

Division of Injury Prevention & Control

North Dakota Department of Health
Community Health Section

Division Staff:

Division Director
Mary Dasovick

Domestic Violence/Rape Crisis Program
Mary Dasovick,
Program Director
Bonnie Palecek,
Recovery Act Program
Director

Injury/Violence Prevention Program
Diana Read,
Program Director

Child Passenger Safety Program
Dawn Mayer,
Program Director

Suicide/Family Violence Prevention Director
Gail Erickson,
Program Director

Support Staff
Mallory Sattler,
Administrative Assistant

Mission:

The Division of Injury Prevention and Control is dedicated to reducing injuries to North Dakotans through leadership, education, resources and policy.

Programs within the division include:

Injury/Violence Prevention Program: The overall goal of this program is to reduce both unintentional and intentional injuries to North Dakotans, with special emphasis on children and women. The program uses a variety of best practice strategies, including primary prevention theories, data collection and analysis, intervention design and development, training and technical assistance, policy advocacy, and evaluation.

Projects include:

- Coordinating a State Injury Prevention Coalition to address the impact of injury in North Dakota.
- Coordinating poison prevention educational activities in conjunction with the North Dakota Poison Control Center (Hennepin Regional Poison Control Center).
- Participating in injury prevention work groups.
- Collaborating with other state and local agencies to address injury/violence prevention.
- Providing education and information to the general population of North Dakotan in regard to intentional and unintentional injury topics, such as home, playground and bike safety.
- Promoting primary prevention of unhealthy behaviors — such as bullying, sexual harassment, dating violence, and sexual assault in youth and young adults — and promoting healthy relationships.
- Monitoring and providing technical assistance to funded agencies.

Child Passenger Safety Program: The goal of the Child Passenger Safety Program is to decrease injuries and death to children due to motor vehicle crash events. The program uses a variety of best practice strategies, including data collection and analysis, design and development of initiatives, training and technical assistance, policy and advocacy, and evaluation. Activities include:

- Designing educational materials.
- Developing special campaigns.
- Promoting proper use of car safety seat and seat belts.
- Providing car safety seats to local distribution programs.
- Coordinating and conducting car safety seat checkups.
- Providing technical assistance to professionals and consumers.
- Providing training ranging in length from four hours to 32 hours.

Other projects include:

- Serving as the state designee for the U.S. Consumer Product Safety Commission by conducting recall effectiveness checks, redistributing recall notices, and participating in special Consumer Product Safety Commission campaigns.
- Publishing a quarterly newsletter, “Building Blocks to Safety,” with the “Buckle Update” insert.
- Promoting other injury prevention topics, including shaken baby awareness.

Domestic Violence/Rape Crisis Program: The overall goal is to reduce domestic violence, sexual assault, dating violence and stalking crimes in North Dakota by:

- Supporting coordinated community response to strengthen effective law enforcement and prosecution strategies to combat domestic violence, sexual assault, dating violence and stalking crimes and to develop and strengthen victim services.
- Emphasizing implementation of comprehensive strategies that are sensitive to the needs and safety of victims and that hold offenders accountable for their crimes.
- Supporting intervention measures for victims of domestic violence, sexual assault, dating violence and stalking.
- Collecting and analyzing domestic violence and sexual assault data.
- Funding projects specifically addressing domestic violence, sexual assault and stalking.
- Monitoring and providing technical assistance to funded agencies.
- Partnering with stakeholders to develop and implement policies, advocate, provide training and technical assistance, and evaluate projects or programs.

Suicide Prevention Program: The overall goal of the Suicide Prevention Program is to reduce the number of attempted and completed suicides by:

- Collecting data on completed suicides and supporting expansion of data collection to include suicide attempts.
- Promoting public awareness of suicide and suicide prevention strategies.
- Collaborating with the North Dakota Suicide Prevention Coalition to apply suicide prevention and early intervention strategies within the members' professional work and communities and to reduce the stigma of help-seeking.
- Providing small grants to communities for suicide prevention activities.
- Seeking funding sources to expand suicide prevention and early intervention work in North Dakota.

Family Violence Prevention and Services Program: The overall goal is to reduce family violence and to provide support and counseling to family violence victims including children who are witnesses to family violence by:

- Providing funding and technical assistance to domestic violence/rape crisis agencies and shelters for peer support and counseling, crisis intervention, shelter services, outreach services, and advocacy for victims of family violence
- Collaborating with the North Dakota Council on Abused Women Services (NDCAWS) to provide legal issues training to victim advocates
- Supporting educational efforts of domestic violence/rape crisis agencies to provide public presentations and to conduct indoor advertising campaigns
- Collaborating with NDCAWS to develop a plan of action to reach domestic violence victims over the age of 65 and those with mental health issues

Contact Information:



North Dakota Department of Health
Community Health Section
Division of Injury Prevention and Control
600 E. Boulevard Ave., Dept. 301
Bismarck, ND 58505-0200
Phone: 701.328.4536
Toll-Free: 800.472.2286 (press 1)
Fax: 701.328.1412
www.ndhealth.gov/injury/