

SAN JUAN BASIN public health

Executive Director and Staff Report to the Board of Health for March 2022

Highlights:

- SJBPH WIC is once again partnering with Nourish Colorado to provide WIC families with no/low-cost Community Supported Agriculture (CSA) shares in La Plata County, Archuleta County and San Juan County this growing season.

Staff Reports

Behavioral Health

Thriving Communities Program Team (TCP):

- Members of the Thriving Communities Team expanded **organizational capacity and identified and provided opportunities for employees to excel/innovate** by partnering with the Colorado School of Public Health to plan a Durango based Rural & Resort Communities Spring Retreat for any collaboratives working on prevention work. The event is planned for the second week of April and will allow for new partners to come together and learn from one another - **making for more effective prevention work within our agency, our partnerships, and our neighboring rural communities.**

Communities that Care (CTC):

- The Recognizing Opportunities around Resilience (ROAR) coalition (which is supported by the Communities That Care grant) partnered with Young People in Recovery, Southwest Colorado Area Health Education Center (SWCAHEC), Unite Us CO, Fort Lewis College, Axis Health System, and the La Plata County Sheriff's Office to lead a community Narcan and Harm Reduction training through June 30 (**using equity-based strategies to address existing population public health issues**). Over 75 people were in attendance, which clearly demonstrates the community desire. ROAR will be supporting three more of these trainings with Young People in Recovery through June 30, 2022 with the desire to continue offering trainings depending on public interest in FY23. Organizers are committed to catering the trainings to different target audiences in the future, ensuring equitable distribution of information.

Suicide Prevention (SP)/Gun Shop Project:

- The Suicide Prevention Coordinator and Program Manager worked with the state for a generous Colorado National Collaborative (CNC) Budget Amendment (increase) which will allow for significant community partner support on projects connected to the Colorado National Collaborative's "six pillars of suicide prevention," including projects connected to economic stability, social connectedness, suicide prevention education & training, postvention & bereavement. This Amendment is pending approval to support these projects May-September this year and will strengthen the relationships SJBPH has with non-traditional

partners to ultimately improve access to resources, services, and programs in our communities.

Social Determinants of Health

Health Insurance Literacy:

- March continued the Special Enrollment Period (SEP) known as the Tax Time Enrollment Period. We did not see an increase of Connect for Health Colorado enrollments, which was expected because most individuals have not completed their taxes, or their taxes have not been processed yet. We expect to see an increase shortly after tax season when the SEP ends on April 15, 2022. We continued to advertise this SEP via social media. Similarly to February, we saw an influx of Medicaid applicants. We also saw an increase of Medicaid applicants who were currently pregnant and needed further assistance with WIC and the NFP program. We attended a meeting with The League of Women Voters to promote the HIL program and to discuss health coverage gaps in Southwestern Colorado. We also met with Devin Kepler, Outreach Manager of Peak Health Alliance, to discuss the HIL program at SJBPH, ongoing outreach, and continued partnership with Peak Health Alliance. We also virtually attended the Health Cabinet Policy Summit hosted by the Colorado Department of Health Care Policy and Financing.

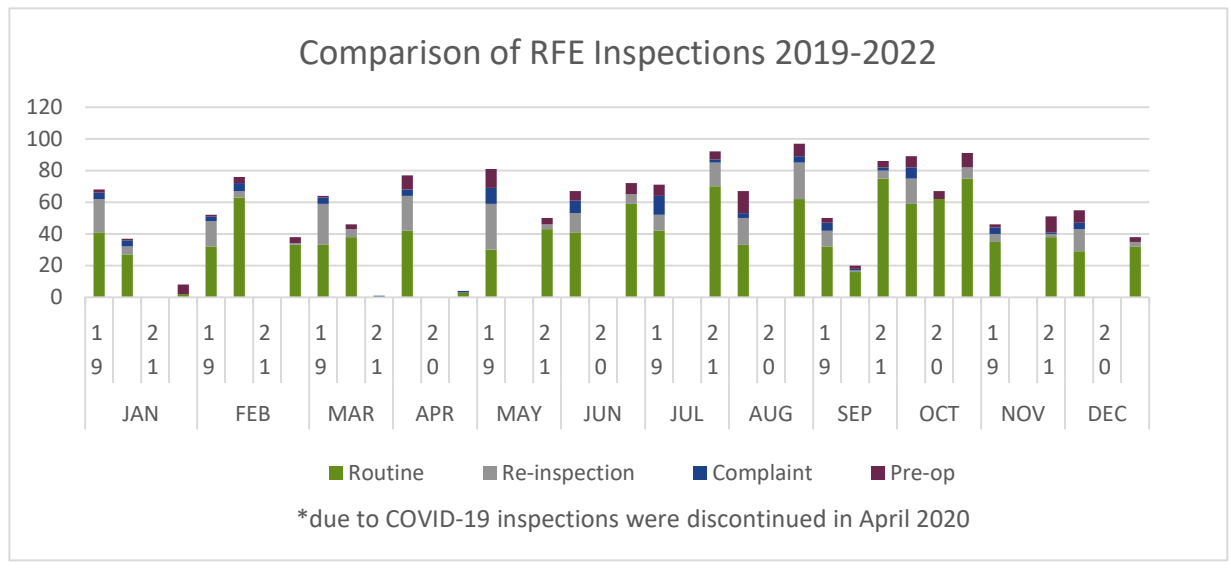
Environmental Health

Consumer Protection:

Retail Food Program

- Staff resumed sending regular newsletters to Retail Food Establishments. We received confirmation that a member of staff, an Environmental Health Specialist III, has completed certification to become a standardizing officer.

See reports below:



Childcare Inspection Program

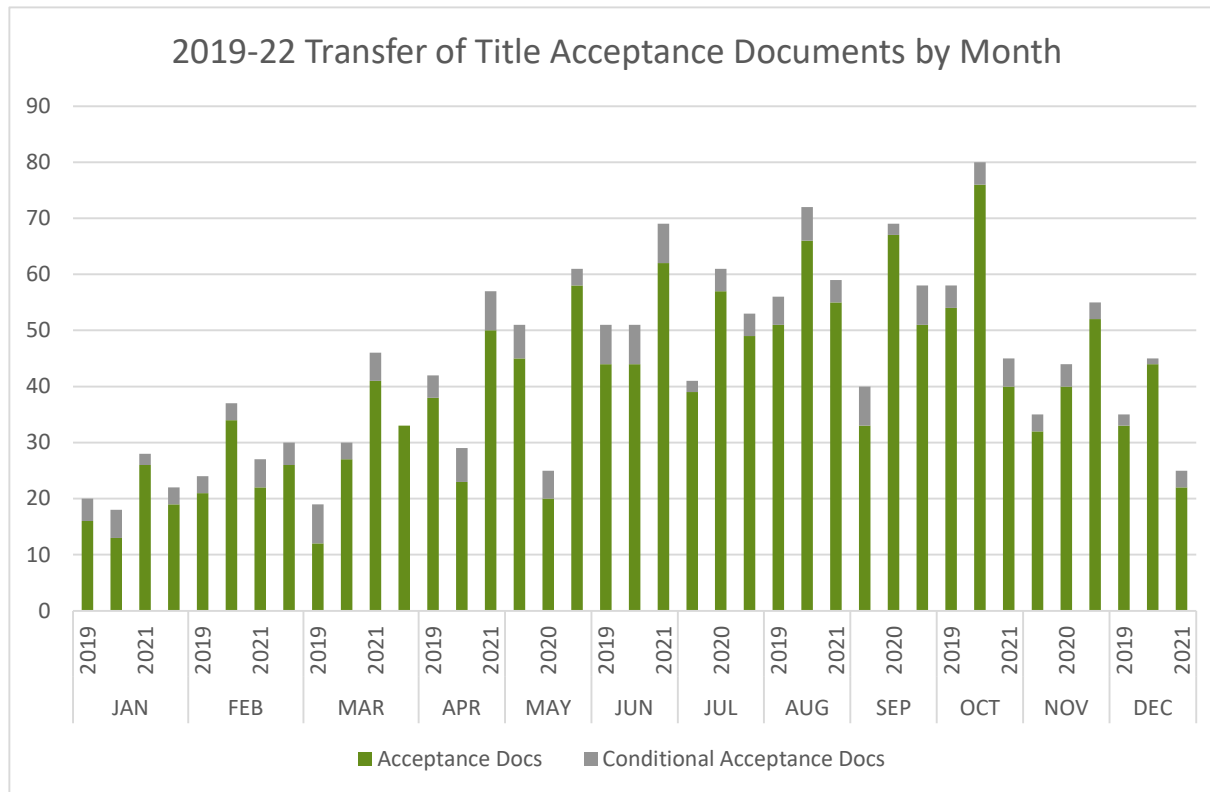
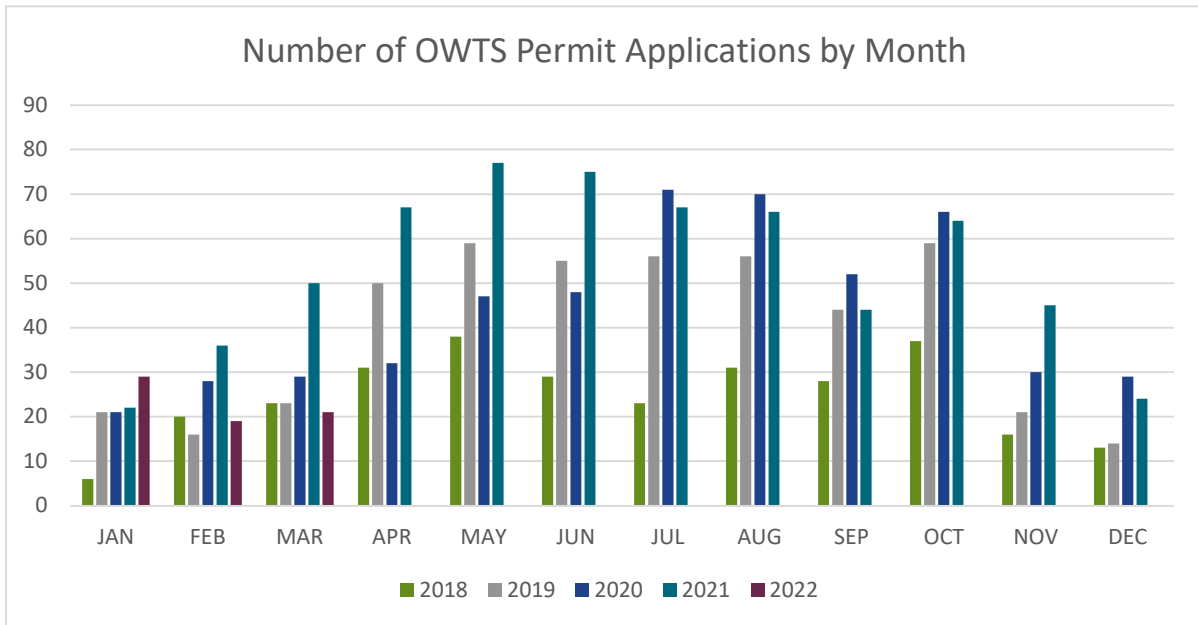
- No updates.

Water and Air Quality:

On-Site Wastewater Treatment Systems (OWTS)

- SJBPH held one class for installers with 23 attendees.

See charts below.



Surface and Drinking Water

- SJBPB applied for two water quality grants through the state: one for per- and polyfluoroalkyl substances (PFAS) in groundwater and the other for lead testing in drinking water associated with school and child care facilities.

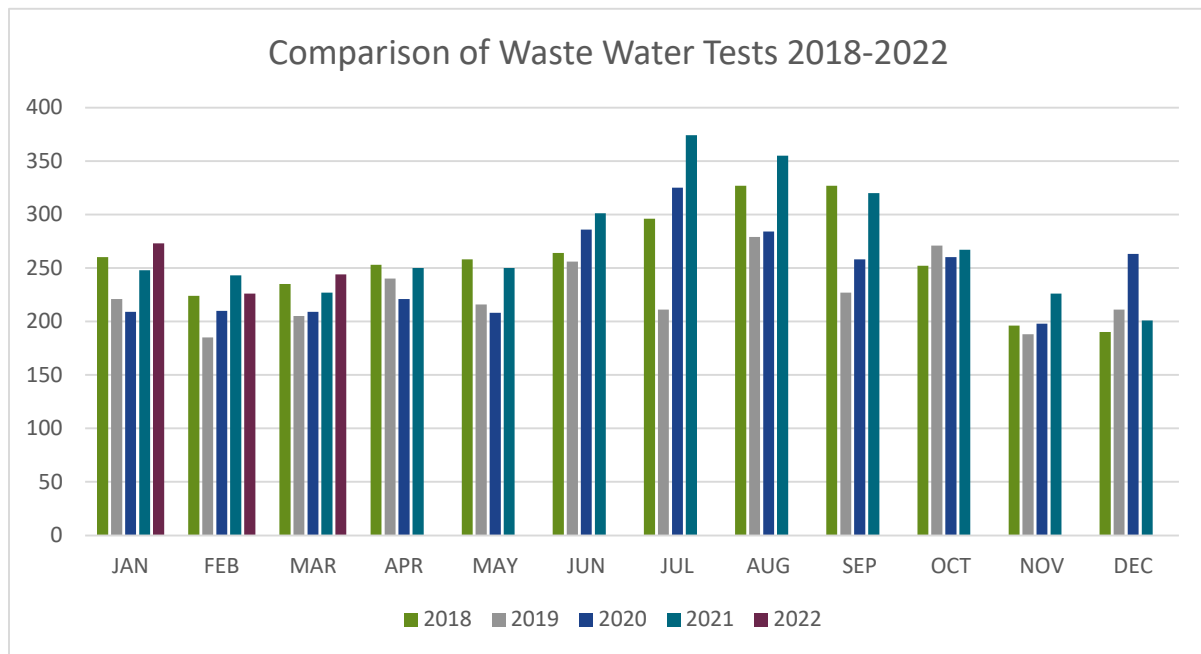
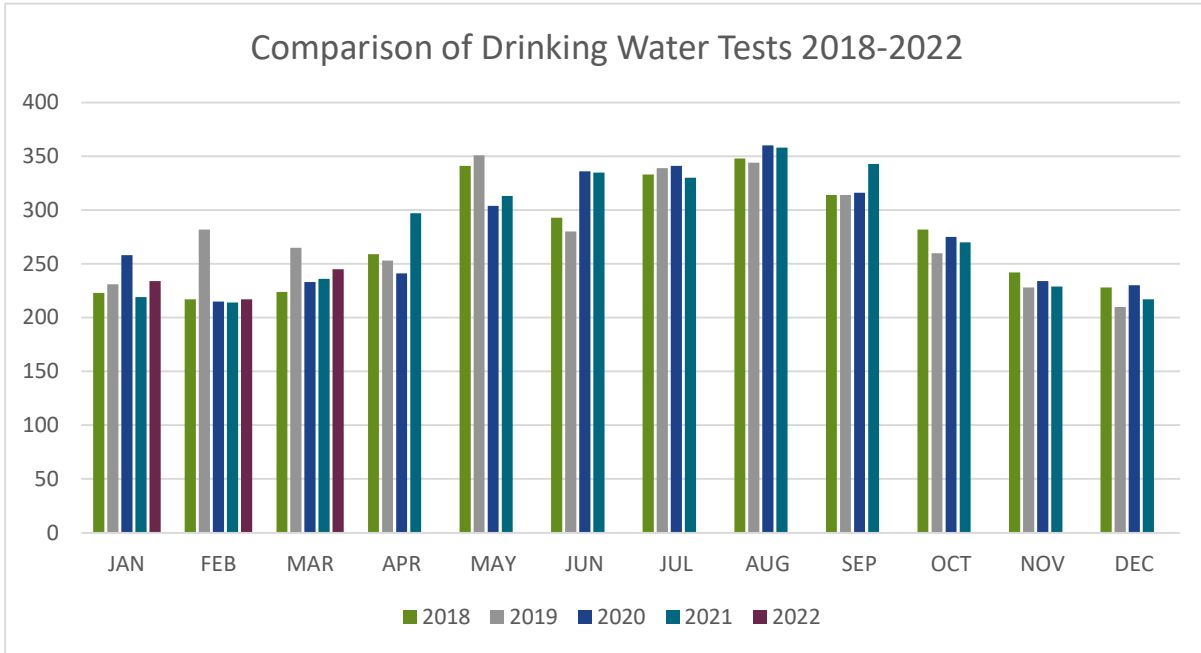
Radon

- Staff held one virtual radon workshop with 12 attendees.

Water Lab

- The water lab conducted 245 drinking water tests and 244 wastewater tests.

See charts below.



Health Behaviors

Clinic:

- The sexual health clinic provided free HIV testing at the Pagosa Springs Library on March 2nd **to increase access to sexual health services.**
- The sexual health clinic staff and opioid risk reduction workgroup attended a harm reduction training with Boulder County Public Health **to increase workforce development.**

Immunizations:

- The clinic sent out reminder notices to patients due for the MMR (Measles, Mumps, and Rubella) vaccine **to increase awareness about routine vaccines.**

Nurse Family Partnership (NFP):

- NFP advertised in the newspaper in Archuleta County **improving awareness of the NFP program.**
- An NFP nurse completed Certified Lactation Counselor training **demonstrating commitment to organizational excellence.**
- NFP staff is working on team norms/team goals facilitated by a Mental Health Consultant **demonstrating commitment to organizational excellence.**

SafeCare:

- SafeCare on-boarded and trained a new team consisting of a supervisor and coordinator. They have hit the ground running with outreaching to over 16 sites in Durango, Bayfield, Ignacio and Pagosa Springs **to improve community awareness of the SafeCare program.**
- The new team also reached out to Aspire Medical Services to explore other outreach opportunities and was able to secure a tabling opportunity at Aspire's Walk for Moms 2022 event being held in Pagosa Springs at Yamaguchi Park on May 14, 2022, **demonstrating commitment to explore innovative opportunities to raise awareness of services.**

Statewide Tobacco Education and Prevention Partnership (STEPP):

- The STEPP coordinator has been building relationships across La Plata and Archuleta Counties for the past several months. After developing a list of interested and diverse community partners, she provided public health education through a planned quarterly tobacco prevention newsletter to keep a wide range of partners up to date on tobacco prevention news, policy, activities, and opportunities within our local community. This newsletter is intended **to improve awareness and acceptance of resources related to Tobacco and Vaping.**

Women, Infants, and Children (WIC):

- San Juan Basin Public Health WIC staff attended a virtual breastfeeding conference, **demonstrating commitment to workforce development.**
- San Juan Basin Public Health WIC staff shared WIC messaging and social media posts via an email with over 100 community partners, **demonstrating commitment to improve awareness of services.**

Clinical Care Linkage

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

- The sexual health clinic continues to provide free breast and cervical cancer screening to uninsured women **to increase access to preventative care screenings.**

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The breast cancer awareness banner with information about free screenings was hung in Pagosa Springs and Durango this month to commemorate women's health month and increase awareness of preventative screenings.
<p>Health Care Coordination:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> The Nurse Navigator received 18 referrals, from three counties, for Care Coordination to assist with improving access to resources.
<p>Language Services:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> The clinic staff are participating with Compañeros and Construyendo Poder to plan a health fair targeting the Spanish speaking population to increase access to services.
<p>Regional Oral Health Specialist (ROHS):</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> The ROHS provided clinical dental services to 115 children in March and provided care coordination to three clients, improving access to care and resources.
<p>Specialty Clinics/Maternal Child Health (MCH):</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> The MCH Nurse gave information and referrals to eight families to improve access to care and resources.
<p>Temporary Assistance for Needy Families (TANF):</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> The Parents Plus Coordinator (TANF nurse) educated, coached, and supported a new to the area TANF client in accessing care and resources after receiving sudden, permanent guardianship of a family members children, increasing access to care.

Communicable Disease
<p>Diseases reported March 1-March 31, 2022:</p> <p>3 Animal bites (2 La Plata County, 1 Archuleta County) 1 Campylobacteriosis (1 La Plata County) 1 Giardiasis (La Plata County) 1 Haemophilus Influenzae (La Plata County) 6 Pertussis (5 La Plata County, 1 Archuleta County) 1 Strep Pneumo Invasive (La Plata County) 1 Varicella (La Plata County)</p>
<p>Communicable Disease:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Communicable disease follow up is being done by CDPHE, except for respiratory disease outbreaks and zoonotics.
<p>Tuberculosis (TB):</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> One LTBI case from the jail was released and lost to follow up. One LTBI case is being treated at MRMHC. Another LTBI case is waiting for case to get an HIV test per CDPHE guidance.

Emergency Preparedness and Response

Emergency Preparedness and Response:

- Staff participated in statement of work development for the PHEP program with regional and CDPHE partners **by providing evidence-based public health recommendations to partners and policymakers.**
- Staff presented on the upcoming La Plata County Wildfire and Hospital evacuation exercise to the New Mexico Region 1 Healthcare coalition **to seek opportunities to work with non-traditional partners to solve public health issues.**

Universal Activities

Administrative Services:

Human Resources:

HIPAA Compliance:

HIPAA Queries/Investigations:

Description of Event	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4	2022 Total	% of Total
HIPAA Breach (of PHI)	0				0	0%
Failure to Follow Protocols and/or Policies	0				0	0%
Unsubstantiated/Not Reportable HIPAA Breach	0				0	0%
HIPAA Security Incident	0				0	0%
Staff HIPAA Inquiries	0				0	0%
Total HIPAA Queries/Investigations	0				0	

Total Employees Involved & Outcomes CY 2021	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4	2022 Total	% of Total
Performance Improvement Plans	0				0	0%
Retraining	0				0	0%
Termination	0				0	0%
Monitoring	0				0	0%
No Action Required	0				0	0%
Total All Events					0	

HR Staffing Updates

April

- The following vacancies were filled since the last report:
 - Finance Manager
- The following vacancies have been hired with future start dates:
 - Assessment & Planning Specialist (internal move)
- Recruitment continues for the following staff positions:
 - Suicide Prevention 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 first legislative report meeting and the 2015-2019 Data meeting, **increasing organizational capacity.**
- Staff hosted a local Child Fatality Review Team meeting **to work with non-traditional partners and make recommendations to partners and policymakers.**
- Staff participated in several coalition meetings including the La Plata County Suicide Prevention Collaborative, ROAR (Recognizing Opportunities around Resilience), Pine River Shares, the La Plata County Food Equity Coalition and the Colorado National Collaborative Evaluation Committee, **seeking opportunities to work with non-traditional partners to solve public health issues.**

Communications:

- In March, SJBPH communications continued to inform the public about a shifting landscape in COVID-19 response, precautions, and resources (community testing, vaccine, treatment, etc.) available to the community. Communications also focused on non-COVID public health and agency information, including the sexual health clinic, well-being amid disruption forums, WIC, and more. Topics included localized (state and local) reporting, information on COVID-19 state and local data, COVID-19 testing, COVID-19 precautions, COVID-19 vaccine/booster 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 Emergency Preparedness, ROHS, NFP, Sexual Health Clinic, Thriving Communities and WIC. Communications were through a variety of channels including print, radio, social media, and email.
- In March, SJBPH communications staff distributed **one** agency e-newsletter (March), **two** semi-monthly COVID updates, wrote and distributed **five** media releases, responded to **11** media inquiries, posted **89** tweets, and **83** 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/booster distribution, COVID-19 prevention, mental health during COVID-19, COVID-19 testing info, contact tracing, and promoting SJPBH programs and services. SJBPH was featured in **19** articles/radio/tv stories in newspapers, online news outlets, and local radio stations. In March, SJBPH had over **705,910** Facebook impressions (# of eyes on our posts), and **14,988** Twitter impressions. Our FB engagement (action taken such as commenting or sharing a post) was over **8,529**, and Twitter had **363** engagements. These activities help to improve awareness and acceptance of public health resources, services, programs, and value to the community.

Facilities/Fleet:

- No updates.