



Northeast Nebraska Public Health Department

801 Milo Dr.
PO Box 127
Wayne, NE 68787
402-375-2200

Annual Report 2025 - 2026

Northeast Nebraska Public Health Department -THEN



Northeast Nebraska Public Health Department - NOW



NNPHD

BOARD OF HEALTH MEMBERS

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DR. CHRISTINE DREGALLA
DENTIST



Jill Belt
*Interim Executive Director
Director of Operations
Human Resources Director*

LETTER FROM THE DIRECTOR



Dear Northeast Nebraska Community Residents, Partners, and Stakeholders,

It is my honor to present this year's Annual Report on behalf of the Northeast Nebraska Public Health Department. As Interim Executive Health Director and Director of Operations/HR, I am proud to share the progress we have made together in strengthening the health and well-being of our communities across Cedar, Dixon, Thurston and Wayne counties.

Over the past year, our department has remained steadfast in its commitment to protecting and improving public health through prevention, education, and collaboration. We have continued to build upon a strong foundation of service while adapting to emerging challenges and evolving community needs. Our dedicated board, staff and partners have demonstrated resilience, innovation, and compassion in every aspect of their work.

This year, we placed a renewed emphasis on addressing the root causes of health disparities, with a focus on access to care, food disparities, emergency preparedness and chronic disease prevention. Through expanded outreach efforts, targeted programs, and strategic partnerships, we have worked to ensure that all residents—regardless of background or circumstance—can achieve optimal health.

Key accomplishments this year include:

- Strengthening immunization and disease prevention initiatives to safeguard community health by starting a comprehensive vaccine program
- Expanding STI/HIV testing and women's health options in collaboration with Midtown Health Clinic
- Enhancing a comprehensive Community Health Worker program including home services to the geriatric population; vaccines for those in need and traveling; nutrition, transportation and food services for those who do not have access; agricultural services providing education to those in the agricultural business preventing disease and promoting healthy living; services to prenatal health, educating and promoting men's health, and working consistently on promoting and preventing chronic disease such as diabetes, asthma, heart disease, cancer prevention, and more
- Increasing health education and outreach in schools, workplaces, and community settings
- Continuing to respond to public health threats with timely, evidence-based interventions & emergency response
- Initiating a lead program with two licensed lead inspectors
- A continuous effort monitoring disease with thorough disease investigations, tick collection, and mosquito trapping
- Initiating a swimming pool inspection program
- Enhancing and growing dental services for all ages, in cooperation with Midtown Dental
- Completing a new 5500 square foot building

Our successes would not be possible without the collaboration of local leaders, healthcare providers, educators, community organizations, and engaged citizens. Together, we have made meaningful strides toward building a healthier, more resilient Northeast Nebraska. As we look ahead, we remain committed to continuous improvement, transparency, and community engagement. We will continue to listen, learn, and adapt as we work toward a future where all individuals and families in our region can thrive.

Thank you for your support, partnership, and shared dedication to public health. As always, we are all in this together.

Sincerely,

Jill Belt, LIMHP, MSE, CSW



Peggy Triggs
Director of Services

Northeast Nebraska Public Health Department Staff Members



Jill Belt
*Interim Executive Director
Director of Operations
Human Resources Director*



Teresa Jackson
Administrative Specialist



Hailie Brentlinger
Service Coordinator - Agriculture



Brittney Uhing
Registered Nurse



Janie Ortega
Service Coordinator



Sarah Johnson
Program Specialist



JJ Jackson
Emergency Response Coordinator



Lisa Goodyear
Community Health Worker - Health & Habits



Stacy Benne
Public Health Dental Hygienist



Kalynn Michaels
Disease, Investigation, Surveillance



Jackie Loecker
Disease, Investigation, Surveillance



**Debbie
Ussery**
Disease,
Investigation,
Surveillance



Angela Nuss
CPR Coordinator



Jessica Scott
Community
Health Worker -
Maternal



**Shelley
Preston**
Program
Assistant



**Pat
Brentlinger**
Lead Program
Manager



**Korbyn
Nelson**
Lead Inspector &
Risk Assessor



**Megan
Boamah**
Community
Health Worker -
Geriatrics



Toni Meis
Bookkeeper



**Cataleena
Lorst**
Community
Health Worker -
Vaccines



Jeff Triggs
Maintenance



Randy Belt
Maintenance



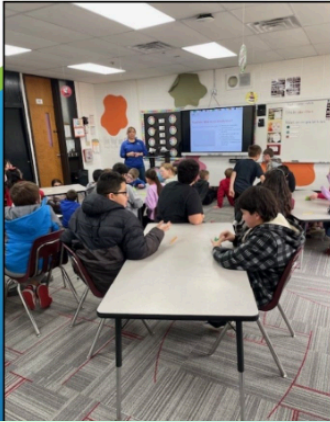
Jackson Belt
Cleaning Service



Danny Van Deest
Accreditation &
Social Media

Region 4 Grant

PUBLIC HEALTH Catch My Breath IS FOR YOU Evidence Based Vaping Prevention Program

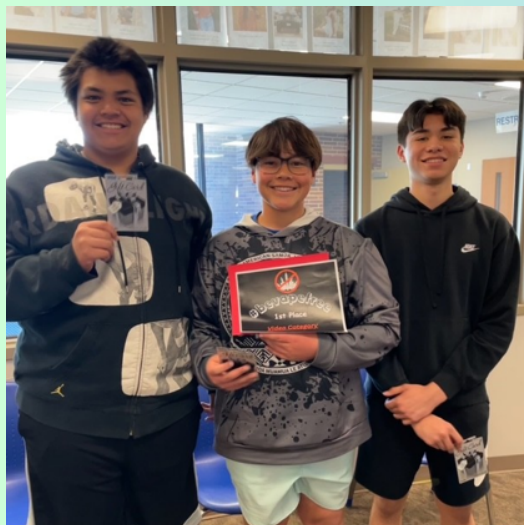


CATCH My Breath

- Delivered evidence-based vaping prevention education to youth throughout schools in our community including Pender, Wakefield, and Wayne.
- Educated students about nicotine addiction, health risks, and vape industry marketing tactics.
- Expanded prevention education efforts in schools and community settings.

Community Impact

- Increased youth awareness about the dangers of vaping.
- Encouraged healthy decision-making among students.
- Supported long-term tobacco and nicotine prevention efforts.



Responsible Beverage Server Training

- Successfully trained five individuals in responsible alcohol service practices.
- Educated participants on recognizing intoxication, preventing underage sales, and understanding liability.

Community Impact

- Helped create safer community environments.
- Supported prevention efforts related to alcohol misuse and underage drinking.

Northeast Nebraska Public Health Department Offers

Responsible Beverage Server Training

Who should take the training?

BARTENDERS - SERVERS - ALCOHOL RETAILERS -
RESTAURANTS - BARS - LOCAL BUSINESSES.

*Anyone involved in alcohol sales or service

Responsible Service Starts With You

CALL 402-375-2200 TO SET UP A TRAINING

Region 4 Grant

Fatal Vision Goggles

- Conducted presentations at 3 schools.
- Provided educational programming at Wayne State College.
- Partnered with the Wayne Police Department to strengthen impaired driving prevention efforts.
- Offered hands-on demonstrations showing the effects of alcohol and drug impairment.



Community Impact

- Increased awareness about the dangers of impaired driving.
- Helped youth and adults better understand how impairment affects driving ability.
- Encouraged safer and more responsible decision-making.



Distracted Driving & IntoxiClock

- Provided interactive distracted and impaired driving demonstrations throughout the service area.
- Conducted outreach and education at Wayne State College.
- Educated participants on the effects of texting, alcohol use, fatigue, and distractions while driving.

Community Impact

- Promoted safer driving habits among youth and adults.
- Increased awareness about the dangers of distracted driving.
- Supported injury and crash prevention efforts in local communities.



Region 4 Grant

QPR Suicide Prevention

- Completed 2 QPR Suicide Prevention trainings with local fire departments.
- Trained community members to recognize suicide warning signs and respond appropriately.
- Increased awareness of available mental health and crisis resources.

Community Impact

- Strengthened suicide prevention efforts within the community.
- Helped first responders and community leaders feel more prepared to support individuals in crisis.
- Encouraged open conversations about mental health and suicide prevention.



INSTRUCTOR CONTACT INFORMATION

Hailie Brentlinger
531-519-6389
Hailie@nnphd.ne.gov

Tobacco Compliance Checks

- Conducted tobacco and vape compliance checks throughout the four-county service area.
- Educated eleven businesses on the importance of checking IDs and preventing sales to minors.
- Thirty-four retail locations successfully passed random compliance checks.
- Strengthened partnerships with retailers and local law enforcement.

Community Impact

- Reduced youth access to tobacco and nicotine products.
- Increased awareness of responsible retail practices.
- Supported healthier and safer communities for youth and families.

***73% total pass rate
on compliance
checks across all 4
counties!***

73%

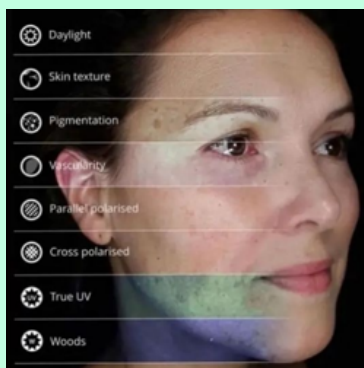
Cancer Prevention

Major Successes

- Installed permanent sunshades throughout the communities served to increase safe outdoor spaces for families and children.
- Partnered with Northeast Power, which donated and installed poles for the sunshade structures, creating a strong community partnership.
- Placed temporary free sunscreen dispensers at community locations to increase access to sun protection.
- Created and distributed sun care kits for newborn babies to encourage lifelong healthy habits.
- Provided facial skin scans to help identify possible skin concerns and increase awareness about early detection.
- Increased public education on sunscreen use, hydration, and skin cancer prevention.

Community Impact

- Expanded access to free preventive health resources.
- Increased awareness about skin cancer prevention across all age groups.
- Helped families build healthy habits early and encouraged safer outdoor recreation.



Chronic Dx

Diabetes Food Voucher & Chronic Dx program offers financial help to those who are coping with pre-diabetes/diabetes with purchasing healthy food. It encourages making healthful choices and enables CHW's to coach clients for better lifestyle habits. Thank you to Pac N Save, Laurel Hometown Market, Post 60 Market, Cubby's Convenience Store of Pender, Wayne Family Medicine, Providence Community Pharmacy, U-Save Pharmacy, The Apothecary of Laurel, Keller Pharmacy of Ponca, The Apothecary of Emerson, The Apothecary of Pender, St Paul's Lutheran Church in Emerson, and First Presbyterian Church of Wayne! Nineteen food vouchers were redeemed for the fiscal year.

DOT & Chronic Dx - Acanthosis Nigricans screenings in participating schools help detect possible pre-diabetes/diabetes so parents can be given information about resources. We screened 415 school age PK – 12th grade children!



NNPHD does HIV/STI testing at any time of the month to patients of the following criteria:

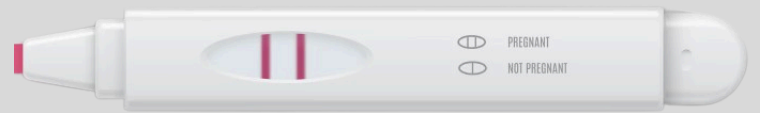
- Sexually active women age ≤ 24 years of age
- Male or female ≤ 14 who is at increased risk of infection (e.g. those who have a new sex partner, more than one sex partner, a sex partner with concurrent partners, or a sex partner who has a sexually transmitted infection (STI) are recommended to be screened every three (3) to six (6) months.
- Sexually active men who have sex with other men are recommended to be screened every three (3) to six (6) months if high risk, and yearly if low risk.
- High risk criteria: on PrEP (pre-exposure HIV prophylaxis), men with HIV, or if person or partner has multiple sexual partners.
- Follow up testing 3 months after treatment for anyone who previously tested positive for chlamydia or gonorrhea.
- Follow up testing 14 days after treatment for anyone who previously tested positive for pharyngeal gonorrhea

Women's Reproductive Health

NNPHD has partnered with Midtown Health Services to provide additional resources to the community. Kassidy Horst, APRN, comes on the fourth Thursday of every month to provide the following services:

Women's Health

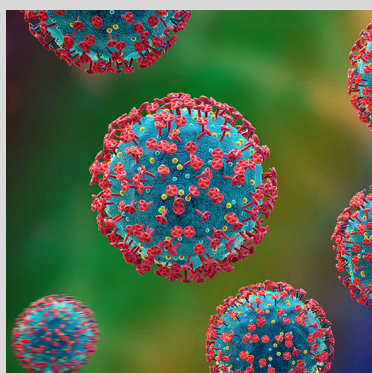
- Birth Control
- Receive at your visit minimal/ no cost
- STI Testing for GC/Chlamydia, HIV, and HEP-C
- STI Treatment
- Pelvic Exams/Pap Smears
- Pregnancy Testing
- Sexual Health Education



Men's Health

- FREE Condoms
- STI Testing for GC/Chlamydia, HIV, and HEP-C
- STI Treatment
- Sexual Health Education

They accept: Private insurance, Medicaid, no insurance, Medicare (including advantage plans). Midtown also provides sliding scale payments if necessary.



MIDTOWN
HEALTH CENTER

Diabetes On Track



InBody



Diabetes on Track is an initiative focused on improving prevention of prediabetes and, ultimately, to prevent diabetes type 2 from developing. Our coalition focused on awareness, education, and care in rural Nebraska.

This program began with support and partnership with the University Nebraska Medical Center. Since then, we have been able to expand access to services and resources that support healthier communities. We thank everyone (nurses, dietitians, nutrition professionals, community partners and members) whose collaboration make this work possible.

Here is what we have done since July 1, 2025:

- Expanding Diabetes awareness through health screenings (A1C)
- 126 diabetes screenings completed
- 23 individuals identified with prediabetes who were previously unaware
- 14 individuals with diagnosed diabetes supported in monitoring treatment progress
- Multiple referrals made to medical providers for confirmation and treatment of elevated blood sugar levels

Health & Habits and Community Outreach

The program focuses on meeting people where they are by providing education, resources, accountability, and personalized strategies for long-term success. Participants can track progress using the InBody 570, which provides insights like muscle mass, body fat mass, visceral fat level, and basal metabolic rate (BMR).

Delivering nutrition education and engaging activities to help children, teens, and adults better understand healthy choices and sugar awareness. We have visited schools, local businesses, clinics, and county fairs.

Sweet Talk

Sweet Talk was a diabetes support group for Wayne community members living with diabetes or recently diagnosed with prediabetes. Through Sweet Talk, 68 community members received support and health education.

Grocery Tours

Partnering with local dietitians/nutritionists to teach healthy shopping habits, nutrition label reading, and eating well on a budget.

Senior Centers

Providing diabetes screenings, education, and interactive activities.

IMMUNIZATIONS

NNPHD began an immunization program in September 2025. We provide the following vaccines:

- Covid (Comirnaty 12+)
- Flu (Fluarix)
- DTaP (Infanrix)
- MMR (Prorix) & (MMR II)
- HPV (Gardasil 9)
- Polio (IPOL)
- Hib/Haemophilus Influenzae B (ActHIB)
- RSV (Beyfortus)
- Pneumococcal (Pevnar 20)
- Tdap (Adacel)
- Chickenpox/Varicella (Varivax)



NNPHD began the VFC (Vaccines For Children) program in November 2025. VFC serves children that meet the following criteria: Aged 18 years or less AND uninsured, underinsured, Medicaid, native American, or Alaskan native. The vaccines provided for this program are:

- -DTaP (Daptacel)
- -HPV (Gardasil 9)
- -Hepatitis A (Havrix 2 dose)
- -Hepatitis B (Engerix)
- -Hib/Haemophilus Influenzae B (Hiberix)
- -Meningitis B (Bexsero)
- -MMR (MMR II)
- -Pneumococcal (Pevnar 20)
- -Polio (IPOL)
- -RSV (Enflonsia)
- -Rotavirus (Rota Teq)
- -Tdap (Adacel)
- -Chickenpox/Varicella (Varivax)



**WATCH FOR OUR TRAVELING CLINICS
TO RETURN TO MANY OF OUR
COMMUNITIES IN 2026/2027!**

NNPHD will also provide specialty vaccines upon request. This applies to any vaccines to prevent illness while traveling outside the United States. Due to low demand, please allow for two weeks to place the order, with an additional two weeks for your body to build immunity. Specialty vaccines will need to be paid out of pocket if insurance does not cover the vaccine.

NNPHD also provides travel clinics within the community. In 2025, we were found at the Missouri Outdoor expo in Ponca, Fordyce, Coleridge, Randolph, and many more towns. We will also be available to come to businesses or care facilities to provide vaccines, such as flu and COVID. Call or email at any time to make an appointment.

BLS/CPR FIRST AID STOP THE BLEED



Angela Nuss
CPR Coordinator

Angela taught more than 10 classes last year, assisting close to 100 people to achieve their certification with the American Heart Association!



Patagonia Health

Patagonia Health is a healthcare technology company that provides a cloud-based Electronic Health Record (EHR), Practice Management, and Medical Billing platform. The system is designed primarily for public health departments, behavioral health agencies, tribal health organizations, school health programs, and state health departments.

What Patagonia Health Does

- Electronic Health Records (EHR): Stores and manages patient medical records digitally.
- Practice Management: Helps healthcare organizations schedule appointments, manage workflows, and generate reports.
- Medical Billing: Streamlines claims processing, reimbursement tracking, and revenue cycle management.
- Patient Engagement: Offers patient portals, appointment reminders, and communication tools.
- Cloud-Based Access: Allows authorized healthcare professionals to securely access records from multiple locations.

Patagonia Health's mission is to help healthcare organizations improve patient outcomes through easy-to-use technology backed by strong customer service and training support.



Debbie
Ussery
BSN, RN



Kalynn
Michaels
MPH



Jackie
Loecker
MSN, RN



Sarah
Johnson
Program
Specialist

Disease/Condition	Total
Animal Exposure (Bite or Non-bite)	16
Campylobacteriosis	9
Covid-19	123
Cryptosporidiosis	4
Enteraggregative Escherichia coli (EAEC)	1
Enteropathogenic Escherichia coli (EPEC)	7
Histoplasmosis	2
Influenza A	68
Influenza B	22
Pertussis	2
RSV	17
Salmonellosis	9
Shigella	1
STEC	2
Latent TB	1
West Nile Virus	2
Yersiniosis	1
Chlamydia	135
Gonorrhea	31
Syphilis	21
Congenital Syphilis	2

D

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S

The above is the Disease Report we have conducted surveillance and/or investigated since July 1, 2025

NNPHD works to prevent and control the spread of communicable diseases throughout the health district.

The Disease Investigation and Surveillance (DIS) team promotes the health of individuals, families, and communities by conducting disease surveillance, investigating reportable conditions, responding to outbreaks, and providing public health education.

Working in partnership with local healthcare providers, laboratories, schools, long-term care facilities, and the Nebraska Department of Health and Human Services, the DIS team helps protect the health of our communities.



ORAL HEALTH

The Northeast Nebraska Public Health Department's Creating New Smiles program helps improve oral health access across our 4 county health district by bringing preventative dental services directly to daycares, schools, assisted living facilities, and long-term care centers. We have even set up community clinics in the past. Services include visual oral health screenings to help identify concerns early, fluoride varnish and sealants to reduce decay rates, and basic cleanings or denture cleanings. While these services are not intended to replace routine dental care and do not include x-rays, the program plays an important role in connecting individuals back to a dental home and ensuring those who may otherwise go without care still receive essential preventative oral health services. Current additions for this program include collaborating with Midtown Mobile Dental Truck and providing these vital services in our office to those in the community.

NEW TO NORTHEAST NEBRASKA PUBLIC HEALTH DEPARTMENT

801 Milo Drive, Wayne, NE
402-375-2200



In Office Preventive Dental Health Services



Oral Health Screening
To help detect early problems



Basic Dental Cleanings
To keep smiles healthy and bright



Fluoride Treatments
Strengthens enamel and helps prevent tooth decay



Sealants for kids
Protective coating that shields teeth from cavities



Navigation
Help finding a dental home

All ages! For residents in Wayne, Thurston, Cedar and Dixon counties. Call 402.375.2200 to schedule.

Free Service. Have Medicaid? - bring your card. Free will donation appreciated.

This does not replace regular, routine dental care. There is not a dentist at the office. No x-rays.



ORAL HEALTH

BE A SMILE HERO!



Your donation helps our local kids have access to FREE essential dental preventive services.

Because every child deserves a healthy smile!

SPONSOR A SMILE, OR SMILES, TODAY!!

Donation bucket located by concession area, or mail to:
NNPHD 801 Milo Dr. Wayne, NE 68787. Call 402-375-2200 for questions.

THANK
YOU!



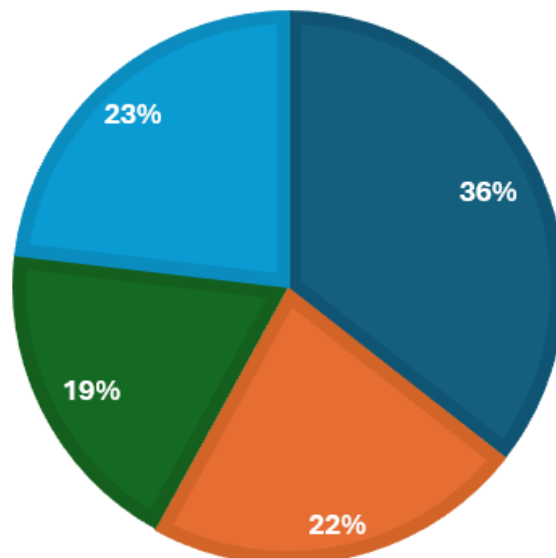
Between July 2025 and June 2026:

2652 individuals were seen for preventative dental care.

Dental clinics traveled to 15 schools, 6 daycare/child care centers, and 5 Long-Term Care/Assisted Living facilities

INDIVIDUALS SEEN FOR DENTAL PREVENTATIVE CARE JULY 2025-JUNE 2026

■ Cedar County ■ Dixon County ■ Thurston County ■ Wayne County

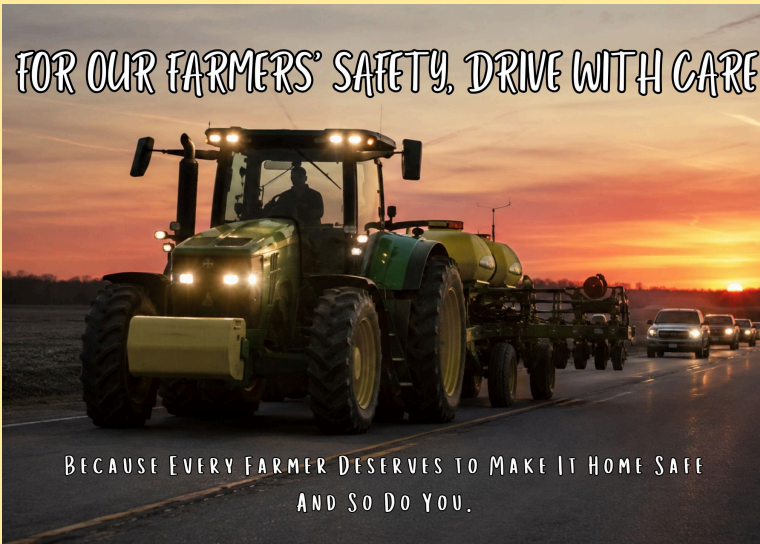


RHTP - CHW



The Rural Health Transformation Program - Community Health Worker (RHTP-CHW) grant works in several different areas to help improve lives. Three of our focal points this past year included:

AGRICULTURE



Why Agriculture Safety Matters

Agriculture is one of Nebraska's most important industries, but it also comes with unique risks that can lead to serious injuries and long-term health issues. Promoting safety helps protect the people who feed our communities and keeps farms operating strong.

Farmers and agricultural workers may face hazards such as:

- Tractor rollovers and machinery accidents
- Injuries from livestock handling
- Heat exhaustion and sun-related illness
- Exposure to pesticides and farm chemicals
- Slips, trips, falls, and confined space incidents
- Stress, fatigue, and mental health challenges

What Our Program Provides

- Hands-on farm safety education and training
- Livestock handling safety guidance
- Seasonal safety (planting, harvest, winter prep, etc.)
- Heat illness prevention and sun safety awareness
- Pesticide and chemical safety education
- First aid and emergency preparedness resources
- Farm fire prevention and risk reduction strategies
- Mental health awareness resources



Our Program Helps Farmers

- Reduced preventable farm-related injuries and fatalities
- Increase awareness of everyday farm hazards
- Encourage safer, healthier work habits on farms and ranches
- Connect farmers and families with local support services
- Support the health and well-being of agricultural workers
- Build stronger, more resilient rural communities

"What grows in Nebraska fields is more than crops. It's family history, sacrifice, and pride"
-Nebraska Farmer

PRENATAL

Embrace

Empowering Mothers through Birth Resources, Advocacy, Care & Education.

We help pregnant women and families get the care, education, and support they need - at no cost

What We Offer

- Help starting prenatal care early
- Appointment scheduling and reminders
- One-on-one support from Community Health Workers
- Help applying for Medicaid and insurance as well as WIC scheduling
- Postpartum follow-up after your baby is born
- Baby supplies and resources

Learn About

- Healthy pregnancy and nutrition
- Warning signs during pregnancy
- Breastfeeding support
- Safe Sleep (ABC's)
- Car seat safety
- Shaken Baby Syndrome/Abusive Head Trauma
- Newborn care basics

We Help You Plan For Your Baby

- Choose a doctor or hospital
- Plan transportation/child care
- Identify emergency contact
- Prepare baby supplies
- Build your support system

Always seek advice from qualified healthcare professionals. Pregnancy experiences vary; care recommendations may differ



Embrace (Abrazo)

Empoderando a las Madres con apoyo para el Bienestar, Recursos, Asesoramiento, Cuidado y Educacion

Ayudamos a las mujeres embarazadas y a sus familias a obtener la atencion, la educacion y el apoyo que necesitan, sin costo alguno

Aprende sobre

- Embarazo saludable y nutrición
- Señales de alerta durante el embarazo
- Apoyo a la lactancia materna
- Sueño seguro (ABC)
- Seguridad de los asientos de coche
- Síndrome del bebé sacudido/Traumatismo craneoencefálico por maltrato
- Cuidados básicos para recién nacidos

Siempre consulte con profesionales de salud cualificados. Las experiencias de embarazo varían; las recomendaciones de atención pueden diferir.

Lo que Ofrecemos

- Ayuda para comenzar la atención prenatal temprano
- Programación de citas y recordatorios
- Apoyo individualizado por parte de trabajadores de salud comunitarios.
- Ayuda para solicitar Medicaid, WIC y seguro médico.
- Seguimiento posparto después del nacimiento de su bebé
- Artículos y recursos para bebés

Te ayudamos a planificar la llegada de tu bebé.

- Elija un médico o un hospital
- Planificar el transporte/cuidado de los niños
- Identificar el contacto de emergencia
- Artículos de preparación para bebés
- Construye tu sistema de apoyo



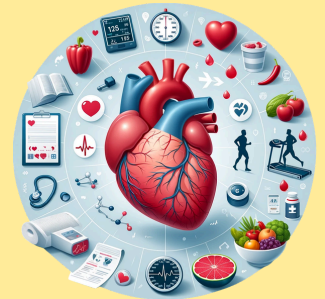
Northeast Nebraska Public Health Department
801 Milo Dr. Wayne, NE 68787
402-375-2200 | www.nnpd.ne.gov



DESIGNED TO PREVENT, PROMOTE, AND PROTECT IN EVERY SEASON OF LIFE

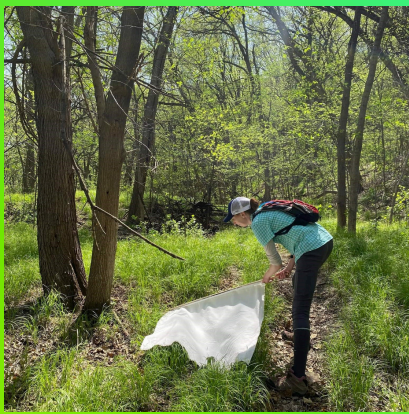
- WELLNESS AND SAFETY CHECK-INS
- FRIENDLY COMPANIONSHIP VISITS
- HELP WITH HOUSEKEEPING
- EXERCISE ACTIVITIES TO IMPROVE MOBILITY AND REDUCE ARTHRITIS PAIN
- NUTRITION EDUCATION AND MEAL PREPARATION
- MEDICATION REMINDER ASSISTANCE
- PERSONAL HYGIENE SUPPORT
- REFERRALS AND CONNECTIONS TO COMMUNITY RESOURCES
- MEDICAID APPLICATION AND RENEWAL ASSISTANCE
- SNAP AND DHHS FORM ASSISTANCE

- **Oral health**
- **Cancer prevention**
- **Pender Hospital & PMC community health workers on-site**
- **Healthy Heart / Asthma**
- **N.E.T. (Nutrition, Emergency Food Bank, and Transportation)**



Providence Medical Center





Tick dragging in Dixon County

ARBO



Female Lone star
"questing"



Tick dragging in Cedar County

MOSQUITO & TICK-BORNE DISEASE SURVEILLANCE

NNPHD has conducted mosquito trapping and surveillance for mosquito-borne diseases since 2006. Routine surveillance continued throughout the 2025 season to monitor diseases of public health concern, including West Nile virus (WNV), St. Louis encephalitis virus (SLEV), and Western equine encephalitis virus (WEEV). In 2024, enhanced surveillance efforts expanded testing to include additional arboviruses, including Jamestown Canyon virus (JCV), Cache Valley virus (CVV), and La Crosse encephalitis virus (LACV).

In 2025, NNPHD identified 10 mosquito pools positive for West Nile virus. Statewide, Nebraska reported 127 WNV-positive mosquito pools, along with 51 confirmed human clinical cases and 10 positive blood donor cases. These findings highlight the continued presence of West Nile virus in Nebraska and reinforce the importance of ongoing surveillance, mosquito control efforts, and public education on mosquito bite prevention.

With support from the Nebraska Department of Health and Human Services (NDHHS) Vector-Borne Disease Surveillance Team, NNPHD conducts tick surveillance throughout the health district to monitor tick populations and identify tick-borne pathogens of public health concern.

Tick surveys are conducted at selected locations to collect ticks for species identification and laboratory testing. Surveillance is important because Nebraska is home to several medically important tick species, including the American Dog tick, Blacklegged tick, and the Lone Star tick. These ticks can carry pathogens associated with diseases such as anaplasmosis, ehrlichiosis, Lyme disease, spotted fever group rickettsioses, and other tick-borne illnesses.

Ongoing surveillance supports public health education, prevention efforts, and early detection of emerging tick-borne disease threats.

ENVIRONMENTAL



In 2026, look for our Air Quality Flag Program (AQFP) to be in front of our new building!



NNPHD continues to work in areas such as water, bed bugs, radon kits, and environmental health hazards.



IS YOUR HOME SAFE?

A reading of 1 pCi/L in your home is equal to

2.5

Cigarettes each day

WHAT IS RADON?

Radon is a colorless, odorless, tasteless gas produced by natural decay of uranium in the soil.

WHY SHOULD I CARE?

Radon can build up to dangerous levels inside homes, schools and commercial buildings causing harm to your health.

#1 Cause of lung cancer among non-smokers.

WHAT CAN I DO?

The only way to know if your home has a high radon level is to test.

SEASONAL SPIKES

Radon levels spike in the winter months when windows are kept closed, preventing heat (and radon) from escaping.

About 1 in 3 homes tested have radon levels at or above the EPA action level of 4.0 pCi/L in Indiana.

COME BY TODAY FOR YOUR FREE RADON TEST KIT*

Northeast Nebraska Public Health Department
801 Milo Drive Wayne, Ne 68787
Phone: 402-375-2200
www.nnphd.ne.gov

*Cedar, Dixon, Thurston and Wayne Residents Only



PHEP



Public Health Emergency Preparedness (PHEP) is vital to keeping our communities ready in the event of any crisis that may occur.

JJ Jackson, Emergency Response Coordinator, works diligently to prepare NE Nebraska for environmental emergencies, disease outbreaks, and unexpected tragedies.



Credible Minds

- Reached 972 new users since July 1st.
- Increased access to free, 24/7 mental health and wellness resources across the four-county service area.
- Continued community outreach and education efforts to reduce barriers to mental health support.

Community Impact

- Provided accessible mental health support for individuals and families at any time of day.
- Helped normalize conversations about mental health and wellness.
- Connected community members to educational tools, crisis resources, and self-guided support.

TOGETHER WE CAN BREAK
THE STIGMA



Free Mental Health Resources
from CredibleMinds

propio



MHI

Minority Health Initiative

We found that half of our community spoke a language other than English at home. To improve access to services for all community members, our health department practices language justice by providing interpretation through Propio Language Services. This service serves as an additional resource when our bilingual team members are engaged in community outreach. Our department has utilized Propio interpretation services 10 times, totaling 139 minutes of interpretation support.



Healthcare Kiosks

NORTHEAST NEBRASKA PUBLIC HEALTH DEPARTMENT HEALTH KIOSK

NNPHD now offers a Health Resource Vending Machine, providing free, 24/7 access to essential health and wellness items. Open to everyone, this kiosk requires no appointment, no ID, and no paperwork. Simply order at the machine or reserve online at testandgo.com/kiosk-locator for easy pickup.

AVAILABLE ITEMS

- CONDOMS
- PREGNANCY TESTS
- TYLENOL EXTRA STRENGTH
- UTI TEST STRIPS
- FENTANYL TEST STRIPS
- SYPHILIS RAPID TEST
- AND MORE!

FIND IT AT SHORT STOP

1034 Main St, Wayne NE, 68787

Questions?
Call NNPHD at 402-375-2200

LOOK FOR PRENATAL VITAMINS & ALLERGY MEDICATIONS COMING SOON!



NOW AVAILABLE! BRAND NEW HEALTH KIOSK

The Northeast Nebraska Public Health Department now offers a Health Resource Vending Machine, providing free, 24/7 access to essential health and wellness items. Open to everyone, this kiosk requires no appointment, no ID, and no paperwork. Simply order at the machine or reserve online at testandgo.com/kiosk-locator for easy pickup.

AVAILABLE ITEMS

- CONDOMS
- PREGNANCY TESTS
- TYLENOL EXTRA STRENGTH
- UTI TEST STRIPS
- FENTANYL TEST STRIPS
- SYPHILIS RAPID TEST
- AND MORE!

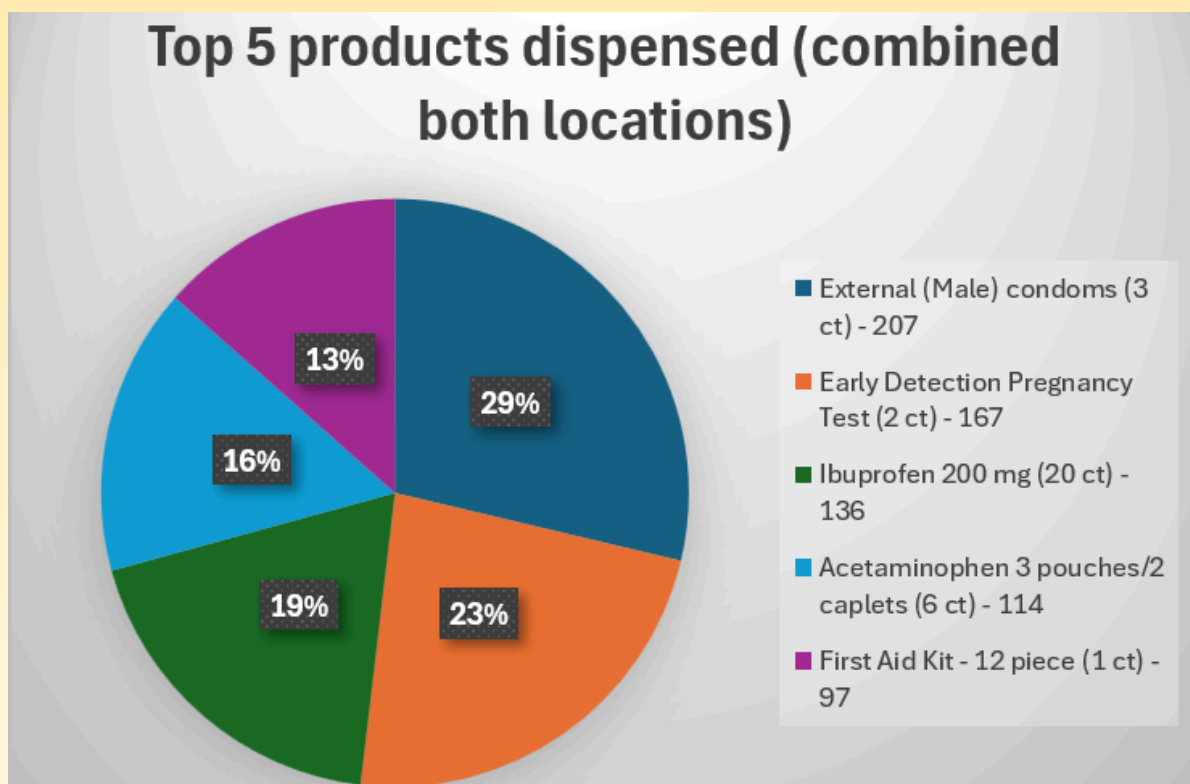
FIND IT AT CUBBY'S!

701 4th St Pender NE, 68047

Questions?
Call NNPHD at 402-375-2200

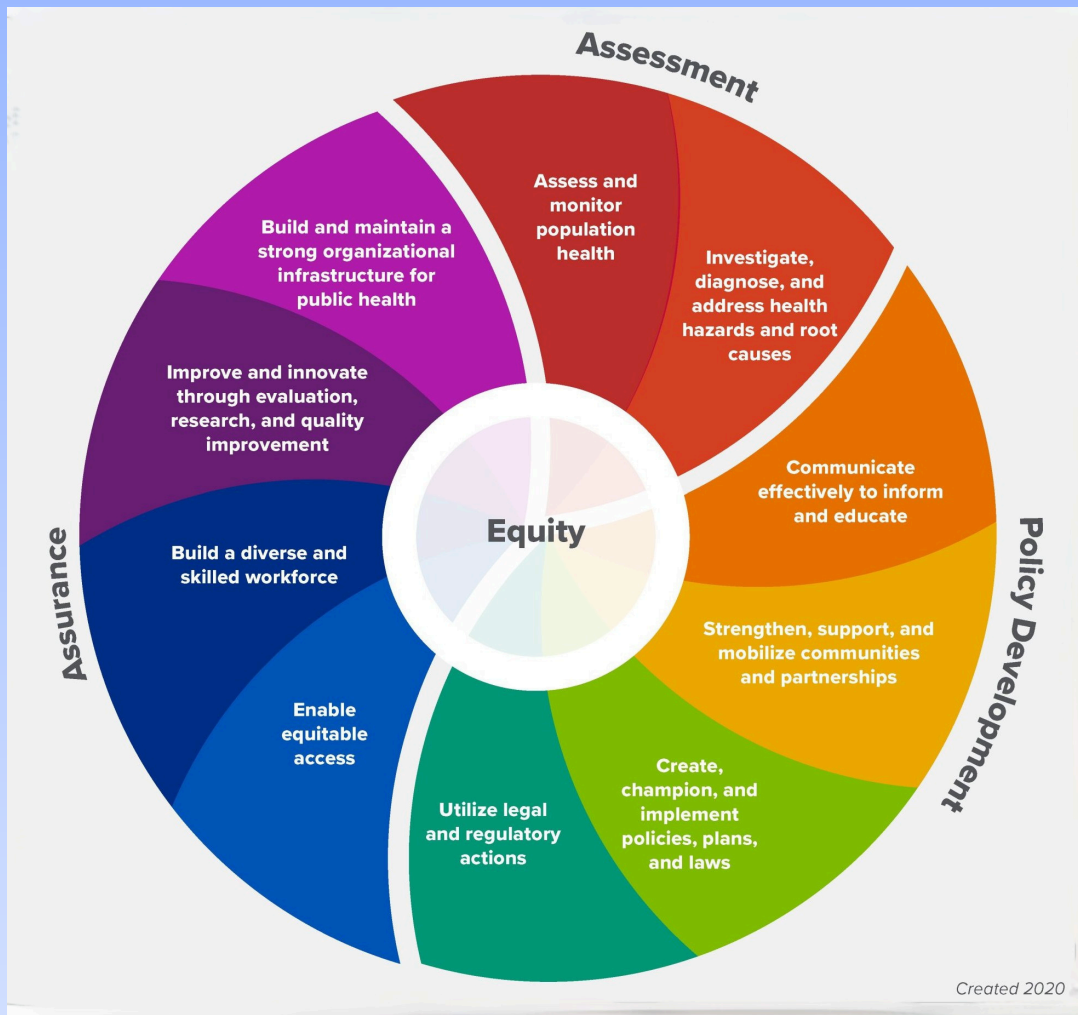


Funded via an MHI grant, these are the first healthcare kiosks in NE Nebraska! Combined, both kiosks have dispensed over 1200 products since installation!



ACCREDITATION

THE 10 ESSENTIAL PUBLIC HEALTH SERVICES



To protect and promote the health of all people in all communities

The 10 Essential Public Health Services provide a framework for public health to protect and promote the health of all people in all communities.

To achieve optimal health for all, the Essential Public Health Services actively promote policies, systems, and services that enable good health and seek to remove obstacles and systemic and structural barriers, such as poverty, racism, gender discrimination, and other forms of oppression, that have resulted in health inequities. Everyone should have a fair and just opportunity to achieve good health and well-being.

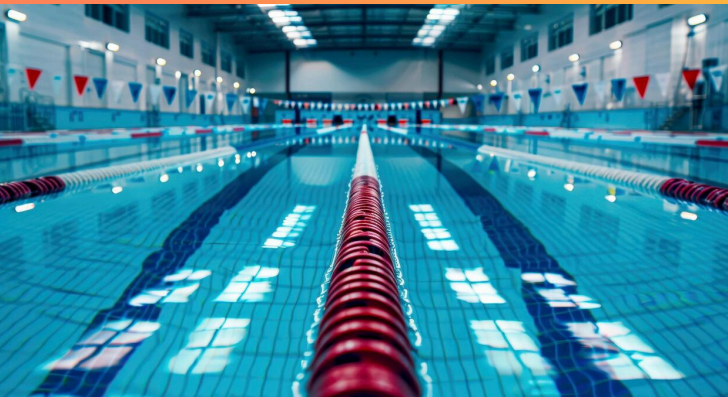
**COMING
SOON**

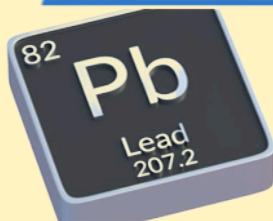
Every year brings fresh challenges to public health. Here are two new programs that NNPHD will be focusing on over the next year.

SWIMMING POOLS



NNPHD will begin inspecting swimming pools in September 2026.





Lead Reduction Program

Housing and Urban Development (HUD) has given NNPHD a new grant to help identify and reduce the exposure of lead and lead-based paint in older housing!

HUD'S MAIN GOAL IS TO ENSURE EVERYONE IN THE UNITED STATES CAN LIVE IN AN AFFORDABLE, HEALTHY HOME.



HEALTH EFFECTS OF LEAD INCLUDE:

**NERVOUS SYSTEM & KIDNEY DAMAGE
LEARNING DISABILITIES & A.D.D.**

**POOR MUSCLE COORDINATION
DECREASED MUSCLE/BONE GROWTH**

CHECK YOUR FAMILY & HOME FOR LEAD!

Contact NNPHD for more information regarding lead screenings.

For more information, please contact NNPHD at:
pat@nnphd.ne.gov
korbyn@nnphd.ne.gov

NNPHD's mission is to protect and promote the health and well-being of all people in Northeast Nebraska.

Prevent
Protect
Promote

Donations of time, money, and food help us assist all of those in our community!



Protecting, Connecting and Thriving
We Are All Public Health



Check us out at:
www.NNPHD.ne.gov

Facebook:
Northeast Nebraska Public
Health Department

Instagram:
[@ne_nebraska_public_health_department](https://www.instagram.com/ne_nebraska_public_health_department)

Thank you



The **Northeast Nebraska Public Health Department** would like to offer our sincere gratitude to all individuals, groups, businesses, and organizations that we have worked with and will continue to work with! Your dedication helps NNPHD with our mission every day!

Office Location

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PO Box 127
Wayne, NE 68786

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