



Proclamation

Snohomish County Board of Health

WHEREAS, the week of April 7-13, 2025, is National Public Health Week and the theme is “It Starts Here;” and

WHEREAS, since 1995, National Public Health Week has educated the public, policymakers, and public health professionals about issues important to improving the public’s health; and

WHEREAS, Washington state governmental public health is rooted in three main functions of assessment, policy development, and assurance and is a shared state and local responsibility, which for Snohomish County includes the Washington State Board of Health, Washington State Department of Health, Snohomish County Board of Health, Snohomish County Health Department, and Tribes; and

WHEREAS, the Washington Tracking Network identifies the four leading causes of death in Snohomish County for 2023, in order, as cancer, heart disease, unintentional injury, and Alzheimer’s disease; and

WHEREAS, in 2024 the Snohomish County Health Department created new dashboards providing information and increased transparency to the public, including a respiratory illness dashboard; and

WHEREAS, in 2024 the department trained 826 residents on how to maintain their on-site septic system and awarded 731 rebates for the inspection, repair and maintenance of their systems; and

WHEREAS, in October 2024 the department convened its first countywide multidisciplinary adult overdose fatality review team consisting of thirty-nine individuals from twenty-one different agencies or departments to form a deeper understanding of system gaps or missed opportunities, and to formulate recommendations to prevent future deaths; and

WHEREAS, in January 2025, the department convened the first countywide Snohomish County Coalition for Falls Prevention and Education (SCOPE) which has grown to more than fifty community partners focused on the prevention of falls and promotion of lifelong well-being; and

WHEREAS, since opening a sexually transmitted infection (STI) clinic in December 2023, the Health Department is now the fifth leading STI diagnostic clinic in the county; and



WHEREAS, there is a significant decrease in health status among persons who are more likely to face social drivers that negatively impact health, such as racism, poverty, adverse childhood experiences, transportation barriers, and lack of economic opportunity; and

WHEREAS, the environmental health division works ensure the food, water and environment of Snohomish County are safe from health threats such as disease, pollution, pests, and other hazards; and

WHEREAS, the prevention services division works with communities to prevent disease such as pertussis, measles, and lead poisoning, promote healthier choices, and increase access to services; and

WHEREAS, the Snohomish County Health Department works to prepare, respond to, and recover from the impacts of emergencies such as from disease outbreaks, environmental hazards, and natural disasters; and

WHEREAS, sustainable support of local public health can, together with health care systems, create a system focused on preventing disease and injury and promoting wellness.

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Snohomish County Board of Health proclaims the week of April 7 through April 13, 2025, to be Public Health Week in Snohomish County and encourages residents to observe this week by celebrating the value of public health in improving the quality of life for all its communities.

ADOPTED this 8th day of April 2025.

Megan Dunn, Chair, Board of Health