

Mayor and Board of Health

2017-2018

A Message from Mayor Chris Beutler

A Message from the Board of Health President



Chris Beutler
Mayor of Lincoln

As Mayor, I have worked with the community on our common goal of making Lincoln the healthiest City in the nation. A key partner in reaching that goal is our Lincoln-Lancaster County Health Department. 2018 has been another year of accomplishments for Health Department employees, the Board of Health, and those serving on the Department's advisory committees.

As our City continues to grow, the need for Health Department services has grown. One major growth area is dental health. In the past year, staff saw 13,384 visits by 3,703 patients; 70 % of these were children. To meet the increasing need, facilities and hours were added.

Lincoln's Hazardous Waste Center has helped the City reach its goal of diverting 100,000 lbs. of toxic material from the landfill annually. This year, the public made their homes safer by taking 105,000 lbs. of household hazardous waste to the Center and community collection events.

Child passenger safety is a priority of the Department. With the help of volunteer certified child passenger safety technicians, hundreds of children had car seats fitted. To meet this growing need, the Department partnered with Lincoln Fire and Rescue to provide more technicians and service sites.

This year, my wife and I joined the legion of residents who have a pet dog. Our Animal Control Division keeps our pets and the public healthy by promoting rabies vaccinations and providing licenses to more than 63,000 cats and dogs.

Another priority is providing access to affordable health care. Our Health Department works with community partners to connect people to a medical home. In the past five years, 27,960 individuals from the age of 19 to 64 have been connected to health insurance.

The Department also works closely with government access channels, LNKTVCity and LNKTVCity Health to provide important health information.

In this annual report, you'll find more highlights from the Department employee's busy year. I want to thank them for their hard work, dedication, and commitment.



Craig W. Strong, JD
President

The Lincoln-Lancaster Board of Health is truly proud to serve the residents of Lincoln and Lancaster County by setting the strategic direction for ensuring a healthy community for us all. The Board is composed of community members committed to the mission of protecting and promoting the public's health. We understand that public health is really about everyone, every day, and everywhere. To this end, the Board closely monitors community health and wellness indicators and provides specialized insight, advice, and recommendations to the Lincoln City

Council and the Lancaster County Board of Commissioners. We are fortunate to work within a dynamic and collaborative city-county approach that serves as a model of effective public policy and administration.

We also execute oversight of the Lincoln-Lancaster County Health Department (LLCHD), which continues to rank as a national leader. LLCHD's reputation as a national leader is underscored with its National Public Health Accreditation from the Public Health Accreditation Board. This accreditation exemplifies the exceptional performance and professionalism of our Health Department. The accreditation process required strong community partnerships, the achievement of shared goals, and the efficient use of resources.

It is an honor to represent the Health Department Director, Shavonna Lausterer, and her staff because of their high level of professionalism and sincere passion for public health. These professionals understand the public health needs of our community and they find innovative and efficient methods to achieve successful results. We are also fortunate to be a part of a community where the Mayor, the Lincoln City Council, and the Lancaster County Board of Commissioners demand and expect the best possible health conditions and outcomes for our residents. The Board of Health is privileged to serve and we welcome input and feedback as we continue to work together to make Lincoln and Lancaster County such a wonderful place to live and grow!

2017-2018 Board of Health Members



James Michael Bowers
Vice President



Bill Avery
County Commissioner



Katie Garcia, DDS



Dustin Loy, DVM



Jacquelyn Miller, DDS



Michelle Petersen, MD



Tom Randa



Bennie Shobe
City Council