



Dear State Health Official:

Welcome to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention!

Congratulations on your new role as a State Health Official. You have one of the most critical responsibilities in your state—to protect and maintain the health of the public. Your priorities, decisions and activities have a direct impact on health at all jurisdictional levels. The Office for State, Tribal, Local and Territorial Support (OSTLTS) is here to support you in reaching your public health goals.

The mission of OSTLTS is to improve the capacity and performance of the public health system at all levels. We are committed to working with our CDC colleagues and with colleagues and partners across the country to identify gaps, opportunities to support, and strategies needed to grow and enhance our overarching responsibility to protect the health of the public. Our values are rooted in our fiduciary responsibility and our goals are focused on strengthening the infrastructure of public health systems to ensure the highest standards, the most effective policies, and the most relevant and timely, evidence-based practices are used and disseminated.

A major part of this State Health Officer Welcome Packet is the **interactive CD**. This CD includes a description of CDC centers, institutes and offices; leadership bios; a description of OSTLTS activities; a funding profile of CDC's investment in your state for the last fiscal year; and additional helpful information for you as a State Health Officer.

As a previous state health official, I have had first-hand experience with the type of work you are about to take on. It is exciting, challenging, rewarding, complex, and important. We have a responsibility to help make a difference in the health of the nation through the states, tribes, local jurisdictions, and U.S. territories and U.S. affiliated pacific islands. I look forward to working with you and celebrating our successes together!

Sincerely,

Judith A. Monroe, MD, FAAFP  
Deputy Director, Centers for Disease Control and Prevention  
Director, Office for State, Tribal, Local and Territorial Support