

North Dakota | Sherry Adams, RS, REHS

State Health Officer

North Dakota Department of Health and Human Services

Sherry Adams was appointed State Health Officer for North Dakota in September 2025 by Governor Kelly Armstrong. She is a registered sanitarian and environmental health specialist with more than two decades of experience in public health, emergency preparedness, and response.

Adams has led the Southwestern District Health Unit since 2009, overseeing 35 staff serving eight counties. She began her public health career in 2004 and has extensive experience in environmental health, local public health leadership, and emergency response. She is certified by the State of North Dakota and the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) as an incident command instructor and has worked in emergency preparedness and response for 21 years.



In her role as State Health Officer, Adams advises local public health officials, promotes the development of local health services, and works to prevent the spread of communicable diseases. She continues to serve as administrator of the Southwestern District Health Unit while fulfilling her state duties.

Adams is recognized for her collaborative leadership style, deep knowledge of public health practice, and strong commitment to building healthier communities across North Dakota.