



Quick Reads

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Grant supports accreditation efforts, highlights Iowa nationally

I am excited to report that Iowa was one of sixteen states recently awarded a [Lead States in Public Health Quality Improvement](#) grant from the [Robert Wood Johnson Foundation](#). Local health departments will share the majority of the \$150,000 funding IDPH will receive each year for three years to build upon the [Redesigning Public Health in Iowa](#) initiative. This couldn't have come at a better time, as Iowans begin the hard work of planning for accreditation of at least one local agency and the Iowa Department of Public Health by July 1, 2011.

This opportunity will put Iowa at the table with other states leading the way nationally toward accreditation of local and state public health departments. This award also serves as affirmation that the efforts of all those involved in Redesigning Public Health in Iowa should be applauded for their leadership, hard work and vision. Thank you to all who have contributed time and energy towards advancing the redesign effort. For more information about the Redesign project, including the Iowa Public Health Standards, visit www.idph.state.ia.us/rphi.

Iowa's increased childhood immunization rate recognized

Thanks to the commitment of health care providers and public health partners across the state to immunize our youngest Iowans, our state was recently recognized at the National Immunization Conference in Atlanta, GA. Because of your hard work and the efforts of the IDPH [Immunization Program](#), Iowa has attained the second highest state increase in immunization rates for children 19 to 35 months of age from 2003 through 2006. Iowa's immunization rate in that population increased by more than 15 percentage points, from 63.4 percent in 2003 to 78.9 percent in

2006. The national immunization rate for the 19- to 35-month age range is 77 percent. Congratulations and keep up the good work!

State Health Registry issues 2008 cancer report

This year, an estimated 6,300 Iowans will die from cancer and 16,000 new cancers will be diagnosed, according to [Cancer in Iowa: 2008](#), recently released by the [State Health Registry of Iowa](#). Compared to projections for 2007, estimated deaths in 2008 will decrease by 100, while estimated new cancer cases will increase by 300. Also in the report, non-Hodgkin lymphoma will cause an estimated 270 cancer deaths in Iowa in 2008, accounting for 4.3 percent of cancer deaths in both men and women. This year in Iowa, there will be an estimated 740 new cases (340 women and 400 men), making non-Hodgkin lymphoma the sixth most common cancer in Iowa.

The annual report is based on data from IDPH and the Iowa Cancer Registry, including county-by-county statistics. To view the current report and those of past years, visit www.public-health.uiowa.edu/shri/Pubs.html.

“The Truth About Cancer” to air on PBS

The Lance Armstrong Foundation is partnering with Boston-based public TV and radio broadcaster WGBH on the upcoming national outreach campaign for the film [The Truth About Cancer](#), which will air on [Iowa Public Television on April 16th at 8:00 p.m.](#) The 90-minute documentary film, followed by a 30-minute expert panel, will be the launching pad for events and projects across the country focused on creating community conversations around cancer survivorship.

To assist in outreach efforts, WGBH is providing extensive online resources, including downloadable handouts, at www.pbs.org/takeonestep. A limited number of free Outreach Toolkits, including two event posters and a DVD with 30 minutes of the film and the full expert panel, are also being made available. For program information from IPTV, please visit www.iptv.org/series.cfm/19411/ep:0.

We want your best practices

IDPH is committed to telling the citizens of Iowa about the good things public health is doing to make a difference. To do this, we want to highlight your best practices/success stories. Please send your ideas to Don McCormick at dmccormi@idph.state.ia.us.

To everyone in public health and all our partners—keep up the great work!
Tom