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EC1027 What do Local Public Health Services Mean to You?

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WHAT DO LOCAL PUBLIC HEALTH SERVICES MEAN TO YOU?

or

(What is A Public Health Program)

Every man, woman and child has a better chance for the good things of life when he lives under good health conditions -- the kind which can be created when there is the protection of a local health department.

Yet, 40 million people in the United States are entirely without this protection or else have only a small part of the public health services so necessary to a healthy community.

What, exactly, is a health department?

It is a department of your local government -- just like your schools and your fire department. Its job is to do all those things known to help prevent disease and promote good health. It benefits everyone.

Something that goes by the name of a "health department" is not enough. It must BE and DO certain things.
IF YOU ARE A MOTHER OR FATHER, a local health department will:

Take up where you leave off in protecting your children's health when they go outside of your home. Safeguard the food, water and milk that you and your children consume.

Watch over the sanitary conditions of the places of recreation they frequent, the swimming pools, camps, parks theatres, etc.

Assist the school authorities in making schools sanitary.

Isolate all children with communicable disease and thereby protect YOUR children.

Promote widespread immunization against communicable diseases so that the entire community is "fire-proofed" against epidemics.

Visit your newborn baby for consultation with you, and demonstration of proper care, if you so desire.

IF YOU ARE A PHYSICIAN, a local health department will:

Carry out the recommendations of your American Medical Association and your Nebraska State Medical Society. Both favor county health departments.

Cooperate with you in some of the preventive measures which are essential to community health.

Provide emergency reserves, and be a rallying point for community action when epidemics, disasters and other catastrophies occur.

Persuade women to place themselves under your care early in pregnancy.

Encourage families to have complete immunization of their children.

Provide nurses for such home visits to your patients as you may desire.

Preach the gospel of "consult your family physician."

IF YOU ARE A DENTIST, a local health department will:

Promote better nutritional habits in the community resulting in better dental protection.

Promote better dental hygiene among children and adults of the community.

Discover dental defects among children in your community and assist in getting them corrected by local dentists.

Preach the gospel of "consult your dentist."
IF YOU ARE A FARMER, a local health department will:

Give you and your family the same health protection which the people in large cities now enjoy.

Help to make the country as healthy to live in as the city.

Build up the quality of rural HUMAN stock to keep pace with improvement of livestock, crops, etc.

Give to all children in the county the same high quality of school health service, regardless of location.

Include HEALTH in the progress which rural areas are making in education, transportation, communication, recreation, etc.

IF YOU ARE A SCHOOL TEACHER, a local health department will:

Help you to spot contagious disease in your classroom.

Help you with school health examinations.

Help with school immunizations.

Visit the homes of children under par to secure remedies for their physical defects.

Give consultation service on the sanitary condition of your school.

Recommend to your school boards the needed sanitary improvements in the school plant.

Assist in planning and carrying out your health education program.

Give consultation service regarding the school lunch, lunch rooms, etc.

Be the authority to which you will be glad to turn in many emergencies.

IF YOU ARE A MAYOR, a local health department will:

Provide you with a health officer who can enforce your city health ordinances without involving you in political difficulties.

Provide professionally trained sanitarians to help you keep your city clean and healthy.

Help prevent epidemics in your city.

Make you proud of your city, and help to make your city proud of you.
IF YOU ARE A SUPERVISOR OR COMMISSIONER, a local health department will:

Carry out the health ordinances passed by your board.

Relieve you individually of the unpleasant chores which you as Township health officer have had to perform; but vest in you, as a member of the Board of Supervisors, new powers and greater responsibilities.

Give your Board an opportunity to provide adequate health protection to your constituents along with the other governmental services which it now provides.

Relieve your Board of expense by preventing much sickness and death among your indigent charges.

Provide you with a staff of professional people who will be of great assistance to you in solving many and varied county problems.

Place your county among the two-thirds of the counties in the United States which are progressive enough to have established health departments.

IF YOU ARE A TAXPAYER, a local health department will:

Cost you not more than fifty cents per $1,000.00 full valuation of your property in return for one of the most important public services which your local government can provide.

Be Safeguarded by law against political interference as much as can any public service under our democratic system.

Be administered by a non-salaried board of health appointed by the Chairman of the Board of Supervisors.

Be staffed by persons who must by law meet standard professional qualifications.

Be under YOUR control through your elected representatives.

IF YOU ARE JUST MR. AND MRS. JOHNNY Q. PUBLIC, local health services will:

Provide you with a sort of "insurance" at a small tax "premium" against diseases caused by bad food, water, milk, sewage, and other unsanitary conditions.

Provide you with insurance against communicable diseases by means of both isolation and immunization. A county health department is one of the best and cheapest forms of insurance.

Throw around you an unobtrusive protection of which you may not be aware, but which is as important to you as fire protection, police protection, flood prevention, etc.

Make your community generally safer, cleaner, more progressive.