The Division of Prevention and Community Health contributes to the Department of Health’s vision by collaborating with partners and stakeholders to enhance the health of individuals, families, and communities and eliminate health inequities. We work to prevent disease and promote a healthy start, healthy choices, and access to services. The division consists of about 273 people working in two primary locations, and within a few local and tribal health departments, to deliver public health services statewide.

The Office of the Assistant Secretary (OAS) provides leadership and support for the entire division. The Assistant Secretary serves as the agency chief for organizational culture and health and is primarily responsible for constituent and external relations. The Deputy Assistant Secretary is primarily responsible for internal operations. In addition, we house the division’s Finance Operations Section; Policy, Legislature and Rules Operation Section; Health Promotion and Communication Section; and Performance and Accountability Section.

The Office of Healthy Communities (OHC) is dedicated to making the healthy choice the easy choice in homes, communities, workplaces, health care settings, and schools. We work to prevent disease and promote health at every stage of life by implementing policies, systems, and environmental changes with a focus on health equity. Our work addresses eight priority areas: active living and safe environments; clinical preventive services and interventions; healthy eating; healthy starts; quality screening, referral, and follow-up; reproductive sexual health; social and emotional wellness; and tobacco and substance-free living.

The Office of Immunization and Child Profile (OICP) is committed to two primary goals: 1) promoting immunization to protect children, teens, and adults from diseases that vaccines prevent; and 2) collaborating with healthcare providers, government agencies, and community organizations to educate parents on healthy choices and preventive care.

The Office of Nutrition Services (ONS) creates opportunities for people with limited resources to make healthy nutrition choices. We support healthy eating, breastfeeding, access to healthy foods, and physical activity. The US Department of Agriculture funds the nutrition services we provide through our contracts with local health jurisdictions, community agencies, tribal organizations, and food retailers.

2014 Facts and Figures

Office of Healthy Communities
Calls to the tobacco Quitline from residents of Washington since 2004                       228,620
Women screened for breast or cervical cancer                                              6,359
Children with special health care needs referred to community resources and services     12,486
Residents who received Department of Health-funded family planning services               80,016

Office of Immunization and Child Profile
Public school districts participating in Washington Immunization Information System               268 (91%)
Number of Provider Offices Enrolled in the State Childhood Vaccine Program                        1,042
Vaccine doses ordered                                                                       2,936,170
Dollar value of vaccines                                                                    $139,018,396
Office of Nutrition Services
Women, Infants and Children (WIC) Nutrition Program participants 315,331
SNAP-Ed participants 23,072
Infants born in Washington who are served by WIC 38,894 (45.2%)
Dollar value of redeemed WIC checks $122,047,480

Budget for the 2015-2017 biennium is illustrated by the charts below. Chart 1 is the total allotment by fund type and Chart 2 is the total allotment by office. PCH has several interagency agreements where costs are reimbursed from other agencies. These agreements represent an additional $18.4 million budgeted, but not captured in the totals below due to the net difference.

Chart 1
Total Allotment by Fund Type: $638.4 million
- General Fund-State: $30.3 million
- General Fund-Proviso: $14.5 million
- General Fund-Federal: $376.0 million
- Dedicated Accounts*: $152.1 million
- Private Local**: $65.6 million

*Dedicated Accounts include Tobacco, Universal Vaccine
**Fee Accounts include WIC rebates and Public Health Supplemental

Chart 2
Total Allotment by Office: $638.4 million
- Office of the Assistant Secretary: $7.9 million
- Office of Immunization Child Profile: $174.4 million
- Office of Nutrition Services: $367.1 million
- Office of Healthy Communities: $107.5 million

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For persons with disabilities, this document is available on request in other formats. To submit a request, please call 1-800-525-0127 (TDD/TTY 711).