served approximately 4,229 students over the summer months. Every Friday during the school year students, in need, will be provided with nutritious food for the weekend.
- The consortiums goal for the WCDHD three-county service area is to reduce childhood obesity rates, create healthier school environments and implement the School Health Index (SHI) in schools annually. The project's long-term objective is to create healthier school environments, thereby reducing childhood obesity rates within the WCDHD service area. In order to meet that objective,
- Community partners include:
 - North Platte School District
 - Great Plains Regional Medical Center
 - Recreation Center
 - Union Pacific Railroad
 - Wal-Mart
 - Sodexo
 - Salvation Army
- The Director of WCDHD is a member of the National Association of City and County Health Officials, Nebraska Public Health Association, the Nebraska Association of County Officials, the Nebraska Preventive Health Advisory Committee, Lincoln County Coalition Against Substance Abuse, the Local Health Directors Association, Secretary, American Public Health Association, and the American Grant Writers Association.
- The Emergency Response Coordinator is a member of the North Central Regional Local Emergency Planning Committee and Exercise Design Team, Local Emergency Planning Committee, Lincoln County, the Chair of the West Central Medical Response System, the American Red Cross Mid Plains Board, Emergency Response Coordinator Section, Vice-Chair, American Public Health Association, American Grant Writers' Association, and National Rural Health.

Essential Service 5: Develop Policies and Rules that Support Individual and Statewide Health Efforts

- After completion of the Nebraska Standards and Measures Assessment; WCDHD continues to meet with DHHS representatives and other Local Health Departments across Nebraska. These efforts are to continue to work to improve our accountability by measuring our performance and outcomes in all levels and programs and making the necessary changes to improve the quality and outcomes of WCDHD. In addition; WCDHD has formed a Leadership team representing all services and programs within the Department along with the safety committee formed in 2009-2010. The objective of the committee is to work toward bridging the gaps determined from the standards and measures assessment and to further strengthen the organization through policy and procedures. The long term objective of the committee's combined is to complete the necessary steps working toward accreditation. The development of these Standards and Measures is supported by LB 1060 funds.*
- WCDHD works closely with the local hospital GPRMC on post exposures involving first responders. When a first responder is involved with an exposure of an unknown source, or exposure with a person with a known communicable disease, WCDHD is involved in the case as indicated in the hospital policy and procedure.
- WCDHD's Disease Prevention/Physical Activity focus group (formed through MAPP strategic planning process) implemented a new annual event which takes place in the Cody Park to provide free physical fitness activities, Health education, and reinforced creative ways we can make healthier choices. In addition to the event being free to the public; prizes donated from area businesses (i.e., local gyms, restaurants, and fitness stores), Body Mass Index (BMI) education , and free food was provided to the participants if they registered and participated in two of the three activities (Hiking, Biking, Swimming). Healthy Lifestyle group donated the use of bikes (all sizes) as well.

Core Functions - Assurance

Essential Service 6: Enforce Laws and Regulations that Protect Health and Ensure Safety

- Collaboration between the city attorney, county attorney, law enforcement, and health department to determine best practice to ensure compliance of property owners in regards to Clandestine laboratory seized homes.
- WCDHD works with local law enforcement to enforce the Nebraska Clean Indoor Air Act. WCDHD received and investigated a total of two complaints. Most of the complaints, coming from businesses not restaurants or bars.
- WCDHD either assists with enforcement or refers persons to proper agencies for local regulation such as restaurant complaints, building code issues, sanitation issues, licensing, etc.

Essential Service 7: Link People to Needed Medical and Mental Health Services and Assure the Provision of Health Care when Otherwise not Available

*The immunization clinic in North Platte is open Monday through Friday from 08:30 to 4:30, closed for lunch from 11:30 to 12:30. Every Wednesday office hours are extended to 6:00 pm to accommodate working families. Additionally, we provide off-site clinics in four different towns in the region (Wallace, Tryon, Sutherland, and Stapleton). This provides a needed service for individuals in remote rural areas. However, these off-site clinics are not self-supporting and LB funds are used to sustain the program. The WCDHD immunization clinic has provided an average of 6700 immunizations to children in Lincoln, Logan, and McPherson Counties over the last two years.

Immunizations at WCDHD:

<i>Year</i>	<i>Immunizations</i>
<i>July 2010– June 2011</i>	<i>6781</i>
<i>July 2009 – June 2010</i>	<i>6600</i>

- Annually, our West Central Health Department receives \$5,508.00 dollars from the Department of Health and Human Services for the Children’s immunization program. While parents donate funds for immunizations to support this program, the cost of the program exceeds the donation amounts.
- In the West Central District jurisdictions, currently, only three out of the eighteen physicians (family practice, pediatricians, and general) serving our health district, offer immunizations through the federal reimbursement for the children’s immunization program. There are no physicians in Logan and McPherson Counties. This situation has created critical access problems for the uninsured and the underinsured families making affordable vaccines, which are required for their child, inaccessible. To better understand the financial impact of childhood immunizations, see the table below.

Average Cost Breakdown of Required Immunizations Birth to Four Years of Age

Immunizations	2mos	4mos	6mos	12mos	18mos	4years	TOTAL
MMR	-	-	-	94.49	-	94.49	
Varicella	-	-	-	138.78	-	138.78	
Hep B	36.69	36.69	36.69	-	-		
Dt51.ap	-	-	-	-	51.29		
Hep A	-	-	-	42.56	38.92		
Pentacel	126.41	126.41	126.41	-	-		
Roteteq	170.14	170.14	170.14	-	-		
Prevnar	156.67	156.67	156.67	-	156.67		
ActHib	-	-	-	-	53.32		
Kinirix(Dtap/Polio)	-	-	-	-	-	75.59	
TOTAL	489.91	489.91	489.91	275.83	300.23	308.86	2300.93

- A significant number of children continue to lack access to childhood immunizations within our health department area. The two main contributing factors include the high cost of immunizations and lack of participants in our area. Three out of seven family practice offices and the sole pediatrician's office in North Platte offer the Vaccine for Children (VFC) program. The non-participating offices refer their patients to WCDHD's immunization clinic. Without the clinic, the community would be lacking in preventive health care, especially in the area of children's immunizations.

Additional Services provided at WCDHD included:

- Free blood pressure readings both at the fixed clinic and at outreach clinics, this allows staff to provide education on the dangers of high blood pressure and ways to prevent or correct it. Referrals are made to a physician.
- Adult immunizations/Travel Vaccinations. WCDHD provides vaccines such as, Hepatitis B, Shingles, Typhoid, Rabies, and Japanese Encephalitis for those traveling abroad; WCDHD is certified to administer the Yellow Fever vaccination. We also have seen individuals come from 150 miles away to receive travel shots.
- *Blood draws for screening purposes – Local physicians' offices have referred patients without health insurance coverage to WCDHD. The prices charged are less than what might occur at the local hospital in North Platte or Pathology Services. Lab results are sent to the client and client's physician
- *Daycare Providers' screenings – These are mandated screenings to help ensure healthy employees who will be working with children
- *Foster Grandparent Program health assessment – This mandated screening helps to ensure healthy volunteers working with the children
- Flu vaccination clinics during flu season in our office and off-site locations
- In this rural region, there are few dental providers and even fewer who accept Medicaid. The need for improved access to dental care, for children who do not have access due to financial barriers, is paramount - children on Medicaid and children of working families who are unable to afford private dental insurance or the high cost of dental care. In response to this need, WCDHD and its partners applied for and received HRSA funding to establish a mobile dental clinic. The mobile dental clinic travels to schools within WCDHD's three-county service area twice per year, providing education and preventative dental services to children in need. A dentist, dental hygienist and dental assistant travel with the unit. The mobile dental clinic serves as an outreach of WCDHD and provides dental care for children whose parents struggle to provide the basic needs of food and shelter for their families. Through the health department mobile dental unit, West Central Smiles, 500 visits were made from July 2010 to June 2011. These are numbers decreased when Sandhills Health Department no longer fell within the WCDHD umbrella. West Central Smiles went from serving eight counties to three counties.
- The cranio-facial clinic held its first clinic at WCDHD in June 2007. The program has expanded to include a specialty clinic that is held the day before craniofacial clinics. Appointments are scheduled through HHS five to six times per year. The cranio-facial and specialty clinics were previously held at two different locations. Clients would have to travel between sites to see the seven different specialty areas. Having the clinic at one site has eliminated the travel between town sites and provided better flow for clients. 142 specialty clinic/craniofacial clients were served from July 1, 2010 to June 30, 2011.

Essential Service 8: Assure a Competent Public Health and Personal Health Care Workforce

- West Central District Health Department is involved in a state-wide effort to bring a coordinated Medical Reserve Corps (MRC) to all of the counties in the state. The West Central Nebraska Medical Reserve Corp (WCNEMRC) was created by the WCMRS organization and serves all of the counties in the WCMRS region. WCNEMRC has recruited 20 volunteers and taken on the Region II Behavioral Health volunteer roster of 150 volunteers; and continues its recruiting, training, and organizing volunteers to assist in public health emergencies and non-emergency situations.
- West Central District Health Department continues to partner with the School Health Telehealth system which provides continuing education and information targeted at School Nurses and public health nurses
- Membership in PHAN allows staff to attend the annual conference and network with others. WCDHD staff members attend meetings and conferences pertaining to their positions within the health department. They are encouraged to update their skills by attending workshops and training sessions.
- CPR certification which includes first aid and AED training is required of all staff and is provided to staff by the health department every two years.
- Director, Dental and Mobile Dental Coordinators attended required grantee meetings in Washington DC. These meetings were to aid grantees in program sustainability. Patterson training course provided to staff to assist with dental program and improve quality of cross-trained employees.

Essential Service 9: Evaluate Effectiveness, Accessibility, and Quality of Services within the Health Care Industry and Public Health Departments

- West Central District Health Department continues the Nebraska Standards and Measures meetings with DHHS and other Local Health Departments to evaluate each department based on the 2009 – 2010 Assessment based on the three core functions and ten essentials services of Public Health. WCDHD continues to work to improve our accountability by measuring our performance and outcomes in all levels and programs and making the necessary changes to improve the quality and outcomes of the Department. This is part of a statewide planning to prepare for accreditation process between DHHS and the Local Health Departments.
- For Global Youth Service Day, WCDHD provides community garden with several youth adults and discussed the health benefits of eating fresh produce. The funds raised from the selling of the vegetables at the local Farmers Market were donated to the Health Schools Healthy Kids program in efforts to continue the Backpack program.

Essential Service 10: Contribute to and apply the evidence base of public health

- West Central District Health Department requests a funding preference under provision 1 in the grant guidelines: designation as a Medically Underserved Community and/or a Health Professional Shortage Area. All of the three counties served by this project have one or both of these designations.
- WCDHD received HRSA funds to help support portable dental unit
- WCDHD provides in collaboration with LinCKS Coalition three car seat check events to ensure that children are riding appropriately and safely in vehicles.

Research to gain new insights and innovative solutions to health problems

- The Health Directors are continuing to work with DHHS and UNMC to develop a web based Community Health Assessment and dashboard with County and District level data along with state and national statistics for department use as well as use by our partners and the public.
- Staff is encouraged to attend developmental and educational seminars, trainings and meetings that may give them new outlooks and skills in their field of expertise. Because of the size of our department and the many needs of our district, staff is cross-trained in many areas.
- West Central District Health Department is continuing to improve our capabilities to provide the core functions and ten essential services of public health to the people WCDHD serves in our three county district.
- WCDHD is very grateful for the funding, partnership and support we receive from the State of Nebraska which helps us develop the public health infrastructure, partnerships and resources we need to improve and protect the health of our citizens. WCDHD will continue to improve our capacity to strive toward our vision of “promote and protect the wellness of our community through education and programs” with your continued support and funding.
- In closing, WCDHD has engaged in many activities/programs which have had, and continue to have, a positive effect on public health within the WCDHD service area. We are very proud of our accomplishments and continue to engage in programs and collaborate with community partners in order to carry out the current strategies of the health department. We look forward to this coming year and future years with optimism.

* - Indicates activities funded by LB 1060 funding from the general funds