

Tarrant County Public Health

THE
“BUSINESS”
OF
PUBLIC
HEALTH

2019 Annual Report

Protecting and educating is our business.

“ALPHA Pod” Tests County's Emergency Preparedness, Communications



(March 2019) In early March, Public Health's Emergency Preparedness staff held a drill to simulate a set up of an "Alpha" point of dispensing (POD) site at the Resource Connection gym in Fort Worth. The POD would be the primary location for the coordination and dispensing of staff, equipment and medications to outlying locations should a public health emergency arise locally. Municipal emergency managers, representatives from police and fire departments and other emergency response personnel from Tarrant, Dallas, Denton and Collin Counties were invited to observe. Set up time for the POD came in at just under 10 minutes.

The occasion was also a test of the Public Health Information Network (PHIN). The PHIN is a communications system consisting of alert messages sent simultaneously by radio, phone, text and email. This test involved alerting Public Health staff that the Alpha POD was to be activated, that their presence was required and if they would be able to arrive at the test site within an hour to assist with setup and operations. This test proved successful, with 100% response from all staff.

Public Health Confirms First Measles Case

(March 2019) The first case of measles in Tarrant County since 2015 was confirmed by Russ Jones, Chief Epidemiologist for Tarrant County Public Health (TCPH). The person had traveled out of the country to an area experiencing an outbreak measles.



Dallas Health and Human Services contacted TCPH shortly afterward regarding their first measles case and began joint contact investigations with TCPH. The investigations linked both cases and the people involved were able to take action that minimized exposure to others.

Award-Winning Teen Videofest Program, Now in 20th Year



(April 2019) Teen Videofest, Tarrant County Public Health's award-winning program promoting teen health, held its award ceremony during National Public Health Week. A total of 168 participants from four schools, three independent school districts and two teen organizations submitted a total of 51 videos addressing health topics such as: bullying, depression, sexually transmitted infections and underage drinking. The program has received a "Best Practice" award from the National Association of County and City Organizations. This year also marked the 20th anniversary of this program.

West Nile Virus+ Mosquito Pool Found in Colleyville



(June 2019) The county's first West Nile Virus-positive (WNV+) mosquito pool for 2019 was confirmed in a water source in the City of Colleyville. During 2019, Public Health's North Texas Regional Laboratory tested over 5,000 mosquito pools in Tarrant County, finding WNV+ pools in Colleyville, Euless, Fort Worth, Keller and unincorporated Tarrant County. In unincorporated areas, Public Health ground sprays for mosquitoes within days of a positive finding. There was only one human case of West Nile Virus in Tarrant Country for 2019.

Public Health Conducts Large Scale Immunization Events



(July 2019) In conjunction with the Immunization Collaboration of Tarrant County, Tarrant County Public Health will offer back-to-school immunizations from Aug. 3 to 30.

Parents are always urged to get their children vaccinated before the school year starts.

For 2019, immunization events were held in White Settlement, Bedford, Arlington and Fort Worth. In just one day, more than 400 immunizations were given at the Family Life Gym in Arlington. More than 5,500 people were seen during August.

Public Health provided up-to-date information on its website regarding the vaccinations required for each grade, as well as hours of operation and addresses to the various locations where shots were offered. Tarrant County Public Health also maintains an immunization registry to facilitate the storing of immunization data for individuals in Tarrant County and makes "shot record" data available to individuals as needed for a nominal cost.



Nurse-Family Partnership Program Graduates 28 New Mothers

(August 2019) Tarrant County Public Health graduated 28 young mothers from their Nurse-Family Partnership program this month. The program teams first-time expectant mothers with experienced nurses to help them prepare for birth and improve the birth outcomes of their babies. Nurses will usually stay with their client mothers and their families for two years.



Public Health Hosts First Local Human Trafficking, Domestic Violence Summit

(November 2019) The first ever summit regarding human trafficking and domestic violence took place this month. Hosted by Tarrant County Public Health, the summit "Identifying and Responding to Human Trafficking and Intimate Partner Violence in Healthcare" examined the issues of human trafficking and intimate partner violence from a healthcare and public health perspective, including: how to identify, communicate, treat, and provide resources to potential victims. Dr. Gary Kesling, Associate Director for Tarrant County Public Health issued a call to action challenge to participating agencies...



From tracking diseases and providing needed vaccinations to educating our residents, to preparing for emergencies we hope never happen, to staying up-to-date on issues affecting the health and safety of our residents, Tarrant County Public Health makes protecting the community's health...our business!

Performance Measures

	2017	2018	2019
Pregnancy tests & referrals	254	129	310
Flu shots provided	8,130	3,107	4,321
Immunizations provided	35,618	30,845	33,034
WIC - visits	638,113	441,227	460,529
Health education - health events, presentations	424	674	625
Health education - referrals	14,965	16,744	16,750
Communicable disease reports investigated	12,227	10,026	2,898*
New HIV cases reported	373	283	133
STD clinic visits	5,401	3,691	11,132
STD disease intervention, field investigations	2,671	2,680	**
Clinical lab tests performed	59,889	58,563	2,244
HIV/STD cases investigated, partners notified	1,121	1,023	**
Preventive Medicine Clinic (PMC) HIV care caseload	997	988	871
PMC clinic visits	4,785	4,448	4,491
Travel Health Services immunizations provided	3,178	2,724	1,700
TB clinic visits	5,964	4,249	5,484
TB contacts screened as part of disease intervention investigation	889	850	2,022
TB cases in Tarrant County	80	63	75
Percent of foreign-born TB cases	74	72	72
Suspected TB cases treated preventively	132	128	48
HIV co-infections (cases only)	4	5	3
Drug-resistant cases (TB)	4	3	2
Directly Observed Therapy doses administered in the field (TB)	7,853	10,730	12,895
Directly Observed Preventive Therapy doses administered (TB)	8,175	2,448	1,322
Contacts investigated (TB)	889	970	2,022
Total on therapy (TB)	91	87	98
Total with latent TB infection	430	353	324
Food establishment inspections	7,392	7,711	6,345
Swimming pool inspections	1,023	1,199	902
Onsite sewage facilities permitted	345	317	350
Mosquito pools tested for WNV	6,649	5,064	6,347
Milk and dairy lab tests performed	19,070	17,834	17,902
Water lab tests performed	19,349	19,169	18,312
Medical Reserve Corps volunteer hours	n/a	1,457	1,357
Nurse-Family Partnership graduates	42	34	28

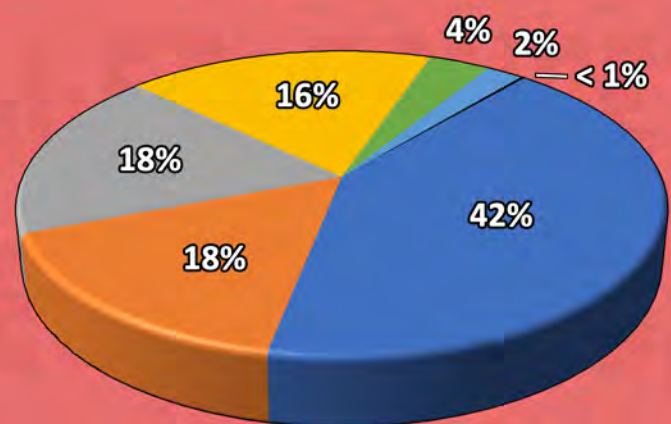
*Incomplete data received.

**Transitioned to new information system, data not available.

Funding Sources

= \$79,777,852

1115 Waiver Funds	\$33,492,155
340B Funds	\$14,438,011
Local Government Funds	\$14,358,679
State Grants	\$12,827,455
Local Fees	\$3,141,240
Federal Grants	\$1,461,957
Local Private Funds	\$58,395



Tarrant County Public Health

Accountability. Quality. Innovation.



A healthier community through leadership in health strategy

