

**To:** Board of Health  
**From:** Dan Martindale, M.P.A.  
 Public Health Director  
**Date:** May 23, 2018 (reflects April 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	Time	Media Outlet	Number of viewers	Estimated Value
<u>Rabies</u>	4/3/2018	10:15 p.m.	KOAA	26,769	\$3,066.57
<u>RFE Report Card</u>	4/13/2018	9:08 p.m.	KXRM	6,914	\$1,359.54
<u>Air Quality Health Advisory- dust</u>	4/17/2018	6:10 p.m.	KOAA	33,962	\$2,972.62
<u>Pink and purple water in Monument</u>	4/19/2018	10:00 p.m.	KKTV	46,591	\$5,333.45
<u>117 Fire Support</u>	4/20/2018	9:05 p.m.	KXRM	2,178	\$368.55
<u>117 Fire Support</u>	4/20/2018	6:00 p.m.	KRDO	11,549	\$1,212.10
<u>Rabies</u>	4/26/2018	5:40 p.m.	KKTV	43,669	\$3,340.88
<b>TOTAL</b>				<b>171,632</b>	<b>\$17,653.71</b>

**Print/Online**

- 4/1/18 – The Pueblo Chieftain, "Listening is an effective tool for helping patients" by Dr. Christine Nevin-Woods.
- 4/13/2018- The Fountain Valley News, "El Paso County Public Health and CSU Extension offering Workshop for Water Well/Septic Owners".
- 4/29/2018 – The Pueblo Chieftain, "Christine Nevin-Woods: Aging with grace" by Christine Nevin-Woods.
- 4/30/2018- KOAA Channel 5, "Rabies cases continue to rise in El Paso County" by Jon McMichael.

## **Public Health Campaigns and Projects**

- Worked to raise public awareness of Public Health by promoting National Public Health Week (NPHW) on social media, and facilitating internal promotion of educational events for staff. Social media promotional efforts resulted in winning second place in the NPHW photo challenge.

## **Online Media**

Provided information on public health issues and public health functions to external partners on social media and website.

- 1,324 Facebook page followers with an average of 123,430 unique users reached monthly
- 5,042 Twitter followers with 242,000 tweet impressions
- 379 Instagram followers

## **Website statistics**

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

- 7,839 new visitors to the site with 25,747 page views

## **Development and Strategic Initiatives:**

- Healthy Environment Planner wrote successful \$133,000, two-year grant to conduct participatory action research for Phase 2 of the Food System Assessment. Results will inform strategies in the CHIP for reducing household food insecurity and increasing access to a variety of healthy foods encouraged by the dietary guidelines. Results will also be shared with the joint city-county Food Policy Advisory Board.
- Wrote two successful grant applications totaling \$300,000 for operating funds for nonprofit community partner that provides homeless respite care services post-hospital discharge. The organization served 186 clients in 2017. They had a 35 percent success rate for transitioning their clients to stable housing and reduced unnecessary emergency department usage by 68 percent. This work supports the strategic plan goal area of providing technical support to key community partners to increase funding for health improvement.
- Convened the Healthy Community Collaborative to provide a forum for partner agency connections and to request feedback on the health equity dashboard that is in development. The dashboard tracks and monitors progress on goal priorities that align with the community health improvement plan (CHIP).
- Public Health Planner and Community Outreach Coordinator for Women, Infants and Children (WIC) and Resilient, Inspired, Strong, Engaged (RISE) Coalition attended the PolicyLink Equity Summit to increase capacity and knowledge of the social determinants of health – a critical factor in engaging community partners and residents of the coalition.

## **Disease Prevention – Health Promotion Division**

### **Communicable Disease (CD):**

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

<b>Disease</b>	<b>April Totals</b>	<b>2018 (Jan-April)</b>	<b>2017 (Jan-April)</b>	<b>2017 Totals</b>
Botulism, Infant	0	0	0	0
Campylobacter	7	27	16	107
Carbapenem Nonsusceptible Enterobacteriaceae	1	7	13	32
Carbapenem-Resistant Pseudomonas Aeruginosa	4	16	22	64

Chikungunya - Colorado	0	0	0	0
Cholera	0	0	0	0
Creutzfeldt-Jakob Disease	0	0	1	1
Cryptosporidiosis	1	3	4	14
Cyclosporiasis	0	0	0	0
Dengue Fever - Colorado	0	1	1	1
Giardia	2	3	11	33
Haemophilus Influenzae	0	3	0	2
Hemolytic Uremic Syndrome	0	0	0	3
Hepatitis A	0	0	9	12
Hepatitis B (Acute)	0	1	1	1
Hepatitis B (Chronic)	10	23	25	66
Hepatitis C (Acute)	1	2	1	4
Hepatitis C (Chronic)	52	255	218	675
Influenza (Hospitalized)**	20	322	309	495
Legionellosis	0	1	0	5
Listeriosis	0	0	0	0
Malaria	0	0	2	4
Measles	0	0	0	0
Meningococcal Disease	0	0	0	1
Mumps	1	3	0	1
Pertussis	3	18	26	59
Q Fever (Acute)	0	0	0	0
Q Fever (Chronic)	0	0	0	0
Relapsing Fever	0	0	0	0
Rocky Mountain Spotted Fever	0	0	0	0
Rubella	0	0	0	0
Salmonella	4	24	26	94
Shigellosis	1	4	2	4
Shiga Toxin Producing E. coli	0	2	2	23
Invasive Strep Pneumo	4	49	30	84
Tularemia	0	0	0	0
Typhoid Fever	0	0	0	0
Varicella (Chickenpox)	1	9	17	33
Vibriosis	0	0	0	0
West Nile Virus	0	0	0	0
Zika Virus - Colorado	0	0	4	6
<b>Total</b>	<b>112</b>	<b>772</b>	<b>740</b>	<b>1817</b>

*\*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 April

Outbreak Setting	Type	Number of Outbreaks	Total Number Ill
School or child care facility	Unknown GI Illness	1	17
Long-term care facility	Confirmed Influenza	4	17
Long-term care facility	Unknown GI Illness	2	18
<b>Total</b>		<b>5</b>	<b>34</b>

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

Possible Foodborne Illness Complaints	# Referred to Environmental Health
10	0

- Responded to 107 calls regarding human or pet exposures to potentially rabid animals, or other rabies-related concerns. From those inquiries, 16 animals were tested for rabies (12 skunks, one cat, one fox and two bats); 11 skunks tested positive, all other animals tested were negative.
- Persons recommended for rabies post-exposure prophylaxis (PEP): 4
- Total rabid animals for 2018: 45

Tuberculosis (TB) activities for April:

- New active TB cases investigated: 0
- New suspect TB cases investigated: 0
- Cases on Direct Observed Therapy (DOT): 5
- Cases on Directly Observed Preventive Therapy (DOPT): 2
- Total DOT/DOPT visits: 131
- General TB skin tests done: 64
- TB blood tests (Quantiferon) done related to contact investigations: 4
- TB skin tests done related to contact investigations: 2
- Contact investigations ongoing: 1
- Contacts evaluated/tested: 4
- Refugee and/or class B immigrant TB evaluations: 4
- Community provider TB evaluations: 6
- Latent TB Infection (LTBI) cases under treatment: 10
- LTBI cases completing treatment this month: 1

**Maternal Child Health (MCH)**

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

- Care Coordinators presented information regarding HCP services and referrals to more than 30 community partners in the following organizations: Regional Care Collaboration Organization (RCCO) Region 7, The Resource Exchange, Two Home Health Agencies and Catholic Charities.
- Care Coordination team reviewed the 2-1-1 database for community resources for Children and Youth with Special Health Care needs and submitted five El Paso County resources that were previously not included in 2-1-1. Ensuring that relevant local resources for children and youth with special health care needs are included in the 2-1-1 database is a contract requirement of the Colorado HCP program this year.

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

- Conducted a training on I am Moving I am Learning (IMIL) for Family Home Child Care Providers (17 attendees). This contract requirement is part of a coordinated effort to reduce childhood obesity by increasing high-quality structured physical activity in child care settings.
- Continued coaching and technical assistance activities for Early Childhood Educators around healthy eating and active living as well as I am Moving I am Learning (IMIL).

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

- Community Health Educator coached Deerfield Hills Community Center staff in utilizing BrainWise with Middle School Students at Panorama Middle School (Harrison District 2). This activity is aligned with the Community Health Improvement Plan and contract requirements.

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

#### Youth Initiatives

- The Tobacco Education and Prevention Partnership (TEPP) program participated in the District 49 Wellness Advisory Council meeting, which happens twice per school year. TEPP provided information regarding electronic cigarettes and JUULS with attendees, as the devices are a growing concern among schools.
- A University of Colorado – Colorado Springs (UCCS) student met with TEPP for assistance with a leadership assignment for a Communication class. The UCCS student was interested in educating her peers about the harms of tobacco and secondhand smoke on campus. The student set up a table with pig lungs and other props during the school day, and collected a short survey from 25 students to assess their opinions on a 100 percent smoke-free campus.
- Presented to 50 elementary, middle, and high school aged youth at the Tutt Boys and Girls Club. The presentation included tobacco and e-cigarette trivia as well as a demonstration of the pig lungs.
- Participated in the Sand Creek Health Expo with other community partners. Two hundred students and their families attended the event. TEPP was able to provide tobacco education and cessation resources, such as the Colorado QuitLine.

#### Tobacco Education, Cessation and Prevention

- El Paso County Public Health referred nine clients to the Colorado QuitLine Fax Referral program for tobacco cessation assistance.
- Trained six employees from Colorado Springs Food Rescue on the Colorado QuitLine and the Ask, Advise, Refer tobacco cessation intervention. Colorado Springs Food Rescue is working to cultivate a healthy, equitable food system in Colorado Springs. TEPP is collaborating with Colorado Springs Food Rescue to provide cessation resources to clients using their community led grocery programs.
- Participated in the Pikes Peak Community College (PPCC) Student Resource Fair to provide tobacco education and cessation resources to students. Thirty people received information.
- Trained four case managers from Partners in Housing (PiH) on the Colorado QuitLine Fax Referral program and the Ask, Advise, Refer tobacco cessation intervention. Partners in Housing provides families in crisis with one year of transitional housing in Colorado Springs, as well as case management, life skills, budgeting, and credit counseling. TEPP is collaborating with PiH on providing cessation resources to clients through case management. TEPP also provided education and cessation information to women seeking services from PiH.
- Attended the Culture of Data conference hosted by the Colorado Public Health Association. The conference brought together agencies that share a goal of achieving health equity through collaboration and the use of data.

- Attended the State Tobacco Education and Prevention Partnership (STEPP) conference. The STEPP conference brought together tobacco control advocates from state, local, and nonprofit agencies to discuss progress in tobacco control across the state of Colorado.
- Presented to the Community Outreach Coalition in Calhan, Colorado to 15 participants. TEPP shared the economic and human toll of tobacco use on our community, introduced new and emerging tobacco products, and shared how a community can work together to slow or even stop the burden of tobacco.
- Attended the Peaceful Households annual conference. The theme was “Connecting ACEs (Adverse Childhood Experiences) to Action: Essential Ingredients for Trauma Informed Care.” The conference aimed to help individuals and organizations understand the science behind trauma informed care, and the difference it can make when working with people that have experienced trauma.

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

- Presented at the Out-of-School Time Toolbox Summit organized by the Colorado Springs Community Center Collaborative. We shared the results of the Teen Think Tanks conducted by Pikes Peak Suicide Prevention and important youth suicide prevention resources with youth-serving professionals. This presentation aligns with the Community Health Improvement Plan as well as the agency’s strategic plan.
- Held meeting of the Youth Suicide Prevention Workgroup. The meeting had numerous attendees representing various community stakeholders, including behavioral health organizations, law enforcement agencies, school officials, youth-serving organizations, faith community members, and the medical community. workgroup members viewed a presentation on the interpersonal theory of suicide, and then broke into sub-groups to refine their previously identified goals. This workgroup will continue to meet monthly to address gaps and needs identified by workgroup members. This activity aligns with the Community Health Improvement Plan as well as the agency’s strategic plan.

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

- Facilitated Youth Suicide Prevention Workgroup meeting, which included a presentation by a local youth mental health expert, networking, and action planning in sub-groups. The work of the Youth Suicide Prevention Workgroup is aligned with the Community Health Improvement Plan.
- Presented at the Out-of-School Time Toolbox Summit on the results of the Teen Think Tank focus groups and local suicide prevention resources to increase the knowledge of staff who work with youth in after school programs and during the summer. This activity is aligned with the Community Health Improvement Plan.
- Participated in the Safe Kids Committee and Home Safety Sub-Committee meetings to support the planning and implementation of three community safety events. Over 400 families received information on home safety, bike safety, safe sleep, and more at these collaborative events. The Safe Kids efforts are aligned with state requirements of local Child Fatality Review Teams (CFRT) to identify and support local child fatality prevention practices.

### **Youth Substance Use Prevention**

- Secured data agreements between El Paso County Public Health and school districts 3 and 8 in order to get copies of the “Communities That Care Report” from the Healthy Kids Colorado Survey (HKCS). Data from the reports will be included in the Community Assessment Report and the Community Action plan. Data will also be used to establish a baseline for the evaluation of the Fountain Valley CTC initiative, which will be evaluated on its impact on violence, mental health, and use or abuse of substances as measured by HKCS (meets EPCPH’s annual work plan strategy to “strengthen EPCPH’s capabilities to collect, analyze, share, and use data to make timely and information-driven decisions”).
- Matched with a fellow from the Veterans Local Government Management Fellowship program. The fellow will work on the CTC Resource Assessment process from May 14-August 30.

- Contract for Year 3 was submitted and approved by Colorado Department of Public Health and Environment (CDPHE) and the Board of Health. EPCPH was awarded \$255,000 to implement CTC from July 1, 2018 – June 30, 2019

**Environmental Health (EH) Division**

Air Quality

- Program Manager was interviewed by Fox News 21 regarding an air quality advisory due to high dust in EPC, which links to an overall (strategic plan) goal of providing information on public health issues.

Radon Outreach

- Staff attended the Region 8 Radon Conference in Denver, Colorado. Information from this conference regarding radon awareness and assessment will be shared with other staff who conduct school and childcare inspections. Attendance strengthens our workforce knowledge as well as our ability to provide relevant information on public health issues.
- University of Colorado – Colorado Springs (UCCS) nursing students held eight outreach events in El Paso County to educate about radon awareness and distribute free radon test kits; their outreach and community education supports our goal of increasing public awareness of health equity issues by reaching out to low-income areas in our community.

Onsite Wastewater Treatment Systems (OWTS)

- Staff co-presented a private well water and OWTS maintenance workshop with CSU Extension at the Sallie Bush Community Center in Green Mountain Falls. There were many residents in attendance, with several staying late after the presentations to ask direct questions regarding their OWTS. This meeting was assistive in developing and maintaining strong community partnerships critical in supporting public health.

Body Art

- Hosted a Body Art Advisory Group (BAAG) meeting, where discussion explored developing a communication plan to provide public education around consumer benefits of choosing licensed body art facilities, and health risks associated with not going to a licensed facility. This effort directly relates to the overall goals of using digital media and other communication strategies to promote public health messages and to provide public health information, and to maintain strong relationships with key community partners in this industry.

Laboratory

- Performed 492 Bacteriological water tests, 284 for public water systems and 208 for private wells. Fifty-one tests were performed for inorganic anions.

<b>Environment Health Activity</b>	<b>April 2018</b>	<b>2018 Total</b>	<b>2017 Total</b>
Air Quality Construction Permits	10	35	66
Air Quality Open Burn Permits	0	8	32
Air Quality Complaints	8	16	42
Animal Bites Reported	135	395	N/A
Body Art Inspections	6	15	75
Body Art Follow-up Inspections	2	2	3
Body Art Complaints	1	5	14
Child Care Regular Inspections	22	57	183

Child Care Follow-up Inspections	4	13	35
Child Care Complaints	0	2	2
Land-Use Planning Review	18	78	198
OWTS Final Inspections	34	169	512
OWTS Soil And Site Evaluations	42	116	480
OWTS New Permit Applications	41	116	322
OWTS Repair Permit Applications	24	91	285
OWTS Application Design Reviews	46	182	582
OWTS Acceptance Doc for Title Transfer	84	296	910
OWTS Pumper Truck Inspections	11	45	77
OWTS Complaints	2	11	36
Recreational Water Safety Inspections	12	113	402
Recreational Water Follow-up Inspections	0	12	20
Recreational Water Complaints	0	3	8
RFE Regular Inspections	371	1437	4312
RFE Follow-up Inspections	73	292	842
RFE Complaint Investigations	36	97	233
RFE Plan Reviews	14	57	122
School Safety Regular Inspections	7	29	60
School Safety Follow-up Inspections	0	0	0
Waste Tires Facilities Regular Inspections	15	59	140
Waste Tires Follow-up Inspections	1	9	25

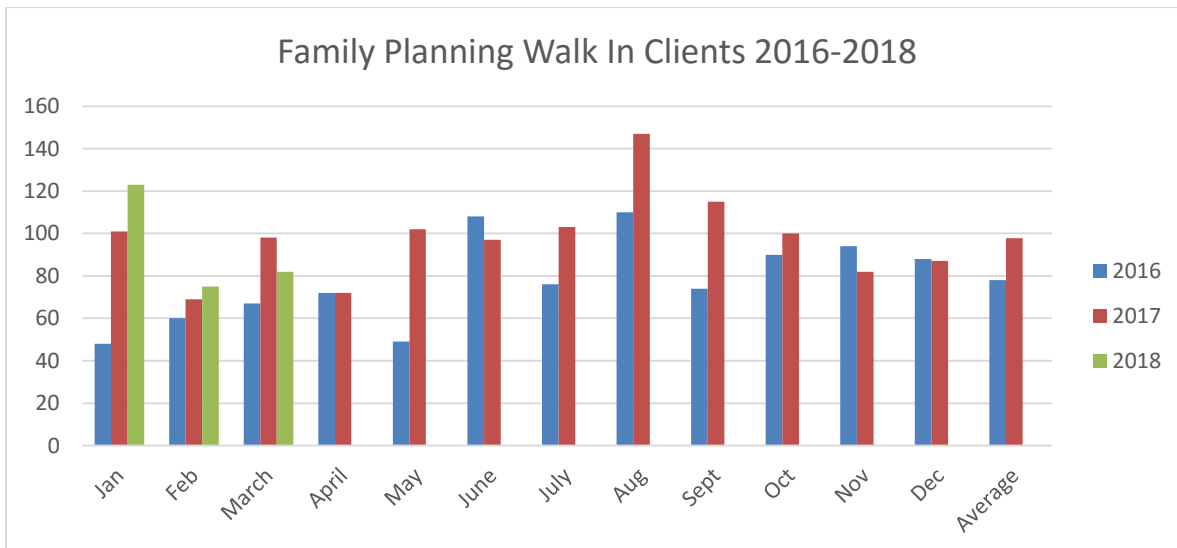
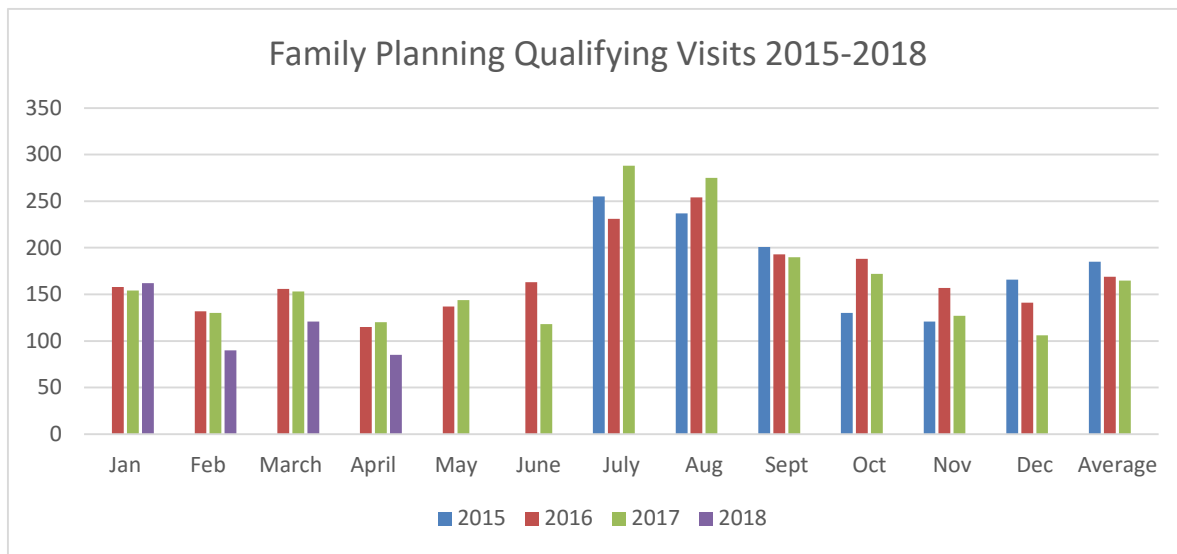
### **Emergency Preparedness and Response (EPR)**

- Staff participated in a workgroup with the Colorado Department of Public Health and Environment to review a new assessment tool that measures response capacity and the alignment of public health capabilities as outlined in the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention performance measures. The goal of this process is to improve the way we (Colorado) approach strategic planning by creating a bottom up prioritization process for our scopes of work. This activity aligns with the Technology, informatics and data analysis portions of the Strategic Plan.
- Staff attended several training opportunities this month. The community mass care management course covered how to assess mass care needs in a disaster, planning, recruitment, training, and exercise for mass care personnel, and actions to take in short and long term care operations. The legal issues in emergency management course provided an overview of the regulations on hazardous materials, transportation, fire and building codes as well as legal significance of whole community planning. These activities align with workforce development.
- Staff attended the Preparedness Summit in Atlanta, Georgia. While at the conference, the National Association of City and County Health Officials honored the health department with their third re-recognition plaque for Project Public Health Ready on behalf of El Paso County Public Health. Project Public Health Ready is a criteria-based training and recognition program that assesses local health department capacity and capability to plan for, respond to, and recover from public health emergencies such as bioterrorism, pandemics and natural events. Attendance at the conference aligns with workforce development.

### **Health Services Division**

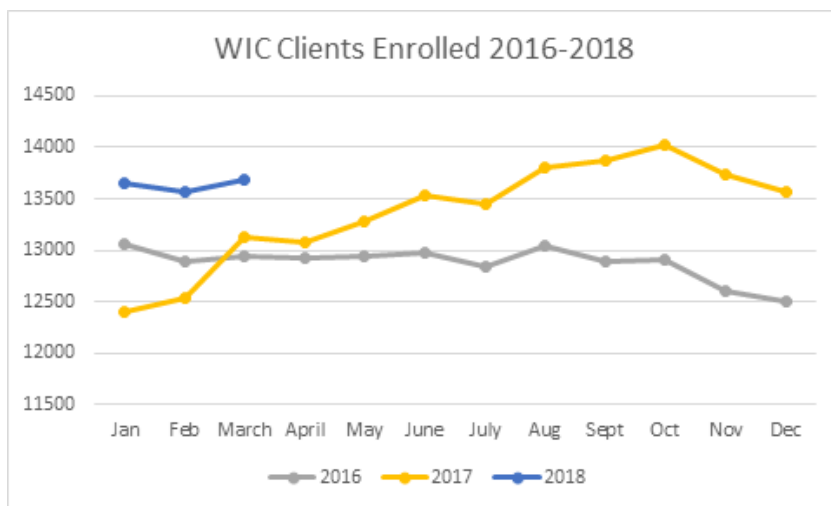


- The Family Planning Clinic had 212 client visits, of which 85 were qualifying visits. A qualifying visit is the first visit in the contract year June 1, 2017 through July 31, 2018 in which contraceptive counseling was provided.
- Provided 1,565 qualifying visits to date for the 2017-2018 contract year, which is 77 percent of the goal.
- To increase customer service to the community, the Family Planning clinic continued to serve walk-in clients daily, which constituted 30 percent of the total number of clients seen in April.
- We have a new Family Planning Program Manager, who was a Public Health nurse in our TB and Immunizations programs. She was also the previous Director of Baca County Public Health. The team will brainstorm options and ideas for outreach to continue to try to reach underserved individuals in the community. The objectives of the Family Planning clinic are consistent with the Community Health Improvement Plan areas of reducing unintended pregnancy and infections.



## Women, Infants and Children (WIC)

- Caseload increased by 108 during the month of March to 13,684 participants.
- WIC Breastfeeding Peer Counselors (BFPC) received 798 texts to the texting platform, engaged in 1,628 conversational texts, and increased their caseload by 127. BFPCs, who are available after hours, weekends, and holidays, provide breastfeeding information and answers to breastfeeding questions for woman both during and after pregnancy. They also connect WIC clients with a breastfeeding expert, if needed. These efforts provide needed support and encouragement towards the public health goal of increasing breastfeeding duration.
- The southeast WIC office coordinated with Cooking Matters to provide six weekly lessons to help families shop for and cook healthy meals on a budget. Nine families were enrolled. Several WIC staff volunteered their time to provide child care in an effort to reduce barriers to participation.
- WIC initiated a quality improvement project to improve pregnancy-related depression screening and referrals for WIC participants. We are utilizing the PHQ-2 tool to screen for depression. With consent, clients are referred to AspenPointe for further evaluation and connections to meet their specific behavioral health needs. From April 23 – April 30, 117 PHQ-2 forms were completed resulting in 10 referrals to AspenPointe.



## Healthy Children and Families (HCF)

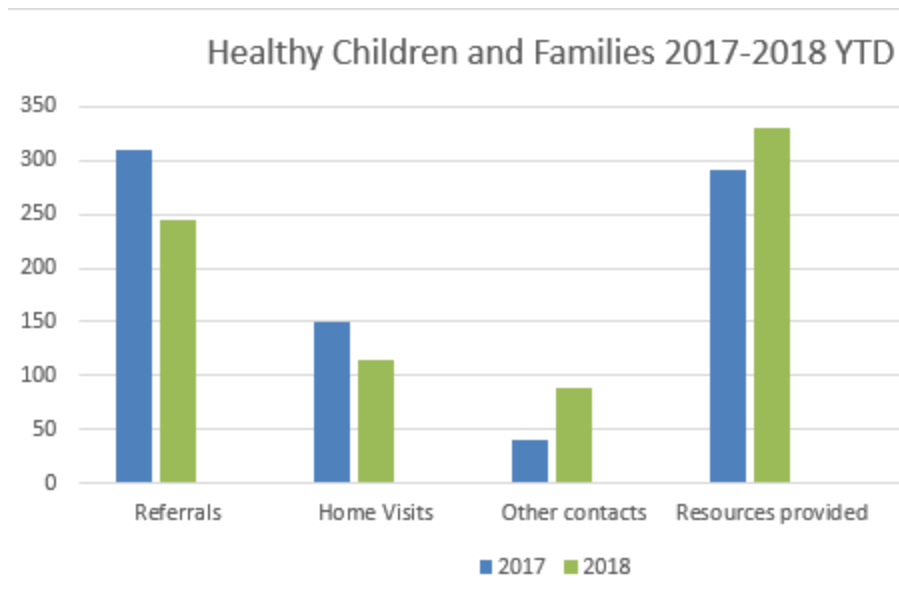
Healthy Children and Families (HCF) has continued to work with the Department of Human Services (DHS) to provide support and resources to the families of El Paso County.

DHS has created a Medical Neglect unit to enhance support for families with children that have medical needs. HCF and the staff within this unit have visited Children's Hospital Colorado to establish better communication between DHS and the hospital/clinics to help support these families.

### April HCF statistics:

- 54 referrals from DHS staff
- 24 home visits
- 14 other contacts (e.g., phone contacts with families)
- Provided 95 resources to families, including referrals to other El Paso County and other community agencies

HCF staff continues to develop this program through meetings with community entities and quality improvement initiatives.



**Immunization/Travel Program (IZ)**

- Demand for Stamaril yellow fever vaccine continues to be high. IZ nurses gave 65 Stamaril to international travelers this month, a 360 percent increase over an average month in 2017. Our clinic is the only provider approved for yellow fever vaccine in Colorado outside of Denver.
- IZ staff conducted a travel outreach clinic for a local church group of 14 needing the yellow fever vaccine.
- IZ Clinic served five refugees and 68 walk-in clients in April in addition to the regularly scheduled clients.
- IZ nursing staff completed 10 Vaccines for Children follow-up visits for provider offices in the community.

**Year to Date Immunizations Data**

Dates	Children Served	Adults Served	Travel Clients	Total Number Vaccines Given
April 2018	74	104	104	629
Through April 2018	540	475	277	2,718
January-December 2017	2,033	2,220	705	11,100

### Immunizations Clinic Walk-In Clients 2015-2018

