

To: Board of Health
From: Dan Martindale, M.P.A.
 Public Health Director
Date: December 20, 2017 (reflects November 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
Hepatitis A	11/1/2017	6:40 a.m.	KRDO	7,239	486.23
TOTAL				7,239	\$486.23

Print/Online

- 11.01.2017 – Fountain Valley News, "[Public Health Urges People to Get Flu Vaccination](#)".
- 11.11.2017 – The Pueblo Chieftain, "[Nevin-Woods: Get a flu shot for own, others' sakes](#)", by Christine Nevin-Woods".
- 11.27.2017- The Gazette, "[Gazette Special Report: Southeast](#)", by Jakob Rodgers. Interview provided by Mina Liebert, Public Health Planner.
- 11.30.2017- The Gazette, "[El Paso commissioners oppose needle exchange plan touted as health benefit](#)", by Jakob Rodgers.

Communication Support

- Directed the contractor conducting evaluation of the Tobacco Targets Youth campaign in conjunction with Joining Vision and Action, a Denver based consulting firm, with final report due in December.
- Formed an internal sub-committee to plan the ribbon cutting ceremony/open house for the new Women, Infants and Children (WIC) office coming to southeast Colorado Springs. Additionally, designed and created an outreach flyer to promote the new office.
- Completed design layout and draft of the 2017 Community Health Assessment.
- Created promotional materials including a news release and social media content for the launch of the El Paso County foodborne illness complaint system.

Social Media

- Created and posted promotion and prevention messaging on diabetes, healthy eating and active living, influenza, carbon monoxide, winter weather safety and food safety.
- 1,282 Facebook page followers with an average of 928 users reached monthly

- 4,548 Twitter followers with 34,300 tweet impressions
- 324 Instagram followers

Website statistics

www.elpasocountyhealth.org:

- 4,083 new visitors to the site with 12,527 page views

Development and Strategic Initiatives:

- Submitted \$1.8M request to Colorado Department of Behavioral Health on behalf of El Paso County Sheriff’s Office to create a co-responder unit for behavioral health calls.
- Recorded a one-hour educational session on CDC’s guidelines for opioid prescribing with the Colorado Springs Fire Department (CSFD). CSFD staff, local medical providers, and emergency responders can access CSFD’s educational archives to view the session, which includes continuing education credits for some licenses, via weblink.
- Public Health Planner participated in TESSA’s Post Summit meeting to establish a community-wide prevention task force.
- Transforming Safety (HB17-1326) team presented the nominating committee resolution to be considered at City Council in December.
- Presented El Paso County Food System Assessment findings to Harrison School District Two and Academy School District 20 wellness advisory teams and discussed potential roles for schools to contribute to a healthy food environment

Communicable Disease (CD):

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

Disease	November Totals	2017 (Jan - November)	2016 (Jan - November)	2016 Totals
Botulism, Infant	0	0	0	0
Campylobacter	2	96	97	102
Carbapenem Nonsusceptible Enterobacteriaceae	8	23	17	19
Carbapenem-Resistant Pseudomonas Aeruginosa	0	61	23	15
Chikungunya - Colorado	0	0	3	3
Cholera	0	0	0	0
Creutzfeldt-Jakob Disease	0	1	1	1
Cryptosporidiosis	0	13	17	17
Cyclosporiasis	0	0	1	1
Dengue Fever - Colorado	0	1	11	11
Giardia	3	31	54	56
Haemophilus Influenzae	0	2	6	7
Hemolytic Uremic Syndrome	0	3	0	0
Hepatitis A	0	12	2	2
Hepatitis B (Acute)	0	1	2	3
Hepatitis B (Chronic)	4	64	75	87
Hepatitis C (Acute)	0	4	2	2
Hepatitis C (Chronic)	51	627	512	574

Influenza (Hospitalized)**	28	366	206	241
Legionellosis	0	5	6	6
Listeriosis	0	0	0	1
Malaria	0	3	2	2
Measles	0	0	0	0
Meningococcal Disease	0	0	1	1
Mumps	0	1	0	1
Pertussis	8	53	79	80
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	12	93	65	71
Shigellosis	0	4	21	20
Shiga Toxin Producing E. coli	2	23	19	19
Invasive Strep Pneumo	12	81	56	62
Tularemia	0	0	0	0
Typhoid Fever	0	0	0	0
Varicella (Chickenpox)	4	32	47	51
Vibriosis	0	0	0	0
West Nile Virus	0	0	1	1
Zika Virus - Colorado	0	6	20	56
Total	134	1599	1315	1445

*Statewide Chikungunya, Zika virus and Dengue Fever virus cases reported in Colorado as of November 30, 2017. All cases have been travel-associated.

**Hospitalized influenza is a reportable condition year round. The influenza season occurs when influenza infection is most prevalent. This year's season began October 7, 2017 and runs until May 26, 2018. In 2016-17 it ran from October 2, 2016 until May 27, 2017.

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

Outbreak Setting	Type	Etiology	Env. Health Referral?	Total Number Ill
Child care facility	GI Illness	Unknown	No	22
Long-term care facility	Influenza	Unknown	No	13
Long-term care facility	Influenza	Unknown	No	13
Total				48

Table 3 - Foodborne illness complaints received at El Paso County Public Health, November 2017

Possible Foodborne Illness Complaints	# Referred to Env. Health
6	1

- Responded to 24 calls regarding human or pet exposures to potentially rabid animals, or other rabies-related concerns. From those inquiries eight animals were tested for rabies (two cats, one raccoon, four skunks, and one bat) four skunks tested positive for rabies, the other four animals were negative.
- Persons recommended for rabies post-exposure prophylaxis (PEP): 1
- Total rabid animals for 2017: 27

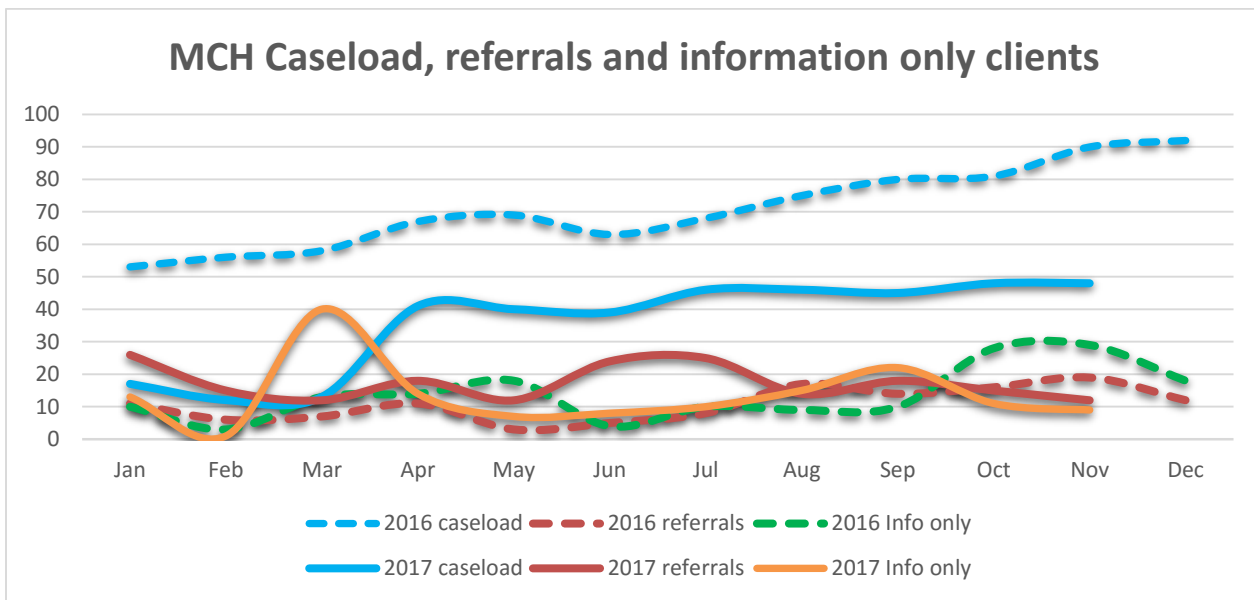
Tuberculosis (TB) activities for November:

- New active TB cases investigated: 0
- New suspect TB cases investigated: 1
- Cases on Direct Observed Therapy (DOT): 8
- Cases on Directly Observed Preventive Therapy (DOPT): 3
- Total DOT/DOPT visits: 169
- General TB skin tests done: 49
- TB blood tests (Quantiferon) done related to contact investigations: 0
- TB skin tests done related to contact investigations: 3
- Contact investigations ongoing: 3
- Contacts evaluated/tested: 0
- Refugee and/or class B immigrant TB evaluations: 1
- Other community referred evaluations: 7
- Latent TB Infection (LTBI) cases under treatment: 24
- LTBI cases completing treatment this month: 1

Maternal Child Health (MCH) Program

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

- Our current active caseload is 48. We acquired 12 new case management referrals this month and provided information and referrals to an additional nine clients.



Promoting Connectedness, Resiliency and Life Skills (PCRLS):

- Our Community Health Educator delivered presentations regarding connectedness, resiliency and life skills to the following groups:
 - Depression and Bipolar Support Alliance staff
 - Panorama Middle School administration
 - Stratmoor Hills Elementary administration

Tobacco Education and Prevention Partnership (TEPP)

Youth Initiatives

- SWAT (Students Working Against Tobacco) meetings were held this month at each of the schools participating in the tobacco-free school mini-grants. Facilitators completed the CVS Taking Down Tobacco Training with their students, designed tobacco-free posters to hang around the school, and held activities to promote the Great American Smokeout on November 16.
- This month, one new school enrolled in the Second Chance program, totaling 11 schools signed up in El Paso County. Second Chance is an online, interactive alternative to suspension for teens who violate the tobacco policy at school.
- TEPP is proud to spotlight Sand Creek High School this month for all of the great work they are doing on the tobacco-free schools policy mini-grant. In October 2017, the SWAT club had the opportunity to speak at the District 49 Wellness Committee meeting and provide information and resources to committee members on the tobacco-free school policy. One of the biggest events so far this year was the Great American Smokeout, on November 16. SWAT was able to collect over 150 signatures from students during the day and reach around 500 students at their educational table during lunch hours.

Tobacco Education, Cessation and Prevention

- During the month of August, EPCPH referred a total of 15 clients to the Colorado QuitLine Fax Referral program for tobacco cessation assistance.
- TEPP hosted its quarterly Tobacco-Free Alliance meeting on November 2 at the Southeast Armed Forces YMCA. Guest speakers included the director for the Campaign for Tobacco-Free Kids, and the director for the American Cancer Society Cancer Action Network, who spoke about the most recent state and national approaches to ending the tobacco epidemic and current initiatives at the state and federal levels.

Youth Substance Use Prevention (New Program in Development)

- Planned and facilitated a panel discussion with leaders from Safe2Tell, Colorado Crisis Line, Colorado Office of Behavioral Health, and National Alliance on Mental Illness (NAMI) to educate the Youth Suicide Prevention Workgroup on how these services work together to provide protections for Colorado's youth.
- Partnered with Colorado Department of Public Health and Environment and Pikes Peak Suicide Prevention to host the Colorado-National Collaborative. The Collaborative is a partnership of state and national scientists and public health professionals who aim to reduce suicide in Colorado by 20 percent by 2020 and develop a model of comprehensive suicide prevention efforts in Colorado through careful evaluation. The Collaborative met in El Paso County with a small group of local stakeholders to discuss priorities, partners and opportunities to strengthen collaboration and align efforts in the future.
- Coordinated the development of the Youth Suicide Prevention Development Plan to be shared with The Ferguson Group and guide future resource procurement in support of the identified priorities.

Youth Suicide Prevention Program (New Program in Development)

- Held the fourteenth meeting of the Youth Suicide Prevention Work Group. The meeting had over 50 attendees representing various community stakeholders, including behavioral health organizations, law enforcement agencies, school officials, youth-serving organizations, faith community members, and the medical community.
- Met with representatives from Colorado Crisis Services, National Alliance on Mental Illness (NAMI) Colorado Springs, Design Rangers, Colorado Springs Health Foundation, and other community organizations to learn more about the data dashboard that has been developed by Rocky Mountain Crisis Services to track call and text activity to the Colorado Crisis Line. This dashboard will be helping to measure the impact of the Below the Surface campaign, which aims to encourage more youth to utilize the text component of the Colorado Crisis Line when they need help dealing with difficult situations.

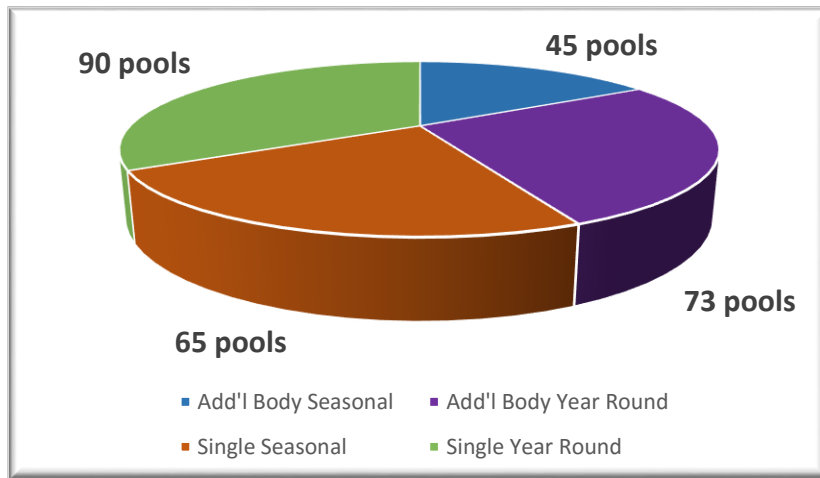
Environmental Health Division (EH):

Onsite Wastewater Treatment Systems (OWTS) - Septic

- Staff attended the National Association of Wastewater Technicians (NAWT) Certified Inspector training class in Denver on November 16 and 17. This class offered to both regulators and industry is designed to ensure consistency across all aspects of OWTS evaluations and inspections.

Water Recreation

- A snapshot of how many public water recreation facilities there are in El Paso County, broken down by seasonal pools vs year-round pools (and those with additional bodies of water such as a hot tub):



Laboratory

- Performed 525 Bacteriological well water tests, 58 tests for inorganic anions.
- Performed 841 Hemoglobin tests for the Women, Infants and Children (WIC) Program.

Environment Health Activity	Nov 2017	2017 Total	2016 Total
Air Quality Construction Permits	4	64	84
Air Quality Open Burn Permits	4	31	28
Air Quality Complaints	2	36	50
Body Art Inspections	6	60	72
Body Art Follow-up Inspections	0	2	2
Body Art Complaints	1	14	14
Child Care Regular Inspections	12	149	181
Child Care Follow-up Inspections	1	33	49
Child Care Complaints	0	2	11
Land-Use Planning Review	23	127	110
OWTS Final Inspections	49	471	441
OWTS Soil And Site Evaluations	59	446	379
OWTS New Permit Applications	42	302	248
OWTS Repair Permit Applications	24	271	259

OWTS Application Design Reviews	61	545	540
OWTS Acceptance Doc for Title Transfer	61	857	988
OWTS Pumper Truck Inspections	0	72	83
OWTS Complaints	5	35	44
Recreational Water Safety Inspections	10	377	391
Recreational Water Follow-up Inspections	1	14	30
Recreational Water Complaints	0	7	9
RFE Regular Inspections	351	3959	3792
RFE Follow-up Inspections	70	769	793
RFE Complaint Investigations	21	219	230
RFE Plan Reviews	8	112	149
School Safety Regular Inspections	7	55	49
School Safety Follow-up Inspections	0	0	3
Waste Tires Facilities Regular Inspections	18	120	159
Waste Tires Follow-up Inspections	0	21	23

Emergency Preparedness and Response (EPR)

- Emergency Preparedness and Response team conducted the South Central Regional meeting in Chaffee County. This meeting provided the opportunity to update regional partners on the Public Health Emergency Preparedness grant deliverables along with the work plan guidance. Additionally, WebEOC (Web-based Emergency Operations Center) training was conducted by the South Central Region Homeland Security Field Manager. The need for this training was identified in the after action review of the PHEDEX Full Scale Exercise held in June 2017. and was conducted in accordance with the regional improvement plan.
- Emergency Preparedness and Response Coordinator attended the Colorado State Training and Exercise Planning Workshop (TEPW). At the TEPW, stakeholders drew on jurisdiction-specific threats and hazards, identified areas for improvement, core capabilities, external requirements, and accreditation standards or regulations to develop or update the Multi-Year Training and Exercise Plan. Emergency Preparedness and Response Team coordinated active threat training for all El Paso County Public Health employees. This training discussed protecting vulnerable and soft targets and identified ways employees could be more vigilant in their workplace.
- Emergency Preparedness and Response Coordinator attended the El Paso County Evacuation Planning Meeting at the 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 a timely manner.
- Emergency Preparedness and Response Coordinator attended the quarterly Civil-Military workgroup meeting at St. Francis Medical Center. This meeting provided a great opportunity to exchange training opportunities and highlight upcoming exercises among agencies.
- Emergency Preparedness and Response Coordinator conducted a quarterly South Central Healthcare Coalition communications drill with 51 agencies. This drill is used to test primary and secondary communication platforms and response times.

- Emergency Preparedness and Response Team conducted an El Paso County Staff Call Down Drill. These drills are conducted quarterly and are used to validate contact information.
- Emergency Preparedness and Response Coordinator attended Salamander training in Chaffee County. This training highlighted the key features and components of the Salamander credentialing system. In an emergency, El Paso County Public Health would utilize this system to maintain accountability of people and resources.
- Emergency Preparedness and Response Coordinator attended one-day Truck/Trailer Use Training Class provided by El Paso County Department of Transportation. This training is intended to enhance the capabilities of the EPR office by ensuring personnel are proficient in the operation and use of agency vehicles that may be needed in an emergency response.
- Regional Epidemiologist attended monthly Memorial Hospital Infection Prevention Committee Meeting to provide updates on disease trends in El Paso County. Topics included rabies risk assessment, Influenza season to date, hepatitis A community outreach, and an increase in Legionella in the United States and Colorado.
- Regional Epidemiologist participated in a community outreach clinic providing hepatitis A vaccines to the homeless population. This community outreach opportunity is a collaboration with Penrose Hospital. The need for homeless outreach was determined after a case of hepatitis A was identified in a person experiencing homelessness in September.

Health Services Division

Family Planning

- Family Planning had a total of 237 visits of which 192 were qualifying visits. A qualifying visit is an appointment that includes contraceptive counseling service within the contract year July 1, 2017 through June 30, 2018. The Family Planning Clinic successfully passed the State Administrative Audit in November with no findings.
- Outreach: The Educational Specialist was invited to provide educational information for students pursuing a Master’s degree at the University of Colorado, Colorado Springs. He presented on HIV, hepatitis, strategies used for screening, risk assessment, referral, and the provision of education about disease prevention and treatment of sexually transmitted infections.
- The Women’s Wellness Connection grant provided education on the importance of cancer screening for breast, cervical and colon cancer to 697 people in November, and 11,331 people since July 1, 2016. The outreach exceeded contractual expectations. The grant ends in December 2017.

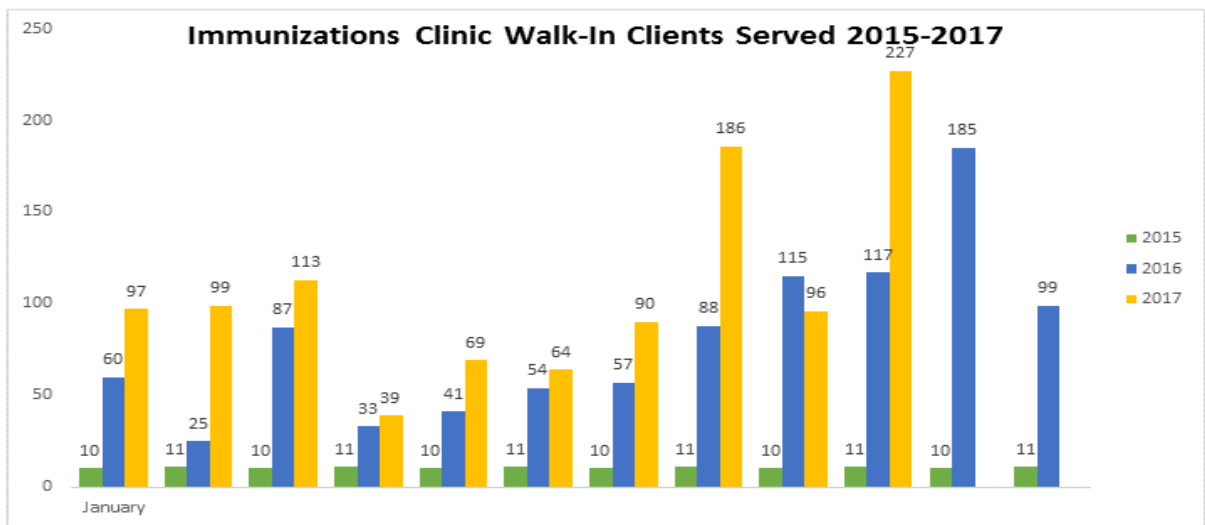


Healthy Children and Families

- Healthy Children and Families (HCF) continues to grow. November’s referrals totaled 68 with the HCF team making contact with 66 percent of those families. The contacts with the families include teaching and providing referrals to El Paso County Public Health (EPCPH) programs and other community resources.
- The number of screen-outs, which are referrals that are made to the Department of Human Services (DHS) that do not need an assessment by case workers, have also increased. Screen-out cases are opportunities for the HCF team to provide resources to community members such as school counselors and therapists.
- HCF started community outreach with the Bloom House Recovery program to provide classes on parenting and Brainwise to their residents in the upcoming year. This is a special population of young mothers who are working on maintaining sobriety and learning how to parent their infant in a supervised, supportive setting.
- The HCF team continues to conduct monthly trainings with DHS staff, including planning for the 2018 DHS staff development calendar.

Immunization/Travel Program (IZ)

- Immunization Clinic has continued to provide hepatitis A vaccine. Penrose St. Francis Catholic Charities invited Public Health to partner with them to give hepatitis A at their no-cost community flu clinics. Eighty-eight hepatitis A vaccines were given at four community clinics in November. To date, 272 hepatitis A vaccines have been given this fall at community outreach clinics.
- Immunization Clinic served 28 adult refugees, two of their children, and 187 walk-in clients in October in addition to the regularly scheduled clients.
- IZ nursing staff completed one Vaccines for Children provider site visit and four follow-up visits for provider offices in the community.



Women, Infants and Children

- WIC continues to do well with caseload increases. We exceeded 14,000 enrolled for the first time since October 2015, with 14,020 enrolled as of October 2017.
- The team continues to prepare for the anticipated opening of the new southeast WIC clinic in January 2018, depending on construction completion. The combination of the Colorado Health Foundation grant and the El Pomar Foundation grant, which funded an individual to do outreach, should quickly help increase numbers in the southeast WIC clinic. We are working on offering services at this clinic to

current WIC clients who reside in southeast Colorado Springs. Open House is being planned for early February.



Nurse-Family Partnership (NFP)

El Paso County Public Health NFP served 141 clients in November and had 210 completed or attempted home visits.

