

### History

The Missouri Office of Minority Health (MOMH) was established in 1988 by state statute.

### Health Priorities

The Missouri Department of Health and Senior Services (MDHSS) has identified health priorities for the general population and an additional priority specifically for racial/ethnic minority populations in the state.

Health Priorities for the General Population	Health Priorities Specifically for Racial/Ethnic Minority Populations
Diabetes	Infant Mortality
Heart Disease	
Cancer	
Obesity	
HIV/AIDS	

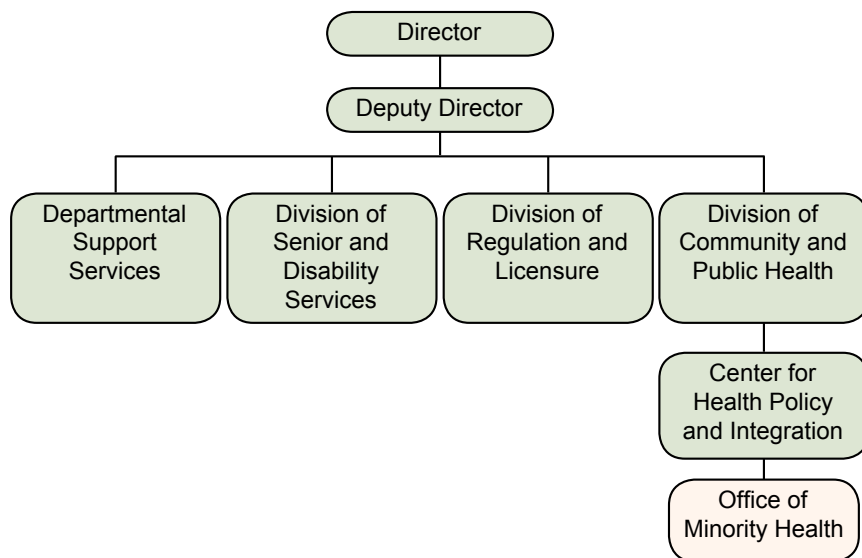
### Overview

	Funding for MH/HD Activities	Personnel Dedicated to MH/HD	MH/HD Unit	MH/HD Advisory Body	State MH/HD Legislation or Mandate	MH/HD Strategic Plan	Evaluation of MH/HD Activities
Missouri	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✗	✓
Total Affirmative Responses out of 46	30	38	36	36	27	36	39

### Organization, Infrastructure and Resources

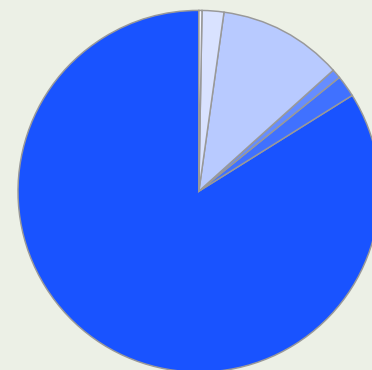
The following is a simplified organizational chart that demonstrates the location of the state's racial/ethnic minority health focal point in relation to the State/Territorial Health Official and/or other key public health offices.

#### Missouri Department of Health and Senior Services



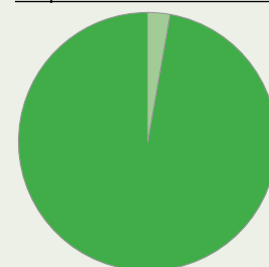
Total State Population:  
5,842,713

#### Racial Distribution



- American Indian/Alaskan Native (0.4%)
- Asian (2%)
- Black/African American (11%)
- Native Hawaiian/Pacific Islander (0%)
- Other Race (1%)
- Two or More Races (2%)
- White (84%)

#### Hispanic/Latino Ethnic Distribution



- Hispanic/Latino Ethnicity (3%)
- Non-Hispanic/Latino Ethnicity (97%)

*Note: People can self-identify as members of any racial group in the Census, as well as report having Hispanic/Latino ethnicity.*

Source: 2006 American Community Survey, US Census Bureau

## Strategic Planning

The MDHSS addresses health disparities in Missouri broadly through its general Departmental strategic plan. The MDHSS reports that the tracking of disparities, development of specific health interventions to address these disparities, and measurement of programmatic performance is carried out by the MDHSS Office of Minority Health and the other state health programs (that most often encounter health disparities) through analyses of Departmental data.

### Partnerships

- The Missouri Department of Health and Senior Services (MDHSS) consults with a Minority Health Advisory Committee that advises its leadership on racial/ethnic minority health and health disparities (MH/HD) issues.
- MH/HD activities are conducted and coordinated across the majority of MDHSS program offices.
- MDHSS maintains partnerships with an array of external entities active in MH/HD including: local health departments, local, tribal and other state government agencies, federal government, MH/HD advisory bodies, community- and faith-based and non-profit organizations, corporations, health systems, foundations, schools, universities, professional associations, clinical networks and the media..

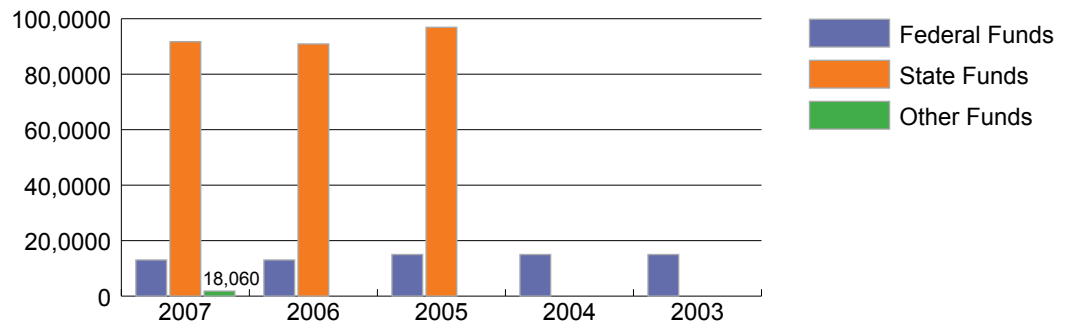
## Human Capital Investments

The following staff dedicates all or part of their work hours to MH/HD issues and activities at the MDHSS:

Job Category	Total Number Dedicated to MH/HD	% of Work Hours Each Spends on MH/HD Activities
Administrator/Director	1	100%
Policy or Program Officer	3	40 - 50%
Program Specialist	3	100%
Epidemiologist	1	25%
Public Health Educator	1	100%
Public Information Specialist	1	40%
Administrative/Clerical Staff	1	100%
Other	2	50%

## Financial Investments

MDHSS reported the following annual budget for racial/ethnic minority health and health disparities (MH/HD) from 2003 to 2007. This amount may not include funding for specific activities that may be related to minority health/health disparities and may therefore be an underestimate of the total investment in MH/HD.



## Activities

### Minority Health Awareness Month

The National Minority Health Month Foundation Inc. (NMHMF) was founded in 2001 to strengthen national and local efforts to eliminate the disproportionate burden of premature death and preventable illness among racial and ethnic minorities across the United States. The MDHSS launched the first Missouri Minority Health Month in April of 2003 to support the national NMHMF initiative to eliminate health disparities. Since then, the MDHSS Office of Minority Health (MOMH) prints an annual calendar of activities for Minority Health Awareness Month and distributes the calendar to the public. The calendar serves as a guide to Minority Health month activities sponsored by MOMH community partners that are meant to raise awareness about health disparities and provide health screening and education for minority communities.

#### Partners (and Funding)

MOMH, community- and faith-based organizations, organizations serving minority populations, local health departments, professional organizations, universities, colleges and health providers with general MDHSS funding (\$15,000)

#### Activity Outcomes

Increased awareness of racial/ethnic health disparities and of health services available to minority communities in Missouri

#### Evaluation Methods

None reported

### Elks Mobile Dental Unit

The MDHSS formed a public-private partnership with the Elks Benevolent Trust to create a Mobile Dental Program that provides basic dental care for children with special health care needs and other special populations. The program utilizes three dental vans to bring accessible dental care to areas of the state that are determined to be most in need - many of which include minority communities. All three mobile dental vans are each staffed with a licensed dentist and dental assistant, contain two dental units with x-ray equipment, and have waiting areas. Vans are also accessible by wheelchair lift.

#### Partners

Maternal and Child Health Bureau/Health Resources and Services Administration (MCHB/HRSA), Elks Benevolent Trust, Department of Hospital Dentistry at Truman Medical Center East, and MDHSS

#### Activity Outcome

Increased awareness regarding dental hygiene and care and improved oral health outcomes for key underserved populations in Missouri

#### Evaluation Methods

To evaluate this initiative, MDHSS relies on its public health surveillance system which routinely collects data on health outcomes, risk factors and intervention strategies for target populations, or representative samples of populations in question.

### Breastfeeding and Infant Mortality Media Campaign

African Americans experience disproportionately high rates of infant death in Missouri. To address infant mortality in 2006 the MDHSS initiated a breastfeeding, Sudden Infant Death Syndrome (SIDS) and infant sleep education and awareness campaign at faith organizations serving African-American communities. Faith-based partners have distributed health information and discussed infant health with focus groups of African-American parents (from the faith communities).

#### Partners (and Funding)

MOMH, Missouri Healthy Start Program, Maternal and Child Family Health Coalitions of Kansas City and St. Louis, Fetal Infant Mortality Review, minority community leaders and churches (with funding from the HRSA-administered Maternal and Child Health Block Grant)

#### Activity Outcome

Increased awareness and understanding in African-American communities of the causes of SIDS and the impact of breastfeeding and infant sleep positions on infant health

#### Evaluation Methods

Analysis of focus group feedback

## Activities continued...

### Denim Day Rape and Violence Awareness Initiative

The MDHSS Office of Women's Health and Office of Minority Health have formed partnerships with five universities and correctional facilities across Missouri to provide education and awareness regarding violence against women, including rape, during 'Denim Day'. On the 4th Tuesday of April each year, Initiative participants wear denim to indicate they are part of the public awareness activity and provide information on contributing factors, effects, prevention and treatment of rape and violence against women.

#### Partners (and Funding)

MDHSS Injury and Violence Section, Office of Minority Health and Office of Women's Health, Lincoln University, University of Missouri at Columbia, Columbia College, Stephens College, William Woods University and the State Department of Corrections (with funds from the MCH Block Grant)

#### Activity Outcome

The MDHSS Office of Women's Health plans to develop a Denim Day tool kit and submit it to the US DHHS Office of Women's Health to seek their endorsement of the Initiative.

#### Evaluation Methods

Not yet determined

### HIV, STD and Hepatitis Prevention Program

Through a profile developed on the demographics of HIV and STDs in the state, the MDHSS identified disproportionately high rates of HIV/AIDS, STDs and Hepatitis B among men having sex with men in African American and Hispanic communities. In response to these findings, the MDHSS established an HIV and STD Prevention Program that provides these at-risk populations with targeted HIV/STD preventive health education, screening and services.

#### Partners (and Funding)

MDHSS HIV and STD Prevention Program, MOMH, local health departments, community- and faith- based organizations serving affected communities (with general MDHSS funding)

#### Activity Outcome

Notable reductions in risky behavior, HIV/AIDS and STD morbidity among target populations

#### Evaluation Methods

HIV and STD prevention evaluation tools provided by the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention

Missouri's primary contact for racial/ethnic minority health and health disparities is:

#### **Cheryl Avant**

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