Mission Washington County Public Health improves and protects the public’s health across the lifespan through prevention, education, partnerships and healthy environments.

Vision Healthy People, Thriving Communities

Priority #1: Support health at every age, size and ability, starting early.

⇒ Developed the Washington County ACEs Initiative to reduce the burden of childhood trauma and the development of chronic disease in individuals who work, live & play in Washington County

⇒ Collaborated with Washington County Solid Waste and Recycling to impact food insecurity through restaurant food donation programs and to ensure culturally responsive practices in the Latino community

⇒ Collaborated with internal and external partners to develop stronger breastfeeding in the workplace support practices and training for supervisors and managers

⇒ Developed a new partnership with Oregon Food Bank to serve as a harvest share distribution site

⇒ Assisted local municipalities to adopt new policies related to air quality and tobacco free environments

⇒ Provided technical assistance to healthcare and mental health partners and juvenile services to adopt the Zero Suicide Initiative and suicide prevention policies

⇒ Partnered with Land Use and Transportation Department to identify health-promoting transportation strategies and investments by conducting a Health Impact Assessment on the Washington County Transportation Futures Study

⇒ Expanded breastfeeding education opportunities for MCH team to increase staff’s ability to provide lactation support to families

⇒ WIC program added food insecurity question to client assessment process to identify those most in need of referrals to reduce hunger and food insecurity
Priority #2: Align with and actively participate in health care reform.

- Partnered on safe opioid prescribing practices and provider enrollment in prescription drug monitoring programs
- Increased the number of providers of childhood immunizations throughout the county
- Developed a partnership with a local FQHC to provide dental screening to WIC clients when they come in for services
- Partnered with local healthcare providers to expand the array of healthcare opportunities including access to primary care and preventative services
- Developed a pilot project to increase utilization of the First Tooth program among pediatric providers
- Trained all PH home visiting staff in the First tooth program and improved referrals and linkages to services for children’s oral health
- Established new systems and programs aimed at reducing unnecessary emergency medical service transports and emergency department visits
- Formed an Access to Care CHIP steering committee to develop new navigation strategies for addressing access barriers
- Expanded access to integrated care CHIP committee to include Oregon Community Health Workers Association and participation from other county departments
- Facilitated partners to develop a successful proposal for a Safety Net Capacity grant to provide physical, oral and behavioral health services for uninsured youth
- Participated on the community health advisory councils for both local Coordinated Care Organizations
- Completed a one year evaluation of clinic transition planning and outcomes
- Collaborated with Neighborhood Health Center on outreach, education and development of a teen clinic for improving access to reproductive health services
- Participated in the regional community health assessment and provided Washington County data to community stakeholders and partners.
Conducted a cultural humility training and group discussion for all public health staff, including viewing a segment of *Unnatural Causes*

Partnered with Early Learning Washington County to improve educational outcomes for children

Conducted a division-wide staff assessment of organizational capacity to address health inequities

Joined other County departments in discussions about affordable housing and advocating for a housing specialist position to help vulnerable populations

Developed and trained staff on use of an adopted equity policy and assessment tool

Collaborated with the Washington County Office of Community Development to design and launch a wood stove exchange program to improve air quality. The program received approximately 200 applications in the first ten weeks.

Identified many social determinants that impact high school graduation rates and included them in our most recent community assessment.

Supported Washington County and the cities of Hillsboro and Cornelius to adopt new codes related to burning of yard debris and use of fireplace/woodstoves during periods of poor air quality.
Priority #4: Strengthen our successes.

- Established a public health staff recognition program
- Developed and implemented a new competency-based annual employee performance self-assessment tool
- Conducted staff satisfaction survey focused on recruitment and retention
- Utilized staff input to inform quality improvement priorities and workforce development plan
- Developed and implemented a new employee orientation plan and toolkit
- Implemented multiple methods to inform staff of policy updates, evidence based practices, workforce development opportunities including standing agenda items and a quarterly email newsletter
- Developed a communications handbook and branding strategy and trained all staff on implementation
- Developed an ethics deliberation process, trained all staff and established the Public Health Advisory Council as the core body for public health ethics deliberations
- Developed and adopted a health equity policy and health equity assessment tool. Trained all-staff on the policy and how to use the health equity assessment tool
- Completed a division-wide quality improvement annual plan including eight prioritized projects which have led to improved customer services, streamlining of business processes, and improved staff satisfaction.
- Implemented the Nurse-Family Partnership program, an evidence-based program actively supporting the health and wellbeing of mothers and babies, starting early and concentrating on high-risk, first time mothers and their children
- Trained hundreds of children in the Red Cross “Pillowcase Project”, a preparedness education program for grades 3 – 5 that teaches students about personal and family preparedness and safety skills, local hazards, and basic coping skills
- Developed a disaster response course called “Listos!” which provides linguistically and culturally appropriate disaster response training for the Latino community.
- All Public Health staff completed FEMA emergency preparedness trainings

The Washington County Public Health 2012-16 Strategic Plan is available on our website: www.co.washington.or.us/HHS