

Health District

OF NORTHERN LARIMER COUNTY

What is the Health District and what do we do?

The Health District of Northern Larimer County is a health services district, operated under the special district statutes and funded by a local property tax. The mission of the Health District is to improve the health of the community. We assess and address local needs and provide gap-filling health services, including: mental health services, dental care, prescription assistance and preventive and health planning services. In addition to direct services, we provide public policy analysis and work with community organizations to restructure the way services are delivered to improve effectiveness of care.

How do we prioritize services and policy?

The Health District's programs and activities evolve as community needs change. The Health District performs a comprehensive Community Assessment every 3 years and conducts an analysis of the burden of disease and injury in the district. These assessments and analysis drive our services and policy priorities. For example, tobacco use leads the list of risk factors for disease and disability in the Health District so the Health District provides smoking cessation programs and advocates for policies that are proven to improve health such as the statewide smoking ban.

What are our public policy goals?

The Health District's policy goals are to provide objective, scientific analysis of issues that impact the health of our community. Once staff has prepared an objective analysis, the publicly-elected five member Board of Directors may choose to take a stand on an issue and lobby elected officials. We have developed expertise in and have staff available to answer questions on a range of health care and public health related policy issues.

Health Care Policy Analysis

- The Health District convened and staffed a panel of experts to formulate a health care reform proposal for the 208 Commission that was selected as one of the four proposals to be modeled by the Lewin Group.

Policy Analysis Areas

Health District staff have prepared analyses and studied a variety of health topics including:

- School Policy and Childhood Obesity Prevention
- Traffic Safety Issues
- Mental Health and Substance Abuse Issues
- Oral Health Issues

What can we do for you?

- Share our objective policy analysis
- Provide background research on public health questions
- Provide input from staff who have researched the health impact of a policy issue

Contact

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