



Local Public Health Grant



What happened?

Through passage of the Health and Human Services bill, Governor Dayton and the Legislature provided \$1 million per year to strengthen community health boards (CHBs) and tribal health departments in greater Minnesota. The funding provides a 10 percent increase in the Local Public Health Grant to CHBs that are located outside the eleven-county metro area. The proposal also increases funding by 10 percent to Minnesota's tribal governments.

Why is this good for Minnesotans?

Minnesotans expect their public health systems to be capable and prepared. However, data collected by MDH show that many of Minnesota's local health departments are unable to address important public health priorities in their communities. CHBs and tribal governments will use this additional financial support to address their key public health challenges.

Background

The Legislature has vested significant public health responsibilities with CHBs and tribal governments to protect, maintain and improve health within their jurisdictions. This requires a coordinated effort among federal, state, local and tribal governments as well as other partners.

The ability of CHBs to address locally identified problems is particularly difficult for communities in greater Minnesota because they have historically received less state funding. CHBs in greater Minnesota carry out a community health assessment and work with their communities to identify priority public health needs. Often, few of the identified priorities can be addressed due to a lack of resources. Performance measures collected by MDH show considerable differences between the highest and lowest performing CHBs. More than half of the community health boards in greater Minnesota cannot fully meet 35 selected performance measures

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