

A strong public health system is crucial for protecting and improving the health of Americans.

Public Health in Minnesota

Minnesota has a comprehensive public health system based on a strong partnership between state and local governments.

Minnesota ranks second in the U.S. in good health and quality of life due to strong policies and partnerships related to safe food and water and healthy pregnancies and births. All Minnesotans have not benefited equally, however, from the systems that promote good health since Minnesota residents also have some of the widest gaps of any state in the country in health status between white and nonwhite populations.

Many public health problems, such as racial and ethnic health differences, cannot be resolved by a single agency or sector acting alone.

To maximize the effectiveness of the public health system and the health of **all** Minnesota residents, partnerships must be strengthened with health care systems, communities of color, community-based organizations, educational institutions, and others.

For more information

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Minnesota

TurningPoint

Collaborating for a New Century in Public Health

What is Minnesota Turning Point?

The national Turning Point Initiative aims to transform and strengthen the public health system in the United States by making it more community based and collaborative. Turning Point in Minnesota is exemplified by the Minnesota Health Improvement Partnership, a collaborative of public, private, and nonprofit sector organizations that are committed to improving the health of Minnesotans.

How is Turning Point's Minnesota Health Improvement Partnership improving public health?

- Convening people from many sectors who are collaborating to improve the public's health. As a result, partner organizations are reporting significant changes in the way they do business.
- Engaging private and nonprofit sectors in working with state and local public health agencies on difficult crosscutting policy decisions. Minnesota's Blue Cross Foundation is redesigning its funding guidelines in order to address inequities in health as a result of this Partnership's work in linking social and economic conditions and health.
- Influencing policy direction in addressing health issues. For example, the Greater Twin Cities United Way reports using new strategies to increase community involvement and that the work of the Minnesota Health Improvement Partnership's work influences which key public health policy issues to address.
- Increasing the understanding and commitment to public health work among diverse partners in public health.
- Providing direction to the work of public health partners. The Center for Population Health in Minnesota's seven-county metro area, for example, uses the statewide goals developed by the partnership to develop its annual work plan.

What can Minnesota Turning Point help you do?

- Mobilize partnerships to develop innovative strategies to address high-priority health needs
- Identify strategies that build on the strengths of the public, private, and nonprofit sectors sharing resources and approaches that improve health in complementary ways

Support

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