

PUBLIC HEALTH COMMITTEE REPORT

Essential Service #4

[Engage the community to identify and solve health problems](#)



Health Department partners receive first-ever Sparkler Award at Leaders' Summit

The Kane County partners involved in the Health Department's Community Health Assessment were awarded the first-ever Sparkler Award in the category of Innovation. The awards ceremony took place during the Kane County 2015 Leaders' Summit.

What is the Kane County Community Health Assessment Partnership? In 2014, for the second time, the five hospitals serving Kane County and the INC Board worked together with Kane County Health Department to complete a community health assessment and begin work on a community health improvement plan. The Health Assessment Partnership resulted in significant cost-savings to the organizations involved and tax payers. Coordinating the assessment and plan development phases results in more closely aligned funding implementation by the participating agencies that will address the top health issues facing Kane County residents.

At right, Karin Podolski, Director of Community Health Outreach for Northwestern Medicine Delnor Hospital, County Board Member and Public Health Committee Vice-Chairman Susan Starrett, and Assistant Director of Community Health Resources for the Kane County Health Department Dan Eder, pose with the first-ever "Sparkler Award" to honor the Health Department's Community Health Assessment. The Sparkler awards were given at the Leaders' Summit held Friday, May 8 at the Q Center in St. Charles.



Ten essential services of Public Health

1. Monitor health status and understand health issues facing the community
2. Protect people from health problems and health hazards
3. Give people the information they need to make healthy choices
4. Engage the community to identify and solve health problems
5. Develop public health policies and plans
6. Enforce public health laws and regulations
7. Help people receive health services
8. Maintain a competent public health workforce
9. Evaluate and improve programs and interventions
10. Contribute to and apply the evidence base of public health

Essential Service #4

[Help people receive health services](#)



Mental Health by the numbers.

- 1 in every 5 adults in America experiences a mental illness.
- Nearly 1 in 25 (approximately 13.6 million) adults in America live with a serious mental illness.
- Approximately 8.4 million adults have co-occurring mental health and addiction disorders.
- Approximately 26% of homeless adults staying in shelters live with serious mental illness.
- A total of 10.5% of Kane County adults believe that their overall mental health is “fair” or “poor.”

May is National Mental Health Month

According to the National Alliance on Mental Illness (NAMI), when you or someone close to you starts to experience the early warning signs of mental illness, knowing what the risk factors and symptoms are will help to catch them early. Often family and friends are the first to support a person through these early stages. Like other health conditions, we need to address the symptoms early, identify the underlying illness, and plan an appropriate course of action.

Essential Service #2

[Protect people from health problems and health risks](#)



Smoking causes more deaths each year than all these combined:

- Human Immunodeficiency virus (HIV)*
- Illegal drug use*
- Alcohol use*
- Motor vehicle injuries*
- Firearm-related incidents*



World No Tobacco Day: May 31

The global tobacco epidemic kills nearly 6 million people each year, of which more than 600,000 are non-smokers dying from breathing second-hand smoke. Unless we act, the epidemic will kill more than 8 million people every year by 2030. More than 80% of these preventable deaths will be among people living in low-and middle-income countries. For World No Tobacco Day 2015, The World Health Organization is calling on countries to work together to end the illicit trade of tobacco products