To: Board of Health

From: Jill Law, R.N., B.S.N., M.H.A.
Public Health Director

Date: June 17, 2013 (Reflects May 2013)

Re: Director’s Report

Acronyms
- EPCPH – El Paso County Public Health
- CDPHE – Colorado Department of Public Health and Environment

Director — Jill Law, R.N., B.S.N., M.H.A.

Accreditation — Kathy Rice, Office of Planning, Partnerships, and Accreditation, Director
- May 7 and May 8, 2013 the EPCPH Public Health Accreditation (PHAB) Site Visit took place. The Site Visit Team will prepare a report which will be submitted to PHAB. PHAB will send the report to EPCPH to check for any factual inaccuracies. EPCPH will return the report to PHAB. PHAB will then submit the report to the PHAB Accreditation Committee who will review the report and make the Accreditation decision. EPCPH expects to receive the Accreditation decision by September 2013.

Deputy Director — Dan Martindale

Emergency Preparedness and Response:
- Emergency Preparedness and Response (EPR) staff developed and facilitated the Park County First Responders Prophylaxis POD Tabletop Exercise in an effort to close gaps within Park County’s current plan.
- The EPR Program Manager worked with the Regional Medical Response System (RMRS) Sustainment Work Group to address sustainment of the RMRS program coordinator/team. This coordination team is vital to many of the health care planning efforts in this region.
- EPR staff received several consultations with a Vulnerable Populations expert at CDPHE. A Vulnerable Populations Training and Workshop was conducted by EPC EPR staff and CDPHE staff in conjunction with our South Central Regional Meeting. The goal of this workshop was to get a better understanding about how to define these populations and plan specifically for vulnerable populations during an emergency.
- The EPR Program Manager attended the Emergency Operations Center (EOC) Resource Management Functional Exercise. A group of EOC Section Chiefs and members of the Planning Section met to refine the EOC Resource Ordering process.
- EPR staff held a training and discussion on the role of the distribution manager for the Strategic National Stockpile (SNS). This local role during an SNS event would coordinate distribution of the SNS from the warehouse throughout our region.
- The Health Alert Network (HAN) quarterly test was conducted successfully in May.
• At the end of May the Health Department-activated Incident Command and Emergency Preparedness began the planning process for Flood Mitigation First Responder Vaccination Clinics. Although Incident Command was activated for the Flood Mitigation planning, a more pressing event developed with the Hepatitis A outbreak. Emergency Preparedness has assumed the planning role for this response.

Office of Health Disparities Health Literacy (HL) Grant:
• Participated in Community Center Director’s Collaborative. Collaborative partners with community centers to work on “winnable battles” and develop networks for improvement and sustainability of Harrison High School (HHS) health literacy project.
• With Harrison High School Wellness Team, 20 Beth-El College of Nursing Community/Public Health nursing students, 3 Beth-El College of Nursing faculty and 24 community providers assisted to coordinate, facilitate and participate in Health Literacy Day at Harrison High School. 700 students and 50 HHS faculty attended. Topics/agencies included: health literacy improvement, alcohol use/prevention, AA/ALANON, tobacco use/prevention, depression/stress, tattoos/piercings/bloodborne pathogen safety, hookah smoking, hydration whys/hows, CSFD CPR demo/training, nutrition, blood pressure checks/BMI, Entrada Clinic, YMCA/LiveWell Colorado Springs, H2D2 Nutrition, Tessa/violence prevention, American Heart Association/heart health, SoCo AIDS Project, Drive Smart Colorado, CO Meth Project, “Rethink Your Drink,” and American Cancer Society.

Disease Prevention and Control—Dr. Bill Letson, M.D., Medical Director

Communicable Disease (CD) - reflects CD investigative activities in May, 2013
• Reportable infectious diseases: 52 cases were reported and investigated: campylobacter (7), giardia (5), hepatitis A (2), acute hepatitis B (1), influenza - hospitalized (2), invasive pneumococcal disease (5), pertussis (14), Salmonella (9), varicella (2), and viral meningitis (5).

• Possible foodborne illness complaints: 13

• CD Program investigated two outbreaks: one GI illness (from toxins) in a long-term care facility, one pertussis in a school.

• CD Program responded to 19 calls regarding human or pet exposures to potentially rabid animals, or other rabies-related concerns. From the animals involved in those inquiries, eight were tested for rabies and all were negative.

Tuberculosis (TB) – reflects TB Program activities for May, 2013:
• New active TB cases investigated: 1
• New suspect active cases investigated: 2
• Contact investigations ongoing: 5
• Contacts evaluated/tested: 101
• Skin tests done related to contact investigations: 17
• Interferon gamma release assay (IGRA) tests done related to contact investigations: 81
• Cases on Direct Observed Therapy (DOT): 9
• Cases on Direct Observed Preventive Therapy (DOPT): 2
• Total DOT/DOPT visits: 110
• Latent TB Infection (LTBI) cases under treatment: 27
• Refugee and class B immigrant TB evaluations: 8
Environmental Health (EH)—Tom Gonzales, M.P.H., R.E.H.S., Division Director

EH Partnered with El Paso County Community Services on the Clean Sweep Program held at Citizens Service Center on Saturday May 4, 2013. The program included the recycling of appliances, batteries, electronics, household chemicals, medicines, metals, tires and paint. Over 200 individuals and families took part in the program; diverting nearly 11,000 pounds of electronics, 1,200 gallons of paint, 100 pounds of batteries and 147 tires from landfills.

Retail Food Safety Program

Environmental health specialists completed the following activities to promote food safety and prevent foodborne illness in our community:

- Routine inspections: 344
- Follow up inspections: 59
- Plan reviews – new construction: 8
- Plan reviews – remodel: 3
- Preoperational inspections: 41
- Complaint investigations: 17
- Online Basic Food Safety class attendance: 26
- On-site Basic Food Safety class attendance: 57
- Two members of the education team participated in the Peterson Air Force Base Safety Day Expo on May 22. Food safety educational materials were distributed at the fair.
- Two foodborne illness investigations were conducted at assisted living facilities. At one of the facilities, potentially hazardous foods were not being properly cooled, allowing for the rapid growth of pathogenic bacteria. Stool samples were positive for the presence of bacteria toxin. The facilities food handlers were provided training related to proper cooling and hand washing and are scheduled to attend a basic food safety class.
- Two staff members were provided the opportunity to attend the annual 2013 Rocky Mountain Food Safety Conference held on May 21-22. Topics of discussion included: Aquaponics, Farm to Fork, and a multi-state salmonella outbreak, as well as many others.

On-Site Wastewater Treatment Systems (OSWT) and Groundwater Protection Program

Environmental health specialists completed the following activities to promote proper design, siting and installation of on-site wastewater treatment systems to protect drinking water originating from groundwater:

- Final Inspections: 24
- Soil and Site Evaluations: 30
- New Permit Applications Received: 19
- Repair Permit Applications Received: 18
- Design Reviews: 19
- Pumper Truck Inspections: 8
- Complaint Investigations: 4
- The OWTS Team attended an advanced on-site wastewater treatment system training class held in Colorado Springs. The training was targeted at regulators, professional engineers, and system installers. The focus was on the new on-site wastewater treatment system regulation recently approved by the Water Quality Control Commission, and how advanced treatment systems can be used on properties as system installation options.

Water Recreation Program
Environmental health specialists completed the following activities to prevent the spread of disease in pool and spas.

- Regular inspections of pools/spas: 9
- Follow-up inspections of pools/spas: 4
- Complaint investigations: 2
- The Water Recreation Team attended the Recreational Water Illness (RWI) training at the headquarters of the National Swimming Pool/Spa Foundation (NSPF) here in Colorado Springs. The team was a part of the live audience of the webinar presentation broadcast nationwide.

**Child care Inspection Program**
- Regular inspections: 14
- Follow up inspections: 1

**Drinking Water Program**
- EH Director chaired the second Water Distribution Planning Committee meeting on May 13. Representatives from Manitou Springs Public Works, Cascade Metro Water District, El Paso and City of Colorado Springs Emergency Management, CDPHE and Colorado Springs Utilities attended the meeting to discuss water and wastewater concerns during and after a flash flood. Next steps include having each water provider identify their needs, potential short falls and challenges. A future meeting will be held in June/July to discuss needs and challenges.
- Four Non-Community Groundwater System sanitary surveys were completed as part of the 2013 contract with the Colorado Department of Public Health and Environment, Water Quality Control Division.

**Body Art Safety Program**
Environmental health specialists completed the following activities to prevent the spread of disease at body art facilities:
- Regular Inspections: 4
- Follow-up Inspections: 1
- Preoperational Inspections: 0
- Complaint Investigations: 4
- Compliance Proceedings: 2
- Plan Reviews: 1
- Infectious Disease Control Examinations: 1
- The Environmental Health Division participated in a tattoo workshop sponsored by the El Paso County Department of Human Resources Teen Self-Sufficiency Program, to discuss infectious disease control at body art establishments. The workshop also included discussions by a body artist and a tattoo removal technician.

**Air Quality Control Program**
- Complaints of excessive smoke, dust or odor: 1
- Open burn permits to evaluate air quality issues that can impact public health: 1
- Construction activity permits to assure that contractors have approved fugitive dust control plans: 3

**Environmental Health Planning and Sustainable Development**
- Eight El Paso County Development Services Department Development Projects were submitted for comment. The purpose of our review is to determine adequate wastewater treatment capacity and drinking water quality, and to incorporate public health considerations into planning and development
activities. We encourage the inclusion of health-promoting policies in long range plans and reflection of health considerations in development decisions.

- Three Early Assistance (EA) meetings were attended at Development Services Division regarding the proposed development of a wind farm, chrome plating facility expansion project, and on-site wastewater treatment system plans at an airport.

**School Laboratory Self-Certification Pilot Project**

- The School Laboratory Self-Certification Checklist was made available online and El Paso County Schools were notified. Schools are required to complete the checklist and submit it to the Colorado Department of Public Health and Environment (CDPHE), Environmental Health and Sustainability Division, no later than September 30, 2013. Both CDPHE and Environmental Health Division personnel are available to provide assistance to the schools, as needed.

**Health Services—Kelley Christians, R.D. Division Director**

**Maternal Child Health (MCH):**

- **Child Health/ Early Childhood Obesity Prevention (ECOP):** Staff are working on a healthy food resource guide for child care providers. The MCH Community Health Educator facilitated the Healthy Communities Collaborative (HCC) quarterly meeting for May explaining the steering committee’s process of evaluating their projects and next steps for the collaborative. Two projects were chosen to proceed into the work plan development phase: coordinated school health and worksite wellness challenge.

- **ABCD (Assuring Better Childhood Development) Developmental Screening:** The Public Health Nurse and the ABCD physician outreach coordinator continue planning for their first community meeting which will be held on June 20 at the Citizens Service Center. The goal of this meeting is to bring together stakeholders who are involved in screening and referring children with developmental delays which includes pediatricians, the early intervention system, “Child Find” in public schools and therapy providers.

- **Health Care Program for Children with Special Needs (HCP):** The HCP Public Health Nurses provide care coordination to children with special needs. Our current caseload is 56 children. We picked up six new referrals this month. The MCH administrative coordinator will begin doing HCP non-medical care coordination activities. At our monthly HCP meeting we discussed an orientation schedule for her including home visits with nurses, agency visits and additional training on the State computer database. Staff attended a conference on Child Abuse.
  - DHS presented about the Children’s Medicaid Buy-in Program at our MCH monthly meeting.
  - CDPHE conducted our quarterly site visit at which time our FY14 work plans and budgets were discussed.

**Immunization/Travel Program:**

- Immunizations program manager and lead program assistant attended several web/conference call “discovery sessions” held by NetSmart, the vendor of Insight, our electronic medical record. Staff continued to test the web-hosted version of Insight in preparation for the coming upgrade. Defects were reported to NetSmart and teaching/learning needs identified for the on-site training in June.

- Immunizations Clinic assisted the Communicable Disease section and placed a total of 79 tuberculin skin tests in May.

**Strong and Healthy Families (SHF):**

- Received 32 referrals to SHF class
- Enrolled 22 new students in May
- Graduated six students from SHF class

**Nurse Family Partnership**
- Caseload for May was 224
- Health Services Division Director and Program Manager attended the Nurse Family Partnership National Education Symposium.
- Nurse Home Visitors attended Keys to Care Giving Training.

**Clinical Services:**
- Clinical Manager in collaboration with the Strong and Healthy Families Program provided 12 women educational information on a variety of family birth control methods including long acting and reversible methods.
- Clinical Services Manager in collaboration with the Pikes Peak Breast Health Connection provided an educational event at Hillside Community to 125 women. The goal of the committee is provide preventive services to reduce breast cancer for women that are uninsured and underinsured.
- 420 patients were provided service of which 204 patients were qualifying visits (an annual visit; an initial visit; or a pregnancy screening and counseling visit).

**Women, Infants and Children:** The WIC caseload for April 2013 was 15,080.

**Office of Communication—Susan Wheelan, MBA, Communication Director**

**Tobacco Education Prevention and Partnership (TEPP)**
- For May, TEPP’s social media on Facebook reached 94,015 El Paso County residents an average of 11.8 times. Since the start of the campaign in January, there have been almost 11.8 million impressions.
- Television commercials continue to air on the Spanish-speaking Telemundo station. Approximately 98 spots, including 64 in-kind spots, will air each month through June.
- Television commercials continue to air on Fox 21 and CW to target the 18-24 year old demographic. Approximately 98 spots, including 64 in-kind spots, will air each month through June.
- TEPP staff is working with Uview Media, an out-of-home advertising company, to promote the Colorado QuitLine and educate parents/caregivers about the harmful effects of secondhand smoke in children. The 12-month campaign consists of 70 restroom ads, gas station pump toppers at 5 stores, and 70,000 bar beverage coasters. Locations for ads are focused on lower-income areas of Colorado Springs.
- TEPP staff is finalizing plans to advertise with Greener Corners, a public space recycling program designed to make our community “greener.” TEPP will have 15 ads on recycling bins in the downtown area, as well as many community parks for the next six months.
- TEPP staff is planning to secure seven advertising billboards with Lamar Outdoor Advertising to promote the Colorado QuitLine and educate parents/caregivers about the harmful effects of secondhand smoke in children. These ads will be primarily located in lower-income areas and locations will rotate every 12 weeks.
- TEPP has contracted with EPC public information staff to develop a training video for the retail stores that sell non-cigarette tobacco products in Fountain and Manitou Springs. This 3-5 minute video will help educate store managers and clerks about the 2011 passages of the non-cigarette tobacco retailer license ordinances passed in each community.
• TEPP staff hosted the Regional Tobacco Education Quarterly Meeting, May 24. Representatives from Otero, Bent, Pueblo, El Paso, Fremont, Teller, Denver, Tri-County, Boulder, Weld counties participated.
• Educators presented to approximately 55 apprentices at Colorado Springs Electrical JATC.
• TEPP staff participated at a marketing table at Sky Sox stadium. 4,346 people attended the game and were offered information on cessation, the dangers of tobacco, and resources to help people quit.
• TEPP staff held a Youth Tobacco Coalition kick-off event. Seventeen youth attended the event from the Boys and Girls Club. Signed consent forms were collected, and students filled out youth engagement surveys to gauge their knowledge of tobacco and areas of interest.
• TEPP staff presented to 15 youth coordinators for the Pikes Peak Library District. We will be working with them to promote the coalition.
• Educators presented tobacco information to youth at Urban Peak, a youth homeless shelter that gives youth essential services to empower them to become successful adults.
• The Director of Corporate Sales of Sky Sox Baseball was the guest speaker at the May Tobacco Education Coalition (TEC) meeting. He explained how Sky Sox Stadium came to be smoke-free. TEPP staff also introduced Geographical Informational Systems mapping data to TEC members, identifying smoking prevalence with socio-economic status as well as other factors.
• Reached 225 High School students at the Harrison recruitment fair. Twenty-seven youth signed up to participate in the youth coalition.

Communication Support:
• Created drafts of written public health information messages for flood/flash flood debris and recovery information.
• Prepared and distributed for review draft messages including: water and food safety, cleanup and removal of debris, tetanus and first aid, worker and general public personal protection steps.
• Drafted two-page summary report for CASPER findings. Created flood education information website page on www.elpasocountyhealth.org with local, state, federal resources.
• Developed online form for health fair and event requests.
• Developed TEPP media campaign communication plan review and feedback.
• Assisted with TEPP youth coalition flyer and DVD materials.
• Attended Marijuana Action Call Webinar for TEPP to review marijuana retail issues and similarities with tobacco retail and marketing.
• Print News Media: 05.21.13 – The Gazette, “West Nile threat from mosquitoes could be high this summer.” Interview provided by Lee Griffen, Program Supervisor, Environmental Health Division. Estimated daily circulation: 77,000.

Television News Media: The Office of Communication has implemented a measurement tool that captures and places a market value on TV news coverage. Media value dollar figures reflect equivalent costs for 30-second spot advertising during the respective newscasts and times. Multiple newscasts/times are noted, when applicable, and included in value totals. 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. 05.7.13 – KXRM (FOX) News 21 at 9 p.m. “Cleaning up the art of ink.” Interview provided by Tom Gonzales, Tom Gonzales, M.P.H., R.E.H.S., Environmental Health Division. Viewership: 20,544. Estimated Value: $13,405 ($1,915 per 30 sec.)

Social Media/Online digital media: News and information provided on our Facebook page and Twitter feeds included: National Public Health Week; Healthy Eating/Active Living; Use of the QuitLine;
Tobacco Cessation; Secondhand Smoke awareness; Flood Safety Education; Recreational Water Illness Prevention Week; Nurse Family Partnership; World No Tobacco Day; Women’s Health Week; Hepatitis C; El Paso County Clean Sweep Event. Facebook: 221 “likes; Twitter: 711 current followers

- Healthinfo requests: The Office of Communication receives and refers e-mails that come to our website each day and tracks our responses. These e-mails reveal information needs that could be addressed through creation of print or website material. **Between May 1 and 31, our office received and answered approximately 88 emails** through our website.

**Website statistics**
According to Google Analytics, [www.elpasocountyhealth.org](http://www.elpasocountyhealth.org) had 9,439 unique visitors to the site with 20,363 pageviews (from May 1 to June 2, 2013). Of the total visitors, more than 70 percent were new visitors. The top 5 most visited pages were birth and death records, WIC, location/directions, retail food establishments, and immunizations.