

Communicable Disease (CD) Nurse Consultant Support to LHD STD Programs

CD Nurse Consultants are committed to promoting best practices, training opportunities, and relationship development between local health departments (LHD) and community health care providers. Each of the following activities augments LHD STD Program excellence:

- 1) **STD Program Monitoring Visits**
CD Nurse Consultants make onsite visits every three years to assess and evaluate a variety of STD QA/QI measures. Past areas of interest have been clinical skills, documentation of client encounters, scope of practice for registered nurses, and program foundations such as policies, procedures and standing orders. CD Nurse Consultants provide education and guidance to LHD nurses in all of these areas.
- 2) **STD-Focused Trainings**
CD Nurse Consultants develop and/or promote free web-based trainings as well as free onsite regional trainings. Web-based trainings are typically STD updates about trends, testing and treatment. Regional trainings are typically built around the learning needs of people working in LHD STD Programs, i.e., clinical staff and supervisors.
- 3) **Management of HIV Control Measure Violations and Application of other STD Public Health Laws**
CD Nurse Consultants provide clarification, requirements and other guidance to STD Program staff and LHD administrators on rules found in the NC Administrative Code.
- 4) **Community Relations and Public Health Law Enforcement with Private Providers**
CD Nurse Consultants work with LHD STD Program staff to create relationships with community partners and to be public health leaders in their communities for STD education, reporting, and treatment.
- 5) **STD Program Advocacy Within LHDs**
CD Nurse Consultants advocate for sufficient staffing and other resources necessary to ensure public access and availability to qualified LHD STD service providers.
- 6) **NC Electronic Disease Surveillance System (EDSS) Support**
CD Nurse Consultants assist LHD staff responsible for STD data entry
- 7) **STD Surveillance**
CD Nurse Consultants work with LHD STD Program staff to identify disease trends and to develop strategies for targeted education, testing, and treatment.
- 8) **Guidance for the STD Enhanced Role Registered Nurse (ERRN)**
CD Nurse Consultants and the STD Quality Improvement Coordinator are resources to LHD STD Program staff and administrators for information about the STD ERRN role in public health departments.