HEALTHIEST WISCONSIN 2020
Everyone Living Better, Longer
A State Health Plan to Improve Health Across the Life Span, and Eliminate Health Disparities and Achieve Health Equity
This strategic state health plan was prepared by the Wisconsin Department of Health Services, and through the collaborative efforts of public health system partners. It fulfills the statutory requirement to develop a state public health agenda at least once every 10 years [Wisconsin Statutes, Section 250.07 (1) (a)].

July 2010

Wisconsin Department of Health Services
Division of Public Health
Office of Policy and Practice Alignment
On the Web: http://dhs.wisconsin.gov/hw2020/
Dedication

Healthiest Wisconsin 2020: Everyone Living Better, Longer is dedicated to Wisconsin’s public health system partners. While they live and work in many different places across our state, and represent many different walks of life, they have all contributed generously of their time, talents, and resources to develop Healthiest Wisconsin 2020. Their ongoing dedication and commitment to collaborative partnerships will continue to transform policies, programs and systems that result in healthy, safe and resilient communities, families and individuals. We invite you to join them in making a difference.

Acknowledgements

The Wisconsin Department of Health Services and its public health system partners extend their gratitude to the University of Wisconsin School of Medicine and Public Health Wisconsin Partnership Program for its financial support. These resources supported 10 community engagement forums, 46 meetings of the Focus Area Strategic Teams, and the regular and active engagement of the Healthiest Wisconsin 2020 Strategic Leadership Team during 2008-2009. We are also grateful to all the people who helped to shape Healthiest Wisconsin 2020 (see Appendix A).

Suggested Citation:

A Letter from
Karen E. Timberlake, Secretary
Wisconsin Department of Health Services

I am proud to present Healthiest Wisconsin 2020: Everyone Living Better, Longer. This plan represents the third decade of statewide community health improvement planning that is designed to benefit the health of everyone in Wisconsin and the communities in which we live, play, work, and learn.

Healthiest Wisconsin 2020 declares a bold vision: Everyone Living Better, Longer, which reflects the plan’s twin goals: improve health across the life span, and eliminate health disparities and achieve health equity. The plan’s mission is to assure conditions in which people can be healthy and members of healthy, safe, and resilient families and communities. The vision, goals, and mission of this plan are anchored in a set of core values that form the moral and aspirational compass for the plan. These include using science and evidence to solve problems, set policy, and take action; striving for fairness and justice; relying on leadership at all levels; and seeking to prevent rather than treat disease, injury, and disability.

Healthiest Wisconsin 2020 represents the fulfillment of Wisconsin Statute Section 250.07 (1)(a) that requires the Department to produce a public health agenda for the people of Wisconsin at least every 10 years. Healthiest Wisconsin 2020 represents both a product – a state health plan – and an ongoing process using science, quality improvement, partnerships, and large-scale community engagement.

I extend gratitude to the Healthiest Wisconsin 2020 Strategic Leadership Team for its active engagement and accountability and to the more than 1,500 people from all walks of life who gave of their time to advise, create, and engage in the development of a plan that is bigger than any one person or organization. It took a community of partners to create this plan and it will take many more to implement it over the decade. Healthiest Wisconsin 2020 embodies the concept that it takes the work of many to improve and protect the health of all.

Sincerely,

Karen E. Timberlake
Secretary
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