



Health Promotion and Chronic Disease Division

**Director**  
Khatidja Dawood  
**Assistant Director**  
Chuck Stroebel

**Community Health Worker (CHW) Initiative**  
Kristen Godfrey Walters, CHW Training Program Director  
Nasadir Mohamed, CHW Training Program Data Coordinator

**Administrative Support**  
Roberta Suski  
**Communications**  
Karli Thorstenson  
**Grants and Policy Specialist**  
Mary Hopkins  
**Outgoing Grants Specialist**  
Jamie Joyce  
**Operations**  
Jim Bluhm, Assistant Manager

**Center for Health Promotion**  
Ann Zukoski, Section Manager

**Injury and Violence Prevention**  
Catherine Diamond, Section Manager  
Beatriz Menanteau, Associate Section Manager

**Cancer Control and Prevention/Sage**  
Melanie Peterson-Hickey, Section Manager

**Chronic Disease & Environmental Epidemiology**  
Jay Desai, Section Manager

**Oral Health**  
Prasida Khanal, Supervisor

**Cardiovascular Health**  
Jim Peacock, Unit Supervisor  
Nicky Anderson, Health Systems Supervisor

**Diabetes, Arthritis and Health Behavior**  
Teresa Ambroz, Supervisor

**Healthy Aging, Alzheimer's**  
Patty Takawira, Lead Worker

**Asthma**  
Anne Kukowski, Supervisor

**Violence Prevention Programs Unit**  
(Sexual Violence, Labor and Sex Trafficking, Safe Harbor)  
Caroline Palmer, Interim Supervisor

**Suicide Prevention**  
Tanya Carter, Supervisor

**Injury and Violence Epidemiology**  
Kari Gloppen, Interim Supervisor

**Overdose Prevention**  
Dana Farley, Supervisor

**Substance Misuse Epidemiology**  
Deepa McGriff, Supervisor

**Social Epidemiology & Translation**  
Kari Gloppen, Supervisor

**Finance and Support**  
Vacant, Supervisor

**Recruitment and Program Evaluation**  
Christina Nelson, Supervisor

**Comprehensive Cancer Control**  
Donna McDuffie, Supervisor

**Navigation Call Center**  
Manjusha Pillai, Supervisor

**SagePlus**  
Manjusha Pillai, Supervisor

**Minnesota Cancer Reporting System (MCRS) Field Service**  
Mona Highsmith, Supervisor

**Data Analysis**  
Judy Punyko, Supervisor

**Data Management**  
Ashley Knealing, Supervisor

**Sickle Cell Data Collection**  
Jay Desai, Manager

**Long Covid Program**  
Kate Murray, Supervisor

# Health Promotion and Chronic Disease Division Organizational Chart

This is the organizational chart for the Health Promotion and Chronic Disease Division leadership of the Minnesota Department of Health.

## Director's Office

Khatidja Dawood is the Division Director, and Chuck Stroebel is the Assistant Division Director, with four Section Managers reporting directly to them. Communications Coordinator Karli Thorstenson, Operations Manager Jim Bluhm, Grants Specialist Jamie Joyce, Grants and Policy Specialist Mary Hopkins, and Administrative Support Staff Roberta Suski report directly to the Assistant Division Director. The Community Health Worker (CHW) Training Program staff report directly to the Division Director. The CHW Training Program Director is Kristen Godfrey Walters and the CHW Training Program Data Coordinator is Nasadir Mohamed.

## Center for Health Promotion

Ann Zukoski is the Director for the Center for Health Promotion. Six unit supervisors report directly to her:

1. Prasida Khanal, Supervisor of the Oral Health Unit
2. Jim Peacock, Supervisor of the Cardiovascular Health Unit
3. Nicky Anderson, Supervisor of the Health Systems Unit
4. Teresa Ambroz, Supervisor of the Diabetes, Arthritis and Health Behavior Unit
5. Patty Takawira, Lead Worker of the Healthy Aging, Alzheimer's Unit
6. Anne Kukowski, Supervisor of the Asthma Unit

## Injury and Violence Prevention Section

Catherine Diamond, Section Manager, supervises the Injury and Violence Prevention Section. A total of seven unit supervisors reside in this area, with four directly reporting to her:

1. Dana Farley, Supervisor of the Substance Misuse Prevention Unit
2. Deepa McGriff, Supervisor of the Substance Misuse Epidemiology Unit
3. Kari Gloppen, Supervisor of the Social Epidemiology and Translation Unit
4. Vacant, Supervisor of the Operations and Support Unit

Beatriz Menanteau is the Associate Section Manager, with the remaining three directly reporting to her:

5. Tanya Carter, Supervisor of the Suicide Prevention Unit

6. Vacant, Supervisor of the Violence Prevention Programs Unit, including the Human Trafficking Prevention Program addressing both sex and labor trafficking, and the Sexual Violence Prevention Program
  7. Kari Gloppen, Interim Supervisor of the Injury and Violence Epidemiology Unit
- Erik Zabel is the Lead Worker for Occupational Health and Safety.

## **Cancer Control and Prevention/Sage Programs Section**

Melanie Peterson-Hickey, Section Manager, supervises the Cancer Control and Prevention/Sage Programs Section. Four supervisors report directly to her:

1. Vacant, Supervisor of the Finance and Support Unit
2. Christina Nelson, Supervisor of the Recruitment and Program Evaluation Unit
3. Donna McDuffie, Supervisor of the Comprehensive Cancer Control Unit
4. Manjusha Pillai, Supervisor of the Navigation Call Center Unit, and SagePlus Program

## **Chronic Disease and Environmental Epidemiology Section**

Jay Desai, Section Manager, supervises the Chronic Disease and Environmental Epidemiology Section. Three supervisors report directly to him:

The Minnesota Cancer Reporting System staff are in three units:

1. Mona Highsmith, Supervisor of the Field Service Unit
2. Judy Pynyko, Supervisor of the Data Analysis Unit
3. Ashley Knealing, Supervisor of the Data Management Unit
4. Kate Murray, Supervisor of the Long-COVID Unit

This section also supports data and programmatic work-related sickle cell data collection.

Minnesota Department of Health  
Health Promotion and Chronic Disease Division  
PO Box 64975  
St. Paul, MN 55164-0975  
651-201-3600

[www.health.state.mn.us](http://www.health.state.mn.us)

April 17, 2024

*To obtain this information in a different format, call: 651-201-3600.*