

SAN JUAN BASIN public health

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

Highlights:

- SJBPH staff successfully completed School Based Oral Health Services for the 2021-2022 school year in Archuleta, Dolores, La Plata, Montezuma, and San Juan Counties. Even with a shortened year due to COVID-19, SJBPH's Dental Hygienist did a phenomenal job reaching students and providing preventive education, screenings, and oral health services (i.e., sealants, varnish), referrals to dental homes.



Staff Reports

Behavioral Health

Thriving Communities Program Team (TCP):

- May was "Mental Health Awareness Month" and all Thriving Communities Programs have workplans that emphasize mental health initiatives and resources. Across these programs, staff went out to support multiple community events every week to promote upstream prevention efforts that community members can get involved in, **improving access and acceptance of resources, services, and programs** related to mental wellbeing and whole-person health.

Communities that Care (CTC):

- The Communities that Care Program coordinator continued to support harm reduction trainings across La Plata County, **using equity-based strategies to address existing population**

public health issues. This month, opioid overdose prevention and harm reduction education was offered in Bayfield, at Pine River Library, equipping 20 community members with lifesaving naloxone and the knowledge of how to use it – while also **increasing awareness** of the ROAR (Recognizing Opportunities around Resilience) coalition (which is working to reduce substance misuse before an overdose is even an issue to address).

- The coordinator pursued opportunities **to work with non-traditional partners to solve public health problems** by hosting three focus groups with high school and college-aged youth in order to best inform the ROAR coalition work moving forward.

Suicide Prevention (SP)/Gun Shop Project:

- Program staff began supporting summer subcontracts **working with non-traditional partners to improve access to resources, services, and programs.** Staff provided evidence-based public health recommendations to partners who collaboratively identified ways to champion projects in our communities focusing on (1) Economic Stability, (2) Postvention/Bereavement, (3) Connectedness, and (4) Training & Education. Supporting these projects expands the leadership of the Suicide Prevention Collaborative increasing public awareness of and interest in the work SJBPH is coordinating.
- The Gun Shop Project Firearms Advocate visited three additional sites promoting gun storage safety and suicide prevention resources.

Social Determinants of Health

Health Insurance Literacy:

- With additional funds approved and received from our funder at Connect for Health Colorado for FY22, staff focused on a communications plan to increase advertisement and marketing of our program. Staff worked closely with the communication team **to improve awareness of our services.** Outreach efforts included presenting in the ongoing SJBPH's Virtual Resource Series, presenting to our community partners at Compañeros, and tabling at the 9Health Fair for the Latinx population. This was in part the commitment **to implement practices rooted in equity by reaching out to an underserved population.** As always, staff continued to assist community members with questions and enrollment with appropriate in-person, virtual and telephone appointments. Staff assisted clients from Saguache and Alamosa counties that were referred to staff by word-of-mouth.

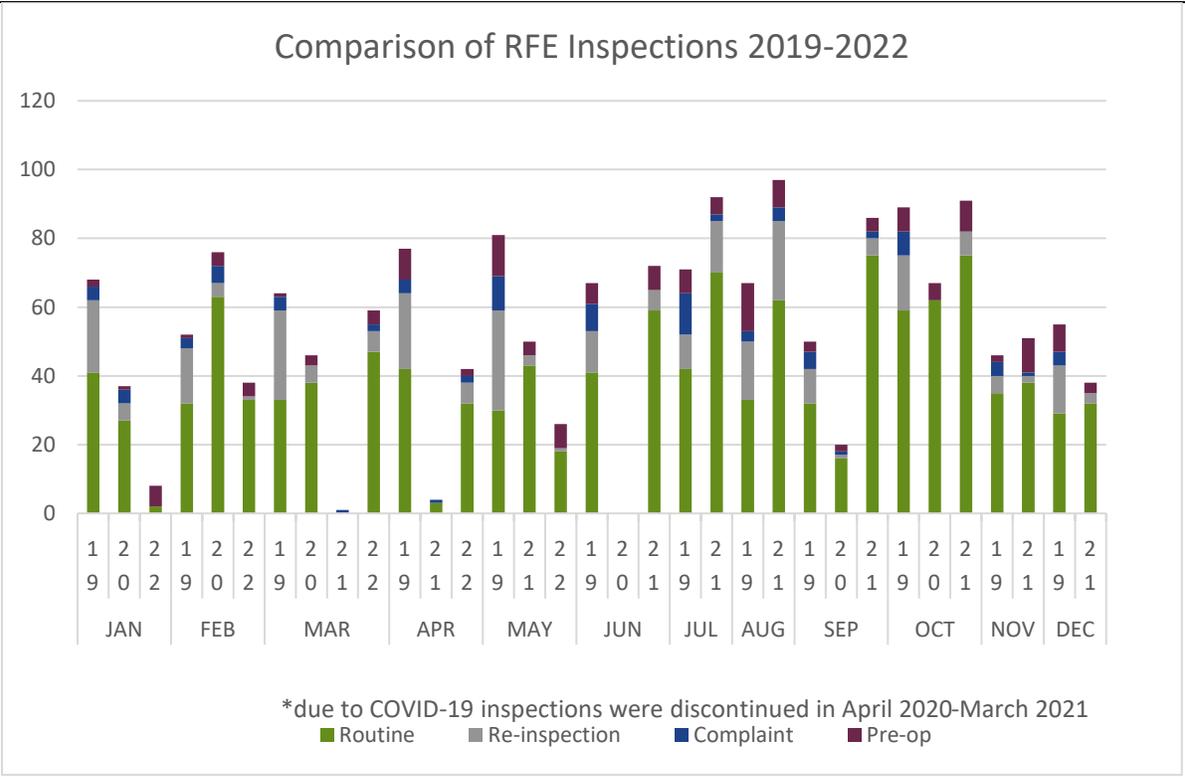
Environmental Health

Consumer Protection:

Retail Food Program

- Several staff completed standardization inspections.
- Staff conducted three Food Safety Basics Classes: two in Archuleta County and one in La Plata County and one ServSafe Food Protection Manager Certification course in La Plata County.
- Staff conducted joint training inspections in Silverton, CO with Colorado Department of Public Health, and Environment retail food inspectors.
- The manager and team lead attended statewide Quarterly Food Safety Manager calls.

See reports below:



Childcare Inspection Program

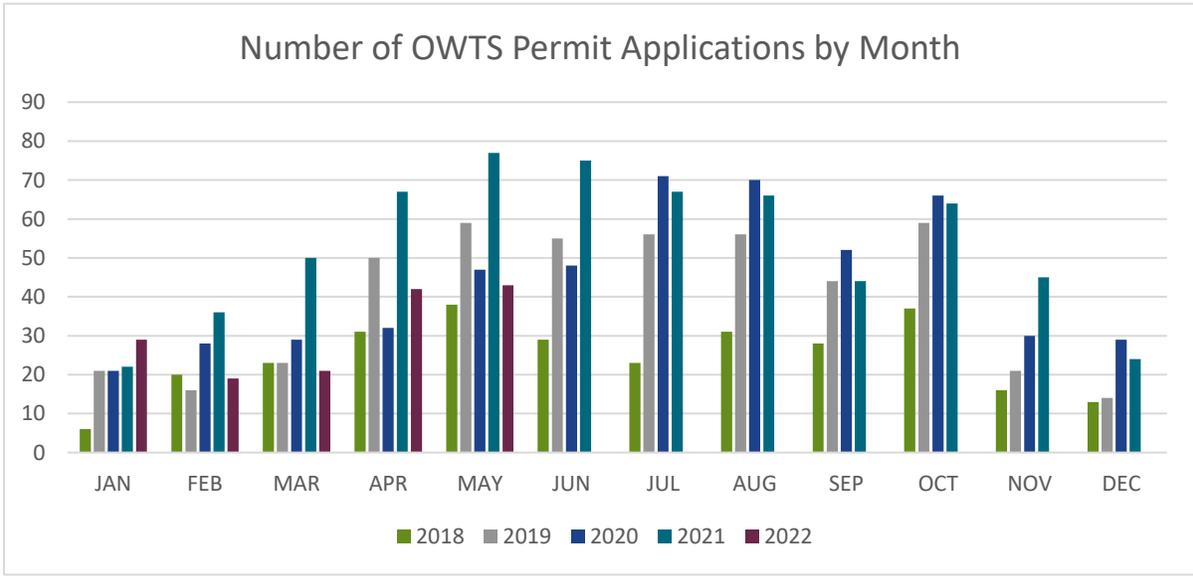
- Staff began scheduling summer childcare inspections and creating a database for fall school inspections.

Water and Air Quality:

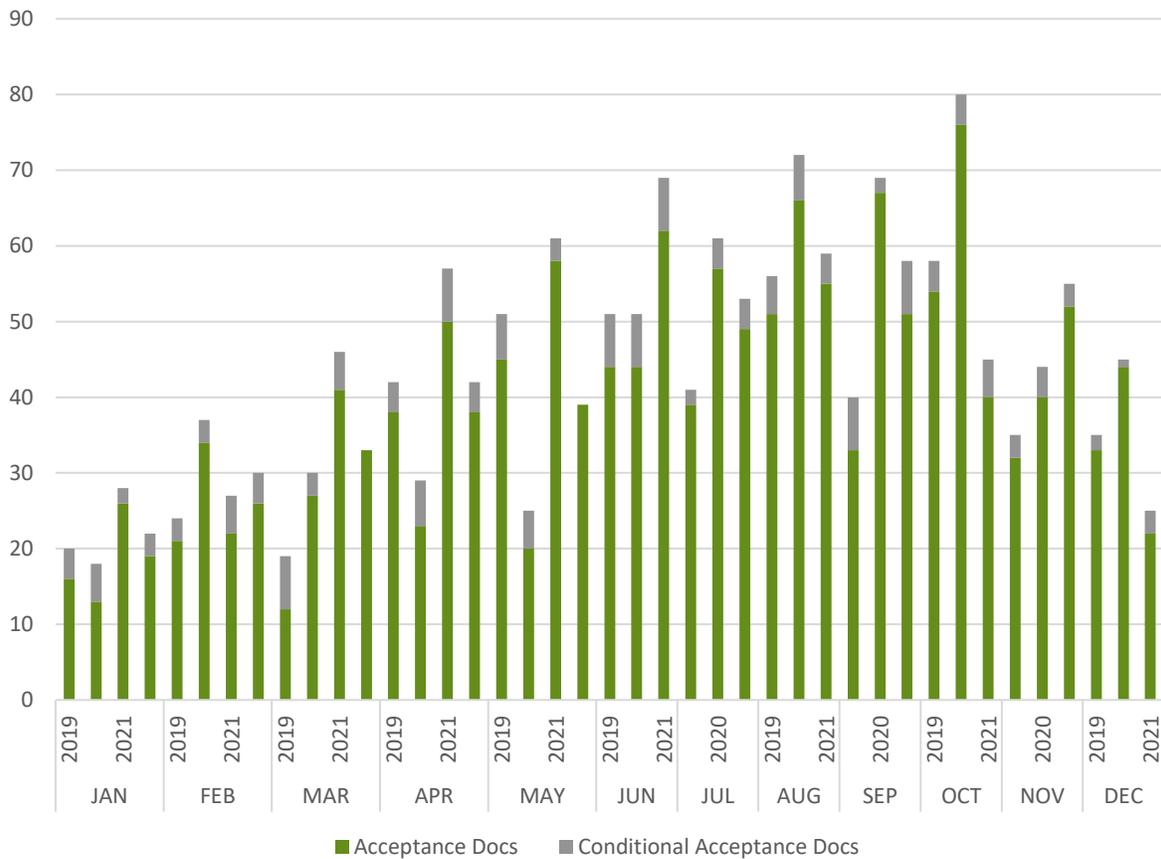
On-Site Wastewater Treatment Systems (OWTS)

- OWTS staff presented to 16 local realtors on the transfer of title process.

See charts below.



2019-22 Transfer of Title Acceptance Documents by Month



Surface and Drinking Water

- SJBPH staff began the first phase of the lead in drinking water program targeting public schools and childcare facilities by contacting 82 school/childcare affiliates.

Radon

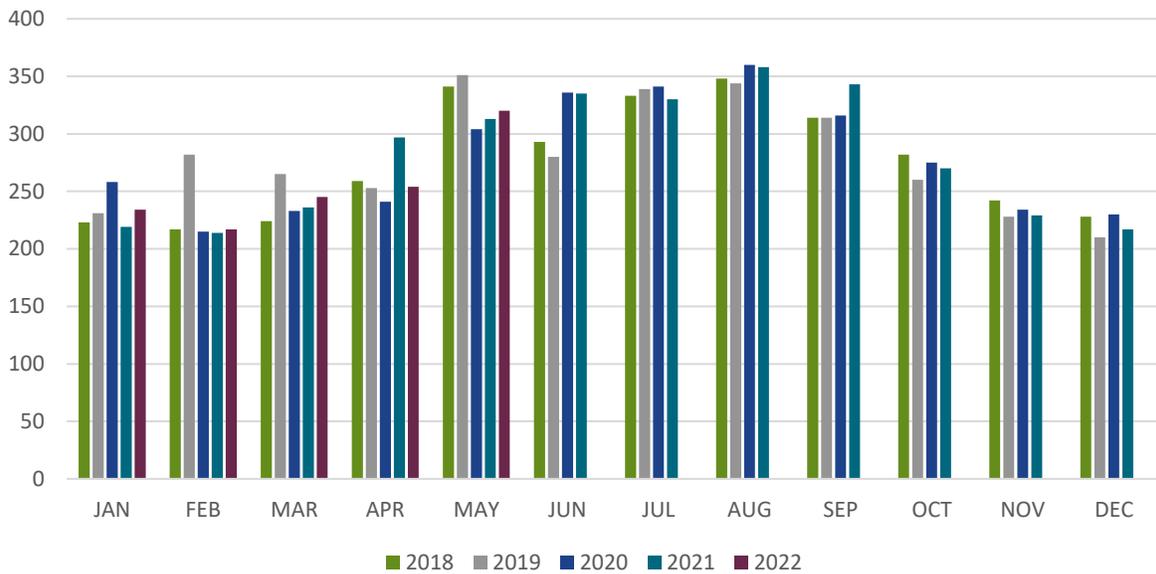
- Staff presented to 16 local realtors about new radon and real estate law.

Water Lab

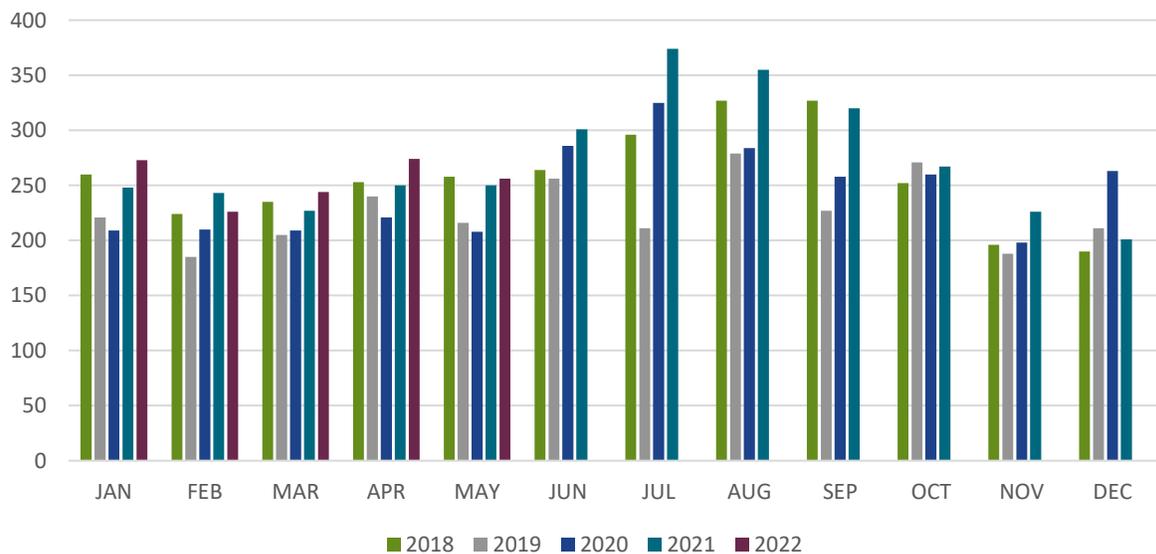
- The water lab conducted 320 drinking water tests and 256 wastewater tests. The lab also participated in proficiency testing and received "Certificates of Excellence" for both drinking and wastewater.

See charts below.

Comparison of Drinking Water Tests 2018-2022



Comparison of Waste Water Tests 2018-2022



Health Behaviors

Clinic:

- The sexual health clinic provided testing for sexually transmitted infections and HIV at the 9Health Fair hosted by Compañeros in Durango **to increase access to healthcare.**

Immunizations:

- The immunization clinic provided 80 routine vaccines including Tdap, Meningococcal, and HPV at Pagosa Springs Middle School **to increase access to immunizations.**

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The immunization clinic was available to provide vaccines to uninsured adults and children at the 9Health Fair targeting the Spanish speaking population to increase access to services.
<p>Nurse Family Partnership (NFP):</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> The NFP/SafeCare/Parents as Teachers Community Advisory Board meeting for La Plata/Archuleta counties was held 5/17/22 via ZOOM improving awareness of the NFP program. Radio advertisements highlighting NFP were aired in La Plata and Archuleta counties improving awareness. NFP tabled at a Walk for Moms event in Archuleta County improving awareness of the NFP program.
<p>SafeCare:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Outreach continues to be top of our priority list with SafeCare as staff continues to re-build the program with new team members. During the month of May, staff concentrated on presentations to community partners. Staff presented to Compañeros at the Virtual Resource Fair and gave an in- person presentation to La Plata County Child Welfare Managers demonstrating commitment to improve awareness of services. During the month of May, SafeCare increased advertising by posting several video clips on Facebook, YouTube, and Instagram. The videos consisted of a Spanish speaking mom, one of a dad, and one from a mother who is also a SafeCare provider demonstrating commitment to implement practices rooted in equity.
<p>Statewide Tobacco Education and Prevention Partnership (STEPP):</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> The STEPP coordinator led a “Start the Conversation” training available to internal staff, demonstrating a commitment to organizational excellence by providing opportunities for all SJBPH employees to excel and engage in tobacco prevention efforts.
<p>Women, Infants, and Children (WIC):</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> SJBPH WIC staff developed a new outreach flyer with a QR code connected to the WIC referral/application and distributed framed copies of the flyer in English and Spanish to area partners and via a community partner email, demonstrating commitment to improve awareness of services. SJBPH Spanish speaking WIC Educator conducted WIC outreach at the Latinx Health Fair in Durango, demonstrating commitment to improve awareness of services.

<p>Clinical Care Linkage</p>
<p>Cancer Prevention and Early Detection (CPED – Women’s Wellness Connection):</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> The clinic outreach team provided health information and health navigation at the 9Health Fair targeting the Spanish speaking population to increase access to services.
<p>Health Care Coordination:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> The Nurse Navigator received 12 referrals, from four counties, for Care Coordination to assist with improving access to resources.
<p>Language Services:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Spanish interpretation was available through SJBPH staff at the 9Health fair targeting the Spanish speaking population to increase access to care.

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The agency interpreter provided simultaneous Spanish interpretation during two virtual resource fairs with SJBPH programs to increase access to information.
<p>Regional Oral Health Specialist (ROHS):</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ROHS provided clinical dental services to 115 children in May and provided care coordination to three clients. Staff attended the 9Health Fair and distributed 37 dental kits, 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 17 families to improve access to care and resources.
<p>Temporary Assistance for Needy Families (TANF):</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> In an unfortunate situation, where a client passed away, staff provided support to the remaining parent and child by investigating resources for financial assistance for cremation, immediate grief counseling, etc., improving access to care and resources.

Communicable Disease
<p>Diseases reported May 1-May 31, 2022:</p> <p>7 Animal bites (Archuleta County) 1 Campylobacteriosis (La Plata County) 1 Carbapenem-Resistant Enterobacteriaceae (La Plata County) 1 Carbapenem-Resistant Pseudomonas Aeruginosa (La Plata County) 5 Influenza-Hospitalized (3 Archuleta County, 2 La Plata County) 1 Salmonellosis (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. One outbreak at a long-term care facility of influenza A (8 cases), closed on 5/24/2022.
<p>Tuberculosis (TB):</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> There are two active TB cases. One active TB case moved back to Mexico after treatment started. The other active TB case is currently undergoing direct observed treatment; 38 out of 65 close contacts of both active TB cases have undergone baseline testing.

Emergency Preparedness and Response
<p>Emergency Preparedness and Response:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Staff participated in the Latinx Community 9Health Fair with Medical Reserve Corp (MRC) volunteers to remove barriers to community/public access. Staff monitored the Ute Pass and Plumtaw Fires providing air quality and evacuation guidance to address barriers to partner agency/stakeholder acceptance of evidence-based public health concepts. Emergency Support Function #8 (ESF8) Lead was activated during the Perins Peak Fire to address air quality concerns and facilitate evacuation needs of those with C-MIST (communication, maintaining health, independence, support, and transportation) needs and

residents at Junction Creek Rehab which supports the governing entity's capacity to direct SJBPH's obligations and responsibilities

Universal Activities

HR Staffing Updates

August

- The following vacancies were filled since the last report:
 - None
- The following vacancies have been hired for with future start dates:
 - Suicide Prevention Coordinator
- Recruitment continues for the following staff positions:
 - Facilities Technician, Administrative Support Assistant (front desk)

Assessment and Planning:

- Staff participated in multiple meetings for our Health Disparities Grant, both with our subcontractors and the Office of Health Equity **to help provide evidence-based public health recommendations to partners and policymakers through data.**
- Staff supported data requests from internal and external partners who were then able **to provide evidence-based public health recommendations.**
- Staff participated in several state-led Child Fatality Prevention System meetings including a local team coordinator call with the opportunity to partner with others from around the state, **allowing for opportunities to excel and innovate.**

Communications:

- In May, SJBPH communications staff distributed **one** agency e-newsletter (May), **two** semi-monthly COVID updates, wrote and distributed four media releases, responded to **16** media inquiries, posted **75** tweets, and **88** 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, and promoting SJPBH programs and services. SJBPH was featured in **35** articles/radio/tv stories in newspapers, online news outlets, and local radio stations. In March, SJBPH had over **93,520** Facebook impressions (# of eyes on our posts), and **21,612** Twitter impressions. Our FB engagement (action taken such as commenting or sharing a post) was over **3,913**, and Twitter had **784** engagements. These activities help to **improve awareness and acceptance of public health resources, services, programs, and value to the community.**
- In May, SJBPH communications focused both on COVID-19 information, and non-COVID public health and agency information. Non-COVID topics included air quality, evacuation and food safety related to wildfire and emergency preparedness. Topics also included localized (state and local) reporting and information on COVID-19 state and local data including increased transmission, local wastewater monitoring and precautions during the Memorial Day holiday. Communications emphasized COVID-19 testing, treatment, precautions and vaccine distribution. Agency communications were shared on client-focused programs such as Emergency Preparedness, ROHS, NFP, Sexual Health Clinic, Thriving Communities, Immunizations and WIC. Communications were through a variety of channels including print, radio, social media, and email.

Facilities/Fleet:

- No updates.