



Ocean
County
Health
Department



Public Health
Prevent. Promote. Protect.



2019 ANNUAL REPORT

Promoting Healthy Lifestyles and a Clean and Safe Environment

OCEAN COUNTY HEALTH DEPARTMENT

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John J. Mallon
Board of Health Chairman

Daniel E. Regenye
Public Health Coordinator



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Public Health
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Gerry P. Little, *Freholder Liaison*

Daniel E. Regenye, MHA
Public Health Coordinator/Health Officer

Community members and Public Health partners,

We are privileged again this year to introduce the Ocean County Health Department’s 2019 Annual Report. This year, the Ocean County Health Department (OCHD) presents a new and ambitious Annual Report formatted to highlight the programs and services provided to the community in a more systematic and structured manner built on the essential public health services that regularly guide our efforts.

In 2019, the OCHD continued to serve as a leader in Public Health, not only through our multiple and varied public health initiatives, but through the ongoing dedication of our staff to consistent quality improvement in the breadth and excellence of the services we provide. As I am sure you are aware, 2019 was a busy year for the Health Department. We worked diligently to construct a five year Strategic Plan, made renovations to existing facilities, enhanced our relationships with community partners, and continued to support ongoing efforts to reduce the impact of diabetes and heart disease on our residents through grant funding.

As we move into 2020, we will continue to serve Ocean County by ensuring safe food and water, monitoring communicable disease, providing prevention and health education to individuals of all ages, maintaining emergency preparedness, making sure children receive the nutrition and care that they require, and protecting the community through public health. In addition to this, we will continue to serve and protect our community in the midst of the COVID-19 pandemic that began at the close of 2019. We invite you to read further to see all of the quality services this agency provides and we welcome your partnership and feedback as we move in new directions and ultimately lay the foundation for public health accreditation.

Please view our social media pages and website to stay current with the actions we take to improve lives in the community and address emerging public health needs. We thank you for supporting us this past year and look forward to continuing to serve the community to the best of our ability.

John J Mallon

John J. Mallon
Chairman of the Board

Daniel Regenye

Daniel E. Regenye, MHA
Public Health Coordinator/Health Officer

MISSION STATEMENT

“In partnership with our community, we are committed to serving as a leader to promote healthy lifestyles, ensure a clean and safe environment, and provide high-quality public health services to protect our present and future generations”.

The OCHD’s mission statement and guiding principles have been revisited and updated in order to better reflect the identity of the department to the public as well as to affirm the work that is conducted by staff. Value statements were created identifying what the department stands for, what it believes in, and what guides our behavior and decision-making.

Guiding Principles

- **Guiding Principle #1:** To assess public health priorities of the community through comprehensive health planning;
- **Guiding Principle #2:** To inform and educate our community about public health issues and concerns;
- **Guiding Principle #3:** To empower individuals to take responsibility for their health and wellness and that of their communities;
- **Guiding Principle #4:** To utilize a systemic, team approach to effectively solve problems and achieve our mission; and
- **Guiding Principle #5:** To promote a work environment which continually strives to incorporate our agency’s values.

Values

- Integrity
- Diversity
- Adaptability
- Professionalism
- Respect
- Cultural Competence
- Compassion
- Innovation
- Equality

In 2019, the OCHD also realigned its priorities to develop internal capacity and strengthen partnerships to have a broader impact on public and population health. This was accomplished in the creation of the Strategic Plan 2020-2025; a tool to be used in the promotion of a healthier Ocean County by setting the foundation to drive organizational improvement. In this, the Strategic Planning Committee identified the four most imperative priority areas with respective goals, objectives, and evaluative measures for each.

Strategic Priority Areas

- ✚ Agency Engagement, Development, and Performance
- ✚ Community Collaboration, Assessment and Quality Improvement
- ✚ Emerging Public Health Threats and Response
- ✚ Maximizing Utilization of Technology and Innovation

THE PUBLIC HEALTH SYSTEM

The Ocean County Health Department (OCHD) and its Board of Health are governed by the Public Health Practice Standards of Performance for Local Boards of Health in New Jersey, N.J.A.C. 8:52. Inherent duties and responsibilities are summarized in the three Core Public Health Functions and the Ten Essential Public Health Services indicated herein by respective icons throughout the remainder of the Annual Report.

Core Public Health Functions



Assess and monitor the health of communities and at-risk populations to identify health problems and priorities.



Formulate public policies with community and government leaders to address local and national public health problems and priorities.



Provide all populations with access and appropriate and cost-effective care, including health promotion, disease prevention, and follow-up evaluation.

10 Essential Public Health Services



Monitor health status to identify and solve community health problems



Diagnose and investigate health problems and health hazards in the community



Inform, educate, and empower people about health issues



Mobilize community partnerships to identify and solve health problems



Develop policies and plans that support individual and community health effort



Enforce laws and regulations that protect health and ensure safety



Link people to needed personal health services and assure the provision of health care when otherwise unavailable



Assure a competent public and personal health care workforce



Evaluate effectiveness, accessibility, and quality of personal and population-based health services



Research for new insights and innovative solutions to health problems

The OCHD worked diligently in 2019 to align its services with the core public health functions and essential public health services outlined above. Further, we have worked closely with community partners to strengthen the overall public health system, commonly defined as “all public, private and voluntary entities that contribute to the delivery of essential public health services within a jurisdiction.” This concept ensures that all entities’ contributions to the health and well-being of the community are recognized.

The public health system includes public health agencies at state and local levels, healthcare providers, public safety agencies, human service and charity organizations, education and youth development organizations, recreation and arts-related organizations, economic and philanthropic organizations and environmental agencies and organizations. With this in mind, the OCHD is committed to continue working in close collaboration with diverse community partners and as members of local coalitions. *The OCHD extends its deepest appreciation to our many community partners for serving alongside us in the effort to protect and promote public health for the residents and visitors of Ocean County.*

COMMUNITY PARTNERS

- Beth Medrash Gevoha
- Big Brothers/ Big Sisters of Ocean County
- Caregivers of Central Ocean County
- Central Jersey Family Health Consortium
- Catholic Charities of Ocean County
- Centers for Health, Education , Medicine, and Dentistry (CHEMED)
- Central Jersey Family Health Consortium
- Chambers of Commerce:
 - Toms River Chamber
 - Lakewood Chamber
 - Southern Ocean County Chamber
- Children’s Home Society of New Jersey
- Children’s Interagency Coordinating Council (CIACC)
- Commission for the Blind and Visually Impaired
- Community Medical Center Foundation
- County Animal Response Team (CART)
- County of Ocean
- DART Coalition
- Deborah Heart and Lung Center
- Family Planning Center of Ocean County, Inc.
- Faith-Based Initiative of Ocean County
- Georgian Court University
- Governor’s Council on Alcohol and Drug Abuse
- Hackensack Meridian *Health*
- Health Advisory Group for the Community Health Improvement Plan
- High Intensity Drug Trafficking Area (HIDTA) Program
- Humane Society of the United States
- Interfaith Hospitality Network
- Jay and Linda Grunin Foundation
- Juvenile Justice Committee
- Lakewood Complete Town Committee
- Lakewood Emergency Preparedness Council
- La Leche League of Ocean County
- L.E.A.P., Lakewood Head Start Program
- Local Advisory Committee on Alcohol & Drug Abuse
- Local Emergency Planning Council
- Long Beach Island Health Department
- Meridian Health Care System
- Monmouth Ocean Breastfeeding Coalition
- NAACP
- New Hope Foundation
- New Jersey Action for Healthy Kids
- New Jersey BREATHEs
- New Jersey Comprehensive Cancer Control Comm.
- NJ Healthy Communities Network
- NJ HealthEASE
- NJ SNAP-Ed
- New Jersey Department of Health
- New Jersey Department of Human Services
- New Jersey Department of Environmental Protection
- New Jersey State Police
- Ocean/Monmouth Health Alliance
- O.C.E.A.N. Inc., Health Advisory Council
- Ocean County Board of Social Services
- Ocean County College
- Ocean’s Harbor House
- Ocean Health Initiatives (OHI)
- Ocean County Office of Emergency Management
- Ocean County Emergency Response Committee
- Ocean County Executive Superintendent’s Office
- Ocean County Human Services Advisory Council
- Ocean County Library
- Ocean County Municipal Alliances
- Ocean County Office of Senior Services
- Ocean County Planning Department
- Ocean County Professional Advisory Council (PAC) Committee
- Ocean County Prosecutor’s Office
- Ocean County Sheriff’s Department
- Ocean County Special Needs Shelter Plan Working Grp
- Ocean Mental Health Services
- Preferred Behavioral Health of New Jersey
- Providence House
- Providers Advisory Committee on Alcohol and Drug Abuse (PACADA)
- Public Health Emerg. Preparedness Advisory Committee
- Puerto Rican Congress of New Jersey, Inc.
- Stockton University
- Robert Wood Johnson/Barnabas Health
- Rutgers University & Rutgers School of Public Health
- Seashore Family Counseling Services
- Southern Ocean County Coalition Against Substance Abuse (SOCCASA)
- Southern Regional Governmental Public Health Partnership
- St. Francis Community Center
- United States Drug Enforcement Agency (DEA)
- United Way
- Youth Services Commission
- YMCA

PUBLIC HEALTH SERVICES AND STATISTICS

The Ocean County Health Department consists of numerous departments and divisions providing diverse services to the residents and visitors of Ocean County. While not inclusive of every service available, outlined below are some of the key programs provided. Note: some programs may require eligibility screening.

Alcohol and Drug Services

- Alcoholism and Substance Abuse Alliances and Committees
- Intoxicated Driver Resource Center
- Municipal Alliances
- Treatment Coordination and Referrals
 - Treatment funding for eligible residents
- Ocean County Overdose Fatality Review
- Substance Abuse Prevention Education

Animal Shelters and Adoptions

- Barnegat Animal Shelter
- Northern Ocean County Animal Facility
- Southern Ocean County Animal Facility
- Services offered:
 - Pet Adoptions and Surrenders
 - Rabies Clinics – Animal Vaccinations
 - 24 Hour Receiving Area for Municipal Animal Control Officers

Chronic Disease Services

- *Live Healthy Ocean County!* Program
- Blood Pressure Screening
- Cholesterol and Diabetes Screening
- Chronic Disease Self-Management Program
- Eye/Vision Screening
- New Jersey Cancer Education and Early Detection Program

Emergency Preparedness and Planning

- Becoming a Fixed Facility in Ocean County
- Health Alert Network (HAN)
- Health Preparedness and Planning Activities
- Home Preparedness Resources and Activities
- Local Information Network and Communication System (LINCS)
- Medical Reserve Corps. (MRC)
- Potassium Iodide (KI) Tablet Distribution
- Strategic National Stockpile

Environmental Health Services – Consumer Health

- Body Art Facility Inspections
- Control of Poison Ivy, as Requested
- Kennel/Pet Shop Inspections
- Proprietary Campground Inspections
- Public Health Nuisance Complaint Investigations
- Public Pool and Spa Inspection and Enforcement
- Recreational Bathing Beach Inspections
- Retail Food Establishment Inspections and Plan Reviews
- Septic System Installation Plan Review and Repair Inspections
- Site Plan and Subdivision Reviews for Local Planning and Zoning Boards
- Smoking Enforcement in Public Places
- Tanning Facility Inspections
- Wells and Septic Systems Certification Inspections
- Well Water Analysis Certifications for New Construction, Replacement Wells/ Re-sales
- Youth Camp Safety Inspections

Environmental Health Services – Environmental Protection and Services

- Air Pollution Complaints
- Childhood Lead Poisoning Investigations
- Control of Rodent/Vectors of Disease
- Enforcement of State and Local Regulations
- Environmental Complaint Investigations
- Ground and Surface Water Investigations
- Hazardous Material Incidence Response
- Public non-community well inspections (transient and non-transient)
- Noise Investigation and Enforcement
- Right to Know Program
- Solid Waste Facility/Complaint Inspections

Health Education and Community Assessment

- Community Health Needs Assessment
- Community Health Improvement Plan
- Faith-Based Initiative
- Local and Annual Health Reports
- Strategic Planning and Policy Development
- Community Health Education Programming
- Emerging Public Health Issues Education
- Dental Coordination and Education
- Diabetes PSelf-Management, Education, and Support Program
- Health Fairs
- Health Statistics Inquiries
- Heart Disease and Stroke Prevention Education
- Ocean County Data Book
- *Public Health Is You Too!* (PHU2) Initiative
- Safe Medication Mangement Program
- School Health Ambassador Program
- Senior Health Ambassador Program
- Social Media Promotion and Marketing
- Substance Abuse Prevention Programming
- Workplace Wellness Initiative

Infectious Disease Services

- Animal Bite Investigations and Quarantine
- ARCH Nurse Program
- Bloodborne Pathogen Program
- Communicable Disease Investigations and Education
- Domestic Animal Rabies Vaccination Clinics
- Epidemiology and Surveillance
- Foodborne and other Infectious Disease Investigations and Education

- Hepatitis C Virus Counseling and Testing
- HIV/AIDS Care and Treatment
- HIV Counseling and Testing
- Monitoring of Emerging Infectious Diseases
- Rabies Control and Consultation
- School Immunization Audits
- Sexually Transmitted Disease Screening
- Tuberculosis Care and Treatment
- Tuberculosis Screening
- Vaccinations
 - Occupational Hepatitis B Virus
 - Pneumococcal Pneumonia
 - Rabies Human Pre-Exposure
 - Tdap (tetanus, diphtheria, pertussis)
 - Seasonal Influenza
 - Shingles (Zoster)

Maternal and Child Health Services

- Breastfeeding peer counseling
- Community outreach and engagement
- Early Intervention Services
- Farmer's market voucher distribution/on-site farmer's market
- Hemoglobin testing/education
- Lactation consultations and support
- Nutrition assessments/counseling and distribution of vouchers for supplemental, nutritious foods
- Referrals for community and social services, healthcare providers, immunizations
- Special Child Health Services

As outlined by the Public Health Practice Standards of Performance for Local Board of Health in New Jersey, N.J.A.C. 8:52., public health services shall include administrative services as set forth at N.J.A.C. 8:52-5, health education services as set forth at N.J.A.C. 8:52-6, public health nursing services as set forth at N.J.A.C. 8:52-7, and the three core functions of public health: assurance, assessment, and policy development. The Ocean County Health Department implements these practice standards within the array of various programs and services outlined above. Highlighted programs are addressed in greater length later in the Annual Report.

2019 COMPARATIVE STATISTICAL DATA

Animal Bites and Rabies Control	2018	2019
Animal Bites – human incidents reported	989	988
Rabid/suspected rabid animal-bites-domestic animal incidents reported	42	54
Body Art, Tattoo, and Permanent Cosmetics Safety		
Licensed body art establishments operating in area	44	47
Routine inspections of licensed body art facilities conducted	7	5
Non-routine emergency and complaint-related inspection of body art facilities	0	3
Health Education		
Health education single sessions delivered by the OCHD	488	377
Health Education multi-session delivered by the OCHD	160	579
Individualized Clinic Services		
Clinic-based medical visits provided	11,598	9,919
Unduplicated individuals who received clinic-based medical services	5,875	5,019
Home-based nursing visits provided	918	530
Unduplicated individuals who received home-based nursing services	94	83
Immunizations administered to children 0 - 4	80	59
School age immunizations administered	153	113
Adult Immunizations administered	1,257	924
Older adult immunizations administered	1,365	1003
Clinic Screenings		
Childhood blood lead	6	837
Hepatitis B	105	34
STD, other than HIV/AIDS	2,567	1,712
HIV (through the HIV Counseling and Testing Program)	598	201
Breast Cancer	73	109
Cervical Cancer	73	109
Cardiovascular disease	289	837
Hypertension	326	921
Tuberculosis	557	420
Vision	135	255
Others	233	178
Inquiries, Issues and Complaint Investigations		
Contacts received	1,427	966
Investigations	3,127	2892
Enforcement actions taken by OCHD	123	115
Kennels, Pet Shops, and Shelter/Pound Facilities		
Licensed pet shop facilities operations in the OCHD services area	41	31
Routine inspections conducted by the OCHD	41	31
Rabies Vaccination Clinics		
# of clinics other than at the OCHD animal facilities	25	23
# of clinics at the OCHD animal facilities	44	41
# of animals vaccinated	4,854	4,769

Potable Well and Drinking Water Safety	2018	2019
Potable well inspections conducted	617	603
Unduplicated potable wells inspected	617	603
Potable well investigations	2	11
Proprietary Campgrounds		
Licensed/approved proprietary campground operations	14	14
Routine inspections of proprietary campground facilities	8	6
Non-routine emergency and complaint-related inspections of proprietary campground facilities	0	0
Recreational Bathing Facilities – Number of Licensed Public Recreational Bathing Facilities Operating in the Service Area		
Year round facilities	51	54
Seasonal facilities	508	508
Recreational Bathing Facilities – Number of Public Recreational Bathing facilities of Each Type in the Service Area		
Swimming/wading pool	401	402
Hot tub/spa	44	44
Bathing beach – bay/ocean	80	80
Bathing beach - river	10	10
Bathing beach - lake	24	24
Recreational Bathing – Pre-operational Inspections		
Year-round facilities	44	44
Seasonal facilities	463	450
Recreational Bathing – Routine Inspections		
Year-round facilities	26	40
Recreational Bathing – Non-Routine Inspections		
Year-round facilities	0	2
Seasonal facilities	5	19
Recreation Bathing - Closed Features/Facilities		
Swimming/wading pool	5	6
Seasonal facilities	7	14
Recreational Bathing		
CCMP sites in this services area	72	72
Sanitary surveys conducted on bathing beach – ocean/bay	40	14
Sanitary surveys conducted on river	46	21
Sanitary surveys conducted on lakes	40	19
Retail food Establishment Safety – Processes – Licensed Establishment of Each Type Operating in this Area		
Permanent fixed Risk Level 1 (low risk)	734	699
Permanent fixed Risk Level 2 (medium risk)	1,937	1888
Permanent fixed Risk Level (high risk)	784	843
Mobile	248	262
Retail Food Establishment Safety - Inspections		
Retail food establishment plan reviews conducted	297	212
Pre-operational retail food establishments inspected	251	197
Number of Routine Inspections Conducted		
Permanent fixed Risk Level 1 (low risk)	570	440
Permanent fixed Risk Level 2 (medium risk)	1,150	1216
Permanent fixed Risk Level 3 (high risk)	563	571
Mobile	226	237

Retail Food Establishment Safety – Investigations, Inspections/Enforcement	2018	2019
Non-routine emergency and complaint-related investigations, inspections of retail food establishments	350	259
School Immunization Record Audits		
Childcare/pre-K facilities operating in this area	175	118
Childcare/pre-K facilities that were audited	175	118
Kindergarten facilities in this area	141	134
Kindergarten facilities audited in the most recently completed school year	141	127
Grade 1 facilities in this area	132	136
Grade 1 facilities audited in the most recently completed school year	130	127
Grade 6 facilities in this area	83	82
Grade 6 facilities audited in the most recently completed school year	83	78
High school facilities operating in this areas	61	63
High school facilities whose transfer student recodes were audited in the most recently completed school year	20	14
WIC – Women, Infants and Children		
Ocean County Certified WIC Clients	35,430	37,424
Unduplicated pregnant women	2,569	3,439
Unduplicated breastfeeding women	2,315	2,613
Unduplicated post-partum women (up to six months)	1,300	969
Hemoglobin Testing WIC	24,652	22,545
Breastfeeding Women	4,630	4,628
Infants (Unduplicated)	2,933	6,935
Children (Unduplicated)	10,533	10,871
Drug and Alcohol Coordinated Services		
Intensive outpatient new clients	135	196
Intensive outpatient new client sessions of service	2,219	1777
Outpatient new clients	104	120
Outpatient session of services	932	1168
Co-occurring new clients	11	13
Co-occurring new client sessions of service	662	389
Women’s halfway house new clients	16	17
Women’s halfway house new clients days provided	687	720
Men’s halfway house new clients	8	5
Men’s halfway house new clients days provided	592	274
Detox new clients	57	65
Detox new client days provided	235	269
Inpatient new clients	109	59
Inpatient new clients days provided	1,701	899
Intoxicated Driving Resource Center (IDRC)		
IDRC Attendance	1,007	951

ADMINISTRATION AND SUPPORT SERVICES

“Health care is vital to all of us some of the time, but public health is vital to all of us all of the time.” - C. Everett Koop

Administration

Office of the Assistant Public Health Coordinator

Highlights

The Office of the Assistant Public Health Coordinator (APHC) integrated and streamlined numerous agency quality assessments and benchmarks into a single-use template in 2019. This template created a "one-stop shop" of sorts by standardizing all annual data collection, goals and objectives evaluations, and strategic plan alignment into one location. This effort reduces the duplication of data entry and increases accountability towards setting and accomplishing annual goals and objectives by creating opportunities for objective individuals to assess progress against goals and partner on ongoing CQI towards them. Additionally, a formal CQI Collaborative was initiated and works together to further integrate the agency's Strategic Plan, Annual Goals and Objectives, Continuous Quality Improvement, and Public Health Accreditation.

Looking Ahead

In 2020, the APHC intends to evaluate the feasibility of an OCHD mobile app.



Information Technology

Highlights

During 2019, IT upgraded phone, WIFI and servers in Lakewood including an upgrade to fiber optic at the site.

Looking Ahead

IT intends to upgrade the phone systems at NOCAF and SOCAF, initiate switch upgrades, and perform a system-wide conversion to Windows 10 for those users still on Windows 7.

Animal Facilities



Highlights

The Animal Facilities have continued to have a successful adoption year, with 995 pets finding homes so far. We saw an increased attendance at our annual Clear the Shelter Adoption Event, with 31 pets finding their forever homes on that day alone.

Additionally, we have continued to observe success in our Free Rabies Clinics offered to the public. As of November 2019, we have held a total of 41 clinics between our two facilities and have administered 1414 rabies vaccinations during these clinics. We are also glad to report that our Northern Ocean County Animal Facility (NOCAF) underwent major facility renovations this year.



Looking Ahead

The Facilities intend to continue to broaden our involvement with various outlets to increase awareness of our services throughout the community. We will accomplish this by participating in Health Headline segments in partnership with the Public Information Officer, and by expanding filming and promotional segments and spotlights of our pets. In addition, we will continue to partner with Georgian Court University, by providing an opportunity for students in the Service-Learning Class to conduct donation drives to directly benefit the animals in our facilities. We will also continue to develop and polish our portion of the Ocean County Health Department website to better service the public.

—Health Priorities—

Community Health Planning

The Ocean County Annual Health Status Report provides current data on programs or activities performed by various agencies that affect the health of Ocean County residents. In this report, we will highlight each health issue and list some of the key highlights during 2019.



Highlights

This year CHIP partnerships included civic and business communities: Wal-Mart, Urgent Care Now, Elks, and the members of the Central Ocean Business Association are now all part of our CHIP process. Civic organizations and businesses never had this level of inclusion in any OCHD CHIP until now. The Elks membership in Ocean County hovers at approx. 5,000 and encompasses seniors as well as Veterans which are both groups we aim to include and serve.

This year our Dental Health Coordinator included our senior population in outreach and education. Linguistically appropriate educational information was furnished to seniors. In addition, this year a teacher working in coordination with our Municipal Alliance coordinator was recognized at their Borough Committee Meeting for the work she has done in assisting the Alliance and for being a resource for the children.

Looking Ahead

In 2020, scheduling a business and minority owned business health fair with our department will be considered. The Dental Education program will reach the special needs population in 2020. Our Dental Education Coordinator will create a visitation schedule to "The Open Door", a facility that meets the needs of challenged individuals throughout Ocean County. We will also offer Dental educational programming to the Federally Qualified Health Center (FQHC) facilities.

Specifically, we will reach and coordinate with an additional 50 business in 2020 over 2019. For the first time, the Alliance will deliver evidence-based programs including UNIQUE U! and NJPIES into the Spruce Street Elementary School in Lakewood.

Health Education and Community Assessment



Health Education programs cover a wide variety of public health topics including, but not limited to, nutrition, hygiene, hand washing, sun safety, youth success, student health ambassador, ticks, mold, stress management, smoking cessation, diabetes, senior health ambassador, tuberculosis, and hepatitis C. Many of these programs have been specifically tailored to reach underserved populations within the community.

The Student Health Ambassador Program was developed to reach thousands of students across the county in numerous schools, Hepatitis C virus presentations were developed for substance abuse and behavior health centers, nutrition and hygiene presentations for individuals with developmental disabilities, and tuberculosis presentations for acute and sub-acute care facilities.

Highlights

In 2019, the Health Education Division became fully staffed and 2 of 3 health educators were credentialed as Certified Health Education Specialists (CHES). We aided in the measles outbreak response, developed innovative programming for ticks, mold, TB, HCV, and individuals with disabilities. We also began pursuing grant funding for opportunities to improve public health education and access to services, being successfully funded for a Diabetes Prevention and Control grant and a Heart Disease and Stroke Prevention grant.

Looking Ahead

Health Education intends to build on its success by expanding diabetes and heart disease programming and sustaining programming through insurance reimbursements and third party payers. Additionally, we hope to build further on the innovation of our website and social media platforms including PHU2.org.



Core and Essential Public Health Services Addressed:



CHRONIC ILLNESS

“An ounce of prevention is worth a pound of cure.” - Benjamin Franklin

Grant Management

Moving forward in 2019, the OCHD was able to continue working with grant funding. The two most notable grants involving clinical services were the Heart Disease and Stroke Prevention grant, and the Diabetes Prevention and Control grant. Each of these grants made it possible for the OCHD to reach vulnerable populations in 2018 and continue to connect these populations with valuable resources for education, screening, and management of chronic illnesses.



Highlights

In 2019, the OCHD continued to serve the community through providing screening services for chronic diseases. We have offered immunizations for various ailments as well, in an effort to keep our community healthy and safe. Some of the services provided by the **Public Health Nursing Services: Clinic Services** division in 2019 are listed on the right, including the total number of annual chronic disease screenings and services provided – 4,802.

CLINIC	CLINIC MEASURES	TOTAL
Chronic Disease and Senior Health Services	Blood Pressure	837
	Cholesterol Screening	241
	Glucose Screening	241
	Total	1,319
Immunization Services	Hepatitis A Virus	1
	Hepatitis B Virus	34
	Influenza	1,841
	Pneumonia	79
	Pre-Exposure Rabies	37
	Shingles Immunization	30
	Tetanus, Diptheria, and Pertussis (TDAP)	77
	Total	2,099
Preventive and Diagnostic Screening Services	Cancer Detection (CEED)	109
	Eye Clinic Services	255
	Blood Lead Screenings	837
	New Lead Cases	25
	Lead Case Management Cases	120
	Lead Visits	38
	Total	1,384
TOTAL		4,802

Looking Ahead

As we move forward, it is very exciting to have the opportunity to work with the New Jersey Healthy Communities Network (NJHCN) in management of a grant opportunity that will benefit individuals with disabilities. With this opportunity, the Health Education department is working towards finalizing programming to be delivered. Clinic Services is also working to organize screening services to be offered to this population in an effort to manage the chronic health conditions that this population is most at risk for.

Core and Essential Public Health Services Addressed:



COMMUNICABLE DISEASE

“With infectious disease, without vaccines, there’s no safety in numbers.”

- Seth Berkley

Animal and Rabies Control

In 2019, the **Communicable Disease Unit** maintained a program for the control of rabies and other zoonosis in conjunction with ongoing partnerships with local Animal Control Officers and contractors.



791 Animal bite reports; 3 of these reports were deemed to have no rabies risk and closed at time of receipt, the remaining reports were investigated for rabies exposure risk.

101 Animals submitted to the State lab to be tested for rabies.

10 Rabid specimens indicated public health follow-up and contact tracing. (1) strict domestic animal confinement order was issued by the Health Officer. (5) residents required post exposure rabies vaccinations for prevention of disease. (35) total individuals received post-exposure rabies vaccinations, at the recommendation of staff or by his/ her own initiation.

Communicable Disease

An overview of investigations and the efforts to respond to and control a select communicable disease outbreak is provided below.



Communicable
Disease Reports
Investigated



Immediately
Reportable Disease
Investigations

The OCHD Communicable Disease unit has responded to the measles outbreak in their prompt recognition and reporting of cases so that timely investigations could take place. This ultimately lead to the control of the spread of Measles and an eventual drop in cases.

Immunization Audits

The unit also assists schools in implementing and enforcing the immunization requirements in N.J.A.C. 8:57-4.

Highlights

Vaccine Preventable Disease & Public Health Partnership Award, presented to agency by NJDOH during the 2019 New Jersey Immunization Conference Rutgers May 29, 2019 "Measles Outbreaks from Imported Cases in Orthodox Jewish Communities - New York and New Jersey, 2018-2019", MMWR Vol. 68 No.19

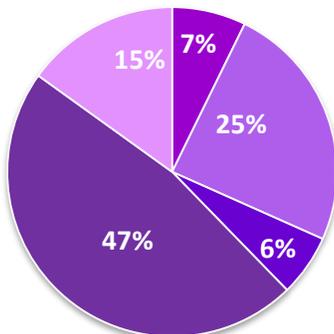
Looking Ahead

The OCHD has applied for a grant to strengthen communicable disease preparedness and response capacity. One of the proposed uses of the funding is to build up the number of staff (hours) available to assist with the increasing investigative volume within CDRSS.

Clinic Services

Clinic Services offers diverse health screenings and case management programs for the residents of Ocean County. Services include chronic disease screening services, immunization services, preventative and diagnostic screening services, sexually transmitted disease screenings, blood borne pathogen education, and tuberculosis (TB) services.

2019 Clinic Services, by Category



- Chronic Disease and Senior Health Services
- Immunization Services
- Preventive and Diagnostic Screening Services
- Sexually Transmitted and Bloodborne Pathogens
- Tuberculosis (TB) Services



Highlights

This past year we were able to utilize the mobile outreach van to provide training in naloxone administration to prevent opioid overdose; to provide screenings related to HIV & Hepatitis C; and have scheduled outreach events for World AIDS Day for the 1st week of December. Also during the past year, the Communicable Disease department was integrated into Public Health Nursing Services, we hired a Director of Public Health Nursing Services, and implemented 3rd party billing for the Ryan White program.

- Immunizations provided for Shingles - **30**, Hepatitis A - **1**, Hepatitis B - **34**, Influenza - **1,841**, Pneumonia - **79**, Pre-Exposure Rabies - **37**, and TDAP - **77**.
- Preventive eye screenings are offered to low and uninsured residents in the county. A total of **255** residents have been screened for basic vision problems. No cost referrals are provided for vision interventions and case management with the CBVI.



- STD screening services were provided to **1,712** unduplicated individuals the HIV Counseling and Testing Clinic tested **201** residents.



Looking Ahead

In the coming year, we anticipate transitioning to electronic health records (EHR), which brings with it tremendous opportunities for improved provision of care. The implementation of EHR will impact client communication processes, improve clinic workflow, create a streamlined client experience, and provide the ability to better evaluate the services we offer. Additionally, we look forward to expanding our services by utilizing the mobile outreach van. At present, we have plans to provide ARCH screenings on the Kean University Ocean Campus. We are also looking at ways we can increase outreach efforts and expand the services we offer specifically to address health disparities among our most vulnerable populations by meeting them where they are.

Core and Essential Public Health Services Addressed:



EMERGENCY PREPAREDNESS

“Remember: When disaster strikes, the time to prepare has passed.”

- Steven Cyros

ACTIVE MEMBERSHIP & REPRESENTATION

NJDOH Healthcare and Public Health Collaborative

Ocean County Emergency Response Committee (ERC)

Ocean County Local Emergency Planning Committee (LEPC)

Region II National MRC

Grant Management and Requisite Exercises

- Successful completion of annual NJDOH PIO exercise (Pass)

Community Coordination

- RDS Site Inspections with NJDOH
- HVA & Emergency Operations Plan Review - CMC; OMC; SOMC
- Online, classroom, and real-world/exercise NJDOH grant required trainings for OCHD and MRC
- Engaged local county agencies/businesses on the SNS program to serve as a partner (MOU) as a fixed facility
- CDC Drills (3) Conducted and documentation submitted via DCIPHER to NJDOH

Highlights

This year, we obtained MOUs for all four hospitals within Ocean County (previously only 1), completed and "passed" the 2019 Public Information Exercise, and successfully completed the RDS site setup exercise (CDC requirement). Additionally, we completed RDS site (both primary and secondary) inspections by NJDOH as well as took part in the successful collaboration with our local community, County Connection in the Ocean County Mall, and via the Ocean County College nursing school to recruit and enhance our MRC program. In 2019, we hosted NJDHS - Shelter Field Guide Training - OCHD staff / MRC volunteers.

Looking Ahead

In conjunction with our partnering agency, the New Jersey Department of Human Services (NJ DHS), quarterly "live" trainings are expected to be offered to volunteers from the Medical Reserve Corps (MRC), Community Emergency Response Team (CERT) and others, as well as stakeholders. There will also be a transition in the policy for monitoring information on adverse events from the Vaccine Adverse Events Reporting System (VAERS), to New Jersey Poison Information and Education System (NJ PIES).



Core and Essential Public Health Services Addressed:



ENVIRONMENTAL HEALTH

“Plans to protect air and water, wilderness and wildlife are in fact plans to protect man.” - Stewart Udall

Administrative Authority

By law, certain surveillance and oversight activities must be administered by the **Environmental Health** Division of a local health department. In Ocean County, the OCHD serves as the “Administrative Authority” to protect the County’s health and natural resources by implementing these activities through diverse programs, requisite and supplemental, including, but not limited to:

- Food surveillance
- Septic system
- Potable well
- Body art
- Public health nuisance
- Campground
- Animal facility
- Recreational bathing
- Groundwater contamination
- Hazardous substances control
- Recycling compliance

2019 Inspections



2,227

Food establishment inspections



560

Recreational bathing site inspections



52

Body art facility inspections



31

Kennel and animal facility inspections



40

Campground/ youth camp inspections

Highlights

There has been successful enforcement of animal facility regulations and ongoing enforcement of quarantined animals at illegal facilities in 2019. The OCHD has been working with local code and law enforcement to actively shut down illegal facilities.

Looking Ahead

Many segments for the "Ask an Inspector" series have been created. These cover topics such as restaurant inspection, recreational bathing inspection, septic and well issues, public health nuisance issues, mobile food establishment questions and answers, as well as many other topics that are tackled and enforced on a daily basis.

Core and Essential Public Health Services Addressed:



MATERNAL AND CHILD HEALTH

“The health of a mother and child is a more telling measure of a nation’s state than economic indicators.” - Harjit Gill

Early Intervention (EI)

The OCHD’s **Early Intervention (EI) Program** provides services to children under the age of 3 years experiencing a developmental delay, disability, or that has a diagnosis with a high probability of resulting in a developmental delay. Evaluations for these services are provided at no cost to the family and eligible children are assured access to and availability of individualized early intervention services. In 2019, EI continued staff development and maintained positive relationships with local school districts and service providers.



Highlights

In 2019, caseload sizes were balanced for the Early Intervention program. Refresher/transition training courses were developed and delivered to staff. Vacancies were filled to support ongoing efforts and maintain caseload management.

Looking Ahead

Moving into 2020, we expect to update and standardize internal policies and procedures. We will also standardize Early Intervention processes. Additionally, we will work to get out of corrective action.

Special Child Health Services

Case Management employees work with families who have special needs children from birth to their 22nd birthday. Families are provided with appropriate referrals directly related to their needs in areas of their child’s developmental delays, health, financial resources and educational concerns. Additional information is provided on various programs such as Supplemental Security Income, NJ Family Care, Early Intervention Programs, Catastrophic Illness in Children Relief Fund (CICRF), Statewide Parent Advocacy Program for school aged children, NJ - 211 and Perform Care and the Children’s Home Society.

In 2019, the SCHS Case Managers opened and were in contact with **848 families** and processed **97 CICRF applications**. The awards from that program and other local donations totaled \$1,548,930 in 2019 for families living in Ocean County. Case Management is currently focusing on promoting a Primary Medical Home for children and the timely transition into Adulthood programs.

WIC – Women, Infants and Children

The OCHD **WIC Program** provides supplemental, nutritious foods to low-income families in Ocean County. WIC participants receive nutrition education, referrals to community partners, social services and healthcare providers, immunization education, and breastfeeding education and support. Ongoing efforts are being made to address the unmet needs for maternal and child health in Ocean County, but the



OCHD recognizes that this cannot be done alone. Targeting maternal and child health disparities racially and geographically, the OCHD WIC Program coordinates services with community and clinical partners to foster relationships, bridge gaps where services are otherwise missing or suboptimal, and create linkages to avoid duplication of services.

Highlights

WIC increased caseload by 1,506 participants for FFY'19. The Lakewood and Toms River site each increased by 10%, while the Manahawkin site increased by 15%. WIC identified areas that historically were underserved with transportation being a major barrier. A Mobile Clinic was obtained to co-locate with other health organizations, food pantries and community centers to meet participants where they were at. The Lakewood clinic acquired additional space to provide a triaged clinic flow to allow families who are attending a mid-certification to receive services and benefits in an abbreviated timeframe. The first National Nutrition Month open house was held and was well received by community partners and participants who attended. A breastfeeding resource guide for clinicians was created and disseminated to clinical facilities in Ocean County to strengthen the support, advocacy and knowledge of breastfeeding for continuity of care. The OC WIC program received the IBCLC Community-Care Award.



Looking Ahead

OC WIC is invested in working with legal aides, immigration programs and church leaders to provide accurate information about Public Charge and the implications to our community. Through our Community Service Workers, maximize the use of a streamlined referral resource list and provide individual resources to those identifying as needing additional help. Working with the SWO for the receipt of EBT for WIC benefits, with the potential to be a pilot program. Continue to build on a "One-Stop-Shop" clinic by bringing additional programs onsite.

Core and Essential Public Health Services Addressed:

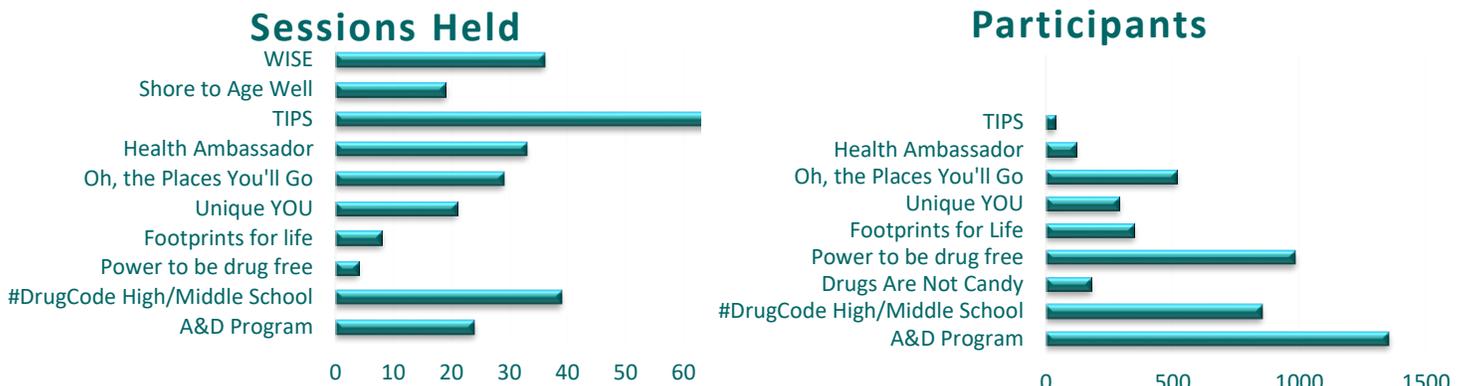


SUBSTANCE ABUSE AND ADDICTION

“Addiction is a hugely complex and destructive disease, and its impact can be devastating. All too often, lives and families can be shattered by it.” - Kate Middleton

Substance Abuse Prevention Education

In 2019, the Ocean County Health Department’s **Alcohol and Drug Unit** served 6,342 unique clients. These 6,342 clients have participated in 280 programs throughout 11 different municipalities.



Highlights

The Department of Substance Abuse, Addiction, and Opioid Dependency continues to expand the scope of the OC-OFRP with a specific focus in 2019 on working with the local police departments to implement post-narcan interviews. In 2019, the OC-OFRP was recognized as a National Model Practice through NACCHO. The OC-OFRP was a presentation at two National conferences in 2019.

Looking Ahead

The OC-OFRP is looking to develop a substance use curriculum for the Ocean County Police Academy. The prevention unit will be training and deliver a new evidence base program in 2020 titled, We Are Not Buying It.

Alcohol Education and Intoxicated Driver Resource Center (IDRC)

13
High Schools participated in AlcoholEdu

2710
9th Grade students reached with AlcoholEdu

3
High Schools participated in 3-D Program at OC Mall

Core and Essential Public Health Services Addressed:



OCEAN COUNTY RESPONSE TO CHRONIC ILLNESS

“Sometimes the smallest step in the right direction ends up being the biggest step of your life. Tip Toe if you must, but take a step.” - Naeem Callaway

Access to Services



The Ocean County Health Department (OCHD) has significantly increased access to blood pressure and cholesterol screenings for residents of Ocean County. Through the life of the Heart Disease and Stroke Prevention grant, the OCHD exceeded the 20% minimum increase in screenings performed. For blood pressure and cholesterol screenings, we have screened 276% and 372% more individuals respectively than in all of 2018 combined.

The OCHD also enrolled 103 individuals into clinical case management for ongoing health maintenance and applicable referrals and linkages to care.

Reaching Populations

Outreach occurred to low-income housing units and churches to further reach marginalized and minority communities. Specifically, the nurse scheduled LHOC! events at low-income housing facilities, John Curry and Chambersbridge Housing units to reach Hispanic and African American residents living there. She scheduled to meet monthly with seniors that receive Meals on Wheels at the Little Village Lutheran Church in Lanoka Harbor and to meet with the uninsured population at Coastal Volunteers.



Finally, the nurse has done research on different cultures and the way they prepare their meals in order to discuss culturally appropriate, yet alternate ways to enjoy their meals in a healthier manner. This has contributed to buy-in of the program and the sustainability and ongoing participation in clinical case management.

Grant Management



The OCHD’s Heart Disease and Stroke Prevention and Control program has established new partnerships with the YMCA, TR Fitness, Children’s Home society, John Curry Low Income Housing, Toms River Library, Lutheran Church and meeting clients that are home-bound.



Additionally, patient successes have begun to be seen. Among others, some include individuals that have significantly modified their diets for portion control and reductions in carbohydrate consumption, decrease in clinically prescribed medications based on weight loss and salt reduction, increase in clinically prescribed medications to control previously undiagnosed

hypertension, improved blood pressure rates, and an overall increase in clients' awareness of high blood pressure and/or high cholesterol.

The OCHD has executed the following components of our sustainability plan:

- 1) The OCHD has institutionalized heart disease and stroke screening and case management within the Live Healthy Ocean County! program including reorganizing the location of the program under Health Education to expand its focus on the delivery of services within the community and employing (and subsidizing) a registered nurse to perform the activities under the grant as a core component of our agency's efforts to impact and reduce the burden of heart disease and stroke in our County.
- 2) The OCHD incorporated cardiovascular and cerebrovascular disease with diabetes in our Community Health Improvement Plan and Health Advisory Groups to ensure a coordinated, seamless agency response to the multifaceted aspects of managing chronic diseases, and
- 3) The OCHD's Heart Disease and Stroke Prevention and Control registered nurse obtained a National Provider Identification (NPI) number to enable insurance reimbursements in the future for covered services and to help maintain long-term sustainability of the program.

Heart disease and stroke screening services were offered at more than 38 different sites across Ocean County covering rural, suburban, and urban areas. Sites included faith-based institutions, community organizations, schools, homeless shelters, women's auxiliaries, WIC clinics, outreach centers, governmental offices, low-income housing, Walmart's and more.



Individuals desiring chronic disease screening services were not required to meet eligibility or participation criteria; however, implementation sites were specifically chosen to increase the proportion of individuals from minorities and underserved communities. Of note, individuals that did not initially perceive themselves as at risk for heart disease or stroke (i.e. teachers and staff at our area schools) were similarly found to have clinical screening results indicative of hypertension.

Diabetes Management Program

The Ocean County Health Department has identified community organizations who will adopt and implement an ADCES accredited diabetes self-management, education and support (DSMES) program as follows:

- Ocean County Health Department/Ocean County Board of Health (OCHD)
- Ocean Health Initiatives, Inc. (OHI)
- Holy Temple Church of God

Of these organizations, the OCHD has applied for ADCES accreditation. OHI is currently finalizing its ADCES accreditation application with technical assistance from Meg McCarthy-Klein. Holy Temple Church of God anticipate submission of the ADCES accreditation application upon completion of their first DSMES program.

All organizations have received technical assistance from the OCHD including an electronic accreditation application toolkit specific to Ocean County. This toolkit continues to be expanded to become increasingly robust, including DSMES class curriculum and resources for unique populations (Spanish-speaking,

developmentally disabled, HIV-positive, and adults over 60 years). The Ocean County Health Department has identified diverse community organizations to become accredited as DSMES providers to ensure numerous, alternative locations throughout the County exist for DSMES programs. These partners cover all of Ocean County.

Additionally, the OCHD is committed to holding DSMES programs in the community at-large to meet our residents in the places they frequent. For example, the OCHD has a partnership with the below organizations to provide DSMES to their clients:

- Coastal Volunteers in Medicine – a clinic in southern Ocean County that provides clinical services to uninsured and uninsured individuals including undocumented immigrants
- The Arc of Ocean County – a day program in central Ocean County providing services to adults living with intellectual disabilities
- Board of Senior Services – working across the County with congregate meal sites and senior resource centers serving Medicare beneficiaries
- Ocean County Ryan White Part B Clinic – an HIV/AIDS Clinics in central Ocean County that provides clinical case management for individuals infected with HIV, many of whom are known to have diabetes

The Ocean County Health Department is working to identify and educate local primary care providers and endocrinologists, among others, of the available DSMES programs available for their clients. Additional communication has been with Ocean County’s two acute care systems (RWJBarnabas Health and Hackensack Meridian Health) to navigate hospitalized residents to DSMES Programs as well.



The Ocean County Health Department Diabetes Prevention and Control Program is actively working with community and clinical partners through the Ocean County CHIP to recruit and promote our DSMES programs. The group consists of RWJBarnabas Health, Hackensack Meridian Health, and two FQHC’s (Ocean Health Initiatives & Center for Health Education, Medicine and Dentistry), Deborah Heart & Lung Hospital, Long Beach Island Health Department, Atlanticare, Ocean/Monmouth Health Alliance, Ocean County Board of Social Services, Urgent Care Now and pharmacists from Walmart. We are currently working with our partners to continue referring participants to the DSMES program.

Highlights

Ocean County success for this quarter:

- 1) Provided assistance to OHI remotely to prepare the application for the ADCES DSMES accreditation
- 2) Completed translation of the OCHD’s DSMES program into Spanish

To date, the OCHD has executed the following components of our sustainability plan:

- 1) The OCHD has institutionalized DSMES and diabetes case management within the Live Healthy Ocean County! program including reorganizing the location of the program under Health Education to expand its focus on the delivery of services within the community and employing (and subsidizing) a registered dietitian nutritionist to perform the activities under the grant as a core component of our agency’s efforts to impact and reduce the burden of type 2 diabetes in our County,

- 2) The OCHD incorporated cardiovascular and cerebrovascular disease with diabetes in our Community Health Improvement Plan and Health Advisory Groups to ensure a coordinated, seamless agency response to the multifaceted aspects of managing chronic diseases,
- 3) The OCHD's Diabetes Prevention and Control registered dietitian nutritionist and registered nurse both obtained a National Provider Identification (NPI) number to enable insurance reimbursements in the future for covered services and to help maintain long-term sustainability of the program, and

PUBLIC AND PRIVATE PARTNERSHIPS

“Alone we can do so little; together we can do so much.”

- Helen Keller

Community Relationships

CityMD/Summit Health

Formerly Urgent Care Now of New Jersey, CityMD will continue to administer PHQ-9 depression screenings to patients as a matter of course. Should a threshold score be achieved, an immediate referral to a mental health provider is made. Over 12,000 screenings have been administered to date. This partnership is a key to the long missing link between primary care and mental health/substance use disorder.

Central Ocean Business Association (COBA)

An association representing businesses located in six different Ocean County municipalities. In 2019, Peter Curatolo spoke at COBA meetings and offered partnership with the many businesses in their coalition.

HeroCare Connect

HeroCare Connect is a concierge service assisting our veteran and active duty military members in navigating bureaucracy and accessing healthcare through private physicians as well as the Veterans Administration. HeroCare also assists in navigating the nuances of insurance, referrals and obtaining medical records at no cost to our veterans

The US Department of Veterans Affairs

This partnership is in the planning stages, and will be an outreach partnership. Future meetings will be inclusive of transportation and access to care for those in need.

Benevolent and Protective Order of Elks (BPOE)

After meeting here at the OCHD, the Elks stated that to address access to care and transportation issues, they canvassed their membership to look for volunteer drivers for those in need of transportation to go to medical appointments.

Wal-Mart

The agency is continuing to grow our partnership with Wal-Mart as all five health indicators in the current CHIP are being addressed.

- Pharmacist education regarding prevention, funding pathways for treatment, mobile drop box for safe medication disposal and Narcan giveaways
- Wellness Day initiatives included blood pressure, glucose, and cholesterol screenings. Additionally, healthy recipes/cooking demonstrations via our DSMES program were provided. Shopping tips and nutrition label education were also part of Wellness Day events.
 - Vaccinations were provided including influenza vaccinations for the public