VISION: Healthy People in Healthy Communities

MISSION: Promote physical and mental health and prevent disease, injury, and disability for the residents of Harrison County.

PURPOSE STATEMENT: The purpose of the Harrison County Home & Public Health Department (Department) is to promote and protect the population of Harrison County through prevention, education, and health care services by providing high-quality services and partnerships designed to improve the health of each individual and the community as a whole. The Department is committed to collaborating with local communities and service providers in the ongoing process of improving effectiveness and availability of public health and home health services across Harrison County.

PHILOSOPHY: We believe that health care is a basic human right. It must be available, coordinated, and provided in a comprehensive manner in conjunction with other human services when appropriate. Home health care is a part of the continuous health care system and will be provided in the most cost effective way possible. The Department and its staff shall operate and furnish services in compliance with all applicable federal, state, and local laws and regulations and disclosure and ownership information. To the best of its knowledge, based on its quality improvement program and professional personnel practices, services are provided that comply with acceptable professional standards and principles.

STRATEGIC ACTIVITIES:
- To provide all levels of home care service in collaboration with the physician, thus allowing the client to remain in his/her home.
- To provide a broad base of services with client demand governing the scope, and to allow the client to be involved in establishing, implementing, and evaluating services.
- To maintain clients in their homes as long as feasible through nursing care and related health services.
- To assist the client to use all restorative methods, tools, and procedures to return the client to his/her normal pattern of living as quickly as possible.
- To provide cost competitive quality services.
- To develop a relationship with referral sources in order to effectively meet the home care needs of clients.
- To function as a liaison between the client and available community resources and assist the client in coping with his/her needs and problems.
- Monitor the health status to identify community health problems.
- Diagnose and investigate health problems and health hazards in the County.
- Inform, educate, and empower people about health issues.
- Mobilize community partnerships to identify and solve health problems.
- Develop policies and plans that support individual and community health efforts.
- Enforce laws and regulations that protect health and ensure safety.
- Link people to personal health services and assure the provision of healthcare when otherwise unavailable.
- Assure a competent public health and personal health care workforce.
- Evaluate effectiveness, accessibility, and quality of personal and population-based health services.
- Research for new insights and innovative solutions to health problems.
To provide:

- The most cost effective, efficient, and high quality programs to the residents of Harrison County.
- Information, education, empowerment, and mobilization of community partnerships that identify and solve community health issues.
- Links for people to personal health services and assure the provision of healthcare services when otherwise unavailable.
- Assessment, monitoring, diagnosis, and investigation of county population health status.
- A coordinated team approach to therapeutic and rehabilitative health care services utilizing public health, skilled nursing, home health aides, medical social services, physical therapy services, nutritional consultation, medication management, and a system of referral, follow-up, and evaluation.
- Health care services and training sufficient to ensure the client and his/her caregiver the assumption of personal responsibility for health and personal needs.
- A review vehicle for continuous audit of the care a client is receiving from the Department.
- Educational opportunities within the health care system for employees through an ongoing in-service program, short-term training for students in professional organizations.
- Coordinated liaison with health and welfare agencies to meet the needs of the community through joint efforts, meetings, and community awareness programs.
- A work environment conducive to maximum employee performance.

To recruit and retain highly qualified personnel through screening, testing, evaluation, probationary employment status, competitive compensation policies structured to recognize responsibility, and a competitive comprehensive benefit package.

GUIDING PRINCIPLES:

- We strive for INNOVATION and CONTINUOUS IMPROVEMENT in our activities to promote and protect the health of the people of Harrison County.
- Our activities reflect a POPULATION HEALTH approach that considers the MULTIPLE DETERMINANTS of health.
- With a collective sense of SOCIAL JUSTICE, our activities reflect understanding and acceptance of DIVERSITY among the people of Harrison County.
- We encourage COLLABORATION in our activities and in our decision making so that we respond more effectively to emerging issues and assure we provide the highest QUALITY of services.
- We recognize the value of a healthy COMMUNITY in developing healthy people. We encourage our employees, Harrison’s communities, and individuals to work together as PARTNERS to build a healthy Harrison County.
- We use EVIDENCE to plan and evaluate our activities to assure our RESULTS continue to improve the health of the people of Harrison County.

STRATEGIC GOAL: Prevent Epidemics and the Spread of Disease

Indicators of Success: Percent of persons getting recommended immunizations; Incidence of infectious disease.

Strategies:
- Monitor for infectious diseases.
- Detect & investigate infectious diseases.
- Provide disease prevention & control services.
STRATEGIC GOAL: Promote Healthy Behaviors
Indicators of Success: Chronic disease rates; Addictive behavior rates; Healthy behaviors rates; Child health insurance rates; Infant and child death rates.
Strategies:
- Promote health for all ages.
- Prevent addictive behaviors.
- Promote physical activity and nutrition.
- Assess health service availability.
- Prevent and manage chronic disease.
- Prevent oral disease.
TARGET OBJECTIVE: Decrease by 10% the population of overweight and obese children in grades pre-K through 6th grade in Harrison County by January 2015.

STRATEGIC GOAL: Strengthen the Public Health Infrastructure
Indicators of Success: State health rankings; Self-reported health status.
Strategies:
- Assess and improve operational procedures and management systems.
- Assure an adequate and competent public health workforce.
- Build communication and information technology capacity.
- Support community assessment, planning, and evaluation systems.
- Support health care system development.

STRATEGIC GOAL: Protect Against Environmental Hazards
Indicators of Success: Percent of lead-tested children who are lead poisoned; Percent of business establishments with employees of valid Smokefree Air Act complaints
Strategies:
- Monitor and regulate environmental health hazards.
- Monitor for environmental related diseases.
- Prevent lead poisoning.
- Protect people from excessive exposure to radiation.

STRATEGIC GOAL: Prevent Injuries
Indicators of Success: Number of intentional and unintentional injury deaths; Health status of people with disabilities.
Strategies:
- Monitor for intentional (violent behaviors) and unintentional injuries.
- Provide education and services to prevent unintentional injuries.
- Provide education and services to promote the health of people with disabilities and to reduce the amount and/or severity of disability-related secondary conditions.
- Provide education and services to prevent violent behaviors.
TARGET OBJECTIVE: Decrease by 10% the rate of confirmed child abuse and neglect cases in Harrison County by January 2015.

STRATEGIC GOAL: Prepare for, Respond to, and Recover from Public Health Emergencies
Indicators of Success: Harrison County Home & Public Health’s preparedness planning and exercise participation.
Strategies:
- Build capacity to respond to public health emergencies.
- Build capacity to recover from public health emergencies.
- Provide education to promote individual preparedness.