

### The Ten Essential Public Health Services

1. Monitor health status to identify community health problems; 2. Diagnose and investigate health problems and health hazards in the community; 3. Enforce laws and regulations that protect health and ensure safety; 4. Inform, educate and empower people about health issues; 5. Mobilize community partnerships to identify and solve health problems; 6. Link people that need personal health service and assure the provision of health care when otherwise unavailable; 7. Evaluate effectiveness, accessibility and quality of personal and population-based health services; 8. Ensure a competent public health and personal health care workforce; 9. Develop policies and plans that support individual and community health efforts; 10. Research for new insights and innovative solutions to health problems

*Health department services are available to Broome County residents regardless of race, color, creed, national origin, handicap, sex, or political belief.*

### FEES

County taxes help support health department services. Although some services are free to Broome County residents, most services have a fee based on cost, with fees adjusted on ability to pay. Medicaid, Medicare, and private insurance may be used to pay for care. Fees are also charged for most Environmental Health Division services. Call the service you are interested in for more information on fees. No one is denied clinical services due to inability to pay.

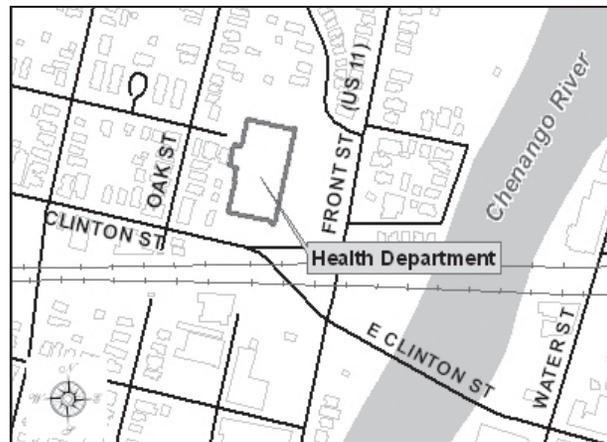
### DIRECTIONS

- Route 17E to Front Street, right onto Front Street (Route 11) for almost 1 mile. Health department is on the right, just before the railroad bridge.
- Routes 17W or 81 to Exit 5 (Route 81), Front Street. Left onto Front Street (Route 11) for approximately 2 miles, health department is on the right, just before the railroad bridge.

The Broome County Health Department is located at the corner of Front and Clinton Streets.

Free & handicapped accessible parking is available in front of the building.

The #7 Clinton Street or #8 Front Street BC Transit bus stops at the health department.



Broome County Health Department  
225 Front Street, Binghamton, New York 13905  
Phone (607) 778-3930 Fax (607) 778-2838

## Broome County Health Department

# Service Guide



225 Front Street, Binghamton, New York 13905  
Phone (607) 778-3930 Fax (607) 778-2838  
[www.gobroomecounty.com](http://www.gobroomecounty.com)

## Mission Statement

The Broome County Health Department is committed to working proactively in collaboration with the community to preserve, promote and protect the public health and quality of life of all Broome County residents.

## COMMUNITY HEALTH EDUCATION

(778-3921)

The Broome County Health Department is committed to informing, educating, and empowering people about health issues. The Health Department staff is available to provide educational materials and presentations to the public through schools, houses of worship, service organizations and worksites. These programs are provided to community groups at no charge. Please call to schedule at least two months in advance of the event.



## COMMUNITY HEALTH TOPICS

- Cancer Risk, Investigation and Mapping
- Community Health Assessment / Planning
- Orientation to Public Health and Public Health Emergency Preparedness
- Chronic Disease Prevention
- Worksite Wellness
- Tobacco Use and Cessation Opportunities
- Communicable Diseases, including TB and Sexually Transmitted Diseases
- Other general and specific health promotion topics on request

Network provide mentor teachers and coursework to staff of infant/toddler child care centers and family child care homes.

## EARLY INTERVENTION PROGRAM (EIP) (0-2)

The Early Intervention Program focuses on early identification and follow-up of children (ages birth through two) with developmental delays. The program provides evaluations of your child's abilities at no cost to your family and with your full participation. A service coordinator will work with your family to identify your concerns and priorities for your child and will refer your child for needed services based upon the Individualized Family Services Plan developed for your child.

## EDUCATION FOR HANDICAPPED CHILDREN'S PROGRAM (EHCP) COMMITTEE ON PRESCHOOL EDUCATION (CPSE) (3-5)

This program is for children (age 3 through 5) with suspected or confirmed delays that will affect learning. This program is directed through the New York State Department of Education to transition identified children into the formal school system. The EHCP process will determine placement opportunities and services to benefit your child and your family at no cost to you.

## MATERNAL AND CHILD HEALTH NURSING

This team of highly trained nurses has extensive education and expertise in assessing infants, children and families within the community setting. Home visiting services include: a skilled nursing assessment; supporting the family to have a positive pregnancy and a healthy baby; providing prenatal guidance and birthing information; assistance with obtaining a medical home, health insurance, prenatal care, family planning, well child exams, immunizations, breastfeeding, quality child care, crisis planning, recognizing if a child has special needs, and providing linkages to other resources.

## SCHOOL AND COMMUNITY ORAL HEALTH PROGRAM (778-2812)

This program provides for prevention-oriented oral health services which include oral health education, screenings, and dental sealants to second grade students in the highest priority school districts; coordination of the New York State Self-Applied Fluoride Rinse and Tablet Program for unfluoridated school districts; screenings and oral health education for families with young children through community outreach efforts and train-the-trainer programs; and classroom education for middle and high school students, focusing on the risks and consequences of the use of tobacco and spit tobacco products.

## WIC (WOMEN, INFANTS AND CHILDREN'S) PROGRAM (778-2881)

The WIC Program has a strong commitment to the women, infants, and children who need nutrition education and referrals to other health care and community services. This program provides nutrition assessments, nutrition education and counseling, as well as referrals and vouchers for healthy foods to pregnant, breastfeeding and postpartum women, infants and children up to age five. Families must have specific financial and nutritional needs to be eligible. WIC Clinic sites are located throughout Broome County. Call to find out if your family can take part in this program.

## MATERNAL CHILD HEALTH AND DEVELOPMENT

(778-2851)

The assurance of optimal physical, psychosocial and developmental health and well being for childbearing and child-rearing families is the goal through programs designed to help families receive the evaluation and treatment services they need. Some children may experience delays in their development and early detection and treatment may make a difference...for the child, the family, and the community.



### **BUILDING BRIGHTER FUTURES FOR BROOME (BBFFB) 778-3909**

Broome County's Healthy Families New York Program offers home visiting services to families expecting a baby and to new parents residing outside the Binghamton City School District. The home visitor helps parents develop strong, positive relationships with their child/children by promoting an understanding of childhood growth and development. Additionally, the home visitor supports parents in achieving their goals by providing referrals to various resources.

### **CHILD FIND**

This statewide program ensures that children (birth to three years of age) who may be at risk for delays receive the help needed to enhance early growth and development. The goal is to ensure that children under age three are engaged in primary health care and receive appropriate developmental tracking and screening through their primary health care provider.

### **CHILDREN WITH SPECIAL HEALTH CARE NEEDS/PHYSICALLY HANDICAPPED CHILDREN'S PROGRAM (PHCP)**

The purpose of these programs is to ensure access to quality health care for chronically ill and disabled children. Children under 21 years of age who reside in Broome County, and whose families meet financial qualifications, are eligible. Families are referred to community or state agencies to help them access insurance and or services for their children with special needs.

### **EARLY CHILDHOOD COALITION (ECC) (778-6557)**

ECC's mission is to support the education of families and caregivers as primary caretakers and first teachers of young children: **Healthy Children** – The health department promotes preventive health practices in child care sites and child-serving organizations. **Effective Parenting** - Binghamton City School District and Lourdes PACT offer free home visiting and parent education for families of children, prenatal to kindergarten entry. **Quality Child Care and Early Education** - Broome Community College's Caregiver Connection and the Family Enrichment

## ENVIRONMENTAL HEALTH TOPICS

- Food Safety, Foodborne Illness, Lead Poisoning Prevention, Hazardous Materials Exposure
- Indoor Air Quality, Private Sewage Systems, Water Supply Quality
- Orientation to the Emergency Response System
- Public Health Nuisances
- Vector-Borne Communicable Diseases such as Rabies, West Nile Virus and Lyme Disease

## MATERNAL CHILD HEALTH & DEVELOPMENT TOPICS

- Overview of Maternal Child Health & Development Services
- Child Health Plus
- Early Intervention Program and Preschool Program
- Family Planning
- Childhood Nutrition
- Oral Health for Young Children

## PUBLIC HEALTH PREPAREDNESS / MEDICAL RESERVE CORPS

The Broome County Health Department, under the direction of both state and federal governments, is responsible for the planning and implementation of a response to any type of emergency affecting the public health including natural events (i.e., floods, hurricanes) and those caused by deliberate malicious acts (terrorism). In addition to the assistance of many other community agencies, area volunteers are also prepared to meet the challenge. The Medical Reserve Corps is a group of professional and non-professional community volunteers who want to donate their time and expertise to prepare for and respond to emergencies of any kind. They are also involved in the Healthy Living Partnership's chronic disease initiatives throughout the year to support the many programs offered by the health department and attend meetings and practice drills to prepare for emergencies.

## **ENVIRONMENTAL HEALTH SERVICES (778-2887)**



The programs offered by this division strive to preserve and protect the quality of the environment as it impacts the public health of Broome County and to prevent illness and injuries caused by environmental factors. The Environmental Health Services Division is charged with providing information on and the necessary enforcement of state and local health laws, codes and standards that apply to various facilities and systems. The services performed by Environmental Health Services include the following.

### **CHILDHOOD LEAD POISONING PREVENTION (778-3923)**

Lead poisoning is caused by eating, drinking or breathing anything with lead in it. It can slow a child's normal growth and development and can cause mental retardation, kidney disease, liver damage, blindness or death. Regular testing on children up to six years of age is required to find the problem early.

The Lead Poisoning Prevention Program is managed by the health department with testing done by health department clinic staff, private physicians, and medical clinics. Advice on cleaning the child's environment, nutrition, housekeeping, working with landlords/property owners and physicians, and retesting are part of the follow-up when an elevated lead level is found.

### **COMMUNITY SANITATION AND FOOD PROTECTION**

- Inspect, exercise surveillance, and enforcement over food service facilities in Broome County.
- Review, design, inspect, and provide approval of all wastewater disposal systems for new construction or modifications to existing systems. Review siting of private wells.
- Review and provide approval of all proposed commercial wastewater disposal systems.
- Review and provide approvals for realty subdivisions including proposed water supply and wastewater disposal systems.
- Inspect and issue annual operating permits for hotels/motels, travel trailer

with trained HIV test counselors. If anonymous testing is wanted, you may call 1-800-562-9423 to make an appointment for HIV testing at the health department, Southern Tier AIDS Program, or throughout the region. Specially trained staff can provide information and programs about HIV/AIDS to individuals and groups.

### **SEXUALLY TRANSMITTED DISEASE (STD) CLINIC**

The Sexually Transmitted Disease (STD) Clinic is available to those people who are at risk or may have come in contact with one or more sexually transmitted diseases. A confidential interview by a professional staff member includes asking about the client's symptoms, their sexual activities and other information important to the diagnosis of their problem.

Following the interview is an examination, which will include getting samples of blood, discharges or other specimens for laboratory testing. Some of the tests will be done at the time of the visit so the results are known immediately. Other tests will be done at a hospital or New York State Department of Health laboratory. Once the diagnosis has been made, medication is either prescribed or given at the time of the visit, depending upon the diagnosis. Instructions will be given on how to take the medicine and how to prevent re-infection. Instructions for calling for lab results will be given. Recommendations for partner treatment, if needed, are made.

An appointment can be made if an individual would like an HIV (the virus that causes AIDS) test done at the STD Clinic. Both confidential and anonymous rapid HIV testing is offered. Everything that is discussed in the STD Clinic, including test results, is confidential. Nothing can be discussed with someone else without the client's written consent.

### **TUBERCULOSIS (TB) CONTROL CLINIC (778-2888)**

The Tuberculosis (TB) Control Clinic provides for the diagnosis, treatment, prevention, and control of TB in Broome County. An individual who is suspected of having TB is interviewed by a clinic nurse and referred for a chest x-ray and other tests, as indicated. The clinic physician discusses treatment recommendations with the individual. Medication is provided through the clinic and follow-up appointments are made for the client.

As with other communicable diseases, it is sometimes necessary for other family members, or close contacts of the client, to be tested/examined at the clinic as well.

The Tuberculosis Control Clinic reaches out to identify individuals in targeted populations at high risk for exposure to TB who have been infected but are not yet contagious. Staff will conduct outreach to find these individuals and provide treatment before they become ill and contagious to others. The Clinic serves as a resource for other health professionals, health care facilities, and congregate living establishments in the community. Referrals from these sources are welcome. The clinic nurse is available to answer questions and provide materials.

## CLINIC SERVICES

(778-2839)

These programs are designed to provide Broome County residents with access to personal preventive health care services in a convenient and confidential setting.

### COMMUNICABLE DISEASE CONTROL (778-2804)

One of the most important jobs of any health department is investigation of diseases and outbreaks that are reported to the New York State Department of Health. When a person catches a disease like Pertussis (whooping cough), hepatitis, or meningitis, doctors, hospitals and laboratories are required to report the disease to the local health department. The nurses who work in disease control talk with the person or guardian to find out where the disease came from, who else might have been exposed, and to recommend precautions to prevent further spread and treatment if needed.

If the communicable disease nurse calls, the information obtained is kept confidential and is used to protect people from getting a contagious disease. The communicable disease nurse is also available to answer questions about communicable diseases and will send printed fact sheets or pamphlets to people who request them.

### IMMUNIZATIONS

If you or a family member needs an immunization, there is a clinic at the Broome County Health Department that offers all of the routine immunizations: polio, hepatitis B, diphtheria-tetanus-acellular pertussis (DTAP), Haemophilus influenzae b (Hib), pneumococcal conjugate, measles-mumps-rubella (MMR), and varicella. We offer tetanus-diphtheria (Td) for adults and meningococcal vaccine for college students.

For people who will be traveling overseas, we give typhoid fever, yellow fever, meningococcal vaccine and Hepatitis A vaccine, and others following recommendations from the Centers for Disease Control (CDC). Flu vaccine is offered at different sites around Broome County. Flu vaccine is given to persons at risk on a seasonal basis. The pneumococcal vaccine is given to persons 65 years of age and older at flu clinics and by appointment to those at risk.

### HIV COUNSELING AND TESTING SERVICES

Clinical testing is the only way to determine if a person is infected with HIV. Early diagnosis and treatment can improve the quality of life for a person with the virus. HIV testing is available through the STD Clinic (778-2839) but there are times set aside just for HIV testing

- campgrounds, mobile home parks, and children's camps.
- Inspect and survey all public swimming pools and beaches in Broome County.

### HAZARDOUS MATERIALS

- Investigate and report on dumpsites, which may present a potential public health exposure.
- Protect the public health through review and monitoring of hazardous waste site investigations and clean up.
- Respond to chemical emergencies that may produce an environmental hazard; review remediation activities to reduce public health hazards.

### AIR QUALITY

- Respond to reports of impacted indoor air quality and provide recommendations for corrective actions. Recent air quality problems have involved formaldehyde, asbestos, chlordane and radon.
- Provide guidance on Public Health Law in regard to tobacco use issues.
- Monitor compliance with the Clean Indoor Air Act on tobacco use.

### PUBLIC WATER SUPPLY

- Inspect survey and monitor various public water supplies and provide technical assistance to water supply operators.
- Prevent public well and aquifer contamination through plan review of chemical-using facilities.
- Assist town and village governments in implementing groundwater protection ordinances.

### VECTOR-BORNE COMMUNICABLE DISEASE INVESTIGATION

- Control rabies by sponsoring pet vaccination clinics and public education.
- Investigation and follow-up of animal bite reports and submission of animal specimens for rabies analysis.
- Local contingency planning efforts for West Nile virus include review of mosquito type and location through historical records, enhanced human surveillance, monitoring of bird population, and increased public awareness for the reduction of mosquito breeding habitat on private property.



## HEALTH PROMOTION AND DISEASE PREVENTION

(778-3921)

The Broome County Health Department actively collaborates with Upstate Medical University and its Binghamton Clinical Campus in the education of third and fourth year medical students. Specifically, third year medical students spend three full days on population-based medicine/public health. Health department staff are involved in a teaching day for students to make the health department become “alive” to the medical students by directly exposing them to how the department works. Periodically, fourth year medical students take an elective in public health.



Lifestyle choices and personal health habits are the most important factors in the development of disease. The Broome County Health Department has a number of programs designed to assist and motivate individuals to voluntarily practice and sustain positive changes in their health-related behaviors.

### BINGHAMTON TRI-COUNTY HIV CARE NETWORK (778-3066)

The Network is a community-based planning and coordinating group for HIV/AIDS related services which serves Broome, Chenango, and Tioga counties. The mission of the Network is to improve the quality of life of individuals and families impacted by HIV/AIDS by fostering a coordinated, comprehensive, accessible, and integrated system for health and social support services. Two key planning activities are conducting a community needs assessment and developing a regional service delivery plan.

### IMMUNIZATION ACTION PROGRAM (778-2870)

The objective of this program is to increase immunization levels of children in Broome County. Past efforts have involved removing barriers to immunizations as well as locating and vaccinating children at high risk of preventable diseases. The Health Department is using computer software to review community immunization levels and assist providers in developing strategies to track and recall children in a timely manner.

### Steps to a HealthierUS (778-3929)

The Steps to a HealthierUS program implements community-based initiatives to promote better health and prevent disease. The Steps partnership in Broome County envisions a

community where health is a priority, active living is promoted, disease is prevented and residents naturally engage in behaviors that lead to longer and healthier lives by reducing the burden of diabetes, overweight, obesity and asthma and addressing three related risk factors: physical inactivity, poor nutrition and tobacco use.

### SOUTHERN TIER HEALTHY LIVING PARTNERSHIP (1-877-276-1019 toll free)

This is a collection of grant-funded programs providing early detection services and prevention education for individuals at risk for developing chronic diseases with limited means to access care. The following programs are available to provide individual, community and worksite screenings and educational sessions at no cost to the patient.

- **ADOLESCENT TOBACCO USE PREVENTION**

Compliance checks of tobacco retailers are conducted by staff and youth volunteers. Retailers are prohibited from selling tobacco to minors.

- **BREAST AND CERVICAL CANCER SCREENING PROGRAM**

Clinical breast exams, mammograms, PAP tests and limited diagnostic follow-up procedures to detect breast and cervical cancer are available at no cost for uninsured or underinsured women, age 50 and over.

- **COLORECTAL CANCER SCREENING AND PROSTATE CANCER EDUCATION PROGRAM**

Colorectal cancer screening test kits are available at no cost for high-risk, uninsured or underinsured, income eligible individuals age 50 and over. Prostate cancer information and educational sessions are available at no cost to community groups and work sites.

- **DIABETES PREVENTION AND CONTROL**

Diabetes risk factor screening and general diabetes awareness education is provided at no cost to priority populations.

- **TRAFFIC SAFETY/INJURY CONTROL (778-2807)**

This program heightens public awareness through education and support focused on issues related to traffic safety and injury prevention (unintentional and intentional).

- **TOBACCO FREE BROOME TIOGA**

A program focused on educating the community about the risks of tobacco use and the available opportunities for quitting.