

# SAN JUAN BASIN public health

## Executive Director and Staff Report to the Board of Health

for December 2021

### Staff Reports

#### Behavioral Health

##### **Thriving Communities Program Team (TCP):**

- Members of the Thriving Communities team **sought opportunities to work with non-traditional partners to solve public health issues** by participating on food systems coalitions, homelessness coalitions, and serving on city advisory boards in both La Plata and Archuleta counties and by doing so **used innovative, equity-based strategies to address existing population and environmental public health issues.**

##### **Communities that Care (CTC):**

- Communities That Care presented localized (county level) Healthy Kids Colorado 2019 Survey Data to schools and began collaboration with a Fort Lewis College student to strategize gathering additional youth behavioral health data in the spring semester of 2022 through surveys and small focus groups. This starts the process of helping our community led coalition members feel empowered to **use data-informed processes to evaluate promising practices to develop new programs that respond to community need.**

##### **Suicide Prevention (SP)/Gun Shop Project:**

- The Suicide Prevention Coordinator hosted several successful collaborative meetings and restructured the steering committee on the Suicide Prevention Collaborative. She also has several leads on potential Firearms advocates through our office of Veterans Services for the Gun Shop Project, which embodies **working with nontraditional partners to solve public health issues.**

#### Social Determinants of Health

##### **Health Insurance Literacy:**

- Connect for Health Colorado's Open Enrollment continued through December. Primary focus was to accommodate all community members with their questions and applications for their 2022 coverage. This included phone, virtual, and in-person appointments (with appropriate COVID protocols in place). HIL hosted two Virtual Open Enrollment Webinars, one during the lunch hour and one in the evening, to discuss C4HCO's 2022 Open Enrollment. These webinars were available to all Archuleta, La Plata, and San Juan Counties. HIL and SJBPH's communication team worked together to get the word out about Open Enrollment and how SJBPH'S HIL could help. This included increased amount of Radio/Newspaper Advertising and included a new promotional video that has been posted on social media.

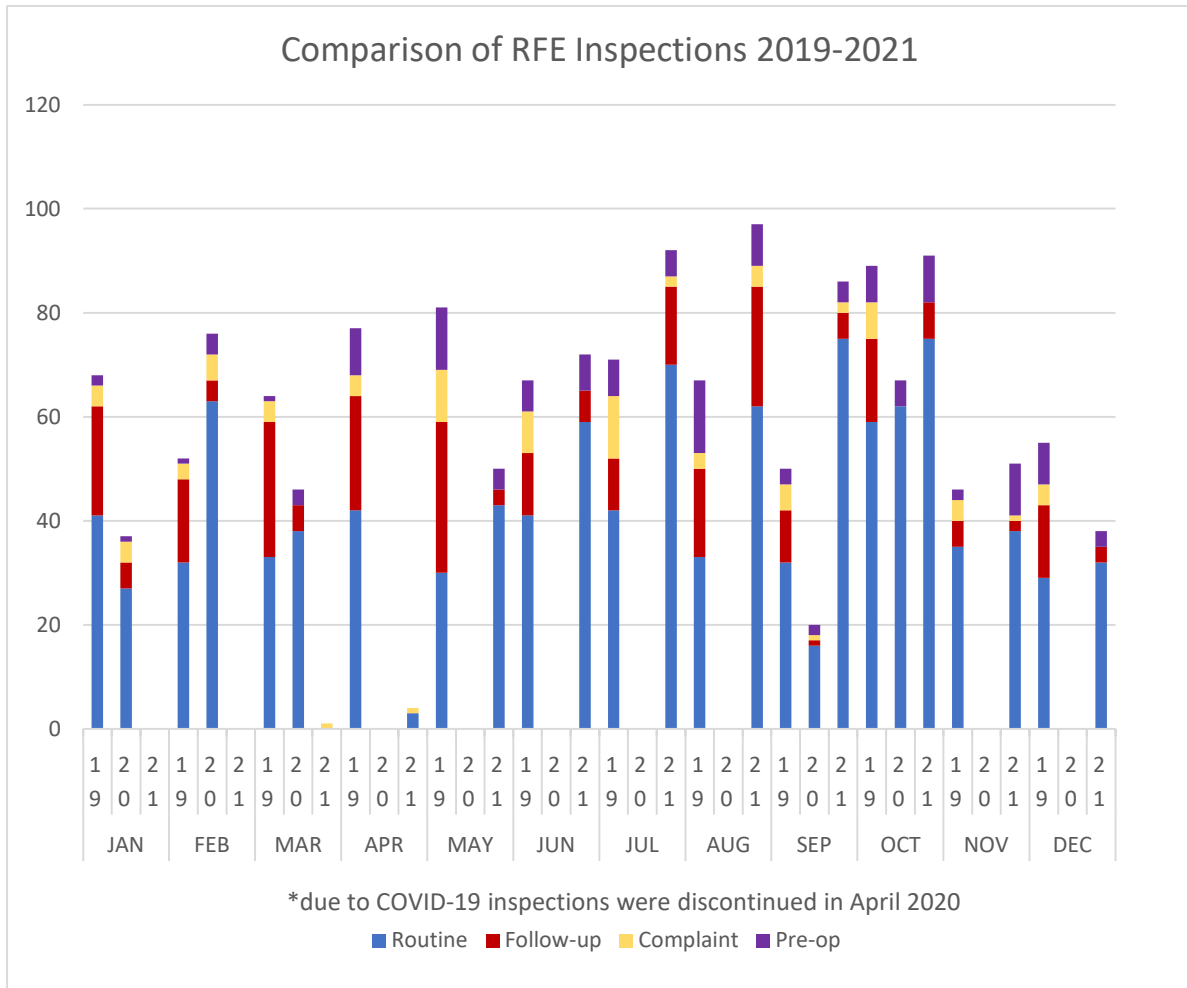
**Environmental Health**

**Consumer Protection:**

*Retail Food Program*

- A new program manager started. 2022 license renewals have been sent out. Staff are working through renewals as we receive them. We presented "How to get a Retail Food License" to Voces de la Comunidad, a La Plata County Spanish speaking women's group. We also met with Durango area restaurant workers group, "In the Weeds", to discuss upcoming Food Protection Manager trainings and a grant they received to help members take the course.

See reports below:



*Childcare Inspection Program*

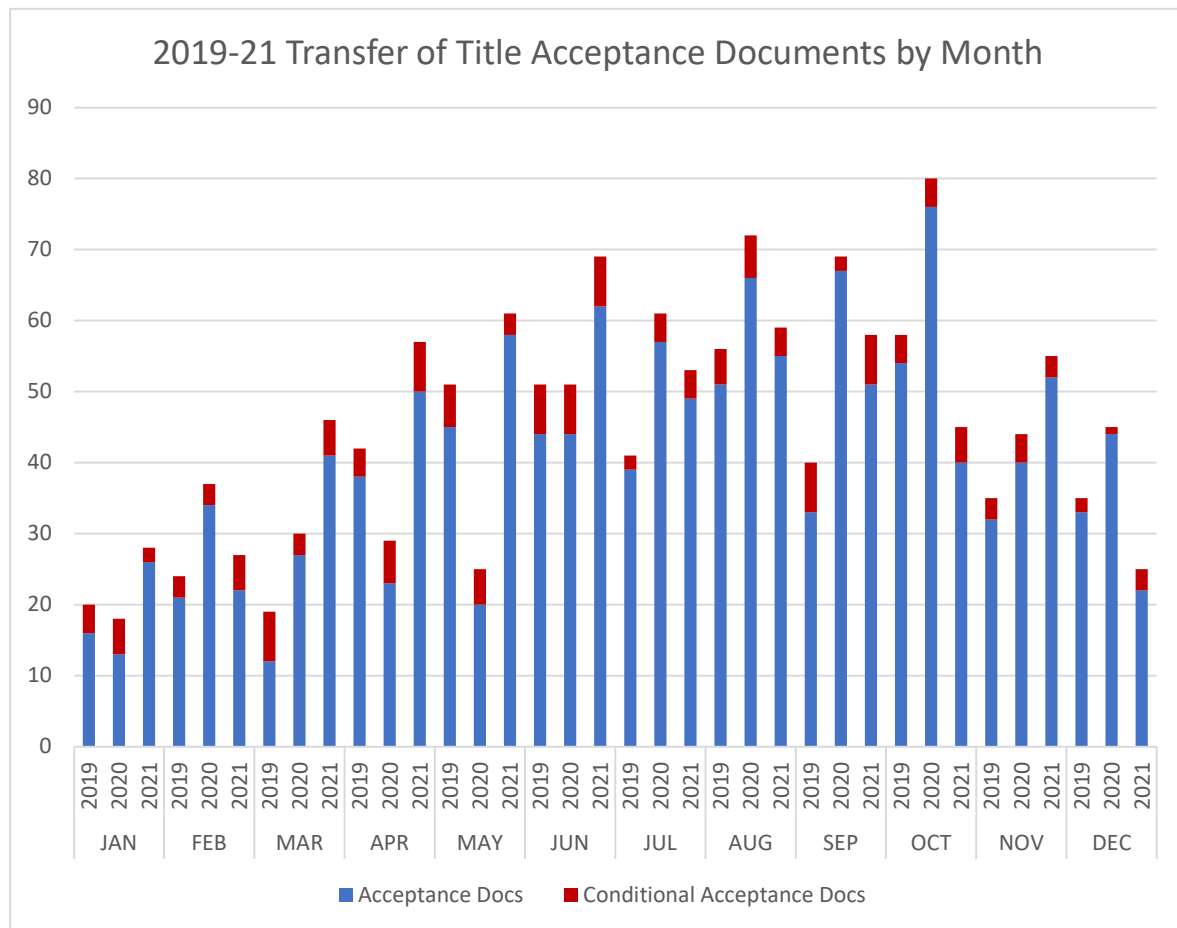
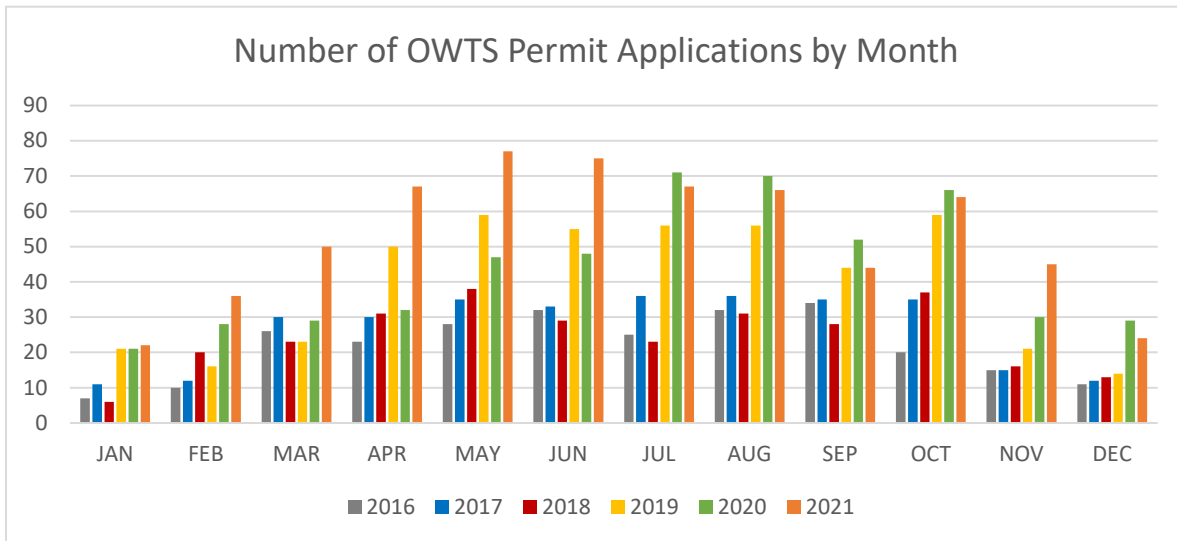
- Staff responded to a suspected norovirus outbreak at a Durango Child Care Center.

**Water and Air Quality:**

*On-Site Wastewater Treatment Systems (OWTS)*

- Staff issued 550 OWTS permits and 583 transfer of title documents in 2021. Both of these figures are new records for SJBPH since 2013 and are among the highest figures in the state. Staff anticipate that construction and real estate activity will remain high in 2022.

See charts below.



*Surface and Drinking Water*

- No updates.

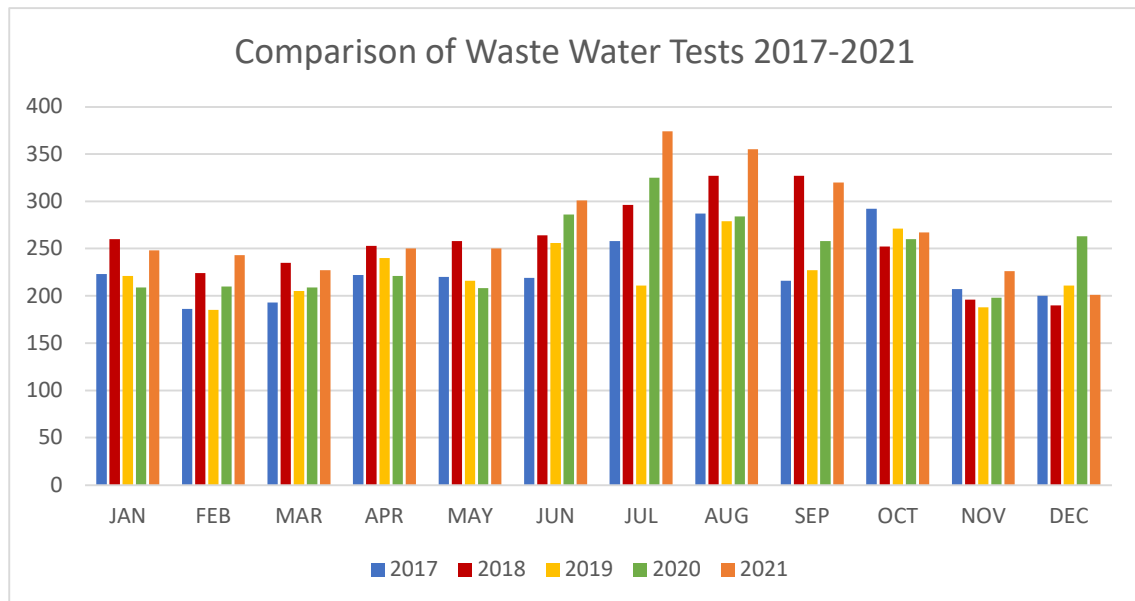
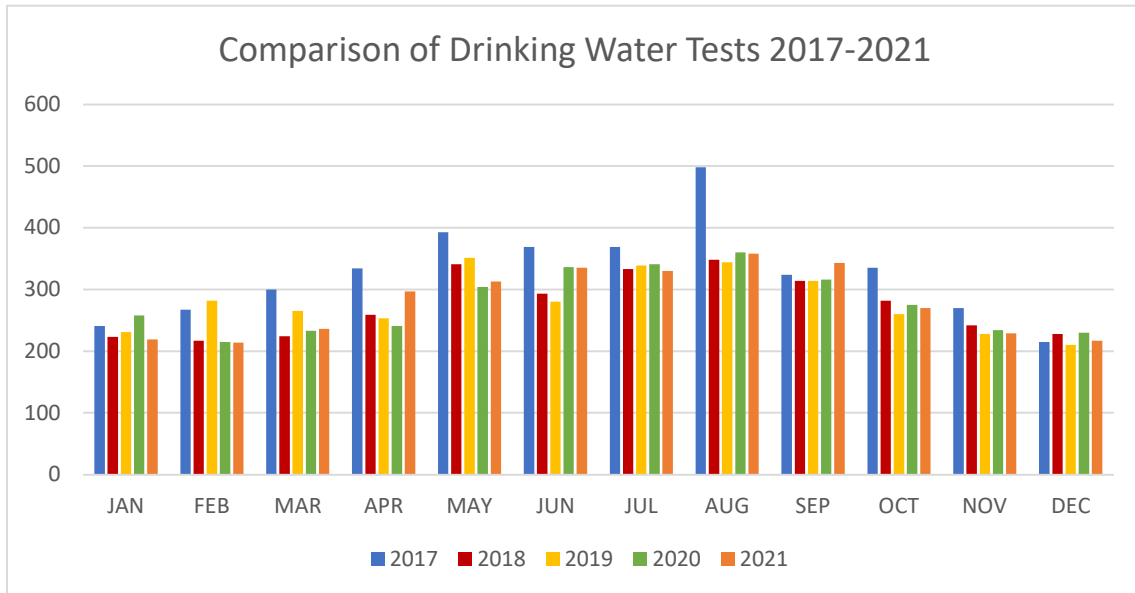
*Radon*

- Staff conducted a radon education workshop in Archuleta County and began a media awareness campaign in anticipation of January as National Radon Action Month.

*Water Lab*

- The water lab performed 217 drinking water tests and 201 wastewater tests.

See charts below.



## Health Behaviors

### Clinic:

- The sexual health clinic attended HIV testing events across the community with a great response at Fort Lewis College **to increase access** to HIV testing and PrEP services.
- The sexual health clinic is promoting PrEP and STI services at SJBPH through ads on dating apps **to increase access to sexual health services**.

### Immunizations:

- The COVID Vaccine Nurse has been continuing to provide flu shots to high risk populations at jails and subsidized apartments **to increase access to services**.

### Nurse Family Partnership (NFP):

- Mental Health Consultant provided ongoing training on "Roadmap to Team Development" **demonstrating commitment to organizational excellence**.
- The NFP Supervisor attended Facilitating Attuned Interactions trainings to improve communication during weekly 1:1s with team members **demonstrating commitment to organizational excellence**.

### SafeCare:

- We continue **to improve access** to our program by offering a flexible delivery model in which we can alternate between home visits and telehealth visits.
- In order to **identify and address gaps in funding sustainability**, the Division Director has been working collaboratively with the Departments of Human Services to access additional funding for the program and has received a commitment from La Plata County Department of Human Services for the next fiscal year.

### Statewide Tobacco Education and Prevention Partnership (STEPP):

- The STEPP coordinator leveraged relationships with State points of contact to create targeted communications tools to promote resources to quit using tobacco products. The STEPP coordinator is in a position to support health teacher(s) in 9R high schools presenting about vaping during the next quarter of the school year, **improving access to resources and services offered through our school curriculums**.

### Women, Infants, and Children (WIC):

- San Juan Basin Public Health WIC program provided WIC rack cards to go out with the Southern Ute Food Prog
- ram holiday care packages and the La Plata County Cooperative Extension free holiday meals, **demonstrating commitment to improve awareness of services**.
- San Juan Basin Public Health WIC staff members met with several community partners who conduct SNAP enrollment to **improve cross referral systems, demonstrating commitment to improve awareness and access to services**.

## Clinical Care Linkage

### Cancer Prevention and Early Detection (CPED – Women’s Wellness Connection):

- The clinic coordinator completed training for ecast to **increase organizational capacity**.
- The clinic has continued to promote breast cancer screening through a promotional banner at Santa Rita Park in Durango **to increase access to preventative services**.

<p><b>Health Care Coordination:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The Care Coordinator provided care coordination and/or referrals to 12 people in three counties, <b>fostering resiliency and improving access to care.</b></li> </ul>
<p><b>Language Services:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The agency interpreter has continued to interpret for SJBPH programs including HCP, NFP, Clinic and translate documents to <b>increase access to services.</b></li> </ul>
<p><b>Regional Oral Health Specialist (ROHS):</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Staff provided assistance to two clients in need of dental navigation and assisted in Healthy Smiles Summit Training for pre-school teachers, <b>improving awareness of resources and access to care.</b></li> </ul>
<p><b>Specialty Clinics/Maternal Child Health (MCH):</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The MCH Nurse Navigator has 13 care coordination clients and provided information and referral to two families of Children with Special Health Care Needs, <b>improving access to care.</b></li> </ul>
<p><b>Temporary Assistance for Needy Families (TANF):</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Parents Plus Coordinator/Nurse educated/coached new TANF clients needing stable shelter on the low-income housing application process and protocols, including Section 8 and income guidelines, and verifications needed, <b>improving access to resources.</b></li> </ul>

<p><b>Communicable Disease</b></p>
<p><b>Diseases reported December 1-December 31, 2021:</b></p> <p>4 Animal bites (2 La Plata County, 2 Archuleta County)  1 Influenza hospitalized (La Plata County)  1 Hepatitis B, Chronic (La Plata County)  1 Carbapenem-Resistant Enterobacteriaceae (La Plata County)  1 Botulism, infant (La Plata County)  1 Hemolytic Uremic Syndrome (La Plata County)  1 Salmonellosis (Archuleta County)  3 STEC (Shiga Toxin Producing E.coli) (Archuleta County)  1 Varicella (Chicken Pox) (Archuleta County)  1 Vibriosis (Archuleta County)</p>
<p><b>Communicable Disease:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Communicable disease follow up is being done by CDPHE, except for respiratory disease outbreaks and zoonotics. Staff identified an RSV Outbreak in a childcare setting in December.</li> </ul>
<p><b>Tuberculosis (TB):</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Staff worked with CDPHE on a patient thought to have TB - the case was hospitalized in Grand Junction. The infectious disease physician decided to discontinue TB meds as of 12/18. The oncology notes from 12/19 stated possible leptomenigeal carcinomatosis. The biopsy came back on patient as invasive anaplastic large cell lymphoma of T-cell type with no underlying infectious disease pathology. CDPHE closed out the case 12/21/2021.</li> </ul>

## Emergency Preparedness and Response

### Emergency Preparedness and Response:

- Staff supported Pagosa Springs Medical Center with facilitation of calls with CDPHE and DHSEM to expand mAb (monoclonal antibodies) services by **removing barriers for community/public access** to mAb therapies.

## Universal Activities

### Administrative Services:

#### Human Resources:

#### HIPAA Compliance:

#### HIPAA Queries/Investigations:

Description of Event	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4	2021 Total	% of Total
HIPAA Breach (of PHI)	0	0	1	0	1	14%
Failure to Follow Protocols and/or Policies	1	0	1	1	3	43%
Unsubstantiated/Not Reportable HIPAA Breach	0	0	0	0	0	0%
HIPAA Security Incident	0	0	0	0	0	0%
Staff HIPAA Inquiries	0	1	1	1	3	43%
Total HIPAA Queries/Investigations	1	1	3	2	7	

Total Employees Involved & Outcomes CY 2021	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4	2021 Total	% of Total
Performance Improvement Plans	0	0	0	0	0	0%
Retraining	0	0	2	1	3	100%
Termination	0	0	0	0	0	0%
Monitoring	0	0	0	0	0	0%
No Action Required	0	0	0	0	0	0%
Total All Events					3	

### HR Staffing Updates

#### January

- The following vacancies were filled since the last report:
  - Communicable Disease Specialist I - Administration
- The following vacancies have been hired for with future start dates:
  - Communicable Disease Specialist I
- Recruitment continues for the following staff positions:
  - Communicable Disease Specialist I, Communicable Disease Specialist II, Administrative Support Assistant II, Executive Assistant, Communications Director, Administrative Assistant - Dental, Assessment & Planning Specialist, Senior Program

Manager x 2, SafeCare Programs Technician, SafeCare Programs Supervisor, Finance Manager

**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 several statewide public health planner networking calls, allowing for **opportunities to excel and innovate.**

**Communications:**

- In December, 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, COVID-19 precautions, COVID-19 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 Immunizations, Health Insurance Literacy, Emergency Preparedness, Nurse-Family Partnership, SafeCare, Radon, Sexual Health Clinic and WIC. Communications were through a variety of channels including print, radio, tv, social media, and email.
- In December, SJBPH communications staff distributed **one** agency e-newsletter (December), **two** semi-monthly COVID updates, wrote and distributed **seven** media releases, responded to **18** media inquiries, posted **97** tweets, and **75** Facebook posts to both SJBPH's main Facebook 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, monoclonal antibody treatment information, and promoting SJBPH programs and services. SJBPH was featured in **29** articles/radio/tv stories in newspapers, online news outlets, and local radio stations. In December, SJBPH had over **53,729** Facebook impressions (# of eyes on our posts), and **27,775** Twitter impressions. Our Facebook engagement (action taken such as commenting or sharing a post) was over **1,078**, and Twitter had **749** engagements. These activities help to improve awareness and acceptance of public health resources, services, programs, and value to the community.

**Facilities/Fleet:**

- The installation of security cameras at both offices started in December and was completed 1/5/2022. They were installed for the safety of our staff and securing our properties.