

## **ABOUT THE HEALTH DISTRICT**

The Health District of Northern Larimer County has been meeting local healthcare needs in northern Larimer County since 1960. Today, we provide prescription assistance, mental health, dental, preventive and health planning services to our community.

The district encompasses the northern two-thirds of Larimer County and includes the cities of Fort Collins, LaPorte, Timnath, Wellington, Livermore and Red Feather Lakes. The Health District is a special tax district—like a school, fire or sanitation district—that was created by voters in 1960 to serve the health needs of our community. The Health District is supported by local property tax dollars and is governed by a publicly elected five-member board.

### **Mission**

The mission of the Health District of Northern Larimer County is to improve our community's health status.

### **Vision**

Health District residents will live long and well.

Our community will excel in health assessment, access, promotion and policy development.

- Our practice of assessment will enable individuals and organizations to make informed decisions regarding health practices.
- All citizens will have access to basic health services.
- The community will champion the prevention of disability and early death and the promotion of health through detection of treatable disease, prevention of injury and the promotion of responsible, healthy lifestyles.
- Citizens and leaders together will be engaged in ongoing systems and health policy development at local, state and national levels.
- Like-minded communities across the country will emulate our successes.

### **Values**

The elected Board of Directors, after significant research, planning and discussion, has adopted the following values for the work of the Health District:

- Take an active leadership role in helping the community adopt and apply strategies that address the broader determinants of health in improving our community's health status.
- Treat all people with dignity and promote mutual respect.
- Promote individual responsibility for health
- Emphasize prevention, which plays an essential role in reducing the occurrence of sickness, injury, and premature death.
- Prioritize needs and opportunities using a criterion-based process.
- Provide health services that address unmet needs or opportunities.
- Foster shared responsibility for the community's health (with community individuals, groups, organizations).
- Utilize educational strategies to raise community knowledge and awareness.
- Ensure accountability by performing periodic health status assessments and program evaluations to determine change in health status indicators and value added to the community.
- Seek and utilize relevant information in making decisions.
- Assure fiscal responsibility.