

Delaware General Health District

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NEWS RELEASE

BOARD OF HEALTH SETS PRIORITIES FOR THE FUTURE

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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DELAWARE, Oh., July 30, 2010 – The Delaware General Health District Board of Health held their annual retreat on Saturday, July 24, 2010 to further develop the agency’s strategic plan. The Board of Health considered a number of measurable outcomes that would address the priority public health issues established in 2009. Four goals were set and will have the most impact on public health status by 2014.

- Reverse the trend of overweight/obesity by 2%
- Increase immunization rates (all age groups)
- Decrease overall substance use (tobacco, alcohol and other drugs) by youth by 2%
- Reduce Foodborne illness in the community using ecoli, campylobacter and salmonella as indicators

The exciting part of the strategic plan is that all of the Divisions in the agency will find ways to contribute to the success of the above.

In addition, the agency commitment to Quality improvement, establishing policies for all divisions and fiscal solvency is a precursor to providing services to the public. The plan will be further refined for adoption by the Board in September.

“The goals/benchmarks chosen by the Board will further assist us as we focus our resources in the future,” said Frances M. Veverka, Health Commissioner. “The additional difference is that our strategy is to attack these problems throughout the agency,” Veverka said. In addition to the agency strategic plan the staff is also participating with other community partners to develop a comprehensive community health improvement plan that will include collaborative efforts to address health issues.

“We are very confident that the priorities of the Delaware General Health District Board of Health for the next 3-5 years, will improve the overall health of the community members as well as the environment,” said Health Commissioner, Veverka.