

Contacting Your Public Health Nurses

Public Health Nurses serve
in each of the eight
Service Planning Areas in
Los Angeles County. To
locate the Public Health
Center nearest you, call
1-800-427-8700.



Healthy People in
Healthy Communities

Public Health Nurses have a bachelor's degree
in Nursing and have a California Public Health
Nurse Certificate. Registered nurses who
would like to work in Public Health may call:



Sharon Trucker,
Assistant Nursing Director and Nurse Recruiter
1-866-307-6877
www.lapublichealth.org/phn



Los Angeles County Department of Health Services
Public Health Nursing Administration
241 North Figueroa Street, Room 347
Los Angeles, CA 90012

Phone: 213-240-8089
Fax: 213-250-0612

12-01

Public Health Nursing



*Serving
Los Angeles
County
Since 1893...*

*Public Health Mission:
To safeguard and improve
the health of all Los
Angeles County residents.*

Public Health Nurses



Public Health Nurses (PHNs) are Registered Nurses who have a bachelor's degree in Nursing and a California Public Health Nurse Certificate. Many LA County PHNs also have a master's degree in Nursing or Public Health, among other specialties.

Public Health Nursing promotes the well-being of the community and seeks to promote health and prevent disease, disability and premature death. The PHN also strives to improve the quality of neighborhood life by working in partnership with community residents to create the conditions that ensure healthy lives. Through interaction with individuals/families, communities and systems, the PHN may focus on a specific geographic area, called a Service Planning Area (SPA), or a population group with special needs.

Families and Individuals

PHNs improve the health and well-being of community members by focusing on the *Healthy People 2010* leading health indicators:

Physical activity	Overweight & obesity
Tobacco use	Substance abuse
Mental health	Injury and violence
Environmental quality	Immunization
Access to health care	Responsible sexual behavior

Public Health Nurses may provide additional assistance to individuals and families with concerns such as communicable diseases, sudden infant death syndrome (SIDS), lead poisoning, and pregnancy. Children with special needs and those in foster care also receive support.

Ask-the-Nurse



Public Health Nurses in some areas are accessible at community sites or other places where large numbers of people gather. The nurses work together with local community agencies to make sure that individuals and families receive needed services through on-site and telephone consultation. Nurses may provide health education classes when requested and seek to involve other disciplines such as nutrition, health education or environmental health specialist when possible.

Community

Public Health Nurses work closely with the other members of the Public Health Team in each SPA on community concerns that affect the health and quality of life of residents in their neighborhoods. These may include issues such as cigarette sales to minors, car seat and seat belt use, and organizing neighborhood cleanup campaigns.



PHNs build on existing community strengths and assets in all of their actions. In partnership with the community, PHNs seek to reduce health problems or increase neighborhood resiliency and capacity by promoting changes in community norms, attitudes, awareness, beliefs, practices and behavior.

Systems

Los Angeles County Public Health Nurses improve the general health of a community through an interdisciplinary approach that considers ways to improve the community's physical, emotional and socio-economic well-being. Many aspects of improving health require changes in organizations, laws, policies and power structures. Whenever possible, PHNs assist the community in bringing its concerns to policy makers and organizations in order to achieve long term improvement in community health.

