



**Nebraska Department of Health and Human Services
Division of Public Health
Office of Health Disparities and Health Equity**

2013 – 2017 Strategic Plan

VISION: Health equity for all Nebraskans

MISSION: Improve health outcomes for culturally diverse populations in Nebraska

The overarching goal of the Office of Health Disparities and Health Equity is to be a respected leader in cultural intelligence, health disparity data, and community engagement to address the needs of minority populations in Nebraska.

OHDHE priority areas for 2013 – 2017 are:

- **Promote chronic disease prevention, maternal child health promotion, reduction of obesity, and improve physical activity and nutrition among Nebraska’s racial and ethnic minority populations**
- **Enhance awareness of health disparities and advance cultural intelligence**
- **Establish coordinated data collection, evaluation methods and outcomes, and provide relevant statistical data to assess and identify health status of racial and ethnic minorities**
- **Expand and sustain statewide community partnerships and collaboration**
- **Encourage full racial and ethnic minority engagement**
- **Enhance collaboration/coordination and technical assistance efforts regarding tribal health in Nebraska**

Below are the objectives and activities for year one and how they relate the National Partnership for Action (NPA), HHS Action Plan to Reduce Racial and Ethnic Health Disparities and Healthy People 2020 objectives.

- **Promote chronic disease prevention, maternal child health promotion, reduction of obesity, and improve physical activity and nutrition among Nebraska’s racial and ethnic minority populations**
 - Promote chronic disease prevention evidence-based programs through a variety of funding sources and opportunities.
 - Work collaboratively with the DHHS Chronic Disease and Physical Activity and Nutrition Programs to provide information to communities and organizations that work with minorities, and to work on program priority/focus areas.
 - Collaborate with the Every Woman Matters program to increase awareness and screening rates for breast, cervical, colon cancer and cardiovascular screening for racial and ethnic minority populations.
 - Conduct 30 presentations on chronic disease prevention, maternal child health issues and obesity and physical activity & nutrition throughout Nebraska through Community Health Educators and Lay Health Ambassadors.

- Attend 15 outreach events regarding chronic disease prevention, maternal child health issues, physical activity & nutrition, and promote obesity prevention throughout Nebraska.
- Collect data to document factors in infant mortality disparities through the completion of 4 focus groups with Native Americans.

Relates to HP 2020 Objective D-2,3,5,14, ECPB 10.7, 10.8, 10.9, 11, HDS 1,5,16,17, IVP 15, 16, MCH 1,9,10,11, NWS 10,11, 14, 15, 17, 18,19, OH 1,3, PA 1, NPA Goal 1, HHS Action Plan Goal 3

▪ **Enhance awareness of health disparities and advance cultural intelligence**

- Conduct 15 presentations to internal and external groups regarding office mission, vision, and core functions.
- Complete OHDHE cultural intelligence trainings with Minority Health Initiative grantees and stakeholders (18 events).
- Conduct 12 cultural intelligence presentation/training events for internal programs and external organizations.
- Become a referral resource for communities and organizations regarding minority health needs in Nebraska by creating a referral guide on minority programs throughout the state.

Relates to Nebraska SPG Objective 1 and HP2020 Objective HC/HIT-2, AHS-3 and ECBP-11

▪ **Establish coordinated data collection, evaluation methods and outcomes and improve evaluation methods and outcomes provide relevant statistical data to assess and identify health status of racial and ethnic minorities**

- Complete 4 Socioeconomic Status of Minorities reports by March 2013.
- Complete 4 Health Status of Racial and Ethnic Minority reports in Nebraska reports by December 2013.
- Determine key performance measures for health disparity data among racial/ethnic minority groups by December 2013.
- Develop Request for Proposal for 2013-2015 that includes that includes evidence-based programs to gather measurable impact and outcomes for MHI projects by March 31, 2013.
- Investigate information to acquire a database for Minority Health Initiative Projects to enhance data collection among projects by December 31, 2013.
- Complete strategic plan for Minority Health State Advisory Council by May 2013 and help monitor collective strategies of the group.
- Attend monthly meetings with Center for Reducing Health Disparities to develop joint data projects.
- Attend regular meetings of the Division of Public Health data priority area work group.
- Provide support and data analysis of the Behavior Risk Factor Survey for Nebraska racial and ethnic minority populations each year.
- Establish a tribal data initiative to collect tribe-specific information. Complete report based on the Behavior Risk Factor Survey for 3 Native American Tribes of Nebraska.
- Conduct 'Data 101' training for office staff to facilitate understanding by January 30, 2013.
- Participate in monthly combined Chronic Disease Prevention meetings.

Relates to Nebraska SPG Objective 3, HP2020 Objective AHS-3 and PHI-7, HHS Action Plan Goal 5

▪ **Expand and sustain statewide community partnerships and collaboration**

- Develop a flow chart (map) of partners and key stakeholders and understand the role of each organization.
- Provide 15 presentations to internal and external groups regarding office mission, vision and core functions by December 2013.
- Invite internal supervisors/administrators of public health office to 3 OHDHE staff meetings.
- Provide monthly information to partners/collaborators on OHDHE list serve.

- **Relates to Nebraska SPG Objective 2 and HP2020 Objective HC/HIT-2,ECBP-11, and PHI-7, HHS Action Plan Goal 2**

- **Encourage full racial and ethnic minority engagement**

- Establish a stakeholder coalition to help implement a statewide Lay Health Ambassador curriculum.
- Work with the Every Woman Matters program to adapt the Patient Navigator curriculum.
- Reinvigorate the regional steering committee network.
- Recruit a broad representation to the Statewide Minority Health Council, including refugees
- Complete the Statewide Minority Health Council strategic plan (with metrics).

Relates to SPG Objective 2 and HP2020 Objective for Social Determinates of Health, HHS Action Plan Goal II

- **Enhance collaboration/coordination and technical assistance efforts regarding tribal health in Nebraska**

- Provide technical assistance on a continuous basis to Nebraska Tribes and organization who primarily serve Native Americans.
- Provide the four federally recognized tribes with headquarters in Nebraska, and the community/faith-based organizations located in Nebraska (and who primarily serve Native Americans) with information on funding opportunities, trainings, data releases, and other activities related to public health.

Linking State Priorities to the HHS Plan, NSS, and the RHEC Priorities

NPA and the National Stakeholder Strategy

Goal 1: Awareness—Increase awareness of the significance of health disparities, their impact on the nation, and the actions necessary to improve health outcomes for racial, ethnic, and underserved populations.

- **Over the last 5 years, the following reports have been completed:**

- Heath Status of American Indians in Nebraska, 2012
- The State of Language Access Services in Nebraska Health Care Organizations, 2011
- The Socioeconomic Status of Nebraska Minorities, 2011
- The Behavioral Risk Factors for Nebraska immigrant, 2010
- Key Disparities in Nebraska , 2010
- Racial/Ethnic Minority Population Growth: State of Nebraska Fact Book, 2009
- Cultural Competency Assessment of Health Care Providers across Nebraska: A Survey of Limited English Proficient (LEP) Individuals, 2009
- American Indian/Alaska Native Socioeconomic Status Report, 2009 Interpreters Speak Out: Nebraska Language Access Survey, 2008
- The Socioeconomic Status of Nebraska Asians, 2008
- The Socioeconomic Status of Nebraska Black or African Americans, 2008
- The Socioeconomic Status of Nebraska Hispanics or Latinos, 2008

- **By the end of 2012, the following reports will be released:**

- The Health Status of Racial Ethnic Minorities in Nebraska
- The Health Status of Hispanics in Nebraska
- The Socioeconomic Status of Minorities in Nebraska CD Three
- The Socioeconomic Status of Minorities in Nebraska CD Two

- The Socioeconomic Status of Minorities in Nebraska CD One

Relates to the focus areas of Advance Cultural Fluency, Establish Coordinated Data Evaluation and Outcomes, Minority Health Initiative projects, and the Nebraska SPG Objectives 1, 2, and 3

Goal 2: Leadership - Strengthen and broaden leadership for addressing health disparities at all levels.

- Enhanced the membership of the Minority Health Advisory Committee to include key stakeholders to collaboratively address health disparities.
- Established a Lay Health Ambassador program for minority community members to teach peers.
- Established a partnership with the Every Woman Matters program to adapt a Patient Navigator model into a statewide viable community worker program.
- Established Leadership trainings with Sudanese and Somali populations to develop leadership and preventive health skills.

Relates to the Statewide Minority Health Council, focus areas of Expand and Sustain Statewide Community Partnership and Collaboration, Encourage Full Minority Engagement, and Nebraska SPG Objectives 2 and 3

Goal 3: Health System and Life Experience—Improve health and healthcare outcomes for racial, ethnic, and underserved populations

- Eighteen Minority Health Initiative projects address cardiovascular disease, obesity, diabetes, asthma, and infant mortality, among other topics, across the state.
- Community focus groups were held to identify barriers to improve health outcomes of racial/ethnic population groups.
- Attended community events to promote health outcomes for racial/ethnic populations of Nebraska.
- Focus groups were held with African American, Asian and Hispanic women to identify positive cultural influences affecting prenatal, infant and maternal health outcomes.
- The Lay Health Ambassador program uses minority community members to teach peers on 9 different modules of preventive health topics.

Relates to the focus areas of Establish Coordinated Data Evaluation and Outcomes, Minority Health Initiative projects, and Nebraska SPG Objectives 1, 2 and 3

Goal 4: Cultural and Linguistic Competency—Improve cultural and linguistic competency and the diversity of the health-related workforce.

- OHDHE developed a cultural intelligence curriculum that is adaptable to various types of audiences and can be tailored to specific focus areas or time frames
 - 20 cultural intelligence curricula trainings have been held throughout the state with internal and external partners. Twelve trainings will be conducted in the coming year. Trainings are evaluated to demonstrate increased knowledge of cultural intelligence and related concepts
 - OHDHE worked with regional partners to create two series of events centered on California Newsreel's *Unnatural causes: Is inequality making us sick?*
- **Relates to the focus areas of Advance Cultural Fluency, Expand and Sustain Statewide Community Partnerships and Collaborations, and Nebraska SPG Objectives 1 and 2.**

Goal 5: Data, Research, and Evaluation— Improve data availability and coordination, utilization, and

diffusion of research and evaluation outcomes.

- Three data reports have been prepared addressing the health status of American Indian, Social Economic Status of American Indians, and the population growth changes of racial ethnic minorities in the state.
- The Health Status of Racial Ethnic Minorities in Nebraska report will be released this year.
- Modules addressing the reaction to race and demographic information have been added to the Behavioral Risk Factor Surveillance Surveys to collect racial ethnic data.

Relates to focus areas of Advance Cultural Intelligence, Establish Coordinated Data Evaluation and Outcomes, and Nebraska SPG Objectives 2 and 3

Linking State Priorities to the HHS Action Plan and Healthy People 2020
--

Goal 1: Transform Health Care

- Some of the Minority Health Initiative projects address finding a medical home for racial ethnic minorities, refugees and immigrants who do not have one.
- Collaborating with health care providers to improve quality and accessibility to health care with language assistance.
- We continue the use of Lay Health Ambassadors to give presentations and provide health information and resources to community groups to improve health care outcome for racial/ethnic minority groups.

Relates to focus area of Advancing Cultural Fluency, HP2020AHS-3, AHS-9, ECBP1.6, 1.7 & 11

Goal 2: Strengthen the Nation's Health and Human Services' Infrastructure and Workforce

- OHDHE offers Culturally and Linguistically Appropriate Services (CLAS) trainings.
- Established Lay Health Ambassador program for minority community members to teach peers.
- Established a partnership with the Every Woman Matters program to adapt a Patient Navigator model into a viable statewide program with the goal of employability with local health departments.
- Minority Health Initiative projects use Promotoras/Community Health Workers for outreach.

Relates to focus areas of Advancing Cultural Fluency, Expand and Sustain Statewide Community Partnerships and Collaboration, and Encourage Full Minority Engagement. HP2020 HC-HIT-1, EXBP11, PHI-15

Goal 3: Advance the Health, Safety, and Well-being of the American People

- Minority Health Initiative projects use evidenced-based strategies to address racial ethnic health disparities and improve outreach to local populations.
- Lay Health Ambassadors teach peers on 9 modules of preventive health.
- Obesity, asthma, and tobacco cessation are a focus of several Minority Health Initiative projects, including a Native American tribe.
- Promotion of Obesity prevention efforts through CATCH Kids curriculum.
- Prenatal, early childhood and maternal focus groups were held to determine decrease use of the EWM program and cultural influence on successful pregnancy outcomes.

Relates to focus areas of Advancing Cultural Fluency, Expand and Sustain Statewide Community Partnerships and Collaboration, and Encourage Full Minority Engagement. HP2020 ECBP-11, MICH-10, NWS-9, 1, RD-2, 6, 7, TU-1, 2, 3, 5.

Goal 4: Advance Scientific Knowledge and Innovation

- Participate in Behavioral Risk Factor Surveillance Survey system and support additional modules of Reaction to Race and demographic data
- Began steps to start a data collection system for each of the 4 federally recognized tribes in Nebraska
- All trainings and Minority Health Initiative projects include evaluation components to measure effectiveness and outcomes

Relates to focus area Establish Coordinated Data, Evaluation & Outcomes. HP2020 HPI-8, 15, DH-2

Goal 5: Increase Efficiency, Transparency, and Accountability of HHS Program

- Redefine Minority Health Initiative program to use more evidence-based models
- Establish and coordinate Tribal Behavioral Risk Factor Surveillance System

Relates to focus area Establish Coordinated Data, Evaluation & Outcomes. HP2020 PHI-11.2, DH-2

Nebraska Department of Health and Human Services
Office of Health Disparities and Health Equity
301 Centennial Mall South, Lincoln, NE 68509-5026
Phone 402-471-0152
Website: www.dhhs.ne.gov/healthdisparities