

**Presentation Outline for:** County Boards of Supervisors and other Elected Officials  
**Purpose:** Educate and inform Supervisors and Other Officials about Public Health

This presentation outline was developed and presented by Fran Sadden, Director of Siouxland County Health Department at the ISAC New Officer School on December 12, 2008.

Other Local Public Health Administrators and staff are encouraged to utilize this outline as a means to communicate timely and relevant public health information.

### **Local Public Health in Iowa**

1. Local Public Health
  - 99 counties in Iowa – public health in each county
  - 63 of the 99 counties have population of less than 20,000
  - 27 counties have population or 20,000 – 50,000
  - 3 counties have population of 50,000 – 100,000 and
  - 6 counties have population over 100,000
  
2. Size of Public Health at the local level differs but Local Public Health's role is to protect the Health of the public – **population based health** – though the Core Public health Functions of Assessment, Policy Development and Assurance.
  - **Assessment** – Monitor health status, community assessment, evaluate effectiveness of population based services
  - **Policy Development** – policies that support community health efforts, enforce laws and regulations that protect health
  - **Assurance** – link people to services and assure provision when otherwise unavailable, competent public health workforce, inform educate people and mobilize community partnerships to identify and solve health problems.
  
3. ICPHA – Iowa County Public Health Agencies – affiliate of ISAC – annual meeting at the Fall School and meetings with Spring School. Member also with Iowa Public Health Association – annual meeting usually in early April. Important for local public health personnel to be a part of and attend. BOS and BOH members would also find this annual meeting informative.
  
4. ICPHA – also affiliated with National Association of City and County Health Officials – NACCHO – ICPHA is the recognized SACCHO or State Association of City and County Health Officials in Iowa.
  
5. Working relationship with Iowa Department of Public Health [Director Tom Newton], University of Iowa, College of Public Health and Des Moines University, Master of Public Health Program.

6. Important in your new role, as member of Board of Supervisors, to learn who is the public health administrator/director of your county and about the services of Local Public Health specific in your county. What services and specific programs are being provided by your Local Public Health agency and what is being provided by other public health or health care entities or relevant partners? What did your public health assessment of your county find/show?
7. By Code of Iowa, Local Public Health Agency is governed by local Bd. of Health – who are appointed by Bd. of Supervisor.
8. Local Public Health Current Issues and Challenges Statewide –
  - 99 Counties – Redesign/Modernization Act of Public Health in Iowa – Important for Workforce [retirements] Education [current staff] and statewide provision of public health services in Iowa.
  - New Responsibility of B/T and Preparedness Response - Education, Coordination, and Collaboration within communities, county and state.
  - Enhanced working relationships and partners –local, state and federal - ICPHA, IDPH, College of Public Health, National Organizations
  - Workforce – education – Prepare Iowa Learning Management System [PILMS]- [www.prepareiowa.com](http://www.prepareiowa.com) - especially good is *Local Bd. of Health Toolkit*, for Bd. of Supervisors as well as Bd. of Health.
  - Other important web sites – Iowa County Public Health Agencies [I-CPHA] [www.i-cpha.org](http://www.i-cpha.org) Iowa Department of Public Health [www.idph.state.iowa.us](http://www.idph.state.iowa.us) and your own county public health web site.
9. If you have questions regarding role or responsibilities of Public health – or question about health related issue – contact ISAC – they will refer on to Graham Dameron – ICPHA Executive Director – 319-337-9270 or [graham3076@inavia.net](mailto:graham3076@inavia.net)