

To: Board of Health
From: Dan Martindale, M.P.A.
 Public Health Director
Date: February 28, 2018 (reflects January 2018)
Re: Director's Report



Acronyms

- EPCPH – El Paso County Public Health
- CDPHE – Colorado Department of Public Health and Environment

Office of Communication (OOC):

Television News Media

Media value dollar figures reflect equivalent costs for 30-second spot advertising during the respective newscasts and times. **There are other stories, as well as coverage and video on local news media outlets' websites that are not included in this news media value report.**

Topic	Date	Media Outlet	Number of viewers	Estimated Value
Radon Action Month	1/8/2018	KOAA	n/a	n/a
Radon Action Month	1/11/2018	KKTV	2,290	\$95.03
Radon Action Month	1/17/2018	KOAA	2,196	\$211.23
Influenza	1/18/2018	KKTV	37,922	\$4,178.60
Influenza	1/18/2018	KOAA	17,461	\$887.11
Tobacco Company Corrective Statements	1/24/2018	KOAA	N/A	N/A
Colorado Springs Food Rescue	1/24/2018	KOAA	N/A	N/A
Hospitalized influenza decreasing	1/30/2018	KOAA	25,948	\$1,242.65
Foodborne illness complaint system	1/31/2018	KRDO	7,208	\$849.12
Foodborne illness complaint system	1/31/2018	KKTV	21,335	\$2,914.31
Foodborne illness complaint system	1/31/2018	KOAA	N/A	N/A
TOTAL			114,360	\$10,378.05

Print/Online

- 1/6/2018 – The Pueblo Chieftain, "[Nevin-Woods: Slow and steady on better health resolutions](#)", by Dr. Christine Nevin-Woods.
- 1/8/2018- The Gazette, "[Pikes Peak region residents urged to test for radon this month](#)", by Jakob Rodgers.

- 1/18/2018- The Gazette, “[El Paso County child dies from flu; state health officials urge residents to get vaccinated](#)” by Chhun Sun. Interview provided by Dr. Christine Nevin-Woods, Medical Director.
- 1/24/2018- The Gazette, “[El Paso County health agency takes over reporting of animal bites](#)”, by Jakob Rodgers. Interview provided by Tom Gonzales, Deputy Director and comments by Dan Martindale, Director.
- 1/28/2018- The Gazette, “[Colorado Springs flu vaccine clinic seeks to slow virus’ march](#)”, by Chhun Sun. Interview provided by Danielle Oller, Public Information Officer.
- 1/29/2018- The Gazette, “[Colorado Springs- area schools bracing for possible flu onslaught](#)”, by Debbie Kelley. Interview provided by Danielle Oller, Public Information Officer.

Communication Support

- Launched promotion for Radon Action Month including social media messaging, radio and television advertisements, and a news release.
- Developed and placed social media messaging promoting the court-ordered “corrective statements” made by the tobacco industry about the negative health effects of smoking and secondhand smoke.
- Continued to provide support for planning of the ribbon cutting ceremony/open house for the new WIC office in southeast Colorado Springs.
- Distributed WIC Grand Opening news release on January 18, 2018.
- Distributed Foodborne Illness Reporting Online news release on January 31, 2018.
- Developed influenza prevention messages poster for distribution in EPCPH lobby.
- Participated in the Safe Kids Colorado Springs Strategic Planning Meeting.

Social Media

- Created and posted prevention messaging on radon, influenza, smoking cessation, carbon monoxide prevention, health/fitness and general health strategies/resolutions for the new year.
- 1,297 Facebook page followers with an average of 36,196 unique users reached monthly
- 4,750 Twitter followers with 40,100 tweet impressions
- 347 Instagram followers

Website statistics

www.elpasocountyhealth.org:

- 10,177 new visitors to the site with 34,589 page views

Development and Strategic Initiatives:

- A manuscript co-authored by the Public Health Planner and the Healthy Environment Planner, *Changes in School Food Preparation Methods result in Healthier Cafeteria Lunches in Elementary Schools*, was selected for submission to the American Journal of Preventative Medicine.
- Received notice that grant written by EPCPH and submitted by El Paso County Sheriff’s Office (EPSO) submitted to the Colorado Department of Human Services (CDHS) for Co-Responder Unit creation at El Paso County Sheriff’s Office was awarded. The five-year project will receive \$1.8M from CDHS and will support a partnership between EPSO, EPCPH, and other agencies to create a co-response by a law enforcement and behavioral health unit for welfare checks and other types of behavioral health calls. The grant supports staff at EPSO and EPCPH.
- Released the 2017 Community Health Assessment. The report can be found at: <https://www.elpasocountyhealth.org/services/health-indicators>.
- Hosted quarterly meeting of Healthy Community Collaborative where the community health improvement plan dashboard was launched. The dashboard highlights activities and programs working

in health priority areas of mental health/substance use and healthy eating/active living, and it can be found at: <http://thrivingcolorado.com/el-paso-county-public-health-scorecards/>.

- Received notice from the Public Health Accreditation Board that the 2017 annual report was accepted and accreditation status remains active.
- A purchasing and grant coordinator was hired to support contracting and purchasing functions.
- Provided educational materials regarding the opioid epidemic to 100 attendees at the El Paso County Medical Society annual meeting. Information included national, state, and local resources to help medical providers better understand the epidemic and how to connect to information about changing prescriptive practices in line with the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention prescribing guidelines.
- EPCPH hosted a group of nationally renowned land use and urban planning experts representing the Urban Land Institute (ULI) to make recommendations to southeast Colorado Springs on how to improve the community’s quality of life by implementing changes to the built environment. Their assignment included performing an analysis of access to healthy food choices and active transportation (such as biking and walking trails), as well as the availability of safe, attractive places for physical activity. Their recommendations will be prioritized by community stakeholders and developed into an action plan for which EPCPH is eligible for \$1 million from the Colorado Health Foundation to implement.
- Public Health Planner is serving as a co-chair of the Policy Committee for TESSA’s Domestic Violence Prevention Task Force
- ULI hosted a week-long site visit to identify opportunities for southeast Colorado Springs. EPCPH received a grant from The Colorado Health Foundation to work with ULI

Disease Prevention – Health Promotion Division

Communicable Disease (CD):

Table 1 – Notifiable diseases reported to El Paso County Public Health in January

Disease	January Totals	2018 Totals	2017 Totals
Botulism, Infant	0	0	0
Campylobacter	11	11	107
Carbapenem Nonsusceptible Enterobacteriaceae	1	1	32
Carbapenem-Resistant Pseudomonas Aeruginosa	3	3	64
Chikungunya - Colorado	0	0	0
Cholera	0	0	0
Creutzfeldt-Jakob Disease	0	0	1
Cryptosporidiosis	0	0	14
Cyclosporiasis	0	0	0
Dengue Fever - Colorado	1	1	1
Giardia	1	1	33
Haemophilus Influenzae	1	1	2
Hemolytic Uremic Syndrome	0	0	3
Hepatitis A	0	0	12
Hepatitis B (Acute)	0	0	1
Hepatitis B (Chronic)	6	6	66
Hepatitis C (Acute)	0	0	4
Hepatitis C (Chronic)	80	80	674
Influenza (Hospitalized)**	175	175	491

Legionellosis	0	0	5
Listeriosis	0	0	0
Malaria	0	0	1
Measles	0	0	0
Meningococcal Disease	0	0	1
Mumps	0	0	1
Pertussis	7	7	62
Q Fever (Acute)	0	0	0
Q Fever (Chronic)	0	0	0
Relapsing Fever	0	0	0
Rocky Mountain Spotted Fever	0	0	0
Rubella	0	0	0
Salmonella	9	9	94
Shigellosis	2	2	4
Shiga Toxin Producing E. coli	0	0	23
Invasive Strep Pneumo	26	26	84
Tularemia	0	0	0
Typhoid Fever	0	0	0
Varicella (Chickenpox)	5	5	33
Vibriosis	0	0	0
West Nile Virus	0	0	0
Zika Virus - Colorado	0	0	6
Total	328	327	1812

**Statewide Chikungunya, Zika virus and Dengue Fever virus cases reported in Colorado. All cases have been travel-associated.*

***Flu Season 2017: October 2, 2016 - May 27, 2017.*

***Flu Season 2018: October 1, 2017 - May 26, 2018.*

Table 2 – Outbreaks reported to El Paso County Public Health in January

Outbreak Setting	Type	Number of Outbreaks	Total Number Ill
School or childcare facility	Influenza	2	75
Long-term care facility	Influenza/Respiratory	8	50
Long-term care facility	Norovirus/GI Illness	2	46
Total		12	171

Table 3 – Foodborne illness complaints received at El Paso County Public Health in January

Possible Foodborne Illness Complaints	# Referred to Env. Health
5	0

- Responded to 23 calls regarding human or pet exposures to potentially rabid animals, or other rabies-related concerns. From those inquiries five animals were tested for rabies (one cat and four skunks), three skunks tested positive, and the rest were negative.
- Persons recommended for rabies post-exposure prophylaxis (PEP): 2

- Total rabid animals for 2018: 3

Tuberculosis (TB) activities for January:

- New active TB cases investigated: 0
- New suspect TB cases investigated: 3
- Cases on Direct Observed Therapy (DOT): 6
- Cases on Directly Observed Preventive Therapy (DOPT): 3
- Total DOT/DOPT visits: 178
- General TB skin tests done: TB - 34, IZ – 28
- TB blood tests (Quantiferon) done related to contact investigations: 1
- TB skin tests done related to contact investigations: 0
- Contact investigations ongoing: 0
- Contacts evaluated/tested: 1
- Refugee and/or class B immigrant TB evaluations: 1
- Community provider TB evaluations: 0
- Latent TB Infection (LTBI) cases under treatment: 11
- LTBI cases completing treatment this month: 4

Maternal Child Health (MCH)

HCP, A Program for Children and Youth with Special Health Care Needs:

- HCP Care Coordinator joined the advisory council for Manitou Springs School District 14 Colorado Preschool Program.
- One of our new care coordinators was selected to participate in the Colorado Public Health Mentoring Program the purpose of which is to cultivate a strong future for public health in Colorado by facilitating the mentoring process among public health professionals.
- Activity this month included
 - 46 current active care coordinations
 - 8 new case management referrals received
 - 4 new information-only referrals
 - 5 new assessments were completed

Child Health/Early Childhood Obesity Prevention (ECOP):

- Six child care facilities received training on I am Moving I am Learning (IMIL) to help child care professionals integrate physical activity into the classroom.
- Four nursing student interns joined ECOP and will work with our community health educator to provide trainings and coaching to early learning providers over the next eight weeks.

Promoting Connectedness, Resiliency and Life Skills (PCRLS):

- Our Community Health Educator delivered presentations regarding connectedness, resiliency and life skills (including the community resource guide) to two schools.
- Collaborated with Deerfield Hills Community Center staff to provide coaching related to BrainWise curricula to staff at Panorama Middle School in Harrison School District 2.
- Initiated collaboration with Ellicott School District 22 and Falcon School District 49 to bring the Healing Our Youth Program to each of these districts in the fall of 2018.

Tobacco Education and Prevention Partnership (TEPP)

Youth Initiatives

- A new Students Working Against Tobacco (SWAT) facilitator has been appointed at Panorama Middle School. TEPP met with the new facilitator to review the mini-grant expectations. The first SWAT meeting in January had 13 students in attendance.
- Palmer SWAT club has been meeting every other week in January to work on tobacco-free school activities. The club updated the Palmer High School website club page to feature what SWAT is working on, as well as providing tobacco facts and resources. The club begun writing out interview questions that will be used for the school TV station, Terror TV. SWAT students will be working with one of the production classes and interviewing students and faculty, asking questions about tobacco-related health effects, the tobacco-free school policy, and how they stay tobacco-free in their everyday lives.
- TEPP partnered with the American Lung Association to plan a Not On Tobacco (N-O-T) Facilitator Training for anyone interested in becoming a facilitator of the teen cessation program. There were nine participants in attendance, including teachers, mental health professionals, and other youth-serving organizations.
- TEPP met with radio station My 99.9 to plan promotion for Kick Butts Day, a national day of activism that empowers youth to stand up against Big Tobacco. Kick Butts Day will be promoted on the radio during the week leading up to March 21st.

Tobacco Education, Cessation and Prevention

- During the month of August, EPCPH referred a total of 17 clients to the Colorado QuitLine Fax Referral program for tobacco cessation assistance.
- TEPP staff trained five employees at El Paso County Public Health that work directly with clients. Staff were trained on the impact of tobacco, the Ask Advise Refer (2As and R) intervention, the Colorado QuitLine benefits, and the internal EPCPH fax referral process.
- TEPP continues to focus on its local, policy-driven tobacco prevention efforts by educating El Paso County citizens about the burden of tobacco use. TEPP presented its educational campaign to 65 attendees of the Healthy Community Collaborative and Fountain Community Services groups.
- TEPP also launched the first issue of *Nicotine News*, an electronic newsletter to inform the community about the latest tobacco prevention news and events in our area, Colorado and the nation.
- TEPP staff spoke before the EPCPH Board of Health members about the recent launch of the tobacco industry corrective statements, which are court-ordered media ads that tell the American public about the dangers of smoking and secondhand smoke, as well as the companies' intentional design of cigarettes to make them more addictive.
- TEPP set up an educational table with tobacco cessation resources, promotional items, and displays at TriLakes Cares in Monument. TriLakes Cares is a resource center that offers emergency relief programs such as food assistance, financial assistance, and self-sufficiency programs to those in need.
- TEPP attended a wellness expo at Vectrus, a local cyber security company with 150 employees. TEPP distributed cessation resources and promotional items to 75 people, many of which took QuitLine information to help them or someone they know quit using tobacco.

Youth Suicide Prevention Planning (YSPP)

- Participated in a debrief conference call with partners at the Colorado Department of Public Health and Environment (CDPHE) and Pikes Peak Suicide Prevention regarding the first meeting of the Colorado National Collaborative (CNC). The CNC is partnering with specific Colorado counties to understand more about existing suicide and injury prevention efforts within those counties, as well as develop a

statewide, coordinated, data-informed model to prevent suicide and other related causes of premature death.

- Held the January 2018 meeting of the Youth Suicide Prevention Work Group. The meeting had 30 attendees representing various community stakeholders, including behavioral health organizations, law enforcement agencies, school officials, youth-serving organizations, faith community members, and the medical community. Attendees were encouraged to finalize sub-group rosters, nominate sub-group chairs, and review sub-group purpose and goals, modifying if needed.
- Presented on youth suicide prevention efforts to members of the southern region of the Colorado School Public Relations Association (COSPRRA). We provided information on the work that we do that engages or impacts schools, as well as resources that they might find helpful.
- Participated in a Key Informant Interview for the Community Conversations to Inform Youth Suicide Prevention project. This project is engaging stakeholders in El Paso, La Plata, Mesa, and Pueblo counties to better understand the youth suicide trend in Colorado and inform strategies for prevention.

Youth Health and Development (YHD) (new program in development)

- Participated in the Safe Kids Coalition, a regional collaborative convened by Children’s Hospital Colorado. Safe Kids has identified safe sleep as one focus area for 2018 and is willing to collaborate with El Paso County Public Health (EPCPH) and El Paso County Department of Human Services by asking partners to complete the Safe Sleep Survey and inviting EPCPH representatives to sit on the sub-committee focused on safe sleep.
- Attended Tri County’s Child Fatality Review Team (CFRT) ‘All County’ meeting to observe the annual data presentations and team meeting structure. Collaborations with other Child Fatality Review Team Coordinators will help inform the Quality Improvement efforts with the El Paso County Child Fatality Review Team.
- Participated in the planning of the Out of School Time Summit hosted by the Colorado Community Center Collaborative. The presentation topics at the summit will include program evaluation, the CDC’s Healthy Out of School Time Training, dental health, teen suicide prevention, and more.
- Continuing coordination with Health Management Associates, Inc. (HMA), the contractor leading the work of the Community Conversations to Inform Youth Suicide Prevention project, funded by the Attorney General’s office. HMA will be hosting focus groups in El Paso County to better understand the youth suicide trends and inform strategies for prevention. HMA has met with a number of key informants in the community including a team from El Paso County Public Health.
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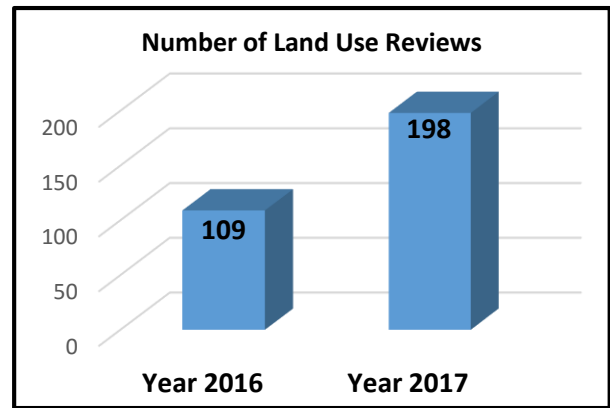
Youth Substance Use Prevention

- Took over as Chair for EPCPH’s Strategic Public Health Integration Team
- Co-presented two sessions of “Tobacco Targets Youth and Don’t Let Marijuana Gets in the Way of What’s Next” at the Educating Children of Color Summit on January 13
- Co-presented with other members of EPCPH’s Youth Advocacy Team to Public Information Officers from school districts across the county on the Fountain Valley Communities That Care (CTC) project, and other ways we can support schools

Environmental Health (EH) Division

Onsite Wastewater Treatment Systems (OWTS)

- Staff attended the Colorado Professionals in Onsite Wastewater 2018 Annual Education Conference. The conference is held in January each year to enhance industry and regulatory relationships as well as educate all attendees on new scientific data and processes regarding soil treatment and technologies.
- EPCPH was the local public health agency with the most OWTS permits issued last year, with 607 new and repair permits. Overall, Colorado has seen a 15 percent increase in the total number of septic permits issued.



Animal Bites

- Beginning January 1, 2018 EPCPH began receiving animal bite reports from the general public after the existing contract with Human Society of the Pikes Peak Region (HSPPR) ended. These reports are submitted exclusively through an online portal on the website. During January, 27 animal bite reports were reported through this online portal.

Radon Grant

- EPCPH launched a media campaign during Radon Action Month via social media and a PSA on local television/radio channels. EPCPH is working with UCCS nursing students to develop an outreach plan for radon education and outreach over the next couple months, including distribution of free radon test kits.

Retail Food

- Staff presented the 2017 Retail Food Program's Excellence in Food Safety recipients to the Board of Health. The recipients are displayed on the El Paso County Public Health website. The Excellence in Food Safety program acknowledges Retail Food Operators in El Paso County that have received no foodborne illness risk factor violations within the last two consecutive inspections.

Laboratory

- Performed 508 Bacteriological water tests, 310 for public water systems and 264 for private wells. Fifty-three test were performed for inorganic anions.
- Performed 861 Hemoglobin tests for the Women, Infant, and Child (WIC) Program.

Environmental Health Activity	Jan 2018	2018 Total	2017 Total
Air Quality Construction Permits	9	9	66
Air Quality Open Burn Permits	3	3	32
Air Quality Complaints	1	1	42
Body Art Inspections	0	0	75
Body Art Follow-up Inspections	0	0	3
Body Art Complaints	0	0	14
Child Care Regular Inspections	11	11	183
Child Care Follow-up Inspections	2	2	35
Child Care Complaints	0	0	2
Land-Use Planning Review	29	29	198
OWTS Final Inspections	39	39	512

OWTS Soil And Site Evaluations	43	43	480
OWTS New Permit Applications	25	25	322
OWTS Repair Permit Applications	25	25	285
OWTS Application Design Reviews	50	50	582
OWTS Acceptance Doc for Title Transfer	58	58	910
OWTS Pumper Truck Inspections	2	2	77
OWTS Complaints	5	5	36
Recreational Water Safety Inspections	44	44	402
Recreational Water Follow-up Inspections	2	2	20
Recreational Water Complaints	0	0	8
RFE Regular Inspections	329	329	4312
RFE Follow-up Inspections	87	87	842
RFE Complaint Investigations	24	24	233
RFE Plan Reviews	16	16	122
School Safety Regular Inspections	8	8	60
School Safety Follow-up Inspections	0	0	0
Waste Tires Facilities Regular Inspections	18	18	140
Waste Tires Follow-up Inspections	1	1	25

Emergency Preparedness and Response (EPR)

- Staff attended the three-day National Association of City and County Health Officials NACCHO *Roadmap to Ready* meeting. This meeting took place in Minneapolis, Minnesota and provided an opportunity to discuss relevant topics in public health emergency preparedness and exchange best practices with colleagues from health departments across multiple states.
- Staff assisted Park County Public Health with completing the Medical Countermeasures Operational Readiness Review; which is a Cities Readiness Initiative requirement from the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC).
- Staff participated in an Inventory Management System drill with the Colorado Department of Public Health and Environment. During this drill, El Paso County Public Health served as the regional inventory lead and processed resource order requests from the South Central Region.

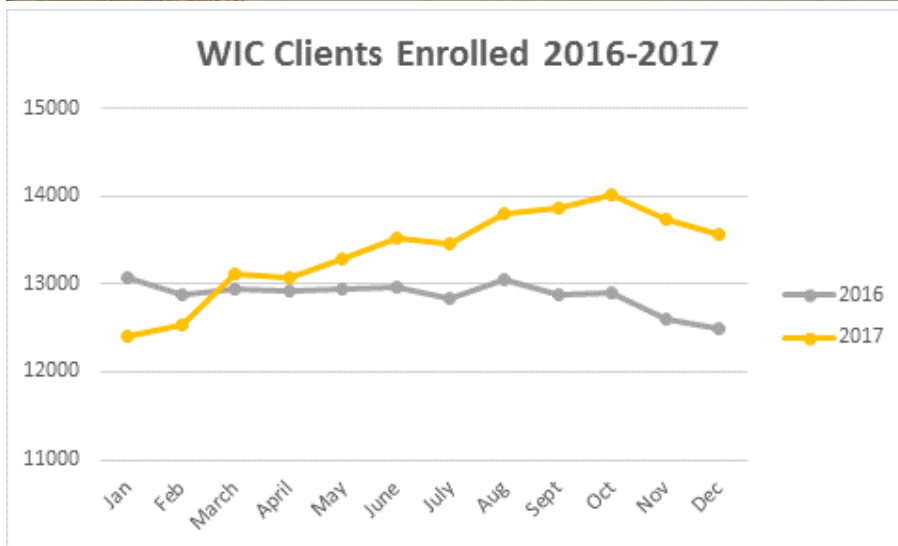
Health Services Division

Family Planning Clinic

- The Family Planning clinic had a total of 286 visits in January of which 162 were qualifying visits. A qualifying visit is the first visit in the contract year (June 1, 2017 through July 31, 2018) in which contraceptive counseling was provided.
- To increase customer service to the community, the Family Planning clinic continues to serve walk-in clients daily, which accounted for 36 percent of the total number of clients seen in January.

Women, Infants and Children (WIC)

- December 2017 caseload was 13,567 (January caseload won't be available until mid-February). Southeast clinic opened their doors and began seeing clients on January 16, 2018 with four educators, one program assistant, one registered dietitian, one outreach Coordinator and full schedules



Immunization/Travel Program (IZ)

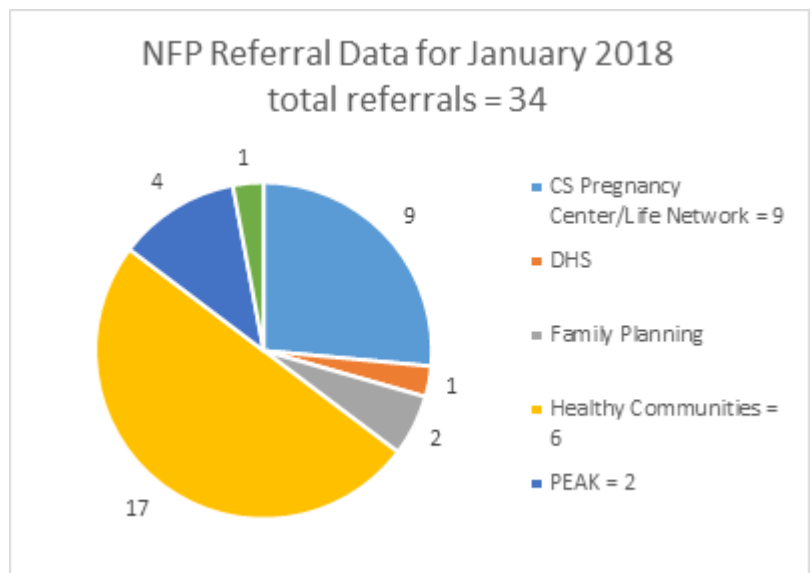
- Immunization Clinic has continued to work to protect the residents of our community by providing hepatitis A vaccine. In collaboration with Penrose St. Francis Catholic Charities, we held one outreach clinic providing 18 Hepatitis A, 5 Tdap, and 23 flu vaccines.
- IZ Clinic served five refugees and 198 walk-in clients in addition to the regularly scheduled clients.
- IZ nursing staff completed two Vaccines for Children follow-up visits for provider offices in the community.
- IZ staff administered 205 flu vaccines. Total number of flu shots given from August 2017 through January 2018 is 1193.

Year to Date Immunizations Data

Dates	Children Served	Adults Served	Travel Clients	Total Number Vaccines Given
January 2018	203	146	46	847
Through January 2018				847
January-December 2017	2033	2220	705	11,100

Nurse Family Partnership

Report Summary	JAN 2018
Clients Served*	191
Completed/ Attempted Visits	184
Graduations	2



Healthy Children and Families

- Healthy Children and Families (HCF) received 62 referrals for the month of January. The number of referrals received have remained constant for the past several months.
- The team continues strengthening community contacts by attending meetings such as the Prenatal Network and providing ongoing trainings with the residents of the Bloom Recovery House.
- The team continues to educate individual families and the community regarding the resources that are available through EPCPH and other community partners.