

**To:** Board of Health  
**From:** Dan Martindale, M.P.A.  
 Public Health Director  
**Date:** January 24, 2018 (reflects December 2017)  
**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	Time	Media Outlet	Number of viewers	Estimated Value
<u>Needle Exchange BOH Meeting</u>	12/4/2017	5:30 p.m.	KKTV	26,923	\$1,661.31
<u>Needle Exchange BOH Meeting</u>	12/4/2017	5:00 p.m.	KOAA	23,670	\$2,731.80
<u>Needle Exchange BOH Meeting</u>	12/4/2017	10:15 p.m.	KRDO	6,496	\$1,261.20
<u>Food Safety- selling food on social media</u>	12/13/2017	6:32 p.m.	KOAA	40,434	\$1,959.60
<u>Spreading germs</u>	12/13/2017	5:04 p.m.	KOAA	30,496	\$3,618.430
<u>Meteoric rise in STD cases in young people concerns doctors</u>	12/19/2017	6 p.m.	KOAA	29,306	\$7,736
<u>Health Alert – flu shot reminder</u>	12/27/17	5:04 a.m.	KXRM	4,550	\$278.60
<u>Flu now widespread in CO</u>	12/29/17	6 p.m.	KOAA	6,978	\$1,315
<b>TOTAL</b>				<b>168,853</b>	<b>\$20,559</b>

Print/Online

- 12/4/2017- The Gazette, "El Paso County needle exchange appears dead after hitting Board of Health roadblock" by Jakob Rodgers. Interview provided by Dr. Chris Nevin- Woods, Medical Director. Published by Denver Post.
- 12/4/2017- Westside Pioneer, "No vote, but Board of Health consensus dulls needle-exchange plan".
- 12/4/2017- The Colorado Springs Independent, "Needle exchange debate by El Paso County Board of Health ends with "no" vote", by Pam Zubeck.
- 12/4/2017- KRCC, "El Paso County Health Board Halts Needle Exchange Plan", by Jake Brownwell.
- 12/6/17 – Scottsbluff StarHerald.com, "Health officials oppose needle exchange in Colorado Springs".

- 12/13/2017- KOAA News 5, “The dangers of buying food on social media”, by Jessica Barreto. Interview provided by Lee Griffen, Program Manager of the Food Safety Program.
- 12/13/2017- KOAA News 5, “Share space warrants cold and flu season etiquette”, by Bill Folsom. Interview provided by Shannon Rowe, Epidemiologist.
- 12/19/17 – KOAA News 5, “Meteoric rise in STD cases in young people concerns doctors”, by Mark Boyle. Interview provided by Dr. Chris Nevin- Woods, Medical Director.
- 12/20/17 – Colorado Springs Independent, “Mental health data is lacking, particularly for local youth”, by Nat Stein. Interview provided by Mina Liebert, Public Health Planner.

**Communication Support**

- Completed review of the final report on Tobacco Targets Youth media campaign in conjunction with Joining Vision and Action, a Denver-based consulting firm.
- Developed promotional materials in preparation for Radon Action Month including social media messaging, radio and television advertisements, and a news release.
- Continued to provide support for planning of the ribbon cutting ceremony/open house for the new WIC office in southeast Colorado Springs. Promotional materials included creation and dissemination of a save the date flyer, a page on the EPCPH website, and posting to social media.
- Completed review, design and layout of the 2017 El Paso County Health Indicators Report.

**Social Media**

- Created and posted prevention messaging on influenza, smoking cessation, holiday food and decoration safety, winter safety, and HIV/AIDS along with promotion messaging for the 2017 National Influenza Vaccination Week.
- 1,295 Facebook page followers with an average of 81,364 unique users reached monthly
- 4,608 Twitter followers with 24,900 tweet impressions
- 334 Instagram followers

**Website statistics**

[www.elpasocountyhealth.org](http://www.elpasocountyhealth.org):

- 4,553 new visitors to the site with 15,441 page views

**Development and Strategic Initiatives:**

- Co-hosted statewide webinar for local public health agencies and health alliances about the statewide system of behavioral health care and forthcoming changes to Medicaid
- Served as reviewer for CDPHE Cancer, Cardiovascular, and Pulmonary Disease grants program and participated in two-day review committee meeting to make funding recommendations to the state Board of Health
- Public Health Planner was asked to participate on Harrison School District Two’s Superintendent Advisory Council.

**Disease Prevention – Health Promotion Division**

**Communicable Disease (CD):**

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

Disease	December Totals	2017 Totals	2016 Totals
Campylobacter	11	106	102

Carbapenem Resistant Enterobacteriaceae	6	30	19
Carbapenem Resistant Psuedomonas Aeruginosa	2	63	29
Chikungunya - Colorado*	N/A	0*	3*
Creutzfeldt-Jakob Disease	0	1	1
Cryptosporidiosis	1	14	17
Cyclosporiasis	0	0	1
Dengue Fever - Colorado*	N/A	1	22*
Giardia	2	33	56
Haemophilus Influenzae	0	2	7
Hemolytic Uremic Syndrome	0	3	0
Hepatitis A	0	12	2
Hepatitis B (Acute)	0	1	3
Hepatitis B (Chronic)	2	66	87
Hepatitis C (Acute)	0	4	2
Hepatitis C (Chronic)	47	674	574
Influenza (Hospitalized)**	129	358**	187**
Legionellosis	0	5	6
Listeriosis	0	0	1
Malaria	0	3	2
Measles	0	0	0
Meningococcal Disease	1	1	1
Mumps	0	1	0
Pertussis	10	63	80
Rubella	0	0	0
Salmonella	1	92	71
Shigellosis	0	4	20
Shiga Toxin Producing E. coli	1	24	19
Invasive Strep Pneumo	3	84	62
Varicella (Chickenpox)	0	28	51
West Nile Virus	0	0	1
Zika Virus - Colorado	N/A	7*	56*
<b>Total</b>	<b>216</b>	<b>1314</b>	<b>1214</b>

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

\*\*Hospitalized influenza is a reportable condition year round. The influenza season is when influenza infection is most prevalent. The season officially began October 1, 2017 and will run until May 26, 2018. In 2016-17 it ran from October 2, 2016 until May 27, 2017. The 2016 number represents the flu season total.

Table 2 – Outbreaks reported to El Paso County Public Health, December, 2017

Outbreak Setting	Type	Etiology	Env. Health Referral?	Total Number Ill
Child care Center	Person-to-Person	Unknown GI Illness	No	12
Long Term Care Facility	Person-to-Person	Confirmed Influenza	No	9
Long Term Care Facility	Person-to-Person	Confirmed Influenza	No	5
Long Term Care Facility	Person-to-Person	Confirmed Influenza	No	4
Long Term Care Facility	Person-to-Person	Confirmed Norovirus	No	2

Long Term Care Facility	Person-to-Person	Confirmed Influenza	No	9
<b>Total</b>				<b>41</b>

**Outbreak Setting**

Table 3 – Foodborne illness complaints received at El Paso County Public Health, December, 2017

Possible Foodborne Illness Complaints	# Referred to Env. Health
9	0

- Responded to 17 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 pig, three skunks, one raccoon). Three skunks tested positive.
- Persons recommended for rabies post-exposure prophylaxis (PEP): 0
- Total rabid animals for 2017: 28 (seven bats, 21 skunks)

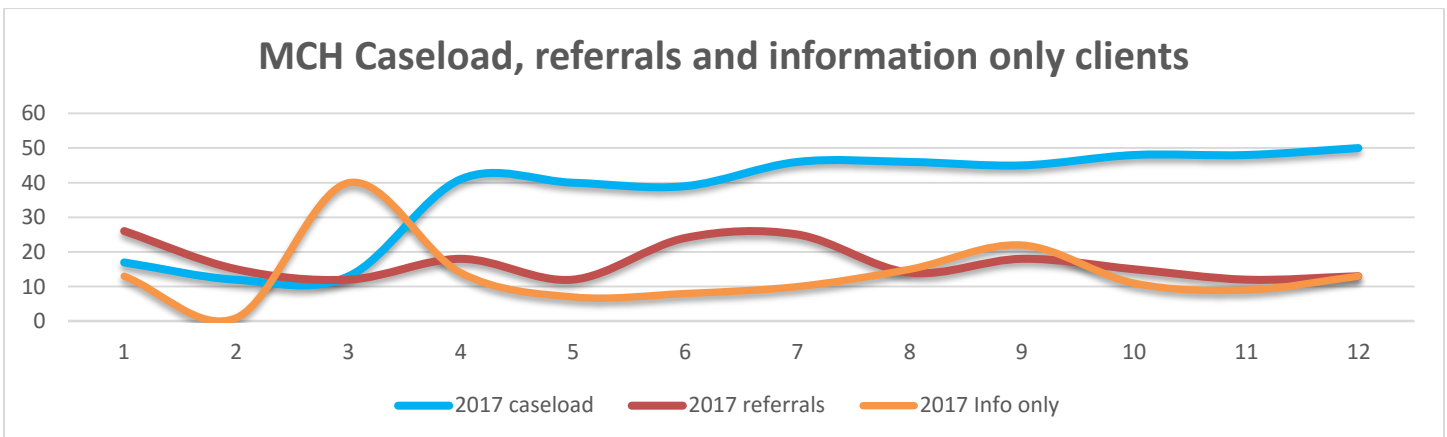
Tuberculosis (TB) activities for December:

- New active TB cases investigated: 0
- New suspect TB cases investigated: 0
- Cases on Direct Observed Therapy (DOT): 7
- Cases on Directly Observed Preventive Therapy (DOPT): 4
- Total DOT/DOPT visits: 171
- General TB skin tests done: TB – 31, IZ – 24
- TB blood tests (Quantiferon) done related to contact investigations: 4
- TB skin tests done related to contact investigations: 1
- Contact investigations ongoing: 1
- Contacts evaluated/tested: 0
- Refugee and/or class B immigrant TB evaluations: 3
- Other community referred evaluations: 3
- Latent TB Infection (LTBI) cases under treatment: 19
- LTBI cases completing treatment this month: 6

**Maternal Child Health (MCH)**

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

- A new nurse care coordinator joined our program in December.
- Our current active caseload is 50. We acquired 13 new case management referrals this month and provided information and referrals to an additional 13 clients.



### Child Health/Early Childhood Obesity Prevention (ECOP):

- Two child care centers received training on I am Moving I am Learning (IMIL) to help child care professionals integrate physical activity into the classroom. Twenty-three child care providers were trained.

### Promoting Connectedness, Resiliency and Life Skills (PCRLS):

- Our Community Health Educator gave a presentation regarding connectedness, resiliency and life skills, including the El Paso County Community Assets for Youth Development Guide, to the School District 49 Accountability Committee.
- Our Community Health Educator was invited to join the planning committee for conference on restorative practices planned for School District 49.

### **Tobacco Education and Prevention Partnership (TEPP)**

#### Youth Initiatives

- SWAT (Students Working Against Tobacco) clubs at each of the schools met this month to continue their tobacco-free schools work, with the goal of promoting the tobacco-free schools policy and educating their peers on tobacco.
- Palmer High School SWAT hosted a table during a varsity basketball game to talk to students and families about the harms of tobacco and hand out educational materials.
- The participating schools have begun promoting the N-O-T (Not on Tobacco) program within their schools in anticipation for the sessions to begin in 2018. N-O-T is a teen cessation program, provided by the American Lung Association, which helps students become tobacco-free through a step-by-step curriculum. Each of the five mini-grant schools have facilitators trained on the N-O-T program and will be delivering this curriculum in 2018.

#### Tobacco Education, Cessation and Prevention

- During the month of December, ECPH referred seven clients to the Colorado QuitLine Fax Referral program for tobacco cessation assistance.
- TEPP has an ongoing partnership with the Colorado Springs Housing Authority to implement a 100 percent smoke-free policy within all of their properties. TEPP provided assistance to the housing authority as the development and implementation process of this policy begins. TEPP has presented to residents at all of the nine multi-unit buildings in 2017, providing background on the policy, information regarding secondhand smoke, and offering tobacco cessation resources to those interested in quitting.
- TEPP attended “Epigenetics and Social Determinants of Health,” a guest lecture by Rebecca Ryznar PhD. Dr. Ryznar presented research indicating a causal link between social adversity and health disparities.
- TEPP attended “Smoke-Free Multi-Unit Housing Grantee Training” hosted by Denver Public Health. The training engaged attendees on legal issues around smoke-free multiunit housing, behavioral health and housing insecurity, resident engagement through trauma informed care, and integrating cessation resources into multi-unit housing settings.
- TEPP staff met with representatives from the Preventing Tobacco Addiction Foundation, also known as Tobacco 21, and the Campaign for Tobacco-Free Kids to discuss national and state prevention efforts to help protect kids from tobacco use.

#### **Youth Suicide Prevention Planning (YSPP)**

- Participated in the first meeting of the Colorado National Collaborative (CNC) with El Paso County. 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.

- Met with the Regional Health Connector to better understand which primary care practices in El Paso County are currently undergoing practice transformation related to depression screening among adolescents ages 12-18.
- Met with students at Sabin Middle School as part of the Pikes Peak United Way Youth Venture Program. Youth Venture is an opportunity for middle and high school students to become change makers in their community. They are asked to identify a problem in their community and work toward creating a solution. One of the groups this year is focused on teen suicide.

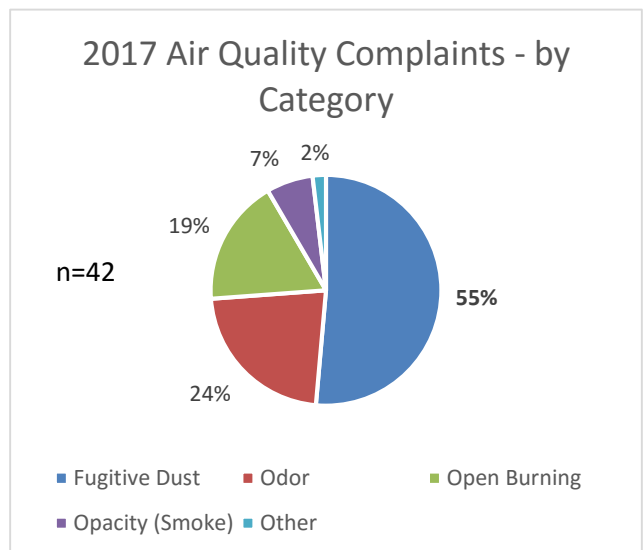
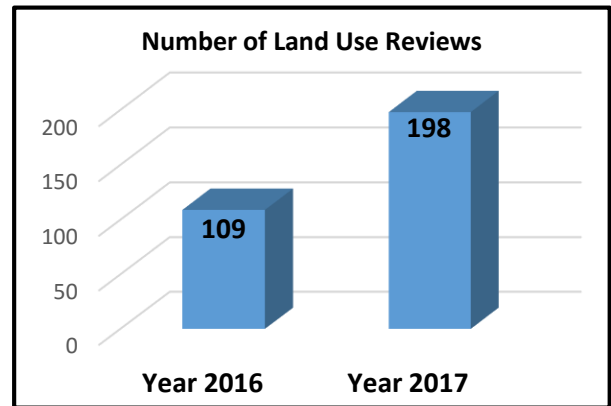
**Youth Health and Development (YHD)**

- Began planning for a quality improvement project to focus on the Child Fatality Review Team’s processes, procedures and impact on prevention strategies.
- Networked with Larimer County and TriCounty’s Child Fatality Review Team (CFRT) coordinators to discuss strategies to improve prevention efforts in CFRT work and lessons learned. Networking will continue in the future and suggestions will be shared with CFRT members during the quality improvement process.
- Designing a survey to gather feedback from community agencies about current efforts to educate families and stakeholders about safe sleep practices.
- Continuing collaboration with the Adolescent Suicide Prevention Steering Team, who is working to design a comprehensive school-based suicide prevention model that incorporates multiple evidence-based and best-practice suicide prevention efforts in one school in El Paso County.

**Environmental Health (EH) Division**

**Onsite Wastewater Treatment Systems /Septic (OWTS)**

- Staff held a third stakeholder meeting for Board of Health OWTS Regulation 8 revision. The proposed revision is tentatively planned to be heard by the Board of Health at its April meeting.
- The Transfer of Title program, which requires homes on an OWTS to have the system evaluated prior to the sale of the home, continues to be extremely successful. In 2017 there were 910 acceptance documents issued by EPCPH. Through this process it was determined that 89 (10 percent) of the OWTS evaluated needed some type of major repair.
- The volume of land use reviews (from El Paso County Community Development) to address drinking water and wastewater adequacy has nearly doubled from 2016.



**Air Quality**

The Air Quality program is contracted to respond to outdoor air quality complaints and issued open burning and construction permits. In 2017, we responded to 42 complaints. The three-year average has been 44 complaints per year.

### Child Care

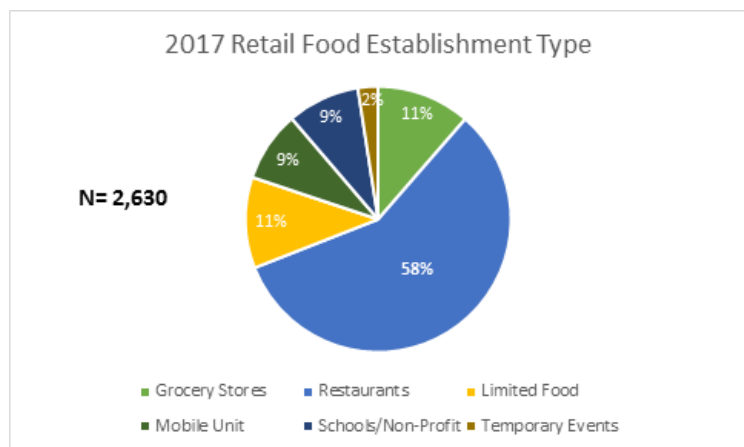
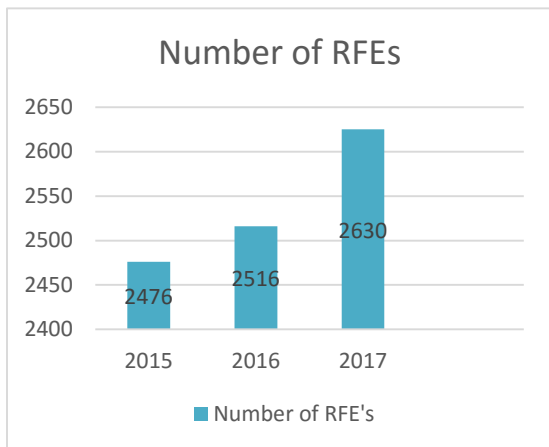
The “Child Care Assistance Program,” through the Department of Human Services, will begin waitlisting low-income families and applicants applying for child care subsidies, due to budget shortages. This funding shortage will affect about 40 percent of our 341 licensed child care facilities. In 2017 all child care facilities were inspected, as required by risk-based frequency.

### Body Art

All body art establishments were inspected at the frequency required, in 2017.

### Retail Food

In 2017 all retail food establishments (except for seasonal) were inspected at the risk-based frequency required. El Paso County experienced an increase of 114 new retail food establishments in 2017.



### Laboratory

- Performed 651 bacteriological well water tests, and 86 tests for inorganic anions.
- Performed 862 hemoglobin tests for the Women, Infants, and Children (WIC) program.

Environment Health Activity	Dec 2017	2017 Total	2016 Total
Air Quality Construction Permits	2	66	84
Air Quality Open Burn Permits	1	32	28
Air Quality Complaints	6	42	50
Body Art Inspections	15	75	72
Body Art Follow-up Inspections	1	3	2
Body Art Complaints	0	14	14
Child Care Regular Inspections	34	183	181
Child Care Follow-up Inspections	2	35	49
Child Care Complaints	0	2	11
Land-Use Planning Review	53	198	109
OWTS Final Inspections	39	512	441
OWTS Soil and Site Evaluations	34	480	379
OWTS New Permit Applications	20	322	248
OWTS Repair Permit Applications	14	285	259
OWTS Application Design Reviews	37	582	540

OWTS Acceptance Doc for Title Transfer	53	910	988
OWTS Pumper Truck Inspections	5	77	83
OWTS Complaints	1	36	44
Recreational Water Safety Inspections	25	402	391
Recreational Water Follow-up Inspections	0	20	30
Recreational Water Complaints	1	8	9
RFE Regular Inspections	364	4312	3792
RFE Follow-up Inspections	70	842	793
RFE Complaint Investigations	14	233	230
RFE Plan Reviews	10	122	149
School Safety Regular Inspections	5	60	49
School Safety Follow-up Inspections	0	0	3
Waste Tires Facilities Regular Inspections	20	140	159
Waste Tires Follow-up Inspections	4	25	23

### **Emergency Preparedness and Response (EPR)**

- Staff attended RealOpt Point of Dispensing (POD) training. The RealOpt software system consists of various decision support capabilities for modeling and optimizing the public health infrastructure for all hazard emergency response.
- Staff provided draft review and EPCPH/ESF-8 input for EPC Evacuation Plan to El Paso County Office of Emergency Management. This is a combined effort among agencies and organizations that may be active in a disaster. These groups help ensure that our many disciplines, jurisdictions, and levels of government work together to plan, train, and respond in timely coordination.
- Staff continue to work with Park County Public Health in completing the medical countermeasure operational readiness review (MCMORR). The intended outcome of this assessment is to identify strengths and challenges in Park county's ability to execute a large response requiring medical countermeasure distribution and dispensing.
- Completed the medical countermeasure action plan. The action plan is a CDC requirement and focuses on activities developed to address prioritized medical countermeasure planning and operational gaps identified since the last review.

### **Health Services Division**

#### **Clinical Services**

- Services: There were 106 qualifying visits in December. A qualifying visit is the first visit within the contract year July 1, 2017 through June 30, 2018 in which the patient received contraceptive counseling services.
- We have a total of 1,104 qualifying visits for the Family Planning contract deliverables which bring us to 54 percent of our goal.

#### **Women, Infants and Children (WIC)**

WIC enrollment in November 2017 was 13,745, which is 1,145 clients above the caseload in November 2016. The new Southeast WIC clinic is on track to open for clients on January 16, 2018. The open house and ribbon cutting ceremony is scheduled for February 1, 2018.





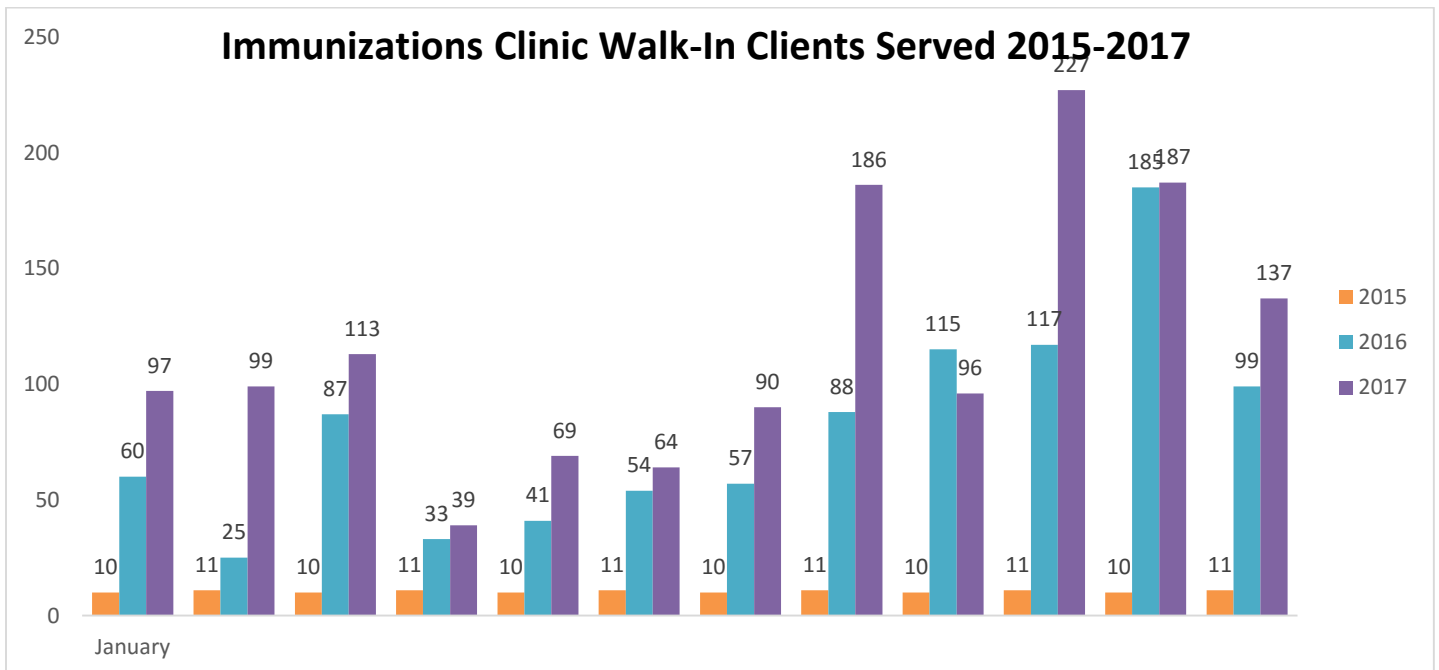
The Breastfeeding Peer Counselor (BFPC) program has been in demand. In December 2017, 425 clients were enrolled in the BFPC program (263 pregnant, 156 breastfeeding). 581 texts came in from clients, and 1185 texts were sent out by the two part-time breastfeeding peer counselors. Research demonstrates that the extra support services by peers increase breastfeeding rates.

We had a 65 percent increase in WIC client participation in the prenatal breastfeeding classes in 2017 compared to 2016. In 2017, 291 WIC clients participated compared to

176 in 2016. WIC will continue to encourage pregnant mothers to participate in the classes to increase breastfeeding rates increasing associated health benefits.

### Immunization/Travel Program (IZ)

- Immunization Clinic has been working with the county safety officer to update county employees at higher risk for Hepatitis A and B as well as to offer tetanus and flu vaccines. In collaboration with Bethel School of Nursing senior students, IZ staff provided 64 vaccines to 39 county employees at two outreach locations in December.
- In response to a request from a local business, IZ nurses gave 18 flu vaccines to employees at their place of business.
- IZ Clinic served 18 adult refugees and 137 walk-in clients in December in addition to the regularly scheduled clients. Total vaccines given in 2017 exceeded 2016 by 13 percent.
- We expect a significant decline in the numbers of refugees we will see in 2018, since Lutheran Family Services is contracted to settle just 100 new refugees this fiscal year.
- IZ nursing staff completed three Vaccines for Children follow-up visits for provider offices in the community.
- In an ongoing effort to provide excellent customer service to our community, IZ walk-in numbers have continued to climb with a 46 percent increase in 2017 compared to 2016.



## Nurse Family Partnership

Report Summary	Dec 2017	Total 2017
Clients Served	118	231
Completed/Attempted Visits	174	2,483
Graduations	1	25

