Washington State Department of Health
Strategic Plan Overview

VISION
People in Washington enjoy longer and healthier lives because they live in healthy families and communities.

STRATEGY
Through collaborations and partnerships, we will leverage the knowledge, relationships and resources necessary to influence the conditions that promote good health and safety for everyone.

MISSION
The Department of Health works with others to protect and improve the health of all people in Washington State.

WHAT WE DO FOR WASHINGTON STATE

Protect from communicable disease and other health threats
• Ensure effective communicable disease prevention, surveillance and response systems
• Prepare for, respond to and recover from public health threats
• Ensure the safety of our environment as it impacts human health
• Become leaders in addressing public health impacts of climate change

Prevent illness and injury and promote ongoing wellness
• Give all babies a planned, healthy start in life
• Increase immunization rates for all age groups
• Support healthy weight in children and adults
• Promote tobacco-free living
• Prevent or reduce the impact of adverse childhood experiences on children and families
• Protect people from violence, injuries and illness in their homes, neighborhoods and communities
• Raise awareness and implement strategies to promote mental health

Improve access to quality, affordable, integrated healthcare
• Increase access to affordable healthcare
• Ensure safe, quality healthcare
• Incorporate public health and prevention practices in the reforming healthcare system

HOW WE DO OUR WORK

Integrate continuous quality improvement and performance management systems across the agency to best serve our customers
• Improve customer satisfaction and use of customer feedback
• Ensure performance management systems are used throughout the agency to measure progress toward agency and program goals
• Use Lean and other quality improvement principles to build a culture of continuous quality improvement

Ensure core business services are efficient, innovative and transparent
• Develop and initiate appropriate policies and legislation to support our goals and objectives
• Work toward optimal public health funding and assess return on investment
• Make financial and business processes transparent; always seek customer engagement and input, and respond to customers’ business needs and feedback
• Develop and implement an agency-wide, comprehensive communication and marketing plan for internal staff, external partners and groups across the lifespan
• Enhance our technological capabilities to meet current and future business needs

Improve organizational health and expand workforce development
• Improve the skills and capabilities of our workforce to advance agency priorities
• Develop and implement an agency succession plan
• Improve the organizational health of the agency
• Integrate workplace health and wellness into agency activities and policies
• Ensure a robust and collaborative partnership with academia

FOUNDATIONS
MODELS: Socio-Ecological • Determinants of Health • Life Course • Place Matters
GUIDING PRINCIPLES: Evidence-Based Public Health Practice • Partnership • Transparency • Health Equity • Seven Generations

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 call 711).