

August 1999

Greetings!

We are pleased to make the third update of the strategic plan for the St. Charles County Department of Community Health and the Environment available online. Please note:

- A of 16 staff members worked to create this latest revision. This effort included using input received from others. This represents expanded participation in accordance with the original intentions of the department's executive staff.
- The plan is intended to be an evolving document. Priorities shift, funding availability varies, and new initiatives may be forced by emerging disease patterns. As the County grows the focus of public health activities may change. The plan will be reviewed each year, accomplishments noted, and changes will be made in response to these “environmental” factors.
- The overriding purpose of the plan is to serve as a guide in providing service which protects, and improves, the health of our citizens in a competent and cost-effective way.

We hope that you will find this document enlightening and that you will better understand the functions of a public health department after reading it. Feedback and questions are welcome! Please use the comment option on the Department home page.

The Strategic Planning Committee

With this

VISION

In 2010 St. Charles County will be a county of healthy, informed individuals living in a healthy, safe environment.

We will have this

MISSION

The St. Charles County Department of Community Health and the Environment is committed to the protection and enhancement of health and the quality of life for all members of our community by assessment of health and environmental status, development of policies and priorities, and assurance that there is an appropriate response to needs.

Applying these

VALUES

The St. Charles County Department of Community Health and the Environment is dedicated to providing service to the public based on the highest ethical standards of public service and by a highly trained and qualified staff while respecting community values and the individuals who make up our community. The Department values all employees, respects the individual and the potential for individual growth. The Department strives for positive, effective and mutually beneficial relationships with other agencies, organizations, and businesses.

Strategic Goals

- 1. To strengthen the St. Charles County public health system and the state and county public health network as a whole.**
- 2. To maintain and expand existing community based partnerships as well as cooperative efforts outside St. Charles County.**
- 3. To decrease illness, injury, disability and premature death.**
- 4. To improve access to affordable, quality health care services.**
- 5. To protect the community through education leading to improved understanding of health, health threats, and environmental issues.**
- 6. To assure that products, services and facilities directly affecting public health and safety meet or exceed minimum health standards.**
- 7. To assure that humane services (animal control) and humane facilities adequately protect and serve animals and humans alike.**