

The Ten Essential Public Health Services

Frequently, public health professionals refer to the essential public health services. The essential public health services were developed as a companion to the three core public health functions. In their 1988 report, *The Future of Public Health*, the Institutes of Medicine (IOM) defined the three core functions of governmental public health as *assessment, policy development* and *assurance*. The essential public health services were developed in 1994 by the Essential Public Health Services Work Group of the Core Public Health Functions Steering Committee. The essential public health services grew out of a need to better communicate the scope and importance of governmental public health to the general public and legislators.

- 1. Monitor health status to identify community problems.**
- 2. Diagnose and investigate health problems and health hazards in the community.**
- 3. Inform, educate and empower people about health issues.**
- 4. Mobilize community partnerships and action to identify and solve health problems.**
- 5. Develop policies and plans that support individual and community health efforts.**
- 6. Enforce laws and regulations that protect health and insure safety.**
- 7. Link people to needed public health services and assure the provision of health care when otherwise unavailable.**
- 8. Assure a competent public health and personal health care workforce.**
- 9. Evaluate effectiveness, accessibility and quality of personal and population-based health services.**
- 10. Research for new insights and innovative solutions to health problems.**

Presented by:



Public Health
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**Jefferson County Health Department,
Home Health & Hospice**

1212 Walnut Street, Oskaloosa, KS 66066-4200

Phone (785) 403-0025

Public Health Fax (785) 863-2652 Home Health & Hospice Fax (785) 863-3234

Email: ichd@ifcountyks.com Website: www.ifcountyks.com