

Prevent • Promote • Protect

2015 ANNUAL REPORT

Pueblo City-County Health Department

Landscape Photo by Justin Gage

A Message from the Public Health Director



Evidence-based public health education and practices were put to the test in 2015. As Pueblo County's new Public Health Director, I worked to implement prevention, promotion and protection of the community's health based on a business model at the Pueblo City-County Health Department (PCCHD).

One of the department's most challenging accomplishments was applying to be an accredited public health department. Accreditation will lead to high standards of services for Pueblo residents. PCCHD accreditation is anticipated in 2016.

Public health continues to work with community partners in carrying out Pueblo's Community Health Improvement Plan. Successful progress has been made on the two priority areas,

which is described in this annual report.

My vision for the future is to ensure Pueblo has a Public Health Department that educates and protects Pueblo's residents for a community where people are healthy and thriving.

Sylvia R. Proud
Sylvia R. Proud, MS, IPMA-CP
Public Health Director

Teen Pregnancy Drops Over 50% in Pueblo

- From 2002-2014 Pueblo's
- teen birth rate had a 56.9%
- decrease. This success, in part,
- was attributed to Long Acting
- Reversible Contraceptives
- (LARC). PCCHD's clinic received
- funds to purchase LARC from a
- grant Colorado received from a
- mystery donor. Five years after
- LARC products were promoted
- and provided at low or no
- cost, a reduction in teen and
- unplanned pregnancies was
- reported. LARC services continue
- to be offered through donations
- within Colorado and the Pueblo
- community.

Public Health Champion

Representatives from the Southern Colorado Runners Club received the annual Public Health Champion Award. This award is presented to an individual or organization in Pueblo who displays significant contributions to Pueblo's public health as a role model in the community. The Southern Colorado Runner's promotion of starting and maintaining exercise programs supports the Community Health Improvement Plan and public health's goal of lowering obesity rates in Pueblo.



Representatives of the Southern Colorado Runners Club, L-R Donald Moore, Gary Franchi, Jeff Arnold, Ron Dehn, Stacey Diaz, Dave Diaz

The Dish of Pueblo and Pueblo's Partner in Food Safety



The PCCHD Food Safety Program created Pueblo Partners in Food Safety Program, a voluntary program recognizing restaurants and food facilities in Pueblo County who go



above and beyond current food safety regulations to keep customers safe from foodborne illness.

The program is promoted by food inspectors during routine inspections and through social media on Facebook page "The Dish of Pueblo" and www.TheDishPueblo.com to inform the public about food safety and resources for current and potential restaurant owners in Pueblo. The goal is to decrease foodborne illness in the community, as well as make food safety education more available.

As of the end of 2015, 17 organizations representing 59 locations received the designation Partner in Food Safety.



Pueblo Partner in Food Safety Participant (Cactus Flower Restaurant) and Alejandro Lerma, Environmental Health Specialist

Walk and Wheel Grant

PCCHD received a Kaiser Permanente grant to promote active transportation (foot and bicycle) to staff members during the work day. After surveying staff members about their walking or bicycling to work, during work day activities or on breaks, the department implemented changes to promote these forms of exercise. The staff learned about bicycle safety, received incentives for participation, viewed maps of connectivity routes for walking

and bicycling, and promoted and shared lessons learned with other Worksite Wellness programs in Pueblo. The department purchased two bicycles to add to the bicycles it owns and an outdoor bicycle locker. Active transportation increased 11% by health department employees in one year.



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Public Health Supporters

PCCHD is grateful to donors who invest in Pueblo's Public Health. Long-time public health supporters Jeff and Paula Chostner, Pueblo residents, have a room named at the Health Department in their honor based on their monetary contribution in support of the Healthy Giving, Healthy Living campaign.



Jeff and Paula Chostner

Influenza Update

Pueblo experienced its highest number of hospitalized confirmed influenza cases during 2015. The flu season began early in December of 2014 and peaked in early January 2015. In total, Pueblo experienced 143 hospitalized flu cases.

Previously, the highest number of confirmed hospitalized flu cases in Pueblo was 75 in 2014.

Colorado Smelter Superfund Site Update

PCCHD received a grant for education and testing to assist the Eilers and Bessemer neighborhoods near the Colorado Smelter Superfund site.

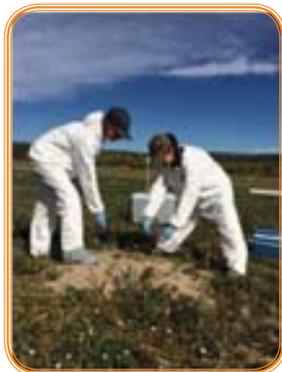
An information 'kiosk' was placed in the Eilers' neighborhood to inform residents of services the Health Department offers to assist with lead detection in homes. To assist the neighborhood around the superfund site, Environmental Health staff members were certified to offer lead risk assessments inside and outside of homes.

June 2015 PCCHD hosted a community awareness event in the Eilers' neighborhood. Lead paint testing, consumer products, dust sampling, soil screening, water testing and blood lead screenings were offered by various entities involved in the superfund site.

Plague, Tularemia, West Nile Virus and Rabies Confirmed in Pueblo

Pueblo experienced multiple diseases that are carried from insect or animal to humans. The Health Department confirmed plague, tularemia, West Nile virus and rabies during the summer of 2015.

Plague carried by fleas in Pueblo prairies resulted in a fatal human case. Environmental Health Specialists work to identify the presence of all animal to human diseases throughout Pueblo County. Once an illness is confirmed, Environmental Health Specialists inform neighboring residents in an effort to minimize the spread.



Improving the Health of Pueblo Working as a Community

Pueblo continues to make strides towards accomplishing its Community Health Improvement Plan, a plan all local public health agencies in Colorado are mandated to complete every five years. The plan is a result of a Community Health Assessment and subsequent prioritization of two goals in Pueblo: reducing obesity and teen and unintended pregnancy.

Efforts to reduce obesity rates included creating, facilitating, enhancing or improving access to places for walking, biking and physical activity and efforts to improve the food system. Food system work is related to improving the production, distribution and disposal of food to improve access to safe, affordable healthy foods and beverages for everyone.

Healthy Food in Corner Stores

A food system assessment was conducted in Pueblo County in 2013. Out of this assessment, a Healthy Corner Store Pilot Project was conducted. The goal of this project was to expand health options available at convenience stores in poverty areas.

Five Loaf N' Jug stores, in high-poverty, low access neighborhoods, volunteered to participate in the pilot project to improve healthy food options. Customers were asked about their purchasing habits and healthy food options available in the stores. The project will result in an increase of healthy food options and placement of healthy food in highly visible areas of the stores.



Pueblo City-County Health Department • 2016
Current staff member photo taken in main stairwell at PCCHD.

Colorado Active Learning Project

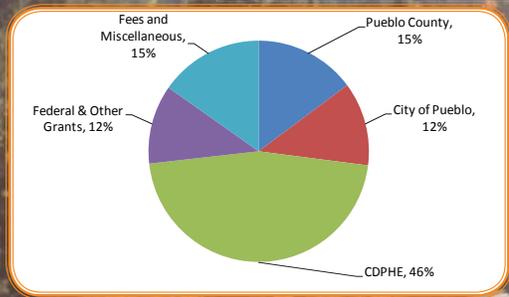
The Colorado Active Learning Project (CALP), a grant PCCHD initiated in 2011 with the goal to increase structured activity during the school day ended in 2015. CALP consist of three strategies aimed at increasing student physical activity in schools: brief classroom Brain Breaks, high energy teacher-led/peer-led games and academic playground markings to encourage active learning.

From 2013-2015, a total of **361** school and childcare faculty were trained (in Pueblo and four surrounding counties), and **18,345** children were exposed to at least one of the CALP strategies. During the three years, **\$52,400** was awarded to schools, **\$10,300** was awarded to preschools/childcare centers and **\$3,400** was awarded to community organizations, a total of \$66,100.

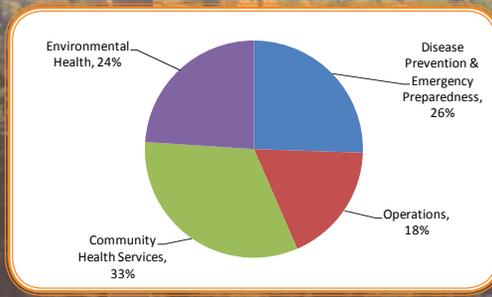
PUEBLO COUNTY

PCCHD...YOUR HEALTH DEPARTMENT

2015 Revenues (unaudited)



2015 Expenditures (unaudited)



Administration

Sylvia Proud, MS, IPMA-CP
Public Health Director

Lynn Procell, MS, BSN, RN
Community Health Services Director

Ken Williams, BS
Interim Environmental Health Director

Jody Carrillo, MS, BSN, RN
Disease Prevention & Emergency Preparedness Director

Board of Health

Eileen Dennis, RN, *President*

Michael J. Nerenberg, MD,
Vice President

Ed Brown,
Pueblo City Council

Terry A. Hart,
Pueblo County Commissioner

Donald Moore

MISSION

Pueblo City-County Health Department is a vital asset, committed to promoting and protecting the health and environment of the community through prevention, partnerships, leadership and enforcement.

VISION

Pueblo County will be a thriving, clean and safe Colorado community, proud that it exemplifies self-responsibility, active living and optimal health.

Report compiled and distributed by the Public Information Office at PCCHD. View the complete report at www.pueblohealthdept.org.



Select Public Health Services Provided

	2015	2014	2013
Animal Bites	495	495	466
Childcare Center Inspections	40	51	55
Family Planning Program Clients/Visits	1,976	1,995	2,768
Immunizations given, total	3,771	2,917	1,931
Children immunizations	3,317	1,763	765
Adult immunizations	275	896	774
Travel immunizations	179	258	392
Communicable Diseases (including TB)	589	258	370
Health Care Program for Children			
with Special Needs clients:	679	358	394
Rabid Animals:			
Submitted for testing	72	105	68
Positive rabid skunks	0	1	0
Positive rabid bats	8	14	4
Restaurant/Food Establishment Inspections	1,795	1,409	1,716
Special Event Food Inspections	611	509	952
Septic System Permits Issued:			
New installation permits	130	80	70
Remodel permits	43	63	65
Repair permits	18	14	13
Vital Statistics, total certificates issued	18,174	18,620	17,414
Birth certificates	6,593	6,831	6,604
Death certificates	11,581	11,789	10,810
WIC – Total clients/contacts	7,303	7,698	5,010
WIC – Total food voucher retail value	\$3,003,616	\$3,200,000	\$3,279,218
Population Base	161,875	161,875	158,000