

health first GRANT COUNTY 2025 Plan



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Overview

Established in August 2021 by executive order, the Governors Public Health Commission was formed of 15 members appointed by Governor Holcomb representing public health, local government, Indiana Minority Health Coalition, and healthcare associations. Grant County Commissioner Mark Bardsley served as a local government representative on the commission which met monthly through June 2022 and received public input with a listening tour.

The commission was charged with analyzing strengths and weaknesses of the current system, identifying improvements, providing legislative proposals and issuing a final report.

The final report was released in July of 2022 with six areas of growth and improvement needed to strengthen Indiana's public health system:

- Governance, Infrastructure and Services
- Dedicated Public Health Funding
- Public Health Workforce
- Data & Information Systems
- Emergency Preparedness
- Child & Adolescent Health

As a direct result of the report, several bills were presented during the 2023 legislative session to improve the overall public health system in Indiana. With overwhelming bipartisan support Senate Enrolled Act 4 was passed. SEA 4 created an initiative known as Health First Indiana resulting in:

- A consistent set of Core Public Health Services
- Accessible, recurring and dedicated funding for local health departments
- Clearly defined measurements for immediate and future growth was passed.

Grant County Commissioners opted in to the 2024-2025 HFI funding on June 20, 2023, which provided Grant County Health Department \$804,561 in public health funding for 2024 with a guarantee of \$1,554,946 in 2025.

GCHD has historically been funded through a combination of local property taxes, grants and service fees. We are excited about the prospect of developing programming and services with the additional, consistent HFI funding, which will allow us to better serve our citizens.

There are 15 Core Public Health Services that were identified as areas local health departments should be providing.

Overview

This plan addresses the 15 Core Public Health Services and the State Key Performance Indicators (KPI) that are associated with each service. The KPIs are baseline measurements that IDOH has provided as a guide to work toward a more consistent level of services provided by local health departments across the state. These State KPI's will serve as goals for GCHD to measure our progress toward achieving better overall health outcomes in our community.

We have identified three priority areas for 2025 and established countylevel KPI's to ensure successful outcomes:

- Tobacco and Vaping Prevention and Cessation Reduce the smoking rate in Grant County from 27.7%.
 - **County KPI:** Partner with/provide funding to Marion Health to supplement costs for a Grant County Tobacco/Vaping Prevention & Cessation Coordinator
- Trauma and Injury Prevention Reduce the crude rate of fatal overdoses in Grant County.

County KPI:

- 1. Provide Naloxone w/education to all citizens
- 2. Partner with Core+ in funding Peer Support Specialists
- **Maternal and Child Health** Decrease the infant mortality rate in Grant County by reducing the number of pregnant women using tobacco products.
 - **County KPI:** Hire a Health Educator to work with local tobacco free coalitions, partner with Breathe Easy Grant County, Advertise Quit Now Indiana, educate and promote safe sleep practices.

Core Public Health Services



- Core public health services must be provided by Grant County Health Department or a local organization in partnership with the GCHD in compliance with Health First Indiana.
- GCHD will report on key performance indicators to the Indiana Department of Health.

Grant County Health Department Report Card

Already Providing:

- Vital Records
- Immunizations
- Tuberculosis Control & Case Management
- Health Related Areas During Emergencies & Disasters
- Food Protection
- Residential Septic Protection
- Vector Control & Protection
- Public & Semi-public Pool Inspections
- Tattoo, Body Piercing, Eyelash Safety & Sanitation
- Fatality Review
- School Health Liaison
- Lead Case Management & Risk Assessment



Somewhat Providing:

- Access & Linkage to Clinical Care
- Tobacco Prevention & Cessation
- Trauma & Injury Prevention
- Infectious Disease Surveillance & Prevention



Not Yet Providing:

- Screening & Referrals
- Private Well Water Protection
- Maternal & Child Health

Grant County Health Department Scorecard 10/4/2024

Public Health Factors	Indiana Rate	Grant Count Rate	y Grant County Rank*
Adult Obesity	44%	43.9%	#13
Children < 3 Years Old Completing Recommended Vaccine Series	62.9%	61.7%	#65
Infant Mortality Rate	6.7	9.70	#72
Life Expectancy	75.6	71.9	#90
Opioid Overdose Rate	25.07	39.4	#84
Smoking Rate	17.9%	25.7%	#83
Smoking Rate During Pregnancy	6.6%	17.0%	#72
Suicide Rate	15.77	16.3	#39
Years of Potential Life Lost Due to Injury (Age-Adjusted)	2527.14	3900.0	#86

^{*}With #1 being the best as compared to other Indiana counties

Core Public Health Services w/ KPI's Outlined

The Health First Grant County Plan will follow the recommendations made by the Health First Indiana Initiative. They are organized by Public Health Service Category and subdivided by specific Core Public Health Service with KPI's listed to achieve the Core Service.

Vital Records

- Provide timely certificates through a trained on-staff registrar in accordance with state statute.
- Follow state policies and procedures to make any changes to vital documents in accordance with state statute.
- Use the IDOH DRIVE vital records system to process records.

<u>Communicable Disease Control</u>

Immunizations

- Provide access to all individuals for vaccinations both privately and publicly funded.
- Provide vaccination clinics with extended hours and weekends to meet the needs of the community.
- Ensure vaccination plans are evaluated to meet set goals.

Infectious Disease Surveillance and Prevention

- Review laboratory and infectious disease reports, identify and investigate outbreaks.
- Follow all policies and procedures from IDOH published list of reportable disease and control measures.
- Provide leadership in response to outbreaks & clusters and implement control measures to contain, mitigate, or end ongoing transmission of communicable diseases.
- Expand partnerships to evaluate the socioeconomic, environmental, and behavioral factors that place individuals in their identified communities at risk.

Tuberculosis Control and Case Management

- Provide case management of suspected or confirmed TB disease cases, including investigation and specimen collection, enforcing isolation, providing directly observed therapy, and coordinating clinical and social needs of clients.
- Provide investigations for those diagnosed with infectious TB disease, including contact identification, education, testing, and treatment.

Core Public Health Services w/ KPI's Outlined

- Provide clinical follow-up for all TB status clients, ensure case management when needed.
- Coordinate with IDOH to identify and treat latent TB (LTBI) according to the IDOH TB Elimination Plan.
- Expand partnerships to evaluate the socioeconomic, environmental, and behavioral factors that place individuals in their identified communities at risk, such as housing/crowding, sexual behaviors, and underrepresented/underserved individuals.

Access to and Linkage to Clinical Care

- Provide at least one full-time public health nurse on staff with expertise to provide clinical services, such as those related to communicable diseases, lead case management, and immunizations.
- Provide at least one full-time public health nurse on staff to refer residents to clinical resources.
- Provide staff member to address after hours calls for public health emergencies.

Health-Related Areas during Emergencies and Disasters

- Provide at least 0.5 FTE dedicated preparedness coordinator who actively participates in their district Healthcare Coalition and engages in county-level emergency planning, including outbreak and environmental health responses, to link public health and public safety.
- Provide preparedness coordinator to actively participate in online resource tracking for emergency response.
- Provide preparedness coordinator to act as a lead for Emergency Support Function (ESF)-8 for LHD jurisdiction during emergency and disasters.
- Provide primary safety net to ensure equitable, accessible vaccines, and other countermeasures as needed in an emergency.

Core Public Health Services w/ KPI's Outlined

Chronic Disease and Injury Prevention

Tobacco and Vaping Prevention and Cessation

- Promote tobacco and addictive nicotine prevention and cessation programs and services.
- Provide a staff representative to the local tobacco control coalition.

Trauma and Injury Prevention

- Expand partnerships to promote harm reduction programs for substance use. Provide resources and linkage to naloxone distribution, peer recovery and rehabilitation services
- Promote safety to reduce harm, such as injury prevention initiatives.

Screenings and Referrals

• Expand partnerships to address and/or referral for chronic diseases such as obesity, diabetes, hypertension, and cancer.

Environmental Public Health

Food Protection

- Provide trained and designated staff to conduct necessary inspections, new facility plan reviews, routine inspections, follow-up inspections and foodborne illness complaints.
- Provide designated food inspectors that are proficient in risk-based inspection, centered on training provided by IDOH and access to continuing education on risk-based inspections

Residential Septic/Vector/Water Protection

- Provide trained and designated staff to investigate housing/nuisance/ sewage complaints in a time frame reflecting the urgency of the complaint and in accordance with 410 IAC 6.
- Provide trained and designated staff to conduct plan review, issue septic construction permits, and conduct inspections of onsite sewage systems within the time frames listed in state statute.
- Provide education and resources for pest/vector control and engage in routine mosquito surveillance through standardized trapping and testing procedures.

Core Public Health Services w/ KPI's Outlined

- Provide trained and designated staff to inspect and monitor testing results of public and semipublic swimming pools and promptly provide an inspection report outlining any deficiencies to the facility as outlined in 410 IAC 6.
- Provide outreach and guidance for safe private well water quality and other environmental health matters to furnish recommended testing parameters and best practices.

Tattoo, Body Piercing, Eyelash Safety and Sanitation

- Respond to sanitary complaints at establishments applying tattoos, body piercings, and eyelash extensions and provide recommendations to improve sanitary conditions to protect the public.
- Provide trained and dedicated staff to inspect and enforce the Indiana tattoo and body piercing rule and eyelash extension rule.

Maternal, Child and Family Health

Fatality Review

- Participate on local Fatality Review Teams, including Child Fatality, Fetal-Infant Mortality, and Suicide-Overdose Fatality Review Teams as required in statute.
- Provide Fatality Review Teams with vital records necessary to review deaths, including birth, stillbirth and death certificates.
- Partner with Fatality Review Teams to ensure annual reports are submitted to IDOH.
- Partner with community partners to ensure that fatality prevention initiatives are implemented in the local community.
- Expand partnerships to develop equity-focused fatality prevention strategies to address disparities in maternal and infant mortality.

Maternal and Child Health

 Expand partnerships to provide or ensure direct or warm referrals/ linkage to care and resources as warranted to family planning, prenatal care, WIC services, home visiting services, substance use treatment, or services to assist clients in applying for Medicaid and presumptive eligibility.

Core Public Health Services w/ KPI's Outlined

- Expand partnerships to provide health promotion and materials to support safe sleep, breastfeeding, healthy eating and physical activity, and clinical referrals as needed.
- Expand partnerships to develop equity-focused strategies to improve infant and maternal health outcomes.

School Health Liaison

- Provide school health liaison, with schedule to be based on community need, whose focus is schools and services as a local resource for all K-12 schools within the county.
- Partner with local schools to implement school wellness policies, including a comprehensive strategy to address substance use in schools.
- Partner with schools to promote whole child health, including physical, mental and student health and wellbeing.
- Provide support to schools in performing health screening, such as vision, hearing, oral health, and other school needs.
- Partner with schools to enhance the vaccination efforts to ensure childhood vaccine requirements and seasonal vaccine needs are meet.

Lead Case Manager and Risk Assessment

- Provide an IDOH trained lead case manager on staff to conduct case management within timeframes outlined in 410 IAC 29.
- Provide a licensed lead risk assessor to conduct assessments within timeframes outlined in 410 ICA 29.
- Provide lead testing for children under 7 yrs. at no cost.

Grant County Health Department Essentials

Successful implementation of our Health First Grant County objectives and strategies <u>depends upon the following:</u>

- 1.) New Staff: Hire a Nurse Health Educator
- 2.) Suitable Workspace: Review options and eliminate space barriers that inhibit growth needed (or required) to adequately and efficiently deliver and measure our new and existing public health services.
- 3.) Collaboration with Community Organizations: Through MOUs, contracts, and resource sharing to address Grant County Core Public Health Service gaps.
- 4.) Continued cooperation and collaboration between our County Commissioners, County Council and Health Board.

Objectives: Vital Records

Current Strength of Service	Strong: Fully Performing
2025 Objectives	 Transition to record accessibility regardless of vital event county as directed by the IDOH. Electronic registration of all Grant County vital records. Provide services in the preferred language of the client.
2025 Strategies	 Participate in IDOH trainings as provided. Continue entering Grant County vital records into the database. Become proficient with Pocketalk.
Possible Community Partners	Not Applicable

Objectives: Immunizations

Objectives: Immunizations		
Current Strength of Service	Strong: Fully Performing	
2025 Objectives	 Ability to provide services in the preferred language of the client. Improve Grant County vaccine rates for infants and school age children Provide clinic services to individuals regardless of ability to pay. 	
2025 Strategies	 Use Pocketalk to bridge the language barriers. Increase advertising in schools and work places. Expand extended hours of availability with different/additional locations during Back-to-School and Flu Seasons. 	
Possible Community Partners	 School Nurses Immunize.org IDOH Mobile Clinic 	

Objectives: Infectious Disease Surveillance & Prevention

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Current Strength of Service	Moderate: Partially Performing
2025 Objectives	 Provide screening for HIV, Hep C and other STI's at the Grant County Health Dept. Provide services in preferred language of client Provide targeted testing, education, referrals & resources.
2025 Strategies	 Partner w/ Madison County Health Dept. to obtain certification for two nurses to perform screenings for HBV, HCV, HIV, and syphilis. Utilize Pocketalk to allow cross language communication. Explore partnership with Grant County Jail to provide screening to all inmates.
Possible Community Partners	 Madison County Health Department District DIS Marion Family Planning Grant County Jail

Objectives: Tuberculosis Control & Case Management

Current Strength of Service	Strong: Fully Performing
2025 Objectives	 Provide services in clients preferred language Continue to provide screening, referrals, treatment options and case management
2025 Strategies	 Use Pocketalk to reduce language barriers. Develop partnership with community organizations to ensure clients lining with TB infection or disease receive clinical care, treatment and wrap around services.
Possible Community Partners	 Indiana Wesleyan University Clinic Grant County Rescue Mission Purdue Pharmacy

Objectives: Access & Linkage to Clinical Care		
Current Strength of Service	Moderate: Partially Performing	
2025 Objectives	 Provide resources and information in the preferred language of the client. Provide information on how to obtain services and care in the community. Deepen our resources for referrals. 	
2025 Strategies	 Hire one Nurse Health Educator Create screening tool to assess the needs of client. Continue to broaden our resource pool by partnering with community organizations to ensure patients living with chronic disease have access to education. 	
Possible Community Partners	 WIC Pregnancy Help Center Indiana Health Center Bridges to Health 	

Objectives: Health Related Areas During Emergencies & Disasters

Current Strength of Service	Strong: Fully Performing
2025 Objectives	 Provide 0.5 FTE dedicated preparedness coordinator. All GCHD staff will complete NIMS IS100, IS200, IS700, IS800 within 1 year of hire. Participate in district emergency preparedness meetings and exercises. Participate and partner with local emergency agencies; EMA, LEPC, EMS, Sheriff Dept., local police dept.'s, and hospital during meetings, exercises, and emergencies/disasters. Review, develop, and maintain department and county level plans, including an Emergency Operations Plan and appropriate annexes.
2025 Strategies	 Onboarding new hire requirements of completing all required staff NIMS courses. Provide preparedness coordinator to actively participate in online resource tracking for emergency response. Participate and/or organize community emergency preparedness events and exercises. Provide education and information to Grant County residents about emergency preparedness response and volunteer opportunities.
Possible Community Partners	 Marion Health, community health clinics and local physicians Grant County EMA, LEPC First responders Other local health departments with MOUs to partner during emergencies/disasters Central Region, Local Health Services Team

Objectives: Tobacco Prevention & Cessation

Objectives: Tobacco Prevention & Cessation		
Current Strength of Service	Moderate: Partially Performing	
2025 Objectives	 Provide local schools resources to help with the goal of tobacco and vaping prevention and cessation. Improve the number of individuals in Grant County who abstain from using tobacco and nicotine and vape products. Provide staff representatives to the Grant County Minority Health Coalition. 	
2025 Strategies	 Partner with Marion Health providing partial funding to support a Tobacco Cessation Coordinator. Provide appropriate referrals for health department clients to community organizations for nicotine cessation. Advertise and promote tobacco and vaping cessation through schools, radio, billboards, newspapers, website, social media. 	
Possible Community Partners	 Marion Health Grant County Tobacco Coalition All county schools and universities Local mental health providers Breathe Easy Grant County 	

Objectives: Trauma & Injury Prevention

Objectives: Trauma & Injury Prevention		
Current Strength of Service	Moderate: Partially Performing	
2025 Objectives	 Continue partnership with Bridges to Health in funding Peer Support Specialist(s) Continue Naloxone distribution/training Increase class availability for injury prevention knowledge and skills 	
2025 Strategies	 Provide funding for Peer Support Specialist(s) Hire nurse health educator to explore/develop training and programs for trauma and injury prevention i.e. Stop the Bleed, Narcan, Safe Sleep, Fall prevention, etc. Participate at community events and offer Grant County residents trauma and injury prevention resources. 	
Possible Community Partners	 Marion Health Bridges to Health Purdue Extension YMCA Grant County Senior Center 	

Objective: Screening & Referrals

Objective: Screening & Referrals		
Current Strength of Service	Poor: Not Performing	
2025 Objectives	1. Screen patients to assess for clinical, mental or social service needs at each appointment and provide appropriate referral.	
2025 Strategies	 Create patient screener to assess needs for each client. Partner with IDOH to offer chronic disease (i.e. BP, A1C, fasting glucose, cholesterol) and STI testing to Grant County residents. Participate/organize community events to screen, educate and provide referral services for chronic disease. 	
Possible Community Partners	 IDOH Marion Family Planning 	

Objectives: Food Protection		
Current Strength of Service	Strong: Fully Performing	
2025 Objectives	 Provide Food Safety Inspection Officers (FSIO's) that are proficient in risk-based inspections, complete training provided by IDOH and have access to continuing education. Provide FSIO's that utilize the Indiana Food Code and Grant County ordinances during risk-based inspections and policy development. Create and /or update county ordinance to include new state food code. 	
2025 Strategies	 Hire additional Food Safety Inspection Officer to perform all food protection inspections, reviews, follow-ups and foodborne illness complaints Onboarding new hire requirements of completing all required staff food protection training provided by IDOH and pass food managers safety class. Provide continuing education and certifications. 	
Possible	 Fire Departments County and City building inspector 	

Community **Partners**

- 3. IDOH, IEHA, other local health departments
- 4. County food establishments
- 5. Central Region, Local Health Services Team

Objectives: Residential Septic Protection

Objectives. Residential Septie Protection	
Current Strength of Service	Strong: Fully Performing
2025 Objectives	 Provide knowledgeable septic inspectors that are proficient in inspections of multiple system types, completes training provided by IDOH, septic type vendors. Provide septic inspectors that follow the Indiana Septic Code and Grant County Ordinance
2025 Strategies	 Crosstrain all Environmental Health Specialist to cover all areas of Environmental Public Health. Onboarding new hire (2024) requirements of completing all required staff septic protection training provided by IDOH, septic type vendors, and IOWPA. Provide continuing education and certifications.
Possible Community Partners	 Fire Departments Local plumbing companies/septic contractors County and City building inspector IDOH, IEHA, IDEM, other local health departments Central Region, Local Health Services Team

Objectives: Vector Control & Protection

Objectives: Vector Control & Protection	
Current Strength of Service	Strong: Fully Performing
2025 Objectives	 Provide Environmental Health Specialists that are proficient in multiple types of vector inspections, completes training provided by IDOH, and has access to continuing training. Provide vector inspectors that follow the Indiana Code and county ordinances.
2025 Strategies	 Environmental Health Specialist to perform all vector protective inspections, complaints, site visits, follow-ups, vector trapping for testing performed by IDOH, and community vector control education for mosquito disease control. Crosstrain all Environmental Health Specialist to cover all areas of Environmental Public Health. Provide continuing education and certifications to staff. Develop and provide vector control education and materials to the citizens of Grant County.
Possible Community Partners	 Local vector control companies County and City maintenance department West Central Solid Waste District IDOH, IEHA, IDEM, other local health departments IDOH State Lab Indiana Vector Control Association Central Region, Local Health Services

Objectives: Public & Semi-public Pool Inspections

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Current Strength of Service	Strong: Fully Performing
2025 Objectives	 Provide routine public & semi-public pool inspections. Consistent and concise reporting of pool inspections into I-pool portal.
2025 Strategies	 Provide continuing education for employees to maintain certified pool operator status. Crosstrain all Environmental Health Specialists to cover all areas of Environmental Public Health.
Possible Community Partners	1. Indiana State Health Department Pool School

Objectives: Private Well Water Protection

Current Strength of Service	Poor: Not Performing
2025 Objectives	 Provide staff that are proficient in well water best practices and collecting water samples. Provide staff access to continued training. Provide staff that follow the Indiana Code and office policy. Create and/or update office policy to include well water protection best practices as recommend by the US Environmental Protection Agency (EPA).
2025 Strategies	 Utilize our Environmental Health Specialists to perform education and guidance to the public on EPA well water drinking standards for private wells. Crosstrain all Environmental Health Specialist to cover all areas of Environmental Public Health. Complete all required staff training provided by IDOH. Provide continuing education and certifications.
Possible Community Partners	 Local well drillers Local well installation contractors IDOH State Lab Central Region, Local Health Services Team

Objectives: Tattoo, Body Piercing, Eyelash Safety & Sanitation

Current Strength of Service	Strong: Fully Performing
2025 Objectives	 Provide Environmental Health Specialist(s) proficient in risk-based inspections. Provide EHS access to continuing education. Provide routine inspections and follows-up to complaints as per the enforcement rules in the Indiana Code and Grant County Tattoo/Body Piercing Ordinance.
2025 Strategies	 Utilize Environmental Health Specialists to perform permitting/licensing, routine inspections, education and sanitary guideline reviews, follow-ups, and complaint investigations. Crosstrain all Environmental Health Specialists to cover all areas of Environmental Public Health. Provide continuing education and certifications.
Possible Community Partners	 County and City building inspectors Other local health departments Indiana Occupational Safety and Health Administration Central Region, Local Health Services Team

Objectives: Fatality Review	
Current Strength of Service	Strong: Fully Performing
2025 Objectives	1. Participate in all fatality review teams in Grant County.
2025 Strategies	 Continue active participation in review team meetings and evaluate root causes. Investigate strategies to address root causes
Possible Community Partners	 Marion Health, local health care clinics and providers. Local law enforcement, prosecutor, community corrections. Grant County Coroner Grant County DCS

Objectives: Maternal & Child Health

Objectives: Maternal & Child Health	
Current Strength of Service	Poor: Not Performing
2025 Objectives	 Identify local agencies and expand partnerships to link resources for family planning, home visiting, SUD treatment. Partner with agencies to provide education and resources to improve infant and maternal health outcomes.
2025 Strategies	 Utilize Nurse Health Educator to provide/link safe sleep education and resources. Utilize Tobacco Cessation/Prevention Specialist to educate on smoking during pregnancy and provide cessation resources.
Possible Community Partners	 Marion Health Pregnancy Help Center Family Resource Center Nurse Family Partnership (Goodwill)

Objectives: School Health Liaison

Current Strength of Service	Strong: Fully Performing
2025 Objectives	 Continue school liaison services tailored to the specific needs of each of our county school districts. Provide school-requested health and safety training for students and staff. Partner with Tobacco Prevention Coordinator to provide all county schools tobacco/vaping prevention and cessation programs and resources and to support school policies for tobacco and nicotine abuse. Provide support to schools as needed in performing health screenings such as vision, hearing, oral health, and other school needs. Provide education on the vaccinations required for school age children and ensure enhanced efforts for increasing childhood vaccine requirements and seasonal vaccines needs are met.
2025 Strategies	 Ensure School Nurse Liaison has the time and resources needed to partner with schools to promote whole child health, including physical and mental health wellbeing. Provide a School Nurse Liaison for partnerships with all county schools in a collaborative method that meets actual and perceived needs identified by the school and staff. Grant County Tobacco Preventions and Cessation Spe-
Possible Community Partners	 cialist Grant County Tobacco Preventions and Cessation Specialist Grant County Schools Community health clinics Local physicians and dentists

Objectives: Lead Case Manager & Risk Assessment

Current Strength of Service	Strong: Fully Performing
2025 Objectives	 Have Environmental Health Specialist trained in lead risk inspections and risk assessments. Follow all case management requirements per Lead & Healthy Homes standards. Create and provide community education concerning lead exposure risks and to guide homeowners through the lead abatement process. Provide lead testing for any child <7 years old at no cost to the patient.
2025 Strategies	 Provide time and resources for EHS to complete lead risk inspector, assessor, case manager training, licensure exams and continuing education. Partner with community organizations to ensure lead case management clients have access to education, clinical care, treatment, and wrap-around services. Partner with outside agency to perform timely lead risk assessments. Provide a HEPA filtered vacuum and other tools to assist families in safe cleaning of identified areas with lead exposure risk.
Possible Community Partners	 Other local health departments WIC First Steps Dept. of Child Services Primary Care Providers Greentree Environmental Services