City of Long Beach
Department of Health and Human Services

Providing Public Health to the Residents of Long Beach Since 1906
MISSION STATEMENT

To improve the quality of life of the residents of Long Beach by addressing public health and human service needs and by promoting a healthy environment in which to live, work and play.
Department Profile

• The Long Beach Department of Health and Human Services (DHHS) is one of only three city-operated local health jurisdictions in California.

• The Department currently employs approximately 300 staff members

• The majority of DHHS staff live in the greater Long Beach community.

• Public Health Programs grant funded (no City General Funds)
Long Beach Health Department Approach

- Work with Community
- Identify the problem
- Assess the situation
- Develop strategy
- Seek grant funding
- Address the issue
Leading Causes of Death – Long Beach*

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>#</th>
<th>% of Deaths</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1) Heart Disease</td>
<td>857</td>
<td>(28.0%)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2) Cancer</td>
<td>723</td>
<td>(23.6%)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3) Lower Respiratory</td>
<td>175</td>
<td>(5.7%)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4) CVA/Stroke</td>
<td>166</td>
<td>(5.4%)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5) Influenza/Pneum</td>
<td>123</td>
<td>(4.0%)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6) Accidents</td>
<td>107</td>
<td>(3.5%)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7) Alzheimer's</td>
<td>92</td>
<td>(3.0%)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8) Diabetes</td>
<td>81</td>
<td>(2.6%)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>9) Cirrhosis/CLD</td>
<td>76</td>
<td>(2.5%)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10) Suicide</td>
<td>28</td>
<td>(0.9%)</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

*2009 provisional data
• **Enforces** laws and regulations that protect health and ensure safety.
• **Links** people to needed personal health services to assure provision of care.
• **Assures** competent public and personal health care workforce.
• **Evaluates** effectiveness, accessibility, and quality of health services.
• **Researches** innovative solutions to health problems.
• **Monitors** health status to identify community health problems.
• **Diagnoses** and investigate health problems and health hazards in the community.
• **Informs**, educates, and empowers people about health issues.
• **Mobilizes** community partnerships to identify and solve health problems.
• **Develops policies and plans** to support individual and community health efforts.
• **Addresses** health disparities.
Major Public Health Responsibilities

- **Health Protection**
  - Emergency Preparedness and Response
  - Environmental Health Programs

- **Disease and Injury Prevention Control**
  - HIV/AIDS Prevention
  - Acute Communicable Disease Control
  - TB and STD Control Programs

- **Health Promotion**
  - Maternal, Adolescent & Child Health
  - Chronic Disease Control – Tobacco Control, Physical Activity & Nutrition Programs
  - Health Education Programs
Public Health Programs Addressing Children and Families

• Maternal, Child and Adolescent Health Program
  – MCAH Action Plan
  – Specialized Public Health Programs

• Environmental Health Education
  – CAARE and ALSAA - provide in home case management for adults and seniors with asthma (TCC provides clinical case management support for children with asthma)

• Other Programs
Maternal Child/Adolescent Health Action Plan

- MCAH develops systems with the goal to help protect and improve the health of California’s reproductive age women, infants, children, adolescents, and their families.
- Local MCAH programs are the partners in accomplishing the statewide MCAH program mission and goals:
  
  Goal 1: Improve Outreach and Access to Quality Health and Human Services
  Goal 2: Improve Maternal Health
  Goal 3: Improve Infant Health
  Goal 4: Improve Nutrition and Physical Activity
  Goal 5: Improve Child Health
  Goal 6: Improve Adolescent Health
MCAH Specialized Programs

• Public Health Nurses (PHN)
• Specialized programs such as:
  - Nurse Family Partnership
  - Best Babies Collaborative
  - Black Infant Health
  - Childhood Lead Poisoning Prevention Program
  - Childhood Disability Prevention Program
  - Comprehensive Perinatal Service Providers
The Community Asthma and Air Quality Resource Education (CAARE) Program strives to improve the health and well-being of adults and seniors with asthma and assist residents in Long Beach, Wilmington and Carson, in reducing and/or eliminating indoor and outdoor air pollutants that may contribute to asthma, allergies, and other respiratory illnesses.

The CAARE Program is funded by AQMD/BP Settlement Funds. The Bureau of Environmental Health was awarded this grant in 2008, and has successfully been awarded each year since. Since the inception of this program, CAARE has enrolled over 700 participants.
Community Asthma & Air Quality Resource Education (CAARE) Program

• **In-Home Adult Asthma Case Management Program** – Community Health Workers are responsible for conducting one-on-one adult outreach and in-home health education sessions.

• **Community Workshops** – CAARE facilitates workshops to engage and connect the community with available asthma care and air pollution resources.

• **Asthma Information Hotline** – The hotline provides a quick way to get asthma information and referrals to resources provided by the Health Department.
Asthma Incidence in Children in Long Beach

• CHIS estimates of asthma in SPA 8:
  – 2009: 13.8% of children and 14.5% of adults diagnosed with asthma
  – Of these, 89% report asthma symptoms in past 12 months, 15% report one or more emergency room visits in last 12 months

• CHIS estimates of asthma in California:
  – 2009: 13.4% of children and 13.5% of adults diagnosed with asthma
  – 91% report symptoms within last 12 months, and 10% report one or more emergency room visits in last 12 months.
Advisory Boards and Collaboratives

- North Long Beach Collaborative – HEAL Zone
- Let’s Move Long Beach
- Black Infant Health Task Force
- Long Beach Unified School District Health Education Advisory Committee
- Los Angeles-Ventura National Children's Study Advisory Board
- Long Beach Alliance for Children with Asthma (LBACA)
- Long Beach Alliance for Food and Fitness (LBAFF)
- Long Beach-Wilmington Best Babies Collaborative
- Head Start Health Advisory Committee
- Childhood Lead Prevention Task Force
- And more
Other Data

- Local Public Health agencies not authoritative air quality agency
  - in Southern California, SCAQMD, CARB are lead agencies in this area

- No or Limited Environmental or Injury illness data for seniors locally
  - most public health programming focused on home visitation, elder abuse, or falls prevention

- Long Beach as a study community
  - USC/UCLA studies on health risks of goods movement
  - findings that proximity to freeways contribute to limited lung function
  - more data needed
What we are doing about it

- **Long Beach Human Health Risk Assessment Baseline Air Quality/Noise (2005)**
  - focused on port and airport fixed site activities
  - Funded by Long Beach Airport
  - Found that port had limited air quality impact on local populations, greater impact regionally
  - recommended update to the City’s Air Quality Element (pending)

- **Community Health Research Study (1996 and 1999)**
  - jointly funded by Long Beach based hospitals community benefits
  - very limited environmental health data, and very dated

- **Health Impact Assessment for I-710, Gateway Cities Air Quality Action Plan (ongoing)**

- **City integrating health principles into overall General Plan elements (pending)**
  - City’s General Plan contains Air Quality, Open Space, and Transportation elements
  - focus is on welless/walkability, not on environmental health/asthma
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