If the fiscal climate of your region is clouding your plans for public health programs, C. Arden Miller and Merry-K. Moos have a brighter forecast for you. In Local Health Departments, Miller and Moos show you how quality care is being delivered through public health systems—even in the age of diminishing resources.

The authors present case studies of 15 highly successful local health programs that represent a diverse range of urban and rural settings. Why are these programs flourishing at a time when funding is tight and plenty of private health care options are available? Because, as the authors discovered, they combine skillful management, flexibility, ingenuity, and creativity to overcome seemingly difficult conditions.

Miller and Moos analyze these exemplary programs and demonstrate how, despite differences in style and background, they developed workable and appropriate solutions to common problems. The authors point out, for example, ways in which:

- innovations in continuity of care were brought about through hot lines, combined services, and outreach programs.
- strong links with private and other health care providers led to more comprehensive personalized services.
- often ignored services, such as dental care, were cost-effectively delivered through mobile vans and other sources.

Whether your public health program is autonomous or under state control, you’ll find Local Health Departments a valuable source of ideas for improving your institution’s managerial, financial and patient care functions. And in these days when more care must be provided for less money, that is good news!
The journal analyzes the different political, social and economical forces that shape the nature of health, disease, medicine and public health. It deals with the politics, policy, law, ethics and philosophy of health and medicine. As one student indicated, “It represents a breath of fresh air in the rather orthodox intellectual environment.” The articles tend to be written in plain English, their message accessible to all audiences, professional and non-professional alike. Titles and authors of recent articles include:

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