

Public Health Nursing is an organization within the **Community and Public Health Division of the Wyoming Department of Health**, located in county health offices throughout Wyoming, and consists of professional individuals with one main concern: **"Healthy People in Healthy Communities."**

The goal of Wyoming Public Health Nursing is to protect and enhance the health and well-being of **"all"** Wyoming citizens and to see that risks are identified and served.

- **Wyoming Public Health Nursing's Vision:** A healthier, safer Wyoming
- **Wyoming Public Health Nursing's Mission:**
 - Prevent disease and injury
 - Promote healthy lifestyles
 - Protect community health
 - Prepare for emergencies and health threats
- **Wyoming Public Health Nursing's Values & Beliefs:**
 - Provide client-centered quality care and services at the individual, family and community level in a culturally competent manner
 - Implement evidence-based measures to address the most important health status indicators in the population
 - Adhere to the highest standard of PH practices and nursing principles to develop and promote effective leadership
 - Find creative, collaborative and innovative solutions to emerging health risks and chronic disease

Wyoming Statute: Title 35, Chapter 27, Public Health Nurses Infant Home Visitation Services, provides financial and policy support for the expansion of the Department of Health's effort to serve families through research-based home visiting models. The legislation requires the Department of Health to provide contacts during pregnancy with eligible women, or where contact was not made prenatally, conduct a home visit following the birth of the baby.

In particular, **Maternal and Child Health Programs** include:

- **Best Beginnings**, providing services to assure healthy babies through education, support, and access to prenatal care
 - Improved pregnancy outcome
 - Improved child health and development
 - Improved life-course development
 - Information and guidance about the many benefits of such support to the family, including:
 - Making positive choices during pregnancy that contribute to a healthy baby
 - What to expect during pregnancy, labor and delivery
 - Infant health and development
 - How to have fun with your baby and develop a very special relationship
 - Services available through Best Beginnings for Wyoming Babies:
 - Financial assistance for eligible women
 - Pregnancy counseling and teaching
 - Referrals to appropriate resources in the local community
 - Educational materials relating to pregnancy
 - Home visits for moms and babies
 - Certified Lactation Counselor Breastfeeding Support
- **The Healthy Baby Home Visiting Program is available to all women and families**, during pregnancy and/or following the birth of the baby for assessment, information and referral to community agencies. The program, which utilizes the *Partners for a Healthy Baby* curriculum, provides support and education for pregnant and parenting families, and breastfeeding counseling for new mothers. The Legislation also mandates that the Department of Health provide home visiting services to priority populations, including first-time mothers.
- **Children's Special Health Services** offers financial assistance and/or support for children with special needs, including:
 - Coordination of care
 - Genetics and specialty care clinics
 - Medication administration training
 - Maternal High Risk and Newborn Intensive Care are also supported financially for eligible clients under this program
 - Childcare health consultation
 - Lead screening and follow-up

<http://www.amchp.org/SiteCollectionDocuments/Wyoming2014.pdf>

<http://mchb.hrsa.gov/programs/titlevgrants>