

Mayor & Board of Health

A Message From Mayor Chris Beutler



Chris Beutler
Mayor of Lincoln

The health and well being of our families and friends is important for all of us, and that makes public health a top priority for local government. The role of public health in our lives is expressed quite well in the slogan of the Lincoln-Lancaster County Health Department: "Public Health: Every One, Every Day, Every Where."

I encourage you to read through this annual report of our Health Department to make yourself familiar with the wide variety of

public health programs available in our community. Today more than ever, citizens are seeking out these services. Today's issues – access to health care, health care coverage and finding a "medical home" – are requiring us to look at new and renewed partnerships with businesses, non-profits, religious organizations and health professionals. During the upcoming year, the Health Department will lead a group working toward improved access to care and the elimination of health and social inequities. Lincoln is fortunate to have a strong spirit of collaboration and partnership.

My commitment to public service was strengthened by my experiences in the Peace Corps and in our State Legislature. Now, as Mayor, I am fortunate to work with many dedicated public servants, including those in our Health Department. We can take pride in their efforts to improve the quality of life for all residents and to promote a pollution-free environment.

Citizen involvement in government is essential, and I offer my thanks and support to the Board of Health and the many advisory committees that serve the Health Department. We recently recognized our City emergency service providers for their accomplishments in becoming nationally accredited. I am pleased that our Health Department is pursuing this same national status. We appreciate the support of the public as all our departments strive to maintain excellence.

Chris Beutler
Mayor of Lincoln

2007-2008 Board of Health Members



Lisa Peterson, MD
President



Rodrigo
Contarero, PhD



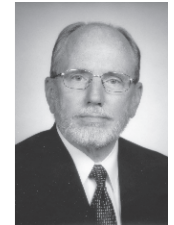
Karla
Lester, MD



Tony Messineo
Vice President



Hena Roy, MD



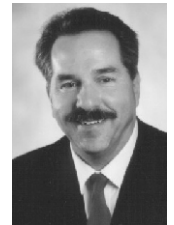
Ed Schneider, OD



Deb Schorr
County Commissioner



Heidi Stark, DDS



Ken Svoboda
City Councilman

About the Board of Health

In 1873, a City Council ordinance created the Board of Health. In 1886, the City Council approved a \$500.00 budget for the Health Department. The Department was created as an official City/County entity in 1947. The Mayor appoints the Health Director, with confirmation by the City Council, County Board and Board of Health. The Board of Health consists of one physician, one dentist, one City Council member, one County Board member and five public-spirited members appointed by the City Council and County Board.

The Board of Health assists the Department with the development and the implementation of public health policy. Each board member contributes a unique perspective and expertise that helps fulfill the Department's mission of protecting and promoting the health of the public. Board members represent diverse populations throughout Lincoln and Lancaster County and often advocate for improved personal and environmental public health services.