

## Office of Public Health Systems Development (PHSD)

Office of Public Health Systems Development  
[www.doh.wa.gov/phsd](http://www.doh.wa.gov/phsd)

Martin Mueller  
Director  
360-236-4062  
[martin.mueller@doh.wa.gov](mailto:martin.mueller@doh.wa.gov)

Marie Flake  
Local Public Health Liaison  
360-236-4063  
[marie.flake@doh.wa.gov](mailto:marie.flake@doh.wa.gov)

Kay Koth  
Budget and Operations Manager  
360-236-4061  
[kay.koth@doh.wa.gov](mailto:kay.koth@doh.wa.gov)

Ganel Baker  
Administrative Assistant  
[ganel.baker@doh.wa.gov](mailto:ganel.baker@doh.wa.gov)  
360-236-4150

Office of Public Health Systems  
Development/Local Health  
[www.doh.wa.gov/phsd/localph.htm](http://www.doh.wa.gov/phsd/localph.htm)

### Public Health Improvement Partnership

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Simana Dimitrova  
PHIP Coordinator  
360-236-4085  
[simana.dimitrova@doh.wa.gov](mailto:simana.dimitrova@doh.wa.gov)

Jane Lee  
PHIP Workgroup Manager  
360-236-4154  
[jane.lee@doh.wa.gov](mailto:jane.lee@doh.wa.gov)

### Description/ Role in DOH

The Office of Public Health Systems Development (PHSD) focuses on strengthening the governmental public health system (state, tribal and county) in Washington State.

### Local Public Health

Local public health is an essential partner of the Department of Health (DOH). The PHSD provides support to and coordination with and among the 35 local health jurisdictions (LHJs) and DOH. We serve as a focal point for local public health issues within DOH and work with individual LHJ leaders and their agencies and the association that represents local public health. We provide a single point of contact for local health jurisdiction staff to access DOH programs and staff and also serve to maintain and increase the local perspective within DOH. We provide consultation and/or management reviews for local public health, as requested. We coordinate within DOH among various programs with strong LHJ aspects. Local Capacity Development Funds (LCDF), the flexible funds received by each LJJ, are managed in our office.

### Public Health Improvement Partnership (PHIP)

The Public Health Improvement Partnership (PHIP) is directed by the legislature to guide and strengthen the governmental public health system in Washington State. To accomplish that we are responsible to ensure that our actions support a public health system that is accountable, continuously measures and improves health outcomes, and reduces environmental and other health risks. The work includes a diverse group of people working in three statewide workgroups. The PHIP is coordinated and staffed by this office.

### Target Audiences

- Local health jurisdictions
- DOH staff who work with local jurisdictions

### Major Issues

Our chief concern is identifying ways we can make the public health system work most smoothly so that both state and local resources are used to the best advantage. We particularly seek to promote active partnerships and hear opinions and suggestions from local jurisdictions.

### Services available to LHJs:

- Involvement in system planning
- Referral for LHJs to DOH offices/programs
- Consultation or referral for LHJs to other LHJs for information, peer assistance, best practices
- Arranging visits to LHJs, such as having the Secretary meet with board and staff
- Arranging for LHJ leaders to meet with DOH leaders or program staff
- Facilitating conversations about issues of concern