

NACCHO is the Voice of Local Health Departments



As community health strategists, local health departments make it easier for people to be healthy and safe. They collaborate with community and private-sector partners to ensure the safety of the water we drink, the food we eat, and the air we breathe. Local health departments are a critical part of every community's first response to disease outbreaks, emergencies, and natural disasters. They educate the public and combat the rising cost of healthcare due to ailments like diabetes and heart disease. They promote immunizations to reduce infectious diseases like measles and work with community partners to address the opioid epidemic. These government agencies report to a mayor, city council, county board of health, or county commission.

What is NACCHO?

The National Association of County and City Health Officials (NACCHO) represents the country's nearly 3,000 local health departments including city, county, metropolitan, district, and tribal agencies across the country. NACCHO subject matter expertise and resources help local health department leaders to develop public health policies, programs, and services to ensure that people in their communities are protected from disease and disaster.

NACCHO's nearly 40 advisory groups, comprising experts from the field, provide on-the-ground perspectives on public health practice issues in the areas of community health, environmental health, emergency preparedness, and public health infrastructure and systems.

FAST FACT: NACCHO is the national non-profit association representing the nearly 3,000 local health departments in the United States, including city, county, metro, district, and tribal agencies.

NACCHO Provides Expertise in Public Health Programs

NACCHO provides leadership, up-to-date information, subject matter expertise, stories from the field, spokespeople, and other resources on the issues listed below.



COMMUNITY HEALTH

Chronic and infectious disease prevention; maternal, child, and adolescent health; immunization; injury prevention; disability; tobacco control; and building healthier communities



ENVIRONMENTAL HEALTH

Clean air and water; food safety and defense; public health effects of climate change; lead poisoning prevention; vector-borne disease detection and surveillance; environmental public health tracking; and land use planning



PUBLIC HEALTH INFRASTRUCTURE AND SYSTEMS

Workforce, health information technology; public health law; infrastructure; accreditation and quality improvement; and public health capacity building



PUBLIC HEALTH PREPAREDNESS

Planning and readiness for natural disasters; pandemics; terrorist attacks; and infectious disease outbreaks

National Leader in Public Health Policy

NACCHO has more than 120 policy statements on an array of important public health topics. Position statements are developed by local health officials, peer reviewed, and approved by NACCHO's board of directors. NACCHO and local health departments use these policy statements to educate key stakeholders and urge action by federal officials, state public health officials, elected officials at all levels, partner organizations, the media, and the public.

Authoritative Source for Local Health Department Data

NACCHO has a robust research and evaluation function that provides important understanding of the work of local health departments and the issues facing local communities. NACCHO regularly conducts a national survey of all local health departments. The National Profile of Local Health Departments (Profile) study is the only national source of critical information on local health department infrastructure and public health practices at the local level. Profile offers a wealth of data about local health department activities that address community-based public health issues, including governance, financing, workforce, emergency preparedness and response, chronic disease, environmental health, performance and quality improvement, and health information technology.

Since 2008, NACCHO has also been a source of firsthand data from local health departments about budget cuts and job losses. During this time, more than 51,000 state and local jobs have been lost. This represents nearly 19% of the total state and local health department workforce.

NACCHO's Work in the Field

- With funding from the Assistant Secretary for Preparedness and Response, NACCHO has developed the Medical Reserve Corps (MRC) Deployment Readiness Resource Guide, which provides a common set of tools for MRC units to develop the capabilities of their volunteers to support medical and public health emergency responses.
- With funding from the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC), NACCHO has supported local health department tobacco control efforts including providing mini-grants to help implement CDC's Tips From Former Smokers® Campaign and hosting a series of technical

assistance webinars focused on vaping, raising the age to purchase tobacco products to 21, and smoke-free housing.

- Supported by the CDC, NACCHO's drug overdose prevention and response program is currently providing funding and technical assistance to over 60 communities across the country as they initiate or improve upon programs to address their local drug overdose epidemic. Particular areas of focus include drug overdose surveillance, establishing linkages to care, harm reduction, syringe service programs, collaborations between public health and public safety, diversion programs, and jail and prison-based initiatives.
- With funding from the CDC, NACCHO's "Reducing Disparities in Breastfeeding through Continuity of Care" project is helping communities in over 30 states increase breastfeeding rates among African American and underserved families. Local health departments and health centers in these communities are collaborating with other community partners to ensure that breastfeeding resources are made available to those who need them most.

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The mission of the National Association of County and City Health Officials (NACCHO) is to improve the health of communities by strengthening and advocating for local health departments.

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