

New Jersey

TurningPoint

Collaborating for a New Century in Public Health

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

New Jersey's Public Health

New Jersey's 524 boards of health and 115 local health agencies serve more than 500 municipalities. More than 80% of the local health agencies are municipal with about 5% of these structured as regional health commissions, and 12% as county agencies.

New Jersey faces many public health challenges. Our state has intolerably high numbers of HIV/AIDS cases, high rates of infant deaths particularly among African Americans, and increasing cases of asthma. In addition New Jersey is facing an epidemic of childhood obesity and inadequate access to mental health services.

An essential element missing in the New Jersey public health system is a structure to link community needs to existing public health services. New Jersey's most vulnerable communities must have access to and involvement in developing solutions for the priority health problems.

For more information

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What is Public Health: C.A.R.E. in New Jersey?

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. In New Jersey, the national Turning Point Initiative is affiliated with C.A.R.E. — Crafting A Restructured Environment. C.A.R.E. aims to transform and strengthen New Jersey's public health system by making it more consistent, efficient, and accessible to the community.

How Is Public Health: C.A.R.E. improving public health?

- Developing public-private partnerships to bring both community and governmental resources to bear on public health problems and health policy outcomes that improve health status
- Convening the Pediatric State-wide Leadership Council in 2003 by bringing physicians, nurses, public health professionals, mental health professionals, and school-based health practitioners together to focus on improving systems that can prevent childhood obesity, increase mental health services for children/adolescents, and improve New Jersey's immunization practice
- Building a new constituency for health promotion and disease prevention by linking community agencies, professional organizations, local health departments, and medical professionals

What can C.A.R.E. help you do for New Jersey?

- Identify the public health priorities and needs facing New Jersey communities
- Generate practical solutions to public health problems by applying scientific expertise to health policy development
- Build partnerships among business, public health, medical, and community-based organizations to solve public health priority issues
- Create efficiency and accountability in public health systems, programs, and services by leveraging private sector support

Support

The Turning Point Initiative is funded by The Robert Wood Johnson Foundation. The National Program Office is located at the University of Washington School of Public Health and Community Medicine. Contact the National Program Office at 206-616-8410 or visit www.turningpointprogram.org.

Public Health: *CARE*
"Crafting A Restructured Environment"