



# Saint Louis County

**Public Health and Human Service Department**  
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**Ann Busche**  
Director

## NEWS RELEASE

**For immediate release:**

April 3, 2015

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### **Public Health Week is April 6-10**

Public Health professionals work with first-time expectant mothers to increase their odds of delivering a healthy baby. They advocate in communities for safer routes for walking, biking and other healthy activities. Breastfeeding and nutrition advice for young families? Public Health staff work in these areas, too. The same is true for the prevention of diseases ranging from the flu to ebola, as well as preparation for disaster response.

The work of Public Health nurses and staff touches individuals, families and communities. To recognize their good work and further raise awareness of the services they provide, numerous special events are planned the week of April 6-10, 2015. The County Board, at its meeting April 7, at 9:30, will issue a proclamation declaring it Public Health Week in St. Louis County. Additionally, Public Health nurses will be available with information on topics ranging from ticks and sun protection, immunizations, healthy recipes, child and teen checkups, and more at the following locations:

- Northland Office Center in Virginia, April 7, 8-12:00 noon
- Vermilion Community College, Ely, April 7, 10-12:00 noon
- Super One at 13<sup>th</sup> Avenue East and Superior Street in Duluth, April 7, 3-6:00 p.m.
- Public Library, Ely, April 8, 2-4:00 p.m.
- Mesabi Range Community College, April 9, 9-12:00 noon
- Public Health Office in Hibbing, April 9, 9-11:00 a.m.
- Government Services Center in Duluth, April 9, 1-3:00 p.m.

“We have seen some real successes in recent years in our work to ensure all citizens have easy access to quality health care,” said Amy Westbrook, Public Health Division Director for St. Louis

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County. “For instance, the Ely Community Care Team has been recognized statewide as a model for improving the health of individuals by addressing access to clinical care as well as addressing individual social and emotional factors. Meanwhile, this fall we’ll see the implementation of the Myers-Wilkins Accountable Community for Health project, which aims to improve the health of elementary school students and families in new and innovative ways.

“At the same time, we know that a person’s education, employment and neighborhood can have a strong influence on their overall health and life expectancy, so there is still much work to be done to fulfill our mission of ensuring the health and safety of all residents and visitors,” said Westbrook.

St. Louis County Public Health is a division of Public Health and Human Services. Public Health nurses, nutritionists and other staff serve citizens countywide from offices in Duluth, Virginia, Hibbing and Ely. To learn more, call (218) 725-5210 or visit [stlouiscountymn.gov/publichealth](http://stlouiscountymn.gov/publichealth).

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