

THE TEN ESSENTIALS OF PUBLIC HEALTH SERVICES

DOUGLAS COUNTY HEALTH DEPARTMENT



Monitor health status to identify health problems: by agencies sharing local data on the obesity epidemic, lead poisoning, mental/behavioral health, reproductive health, healthy aging, food quality and food insecurity, asthma, and safety/violence prevention.

Inform, educate and empower people about health issues: by providing factual, health-focused information to members of our community (H1N1, Douglas County school handwashing programs, and outreach events at the City Park/Pool).

Mobilize community partnerships and action to identify and address health problems: by actively collaborating with other community entities to recognize a public health problem and working together to most effectively respond to it.

Develop policies and initiatives that support individual and community health efforts: by utilizing the collaborations collective strength and expertise in building capacity and exercising follow-through when addressing a health concern (work on tobacco policies with City of Ava regarding the city parks, work with Scrollcompressors on tobacco free campus).

Link people to needed personal health services: by informing the community about health resources available to them such as flu shot clinics, tobacco cessation programs, and chronic disease self-management programs.

Evaluate population-based health services: by discussing what services are available and if they are adequate and effective and by evaluating the impact of projects initiated by us.

Research and report on new insights and innovative solutions to health problems: by being member of Missouri Public Health Research Based Network, staying current with new issues in public health, and discussing these issues with our collaboration and community.

Diagnose and investigate: by collectively utilizing our voices to promote the availability, accessibility of care, and identifying the gaps that need to be addressed.

Assure a competent workforce: by continuing to bring knowledge and expertise to the table in an effort to address health care concerns (chronic disease prevention, youth programs, elder health needs, and safety -injury prevention).

Enforce laws and regulations that protect health and ensure safety: by environmental sanitation inspections, complaint follow-up, and mandated monitoring.

