

Fargo Cass Public Health

Serving our Community since 1923



Public Health

Prevent. Promote. Protect.

Fargo Cass Public Health

2009 Annual Report

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From the Director

It is my pleasure to present to you the 2009 Fargo Cass Public Health Annual Report. This report contains a variety of statistics and highlights which are intended to give you an overview of department activities for 2009.



2009 was no ordinary year for our community and no ordinary year for FCPH. The historic flood and the emergence of a Pandemic Influenza in the form of H1N1 provided many challenges and opportunities. Emergency preparedness and response was our focus in 2009 as we worked to assure the safety and health of our community.

During the spring flood, FCPH coordinated the orderly and safe evacuation of over 3,500 of our most vulnerable residents from hospitals, nursing homes and other congregate living facilities in response to predictions of a record setting crest. H1N1 influenza followed soon after. FCPH worked closely with local healthcare providers to distribute over 75,000 doses of H1N1 vaccine through a community wide vaccination effort.

Our work to address both of these public health emergencies could not have been accomplished without the collaboration from our healthcare partners, local schools, and other city and county departments. Thank you all for your continued support.

A community health assessment for Fargo and Cass County is updated annually and can be found on our website for anyone wanting measures of local health status. Check out this great resource at www.cityoffargo.com/health.

I welcome your ideas and your comments on how we can continue to work together to achieve a healthier community!

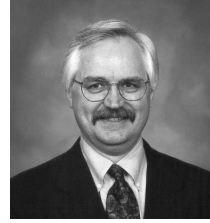
Ruth Bachmeier, M.S., R.N.

10 Essential Services of Public Health

- ① Monitor health status and understand health issues facing the community.
- ② Protect people from health problems and health hazards.
- ③ Give people information they need to make healthy choices.
- ④ Engage the community to identify and solve health problems.
- ⑤ Develop public health policies and plans.
- ⑥ Enforce public health laws and regulations.
- ⑦ Help people receive health services.
- ⑧ Maintain a competent public health workforce.
- ⑨ Evaluate and improve programs and interventions.
- ⑩ Contribute to and apply the evidence base of public health.

From the Health Officer

Preparing for and responding to potential disasters and health threats are an important part of public health. During 2009, Fargo Cass Public Health focused much attention on spring flooding and the H1N1 pandemic.



By great effort of many dedicated staff and volunteers, a major disaster was prevented from the record flood of 2009. Public health focused on the vulnerable people in our community, who are at great risk and require extra time and care in an evacuation. At the point of worst predictions and greatest threat, a coordinated evacuation of two hospitals and all of the long term care facilities was facilitated by public health for the safety and protection of the patients and residents.

The H1N1 pandemic was the first worldwide outbreak of a new influenza virus since 1968. This respiratory illness can spread rapidly with no community immunity to the novel virus. Even though the overall severity of the illness turned out to be not as deadly as past pandemics there still were deaths and severe illness, most troublesome in young individuals.

The community responded very well to our efforts of public education encouraging the use of common sense methods to avoid transmission. **Cover your cough, wash your hands, and stay home if you are sick.** Vaccination is the best protection. Once vaccine was available, public health coordinated and administered doses to the most vulnerable and then to the whole population.

John R. Baird, M.D.-M.P.H.

FCPH 2009 News and Accomplishments

The 2009 flood brought many challenges to the city and Fargo Cass Public Health. FCPH met those challenges by assisting the most vulnerable populations with transportation and sheltering. FCPH, along with local health partners, assisted approximately 3,500 individuals who were relocated out of harm's way by bus or plane, to facilities in North Dakota, South Dakota, Minnesota and Iowa. FCPH worked with city and state transportation officials, emergency personnel, The Red Cross, and many others to accomplish the task.



Not soon after the flood waters receded, H1N1 became a threat worldwide. Fargo Cass Public Health was an integral part of the Community Influenza Collaborative (CIC), a group comprised of representatives from schools, colleges, daycares, social services and healthcare industries in both Cass and Clay counties. The CIC has been in place for over 5 years preparing for situations such as H1N1.

During the H1N1 vaccination process, the CIC worked together continuously on vaccine distribution, public information campaigns, H1N1 vaccine clinics and sharing vital resources such as nursing staff and equipment.

Fargo Cass Public Health Programs

The Division of Health Protection and

Promotion is a combination of clinical services and health education. The clinic operates a full-service Family Planning Reproductive Health and STD Clinic. Other services include Health Tracks screening for children and youth, Women’s Way, and the International Travel Clinic. Health Promotions provides community-based public health interventions on topics such as tobacco control and cessation, nutrition, Safe Communities, physical activity, and general health education.



The Division of Public Health Nursing provides health services to individuals and families in their homes. Nursing services are also based in the schools, Cass County Jail, and other community settings.

The mission of Fargo Cass Public Health is to assure a healthy community for all people through ongoing assessment, education, advocacy, intervention, prevention, and collaboration.

The Division of Environmental Health enforces public health policies. Important aspects of their work include: food safety, workplace health and safety, housing conditions, industrial waste, air pollution/control, communicable diseases, testing public drinking water and pool samples, and many other compliance tests.

The WIC Program provides nutrition education and referrals to other community services. Vouchers for nutritious foods are provided to pregnant and breastfeeding women, new mothers, and infants and children under age five who are below 185% of the federal poverty level.



The Division of Emergency Preparedness

Emergency Preparedness focuses on planning, training, and conducting exercises for all public health-related emergencies such as bioterrorism, pandemic flu, and natural disasters. They also provide educational materials on preparing for emergencies at home and at work.

www.cityoffargo.com/health

Twitter: FCPH

Facebook: Fargo Cass Public Health

Comments from our clients....



“The staff members from the Stop Smoking Cessation program are wonderful. This program is great and truly life saving.”

≈ Stop Smoking Cessation Program participant

“I believe the server training program is great for servers and bartenders.”

”

≈ A student after participating in a Safe Communities server training



“The WIC program has changed my life. I do many things differently now because of what I have learned”.

“I am so thankful for WIC services.”

≈ WIC clients

“This panel has made me evaluate the decision I have made and will shape my decisions in the future”.

“This panel was helpful to realize that people shouldn’t drink and drive

≈ Individuals on attending the Victim Impact Panel, sponsored by the Safe Communities Coalition

“ “I feel as though I don’t have a lot of fears anymore because I have a lot of resources that this program has given to me and my son”.

≈ Nurse Family Partnership client

Success Stories

Fargo Cass Public Health’s Tobacco Prevention and Control program celebrated its one year anniversary. and a public opinion survey that 76.6% of respondents favor the new smoke-free ordinances and a large majority 69.8% of respondents support expanding the state smoke-free law to prohibit smoking in all North Dakota workplaces, including bars and lounges.

North Dakota State University passed a smoke-free campus policy to become effective March 1, 2010.

In June of 2009, there were 158 enrolled in the ND Quitline from Cass County. An increase of 72 people from 2008.

2009 Statistics

Public Health Nursing

Adult home nursing visits	6,165
Home health aide visits	2,907
Homemaker visits	2,058
One-on-one direct school nurse visits	78,813
Nurse Family Partnership program visits	1,566
Nurse Family Partnership graduates	22
RN visits Tuberculosis control	874
Correctional Health nurse clinical visits	33,179
Immunizations given	7,428
Maternal Child Health visits	881

Health Protection and Promotion

Women's Way enrolled clients	614
Clinic patients	3,831
Health Tracks clients	664
Enrolled in Break Away from Nicotine (BAN) program	34
ND Quitline (Cass County)	158
Trained alcohol servers	2,164
Victim impact panel participants	1,061
Alcohol compliance checks	762
STD/STI checks	5,461
Automated External Defibrillators placed	40

WIC Program

Women, infants, and children enrolled as of Dec. 31	3,018
Average of new clients per month entering program	115

Environmental Health

Environmental inspections	2,572
Environmental consultations	2,591
Food service and bar inspections	1,336
Swimming pool water samples collected	2,962
Drinking water samples collected	1,096
Complaints investigated	846
Lead Samples tested	161

Emergency Preparedness

H1N1 Vaccinations (Oct. 31-Dec. 31)	14,564
Public health volunteers	167
Drill of mass dispensing site assistance	15
Exercises participated in	4

Success Story

The Women, Infants and Children Program worked with local grocery stores to label the new WIC foods which include fresh fruits and vegetables, baby food, and whole grains. Within two months, WIC staff trained over 1,500 families on how to shop for the new foods.



WIC was also able to purchase 15 new breast pumps which greatly expanded their ability to loan pumps to low income working mothers as well as providing pumps for medical situations such as premature births.

2009 Budget Overview

Revenue

City of Fargo	\$2,457,719
Grants	1,787,806
Cass County.....	876,662
Self-pay	476,332
Environmental.....	436,379
State Grants	338,640
Local	329,654
Medicaid.....	343,753
Miscellaneous	283,593
State Aid.....	232,052
TOTAL	\$7,562,590

Expenses

Salary/benefits.....	\$6,020,953
Contract services	504,729
Operating expenses.....	1,036,908
TOTAL	\$7,562,590

2009 Board of Health Members

Timothy J. Mahoney, M.D., Fargo City Commissioner

Diane Moderow, county representative

Richard A. Rohla, M.D.

Nicholas Dorsher, D.D.S.

Mike Thorstad, West Fargo City Commissioner

Darrell Vanyo, Cass County Commissioner

Dinah Goldenberg, Fargo School Board

Michelle M. Donarski, J.D., business representative

Kathryn Leclerc, community representative

Meetings are recorded for broadcast on TV Fargo (channel 99).
Visit the program schedule at www.cityoffargo.com/cable
to see the rebroadcast time.



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Contact Us

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www.cityoffargo.com/health

Fargo Cass Public Health has been serving the community since 1923. Our services are open to all residents of Cass County, regardless of their age, sexual orientation, income level, sex, race, or nationality.

