

DIVISION OF COMMUNICABLE DISEASE CONTROL AND PREVENTION

VISION:

All persons and animals in Los Angeles County free from suffering, disability and death due to communicable diseases.

MISSION:

To reduce the risk factors and disease burdens of preventable communicable diseases for all persons and animals in Los Angeles County, in partnership with others, through providing the health promotion, surveillance, investigation, laboratory, and disease prevention and control that meet quality standards.

DETAILED MISSION STATEMENT:

To reduce the risk factors for contracting or transmitting communicable diseases and communicable disease burdens, when preventable, for all persons and animals in Los Angeles County (LAC), in partnership with other programs within the LAC Department of Public Health (DPH), and others outside LAC DPH, including LAC Department of Health Services (DHS), other LAC and City agencies, residents, organizations, communities, and health care providers, through:

- Promotion of healthy behaviors;
- Surveillance of diseases and risk factors as information for public health action;
- Early detection and screening for communicable diseases;
- Offering state-of-the-art laboratory services;
- Provision of effective preventive public health, personal health and animal health services in partnership with the health care community;
- Work with health care providers, hospitals, and treatment centers to implement appropriate procedures and guidelines for treatment and prevention of communicable diseases; and
- Conduct communicable disease investigations and control measures in humans and animals.
- A strong and appropriate workforce with proper job classifications.

Division of Communicable Disease Control and Prevention

Values and Approaches

The Division of Communicable Disease Control and Prevention (CDCP) emphasizes the following values and approaches to carry out the public health mandates for communicable disease control and to reduce the risk factors and disease burdens of preventable communicable diseases for all persons and animals in Los Angeles County (LAC), in partnership with others, through providing health promotion, surveillance, investigation, laboratory, and disease prevention and control that meet quality standards:

1. Evidence-based programmatic interventions and advice:

All CDCP programs monitor and evaluate the impact of their programmatic interventions to determine their effectiveness and improve the impact of the application of the interventions.

Interventions conducted by all CDCP programs and the technical advice provided by all programs to our collaborators and partners are based on the best available scientific evidence and that such evidence is explicitly referenced in our programmatic documents.

Interventions conducted by all CDCP programs are prioritized to help maximize their impact with the limited resources available.

2. Partnership and collaboration:

All CDCP programs proactively reach out and explore ways to partner and collaborate with other programs and the Service Planning Areas (SPAs) within LAC DPH, and with partners outside of LAC DPH, including: LAC DHS, other LAC and City agencies, residents, organizations, communities, and health care providers.

All CDCP programs are “consumer-centric” with mechanisms for consumer and community feedback on their programs and how to improve their “user-friendliness,” including a single point of service contact for reporting.

All CDCP programs recognize that the most effective and efficient means for accomplishing population goals may be to align with others who share similar goals and jointly leverage the power of increased resources, rather

than providing services alone.

3. At the forefront in the LAC DPH Strategic Plan:

All CDCP programs and staff are knowledgeable of the strategic planning process of the LAC DPH and contribute their ideas and skills to develop and implement the Strategic Plan.

All CDCP programs and staff participate in the total quality management efforts of the LAC DPH, including clear accountability and the “Public Health Report Card”.

4. Cutting-edge public health practice research:

All CDCP programs balance service (our primary function) with public health practice research designed to improve our service function and advance the science base of our programmatic areas. The CDCP Division is known for the capacity of its programs and their activities in contributing our research results in professional meetings and through the scientific literature.

5. Emergency prepared:

All CDCP programs actively participate in the development, training and exercising of disaster and emergency preparedness plans of the LAC DPH. Staff are trained and prepared to take leadership and support roles in the Incident Command System of the LAC DPH in the event of an emergency, especially a communicable disease emergency caused by an intentional act or natural outbreak. Under such emergency settings, staff cooperatively operate under ICS structures and recognize that they may be called upon to use their technical and administrative skills in areas outside of their normal areas of work.

6. Advise and advocate for policy development:

All CDCP programs and staff fully explore and utilize their resources to develop and promulgate policies, regulations and guidelines that have a far more reaching programmatic effect than would be achieved by only implementing activities.

CDCP is proactive in establishing effective, on-going liaisons with all major customers, including the public information office, Director of Public Health, the Director of DHS, the Board of Supervisors and their Health

Deputies, other County Departments and key organizations in the community.

7. A preventive orientation:

All CDCP programs emphasize the use of evidence-based, cost-effective, population-based prevention and health promotion services to reduce the risk factors of contracting or transmitting communicable diseases.

8. Education and outreach:

All CDCP programs develop educational seminars, lectures, courses and materials and conduct outreach activities to disseminate communicable disease control and prevention messages and approaches to student, professional and lay communities.

In recognition of their expertise, CDCP staff serve on communicable disease related expert advisory panels at local, state and national levels.

The visibility of the successes of the CDCP Programs should continue to be increased to ensure a strong constituency exists to support providing sufficient resources for CDCP Programs to eliminate, prevent and control communicable diseases.

9. State-of-the-art level of technical competency:

A strong and appropriate workforce with proper job classifications.

An in-service staff development and training program implemented to ensure that all CDCP staff (technical, administrative and support staff) reach and maintain being at the “cutting edge” in their field of professional expertise.

A mentoring approach and culture in all CDCP programs encourages and supports staff development.

All CDCP staff apply these competencies in their daily work.

10. Exercising Health Officer Authority:

All CDCP Programs with Health Officer mandates derived from State and/or LAC legislation, regulations and/or codes shall exercise those mandates under the delegated authority of the Health Officer.