

Closing Comments

The topic of injury control is still fairly new to the nation in general and West Virginia, specifically. While the number of fatal and near-fatal incidents remain unacceptably high, public health professionals are addressing injury in a more programmatic manner. A variety of injury-specific programs are funded at the state and local level.

This document is only a brief summary of the fatal injury problem. Considerable work remains to be done in order to reduce the numbers of people who die or are seriously injured every day. The reader is encouraged to further investigate the data sources employed in compiling this document. Toward this end, a fairly complete list of West Virginia data sources is provided in the appendices.

One unique characteristic of injury is that it is a public health problem that can be treated in many ways by the general public. There are no prescriptions to write, no complex pharmaceuticals, you don't have to be trained as a paramedic, a nurse, a doctor or an epidemiologist in order to practice injury prevention in the home, community, or at work. In fact, opportunities abound for engineers, teachers, counselors, health professionals, politicians, mothers and fathers everywhere. For more information about how you can get involved, contact one of the agencies listed below.

WVU Center for Rural Emergency Medicine
Robert C. Byrd Health Sciences Center
PO Box 9151
Morgantown, WV 26506-9151
(304) 293-6682

West Virginia Bureau of Public Health
Office of Epidemiology and Health Promotion
350 Capitol Street
Charleston, WV 25301-3716
(304) 558-0644

For additional agency and injury resource information, please refer to the appendices in the next section.