

NEWS RELEASE

For Immediate Release:
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**Governor Proclaims April 4-10 as *PUBLIC HEALTH WEEK*:
North Dakota Department of Health Celebrates Public Health Collaborations
That Work to Make a Healthier North Dakota by 2030**

BISMARCK, N.D. – Gov. Jack Dalrymple has proclaimed April 4-10, 2016, as Public Health Week in North Dakota to recognize how the North Dakota Department of Health (NDDoH) and local public health units, along with worksites, coalitions, universities and other organizations, are working to protect and promote the health of all North Dakotans. The national Public Health Week theme is “Healthiest Nation 2030.”

Local public health units across the state have formed regional networks to share services and staff expertise to strengthen local public health infrastructure, more efficiently use funding and staff, and provide more equitable access to quality public health services for all people in North Dakota.

In North Dakota, the NDDoH recognizes the importance of collaborations to provide more efficient and effective public health services and programs to assure a Healthier North Dakota by 2030.

“Public health in cities, counties and regions across the state provide invaluable services to the residents of North Dakota,” explained Dr. Terry Dwelle, State Health Officer at the North Dakota Department of Health. “Collaborations between service providers are essential to build better public health services in North Dakota.”

As an example of successful collaboration, public health coalitions, such as Healthy North Dakota and Hunger Free North Dakota Coalition, are bringing diverse groups together to reduce diabetes and cancer risks by helping people make healthier choices and gain access to information, education, health screenings where they live, work, and learn.

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For more information about Public Health Week, contact Kelly Nagel, Public Health Liaison, North Dakota Department of Health, at 701.952.8195.

A text of the Proclamation follows.

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— State of —
North Dakota
Office of the Governor

Jack Dalrymple
Governor

PROCLAMATION
PUBLIC HEALTH WEEK
APRIL 4-10, 2016

WHEREAS, North Dakota's local public health units and the North Dakota Department of Health, along with worksites, coalitions, universities, and other organizations, are working to protect and promote the health of all North Dakotans; and

WHEREAS, accomplishments of public health collaborations include healthier places to work and learn, reduced disease risks through immunizations, identifying health hazards in the environment, helping people find and control high blood pressure, and making it easier for people to eat more healthfully, move more and be free of tobacco; and

WHEREAS, North Dakota's collaborative efforts can provide more efficient and effective public health services and programs to build a Healthier North Dakota; and

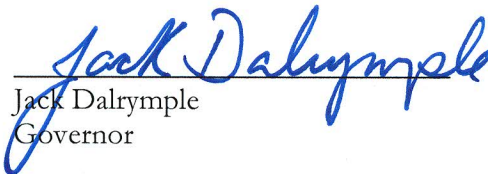
WHEREAS, public health organizations, including Public Health Regional networks, are working to expand capacity, access to and utilization of coordinated, proactive and quality public health services; and

WHEREAS, Public Health Week 2016, with the goal of "Healthiest Nation 2030," is observed to spread the word about public health programs and services which benefit everyone, regardless of race, ethnicity, sexual orientation or socioeconomic status, and are essential to a strong health system; and

WHEREAS, citizens of North Dakota are encouraged to:

- Build their lives with healthy practices.
- Schedule recommended health screenings, immunizations, and prevention services for themselves and their loved ones.
- Celebrate and learn about the positive impacts of public health collaborations.

NOW, THEREFORE, as Governor of the State of North Dakota, I do hereby proclaim April 4-10, 2016, **PUBLIC HEALTH WEEK** in the state of North Dakota.



Jack Dalrymple
Governor

ATTEST:



Alvin A. Jaeger
Secretary of State