

# Bismarck

## 2017 ANNUAL REPORT



**Public Health**  
Prevent. Promote. Protect.

**Bismarck-Burleigh Public Health**

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I am pleased to present to you Bismarck-Burleigh Public Health’s Annual Report for 2017. This report highlights the accomplishments and collaborative efforts our department has achieved to improve the health outcomes for residents in Bismarck and Burleigh County.

Bismarck-Burleigh Public Health looks forward to building upon our efforts and accomplishments outlined in this report to achieve our vision of optimal health in a thriving community.

Sincerely,

*Renae Moch*

Renae Moch, MBA, FACMPE  
Public Health Director  
Bismarck-Burleigh Public Health



## Description of Bismarck-Burleigh Public Health

Bismarck-Burleigh Public Health operates as a City of Bismarck department and is comprised of the following sections:

**Health Administration, Health Services, Health Maintenance, Environmental Health, Emergency Preparedness and Response, Nutrition Services, Tobacco Prevention and Control, Women’s Way, and the Business Office.** Burleigh County contracts with the City of Bismarck for public health nursing services.

Bismarck-Burleigh Public Health employs public health professionals who work to protect the health of the population for Bismarck and Burleigh County. Public health professionals work to prevent the spread of infectious diseases and food-borne illnesses and stress the importance of preventive care to maintain good health. Public Health promotes and encourages preventive health care and healthy lifestyles for children and families.

Public Health protects the public against injuries and environmental threats by preparing for and responding to natural and man-made disasters and emergencies. Public Health plays a vital role in the development of policies and standards to address the challenges to our community’s health.

### **Mission**

Dedicated to improving the health and safety of our community.

### **Vision**

Optimal health in a thriving community.

<b>Values:</b>	<b>Guiding Principles:</b>
<b>W</b> ellness	We promote healthy lifestyles within our community.
<b>E</b> ducation	We provide education to promote a healthy population.
<b>C</b> ollaboration	We engage community partners to identify and address health needs and disparities.
<b>A</b> dvocacy	We empower individuals to make sound health decisions.
<b>R</b> esponsiveness	We plan for the health and safety of our community.
<b>E</b> volving	We promote quality outcomes through continuous learning and performance improvement.

## Health Services

In the Health Services Division at Bismarck-Burleigh Public Health (BBPH), registered nurses provide various health screenings, assessments and services for all ages from infants to adults. The Health Services Division is comprised of several programs. This annual report reflects just a handful of the many accomplishments of this division in 2017.

### Maternal & Child Health (MCH)

We continue to receive funding for the Maternal and Child Health (MCH) grant program, which was changed to a competitive grant application process in 2016. The program staff working in Maternal and Child Health programs have a goal to increase the rates of breastfeeding at 6 months of age.

A marketing plan and multiple media messages have been developed to educate the public on the benefits of breastfeeding.



**BREASTFEEDING**  
*naturally the best*

 **Bismarck-Burleigh Public Health**  
This project is supported by HRSA

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Bismarck-Burleigh Public Health at 701-355-1540

Certified Lactation Counselors have assisted mothers with breastfeeding questions and concerns and have been working with local businesses to create breastfeeding friendly environments both in the workplace and in public spaces throughout the community.

### Health Tracks

The Health Tracks program is a free preventive health program for newborns and children up to age 21 who are enrolled in Medicaid. A health tracks screening includes a physical assessment, mental health, nutrition, developmental and speech screenings in addition to lab work, immunizations and application of fluoride varnish to teeth.

In March 2017, family medicine residents from UND Center for Family Medicine began assisting with Health Tracks screenings once per week. This collaborative relationship has been beneficial for the residents as it gives them an opportunity for clinical rotation in a pediatric setting and for clients having a physician available to address concerns.

**The number of Health Tracks clients screened increased by 15% from 2016 to 2017.**

### Immunizations

Bismarck-Burleigh Public Health continues to be the local expert in immunizations for all age groups. In addition to routine child, adolescent and adult vaccinations, we are the only local provider for travel vaccinations for those traveling outside the United States.

Yellow fever is a travel vaccine recommended travelers to areas such as South America and Africa. In early 2017, there was a worldwide shortage of yellow fever vaccine due to ongoing manufacturing delays with the single licensed manufacturer of this vaccine. Due to this shortage, the facilities able to carry and administer this vaccine has been limited. Sanford Health in Fargo was designated as the only clinic allowed to carry yellow fever vaccine in the state of North Dakota. We hope to see this change in the upcoming year.

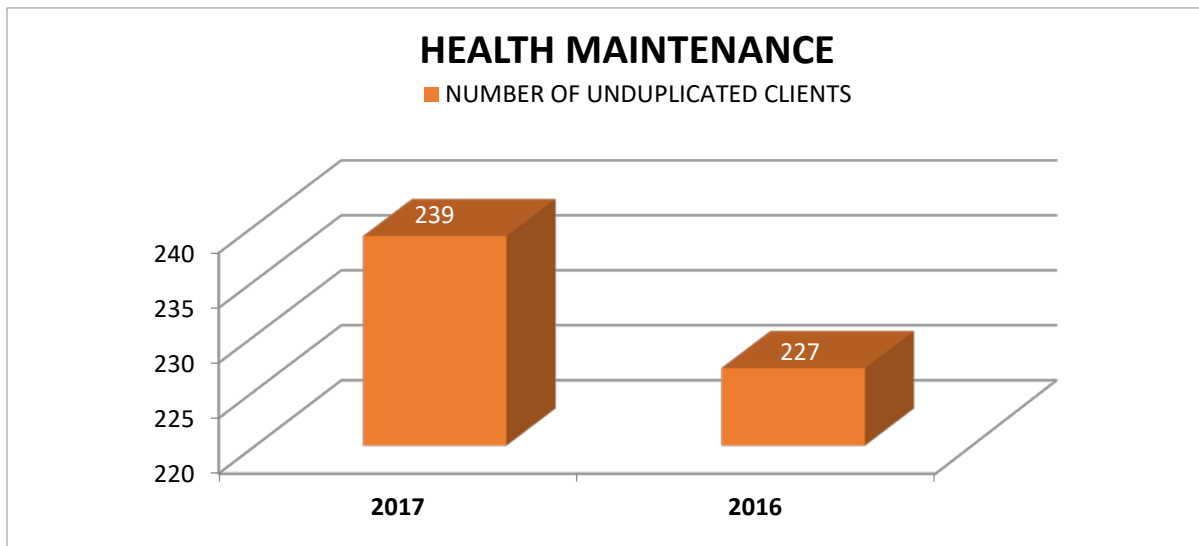
Despite this supply challenge in 2017, we administered the largest number of travel immunizations as compared the past several years with a total of 769 travel immunizations given.

The total number of travel vaccines given increased by 11% from 2016 to 2017.

## Health Maintenance

In the Health Maintenance Division, registered nurses provide nursing care and case management services in a client's home. Care coordination, medication reconciliation, referrals to support services in the community and physical assessments are completed on these clients. The goal for the health maintenance program is to keep clients in their homes as long as possible.

The complexity of health maintenance clients continues to be a challenge as the nurses manage increasing caseloads with the increase in the time required to properly care for each individual. **The number of unduplicated clients increased by 5% from 2016 to 2017.** We continue to monitor admissions to the health maintenance program as caseloads for the health maintenance staff are at capacity.



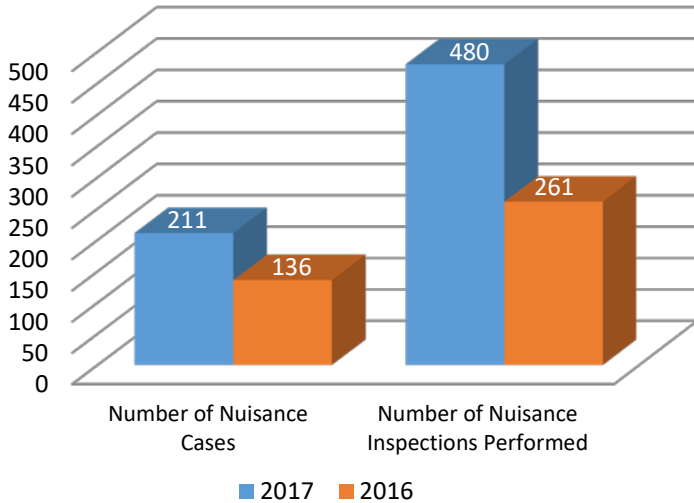
## Environmental Health

Environmental Health Specialists are responsible for inspections and licenses for food service operations, swimming pools, tanning facilities, tattoo/body art and lodging facilities. Other program functions include public health nuisances, indoor air quality and mosquito control and surveillance.

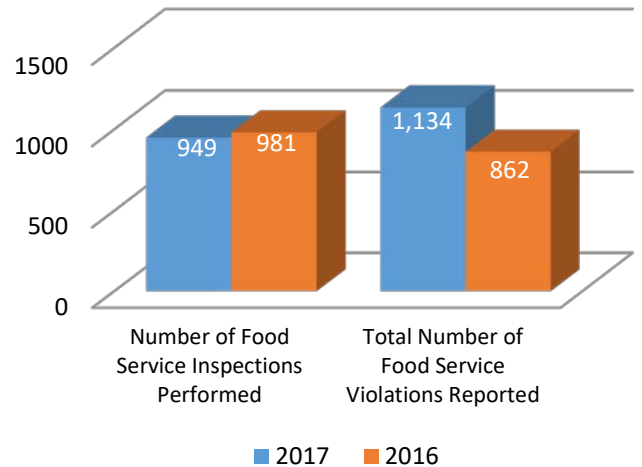
In 2017, Environmental Health started to perform risk based food inspections. While the number of inspections completed was lower than 2016 (-3%), the higher risk facilities were inspected more frequently which is reflected in the increase in the number of violations (32%).

In addition, the number of public health nuisance inspections performed increased by 84%. Increasing non-compliance among property owners requires repeated follow-up inspections which is reflected in this increase. Also, Environmental Health updated their webpage adding an online nuisance complaint form and notified the public of the change through social media which may have led to the increase in nuisances reported.

### ENVIRONMENTAL HEALTH NUISANCES



### ENVIRONMENTAL HEALTH FOOD INSPECTIONS



In alignment with the strategic plan, Environmental Health offered a Food Safety Course for local food establishments. The initial plan was to host 50 people at the public health conference room, but due to the overwhelming response, the event was moved to the Bismarck Event Center with 110 participants registered. With the success of the first event and the positive feedback obtained through course evaluations, this type of course will continue to be offered throughout the year on a repeated basis.



### Mosquito Control

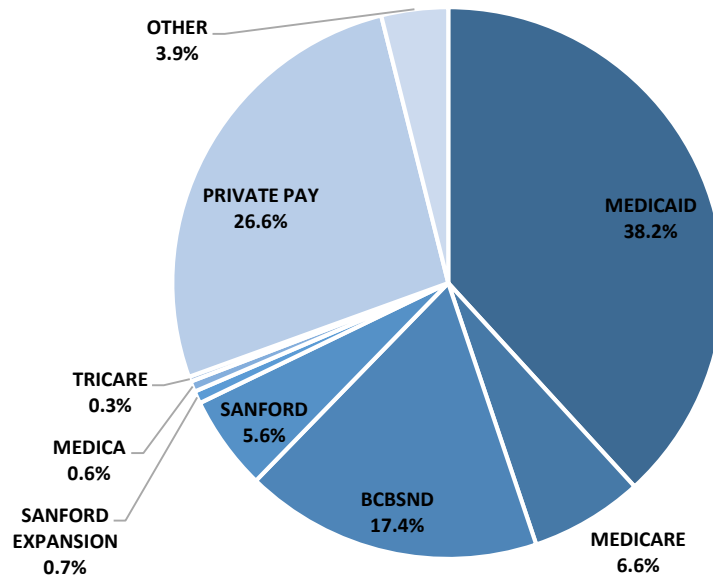
Bismarck's vector control program continues to safeguard the public by monitoring the mosquito population in Bismarck and implementing measures to help control the mosquito population and reduce human exposure to mosquitoes that may carry diseases such as West Nile.

Mosquito control staff routinely treated 49 bodies of water with larvicide throughout the summer and routinely fogged 23 public areas when weather and temperature permitted. The website for mosquito control was updated in 2017 to accurately reflect services performed.



## Medical Billing

We continue to work with third party payers to be recognized as an in-network provider to bill for the services we provide. Our largest third party payer source continues to be Medicaid at 38.2%. The chart below shows the breakout of our pay sources for 2017.



## Emergency Preparedness

On June 22, 2017, public health staff participated in an active shooter and shelter in place exercise. A department plan was developed to respond to this type of an emergency situation and the staff were able to test this plan through and make improvements to appropriately respond in a real emergency situation.

Bismarck-Burleigh Public Health staff also participated in an emergency exercise training event for a Department Operations Center (DOC) and Point of Distribution (POD) hosted at the Bismarck Event Center on October 17, 2017. During this exercise the scenario presented to the staff was to appropriately respond to a flu pandemic in the local area which the staff successfully completed.



## Tobacco Prevention Program

Tobacco Prevention Program staff continue to promote healthy, smoke-free environments. In 2017, three multi-unit property management companies adopted a smoke-free policy.

BisMarket adopted a tobacco free outdoor venue policy to protect attendees from the effects of second-hand smoke. Bismarck City Ordinance Chapter 5-11-03 was amended to restrict the sale of tobacco via mobile units.



## Bismarck Tobacco Prevention Youth Summit 2017



On October 11, 2017, seven Bismarck schools participated in the Tobacco Prevention Youth Summit hosted by Bismarck-Burleigh Public Health's tobacco prevention program. During the summit students learned about the latest tobacco-free policy initiatives and were educated on the dangers of tobacco products.

## Women's Way

In 2017, the Women's Way program met and exceeded their screening goal with 189 women screened for breast and cervical cancer through this program. Staff continue to work with women to provide patient navigation services for clients with a breast and/or cervical cancer diagnosis in addition to assisting them with program enrollment.

The 15<sup>th</sup> Annual Women's Way Breast Cancer Awareness Golf Classic was held on June 15<sup>th</sup>, 2017. Funds raised are used to assist local women with the cost of follow-up and treatment services related to breast and cervical cancer screenings.



## Nutrition Services

The efforts put forth for worksite wellness earned the City of Bismarck a Well Workplace Award from Blue Cross Blue Shield of ND for the second consecutive year. Katie Johnke, RD, LRD accepted the award on behalf of the City of Bismarck at the Worksite Wellness Summit in Fargo, ND on October 3, 2017.



April 3, 2017 Governor Burgum kicked off National Walking Month which highlighted the importance of community health and walkability of communities. As a community partner, Katie Johnke participated in this event and led a walk around the Capitol grounds following this event.



## Special Projects - 2017

### **Mayor's Livability Summit, March 9, 2017**

Director of Public Health participated on the Community Services and Healthcare Panel during this summit where discussion

### **Mayors' Gold Star Community Task Force established in June 2017**

This is a collaborative effort between Bismarck-Mandan-Lincoln communities in response to behavioral health and substance abuse issues in the community.

#### VISION

A safe, healthy, vibrant, and caring community, free of substance abuse, addiction, and behavioral health issues.

#### MISSION

To lead and guide a continuum of care model to reduce substance abuse and behavioral health issues in our communities.

#### TASK FORCE PRIORITIES

- Behavioral health and substance abuse education, awareness and prevention
- Intoxification/withdrawal management and Crisis Intervention Team
- Increased access to recovery and treatment

**Bismarck-Burleigh Public Health participated as a co-applicant with the Heartview Foundation receiving funding from the 2017 State Targeted Response (STR) to the Opioid Crises.**

- Through this grant opportunity first responders and schools in the Burleigh/Morton areas were trained on the use of Narcan with supplies distributed upon completion of the training.



- Lock, monitor, take-back locations were promoted through a press conference leading up to National Prescription Drug Take-back Day.



## Conclusion

Following the 2016-2018 Strategic Plan, Bismarck-Burleigh Public Health is guided by the following priorities:

1. Access to Affordable Health Care
2. Chronic Disease Prevention & Education
3. Obesity/Poor Nutrition/Lack of Exercise Improvements and Education
4. Food Safety Education
5. Community Emergency Preparedness and Response Efforts

We continue to use our strategic plan as a road map for our department to keep our community healthy and safe.

This report is not all inclusive of our efforts and activities for the year, but highlights some major events and milestones that occurred in 2017. I am proud of the work that the department accomplished in 2017 and look forward to serving the public throughout the upcoming year.

Respectfully submitted by,

*Rena Moch, MBA, FACMPE*

Rena Moch, MBA, FACMPE  
Public Health Director  
Bismarck-Burleigh Public Health

*Report Presented: March 27, 2018*



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