Our Mission

The Mission of East Central District Health Department is to complement community health services in order to make a positive difference in the quality of life to individuals and families.

The Mission of Good Neighbor Community Health Center is to work in collaboration with the community to increase access to primary preventative health care in order to improve the health of the community especially of the underserved and vulnerable populations.

Our Vision

To improve the health and well-being of our community.

2017 ECDHD Board Members

Wendy Ramaekers- President
Michael Dvorak- Vice President
Miguel Godoy- Treasurer
Connie Peters- Secretary

Directors: Dr. Dana Bailey, Ralph Horacek, Tom Martens, Mary Staub, Dr. Robert Miller, Alan Rasmussen, and Jeffrey Bauman.

2017 GNCHC Board Members

Miguel Godoy- Chairman
Connie Peters- Vice Chairman
Maria Gonzalez- Treasurer
Ed Wemhoff- Secretary

Directors: Teofila Janet Roman, Toribio Chavarria, Peter Kibalya, Noemi Arcos, Terra Uhing, and Doris Griffiths.

Greetings,

Beginning in November of 2017, I had the privilege to accept the CEO position within this outstanding organization. It has been an honor to join this devoted team, providing access to enhanced health and wellness with compassion and respect for the community. While we have grown in size, advanced in scope, and added new service lines, one thing has remained constant: our vision to improve the health and well-being of our community. Rest assured, as new leaders take the reins, our commitment to the ECDHD/GNCHC mission will continue to be the values we will always operate from. In 2017, we again saw growth and eclipsed the 9,000 patient mark. We are not simply growing for growth’s sake; these changes are the result of our mission to provide increased access for all patients in our service area. Our board and leadership are committed to developing, maintaining, and growing partnerships that allow us to continue to understand and meet the needs of the communities we serve.

The Board of Directors, leadership team, providers and employees of East Central District Health Department/Good Neighbor Community Health Center have shown tremendous resilience, resourcefulness, and the ability to adapt to new circumstances. These attributes will allow ECDHD/GNCHC to not just survive in these changing times, but to thrive.

I am honored to be a part of this progressive organization and am excited to see what our team will achieve as we continue our unrelenting pursuit of excellence.

William “Will” McInnis
CEO
ECDHD/GNCHC

Genoa Pharmacy partnered with Good Neighbor Community Health Center and opened an on-site pharmacy in February of 2017. Our community health center patients can fill their prescription the same day as their appointment. GNCHC patients may apply for a discount for their prescriptions through the 340B Program.
COMMUNITY IMPACT:
GOOD NEIGHBOR COMMUNITY HEALTH CENTER AND GOOD NEIGHBOR FREMONT

Our health centers in Columbus and Fremont provide tremendous value and impact to our communities. Our community health centers provide access to care to vulnerable populations.

NEW FREMONT LOCATION
Good Neighbor Fremont moved from renting a 4,480 sq. ft. space to purchasing a 10,926 sq. ft. building in Fremont Nebraska in May of 2017.

GOOD NEIGHBOR FREMONT PROVIDERS:

DR. ROBIN BERNARD
FAMILY PRACTICE

DR. JOHN BRADY
FAMILY PRACTICE

KRISTIN SCHROEDER
DENTIST
2. Diagnose and Investigate Health Problems and Health Hazards in the Community.

ECDHD reviewed more than 1,200 laboratory results in 2017, and selected 217 reportable conditions for investigations and follow up, in compliance with Nebraska DHHS regulations. Among these, ECDHD investigated 45 animal exposures, 88 communicable conditions as a result of food contamination or animal contact. ECDHD investigated 18 vaccine preventable diseases including pertussis and pneumonia invasive diseases.

In 2017, ECDHD investigated and followed up on 34 cases of lead poisoning in children through the National Electronic Disease Surveillance System (NEDSS).

3. Inform, Educate, and Empower People About Health Issues.

Many health education booths were manned in 2017 including Back to BASICS, Tobacco Free Nebraska, Minority Health and Cancer Prevention.

ECDHD Staff created a quiz and distributed meat thermometers, magnets, and brochures to the community to educate on the importance of food safety.

4. Mobilize Community Partnerships and Action to Identify and Solve Health Problems.

The Local Public Health System Assessment (LPHSA) is an assessment involving organizations and entities that contribute to public health in the community. The two day assessment in October of 2017 brought together community members to analyze strengths, weaknesses, and opportunities for both short-term and long-term improvement in our public health system.


The Back to BASICS coalition paid for various community partners to attend the Northeast Nebraska Drug symposium. Due to the training, several attendees changed policies based on information from the symposium. Lakeview High School and Columbus Police Department re-evaluated their policies to make them stronger when handling drugs and unknown substances.

Medication Take Back Days were held in April and October of 2017 in collaboration with Columbus Police Department in which a total of 515 lbs. of medication was collected. Medication Take Back Days are a way of managing the disposal of expired or unused prescription medications.
6. Enforce laws and regulations that protect health and ensure safety.

ECDHD conducted compliance checks with stores that sell tobacco and alcohol, in order to ensure that stores are not selling alcohol and tobacco products to underage youth. The annual compliance rate for businesses not selling alcohol to minors was 89%. In Platte County, the compliance rate was 90% and in Colfax County the compliance rate was an 87%.

7. Link people to needed personal health services and ensure the provision of health care when otherwise unavailable.

The Evolve Vision Van provided vision screenings to children and adults who might not otherwise have received the assistance. With the help of their doctor and technician, the mobile vision van served 40 clients free of charge. Out of the 40 clients, 35 were prescribed eyewear, 3 were referred to an optometrist, and the remaining clients were screened with no prescription needed. Clients were able to choose frames and the prescribed eyewear was mailed to their homes. Clients who were not able to be seen were provided information on the Evolve Vision Van’s future stops.

8. Assure competent public and personal health care workforce.

Kelly Theilen, Human Resources Generalist completed her certification in October of 2017 at Great Plains Leadership Institute for established and emerging leaders in our community.

The agency implemented an employee training software, in order to ensure staff are up to date on current knowledge and practices on a variety of public health and health care core competencies. ECDHD staff attended national conferences on various topics such as Tobacco Prevention and Substance Abuse Prevention, just to name a few, in order to learn about best practices and emerging trends.

9. Evaluate effectiveness, accessibility, and quality of personal and population-based health services.

Good Neighbor Community Health Center has been (TJC) The Joint Commission accredited since 2009. East Central District Health Department became (PHAB) accredited in 2016. These accreditations demonstrate commitment to giving safe, high quality health services and public health care, and to continually improve and protect the health of our community. The Platte/Colfax Community Well Being Coalition conducted a Service Array to determine and evaluate the current resources and quality of services available to the community in 2017.

10. Research for new insights and innovative solutions to health problems.

ECDHD was a part of an inter-professional rural rotation in the spring of 2017 with four University of Nebraska Medical Center students. They researched best practices in colon cancer screening and education and helped agency staff conduct a quality improvement process for increasing screening rates.
**EMERGENCY SUPPLY LIST**

Recommended items to include in a Basic Emergency Supply Kit:

- Water, one gallon of water per person per day for at least three days.
- Food, at least a three day supply of non-perishable food
- Battery-powered or hand crank radio and NOAA Weather Radio with tone alert and extra batteries
- Flashlight and extra batteries
- First aid kit
- Whistle to signal for help
- Dust mask, to help filter contaminated air and plastic sheeting and duct tape to shelter-in-place
- Moist towelettes, garbage bags and plastic ties for personal sanitation
- Wrench or pliers to turn off utilities
- Can opener for food
- Local maps
- Prescription medications and glasses.

Add additional items that you should consider that applies to your household specifics. For more information go to [www.ready.gov](http://www.ready.gov).

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**PUBLIC HEALTH EMERGENCY RESPONSE**

**FEMA SAFE ROOM**

ECDHD has a FEMA approved Safe Room for shelter during a tornado or severe winds. A tornado Safe Room Sign is displayed on the outside of each of the public entrances directing prospective occupants to the site. The Tornado Safe Room is a designated shelter to provide life-safety protection to its occupants at near-absolute protection against 250 mph winds.

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**OUTREACH & ENROLLMENT PROGRAM**

In 2017, 169 Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP) applications were approved through the Outreach and Enrollment program which provided $558,335 in benefit amount to families which converts to 202,975 meals.

- **13,752** TOTAL CLIENTS ASSISTED IN ENROLLMENT IN MEDICAID AND MARKETPLACE IN 2017
- **1,039** TOTAL CLIENTS SIGNED UP FOR MEDICAID & MARKETPLACE
- **599** TOTAL CLIENTS SIGNED UP FOR SNAP & ECONOMIC ASSISTANCE PROGRAMS

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**IMMUNIZATION PROGRAM**

The Immunization Program promotes and urges the community to get lifesaving immunizations such as the flu vaccine. The Immunization Program provides vaccines to both children and adults in our four county service area. We want to serve everyone, including those who are uninsured, underinsured, and insured. In 2017 the Immunization Program provided 3,302 immunizations, which is 236 more than 2016.

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**CANCER PREVENTION PROGRAM**

This program offers free take-home colon cancer screening kits, free or reduced priced screening through Every Woman Matters, and health coaching to those who qualify.

The Cancer Prevention Program had a 48% return rate on colon cancer screening kits which is higher than last year at 41%.
The Early Development Network program “connects” families with early intervention services. The term “early intervention” is important because research shows that the first three years are the most important time for learning in a child’s life. Providing developmental services early improves a child’s ability to develop and learn. Also, it may prevent or decrease the need to receive specialized help later. The goal of early intervention in Nebraska is to “open a window of opportunity” for families to help their children with special needs develop to their full potential.

Taking a first step, smiling for the first time, and waving “bye-bye” are called developmental milestones. Children reach milestones in how they play, learn, speak, behave, and move (for example, crawling and walking). The Early Development Network can help parents whose kids are not meeting their milestones.

My son has a team of experienced professionals who not only support him, but help my family learn, grow, and adapt to our life as an autism family. The early intervention services, including speech and occupational therapy, have been instrumental in helping my son overcome and cope with developmental challenges so he can be successful in school, at home, and in public places.

~ Tricia (parent of child with autism)

WIC provides low-income women, infants, and children up to age 5 who are at nutritional risk, nutritious foods to supplement diets, information on healthy eating, and referrals to other health care services. Not only does WIC provide vouchers for free nutritious foods, the program also offers guidance on how to shop for healthy foods and how to prepare the foods in order to attract children to eat it. We help parents give children the opportunity to succeed as healthy adults.

In 2017 WIC Clinic served 1,947 unduplicated clients.

Did you know?

53% of infants born in the U.S. are served by WIC.
East Central District Health Department

For Radon Test Kits, Colon Cancer Screening Kits, Environmental Health, Tobacco and Youth Substance Abuse Prevention, Health Promotion and Education, Public Health Emergency Response, Community Well Being

Call
402-563-9656

WIC - Women, Infants and Children:
Columbus Office ........................................ 402-564-9931
Schuyler Office ........................................... 402-352-3488
Boone Office ............................................. 402-395-3248
Nance Office ............................................. 402-564-9931

Early Development Network:
402-564-4497 or Toll Free 800-564-2805

Good Neighbor Community Health Center
For appointments with Medical, OB, Dental, Behavioral Health and Immunization Clinics
Call
402-562-7500
or
Toll Free 1-866-466-9339

GNCHC Patient Records Online Service:
The Patient Portal link is located on our website: www.ecdhd.ne.gov

After Hours Phone Number for Medical Advice:
1-855-501-4676

Our Columbus Address:
4321 41st Avenue, Columbus, NE 68601

Good Neighbor Fremont
2740 N. Clarkson St., Fremont, NE 68025, 402-721-0951

Your tax deductible gift to the Good Neighbor Foundation will help ensure that the ECDHD/GNCHC continues to offer high quality, affordable and accessible medical services to all patients, regardless of their ability to pay.

For more information call: 402-562-8951.

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ECDHD/GNCHC 2017 FINANCIAL

**REVENUE**

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<td>State/Federal</td>
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<td>Patient Fees/Donations</td>
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<td>Private Foundation</td>
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<td>Interest</td>
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<td>Miscellaneous</td>
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**EXPENDITURES**

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<td><strong>Total Expenditures</strong></td>
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* Operating Revenue and Expenses
** Expenses do not account for Building Depretiation and capitalized equipment