

# PUBLIC HEALTH

## Every One - Every Day - Every Where



**Bruce D. Dart, PhD**  
Health Director

### A Collective Response to Community Health Challenges

A challenge facing local health departments today is mobilizing communities for collective action to empower individuals to adopt healthy behaviors, to direct policy makers' attention to important health issues, and to frame those issues for public debate and resolution. To address this challenge, the Lincoln-Lancaster County Health Department has developed community partnerships to positively affect individual and population health status. Whether on a large scale, by establishing partnerships with local healthcare systems, or on a more personal level, educating individuals one-on-one about their health concerns, professionals at the LLCHD are meeting the needs of our community in the 21st century.



**Coleen J. Seng, Mayor**

### Mission Statement

*The Lincoln-Lancaster County Health Department provides leadership in promoting environmental and personal health through health promotion, disease detection, disease prevention, education and regulation. In cooperation with community resources, the Department, as the official agency, is responsible for assisting the community and the citizens to assume responsibility for their health and the health of the community.*

Collaboration is a key element to public health. The public health system that serves communities is composed of a wide variety of agencies and organizations. To maintain effectiveness, new collaborations will be needed to rise to new public health challenges.

Each person in a community should have an opportunity to contribute to public discussions. In the process of developing and evaluating policy, it is important to ensure all who would like to contribute to the discussion will have an opportunity to do so. Our citizens are intrinsically social and interdependent.

Positive relationships among individuals and positive collaborations among institutions are signs of a healthy community. The rightful concern for the physical individuality of our citizens and one's right to make decisions for one's self must be balanced against the fact that each person's actions affects other people. Utilizing effective communication strategies between health providers, community stakeholders, and community-based organizations strengthens the resolve of community health leaders to protect and maintain the health of all citizens of Lincoln and Lancaster County.

*Health Department breaks ground for building addition at their ceremony on April 6, 2005.*



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## 2004 - 2005

### BOARD of HEALTH Members



**Larry Hudkins**  
Board President  
County Commissioner

*In 1873, a City Council ordinance created the Board of Health. In 1886, the City Council approved an appropriation for the Health Department. The Department was created as an official City/County entity in 1947. The Mayor appoints the Health Director, with confirmation by the City Council, County Board and Board of Health. The Board of Health consists of one physician, one dentist, one City Council member, one County Board member and five public-spirited members appointed by the City Council and County Board.*



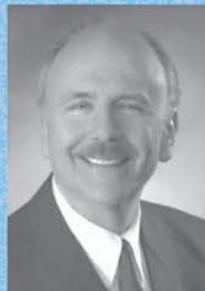
**Catherine Alley, DDS**



**Rodrigo Contarero, PhD**



**Debra Humphrey, Pharm D**



**Tony Messineo**



**Lisa Peterson, MD**  
Vice President



**Hena Roy, MD**



**Ed Schneider, OD**



**Ken Svoboda**  
City Councilman

### About the BOARD of HEALTH

The Board of Health assists the Department with the development and the implementation of public health policy. Each board member contributes a unique perspective and expertise that helps fulfill the Department's mission of protecting and promoting the health of the public. Board members represent diverse populations throughout Lincoln and Lancaster County and often advocate for improved personal and environmental public health services.