Letter from the Executive Director

2018 was an exciting year for San Juan Basin Public Health (SJBPH) with the completion of its Community Health Assessment (CHA) and Public Health Improvement Plan (PHIP). The release of SJBPH’s PHIP is a perfect opportunity to highlight the importance of public health and the impact it can have on the lives of individuals in the communities we serve. SJBPH believes that everyone deserves to live a long and healthy life and live in a safe environment. A strong public health system is required to achieve this goal, and the agency’s 2019-2023 PHIP will help guide us in this process.

Receiving feedback from community members through the CHA survey confirmed what the agency believes regarding health: health starts where we live, learn, work, and play, and many of the factors contributing to health occur outside of a doctor’s office. The top five concerns prioritized by local community members were issues that would be considered social rather than medical: suicide, affordable housing, substance abuse, poverty, and economic opportunity.

SJBPH’s PHIP considers regulatory obligations, professional expertise, and local and regional data, along with the community concerns addressed in the CHA to identify seven issue areas, three of which are high priority. It applies three universal goals to each issue area to help us improve local health.

As we begin to initiate strategies and activities to achieve goals identified by our PHIP, SJBPH looks forward to working with a wide range of stakeholders including local and regional partners, healthcare providers, organizations and agencies, and individual community members to improve the health and well-being of those we serve. As your local public health agency, we are committed to using science and action to achieve this. I invite you to join us in this important work.

“Raylene has been amazing. She gives me information which makes me feel calm and secure. Mom is happy, baby is happy.”

- SJBPH WIC CLIENT
**Mission**
To protect human and environmental health and inspire well-being in our community.

**Vision**
We are leaders to achieve healthy communities and health equity.

**Values**
Compassion | Health Equity
Integrity | Respect | Stewardship

“The services I receive at SJBPH help me maintain a healthy life.”
- SJBPH CLINIC CLIENT
In order to accurately assess the needs of its community, SJBPH drew information from four key sources to create the PHIP:

- Community Health Assessment survey (1,082 local residents surveyed)
- State, regional, and local health data
- Professional experience and expertise
- Statutory and regulatory requirements
Key Data From the Community Health Assessment Survey

Social Determinants of Health
Highest % Major Concern

Looking at social factors that affect health, affordable housing was by far the highest rated concern within the community.

How would you rate the overall health of your community?

The overwhelming majority of survey-takers view our community as a healthy one.
Public Health Improvement Plan

annual report 2018
SJBPH’s Public Health Improvement Plan, created in 2018, identifies seven issue areas, three of which are high priority, and applies three goals to each issue area to help the agency improve local health.
Community Resilience

2018 at a glance

SJBPH’s Public Health Improvement Plan (PHIP) resulted in goals and strategies to be implemented from 2019 to 2023 with a focus on community resilience, organizational capacity, and public health innovation.

Here are some of the ways that the agency worked toward these goals in 2018:

**Community Resilience**

- **981 young people involved**
  - Nearly 1,000 young people participated in youth-focused activities supporting the prevention of suicide as well as drug, alcohol, and tobacco use. Much of this work was focused on promoting resiliency in youth while reducing influences that put them at risk.

- **1,985 immunizations given**
  - In 2018, SJBPH’s clinic gave 1,985 vaccines to residents in La Plata and Archuleta counties.

- **1,262 sexual health screenings**
  - SJBPH’s Sexual Health Clinic saw 1,262 clients, providing 1,108 preventive screenings and 785 contraceptive prescriptions.

Building awareness about programs and resources that improve individual, population, and environmental health, as well as work to remove barriers to accessing these programs and resources. Striving to share awareness of the importance of the public health programs we provide.
Organizational Capacity

Increasing the agency’s capacity through a commitment to best practices, employee training, pursuit of secure funding, and the support of the SJBPH Board of Health.

658

retail food inspections

More retail food inspections were completed in 2018 than in 2016 and 2017 combined. This was due to an increase in SJBPH’s retail food program staff.

226

spanish-speaking clients served

SJBPH hired a dedicated Spanish language interpreter and translator to serve all clients facing language barriers.

26

emergency response trainings

In August 2018, SJBPH launched the Equity in Emergency Preparedness Program (EEP) with two full-time staff, to increase equitable access to emergency preparedness and promote increased resiliency in an emergency for all individuals in La Plata and Archuleta counties. EEP staff attended 26 trainings from August through December 2018.
SJBPH researched gaps in pediatric specialty care in our region. The resulting data were used to apply for funding from the state to increase access to pediatric specialty care by using innovative practices. In October 2018, SJBPH received funding and began the planning process to bring telemedicine to Archuleta County to increase services for children through a partnership with Children’s Hospital of Colorado and Pagosa Springs Medical Group.

SJBPH provided a training for 22 retail food establishment owners and managers to provide clarity regarding service animals in restaurants and aspects of the Americans With Disabilities Act.

Using data and scientific evidence to both address existing public health issues as well as plan for new issues that may evolve or arise in the future.

A number of SJBPH staff attended Science of the Positive and Rise Above trainings, focused on using data and scientific evidence to craft positive and effective behavior change messaging, to strengthen factors that build resilience in youth, and lessen factors that increase risks for youth.
Financials


revenues

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<th>Source</th>
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<td>Intergovernmental</td>
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<td>Charges for services</td>
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<td>Other</td>
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expenditures

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<td>Salaries and benefits</td>
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<td>Total expenditures</td>
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Net change in fund balance $46,718

2018 Board of Health

Bob Ledger, Chair
Ann Bruzzese, Vice Chair
Shere Byrd, Karin Daniels, Gwen Lachelt, Terryl Peterson, Michael Whiting
SJBPH serves all residents of Archuleta and La Plata counties. In 2018, Archuleta County’s population was 13,765 and La Plata County’s population was 56,310 for a total base of 70,075 residents.