



## Health and Human Services - Operations 11301.511.

### Mission Statement

---

Our mission is to safeguard and enhance the well-being of our community by promoting public health, preventing diseases, and ensuring equitable access to healthcare resources. Through evidence-based practices, community engagement, and collaborative partnerships, we strive to create a healthier and more resilient society.

### Function

---

- 1. Provide Essential Public Health Services:** deliver critical programs that promote and protect community health, including:
  - Communicable disease control including Tuberculosis (TB) prevention and control
  - Chronic disease and injury prevention
  - Maternal, child, and family health
  - Vital records services
  - WIC nutrition programs
  - Childhood and adult immunizations
  - Harm reduction services, including syringe exchange and overdose prevention
  - Access to care initiatives and additional community health programs
- 2. Monitor and Investigate Public Health Threats:** comprehensive monitoring and reporting system is maintained to detect and respond to emerging public health threats. The department participates in statewide syndromic surveillance and uses data platforms to detect unusual patterns (e.g., spikes in overdoses, respiratory illness) and respond quickly to emerging public health events. Investigations are conducted in compliance with Washington State regulations using education, outreach, permitting, and, when necessary, enforcement actions. Public health nurses, support staff, and the epidemiologist tailor their response depending on the illness severity, risk to the public, and regulatory requirements. For instance:
  - A routine chlamydia case may require several days of staff time for interviews, documentation, and contact tracing.
  - A single TB case can demand 6–9 months of intensive case management, including multiple weekly home visits, directly observed therapy (DOT), sputum sample collection and shipment, coordination with care teams, and regular consultation with state TB experts.
- 3. Prevention and Health Education:** Prevention and education are integrated into all public health initiatives
  - Community education and outreach
  - health promotion and early intervention activities
  - Narcan (Naloxone) trainings
  - Safe sex education and resources

4. **Program Planning and Evaluation:** All programs are guided by clear goals, measurable objectives, and performance tracking. The epidemiologist and support staff maintain real-time internal data dashboards, analyze trends, and regularly present findings to internal and external stakeholders to inform decision-making. The department leads the community health assessments (CHA) and community health improvement plans (CHIP), engaging residents and stakeholders to identify priorities and measure progress.
5. **Public Health Emergency Preparedness and Response:** The department maintains preparedness and response plans to address communicable disease outbreaks, natural disasters, environmental hazards, and emerging threats. Recent efforts include:
  - Coordinating pertussis response efforts in the face of rapidly increasing cases locally and statewide in partnership with local clinics through guidance, education, and extensive contact tracing.
  - Ongoing surveillance and contingency planning for measles outbreaks across the state and nation.
  - Proactive planning for Avian Influenza (H5N1), including coordination with state health officials, public updates, procurement of PPE and lab supplies, and training on specimen collection and transport.
  - Coordinating with local wildlife and domestic animal care facilities and officials to detect potential rabies exposures and ensure rapid testing and post-exposure treatment.
  - Monitoring and public reporting of respiratory disease rates through weekly respiratory reports published on the Clallam County Public Health website, informing both the public of risk and providing necessary information for local hospitals and healthcare facilities to determine masking and other infection prevention protocols.
6. **Outbreak Management and Infection Control:** The public health team manages all local outbreak investigations, collaborating with infection preventionists, the Washington State Department of Health, CDC, and neighboring LHJs. The department works closely with healthcare facilities to investigate and respond to Healthcare-Associated Infections (HAI) and support antimicrobial stewardship efforts.
  - Facility Training and Technical Assistance: Provides infection prevention training and consultation to long-term care, shelters, and congregate settings to build capacity and prevent future outbreaks. In the past year, the department:
    - Responded to multiple pertussis clusters throughout areas of the community, working with local schools to contact trace and notify families.
    - Led two major investigations involving highly antibiotic-resistant organisms (HAROs).
    - Provided consultative support for COVID-19, influenza, and RSV outbreaks in long-term care facilities.
    - Responded to multiple gastrointestinal illness outbreaks across facilities.
    - Managed a significant foodborne illness outbreak linked to a common source.
    - Responded to a legionella exposure at a local long term care facility, involving coordination with state officials on water testing and disease mitigation.

## Trends/Events

---

Opioid (illicit and prescription) use and overdoses continue to be a public health epidemic in Clallam County.

There has been an increase in vaccine preventable diseases. There was a large increase in pertussis cases within Clallam County, and increased measles outbreaks across the country.

We are improving overdose response through expanded harm reduction hours and access to free Narcan boxes around the county as well as partner trainings. Also, continuation of partnerships with OPCC/Rediscovery and Community Paramedics.

Consolidation of WIC within Forks office and increase in available staff hours to process WIC clients while maintaining distribution of benefits through both Forks and Port Angeles locations is ongoing.

We have increased the number of on site back to school immunization events as well as increased immunizations availability by now accepting walk in requests during business hours at our Port Angeles location.

Continued rapid response to emerging public health threats, including Avian Flu, Measles, Pertussis, and Rabies.

Maintaining vital records services to county residents, including issuing birth and death certificates, with a large increase in birth certificates issued in 2025 due to Washington State Real ID travel requirements.

Continued work regarding the Community Health Improvement Plan (CHIP), primarily around the three Issue Profiles; Vaccine Preventable Disease, Injury-Related Mortality, and Access to Care.

## Goals

---

1. Continue quality management leadership team and evaluate programs as per priorities.
2. Increase Harm Reduction Outreach to cover all areas of the county highlighting the West End communities.
3. Continue to work closely with Jefferson and Kitsap County Health Departments on services and projects that can be effective if implemented from a regional perspective (sharing resources).
4. Create communicable disease decision trees for training new staff and ensuring consistent thorough intervention for our more common diseases.
5. Work with Partners in Student Health (PiSH) to increase communication between community partners increasing vaccination rates and access to preventative services across the county.
6. Increase access to care beginning with Forks, walk in Immunizations and increased advertising of expanded services.
7. Increase Maternal Child Health Block Grant utilization.
8. Develop a partnership allowing for on site STI and other disease testing at HRHC by third party, directly serving participants while reducing barriers.
9. Partner with a healthcare provider to have wraparound services provided for HRHC participants.
10. Rabies outreach for providers supplying education and protocols for post exposure decision making.
11. Rabies outreach and education with local schools utilizing age tailored education materials.

## Workload Indicators

	2023 Actual	2024 Actual	6/30/25 Actual
WIC - number of individual clients enrolled	10,430	10,127	6,852
WIC - number of client visits	7,078	5,259	2,398
Number of visits to Children with Special Health Care Needs	263	194	61
Immunizations - total number given	636	379	151
Immunizations - non COVID	474		
Off-site vaccine clinics	-	6	2
COVID Vaccines	162		
COVID outbreaks	48		
Cases Investigated - General CD	71	54	30
Cases Investigated - STI	133	163	77
Cases Investigated - Hepatitis	75	132	56
Cases Investigated - Enterics	-	70	22
Cases Investigated - Vaccine Preventable Disease	-	25	17
Cases Investigated - Zoonotics	-	23	10
Outbreaks Reported	-	24	12
HRHC - Average weekly participant encounters	60	134	200
Naloxone doses distributed	3,116	5,931	4,585
Naloxone training to community partners	98	276	39
Overdose reversals reported by participants	104*	356	116
OPCC staff wound care encounters	-	120	59
Partner SUD assessments	-	232	317
Death certificates issued	5,174	5,153	2,741
Deaths Certified	-	962	504
Birth certificates issued	1,590	1,581	1,095

## Grant Funding Sources

1. Department of Health Consolidated Contract  
State and Indirect Federal Funding Sources

## Revenues

	2023 Actual	2024 Actual	6/30/25 Actual	2026 Budget
Beginning Fund Balance	1,022,515	1,203,485	1,479,476	1,625,010
Taxes	2,061	2,098	112	1,600
Licenses and Permits	0	0	0	0
Intergovernmental Revenues	923,828	947,271	480,457	684,524
Charges for Goods and Services	1,224,930	1,532,070	343,141	1,499,477
Fines and Forfeits	0	0	0	0
Miscellaneous Revenues	293,878	647,177	794,022	501
Other Financing Sources	11,000	0	0	0
Transfers In	125,000	125,000	0	737,121
Total	3,603,211	4,457,101	3,097,207	4,548,233

## Expenditures

---

	2023 Actual	2024 Actual	6/30/25 Actual	2026 Budget
Ending Fund Balance	1,203,485	1,479,476	1,662,932	509,338
Salaries and Wages	829,703	931,120	484,338	1,217,594
Personnel Benefits	353,526	404,374	219,000	524,917
Supplies	123,064	216,736	114,023	181,345
Other Services and Charges	398,139	281,648	121,401	199,468
Intergovernmental Services	0	42,000	21,000	48,000
Capital Outlays	350,142	498,251	161,929	0
Interfund Payments for Services	345,152	603,494	312,583	496,052
Transfers Out	0	0	0	1,371,519
Total	3,603,211	4,457,099	3,097,207	4,548,233

## Staffing

---

	2023 Actual	2024 Actual	6/30/25 Actual	2026 Budget
Full Time Equivalents	14.28	15.88	16.40	17.40