Ocean County Community Health Improvement Plan

Public Health and Business, a Partnership that makes Cents!
One potential untapped resource in the advancement of public health and the dispensation of services to our residents is our robust business community. Our residents frequent our business both in-store and online. Therein resides an opportunity to dispense educational materials, inform of upcoming events, health initiatives and direct services. So, why is a public/private partnership important to your business?

**Did you know?**

- Aggregate U.S. health care spending soared from $73 billion in 1970 to $1.7 trillion in 2003. Between 1987 and 2000, more than one-quarter of this spending was borne by private business.

- Often overlooked but not forgotten is the cost to business in reduced work-force productivity attributable to illness and chronic conditions. We call this “presenteeism.” For many health conditions, productivity losses from absenteeism and “presenteeism” exceed associated employer health benefit costs.

- A recent study of a major US Employer’s workforce found that work impairment associated with chronic health conditions accounted for more than 60 percent of the company’s total costs for these conditions, and for 6.8 % of the company’s total U.S. labor costs.

- In a study of the same company’s workforce, smokers averaged 30 percent more absences due to illness than nonsmokers did. Smokers also increase medical costs for non-smokers as well.


- In 1995, influenza caused seventy-five million lost workdays and more than 200 million days of restricted activity among U.S. working adults. Vaccination against influenza can reduce this toll by 60 percent.
What businesses can do

Worksite health promotion reduces costs and increases productivity no matter what size business you have

Healthier food choices in vending machines

Supporting walking programs

Smart community development

Protective equipment

Safety training

Public transportation + Increased walking

Cover and support clinic and preventive services

Public Health’s Role

Testing and Prevention

Clinic Services

WIC Services

Nutrition Education

Environmental Expertise

Education

Immunizations

Preparation for Disasters

https://www.healthaffairs.org/doi/full/10.1377/hlthaff.25.4.1029