A strong public health system is crucial for protecting and improving the health of Americans.

Wisconsin's Transformed Public Health System – A Good Investment

Healthiest Wisconsin 2010: A
Partnership Plan to Improve the
Health of the Public was developed through the Wisconsin
Turning Point Initiative and
changes the way we view public
health in the state. With a focus
on health promotion and disease
prevention and the development
of new collaborative partners, this
strategic health plan is a comprehensive analysis of what causes
the most death and disease in
Wisconsin.

Poor access to health services, inadequate nutrition, exposure to environmental hazards, emerging infectious disease, and other issues are priority areas for intervention if we are to improve the health of Wisconsins.

Wisconsin's public health system must be restructured to eliminate health disparities and protect and promote the health of all. No one sector can maximize improvements in the health of Wisconsin residents, multi-sector partnerships focused on health promotion and disease prevention are key to our success.

For more information

Margaret Schmelzer, RN, MS

Office of Public Health Improvement Division of Public Health Dept. of Health and Family Services 1 West Wilson Street, Room 250 Madison, WI 53701-2659 608-266-0877 Fax 608-267-2832 schmemo@dhfs.state.wi.us





What is Wisconsin Turning Point?

The national Turning Point Initiative aims to transform and strengthen the public health system in the United States by making it more community based and collaborative. Wisconsin's Turning Point Initiative reflects a transformation in the way Wisconsin operates its public health system and addresses its priorities. Maintaining the health of the public was once solely identified as a governmental responsibility, but Turning Point in Wisconsin is helping define more broadly the roles and responsibilities for improving the health of our communities.

How is Wisconsin's Turning Point Initiative improving public health?

- Developing policy recommendations to improve public health laws that provide legal support for the protection of Wisconsins
- Ensuring good management of resources through quality assurance activities with public health partners
- Creating model practices resulting in achievements, such as countywide coalitions that exceeded national early childhood immunization goals and were awarded the first annual federal Protect Award from the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention
- Facilitating innovative state, federal, private partnerships such as the partnership that has made regional dental resources accessible to entire communities
- Expanding academic/community partnerships to advance health throughout the state through the formalization of strong public health partnerships with the University of Wisconsin Medical School and the Medical College of Wisconsin

What can Wisconsin Turning Point help you do?

- Focus policies and resources on the health and system priorities identified in Healthiest Wisconsin 2010
- Monitor health improvement in Wisconsin through the evaluation efforts of Healthiest Wisconsin 2010
- Showcase and support the replication of effective partnerships in Wisconsin that have received national attention for their achievements
- Mobilize community partnerships to develop new policies and innovative strategies to address high priority health needs

Support

The Turning Point Initiative is funded by The Robert Wood Johnson Foundation. The National Program Office is located at the University of Washington School of Public Health and Community Medicine. Contact the National Program Office at 206-616-8410 or visit www.turningpointprogram.org.

