

The mission of the Department of Health (LDH), Office of Public Health (OPH) is to protect and promote the health and wellness of all individuals and communities in Louisiana. We accomplish this through education, promotion of healthy lifestyles, preventing disease and injury, enforcing regulations that protect the environment, sharing vital information and assuring preventive services to uninsured and underserved individuals and families. The following are some of the programs and resources available under OPH in relation to population health. For more information, please go to <http://www.ldh.la.gov/index.cfm/page/1193>.

Well-Ahead Louisiana administers the Louisiana Tobacco Quitline. The Louisiana Tobacco Quitline (1-800-Quit-Now) is a free of cost tobacco cessation resource to all Louisiana residents. It is available 24 hours per day, 7 days per week, and incorporates evidence-based strategies for tobacco cessation. The Louisiana Quitline provides telephone and web-based tobacco cessation coaching to all Louisianans, including nicotine replacement therapy (NRT), web and text messaging support, printed materials, and referral to community resources. More information can be found at www.quitwithusla.org.

Well-Ahead Louisiana maintains the **Community Resource Guide (CRG)**, a database of available free or low-cost services that can be found throughout Louisiana communities. The CRG allows visitors to filter their search based on different topics, which include breastfeeding, diabetes prevention and self-management, health screenings, healthy eating and food resources, physical fitness, stress management/mental health and tobacco cessation. The CRG is located here: <http://wellaheadla.com/Well-Ahead-Community/Community-Resource-Guide> and is updated regularly to ensure the searches reflect the most current offerings in the communities. Visitors are also encouraged to add to the CRG!

Well-Ahead Louisiana WellSpot Designation program works with organizations to implement small, simple changes surrounding health behaviors, or “benchmarks,” to help make the “healthy choice the easy choice” for employees and community members. Organizations can choose from a menu of benchmark options. Examples include tobacco-free policies, nutrition-based policies, starting worksite wellness program, promoting self-assessment tools for prediabetes and heart health in addition to many more. Upon meeting benchmarks, organizations are recognized as designated “WellSpots” by the Louisiana Department of Health. Find a WellSpot near you by visiting <http://wellaheadla.com/WellSpots/Find-WellSpots>.

Well-Ahead Louisiana Disease Prevention and Management works to enhance access to chronic disease prevention and management programs as well as the quality of healthcare for all residents with hypertension, high cholesterol and type 2 diabetes. Our team recognizes that it is vital to standardize chronic disease management throughout all systems. Well-Ahead can assist healthcare providers in increasing awareness among patients, implementing quality improvement processes, and integrating team-based care and patient-centered medical home strategies. In addition, Well-Ahead can assist healthcare providers and community organizations in developing diabetes and chronic disease self-management and prevention programs. Visit www.wellaheadla.com to learn more.

The Special Supplemental Nutrition Program for Women, Infants, and Children (WIC) provides supplemental foods, breastfeeding education and support, health care referrals, and nutrition education for low-income pregnant, breastfeeding, and non-breastfeeding postpartum women, and to infants and children up to age five who are found to be at nutritional risk. Pregnant, breastfeeding, or postpartum women, infants, and children up to age five in Louisiana who are on Medicaid are automatically income-eligible for WIC. More information can be found on the Louisiana WIC website: www.louisianawic.org.

The Commodity Supplemental Food Program (CSFP) works to improve the health of low-income elderly persons at least 60 years of age by supplementing their diets with nutritious USDA Foods, health care referrals, and nutrition education. More information can be found on the Louisiana CSFP website: <http://new.dhh.louisiana.gov/index.cfm/page/998>.

The Bureau of Policy, Planning and Performance is responsible for conducting a statewide health assessment and development of a state health improvement plan every five years. The state health assessment report results from a collaborative, systematic process to collect, analyze, interpret and use data to inform and mobilize communities, develop priorities, gather resources, and plan actions to improve the public's health. The assessment is a comprehensive and actionable picture of health and wellbeing in Louisiana. The state health improvement plan sets out goals for Louisiana's public health system, which includes a range of stakeholders, such as state and local government agencies, managed care organizations, health care providers, employers, community groups, universities and schools, nonprofit organizations and advocacy groups. The department uses a collaborative planning process to foster shared ownership and responsibility for the plan's implementation, with the goal of efficient and targeted collective action to improve the health of Louisianans. Visit <http://ldh.la.gov/index.cfm/page/2180> for more information.

The Bureau of Community Preparedness (BCP) provides public health expertise to assist its community partners and community based organizations in the development and operationalization of all hazard emergency plans. BCP also helps prepare its partners during emergency response, preparedness training and local and regional exercises in accordance with the National Response Framework (NRF). The Bureau provides community preparedness materials, presentations, and trainings for Louisiana residents (inclusive of Medicaid patients) in preparing themselves and their families for disasters. In addition, BCP provides health care providers and agencies servicing residents inclusive of those with access and functional needs health alert network (HAN) messages and online trainings to ensure the safety of communities.

The Bureau of Regional and Clinical Operations (BRCO) program Community HealthWays seeks to improve the quality of life for Louisiana residents by helping to address health-related social needs and the community health factors that drive them. In addition, the program currently is assisting with state's response to the COVID-19 pandemic by ensuring Louisiana residents have resources needed to quarantine or isolate, know how to access testing sites and schedule vaccination appointments, and provide COVID-19 health education. Community Health Workers (CHWs) are located in all 9 public health regions in the state.

The Bureau of Family Health's (BFH) mission is to provide leadership, expertise, and partnership to advance the health and well-being of women, children, adolescents, and families in Louisiana. BFH administers the State's **Title V Maternal and Child Health Block Grant Program**. BFH works to promote optimal health through:

- **Reliable data and advanced analytics** to monitor health and well-being, guide programs, and inform public policy.
- **Preventive services** that are grounded in best practices and evidence to promote optimal health and well-being.
- **Policy and educational initiatives** to improve access to and quality of medical, behavioral health, and supportive services.
- **Partnerships** with providers, payers, communities, government, and academia to advance common goals.

BFH offers a variety of resources and services for Louisiana families that promote and improve population health, as well as data and practice transformation support for healthcare and public health professionals in their work. Below is a sample of the Bureau's programs and services. Visit PartnersForFamilyHealth.org/About and [the Bureau of Family Health on ldh.la.gov](https://theBureauofFamilyHealth.onldh.la.gov) for more detailed information.

BFH Programs and Services

Newborn Screening	<p>The Genetic Diseases Program operates the newborn screening and follow-up program in order to ensure that all children born in Louisiana are tested for the 28 genetic or metabolic disorders recommended by the American College of Medical Genetics. Services include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Cytogenic and biomedical genetics lab testing to ensure accuracy of diagnosis • Genetic evaluation and counseling at genetics clinics throughout Louisiana • Specialized Sickle Cell Clinics throughout Louisiana • Distribution of special formula to patients with genetic metabolic disorders who are in need and who require diet modification • Care coordination and partnership with the Sickle Cell Foundations across the state
Developmental Screening Initiative	<p>The Developmental Screening Initiative seeks to improve early detection of developmental delays and disabilities in children by promoting universal developmental screening in pediatric primary care for children ages 0-5. As defined and recommended by the American Academy of Pediatrics (AAP), developmental screening entails using a validated, standardized tool during well-child visits at regular intervals to determine if a child is meeting developmental milestones at various ages and stages. Doing this helps physicians identify developmental delays and disabilities early and provides an important avenue for referring children to early intervention services. The initiative:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The initiative created a Developmental Screening Toolkit to help medical practices implement developmental screening services into their day-to-day practice. • The Developmental Screening Initiative provides information and implementation training and support for medical practices. Visit the Developmental Screening Toolkit for more information on available tools and resources.
Children's Special Healthcare Services (CSHS)	<p>Children's Special Health Services (CSHS) is a part of the Louisiana's Department of Health's Bureau of Family Health. CSHS works to ensure that children and youth with special health care needs in Louisiana have access to the health services they need. These services are designed to minimize their disabilities and maximize their ability to live as independently as possible. CSHS include the following programs:</p> <p>Children's Special Health Services – Clinical Services (CSHS-CS)</p> <p>The direct services clinics provide subspecialty medical care & family support services. Clinics administer care to Louisiana residents under the age of 21 who are diagnosed or suspected to have certain chronic physical illnesses or serious disabilities which are likely to cause impairments that could significantly limit major life activities.</p> <p>The Louisiana Healthy Homes Childhood Lead Poisoning Prevention Program (LHHCLPPP)</p> <p>By law, medical providers must screen all children under the age of 6 for lead in their blood. The Childhood Lead Poisoning Prevention Program seeks to eliminate childhood lead poisoning through:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Promotion of clinical guidelines for blood lead testing and collecting lead case reporting forms when children test positive for elevated blood lead levels. • Case management for children ages 6 months to 6 years who have elevated blood lead levels. • Lead abatement services to qualifying property or homeowners, landlords, and tenants in certain regions of the state. <p>Universal Newborn Hearing Screening and Early Identification Program</p> <p>The Universal Newborn Hearing Screening and Early Identification Program, previously known as the Louisiana Early Hearing Detection and Intervention Program (LA EHDI) is the state's newborn hearing screening program that supports the early identification of infants who are deaf or hard of hearing through screening, audiological evaluation, enrollment in early intervention and family-to-family</p>

BFH Programs and Services

	<p>support services. An advisory council including Deaf representatives, parents, physicians, and administrators helps guide their efforts.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Follows and promotes the national 1-3-6 guidelines for hearing screening detection and intervention – hearing screening before 1 month of age, follow-up testing before 3 months of age, and enrollment in early intervention services as soon as possible or no later than 6 months of age. Assists in connecting families with family-to-family support and early intervention specialists.
Pediatric Medical Home and Care Coordination Initiative and Resources	<p>BFH works to support payers and providers in implementing pediatric medical home and care coordination, recognizing that a medical home is not a building or a place, but rather an approach to providing comprehensive and high-quality primary care.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Medical home coordinates partnerships among clinical specialists, families, and community programs and BFH work to build robust care coordination services through region-specific resources and care coordination technical assistance. BFH offers in person and virtual training, consultation on workflow process improvement, region specific care coordination referral guides, and implementation tool kits for care coordination programs and youth transition services.
Louisiana Maternal, Infant and Early Childhood Home Visiting (LA MIECHV) Program	<p>LA MIECHV is a no-cost, voluntary program that provides family support and coaching services to improve the health and well-being of pregnant women and parenting families with young children.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Families are paired with registered nurses or parent educators who provide personalized education, guidance, and referrals to services to empower families to reach their goals. Nurses and parent educators work with families in their homes, via telehealth, or in the families preferred location. Two evidence-based models are employed: <i>Nurse-Family Partnership</i> (NFP) and <i>Parents as Teachers</i> (PAT).
Family Resource Center	<p>The Family Resource Center is a virtual resource hub that supports pediatric providers and families of children with special health care needs with community referrals, resource linkage, and system navigation. The FRC staff are available to support families or pediatric/family medicine providers with resource linkages including:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Provide families with school-related resources and accommodations. Connect families to support services such as early intervention, childcare assistance, insurance, and disability support. Link families to parent-driven support organizations. Provide resources to help youth transition to adulthood. These resources include those related to employment, independent living, education, insurance and legal affairs. Assist providers in linking families to resources.
Reproductive Health Program (RHP)	<p>The Reproductive Health Program ensures access to comprehensive reproductive health services through:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Management of a network of outpatient clinics across the state that provide same-day access to a broad range of contraceptive methods, as well as preventive health screenings, counseling, and referrals through in-person and telemedicine visits. Structured technical assistance to facilitate the integration of high quality comprehensive reproductive health care into primary care settings. Clinical, educational, and administrative capacity building activities with organizations statewide.

BFH Programs and Services

Louisiana Perinatal Quality Collaborative (LaPQC)	<p>The Louisiana Perinatal Quality Collaborative is a voluntary network of perinatal care providers, public health professionals and patient and community advocates who work to promote safe, equitable, and dignified birth for birthing persons, families, and newborns in Louisiana.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Provides support to hospitals for continuous quality improvement on perinatal and neonatal outcomes through collaborative learning, sharing of best practices and data analysis. Provides subject matter expertise and ensures Louisiana’s work is connected to national initiatives.
The Gift Program	<p>The Gift is an evidence-based program that assists Louisiana birthing facilities with increasing breastfeeding rates and hospital success by improving the quality of their maternity services and enhancing patient-centered care.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <i>The Gift</i> is a two-tiered hospital designation program that provides resources and a framework to help improve breastfeeding outcomes through incremental adoption of internationally recognized practices. Educational training and materials are available for hospitals, providers and payers.
Louisiana Commission for the Deaf	<p>The Louisiana Commission for the Deaf works to ensure communication access for persons who are deaf, deaf-blind, or hard of hearing to gain equal access to any public or private service. The Commission provides:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Limited interpreting, telecommunications and accessibility equipment, and hearing aids for individuals who qualify. Information and referrals, advocacy, consumer training, and education for employers, providers and systems regarding communication access requirements and how to achieve them well.
Partners for Healthy Babies	<p>The Partners for Healthy Babies helpline and website connect Louisiana moms and families to health and pregnancy resources, services, and information.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 1-800-251-BABY (2229) is a toll-free, confidential, 24/7 helpline that men and women can call to speak to someone about resources in their area for baby, mom, and the whole family. PartnersForHealthyBabies.org is the website with links and resources, including an option to Live Chat with the helpline staff.
Give Your Baby Space (Safe Infant Sleep)	<p>The Give Your Baby Space campaign teaches caregivers the safest ways for babies to sleep via a website and educational materials.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> The GiveYourBabySpace.org website provides information and resources to providers and partners to help caregivers reduce their babies’ risk of Sudden Unexpected Infant Death (SUID), including videos from other caregivers and a Safe Sleep Game. Free educational flyers and postcards for caregivers may be ordered from the website.
Perinatal, Infant and Early Childhood Mental Health	<p>Perinatal, Infant and Early Childhood Mental Health consultants work hand-in-hand with health and allied health professionals to build the capacity of frontline health providers to promote healthy social-emotional development; support protective relationships; identify and intervene with mental and behavioral health concerns; and link families with necessary mental health resources.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Licensed mental health providers consult with home visitors to increase effective support for families who experience mental health and parenting challenges. These consultants engage in educational activities and individualized case discussion with home visitors, observation and assessment with families, coordination with community providers, and provide a limited amount of evidence-based treatment for young children and their caregivers. (Available statewide)

BFH Programs and Services

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Licensed mental health providers consult with early intervention professionals to increase the sensitivity of the eligibility system and service provision to better support children with social, emotional, behavioral health and developmental needs. (Available in Region 4) Licensed mental health providers consult with pediatric primary care professionals to increase early identification of young children with mental health concerns; increase their use of evidence-based, first line approaches with young children and their families; and improve referrals for mental health treatment. (Available in Region 4) Licensed mental health providers and psychiatrists work together to provide support to perinatal healthcare providers to effectively screen, identify, medically manage, and refer for treatment pregnant and postpartum women suffering from depression and substance use disorders. Available statewide.
Louisiana Adverse Childhood Experience (ACE) Educator Program	<p>The ACE Educator Program is a train-the-trainer program that seeks to increase statewide awareness of childhood adversity.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ACE Educators are Louisiana professionals from a range of sectors including juvenile justice, education, social work, child welfare, and health. Educators are available for presentations in every region of the state. This work is part of a larger effort to (1) develop policies and practices that are informed by an understanding of the lifelong impact of childhood adversity and trauma and (2) create safe, stable, and nurturing relationships and environments for families and children, in which every person can thrive.
Adolescent School Health Program (ASHP)	<p>The Adolescent School Health Program provides technical assistance and resources for school-based health centers (SBHCs) throughout Louisiana. SBHCs are clinics placed within a school or on school grounds that offer comprehensive, primary and preventive physical and mental health services for students onsite. The program:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Develops and establishes operating standards for SBHCs participating in the ASHP network. Promotes the delivery of high quality and integrated services in SBHCs through the use of evidence-based best practices. Monitors SBHC operations to ensure compliance with standards and guidelines.
Data to Action Team	<p>The OPH BFH Data to Action Team is dedicated to providing quality data analysis and interpretation for health professionals, policy makers, researchers, and the public. The team:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Collects, links, analyzes, and interprets data to support the monitoring of the health and well-being Translates data to guide action and program plans Informs public health and public policy initiatives Evaluates the effectiveness, accessibility and quality of health services Supports public health research

For More Information

Visit PartnersForFamilyHealth.org/About and [the Bureau of Family Health on Idh.la.gov](https://theBureauofFamilyHealth.onIdh.la.gov).

OPH STD/HIV/Hepatitis Program's (SHP) population health services available to Medicaid participants:

Linkage to HIV and Hepatitis C Care Activities (Louisiana Links Program)

SHP maintains a statewide for HIV, and Region 1 only for Hepatitis C, linkage to care program that uses surveillance and other data to identify and link individuals who are diagnosed but not currently participating in medical care or treatment services. Linkage to Hepatitis C treatment services are planned to expand statewide by the end of calendar year 2019.

Retention in Care and Viral Suppression Activities (Health Models Program)

SHP maintains a pay-patient-for-performance program in two (Region 1 and 2) and soon to be three regions (Region 4 by July 2019) of the state that **gives patients cash** incentives to attend HIV medical appointments, achieve and maintain viral suppression, and links patients to supportive services. HIV surveillance data are analyzed to monitor rates of engagement in care and viral suppression.

Community and Structural Activities (STD/HIV Health Promotion and Condom Distribution Program)

SHP maintains a statewide STD/HIV educational materials and condom distribution program that provides these materials free of charge to the public through community based organizations and OPH Parish Health Units in every region of the state. SHP also maintains a community focused educational website where information about STDs, HIV and Hepatitis is stored as well as information on the various programs and services supported by SHP: www.louisianahealthhub.org

PrEP Navigation and TelePrEP Program

SHP operates a TelePrEP program that delivers HIV pre-exposure prophylaxis (PrEP) and comprehensive sexually transmitted infection (STI) prevention services to all individuals with Medicaid or private insurance coverage statewide. SHP also supports community based organizations located in Regions 1, 2, 4, 6, 7 and 8 to provide PrEP navigation services to Gay and bisexual men and transgender individuals, in addition to usual testing and linkage services, through the Wellness Centers Program to ensure that these individuals who are at highest risk for HIV infection are able to access PrEP. PrEP Navigation is expected to become available in Region 5 by July 2019.

Partner Services

SHP supports HIV and Syphilis Partner Services statewide through Disease Intervention Specialists (DIS) located in all nine OPH public health regions of the state. Partner Services is a voluntary, confidential, and client-centered service offered to individuals diagnosed with HIV and Syphilis to identify sex and needle sharing partners, and others at risk who may have been exposed to those infections, and links them to testing and treatment services as needed.

Ryan White Part B Services

SHP supports community based organizations domiciled in Regions 3 – 9 to provide supportive services to persons living with HIV (PLWH) with an income of up to 400% of the federal poverty limit (FPL). These services vary slightly by region, but can include Case Management, Health Education, Referrals to other community-based supports, Housing Assistance, Food Pantry, HIV-specific Mental Health and/or Substance Use Treatment services that are not available through another resource and Psychosocial Support Services (individual or group).

State Formula HOPWA (Housing Opportunities for Persons With AIDS)

SHP supports community based organizations domiciled in Regions 3 – 9 to provide an array of housing services that prevent homelessness among persons living with HIV who have an income at or below 80% of the Area Median Income (AMI). The AMI fluctuates by parish, so a client's official residential address impacts access to services such as Short

Term Rent Mortgage and Utility (STRMU) assistance, Tenant Based Rental Assistance (TBRA), HOPWA-supported facility based housing, and rent/utility deposits required to secure appropriate housing by accessing support through Permanent Housing Placement Services (PHPS).

Detailed information about these services can be viewed at <https://www.louisianahealthhub.org/find-care/>