

**PUBLIC HEALTH – SEATTLE & KING COUNTY
DEPARTMENT FACTS AND ACCOMPLISHMENTS 2015**

ASSESSMENT, POLICY DEVELOPMENT AND EVALUATION

- APDE provides technical services that supports Transformation and reform efforts, and is providing leadership for county-wide efforts such as the Performance Measurement Workgroup for the Accountable Community of Health.
- In partnership with King County hospitals and health systems, APDE produced the first collaborative countywide community health needs assessment, along with 138 web-based indicators. APDE also provides the technical support for Communities Count.
- APDE generated census tract maps demonstrating place-based disparities have helped to engage stakeholders in community-based efforts such as Communities of Opportunity, outreach and health insurance enrollment efforts in King County, and CDC funded prevention initiatives. APDE oversees the evaluation of 30+ community-based and place-based projects.

CHRONIC DISEASE AND INJURY PREVENTION

- Partnership to Improve Community Health (PICH): Over the next two and a half years, over \$3 million in federal funds will be provided to local agencies to carry out policy and systems changes to improve nutrition, increase physical activity, reduce tobacco use and exposure, and reduce health disparities as part of the CDC funded PICH grant (partners include Public Health, Seattle Children's, and the Healthy King County Coalition. Awardees include school districts, cities in south King County, and community based organizations. An early success of PICH has been expanding tobacco-free college campuses. North Seattle College announced transitioning to a smoke and tobacco-free college this fall. North Seattle College enrolls 6,100 students.
- Our Healthy Communities work related to asthma involves community health workers (CHW) who provide home visits to individuals (adults and children) who have uncontrolled asthma. During the home visits, the CHWs provide education in multiple languages and work with individuals and families to reduce environmental triggers in the home. Utilizing CHWs is one of the strategies identified in the State Innovation Plan to achieve the triple aim of improved health, reduced cost, and increased quality of care.
- Our Violence and Injury Prevention (VIP) program tackles issues including motor vehicle and bicycle accidents, drowning and water safety, youth suicide, and safe storage of firearms. The VIP program works with law enforcement, transportation agencies, community based organizations and others.
- The Breast, Cervical, and Colon Health Program links uninsured and underinsured individuals (including immigrants) with screening and treatment services.

COMMUNICABLE DISEASE PREVENTION

- 200+ = Number of travelers/Health care workers from Ebola-affected countries monitored by Public Health cumulatively since Fall 2014.
- One = number of homeless active TB cases in 2014, down from a peak of 35 cases in 2003.
- 78% = percent of HIV positive persons with suppressed viral load due to treatment. This is highest percentage of urban areas in U.S.
- 340 = number of clinics county-wide provided with childhood vaccines through the Vaccines for Children program.
- 5,000 = number of communicable disease reports investigated annually, interventions applied and reported to the state.
- 2,340 = cases in 2014 that Medical Examiner assumed jurisdiction to determine manner and cause of death.

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- 10,275 = number of patient visits at STD Clinic in 2013.
- Through joint efforts by the Preparedness Section, Communicable Disease Section and community partners, Public Health provided response to the Ebola outbreak by assuring hospital readiness, provider training and equipment, and actively monitoring persons visiting or returning from the three affected countries.
- Responded to outbreaks that over the past year have included national measles and pertussis outbreaks.
- Provided TB screening for 1,200 students and staff at an area high school in response to two cases of active TB, with follow-up for possible exposures and needed treatment.
- Began a new extensive outreach program for hard-to-reach HIV positive clients called the MAX clinic in conjunction with the Madison Clinic at Harborview.
- At Medical Examiner's Office (MEO), we have prepared for renewal of accreditation, expanded body handling capacity with new body storage carts using King County Loss Control budget funds, and prepared for enhanced efficiencies for electronic reporting of deaths.

EMERGENCY MEDICAL SERVICES

- There is strong community involvement and support of the EMS system
 - 83% voter approval of current EMS Levy
 - 70% likelihood of bystander CPR
 - Regional support by all cities of our system
- Highly successful treatments.
 - Cardiac Survival Rates highest in nation (in 2013 reported at 62%)
- Modeling best practices (other EMS systems showing dramatic improvements after attending our Resuscitation Academy and adopting similar practices (Alaska, Montana, United Arab Emir.)
- Quality care provided in a regional manner "Always measuring: always improving, never idle." Example = Cardiac Case Review is a new and proprietary platform that provides providers feedback within days of event.
- Equity and Social Justice Commitments:
 - Improving career access- scholarship program
 - Vulnerable Populations Initiative- Better ways to interact and care for the unique populations we serve
- Research and development strategic initiatives. Example: Our patented EKG algorithm now used by a major medical device manufacturer setting new diagnostic standards. There are three other new products in the pipeline:
 - Criteria Based Dispatch providing just the right tier of response to patient needs
 - EMS online training platform- consistent and industry leading continuing education
 - Regional Medical Protocols and oversight
- EMS is a strong financial steward of Levy Funds
 - Estimated fund balance in 2019 when LEVY ends = 32.9 million plus 18 million undesignated reserves
 - One of the lowest EMS Levy rates in the state of Washington and no user fees for Advanced Life Support (ALS) patients

COMMUNITY HEALTH SERVICES

The Community Health Services Division (CHS) of Public Health assures basic health and human services are available to the most vulnerable people in King County. The Division both provides a wide range of *direct services* to clients, delivered through a network of ten Public Health Centers (PHCs), as

well as *assuring access to essential services* through partnerships with community agencies. The Public Health Centers and their 18 satellite locations serve about 100,000 clients per year. The partnership services include overseeing a network of 30 school-based health centers, managing a mobile medical van serving homeless populations, and working with community providers to maintain a healthcare safety net for more than 200,000 clients. Combined, the services promote public health and access to affordable, quality care.

- Successful implementation of expanded health insurances through the Affordable Care Act (ACA). Public Health as lead of the In-Person Assister (IPA) Network enrolled 134,169 King County and 56,268 Seattle residents (1/1/2014 to 12/31/2014).
- Building on this success, Public Health is the lead agency for enrolling low-income residents in Metro's reduce fare program, Orca LIFT. 12,672 residents have been enrolled to date (7/10/15). 60% (7,603) of the enrollments are from the City of Seattle.
- As the Families and Education Levy (FEL) health investments lead, under FEL IV, Public Health expanded school-based health services to include eight new elementary schools, added dental services at ten School Based Health Centers (SBHCs), and added full service at Inter-Agency Academy. School-based health services are now operating at 26 Seattle Public Schools. The FEL IV also included an addition of early learning health services by the child care health team for the Step Ahead program.
- Health Care for the Homeless Network (HCHN) has creatively expanded access through the Mobile Medical Program bringing critical services to 11 locations, serving over 800 individuals, and enhancing chemical dependency and housing linkage capacity. (note this is South King county).
- The Edward Thomas House Medical Respite Program reduces hospital length-of-stays and allows for post-discharge recuperation for homeless individuals with highly complex medical needs, most often complicated by needs for intensive behavioral health services. It is one of five respite programs nationwide participating in a project funded by the federal Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS) to demonstrate reduced hospital readmissions, reduced length of hospital stays, and avoided costs. In recent months, four of the five Medicaid managed care organizations have negotiated contracts with Harborview Medical Center that will help offset some of the program's cost and hold great promise for enhancing its sustainability.
- Partnerships with cities, philanthropy, business, labor, etc to preserve Public Health Centers in the context of financial crisis.

ENVIRONMENTAL HEALTH SERVICES

Environmental Health Services (EHS) division comprises most of the regulatory public health functions through inspections and monitoring. Food safety in our dynamic and thriving food economy is ensured by this division, as well as the public's safety from exposure to sewage, toxic chemicals, and vermin. It uniquely operates as a full-cost recovery division in Public Health and operates its own fund subject to state financial regulations around ratepayer accountability. The EHS budget is 97% fee-based, 2% grants and contracts, and 1% King County General Fund supported.

- Mercer Island Boil Water response – general readiness of Public Health for these sorts of events.
- Secure Medicine Return – work of Local Hazardous Waste Management Program (LHWMP) staff and the King County Board of Health in being the second in the nation to pass this legislation will go live in early 2016.
- Significant progress made with the Quartermaster Harbor Marine Recovery Area in the last year.
- EH's internship program now includes high schools, community colleges as well as universities.
- Restaurant inspection forms are being translated into eight languages to enable managers and owners to be better educated.

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- Outbreak responses: the large ice cream listeria outbreak including EH's leadership that helped prevent large consequences in a 16 state region; current Salmonella investigations with CD-EPI that are growing daily demonstrating our ability to get out there sooner than later to do major prevention.

JAIL HEALTH SERVICES

The average size of the daily secure inmate population in the King County Correctional system varies, but hovers around 1,850. Jail Health Services (JHS) provides constitutionally guaranteed health services for inmates in the King County adult correctional system. In 2014 we provided over 87,000 patient visits.

- JHS was an early leader in the adoption of Lean management principles.
- Provides Psych Services Array – an example of cross-departmental improvement work with significant financial savings, improved customer services, and increased staff morale.
- Proven track record of using technology to improve patient safety and staff efficiency, with significant financial benefits.
- Strong financial management, meeting yearly expense reduction challenges and reduction in medication cost increase trend

PREPAREDNESS

Public Health is the lead agency for addressing health, medical and mortuary issues resulting from all hazards. Public Health coordinates with regional partners to enhance and sustain critical capabilities under the umbrella of Emergency Support Function 8. As a department we have responded to over 50 emergencies since the program inception in 2001, ranging from winter storms to H1N1 to the SR530 landslide.

- Volunteers are an important resource and the department's Public Health Reserve Corps is nationally recognized, award winning and one of the most active public health emergency volunteer groups in the US with 770 registered volunteers.
- Preparedness is primarily funded by federal grants from the CDC and Department of Homeland Security. One of the funding sources, Cities Readiness Initiative (CRI), is designed to enhance preparedness in the nation's largest cities and metropolitan statistical areas where more than 50% of the U.S. population resides. Through CRI, state and large metropolitan public health departments have developed plans to respond to a large-scale bioterrorist event by dispensing antibiotics to the entire population of an identified MSA with 48 hours.
- Public Health Preparedness is considered a national leader in the field and is often cited by health departments around the country and the National Association of County and City Health Officials as a go-to resource for emergency response plans and tools. Preparedness staff chair national work groups and are often requested national speakers.

Recent accomplishments:

- Public Health Reserve Corps: Seven volunteers received a US Presidential Citation for contributing over 100 hours; 292 volunteers contributed 5,627 hours - worth ~\$150,000; 2,239 hours were spent at the Seattle/King County Remote Area Medical (RAM) event; and 612 hours were for emergency responses (SR530 Oso landslide, measles outbreak, apartment fire).
- Chinese Communications Channels project: Together with Seattle OEM and other partners, conducted a year-long project to improve emergency communications to the Chinese community. Over 60 leaders in the Chinese community attended a preparedness meeting, including faith leaders, apartment managers in the International District, Chinese language media, Chinese language school educators, and leaders of human service providers and community organizations,

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such as the Chinese Information Service Center, Asian Counseling and Referral Services, and the Chong Wa Benevolent Association.

- Public Health responded to several emergencies: Ebola, Mercer Island E. coli water system contamination, and an investigation of TB at a local high school involved many Public Health divisions and programs in the Department.
- Pharmacy Summit focuses on equity: Engaged pharmacies on ensuring that all King County residents have equal access to information, resources and medications in the event of an emergency. The summit featured national speakers from CDC and RxResponse and local pharmacy leaders from the Washington State Pharmacy Association, Seamar Community Health Center, Puget Sound Pharmacy, Walgreens and International Community Health Services.