



Planning Services

Phone: 515-242-0157

<http://idph.iowa.gov/planning-services>

Protecting & Improving
the Health of Iowans



Keeping Iowans healthy means fewer sick days for schoolchildren, more people working productively, reduced risk for diseases and injuries, lower health care costs and longer, more fulfilling lives for everyone. IDPH programs and partners provide the direct services that protect and improve the health of Iowans. The Bureau of Planning Services provides a variety of services that support employees, programs and partners in improving their ability to identify important health issues, plan and manage actions to address them and improve the quality of their services.

Did you know?

You can view Iowa's top health issues at <http://idph.iowa.gov/healthy-iowans> and read about some of the important actions Iowa is taking to address them in [Healthy Iowans: Iowa's Health Improvement Plan 2017-2021](#).

Why is Planning Services important to protecting and improving the health of Iowans?

- Planning Services coordinates local (CHNA&HIP), state (Healthy Iowans) and department (Strategic Plan) assessment and planning activities that improve the function of public health for all Iowans.
- Planning Services works on improving the public health system through quality and performance improvement, and in preparing for national public health accreditation. These activities contribute to increasing our ability to meet the health needs of Iowans.
- A highly trained and competent workforce strengthens the health infrastructure. This infrastructure allows IDPH to prevent epidemics and the spread of disease; protect against environmental hazards; promote healthy living; prevent injuries and violence; and prepare for, respond to and recover from health emergencies. In addition, professional development has been shown to improve employee satisfaction, enhance performance and reduce turnover.

Which Iowa Public Health Goals are we working to achieve?

Strengthen the health infrastructure

What do we do?

- Help set health goals, create plans to meet them and then track the progress toward meeting those goals.
- Provide information to the public about the department's administrative rules.
- Help IDPH programs set targets and measure their progress in meeting their program goals.
- Coordinate planning for changes in Iowa's public health system.
- Help local agencies and IDPH prepare for national public health accreditation.
- Coordinate quality improvement activities department-wide and for programs.
- Provide technical assistance to communities in assessing their needs and writing health improvement plans.
- Handle all human resources issues including benefits, payroll, employee relations and employment policies.
- Offer trainings that improve performance of IDPH employees and enhance their knowledge base.
- Coordinate a state process to make sure that the planning for new or changed institutional health services will be cost-effective.

How do we measure our progress?

1 Percent IDPH employees who participate in formal quality improvement (QI) activities.

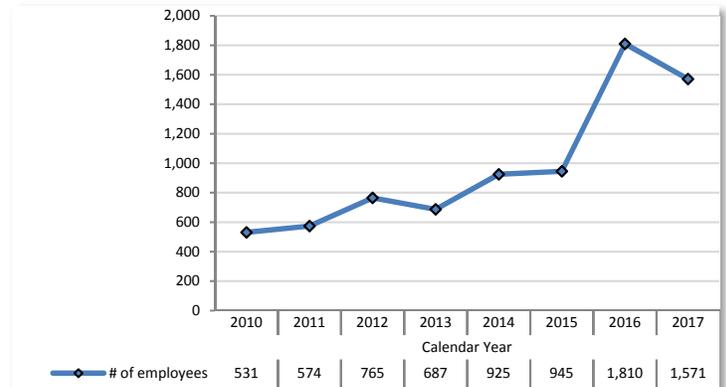
Data Source: IDPH Internal Database.

How are we doing?

In 2017, almost 25% of IDPH staff actively participated in quality improvement activities facilitated by the IDPH's Quality Improvement Council. The Quality Improvement Council was established in January and serves as the department's guide to building a culture of quality.

Participation in QI activities includes trainings on QI tools staff can use in their daily work as well as QI events. QI tools included in trainings include fishbone diagrams, interrelational diagrams, Gantt charts and affinity diagrams. One example of QI at IDPH is the work the WIC program has done to increase the frequency and speed at which nutritious products can be added to the approved food list. The QI process helped WIC move from adding foods every three years to quarterly.

2 Number of IDPH employees that participate in internal trainings.



Data Source: Planning Services data. Data are available annually. Employees can attend more than one training per year.

How are we doing? In 2016, monthly "Bus Stop" sessions were added to the in-house training calendar to provide information on accreditation requirements, improve communication and promote quality improvement. Participation at the Bus Stops has nearly doubled the overall number of employees participating in in-house trainings. Apart from the Bus Stops, there were over 80 training sessions offered. While down a bit from last year, overall participation in IDPH in-house trainings remains much higher than previous years.

What can Iowans do to help?

1. All Iowans should learn about important public health issues and policies. Visit the IDPH homepage at <http://idph.iowa.gov>.
2. All Iowans can participate in assessing health needs and planning improvements. To learn more, go to <http://idph.iowa.gov/chnahip> and <http://idph.iowa.gov/healthy-iowans>.
3. All Iowans can learn more about public health and the wide variety of careers and services in the field. To learn more, go to <http://idph.iowa.gov/employment>.

Expenditures

General fund and federal indirect funds: K09-0969; K19-1963; K21-2211; 0153-0992/0994/2110

	State Fiscal Year 2016 Actual	State Fiscal Year 2017 Actual	State Fiscal Year 2018 Estimate
State funds	\$365,961	\$348,427	\$131,802
Federal funds	\$1,682,225	\$1,319,826	\$1,237,100
Total funds	\$2,048,186	\$1,668,253	\$1,368,902
FTEs	15.03	14.84	13.20

Note: Funding information is intended to provide an overview of funding related to the program area. It does not include all federal and state requirements and/or restrictions for the use of funds. Contact the program area for more detailed budget information.