

**For immediate release**

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## **Local Health Department Adopts New Name, Logo**

The Lewis and Clark City-County Health Department has changed its name to Lewis and Clark Public Health, effective today.

The local government agency also has adopted a new logo to better represent itself visually.

“We believe this new name will better reflect who we are and what we do in our community,” said Melanie Reynolds, county health officer and director of the agency. “We want to differentiate ourselves from clinical health care, which has a different though related mission.”

Public health is the science of protecting and improving the health of families and communities, rather than individuals, Reynolds explained.

“We do that primarily by promoting healthy lifestyles and detecting and controlling infectious diseases,” she said. “We monitor the community to determine what health issues need to be addressed and work with others in the community to tackle them.”

Public health professionals try to prevent problems from happening through education, policy recommendations, and direct services. In contrast, clinical professionals like doctors and nurses focus primarily on treating individuals after they become sick or injured. Public health also advocates for access to health care for all.

The mission of Lewis and Clark Public Health is to improve and protect the health of all residents of Lewis and Clark County. It does that through a wide variety of programs, including disease tracking, restaurant and pool inspections, immunizations, air and water quality protection, nutrition assistance, pregnancy and parenting support, cancer screening assistance, tobacco use prevention, and public health emergency preparedness.

The agency is governed by the City-County Board of Health, which sets policy and appoints the director. The staff comprises about 50 nurses, social workers, sanitarians, health educators and other public health professionals. Offices are located in Helena at 1930 Ninth Avenue and in the City-County Building, 316 North Park.

To contact Lewis and Clark Public Health, call 443-2584 or email [healthinfo@lccountymt.gov](mailto:healthinfo@lccountymt.gov). The agency is online at [www.LewisAndClarkHealth.org](http://www.LewisAndClarkHealth.org) and on Facebook at [www.facebook.com/LewisAndClarkHealth](http://www.facebook.com/LewisAndClarkHealth)