

El Paso County Public Health Director’s Report

To: The El Paso County Board of Health
From: Susan Wheelan, M.B.A. Public Health Director
Date: September 2022 (reflects August 2022)

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In the News

- On Aug. 15, the [Colorado Springs Gazette published an op-ed](#) on fentanyl written by El Paso County Public Health (EPCPH) Director Susan Wheelan, MBA and Michael DiStefano, MD, chief medical officer and an emergency medical physician for Children's Hospital Colorado's Southern Region. Director Wheelan and Dr. DiStefano collaborated on this op-ed to provide a summary of the fentanyl crisis, and to offer tangible ways that parents and community members can provide education and support to help protect youth from fentanyl.
- On Aug. 26, the [Colorado Springs Business Journal \(CSBJ\) published an in-depth article on COVID-19](#), which featured extensive interviews with DeAnn Ryberg, EPCPH deputy director and Dr. Paul Mayer, EPCPH co-medical director. The article focused on current disease metrics, what to expect in the fall months, new guidelines, and several prevention and treatment resources available to community members and businesses.

Program Spotlight

Environmental Health

September is National Food Safety Month, and Sept. 26 is World Environmental Health Day. Environmental Health (EH) professionals provide numerous core services essential to building and sustaining healthy populations. Some of these services include food safety, the protection of drinking and recreation water quality, the protection of indoor and outdoor air quality, communicable disease prevention, vector management, and support for emergency management and disaster preparedness. Wherever there is a need that focuses on the relationships between people and their environment, promotes human health and well-being, and fosters healthy and safe communities, the EPCPH EH team is here to support El Paso County communities. The EH Division currently has 33 dedicated staff members (and three vacancies) who provide high-quality EH services in El Paso County communities. The three main programs are highlighted below.

Food Safety

Every year, an estimated one in six Americans (or 48 million people) get sick, 128,000 are hospitalized, and 3,000 die from foodborne illnesses. Proper food preparation can prevent most foodborne diseases. The objective of EPCPH's Retail Food program is to mitigate foodborne illness through an educational and collaborative approach in working with the more than 2,800 licensed retail food establishments in El Paso County. EH specialists conduct over 3,000 inspections annually and are trained to provide facilities with food safety education, connect operators to resources, and provide solutions to help them serve their customers safely. The Retail Food program jointly investigates foodborne illnesses with the EPCPH Communicable Disease program. The team also works with community partners such as Pikes Peak Regional Building Department for an average of 150 new retail food plan reviews per year.

Onsite Wastewater Treatment Systems (OWTS)

EPCPH operates one of the largest OWTS programs within Colorado, routinely issuing one of the highest number of permits in the state on an annual basis. Over 34,000 households in El Paso County depend on OWTS to treat their wastewater. An OWTS system is a smaller, individualized wastewater treatment plant. For many years it was believed that all homes would eventually be connected to a public sewer system, but that has proven to not be a reality. In fact, an OWTS was previously referred to as ISDS (Individual Sewage Disposal System), creating a significant shift in how we think of wastewater and what happens once it leaves the structure. This thought process has shifted from disposal to treatment over time providing for a sustainable solution in areas where public sewer is not practical.

Child care/Schools

El Paso County has over 380 licensed and inspected child care facilities and 250 K-12 schools. EH specialists help protect children and staff from foodborne illnesses and other infectious diseases by inspecting child care facilities and providing education about proper hand washing, cleaning, sanitizing, disinfecting, and food handling. Through routine onsite inspections, the team also works with the K-12 schools to ensure appropriate handling and storage of hazardous materials and equipment in high-risk areas (science, industrial technologies, etc.). Lower-risk functions of the school, such as sanitizers, disinfectants, hygiene, toileting assistance, pest

control, animals in classrooms, health services, etc., are assessed through self-certifications and audits.

Agency Operations

In 2008, the Colorado Public Health Act required the State Board of Health to establish, by rule, the core public health services that each county and district public health agency must provide or ensure as well as establish minimum quality standards for those public health services. A revised ruling ([6 CCR 1014-7](#)), effective January 1, 2020, now requires state and local health departments in Colorado to ensure provision of seven Foundational Capabilities and five Foundational Services.

Foundational Capabilities are the crosscutting capacities and expertise needed to support foundational services and any public health program.

Foundational Services are the subset of services in each public health program area that are foundational to building and maintaining healthy communities.

| | | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| ASSESSMENT AND PLANNING | + | COMMUNICABLE DISEASE PREVENTION, INVESTIGATION AND CONTROL | |
| COMMUNICATIONS | + | ENVIRONMENTAL PUBLIC HEALTH | + |
| POLICY DEVELOPMENT AND SUPPORT | + | MATERNAL, CHILD, ADOLESCENT, AND FAMILY HEALTH | + |
| PARTNERSHIPS | + | CHRONIC DISEASE, INJURY PREVENTION, AND BEHAVIORAL HEALTH PROMOTION | + |
| EMERGENCY PREPAREDNESS AND RESPONSE | + | ACCESS TO AND LINKAGE WITH HEALTH CARE | |
| ORGANIZATIONAL COMPETENCIES | + | | |
| HEALTH EQUITY AND THE SOCIAL DETERMINANTS OF HEALTH | + | | |

Image courtesy of the [Colorado Association of Local Public Health Officials](#).

El Paso County Public Health (EPCPH) fulfills its statutory requirement of providing these core public health services by the work of its divisions and programs. Activities supporting these services for the timeframe of this report follow. Definitions of each Foundational Public Health Capability and Services can be found on page 22 and 23 of this report.

Foundational Public Health Capabilities

Assessment and Planning

The public health planner is convening the [Healthy Community Collaborative](#) and the HCC steering committee to inform and support the community health assessment process. The HCC is a stakeholder group of community partners who have been working together since 2011 to implement strategies identified in the El Paso County Community Health Improvement Plan (CHIP).

At the August 2022 meeting, the HCC continued prioritizing health issues for the CHIP using a multi-voting technique and a prioritization matrix. Prioritizing issues is phase five of eight of the Colorado Health Assessment and Planning System (CHAPS), which provides guidance for local and state public health agencies to carry out community health assessment and community health improvement plan activities. The HCC reviewed a list of 17 health problems or issues that were moved forward after a first round of voting at the July 2022 meeting. Attendees ranked each health problem or issue in order of priority. The second round of voting resulted in seven health issues identified for further consideration using the [CHAPS Prioritization Matrix](#). The HCC then attempted to complete the prioritization matrix to make a final determination of CHIP focus areas. The HCC will anticipate completing the prioritization activities in September 2022. Once complete, HCC will engage in action planning for the CHIP focus areas that are selected.

Communications

- The Office of Communication (OoC) managed television media inquiries pertaining to emerging issues including monkeypox and COVID-19. The total estimated viewership for these television interviews is more than 118,700 and the estimated earned media value is more than \$9,100.
- The OoC also managed several print media inquiries on similar topics, with the addition of an [op-ed on fentanyl](#) published in the Colorado Springs Gazette and an [in-depth article on COVID-19](#) in the Colorado Springs Business Journal.
- On August 15, the OoC—working closely with medical direction and agency leadership—sent a [news release announcing the agency’s new co-medical directors](#). The news release led to [TV coverage on KKTV](#) and [print coverage in the Fountain Valley News](#).
- In August, the OoC—working closely with subject matter expertise across communicable disease and immunizations—began the initial launch of a phased and large-scale media campaign which features COVID-19 prevention and treatment resources, in addition to information and resources on routine childhood immunizations. The campaign, which will run through 2023, is being funded through the Epidemiology, Laboratory and Capacity (ELC) and Immunizations (IMM) grants and will feature digital ads across social media, online platforms, and cable TV. All ads will be provided in English and Spanish.
- The agency’s website www.elpasocountyhealth.org had 34,209 new visitors in August, with 59,893 unique pageviews.

Partnerships

As part of ongoing efforts to address substance misuse in El Paso County, on Aug. 25, EPCPH invited several elected officials and senior staff from county departments and agencies to identify ongoing and future programs, initiatives, and needs. In addition to several EPCPH staff members, there were representatives from the El Paso County Coroner’s Office, El Paso County District Attorney’s Office, El Paso County Sheriff’s Office, El Paso County Department of Human Services, and the El Paso County Communications Department. The goal of this initial meeting was to streamline and enhance coordination among county departments and to work collaboratively to continue to identify ways to strategically address gaps and needs in the community.

The newly renovated Panorama Park celebrated its grand reopening on Saturday, Aug. 20. EPCPH joined RISE | Southeast Colorado Springs, Trust for Public Land, and the City of Colorado Springs in a ceremonial ribbon cutting to celebrate the transformed 13.5-acre park. It is the largest neighborhood park renovation in city history, bringing several new outdoor amenities to the southeast community, and providing safe and healthy spaces to recreate and encourage physical activity. The park renovation was a highly collaborative community process, incorporating feedback and expertise across diverse sectors, as well as strong community feedback and engagement throughout the project.

- Read the full news release [here](#).

Organizational Competencies

Maternal Child Health (MCH) staff attended the National Maternal Health Innovation Symposium where they learned techniques to develop community-based engagement and population health strategies to better serve the maternal and child populations in El Paso County. MCH care coordinators attended a training to increase their knowledge on how to build community capacity and partnerships.

Emergency Preparedness and Response

The emergency preparedness and response (EPR) team submitted the Project Public Health Ready (PPHR) application to the National Association of City and County Health Officials (NACCHO). PPHR is a criteria-based recognition program created through a cooperative agreement between NACCHO and Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) to help local health departments (LHDs) build their preparedness capacity through continuous quality improvement. Through the PPHR process, EPCPH is able to build a culture of collaboration and demonstrate a commitment to preparedness through a framework that assures the agency is meeting national standards. EPCPH was initially recognized for PPHR in 2007 with re-recognition in 2012 and 2017. EPR's 2022 application is currently under review for re-recognition in 2023.

The emergency preparedness and response (EPR) team developed an incident action plan (IAP) to support the EPCPH monkeypox response. The IAP identifies overarching goals, operational period objectives, and operational period tactics to support ongoing response activities. As the planning section lead, the EPR team facilitates the weekly operations meeting and the situational update meeting.

The emergency preparedness and response (EPR) team held a strategic planning session to discuss team goals and objectives for the 2022-23 grant year. Planning priorities for 2022-23 identified during the strategic planning session included the development of a new emergency support function 8 plan, coordination with the South Central Healthcare Coalition to address alternate care facility planning, and the development of a new emerging infectious disease plan. Additional priorities include an updated training and exercise calendar and continued integration of the COVID-19 improvement plan into emergency operations plans and future training opportunities.

EPR coordinators have participated in all planning meetings for the Colorado Springs Airport tabletop exercise and will serve as facilitators during the event. The exercise, taking place Sept. 13, will include members from the emergency management community such as the Pikes Peak Regional Office of Emergency Management, Colorado Springs Fire Department, Colorado Springs Airport, Southwest Airlines, Colorado Springs Police Department, Red Cross, and local hospitals. As a partner agency, EPCPH participation in this exercise will include assistance to the Red Cross for the implementation of a Family and Friends Reception Center (FFRC). The purpose of the FFRC is to provide a safe and central place where family members and airline personnel can work together in the immediate aftermath of an aviation disaster. As the Emergency Support Function-8 lead, EPCPH would have a critical role in working with the Red Cross to help coordinate support services for family members. Participation in the exercise will also provide an opportunity to align EPCPH emergency response plans with partner agencies to ensure a cooperative effort in the event of a real-world aviation disaster.

EPR team members attended the Mass Care course. This course provided an introduction to Mass Care and Emergency Assistance (MC/EA) support, with a focus on a whole community approach, by outlining the importance of collaboration and coordination between government, non-profit, public, and private sectors to support mass care operations during an emergency. During an emergency where sheltering operations may be activated, EPCPH provides a supporting role to the Red Cross.

Foundational Public Health Services

Communicable Disease Prevention, Investigation and Control

EPCPH Tuberculosis (TB) Clinic is currently providing care for one client for active TB and 22 clients with latent TB. In the month of August, TB staff have observed a total of 113 doses of medications taken for both active (infectious) TB cases and latent (non-infectious) pediatric TB cases via in-person and video visits.

Additionally, clinic staff continue to provide clinical consultations to clinical and community partners, answer routine phone calls from the general public with TB questions or concerns, and collaborate with CDPHE colleagues around on-going case management of local TB cases.

The clinic is preparing to see an increase in refugees and asylees coming in from Ukraine and Cuba in the coming months who will require a TB evaluation.

Environmental Public Health

Onsite Wastewater Treatment System (OWTS):

- The Environmental Health Water Quality program manager provided an educational class for a realtor group event in August. The presentation was intended to realtors better understand onsite wastewater treatment systems, operation and maintenance of those systems, and property transfer requirements.

Water Recreation:

- The Water Quality program manager continues to partner with other front-range counties to work toward a regulation update to include components of the Model Aquatic Health code. Meeting monthly/Bimonthly to finalize the document.

Retail Food:

- In August, the Retail Food program supported seven restaurants with increased food safety support.
- The Retail Food program completed the 2022 license renewal process for all brick-and-mortar facilities as of Aug. 29. Fifteen mobile licenses remain out of compliance. Outstanding mobile renewals are being sent the 3rd Notice of Violation and Order to Close after a final attempt to contact and receive payment.

Air Quality:

- EPCPH applied to the Colorado Department of Public Health and Environment (CDPHE) for grant funding for indoor radon awareness during the month of January, which is National Radon Action Month. Grant funding will be used for social media, PSAs, etc., to raise awareness of the health risks of radon and how the public can test and mitigate their homes and workplaces.

Body Art:

- The Body Art program manager and another Environmental Health specialist inspected and approved temporary (three-day) tattoo and piercing stations at the Hot Rod Rock and Rumble event at PPIR.
- The Body Art program signed off one specialist in August, allowing them to conduct independent inspections.

Schools:

- On Aug. 23, all EH school team members attended an all-day training in Denver hosted by CDPHE to train specialists on low-risk and high-risk inspections and self-certifications and audits. Throughout the training, the EPCPH EH school program manager was asked to assist in training and share experiences with the rest of the attendees.

Maternal, Child, Adolescent and Family Health

The number of currently active clients served by Women, Infants and Children (WIC) in August was 11,888. Active clients are defined as those who have received WIC benefits and who have been seen within the previous three months. WIC welcomed new certification/intake appointments back into the clinic in June for the first time since the COVID-19 pandemic began. Federal waivers tied to the Health and Human Services Public Health Emergency mandate that WIC programs continue to offer phone and virtual appointments through at least January 9, 2023.

- EPCPH WIC has over 2,400 infants on the caseload with 1,380 receiving formula benefits from WIC. As it pertains to the national formula shortage, WIC continues to help families locate local formula and work on potential solutions. The Colorado Department of Public Health and Environment added several formula options for WIC families to expand access to formula in response to federal and state formula waivers. These allowed for increased access to various package sizes and formula types through December 2022. EPCPH WIC staff successfully guided and explained these expanded benefits to clients.

- From August 2021-July 2022, 82 percent of EPCPH WIC clients initiated breastfeeding, with 25 percent exclusively breastfeeding at six months. WIC educators and breastfeeding peer counselors work to support WIC clients and families in achieving their breastfeeding goals.

WIC's Breastfeeding Workgroup—which is comprised of three WIC staff who work with local providers around the shared goals of increasing breastfeeding exclusivity, duration and support among WIC clients and communities—completed final train-the-trainer meetings with community providers in June, expanding access to breastfeeding support in El Paso County. Breastfeeding support can have long-term impacts on the duration and success of breastfeeding at both an individual and community level. The WIC Breastfeeding Workgroup is preparing for their annual lactation providers' meeting in October.

To increase access to WIC services for El Paso County residents, the EPCPH WIC mobile clinic provided services at Lutheran Family Services, Catholic Charities, CPCD Head Start, and Hillside Community Center. Planning activities took place with Homeward Pikes Peak, Fort Carson, and Calhan Community Outreach Center. The goal of this effort is to improve accessibility and awareness of WIC by working with trusted community partners to bring services directly into El Paso County communities, especially among populations facing the highest barriers such as access to services and food.

Maternal Child Health (MCH) staff provided five (5) professional development trainings to 83 school and early childhood education staff. Attendees learned de-escalation techniques and how to identify and support children and youth with a history of trauma or Adverse Childhood Experiences (ACEs) in the classroom setting.

HCP, a care coordination program for Children and Youth with Special Health Care Needs (CYSHCN) served six active clients and received and triaged 14 referrals from a variety of sources including WIC, parents, and schools. Following a thorough needs assessment and community scan process over the past year, the HCP program is currently undergoing a change in services. The focus will shift to upstream strategies and activities to support El Paso County, in serving the largest population of CYSHCN (49,260) in the state of Colorado by increasing access to care and improving social emotional well-being. The care coordinators are working to assure that all active clients are closed after receiving the care needed, or that clients are connected to the appropriate care coordination service in the community. External organizations that provide care coordination include the Colorado Community Health Alliance (CCHA), who oversees the administration of Health First Colorado (Medicaid) in El Paso County, Matthews Vu Medical Group, Peak Vista Community Health Centers, The Resource Exchange, Catholic Charities, Team Select, Lutheran Family Services, Tri-Lakes Cares, and A Rise Above. When appropriate, clients may also be referred via a warm handoff to the internal care coordination team whose focus is on addressing health disparities. The mission of the HCP program is to assure that CYSHCN have the opportunity to grow, learn and develop to their highest potential, and this mission will continue to guide the work throughout the implementation of program changes.

Nurse-Family Partnership (NFP) has three goals: Improved economic self-sufficiency for families, improved pregnancy outcomes, and healthy child development. NFP nurses are in a unique position to be able to affect all three of these areas when they support clients in setting and achieving their goals, educating clients about positive relationships, and encouraging clients to seek appropriate health care for themselves and their families. NFP nurses conducted 187 visits in the month of August. Of these visits, 104 were conducted in client homes and 83 were conducted through telehealth. EPCPH NFP nurses served 142 families, enrolled 11 new clients to the program, and graduated one client who had participated in the NFP program for a full two and a half years. Meeting clients through telehealth and video conferencing has helped continue client engagement as well as meeting the needs of the most vulnerable by helping to remove barriers to health care.

Chronic Disease, Injury Prevention and Behavioral Health Promotion

Colorado Springs School District 11 Director of Student Support and Engagement and Project AWARE Coordinator asked the Tobacco Education and Prevention Partnership (TEPP) to participate in the district's Professional Development Day for teachers and school administration. TEPP provided a trusted adult training, "Start the Conversation: How to Talk with Young People about Vaping and Other Electronic Nicotine Products." This training encourages and teaches adults to be trusted adults to the youth in their life by providing useful tips for talking and engaging with young people on important topics.

TEPP also hosted a hybrid meeting of the Tobacco-Free Alliance with approximately 20 participants. A local retired physician and tobacco prevention champion provided an update on the implementation of statewide Tobacco Retail Licensing through the Colorado Department of Revenue and the need for the assistance of local governments. Other updates included an overview of the Tobacco-Free School Mini-Grant opportunities and TEPP's participation in numerous community events. Staff also presented tobacco-specific data from the 2021 Healthy Kids Colorado Survey. The data results from the Healthy Kids Colorado Survey is used to inform and support prevention strategies.

TEPP participated in Pikes Peak United Way's 100-Year Celebration Kickin' It Back to School event at Weidner Field. The event focused on families in our community who are looking to get connected to resources and activities for all ages. TEPP staffed a booth and promoted My Life My Quit and Quitline resources to encourage attendees to visit the website to learn more about tobacco cessation, vaping myths and facts and additional resources if needed.

TEPP has collaborated with Crossroads Turning Point Inc. to help residents and patients quit tobacco by providing training and information regarding available cessation resources. Crossroads Turning Point Inc. is an agency that treats and supports individuals suffering from substance use and mental health disorders. While the Colorado QuitLine is a great free tobacco cessation resource, it can take up to two weeks before receiving nicotine replacement therapy (NRT). TEPP is working to connect Crossroads Turning Point Inc. with the State Tobacco Education and Prevention Partnership to find ways to close the gap between the time when a patient wants to quit to when they can receive NRT. The goal of Crossroads Turning Point Inc. is to be able to provide NRT to their patients in the interim while they wait on services from the Colorado QuitLine.

Access to and Linkage with Health Care

TEPP prepared, developed, and opened mini-grant applications for middle and high schools in El Paso County to help strengthen, communicate, and enforce their Tobacco Free School policy. Total funding available for the 2022-23 school year is \$30,000. EPCPH anticipates providing mini-grants to 10 schools, \$3,000 per school, based on the number of applicants and quality of applications. This is a nine-month grant beginning on Sept. 6, 2022, and ending May 31, 2023. As of Aug. 31, 19 schools had applied. Due to the volume of applicants, TEPP created an application scoring rubric and recruited an internal review panel to select mini-grant recipients.

The COVID-19 care coordinators provide individualized assistance in navigating community resources for those who may have difficulty seeking access to COVID-19 resources, food, transportation, child care, housing, behavioral health, and more. There are three care coordinators, including a bilingual coordinator, who are available to provide resource navigation to individuals and families in our community.

The COVID-19 care coordinators provided outreach and information to 13 partner organizations and attended seven community events where they shared flyers in English and Spanish. From these efforts, the care coordinators received 32 new referrals seeking housing, transportation, utility and rental assistance, dental care, food assistance, health insurance, employment, child care, senior care, COVID-19 information, and COVID-19 testing.

The care coordinators connected with the Colorado Springs Fire Department's Coronavirus Aid, Relief and Economic Security (CARES) team on Aug. 3 to help bridge resource navigation gaps within the aging, incarcerated, homeless, and other communities who have higher barriers. Care coordinators and the healthy environment planner attended the Food to Power facility tour on Aug. 17 to learn more about additional resources available to seniors and the broader community. On Aug. 16, care coordinators and the HCP team connected with the First Visitor program with Peak Vista Community Health Centers to exchange program information and resources to help support parents with infants and toddlers. Additionally, one of the care coordinators presented at the Fountain Valley Community Services meeting on Aug. 17 to introduce and share flyers about the care coordination program and the numerous resources available to the community to over 15 families and individuals.

For outreach within the community, the COVID-19 care coordinators attended four Back to School and Backpack Bash events with Tri-Lakes Cares (Aug. 6), Pikes Peak United Way (Aug. 13), Otero Elementary School (Aug. 25), and Fox Meadow Middle School (Aug. 30). Through these efforts, over 320 families were introduced to the program and 190 COVID-19 test kits were provided. Care coordinators also attended the Pikes Peak United Way food distribution on Aug. 18 where over 65 families were provided care coordination information and five referral connections were made.

Lastly, care coordinators were able to successfully navigate clients to several key resources, including providing an individual with free and safe transportation to Denver for further wrap-around supports; connecting a client to rental assistance through Catholic Charities; providing application information to a client for SNAP and Medicaid; enrolling a client in SNAP; assisting

an elderly individual in finding a free animal companion; and connecting a family to a pet deposit assistance resource.

Screening, diagnosing and providing treatment for STIs requires a community network of providers to reduce disease transmission and prevent negative health outcomes. The Reproductive Health Clinic continues to provide educational presentations on sexually transmitted infections (STIs) to community providers, including information on STI rates, treatment guidelines, and community resources for care coordination.

Reproductive Health Clinical Services (RHCS) 2022 education impact includes:

- Fourteen STI education presentations conducted from February to August 2022
- Over 400 individuals have attended educational presentations
- Three (three confirmed, several in development) future scheduled educational presentations
- 15 presentations are required to be completed by Dec. 31, 2022, in order to meet the grant requirements. Currently, 93 percent of the grant requirements, with 4 months remaining, are completed.

Colorado Department of Public Health and Environment (CDPHE) conducted a fiscal review of the Title X grant for fiscal year 21-22, the RCHS passed the audit with no recommendations for improvement.

RHCS Manager participated in the quarterly Congenital Syphilis (CS) Review Board, that was created by CDPHE in response to the alarming rise in CS and involves clinicians and community partners from across Colorado.

RHCS met with Adams County Family Planning leadership, in anticipation of Adams County standing up their own program in 2023. During this session the RCHS team provided insight regarding the use of our electronic health record system (Patagonia) in a Title X facility and answered general questions regarding clinical operations, grant funding, insurance and billing.

Appendix A: Environmental Health Activity

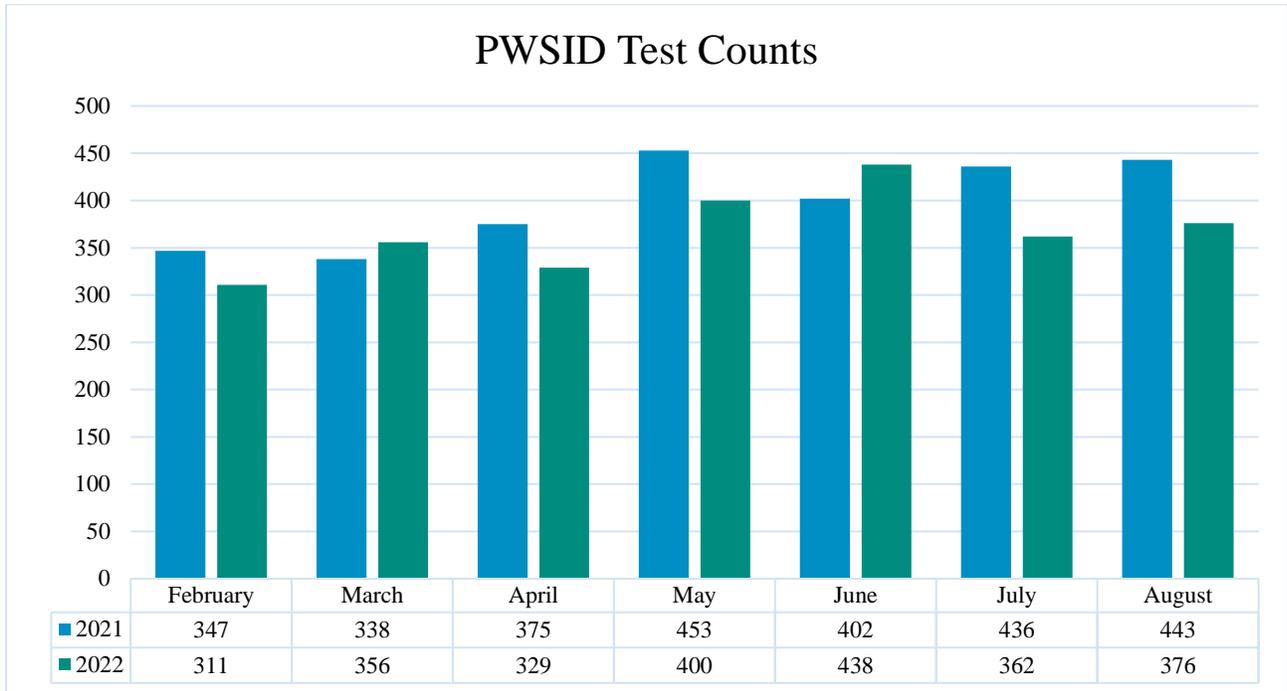
The table below captures a snapshot of activities across the Environmental Health (EH) Division. This work is accomplished through science-based risk assessment and policy development, inspections, consultation, education, and regulations designed to protect the food we eat, the water we drink, the air we breathe, and the places we live, work and play.

| Environment Health Activity | 2022 Total As of 8/31/22 | 2021 Total |
|--|--------------------------------|------------|
| Air Quality Construction Permits | 109 | 129 |
| Air Quality Open Burn Permits | 8 | 15 |
| Air Quality Complaints | 25 | 50 |
| Animal Bites Reported | 528 | 1,385 |
| Body Art Routine Inspections | 34 | 85 |
| Body Art Follow-up Inspections | 7 | 6 |
| Body Art Complaints | 15 | 21 |
| Child Care Regular Inspections | 89 | 214 |
| Child Care Follow-up Inspections | 10 | 0 |
| Child Care Complaints | 5 | 4 |
| Child Care High Risk Field Consults | 13 | 0 |
| Land-Use Planning Review | 194 | 162 |
| Onsite Wastewater Treatment System (OWTS) Pumper Truck Inspections | 55 | 72 |
| OWTS Final Inspections | 315 | 516 |
| OWTS Partial Inspections | 137 | 170 |
| OWTS Application Design Reviews | 365 | 703 |
| OWTS Design Revision Requests | 125 | 272 |
| OWTS New Permit Applications | 262 | 387 |
| OWTS Repair Permit Applications | 188 | 282 |
| OWTS Modification Permit Applications | 7 | 11 |
| OWTS Acceptance Doc for Title Transfer | 633 | 1,048 |
| OWTS Soil and Site Evaluations | 273 | 518 |
| OWTS Complaints | 17 | 29 |
| OWTS O&M Systems | 53 | 179 |
| Recreational Water Safety Inspections | 219 | 320 |
| Recreational Water Follow-up Inspections | 7 | 28 |
| Recreational Water Complaints | 5 | 13 |
| Retail Food Establishment (RFE) Regular Inspections | 1238 | 2,960 |
| RFE Re-Inspections | 90 | 119 |
| RFE Complaint Investigations | 258 | 153 |

| | | |
|--|-------------------|-------------------|
| RFE Plan Reviews | 139 | 153 |
| School Safety Regular Inspections | 1 | 0 |
| School Safety Complaints | 3 | 6 |
| Environment Health Activity | 2022 Total | 2021 Total |
| School Safety Self-Certification Audits | 13 | 9 |
| School Safety Self-Certifications Returned | 0 | 295 |
| Waste Tire Facilities Regular Inspections | 68 | 117 |
| Waste Tire Follow-up Inspections | 1 | 5 |

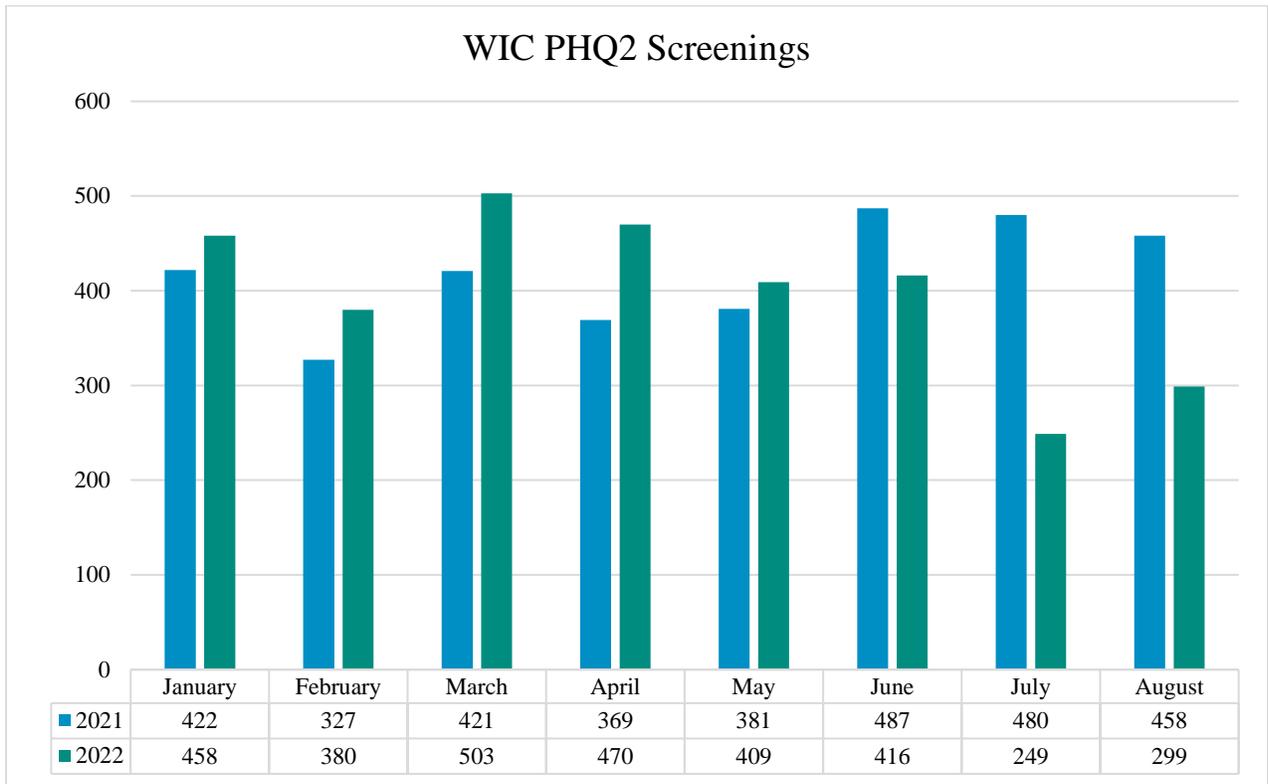
Appendix B: Laboratory Public Water System Test Counts

The EPCPH Laboratory is certified to test drinking water and wastewater for naturally occurring contaminants in which the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) has defined contamination limits. The laboratory performs testing for El Paso County and several surrounding county’s public water systems and private wells to assure safe water sources and protect public health. Testing includes bacteriological tests for pH, coliforms and E. coli, and inorganic anions such as nitrates, nitrites, fluoride, and chloride. The graph below shows data for public water system identification (PWSID) counts for public water system tests.



Appendix C: WIC Patient Health Questionnaire-2 for Depression

The 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 for this at-risk group of women. CDC research shows about one in eight women with a recent live birth experiences symptoms of postpartum depression. Screening can provide a referral and connection to treatment resources. WIC staff completed 299 Patient Health Questionnaire-2 (PHQ2) screening see chart below.



The screenings led to a total of 38 referrals:

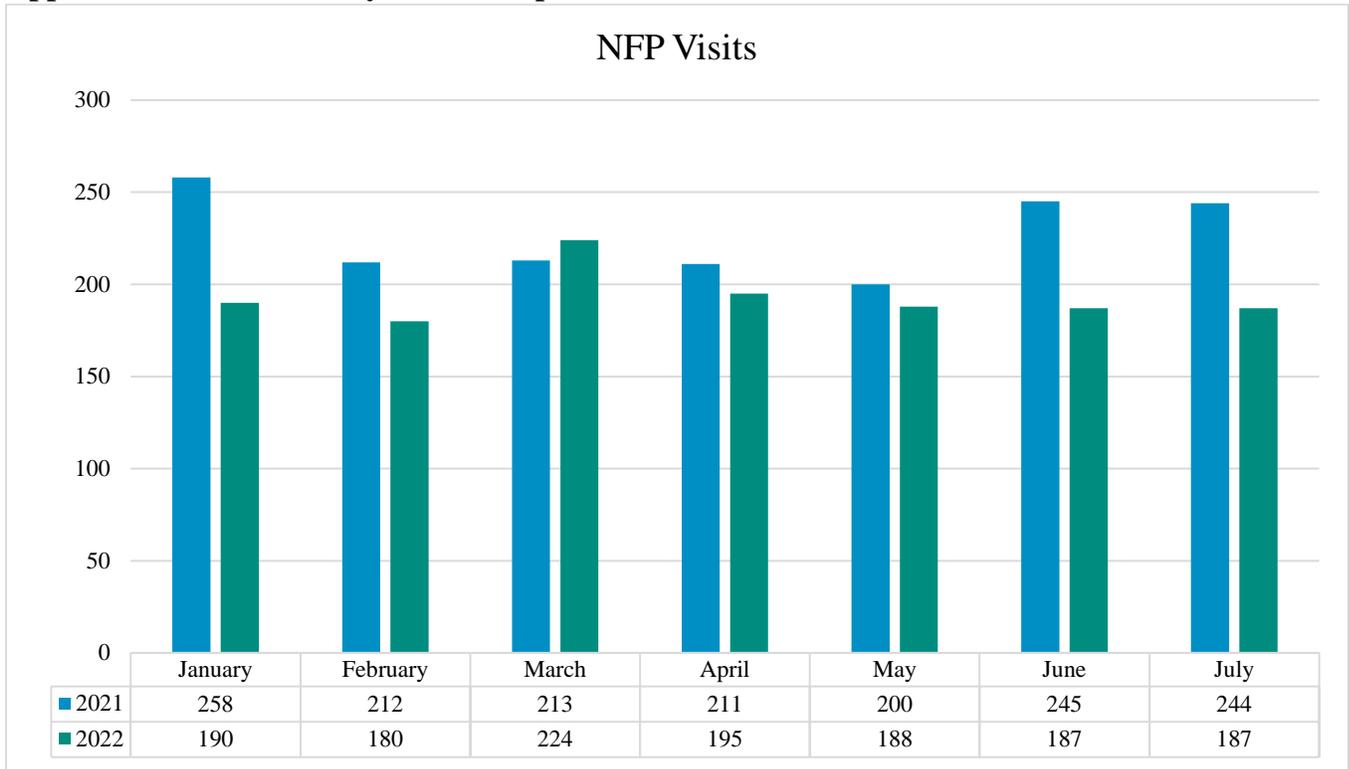
- Thirteen referrals were made to local behavioral health resources.
- Three referrals were made to Colorado Community Health Alliance (CCHA) for further evaluation and connection to meet their specific behavioral health needs.
- Two clients on Tricare were referred to active-duty resources on base; two clients on Tricare were referred to non-active-duty case management.
- Twenty clients were already receiving services and declined a referral for that reason.

Appendix D: Immunizations Program Vaccines Administered

| Month | Non-COVID Vaccines | COVID Vaccine Administered in Clinic/Distributed (Long-Term Care Facilities and Operation House Call) | COVID Vaccine Administered by EPCPH Mobile Team |
|--------------|---------------------------|--|--|
| January | 335 | 95 | 897 |
| February | 342 | 81 | 390 |
| March | 314 | 71 | 192 |
| April | 410 | 129 | 321 |
| May | 417 | 121 | 196 |
| June | 406 | 159 | 155 |
| July | 548 | 139 | 102 |
| August | 635 | 142 | 0* |

*Mobile van team supported monkeypox vaccination clinics for the month of August.

Appendix E: Nurse-Family Partnership Client Visits



Appendix F: Disease Prevention and Control

Communicable Disease (CD) activities for August:

Monkeypox

- Developed processes, procedures and guidance documents to support Monkeypox investigations
- EPCPH began conducting Monkeypox case investigation and contact follow up for El Paso County cases

Table 1 – Notifiable diseases reported to El Paso County Public Health through August 31, 2022

| Category | Disease | 2022 | 2021 | 2019 |
|---|---|------------|------------|------------|
| Food/Waterborne Diseases | | | | |
| | Campylobacter | 64 | 75 | 89 |
| | Cryptosporidium | 14 | 13 | 16 |
| | Cyclosporiasis | 9 | 4 | 3 |
| | Giardia | 33 | 52 | 42 |
| | Hemolytic Uremic Syndrome (HUS) | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| | Hepatitis A | 2 | 0 | 127 |
| | Legionellosis | 6 | 10 | 7 |
| | Salmonella | 39 | 65 | 71 |
| | Shigella | 7 | 8 | 29 |
| | Shiga Toxin-producing E. coli (STEC) | 24 | 29 | 26 |
| | Vibriosis | 4 | 2 | 4 |
| Food/Waterborne Diseases Totals | | 202 | 258 | 414 |
| Viral Hepatitis | | | | |
| | Hepatitis B (acute) | 0 | 0 | 3 |
| | Hepatitis B (chronic) | 63 | 80 | 76 |
| | Hepatitis C (acute) | 1 | 0 | 10 |
| | Hepatitis C (chronic) | 175 | 217 | 614 |
| Viral Hepatitis Totals | | 239 | 297 | 703 |
| Healthcare Associated Infections | | | | |
| | Carbapenem-Resistant Acinetobacter baumannii (CRAB) | 0 | 0 | 0 |

| | | | | |
|--|---|--------------|--------------|------------|
| | Carbapenem Non-susceptible Enterobacteriaceae (CRE) | 14 | 16 | 40 |
| | Carbapenem-Resistant Pseudomonas Aeruginosa (CRPA) | 20 | 43 | 32 |
| Healthcare Associated Infections totals | | 34 | 59 | 72 |
| Vaccine Preventable Diseases | | | | |
| | Haemophilus influenzae (H. flu) | 8 | 11 | 13 |
| | Measles | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| | Meningococcal Disease | 0 | 0 | 1 |
| | Mumps | 1 | 0 | 3 |
| | Pertussis | 17 | 10 | 75 |
| | Rubella | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| | Varicella | 12 | 10 | 45 |
| Vaccine Preventable Diseases Totals | | 38 | 31 | 137 |
| COVID-19 | | 88891 | 85048 | 0 |
| Hospitalized Influenza* | | 206 | 16 | 506 |
| Monkeypox | | 18 | - | - |

*Flu Season 2019: September 30, 2018 - May 18, 2019. 464

*Flu Season 2021: September 27, 2020- May 22, 2021. 2

*Flu Season 2022: October 3, 2021- May 21, 2022. 188

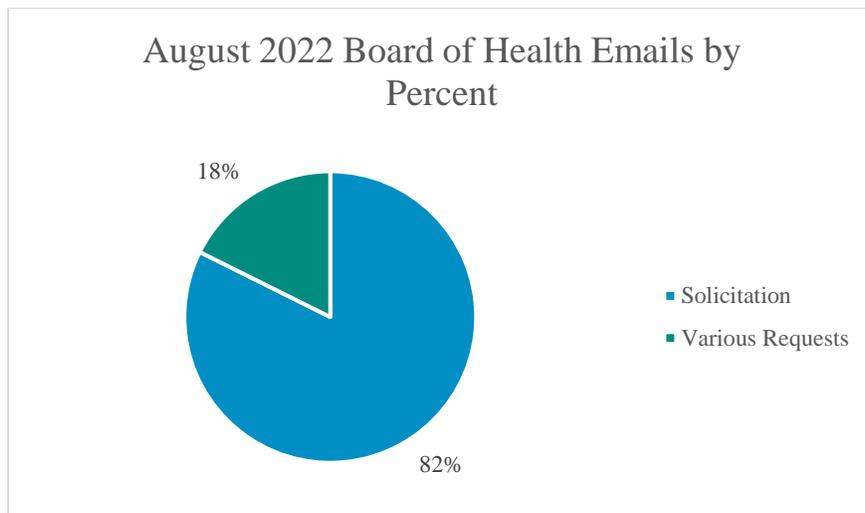
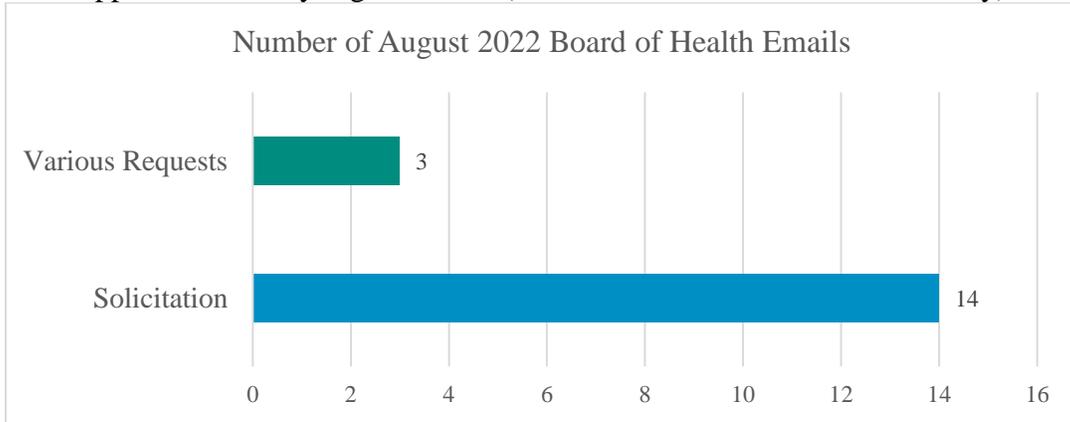
Table 2 – Foodborne illness complaints received at El Paso County Public Health in August

| Foodborne Illness Complaints | # Referred to Env. Health |
|------------------------------|---------------------------|
| 14 | 0 |

- Responded to 42 calls regarding human or pet exposures to potentially rabid animals, or other rabies-related concerns. From those inquiries, 23 animals (2 skunks, 4 raccoons, 1 coyote and 16 bats) were tested for rabies, 1 bat tested positive for rabies and 1 bat was untestable.
- Persons recommended for rabies post-exposure prophylaxis (PEP): 12
- Total rabid animals for 2022: 4 (bats)
- 2021: 7 (3 bats, 3 skunks, 1 cat)
- 2020: 10 (5 bats, 4 skunks, 1 coyote)

Appendix G: Board of Health Email Inquiries

The Board of Health email (boardofhealth@elpasoco.com) received 17 unique emails during the month of August. Fourteen of the emails were solicitations and three emails were various requests to support community organizations (Food to Power and Calhan Veterinary).



Definitions of Foundational Terms

Foundational Public Health Capabilities

Assessment and Planning- Colorado's governmental public health system will apply the principles and skilled practice of epidemiology, laboratory investigation, surveillance and program evaluation to support planning, policy and decision making in Colorado.

Communications - Colorado's governmental public health system will be a trusted source of clear, consistent, accurate and timely health and environmental information.

Policy Development and Support - Colorado's governmental public health system will inform and implement policies to meet the community's changing health needs. Public health policies will aim to eliminate health disparities, reduce death and disability, and improve environmental quality and health outcomes for all people in Colorado.

Partnerships - Colorado's governmental public health system will create, convene, and support strategic partnerships, engage community members and cross-sectoral partners, agencies, and organizations to achieve public health goals.

Organizational Competencies – No official definition from CDPHE but this section will be used to report on QI, accreditation, finance/budget, governance, awards, etc.

Emergency Preparedness and Response - Colorado's governmental public health system, in coordination with federal, state and local agencies and public and private sector partners, will have the capability and capacity to prepare for, respond to, and recover from emergencies with health, environmental and medical impacts.

Social Determinants of Health - Colorado's governmental public health system will intentionally focus on improving systems and institutions that exacerbate health disparities so that all people and communities in Colorado can achieve the highest level of health possible. Governmental public health will have the requisite skills, competencies, and capacities to play an essential role in creating comprehensive strategies needed to address health inequities, and social and environmental determinants of health.

Foundational Public Health Services

Communicable Disease Prevention, Investigation and Control - Colorado's governmental public health system will carry out state and locally coordinated surveillance, disease investigation, laboratory testing, and prevention and control strategies to monitor and reduce the incidence and transmission of communicable diseases. Programs will target illnesses that are vaccine-preventable, zoonotic, vector-borne, respiratory, food- or water-borne, bloodborne, healthcare associated, and sexually transmitted as well as emerging threats. Communicable Disease Control will collaborate with national, state, and local partners to ensure mandates and guidelines are met and timely, actionable information is provided to the public and to health professionals.

Environmental Public Health - Colorado's governmental public health system will use evidence-informed practices to understand the cause and effect relationships between environmental changes and ecological and human health impacts, to protect, promote, and enhance the health of the community and environment. Agencies will participate in the protection and improvement of air quality, water, land, and food safety by identifying, investigating, and responding to community environmental health concerns, reducing current and emerging environmental health risks, preventing communicable diseases, and sustaining the environment in a coordinated manner with agencies at the federal, state, and local levels as well as industry stakeholders and the public.

Maternal, Child, Adolescent and Family Health - Colorado's governmental public health system will develop, implement and evaluate state-wide, regional and local strategies related to maternal, child, adolescent and family health to increase health and wellbeing, reduce adverse health outcomes and advance health equity across the life course. Strategies may include but are not limited to identifying and providing information, promoting evidence-informed and multi-generational approaches, identifying community assets, advocating for needed initiatives, and convening partners.

Chronic Disease, Injury Prevention and Behavioral Health Promotion - Colorado's governmental public health system focuses on common risk and protective factors that affect social, emotional and physical health and safety. To prevent chronic disease and injuries and promote behavioral health, Colorado's governmental public health system will use policy, systems and environmental change strategies to comprehensively address the root causes of poor health outcomes and advance health equity. Priority areas include, but are not limited to, nutrition, physical activity, oral health, access to care and disease management, injury prevention, violence prevention, suicide prevention, mental health and substance use (including tobacco, alcohol and other substances).

Access to and Linkage with Healthcare - All Coloradans should be connected with and have access to needed personal health care services that include primary care, maternal and child health care, oral health care, specialty care, and mental health care. All Coloradans should be connected with and have access to needed personal health care services that include primary care, maternal and child health care, oral health care, specialty care, and mental health care.