Executive Director and Staff Report to the Board of Health

for July 2021

Highlights:

- SJBPH WIC program partnered with Nourish Colorado, Manna Soup Kitchen, and the Silverton School Garden to provide area WIC families with FREE or low cost weekly produce shares. Currently 4 or 100% of the Silverton based WIC families are receiving FREE shares from the Silverton School Garden and over 20 La Plata County area WIC families are taking advantage of low cost weekly produce shares from Manna Soup Kitchen. Ignacio based families are enjoying the option of delivery of their shares directly to Ignacio.
- Emergency Preparedness and Response staff provided subject matter expertise during a regional exercise testing our capacity to treat 20-30 burn victims which would likely need transport out of the region for higher levels of care which helped to address gaps in state level partner agency/stakeholder knowledge about the capabilities of our region.

Staff Reports

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Behavioral Health</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Thriving Communities Program Team (TCP):</td>
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<td>- Members of the Thriving Communities Team expanded organizational capacity and identified and provided opportunities for employees to excel/innovate by scheduling the hiring of a new Communities That Care Program Coordinator and collaborating with three neighboring counties and <strong>by doing so demonstrated a commitment to organizational excellence.</strong></td>
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<td>Communities that Care (CTC):</td>
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<td>- Position vacant; Team still worked to support ROAR community led coalition work. New partner collaboration on youth led projects to come in upcoming months.</td>
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<td>Suicide Prevention (SP)/Gun Shop Project:</td>
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<td>- Suicide prevention indicator data collection underway. The Suicide Prevention Coordinator is working alongside local organizations and state contacts to collect these numbers. The coordinator also sought opportunities to work with non-traditional partners to solve public health issues by reestablishing two Suicide Prevention Collaborative workgroups and recruiting new partners.</td>
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<tr>
<th>Social Determinants of Health</th>
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<td>Health Insurance Literacy:</td>
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<td>- This was the last full month for the ARP Special Open Enrollment Period. To prepare for the upcoming annual Open Enrollment period, there was a lot of staff development activities.</td>
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Emma hosted the last ARP Special Open Enrollment Period webinar, since it is due to end mid-August, and participated in the SJBPH's Virtual Resource Fair. Completed communications plan for FY22, including additional funds from Connect for Health. Emma also attended the annual Program Manager Orientation with Connect for Health Colorado (virtually). Phone inquiries increased at the end of the month due to the upcoming deadline in August.

Environmental Health

- EH services continue to be offered primarily online due to the COVID-19 pandemic. EH staff are deployed into multiple roles in the COVID-19 response.

Consumer Protection:

Retail Food Program

- Staff conducted a total of 92 inspections, including routine, follow-ups, and complaint investigations. A Food Safety Basics class was held for Spanish-speakers of an establishment. Staff issued three retail food licenses and received four plan reviews for new establishments.

See reports below:

![Comparison of RFE Inspections 2019-2021](image)

*due to COVID-19 inspections were discontinued in April 2020

Childcare Inspection Program

- Staff conducted one childcare inspection.

Water and Air Quality:

On-Site Wastewater Treatment Systems (OWTS)
SJBPH received 67 permit applications and issued 66 permits. Staff issued 49 Transfer of Title Acceptance Documents, and 4 Conditional Acceptance Documents. 75 inspections were conducted.

See charts below.

Number of OWTS Permit Applications by Month

2019-21 Transfer of Title Acceptance Documents by Month
Surface and Drinking Water

- No updates.

Radon

- No updates.

Water Lab

- Water Lab performed 330 drinking water tests and 374 wastewater tests.

See charts below.
### Health Behaviors

#### Clinic:
- The clinic initiated the new CHAPP grant providing free HIV testing to patients to increase access to HIV and STI testing and Dr. Cristol initiated outreach to community partners as a part of a needs assessment related to increasing HIV and STI rates in La Plata County to inform public health programs and outreach efforts as a part of the CHAPP program.

#### Immunizations:
- The SJBPH clinic staff administered the first Pfizer vaccine to an unvaccinated patient while at a routine office visit, increasing access to comprehensive immunization services including COVID vaccinations.

#### Nurse Family Partnership (NFP):
- Motivational Interviewing and Personality Disorders training from Mental Health Consultant on 7/27/21 demonstrating commitment to organizational excellence.
- NFP presented at virtual resource fairs on 7/23/21 improving awareness of NFP program.

#### SafeCare:
- SafeCare has created a new strategy to improve awareness of services by setting up meetings with key partners and brainstorming ways to reach and better serve families they engage and interact with. We are trying to create some systematic ways of partnering by attending regularly scheduled meetings or trainings.
- SafeCare and the Communications Team are working collaboratively to improve awareness of services by meeting with the new communications team staff member dedicated to steady-state programs. We reviewed the strategic communications plan and shared what strategies and supports might be most beneficial.

#### Statewide Tobacco Education and Prevention Partnership (STEPP):
- The Substance Use Prevention coordinator created a community presentation on tobacco policy and issues to improve awareness and acceptance of, as well as access to, resources, programs, and services our community members need to achieve individual and population health goals. There was also a demonstration to organizational excellence through completing tobacco free schools training, which will set our coordinator up for success working alongside local school districts this academic year.

#### Women, Infants, and Children (WIC):
- San Juan Basin Public Health WIC is promoting a pilot program with the statewide Farmer's Market Nutrition Program which provides WIC families with vouchers to use at Durango Farmer's Market, demonstrating commitment to improve access to services/healthy foods.
- San Juan Basin Public Health WIC program manager has been working with Treehouse Communications on fine tuning a WIC social media toolkit for relevant community partners, demonstrating commitment to improve awareness of services.

### Clinical Care Linkage

#### Cancer Prevention and Early Detection (CPED – Women’s Wellness Connection):
- The CPED clinic outreach coordinator met with Spanish speaking community members at the immigration event at Rotary Park in Durango to increase awareness about breast and cervical cancer screening recommendations and navigate to clinics.
**Delta Dental:**
- Delta Care Coordinator provided care coordination, to a total of 217 individuals over the course of twelve months. The information, education and resources given to these families, *fostered resiliency and improved access to care.*

**HCP Specialty Clinics/Maternal Child Health (MCH):**
- HCP Team coordinated on-site Pediatric Neurology Clinic and follow up for 8 children and assisted with access to other specialty care for 3 CYSHCN children, *fostering resiliency and improving access to care.*

**Language Services:**
- The agency interpreter translated COVID vaccine information into Spanish to *increase awareness and access to information.*
- The agency interpreter provided simultaneous interpretation for the SJBPH virtual resource fair to *increase access to service and programs for the Spanish speaking community.*

**Regional Oral Health Specialist (ROHS):**
- ROHS team provided dental screenings and oral health education at the Children's Festival in Cortez from 8am - 12pm. Reached approximately 50-100 children/families. Discussed the need for dental providers in Pagosa with Axis Health and they are now going to staff their dental clinic beginning in September 2021 as opposed to waiting 12-18 months, *improving access to care.*

**Temporary Assistance for Needy Families (TANF):**
- New father of infant, recently released from prison, stated he doesn't know how to "speak/express myself to the new world I'm in." This effected accessing resources, including medical, dental, employment, and establishing social contacts. Through supporting him at this challenging time and discussing various agencies’ offerings and contacts to call, he has contacted Family Center advocate and a private practice, Medicaid therapist to initiate his lifestyle transition. He's very encouraged about his *improved access to care.*

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**Communicable Disease**

**Diseases reported July 1-July 31, 2021:**
- 5 Animal Bites (4 Archuleta, 1 La Plata)
- 1 Hepatitis C, Chronic (1 Archuleta County)
- 1 Giardiasis (1 La Plata)
- 1 Malaria (1 La Plata)
- 1 Plague (1 La Plata)
- 2 Salmonellosis (2 La Plata)
- 1 Shiga Toxin-producing E. Coli (STEC) (1 Archuleta)

**Communicable Disease:**
- Regional Epi continues to be 100% in response. Other communicable disease follow up is being done by CDPHE.

**Tuberculosis (TB):**
• One client started on LTBI meds. Client will be moving out of state, and we are working with CDPHE to transfer.

Emergency Preparedness and Response

Emergency Preparedness and Response:
• Staff responded to internal plague investigation by hosting meetings which developed opportunities for collaboration across divisions.

Universal Activities

Administrative Services:
Human Resources:

HIPAA Compliance:
HIPAA Queries/Investigations:

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<th>Description of Event</th>
<th>Q1</th>
<th>Q2</th>
<th>Q3</th>
<th>Q4</th>
<th>2021 Total</th>
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Total HIPAA Breaches

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HR Staffing Updates

August
• The following vacancies were filled since the last report:
  o Communicable Disease Specialist I x 1, Communities That Care Program Coordinator
• The following vacancies have been hired for with future start dates:
  o Environmental Health Specialist III
• Recruitment continues for the following staff positions:
  o Communicable Disease Specialist I, Communicable Disease Specialist II,
    Environmental Health Specialist I or II (Pagosa Office), Environmental Health
Technician, Public Health Nurse (COVID-19 Team), Communications Specialist I, COVID-19 Equity Outreach Coordinator, Administrative Support Assistant, Water Quality Laboratory Technician, Communicable Disease Coordinator, COVID-19 Testing Coordinator

Assessment and Planning:
- Staff supported data requests from internal and external partners who were then able to provide evidence-based public health recommendations.
- Staff participated in the state Child Fatality Prevention System’s 3rd quarter meeting, increasing organizational capacity.
- Staff continued participating in the Strategic Scholars program in the 2021 Change Management cohort. We conducted a survey and focus groups working on revamping the monthly reports to make them more useful for all and allow for staff to make better data-informed decisions.

Communications:
- In July, SJBPH communications focused both on COVID-19 information, and non-COVID public health and agency information. Topics included localized (state and local) reporting, information on COVID-19 state and local data, COVID-19 testing, contact tracing, COVID dial information, COVID precautions, COVID vaccine distribution, and collaboration with community partners to improve awareness and acceptance of public health resources, services, programs, and value to the community. Agency communications were shared on client-focused programs such as the Regional Oral Health program, Immunizations, Health Insurance Lit, Emergency Preparedness, Nurse-Family Partnership, SafeCare, and WIC. Communications were through a variety of channels including print, radio, tv, social media, and email. A recent confirmed case of plague in La Plata County and confirmed presence of plague in fleas generated significant additional media coverage and communications.
- In July, SJBPH communications staff distributed one agency e-newsletter (June), two weekly COVID updates, wrote and distributed nine media releases, responded to 21 media inquiries, posted 108 tweets, and 118 Facebook posts to both SJBPH’s main FB page, and to its COVID-19 page. Posts were focused on the coronavirus outbreak, local COVID-19 data, vaccine distribution, COVID-19 prevention, mental health during COVID-19, COVID-19 testing info, contact tracing, zoonotic disease prevention (plague), and promoting SJBPH programs and services. SJBPH was featured in 103 articles/radio/tv stories in newspapers, online news outlets, and local radio stations. In July, SJBPH had over 1,145,000* Facebook impressions (# of eyes on our posts), and 41,000 Twitter impressions. Our FB engagement (action taken such as commenting or sharing a post) was over 17,900, and Twitter had 870 engagements. These activities help to improve awareness and acceptance of public health resources, services, programs, and value to the community. *Large increase due to COVID vaccine ads.

Facilities/Fleet:
- No updates.