### Acronyms Used in December 2019 Board of Health Report

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Acronym</th>
<th>Meaning</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>ACEs</td>
<td>Adverse Childhood Experiences</td>
<td>NFP</td>
<td>Nurse-Family Partnership</td>
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<tr>
<td>CDPHE</td>
<td>Colorado Department of Public Health and Environment</td>
<td>OWTS</td>
<td>On-site Wastewater Treatment Systems</td>
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<td>CHE</td>
<td>Community Health Educator</td>
<td>PFAS</td>
<td>Per- and Polyfluoroalkyl Substances</td>
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<td>CHIP</td>
<td>Community Health Improvement Plan</td>
<td>PHAB</td>
<td>Public Health Accreditation Board</td>
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<td>CNC</td>
<td>Colorado-National Collaborative</td>
<td>PHQ</td>
<td>Patient Health Questionnaire</td>
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<td>CPAR</td>
<td>Coalition for Prevention Education and Recovery</td>
<td>TEPP</td>
<td>Tobacco Education and Prevention Partnership</td>
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<td>CTC</td>
<td>Communities that Care</td>
<td>TGYS</td>
<td>Tony Grampsas Youth Services Grant Program</td>
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<td>ECOP</td>
<td>Early Childhood Obesity Prevention</td>
<td>TSP</td>
<td>Teen Suicide Prevention</td>
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<td>EPCPH</td>
<td>El Paso County Public Health</td>
<td>WIC</td>
<td>Women, Infants and Children</td>
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<tr>
<td>HCP</td>
<td>A program for children and youth with special needs</td>
<td>YHD</td>
<td>Youth Health and Development Planner</td>
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<td>MCH</td>
<td>Maternal Child Health</td>
<td>YSUP</td>
<td>Youth Substance Prevention Planner</td>
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Community Health Improvement Plan (CHIP) Priority Areas:
El Paso County Public Health and all public health agencies in Colorado are required by Senate Bill 194 to complete a CHIP for the community each serves. The CHIP defines the vision for the health of the community through a collaborative process with over 60 partner agencies who participate in the Healthy Community Collaborative. Community input on these goals can be viewed on a data dashboard at www.thrivingcolorado.com. These are EPCPH’s activities:

Healthy Eating and Active Living
Reverse the upward trend of obesity across the lifespan by addressing its root causes
- The Women, Infant and Children (WIC) caseload for November 2019 was 12,680. Holidays impact appointment times for clients.
- To reduce household food insecurity and increase access to a variety of healthy foods encouraged by the dietary guidelines, two Women, Infants and Children (WIC) staff attended the Healthy Holiday Food Event at the Fort Carson Commissary. WIC staff shared evidence-based nutrition and health promotion messages and were able to financially screen and schedule first-time WIC appointments for 12 families.
- MCH (Maternal Child Health) Early Childhood Obesity Prevention (ECOP) Community Health Educator (CHE) hosted a 5-hour Moving Into Wellness training with 14 childcare providers at Peyton High Prairie Library. CHE engaged 6 of those childcare providers for follow-up technical assistance, completing four Early Childcare Center site visits in November.

Mental Health and Substance Use Prevention
Decrease the incidence of poor mental health and substance use and misuse
- Youth Substance Use Prevention (YSUP) Planner attended a Community Education work group meeting for the Coalition for Prevention Education and Recovery (CPAR- formerly the opioid coalition), and participated on the interview committee at Community Health Partnership to hire a Project Manager to oversee CPAR.
- YSUP Planner and a Tobacco Education Prevention Partnership Community Health Educator offered a presentation on vaping, marijuana, and trusted adults at a Community Night at Fox Meadow Middle School (D2)
- Fountain Valley Communities That Care (CTC) partnered with Fountain Fort Carson District 8 and Widefield Security District 3 to host a community event “Surviving School: Tools to Navigate Life Challenges”. Student-led breakout sessions included topics such as resilience to stress and anxiety, healthy lifestyle, digital kindness, digital safety, and self-harm awareness and prevention. Maternal Child Health provided a presentation on resiliency. The event was attended by 60 parents and youth from Districts 3 and 8.
• YSUP Planner is supervising a Rocky Vista University medical student for a month-long rotation. The student is completing an activity from one of the CTC implementation plans -- completing a case study review and developing a presentation for community partners on community spaces for youth as an effective intervention to protect against substance use, violence, and/or poor mental health outcomes.

• MCH conducted resiliency training for parents and teachers at Ute Pass Elementary.

• In partnership with Peaceful Households, Cedar Springs, and representatives from several school districts, MCH conducted a training entitled ‘Adverse Childhood Events (ACEs) for Educators,’ which was later presented to 80 educators at Rocky Mountain Classical Academy with the goal of raising awareness and increasing the trauma responsiveness of the staff.

• MCH provided a BrainWise training for 23 DHS staff members, this evidence-based social and emotional learning program teaches critical thinking and decision-making skills.

• The Women, Infants and Children (WIC) program works with pregnant and post-partum women to identify depression, refer for behavioral health treatment and reduce the stigma of seeking behavioral health services. WIC staff completed 158 two-question Patient Health Questionnaires (PHQ-2s) and made 4 referrals to AspenPointe for further evaluation and connections to meet clients’ specific behavioral health needs.

**Surveillance, Epidemiology and Emergency Preparedness**

**Hepatitis A Outbreak (2018-2019)**

- El Paso County Public Health conducted 111 vaccine outreach events from October 2018 through November 2019. In coordination with community partners, including the El Paso County Sheriff’s Office, Penrose St. Francis parish nurses, and UCHealth/Memorial Emergency Department, EPCPH has administered 6,419 Hepatitis A vaccine. There were 123 positive Hepatitis A cases in El Paso County through November 23. Statewide, there have been 264 cases.

**Influenza Season 2018-2019**

- Influenza surveillance for the 2019-2020 season began on September 29, 2019. As of November 30, 14 people had been hospitalized for influenza in El Paso County.

**Rabies**

- The communicable disease program responded to 13 calls regarding possible rabies exposures. Two people were recommended for post-exposure prophylaxis.

**Foundational Public Health Services**

Foundational public health services include: communicable disease prevention, investigation and control, environmental health, maternal, child, adolescent, and family
health, chronic disease and injury prevention and behavioral health promotion, and clinical care.

**Laboratory**
- Performed 618 Bacteriological water tests, 304 for public water systems and 314 for private wells. Seventy-eight water samples were assayed for inorganic anions.

**2018-2022 Strategic Plan Goals**
The goals selected for each strategic plan topic area represent broad achievements EPCPH plans to reach by the end of 2022. The goals are expressed at a high-level in order to capture all possible forward movement across the agency and within specific programs. The strategies selected represent the most important ways in which EPCPH can focus its agency and programmatic objectives to meet each goal.

**Workforce Development:** strengthen EPCPH’s workforce to improve public health and environmental quality.
- Tobacco Education and Prevention Partnership (TEPP) educated 15 EPCPH nurses about vaping and associated health risks, as well as promoted the Colorado Quitline as a cessation resource for clients.

**Technology, Informatics, Data Analysis:** strengthen EPCPH’s capabilities to collect, analyze, share, and use data to make timely and information-driven decisions.
- YSUP Planner and CHE worked with EPCPH’s Population Epidemiologist to create the *Fountain Valley CTC Healthy Youth Development Profile* on the *Thriving Colorado Dashboard*. This profile was developed to track health and behavior outcomes as well as risk and protective factors that have been prioritized by CTC. Data was taken from the Fountain Valley school districts’ 2017 Healthy Kids Colorado Survey results, as well as public health data sources.
- El Paso County Public Health received follow-up notification from the Public Health Accreditation Board (PHAB) to address “Measure 1.1. The community health assessment is continually updated to broaden and deepen the community’s understanding of public health issues and resources.” EPCPH will have 6-months to address this competency. EPCPH has taken the following actions to address: reviewing and updating the Thriving Colorado Dashboards, which tracks progress towards Community Health Improvement Plan goals; initiating the 2020 Program Assessment process, which will map programs to EPCPH strategic goals and priorities; engaging the Healthy Community Collaborative on a quarterly basis to ensure that EPCPH is current on community and partner work related to priorities; and continually updating available data and developing data briefs to track El Paso County’s progress on health indicators identified in the Community Needs Assessment. These specific activities are in addition to building infrastructure related to science, surveillance, and epidemiology that will support EPCPH in tracking and sharing timely, relevant local data.
- TEPP implemented a resident survey in October and November to serve as a baseline for resident tobacco cessation needs in low income and public housing
developments. Out of 571 units, 210 surveys were completed for statistical validity. Based on survey results, 30% of low income and public housing residents smoke, which is over two times the national average. The good news is that 83% of smokers surveyed want to quit. TEPP is working to reduce barriers to tobacco cessation by providing on-site resources and working with area medical providers to enhance support for residents.

**Communication:** strengthen EPCPH’s capabilities to provide information on public health issues and public health functions to external partners, and strengthen EPCPH’s internal communication capabilities.

- The Office of Communication managed media inquiries pertaining to emerging issues including influenza and per- and polyfluoroalkyl substances (PFAS).
- The Environmental Health Services Division Director completed an [interview](#) with the Gazette on PFAS test results from residential drinking-water wells south of the United States Air Force Academy.
- In partnership with Leadership Team, the Office of Communication helped plan, coordinate, and develop content for the 2019 Legislative Breakfast for local House representatives, senators, mayors, county officials and community partners. This event provided an opportunity to share information on Public Health’s current activities and legislative initiatives which support the health, safety and wellbeing of El Paso County communities.
- The agency’s website [www.elpasocountyhealth.org](http://www.elpasocountyhealth.org) had 7,698 new visitors in November, with 21,378 page views.

**Community Partnerships:** develop and maintain strong relationships with key community partners to support public health or assure the provision of health care services.

- YSUP Planner joined the Fountain-Fort Carson School District 8 Colorado Preschool Program Advisory Council.
- TSP Planner met with members of the El Paso County Suicide Prevention Task Force Steering Committee to plan a suicide prevention summit to be held in January 2020 in support of the goals of the Colorado-National Collaborative (CNC). The CNC is a partnership of local, state, and national scientists and public health professionals working to identify, promote, and implement successful state- and community-based strategies for suicide prevention in Colorado.
- In the midst of increased public concern regarding vaping, TEPP engaged in the following pertinent activities during November:

  **TEPP Collaboration with Schools**
  - Falcon School District 49 Wellness Advisory Council; providing members information on vaping, and updates on local youth tobacco prevention efforts.
Educated assistant principals in School District 38 on vaping, alternatives to suspension for youth caught vaping, and resources for quitting targeted for youth.

Surviving School Event hosted by School Districts 3 and 8, in collaboration with Communities that Care in Fountain. The event provided education and resources for quitting to over 150 youth and adults in the Fountain community.

Assisted students with event at Pine Creek High in recognition of the Great American Smokeout. Students pledged to be vape-free during lunch periods, and were provided with education and resources to help them quit.

Facilitated a meeting with two local physicians who are championing policy efforts with about 20 public school superintendents. The superintendents were unanimously in support of municipal policies to help address the issues seen within the schools. The superintendents plan to discuss their concerns with the respective boards of education and ask that they pass resolutions in support of local policies to protect kids from vaping.

TEPP Community/Corporate Outreach

Community night in Manitou Springs hosted by the Manitou Springs Fire Department and IGNIS Forensics. The event was held to highlight the problem of vaping and the impact it is having on youth. TEPP provided quitting resources, and information about local policy efforts to be considered to protect youth.

Presented to employees at ENT Credit Union about vaping and associated health risks.

Nicotine News e-newsletter to approximately 160 interested individuals to highlight the state and national movements toward tobacco retail licensing and raising the minimum legal sales age for tobacco and vaping products.

Offered a presentation titled, “Vaping and Tobacco Prevention: What You Need to Know” at the Colorado Colleges Alcohol and Drug Educators fall conference held at the University of Colorado - Colorado Springs. The presentation was geared toward helping colleges in Colorado plan, adopt, and implement Tobacco Free Campus Policies as directed in former Governor Hickenlooper’s Executive Order from November 2018. General information related to tobacco, vaping and cessation was also provided.

• The HCP team and MCH Program Manager met with the behavioral health and social work team at Children’s Hospital, in conjunction with the DHS medical investigations team, to create a more streamlined referral process and to provide information on HCP services.

• HCP team reached out to Peak Vista school-based clinics in Falcon and Entrada to present information about HCP services to medical providers.
• As a function of the On-site Wastewater Treatment Systems (OWTS) critical needs, a subcommittee was convened and held its first meeting in November. This committee is comprised of installers, certified inspectors, engineers, and El Paso County specialist. The goal is to align our program needs with the regulations regarding the record keeping and oversight program. In addition to streamlining the transfer of title process for clarity and standardization.

• The Family Planning Program Manager presented to the El Paso County Human Trafficking Coalition to educate community partners on the services offered by the Family Planning program, as well as other programs that would be beneficial to human trafficking survivors.

Funding for the Agency and Community Partners: increase funding for EPCPH from diverse sources to support core public health services, programmatic services, and innovative strategies, and provide technical support for funding to key community partners.

• YSUP Planner shared the Tony Grampsas Youth Services funding opportunity with community partners and met with several local agencies to offer technical support in applying for the grant. The Tony Grampsas Youth Services (TGYS) Program is a statutory program providing funding to local organizations for prevention, intervention, and education programs for children, youth, and their families designed to prevent youth crime and violence, youth marijuana use, and child abuse and neglect. TGYS is defined and guided by Colorado Revised Statutes (C.R.S) 26-6.8-101 through 106.

Health Equity: increase public awareness of health equity issues, its systemic causes, and opportunities to foster health equity, and remove barriers to health care and community resources to improve health outcomes among health disparate populations.

• TEPP provided tobacco cessation resources at the Thanksgiving Banquet Health Fair at the Springs Rescue Mission. Education, immunizations, and information on resources available through our Family Planning and Nurse-Family Partnership programs was provided to the homeless community.

• The Immunization clinic served 197 “walk-in” clients, and Family Planning clinic also served 68 “walk in” clients in the month of November. The Immunizations clinic conducted a flu clinic for children and adults at the SE WIC clinic in November. Offering the public walk-in clinic times at different locations helps to break down barriers and improve access to healthcare for those who have difficulty coordinating a traditional scheduled appointment. With our continued presence at the SE WIC clinic, it is our goal to increase clientele served.

• The Immunization Program worked with Ellicott School District to plan a vaccine outreach event. This school district is in a rural area with limited access to health care services. The immunization clinic was able to update several elementary, middle and high school students so they would be compliant with State-required vaccines for school.
• The Immunizations clinic has provided 11,182 vaccines from January through November 2019, an increase of 2,221 vaccines (i.e., over 20%) above the number of vaccines given in the entire year of 2018.

• Nurse-Family Partnership went on 165 home visits during the month of November. Meeting clients at their desired location helps to reduce barriers to health care.