

The Iowa Department of Public Health (IDPH) Maternal and Child Health Epidemiology positions are jointly located in the Division of Health Promotion and Chronic Disease Prevention/Bureau of Family Health (BFH) and the Division of Environmental Health/Bureau of Health Statistics (BHS). The IDPH is interested in having a CSTE fellow participate in a variety of activities in maternal and child health. Potential investigation activities include, but are not limited to the following:

- Analyze and report on data from the 2005 Iowa Child and Family Household Health Survey. This survey covers a broad array of health and well-being topics as well as family issues such as the effect of drug and alcohol use and gambling on children in the home. Topics for analysis include, but are not limited to Iowan children's health status, issues related to their nutritional status, obesity, and physical activity, access to and use of health care, and access to and use of dental care. Data collection is underway and will be completed in spring 2006.
- Use the linked birth and Medicaid claims files to analyze differences in access to care and factors associated with adverse birth outcomes and infant mortality for Medicaid compared to non-Medicaid women.
- Perform Periods of Perinatal Risk (PPOR) for Iowa. This analytic approach explores gaps in fetoinfant mortality between different populations. The analytic approach is designed to identify opportunities for intervention.
- Analyze data from a state-wide survey being conducted by the Early Hearing Detection and Intervention Program (EHDI). The survey's purpose is to assess the effectiveness of hearing screening teaching materials that are distributed to parents.
- Analyze the effectiveness of Medicaid prenatal case management to increase access to prenatal care and other services that may reduce adverse birth outcomes among women at increased risk for adverse birth outcomes.
- Assist with the development and implementation of the Iowa Pregnancy Risk Assessment Monitoring System (PRAMS). PRAMS is a population-based survey of post-partum women. The survey collects data on women's health behaviors such as tobacco and alcohol use, access to prenatal care, pregnancy intended-ness, and early infant care. These data can be used to guide program and policy development. Funding approval pending.
- Evaluate the Iowa EHDI system based on the National EHDI performance indicators .

The IDPH has multiple tools to conduct these activities in data collection, analyses, program evaluation, and surveillance. Through our joint location in the BFH and the BHS, we have easy access to all the necessary databases.

Iowa offers opportunities for collaboration with academic institutions such as the University of Iowa, Iowa State University and Des Moines University and for collaboration with

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national organizations such as CityMatCH. The fellow would have opportunities to present their work to programs within the IDPH, in state and national meetings, and peer-reviewed journals.

Primary Mentor: Debra J Kane, PhD, RN, APRN, BC
MCH Epidemiologist (2005 to present)

Advanced Degrees: PhD, University of Illinois @ Chicago (2003)
MS, University of Wisconsin @ Madison (1994)

Secondary Mentor: M Jane Borst, MA, RN
Bureau Chief
Bureau of Family Health (1993 -present)

Advanced Degree: BA, Augustana College (1972)
MA, University of Iowa (1983)