



Public Health

Prevent. Promote. Protect.

St. Louis County, MN

St. Louis County Public Health

Our Vision

Every resident has the opportunity to live their healthiest life.

Through evidence-based strategies, ongoing outreach, education, and a commitment to respect and dignity, we strive to remove barriers to health so all residents can be safe and thrive. We are committed to continuous improvement and excellence in delivering high-quality public health services that meet the evolving needs of our community.

Our Mission

We work to improve the health and well-being of every resident by promoting equity, preventing disease, protecting against health risks, and fostering partnerships with the community.

We are a trusted partner supporting efforts that build community power to change the underlying systems and conditions that drive health inequity. We lead with humility, integrity, and innovation. Through collaboration with partners, we contribute to a resilient community by creating safe, supportive environments where well-being flourishes across all stages of life.

WE VALUE

Integrity

We uphold the highest standards of accountability by taking responsibility for our actions and acting with honesty, humility, and ethical principles. We honor the public's trust through integrity, transparency, and fiscal responsibility in all public health efforts.

Empathy

We approach public health with empathy, understanding and respecting the unique needs of individuals, families, and communities. We are committed to offering compassionate service and care, recognizing that emotional, physical, and social well-being are interconnected.

Innovation

We embrace innovation as a key driver of public health progress. Through creative and forward-thinking approaches, we tackle challenges and create solutions that are data-informed and build on community strengths, ensuring a healthier future for all.

Equity

We treat all individuals, families, and communities with compassion, dignity, and respect and seek to ensure all voices are heard. We are committed to creating a fair and just public health system that provides equitable opportunities for optimal health and safety. We value many kinds of expertise, including varied educational backgrounds, lived experiences, and cultural knowledge.

Collaboration

We work together with our community, prioritizing mutual respect, diversity, and trust. By sharing data and resources, we focus on improving health outcomes and strengthening our public health system. We support the work of our community partners and share the power to change systems and policies that lead to inequity.

Our Strategic Priorities

Ten strategic priorities were identified to address the challenges and opportunities highlighted through the strategic planning process.

Enhancing Assessment & Surveillance Systems & Data Sharing

Strengthening data systems and sharing practices to improve decision-making, transparency, and equitable public health outcomes.

Effective Organizational Change Management & Policy Development

Implementing structured change management and policy development to align operations with strategic goals while maintaining staff morale and efficiency.

Improving Community Engagement & Partnerships

Building stronger relationships with community partners to enhance collaboration, trust, and the effectiveness of public health initiatives.

Promoting Cross-Unit Collaboration & Communications

Breaking down silos and improving internal communication to create a more coordinated and responsive public health workforce.

Strengthening Culturally Responsive Practices

Embedding culturally responsive principles into all activities to ensure inclusive and equitable public health practice

Strengthening Place-based & People-based Health Initiatives

Expanding efforts to reduce health disparities by fostering partnerships, integrating community-driven solutions, and addressing systemic barriers.

Modernizing the Workforce to Meet Evolving Health Needs

Equipping the workforce with the skills, tools, and flexibility needed to adapt to emerging public health challenges.

Rebuilding Public Trust & Enhancing Communication

Strengthening public confidence in health initiatives through transparent communication, trust-building efforts, and proactive misinformation countering.

Leveraging Technology & Innovation for Mission Achievement

Utilizing technology and innovative approaches to enhance efficiency, communication, and the overall impact of public health programs.

Addressing Workforce Capacity & Preventing Burnout

Strengthening workforce capacity, leadership, and well-being to prevent burnout and sustain a resilient public health team.

St. Louis County Public Health
Strategic Plan 2025–2029



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