

To: Board of Health
From: Susan Wheelan
 Interim Public Health Director
Date: September 26, 2018 (reflects August 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
Summerfest Immunization Clinic	8/1/2018	KKTV	31,331	\$3,646.50
Summerfest Immunization Clinic	8/1/2018	KXRM	1,999	\$168.56
Summerfest Immunization Clinic	8/3/2018	KOAA	7,671	\$306.95
Mosquito Prevention	8/13/2018	KXRM	7,883	\$281.93
Air Quality	8/21/2018	KOAA	34,148	\$2,476.88
Restaurant Report Card	8/23/2018	KXRM	6,914	\$1,185.24
TOTAL			89,946	\$8,066.06

Print/Online

- 8/1/2018- The Gazette, "[Free vaccines, food, music, activities at Back-to-School Summerfest in Colorado Springs](#)" by Debbie Kelley.
- 8/1/2018- KOAA Channel 5, "[August is Immunization Awareness Month](#)" by Nia Bender.
- 8/21/2018-The Colorado Springs Independent, "[Mental Health Colorado helps kids handle back-to-school stress](#)" by Faith Miller.
- 8/22/2018-The Colorado Springs Independent, "[Overdose maps show progression of the opioid crisis across Colorado Springs](#)" by Pam Zubeck. Interview provided by Dr. Robin Johnson, Medical Director.
- 8/29/2018 – The Colorado Springs Independent, "[Legionnaires' disease strikes El Paso County](#)" by Pam Zubeck. Interview provided by Danielle Oller, Public Health Information Officer.

Public Health Campaigns and Projects

- At the 2018 Public Health in the Rockies Conference, the Office of Communication presented on Public Health's efforts surrounding media contagion and suicide, and the use of Snapchat to engage youth in tobacco prevention messaging.

- Public Health, in collaboration with stakeholders in the community including the El Paso County Sheriff's Office (EPSO) and NAMI, completed the media buy for the mental health stigma reduction campaign that will support EPSO's co-responder model. This initiative supports the 2018-2022 Community Health Improvement Plan's goal to decrease the incidence of poor mental health and substance use and misuse in El Paso County.

Online Media

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

- 1,398 Facebook page followers with an average of 1,267 unique users reached monthly
- 5,304 Twitter followers with 28,800 tweet impressions
- 446 Instagram followers

Website statistics

www.elpasocountyhealth.org:

- 8,805 new visitors to the site with 24,921 page views during the month.

Strategic Development and Initiatives Office (SDIO):

- The Healthy Environment Planner worked with a local artist and several youth in Harrison School District 2 to design and paint a mobile mural intended to promote community cohesion and pride. The mural, funded by the Urban Land Institute of Colorado, will be showcased at various locations in southeast Colorado Springs. A community mural project is among a number of recommendations to improve quality of life through improvements to the built environment that came out of a local [Building Healthy Places Workshop](#).
- The Resilient Inspired Strong Engaged (RISE) Coalition assisted in sponsorship of the annual Summerfest event in southeast Colorado Springs. Over 1,000 families received backpacks with back-to-school supplies. This is a key collaboration that expands EPCPH's participation with non-traditional partners and community groups.
- Public Health Planner and Population Health Epidemiologist presented at the Poverty Immersion in Colorado Springs (PICOS) program in partnership with the University of Colorado School of Medicine, Colorado Springs Branch. This activity meets health equity goals outlined in the EPCPH strategic plan to increase community awareness of root causes of health inequities.
- Public Health Planner and Medical Director are facilitating a partnership with UC Health Memorial Health System's HOPE Unit for medical students from the University of Colorado School of Medicine's Partnership Education Action Project (PEAK). This project supports the development of community partnerships and meets goals outlined in the EPCPH strategic plan.
- Public Health Planner co-presented with other local and state health department representatives on quality improvement at the Public Health in the Rockies conference. This activity aligns with the EPCPH strategic plan to provide trainings that develop and strengthen public health core competencies by providing lessons learned to other local health agencies and by communicating technical expertise to external partners.

Disease Prevention – Health Promotion Division

Disease Prevention and Control—

Communicable Disease (CD) activities for August:

General Trends: Nationally, Legionnaires' disease is becoming more common as aging populations, aging infrastructure, and warmer temperatures create ideal conditions for Legionella bacteria to spread. El Paso

County is matching this trend with 13 cases through the end of August compared to five cases total in 2017. While the number of cases is still low, Legionnaire’s disease has serious consequences, as most cases require hospitalization and one out 10 people die from complications of the disease.

Table 1: Notifiable diseases reported to El Paso County Public Health through August 2018

Disease	YTD 2018	Total 2017
Food/Waterborne Diseases		
Campylobacter	73	106
Cryptosporidium	10	14
Cyclosporiasis	3	0
Giardia	20	33
Hemolytic Uremic Syndrome (HUS)	0	3
Hepatitis A	0	12
Legionellosis	13	5
Salmonella	69	92
Shigella	9	4
Shiga Toxin-producing E. coli (STEC)	10	23
Vibriosis	2	0
Food/Waterborne Diseases Total	212	292
Viral Hepatitis		
Hepatitis B (acute)	4	1
Hepatitis B (chronic)	46	66
Hepatitis C (acute)	6	4
Hepatitis C (chronic)	502	675
Viral Hepatitis Total	558	746
Healthcare Associated Infections		
Carbapenem Nonsusceptible Enterobacteriaceae (CRE)	21	33
Carbapenem-Resistant Pseudomonas Aeruginosa (CRPA)	37	67
Healthcare Associated Infections Total	58	100
Vaccine Preventable Diseases		
Haemophilus influenzae (H. flu)	6	2
Measles	0	0
Meningococcal Disease	0	1
Mumps	4	1
Pertussis	25	59
Rubella	0	0
Varicella	12	28
Vaccine Preventable Diseases Total	47	91
Hospitalized Influenza*	329	495

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

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

CD/TB August Activities:

Foodborne Illness Complaints: Eleven possible foodborne illness complaints; none were referred to Environmental Health.

Rabies: While raccoons have always been considered high-risk for rabies, the first raccoon to ever test positive for rabies in El Paso County was found in August.

- There were 70 calls regarding human or pet exposures to potentially rabid animals, and other rabies-related concerns.
- Twenty-seven animals were tested by EPCPH for rabies including one cat, one skunk, four raccoons, and 21 bats. Two additional skunks were tested by Fort Carson. Of the animals tested by EPCPH, one raccoon and six bats tested positive. The two skunks tested by Fort Carson were positive.
- Three people were recommended by EPCPH for rabies post-exposure prophylaxis

Total rabid animals for 2018: 66 (59 skunks, one raccoon, six bats)

Tuberculosis (TB):

New active TB cases investigated: 1

New suspect TB cases investigated: 0

Cases on Direct Observed Therapy (DOT): 7

Cases on Directly Observed Preventive Therapy (DOPT): 4

Total DOT/DOPT/VDOT visits: 198

General TB skin tests done: 30

Number of contacts screened/tested: 0

Total number of evaluations: 12

Latent TB Infection (LTBI) cases under treatment: 13

LTBI cases completing treatment this month: 1

Maternal Child Health (MCH)

Title V Visioning Day: MCH and Social Determinants of Health

- EPCPH Maternal Child Health Program was invited to participate in Colorado's Title V Visioning Day. This event was hosted by CDPHE and brought together stakeholders from across Colorado to explore ways social determinants of health could be aligned with priorities for the 2020 Colorado MCH Title V federal grant.

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

- HCP team conducted outreach to share information regarding services and referrals to three community partner organizations including a home health agency, Children's Hospital Colorado Springs patient navigation program, and A Rise Above, administrator of the Children's-Home and Community Based Children's Medicaid Waiver (C-HCBS Waiver).
- The Program Manager attended the Peaceful Households Adverse Childhood Experiences (ACEs) and Trauma Leadership Coalition Summit which brought together stakeholders from across the community to discuss opportunities to address ACEs and trauma in our community.
- Client activity this month included:
 - 35 current active care coordination caseload
 - 24 new case management referrals received
 - 37 new information-only referrals received
 - 10 assessments were completed or reviewed
 - 10 action plans were completed or reviewed

Child Health/Early Childhood Obesity Prevention (ECOP):

- Two nursing students completed their public health internship supporting ECOP programming in the community.
- Thirteen child care providers received training for *I am Moving I am Learning* (IMIL) which trains providers to incorporate structured physical activity into their curricula (grant required activity).

Promoting Connectedness, Resiliency and Life Skills (PCRLS):

- MCH partnered with other EPCPH staff to present our efforts related to collective impact and youth suicide prevention at Public Health in the Rockies. This activity is aligned with the Community Health Improvement Plan and the Strategic Plan.

Tobacco Education and Prevention Partnership (TEPP)

Youth Initiatives

- Awarded an additional tobacco-free schools mini-grant to Pine Creek High School in District 20. This will be the first year working with District 20 on the tobacco-free schools initiative. There are now five schools in five districts in El Paso County receiving the tobacco-free schools mini-grants.

Tobacco Education, Cessation and Prevention

- EPCPH referred four clients to the Colorado QuitLine Fax Referral program for tobacco cessation assistance.
- Jenny Best, Community Health Educator, became an approved presenter of “Emerging Products: Tobacco and E-Cigarettes,” a training accredited by the Colorado Dental Association as a continuing education course for dentists, dental hygienists and dental assistants. The presentation covers the implications of various tobacco products on dental health, and includes new and emerging products. The presentation also covers the Ask, Advise, and Refer brief tobacco intervention and provides resources to help patients quit smoking.
- Emma Cook, Community Health Educator, and Mava Cooper, Health Communication Coordinator, presented at Public Health in the Rockies about the Snapchat Filter Design Contest for 2018 Kick Butts Day. The project focused on engaging youth in the design and implementation of tobacco prevention messaging.
- Jennifer Lange, Community Health Educator, in collaboration with Fountain Police Department, Jefferson County Public Health, Golden Police Department, Otero County Public Health, and Rocky Ford Police Department, planned and convened a presentation that was delivered at the 2018 Public Health in the Rockies conference. The panel discussion highlighted the partnerships between law enforcement and public health in enforcing non-cigarette tobacco retailer licenses in the three communities. Approximately 40 public health professionals from across the state attended the session.
- Thirty community members attended the quarterly Tobacco-Free Alliance meeting. The meeting agenda included community member updates, and highlighted Healthy Kids Colorado Survey data and tobacco prevention work being completed by Children’s Hospital Colorado.
- TEPP is in the process of completing a tobacco-focused community profile to help El Paso County Public Health make data-driven decisions and select strategies that have the greatest potential of reducing the burden of tobacco in El Paso County. TEPP will be collecting primary and secondary data as part of this process, which will include focus groups and key informant interviews, as well as environmental scans of the community. The team will have the first 6-9 months of the fiscal year to complete this assessment.

Youth Suicide Prevention Planning (YSPP)

- Participated in a routine conference call with partners at CDPHE and Pikes Peak Suicide Prevention regarding the Colorado National Collaborative (CNC) and other efforts through the Office of Suicide Prevention (OSP). The CNC has partnered 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. We discussed updated plans for a meeting of all CNC partners in Denver in October 2018, regional suicide prevention work in El Paso and Pueblo counties, and upcoming community activities. These activities align with the Community Health Improvement Plan.

- The Youth Suicide Prevention Workgroup meeting had numerous attendees representing various community stakeholders, including behavioral health organizations, law enforcement agencies, school officials, youth-serving organizations, faith-based community members, and the medical community. We celebrated the early accomplishments of the workgroup and expressed gratitude for the community's investment in youth suicide prevention. 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.
- Delivered two presentations at the 2018 Public Health in the Rockies Conference entitled "Youth Suicide Prevention Meets Collective Impact: El Paso County's Innovative Approach to a Complex Community Health Challenge" and "Giving Gen Z a Voice: Youth Perspectives on Mental Health and Suicide Prevention in El Paso County." The collective impact presentation reviewed alignment of resources both internal and external to EPCPH for youth suicide prevention. The youth perspectives presentation shared the results of the Teen Think Tanks project, funded by EPCPH and conducted by Pikes Peak Suicide Prevention in the spring of 2017. This activity aligns with the agency's strategic plan.
- The Youth Suicide Prevention Workgroup meeting had over fifty partners in attendance. The agenda focused on the early accomplishments of the workgroup and included presentations by members, awards for leaders and champions, and a call to action for members to continue to engage in workgroup efforts. The work of the Youth Suicide Prevention Workgroup is aligned with the Community Health Improvement Plan.
- Presented to public health professionals from around the state at the 2018 Public Health in the Rockies Conference about El Paso County's collaborative approach to youth suicide prevention and the results of the Teen Think Tank youth focus groups. These presentations are in alignment with the agency strategic plan.
- Partnered with public health professionals from Health Management Associates, San Juan Basin, and La Plata County to present the results of the Community Conversations to Inform Youth Suicide Prevention project at the 2018 Public Health in the Rockies conference. This recently concluded project was a study of youth suicide in four Colorado counties, including El Paso County. This presentation is in alignment with the agency strategic plan.

Youth Substance Use Prevention

- Received CTC Healthy Kids Colorado Data Reports from our partner school districts. This data will help inform the work of the CTC initiative and serve as a baseline for evaluation of our impact on substance use, violence and mental health of youth in the Fountain Valley.
- Began a new three-year scope of work on July 1, 2018, which includes a new strategy to increase opportunities for prosocial engagement for youth in the community through Positive Youth Development (PYD) trainings to local community members including, but not limited to, youth-serving professionals, caregivers, local business, law enforcement, and health care providers, and shall develop CTC Community Board capacity to implement PYD. This will be done by first sending two youth-engagement champions from the Fountain Valley to a Train the Trainer event at CDPHE. These individuals will then return to the Community and work with CTC staff to implement PYD trainings to train the aforementioned community members and to the CTC Community Board.
- The Teen Advisory Board is planning their first Community Day Cleanup in Fountain Regional Park (as part of the Fountain Watershed Cleanup Week) on October 2, 2018. They are also working on their first conference presentation at the Educating Children of Color Summit on January 19, 2019.
- CTC staff, along with two members of the Fountain Valley Community, attended the Public Health in the Rockies Conference. Part of CTC's role is to build community capacity to understand the upstream risk

factors that may impact future substance abuse and violence outcomes, which is partly accomplished by providing CTC Community Board members the opportunity to attend conferences and trainings that support that understanding.

Environmental Health (EH) Division

Body Art

- The Body Art Advisory Group met to review and share feedback on draft media outreach (film clips and a brochure) as the next step in developing a campaign to promote consumer education about safe practices in the body art industry. This community partnership and this communication project improves efforts to influence health outcomes in El Paso County.
- The Body Art Program continues to grow and has had new facilities applying for licenses. Since 2013, staff have conducted and approved 75 plan reviews to open new facilities; we are also receiving an increasing number of temporary event applications each year.

School Safety

- Staff attended the training “Welding for EH Professionals,” which was sponsored by CDPHE. This training taught how to identify and control common welding hazards, which are relevant risks in schools that allow welding.

Onsite Wastewater Treatment Systems (OWTS)

- Staff continue to meet with individuals, design professionals, and industry completing the process of rebuilding post Black Forest fire. The few remaining homes being constructed face unique site conditions that may require creative solutions. This collaboration helps to maintain strong community partnerships, which directly support public health.

Emergency Preparedness and Response

- In accordance with improvement planning associated with several recent real world events, Emergency Preparedness and Response Coordinator and EH Manager worked with the El Paso County Office of Emergency Management to develop a damage assessment form.
- Staff participated in an Inventory Management training session with CDPHE. This training focused on the new inventory and management training system, which will be utilized in a strategic national stockpile event.
- Regional staff conducted Public Health Capacity Assessments in Park and Chaffee counties. These assessments are conducted with local public health and their community partners. The results of these capacity assessments will inform a statewide public health emergency preparedness capacity report.
- Staff attended the 40-hour Homeland Security National Planner's Course hosted by El Paso County Office of Emergency Management and the South Central Homeland Security Region. This curriculum is an application-based series of workshops designed to train emergency planners in the fundamentals of planning using the Homeland Security Department Plan Development Process.

Laboratory

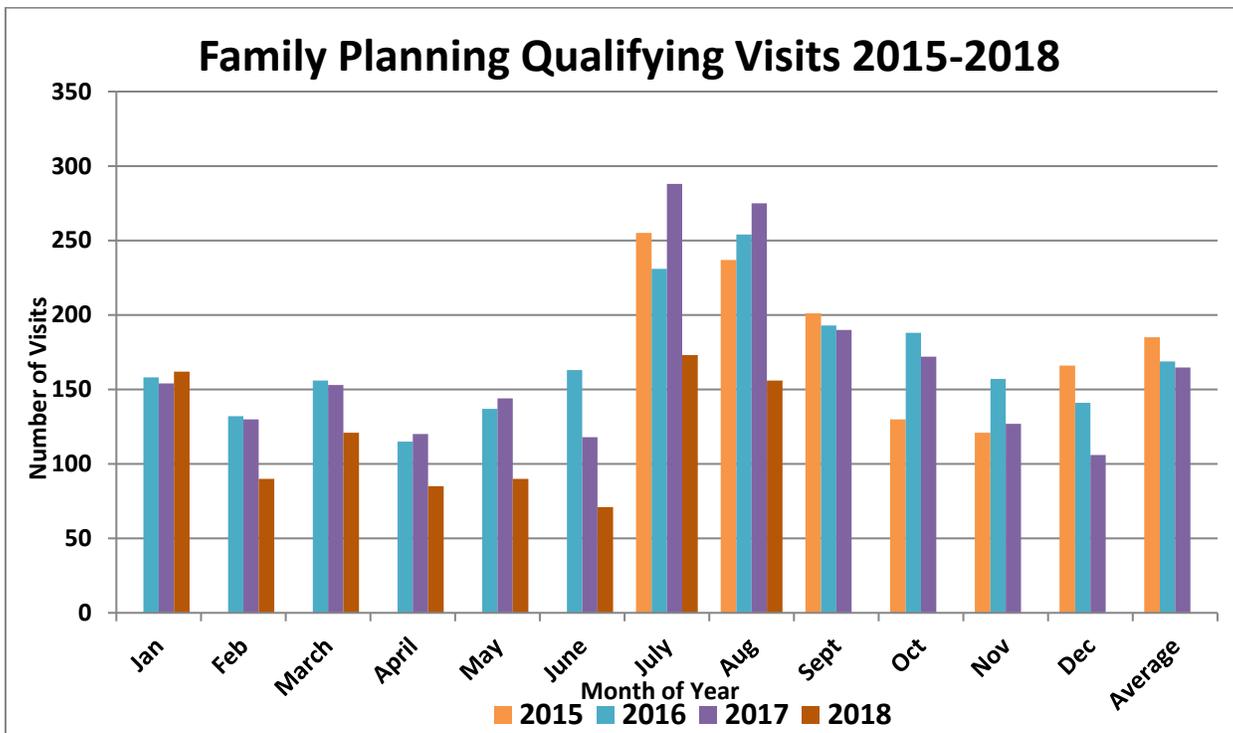
- Performed 692 bacteriological water tests; 403 for public water systems and 289 for private wells. Ninety-three tests were performed for inorganic anions.
- Public Health and the Radon Measurements Laboratory (currently at UCCS) are discussing a partnership. Radon Measurements is in need of new accommodations upon the retirement of the current owner, Dr. Burkhart, from UCCS. Radon Measurements Laboratory will continue to offer radon testing of air samples and plans to develop water testing in the near future. Radon Measurements in our laboratory will provide the community with greater accessibility to the testing.

Environment Health Activity	August 2018	2018 Total	2017 Total
Air Quality Construction Permits	10	55	66
Air Quality Open Burn Permits	3	11	32
Air Quality Complaints	4	32	42
Animal Bites Reported	162	1025	N/A
Body Art Inspections	3	6	75
Body Art Follow-up Inspections	0	3	3
Body Art Complaints	0	6	14
Child Care Regular Inspections	9	97	183
Child Care Follow-up Inspections	2	18	35
Child Care Complaints	1	6	2
Land-Use Planning Review	17	148	198
OWTS Final Inspections	39	352	512
OWTS Soil And Site Evaluations	37	311	480
OWTS New Permit Applications	32	239	322
OWTS Repair Permit Applications	24	200	285
OWTS Application Design Reviews	77	392	582
OWTS Acceptance Doc for Title Transfer	109	723	910
OWTS Pumper Truck Inspections	11	67	77
OWTS Complaints	5	26	36
Recreational Water Safety Inspections	30	311	402
Recreational Water Follow-up Inspections	3	32	20
Recreational Water Complaints	2	11	8
RFE Regular Inspections	379	2820	4312
RFE Follow-up Inspections	92	631	842
RFE Complaint Investigations	24	209	233
RFE Plan Reviews	14	122	122
School Safety Regular Inspections	0	34	60
School Safety Follow-up Inspections	0	0	0
Waste Tires Facilities Regular Inspections	8	110	140
Waste Tires Follow-up Inspections	1	12	25

Health Services Division

- In August, Family Planning clinic served:
 - 202 clients
 - 156 were qualifying visits
 - 329 total qualifying visits during the contract cycle. New contract cycle began 07/01/2018.

- 53 walk-in clients, which comprised 26 percent of total clients

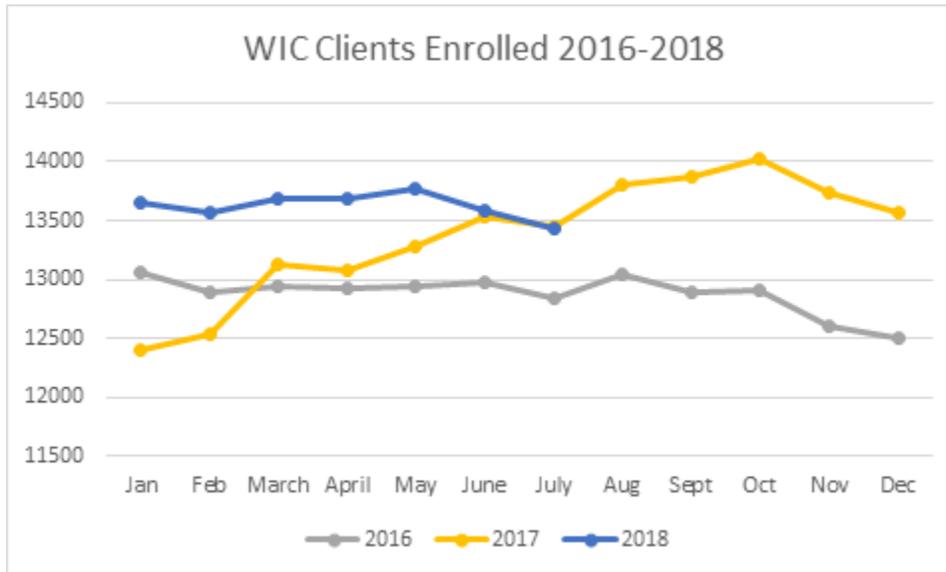


Women, Infants and Children (WIC)

- July caseload dropped to 146 from June to 13,435. The trend affected most of our state as 29 out of the 38 Colorado WIC programs had a decrease in caseload. Multiple efforts to reach those in our community who are eligible but not enrolled continue to be made.
- Our continued efforts to improve pregnancy-related depression screening and referrals for WIC participants have resulted in 1030 completed PHQ-2s and 59 referrals to AspenPointe for further evaluation and connections to meet their specific behavioral health needs.
- WIC staff promoted, participated and provided outreach and breastfeeding support during The Big Latch On. The Global Big Latch On takes place at registered locations around the world where people gather to breastfeed and offer peer support to each other, creating a lasting support network for the community. The goal is to positively support breastfeeding in public and make it a normal part of day-to-day life. This year, there were 191 attendees and 59 latches that counted towards the 60,000 people around the world who took part in the Global Big Latch On. These efforts contribute to Colorado’s 10 Winnable Battles.
- Amber Travis, RD, IBCLC and the WIC breastfeeding peer counselors were presented with the USDA Loving Support Award of Excellence Gold Award in recognition of all the amazing work they do to support breastfeeding mothers and their infants. El Paso County WIC was one of 78 agencies nationwide and one of three agencies in Colorado to receive this prestigious award. WIC agencies can apply for the Loving Support Award of Excellence awards if they have had a Breastfeeding Peer Counselor program for at least one year and if they meet specific requirements related to breastfeeding, peer counseling and community partnerships. As Heidi Hoffman, Colorado WIC Director stated, “This work breaks down societal barriers that prevent women from breastfeeding, improves connections between women and the peer counselors and builds community partnerships. They are an excellent model and motivation to other WIC agencies.” Breastfeeding Peer Counselors are mothers who have personal experience with breastfeeding and are trained to provide basic breastfeeding information and support to other mothers with whom they share various characteristics, such as language, race/ethnicity, and socioeconomic status. In WIC, peer counselors are recruited and hired from WIC’s target population of low-income women and undergo training to provide

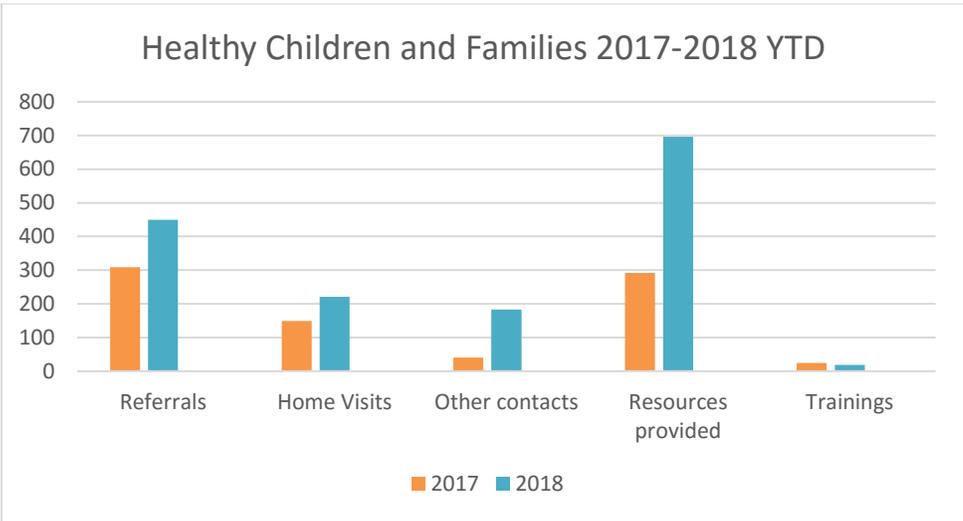
mother-to-mother support in group settings and one-to-one counseling through telephone calls, texts, or visits in the home, clinic, or hospital, including afterhours support.

- Space and cubicles at the Citizens Service Center (CSC) WIC office were reconfigured to improve privacy, noise control and to create larger hallways for strollers. WIC staff demonstrated their flexibility by working in different cubicles, at other WIC locations and with laptops to ensure clients would continue to be seen despite the main section of the office being inaccessible to clients for seven working days. This was accomplished due to the opening of the southeast WIC Clinic and the transferring of 11 staff from the CSC location to the new location. This reconfiguration also created space for a functional classroom where classes and trainings for both WIC staff and clients will be provided.



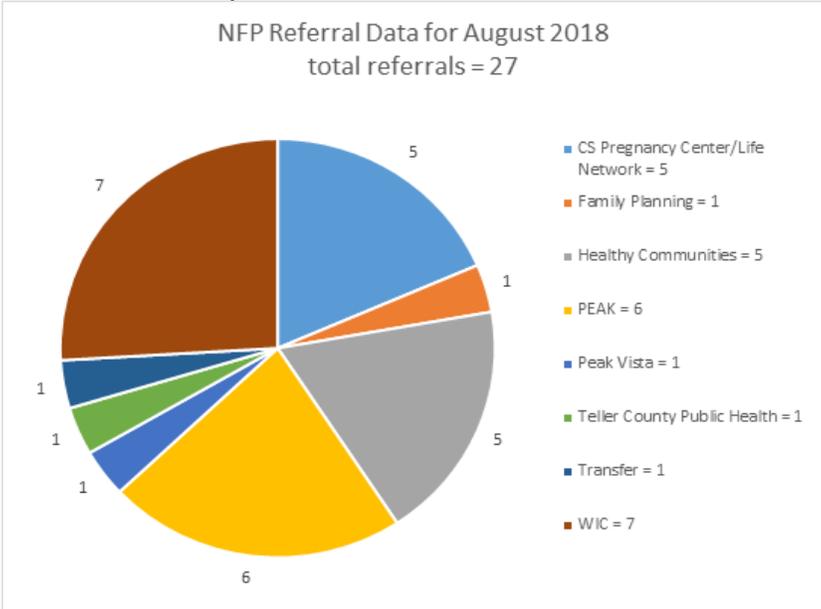
Healthy Children and Families (HCF)

- 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.
- HCF is working with DHS in the development of a unit prioritizing children aged 0-3 years because they are the most vulnerable population. HCF would primarily work with families who have children in this age group, as well as medical issues for children of all ages.
- HCF participated in a community group, Perinatal Network, and received information on housing resources for our families. Our nurse supervisor participated in a two-day training in Denver on post-partum depression.
- In August, HCF completed:
 - 49 referrals from DHS staff
 - 23 home visits with assessments
 - 40 other contacts
 - 64 community resources were given to families
 - 1 training



Nurse-Family Partnership

- Nurse-Family Partnership (NFP) held a community advisory board (CAB) meeting. For the past year, the NFP CAB has discussed the high rates of low-birth weight babies in our county. Understanding that this is a complex problem, we have elicited help from March of Dimes to help facilitate a coalition. In the upcoming months, we will decide as an advisory board how best to proceed, so that we can make the most impact in our community.



Report Summary	AUG 2018
Clients Served	136
Completed/ Attempted Visits	225
Client Graduations	1

Immunization/Travel Program (IZ)

- Immunization staff, with help from two Nurse Family Partnership nurses, gave vaccines at the Back-to-School Summerfest event at the Deerfield Hills Community Center. El Paso County Public Health partnered with the YMCA, Harrison School District 2 and Deerfield Hills Community Center to host this event. IZ administered 31 vaccines to 14 children and reviewed vaccine records for several parents whose children were already up-to-date.
- Consistent with the Strategic Plan to prevent infectious diseases, IZ Clinic served 150 walk-in clients in August in addition to the regularly scheduled clients.

Year to Date Immunizations Data

Dates	Children Served	Adults Served	Travel Clients	Total Number Vaccines Given
August 2018	208	103	65	835
Through August 2018	1,026	947	609	5,251
January-December 2017	2,033	2,220	705	11,100

