

# Health Director

## A Message From the Health Director



Judith A. Halstead, MS  
Health Director

On behalf of the Lincoln-Lancaster County Health Department, I am pleased to share our 2011 Annual Report!

During the past year the Health Department has continued to seek out and strengthen our partnerships for a healthier community. Assuring access to a medical and dental home for all residents of Lincoln and Lancaster County continues to be a priority. Access to care services have been expanded and enhanced to better connect vulnerable populations with sources of care. We have worked with our partners in the community to help triage the needs to best match the needs of the individual with an appropriate level of care. Even with the advent of Health Care Reform, in whatever form it takes, the need to connect people to care will continue to exist in our community. The Health Department will continue to provide assistance to the community in this area.

Technology plays a key role in all areas of the Health Department. Over the past few years we have invested in technology to enhance our services. We have completed conversion to electronic medical and dental records, we have worked in partnership with the University of Nebraska to develop online training and permitting for our food handler training program, we are in the process of upgrading from our existing environmental health permitting system to a new, enhanced system that is being developed with the other City departments. In addition, we are working to be able to handle reports electronically from the field, whether a nurse on a home visit or an inspector in a restaurant. These advancements save time, reduce duplicative data entry efforts, are more efficient for staff and the public, and allow us a much greater ability to acquire, manage and report on our data, ultimately to improve services!

We look forward to the new year with challenges ahead, but with our great staff and our wonderful partners, we are confident in our ability to continue to protect and promote the community's health.

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Judith A. Halstead".

Judith A. Halstead, MS  
Health Director

[Home Page](#)

## Mission

Protect and promote  
the public's health

## Vision

A well-supported  
public health  
system serving all  
people to achieve  
optimal health

Lincoln-Lancaster County  
Health Department  
3140 N Street  
Lincoln, NE 68510  
(402) 441-8000  
[www.lincoln.ne.gov](http://www.lincoln.ne.gov)  
keyword: health