



WECHU Annual Service Plan 2023

January 19, 2023

Development of an Annual Service Plan

- Ministry of Health requirements that must be fulfilled based upon the Ontario Public Health Standards (OPHS) and related legislation
- Development of program plans based on local priority populations and local public health needs
- Programs, services and human resources tied to budgetary plans
- WECHU uses comprehensive planning approach - reflects integration of WECHU's strategic, evaluation, and quality improvement plans
- Corporate plans supporting foundational standards and corporate requirements including risk registry and CQI

Community Needs and Priority Populations

- Local public health risks and challenges – evidence informed local approaches
- Data driven community needs – local data challenges
- Local Priority Populations with integration of high risk postal codes and High Priorities Communities fund work integration
- Plans are a balance of Provincial requirements for programming and locally responsive efforts in most needed areas (required under Public Health mandate)

Ontario Public Health Standards

STANDARDS:

4	FOUNDATIONAL STANDARDS
9	PROGRAM STANDARDS
3	FRAMEWORKS

SUPPORTING MATERIALS:

23	PROTOCOLS
20	GUIDELINES
13	REFERENCE DOCUMENTS

Program Standards

1

CHRONIC DISEASE PREVENTION
AND WELL-BEING

2

HEALTHY GROWTH AND
DEVELOPMENT

3

FOOD SAFETY

4

SAFE WATER

5

HEALTHY
ENVIRONMENTS

6

INFECTIOUS AND
COMMUNICABLE DISEASES
PREVENTION AND CONTROL

7

IMMUNIZATION

8

SCHOOL HEALTH

9

SUBSTANCE USE AND INJURY
PREVENTION

1

Chronic Disease Prevention & Well-being

Mental Health

- Develop and build capacity within local system to inform “upstream” approaches to promoting positive mental health.
 - Collate and share local mental health data, best practices, community education, and resources for system navigation

Healthy Eating Behaviours

- Serve as the backbone organization behind the Windsor-Essex Food Policy Council
 - Development of a local food strategy to coordinate partners and collectively assess needs and action strategies
- Provision of direct client supports for healthy eating behaviours
 - Lead agency amongst community partners

Departments that support this standard: CDIP, Healthy Schools & Oral Health

1

Chronic Disease Prevention & Well-being

Physical Activity Promotion

- Working with partners to develop and implement local strategies to reduce sedentary behaviours
 - Education for older adults, improving access to recreation for low income families
- Utilization of emerging social platforms and technologies to provide tools, reduce barriers, and educate community on how to meet recommendations for daily physical activity

Built Environment

- Providing expertise in consultation with municipalities to support built environment planning

Departments that support this standard: CDIP, Healthy Schools, & Oral Health

2

Healthy Growth & Development

Breastfeeding

- Direct lactation support through in person and virtual consultation services with certified Lactation Consultant
- Hotline offered to support new parents
- In hospital infant feeding assessment and 48 hours phone call post-partum

Nurse Practitioner clinic

- Nurse Practitioner clinic for those unattached to a Healthcare Provider to provide primary care to infants and mental health support to new mothers

Departments that support this standard: Healthy Families

2

Healthy Growth & Development

Preconception/Prenatal /Parenting Support

- Positive parenting classes and supports for high-risk groups
- Delivery of preparation for parenting courses with local partners
- Provision of multivitamins, connections to social services (e.g., food, income, housing), and guidance on healthy lifestyles for healthy pregnancies

Departments that support this standard: Healthy Families

3

Food Safety

- 24/7 on-call response for food-borne illness/outbreaks & emergencies
- Routine inspections of high, medium and low risk food premises (3, 2, 1 annual inspections)
- Complaint inspections
- Inspections and public disclosure of outcomes
- Food handler training & certification
 - Online and targeted priority groups
- Public awareness of food-borne illnesses and safe food-handling practices and principles

Departments that support this standard: Environmental Health

4

Safe Water

- Recreational Water facility inspections
 - Pools, Spas, Splash pads, Waterslides, Wading Pools
 - Beach water quality testing
- Drinking Water Monitoring and Surveillance
 - Small water system inspections and operator training
 - 24/7 response to water-borne illness reporting
- Public disclosure and education regarding water safety
- Safe water public education and awareness

Departments that support this standard: Environmental Health

3

Healthy Environments

- Planning and response to environmental hazards/exposures
- Consulting with municipalities on climate change and extreme weather strategies response
 - Extreme weather monitoring and responses
 - Regional Climate Change Strategy
- Inspecting public spaces based on legislated requirements and operator education
 - Seasonal Housing
 - Recreational Camps
 - Ice rinks/arenas
- 24/7 on-call response to health hazards to reduce public exposure

Departments that support this standard: Environmental Health

6

Substance Use & Injury Prevention

Opioids and Other Substances

- Serve as the founding and “backbone” organization behind the Windsor-Essex Community Opioid and Substance Strategy
- Community hub for the distribution of Naloxone to partner agencies
- Increase public awareness of overdose prevention and the benefits of harm reduction
- Lead agency for the establishment of a CTS; includes community consultation, leasing of space, retrofit, Ministry applications, and liaison role
- Development and distribution of resources for referral pathways and system navigation
- Surveillance of overdose and community alert system

Departments that support this standard: CDIP, Healthy Schools, Infectious Disease Prevention

6

Substance Use & Injury Prevention

Tobacco and Vaping

- Reduce youth access to tobacco and vaping products
- Development of municipal policy support through enforcement of *Smoke-free Ontario Act, 2017* and smoking/vaping bylaws
- One-on-one cessation services offered through counselling and NRT distribution
- Working with local partners regarding substance treatment

Alcohol and Cannabis

- Increase the use of screening tools and referrals amongst community agencies
- Support municipalities with assessment of new cannabis retail operations prior to opening.

Departments that support this standard: CDIP, Healthy Schools, Infectious Disease Prevention

7

Immunization

- Providing school-based immunization clinics to eligible students (grade 7)
- Assessing and enforcing the requirements of the ISPA in schools and licensed child care centres
- Onsite/mobile COVID-19 vaccinations
 - Focus on priority and under-immunized groups including pediatric, immunocompromised, individuals in high priority postal codes
- Emergency response vaccination supports for outbreaks and emerging infectious diseases (i.e. Monkeypox, chicken pox, polio)
- Vaccine response planning for emerging infectious diseases

Departments that support this standard: Healthy Schools

7

Immunization

- ISPA Exemption Process Support
- Respiratory illness/seasonal influenza campaign
- Local health care provider engagement to support immunization in community with focus on high priority groups
- Managing supply, distribution, and cold-chain for publically funded vaccines
- Monitoring and investigating all local AEFIs

Departments that support this standard: Healthy Schools

8

Infectious and Communicable Diseases Prevention and Control

- Response, tracking, and management of outbreaks
- Monitoring vector-borne diseases and transmission (mosquito surveillance and larviciding program)
- Investigation/contact tracing of communicable diseases (Diseases of Public Health Significance)
 - Case and contact management for STTBIs
 - COVID-19 Response (CCM)
 - Monkeypox response

Departments that support this standard: Infectious Disease Prevention & Environmental Health

8

Infectious and Communicable Diseases Prevention and Control

- Animal Bite Investigations and Rabies Prevention Program
- Tuberculosis (TB) testing, tracking, and case management (including management of latent TB infections and medical surveillance)
- Collaboration with local partners and health care providers on reporting requirements, immunization and high risk client outreach
- Infection Prevention and Control (IPAC) program
 - Hub Lead (non-cost share programming)
 - Conducting IPAC inspections of applicable facilities
 - Working with high risk facilities to support IPAC fundamentals
 - Host local IPAC Community of Practice

Departments that support this standard: Infectious Disease Prevention & Environmental Health

9

School Health

- Dedicated support to high needs school on priority topics (annual school health assessments)
- Providing age appropriate mental health and well-being supports (sleep, suicide prevention, resilience strategies) – collaboration with Board strategies
- Working with partners to prevent sexual violence occurrences/provide student supports (focus on consent)
- Education and support to reduce substance use in schools (including tobacco, vaping and e-cigarettes)
- Training and support related to healthy eating in schools with a focus on food literacy

Departments that support this standard: Healthy Schools

9

School Health – Oral Health

Healthy Smiles Ontario

- Operation of a City and County dental clinic to serve eligible children 17 and under
- Oral health screening in all local elementary schools with RDH and DA
- Parental notification and enrollment into HSO program for free treatment through referral or in house
- Provision of oral health services to qualifying students
- Education/support and health promotion in schools

Departments that support this standard: Oral Health

Oral Health

Ontario Seniors Dental Care Program

- Provides access to free dental care for those 65 years and older through internal WECHU City and County dental clinics and/or referral to community dental office
 - Check-ups, including scaling, fluoride and polishing
 - Repairing broken teeth and cavities
 - X-rays
 - Removing teeth or abnormal tissue (oral surgery)
 - Treating infection and pain (endodontic services)
 - Treating gum conditions and diseases (periodontal services)
 - Provision of dentures as needed

Departments that support this standard: Oral Health