



Health Commissioner / Medical Director Report Public Health - Dayton & Montgomery County

December 2, 2015

This report provides a monthly update for the Board of Health, staff and the community. Our key activities are listed for the seven pillars that support our vision for improving the health of our community.

- Prevent the spread of disease
 - Protect against health threats
 - Promote healthy behaviors
 - Reach out to vulnerable populations
 - Mobilize community action through partnerships
 - Prepare for and respond to public health emergencies
 - Serve as a public health information resource
-

Special items

Diversity and Inclusion Update

We continue to make progress on our actions to become a more culturally diverse and inclusive organization. These actions have included adopting our definitions for diversity and inclusion, selecting our Champions, and establishing our Steering Committee. Our committee, with input from our Champions, have developed four topics: Recruitment and Retention, Employee Development, Cultural Change, and Community Impact for our Diversity & Inclusion Plan. The committee has been meeting since the end of October and expects to have a draft plan with goals, objectives, and strategies by the middle of December.

Prevent the spread of diseases

Local Investigations

The increase in Pertussis cases continued in November; there were 10 probable/confirmed cases reported in the month (through November 20th). Ages ranged from 3 months to 16 years old; 7 of the children were less than 5 years old. There were no school or daycare links between cases. Close contacts were appropriately treated.

There were two children and one adult diagnosed with Giardia. Each was identified through testing as part of the Refugee Program. None were symptomatic; each has been prescribed appropriate treatment.

Protect against health threats

Fire in Source Water Protection Area

Staff from Environmental Health's Source Water Protection Program responded to the site of a fire in the Source Water Protection Area of Harrison Township. A commercial building used for storing vintage cars was consumed by fire on November 17th. Fire officials suspect the fire may have been related to vandalism at the property. The site is located close to the Great Miami River and 800 feet from the nearest Dayton water supply wells.

The facility is inspected every two years by EH Program staff to make sure the stored chemical inventory is within Source Water Program standards. Staff members were able to advise Harrison Fire officials that chemical storage at the site has been minimal in recent years. Vehicles are drained of automotive fluids before storage and no repair or restoration work is performed on-site. At the time of last inspection on July 16, 2015, no regulated chemicals were being stored.

Relocation of the unaffected vehicles is underway and fire officials are ordering demolition of the charred building remains. A vacant commercial building next door was undamaged by the fire, but was found to have some "orphan" drums and chemical containers left by the last business operator. The owner has apparently abandoned the property. The potential for vandalism of these containers is cause for concern. EH Program staff members are in discussion with Harrison Township and Dayton Program partners about a possible Well Field Fund Board project to clean up and better secure the vacant commercial site.

Promote healthy behaviors

November 16 was the start of Public Health's *Not a Single Pound* challenge to encourage individuals not to gain weight during the holiday season. The goal is for all participants to maintain their body weight (or lose weight if desired) during the Thanksgiving, Christmas and New Year's holidays. As we know, it is very difficult to maintain our weight over these holidays. In fact, most people gain 1-2 pounds each year from Thanksgiving through New Year's.

Unfortunately, it is not a temporary weight gain because most people never lose that weight. That seemingly small 1-2 pound weight gain each year really adds up over time...to the tune of 10-20 pounds over a ten-year period. Over the course of our lifetime it becomes a significant weight increase!

GetUp staff conducted initial weigh-ins for our participating employees beginning November 16th. A final weigh-out will be conducted the week of January 19th. All employees who maintain their weight will receive one hour of vacation time and will be entered into a raffle for three people to each receive a \$50 gift card. Employees who lose five pounds or more will receive two hours of vacation time and will be entered in a separate raffle for a chance for three people to each receive a \$50 gift card. In addition, participating employees and spouses who are covered under our benefits plan will receive 100 wellness points through Optum.

The 2014 NASP challenge was a huge success with 182 Public Health employees participating in the initial weigh-in. We also had 32 organizations that reported their results to Public Health and 78% were successful at maintaining or losing weight.



We are encouraging all community partners and citizens to participate in this challenge. Organizations can choose to conduct confidential weigh-ins and weigh-outs for employees or allow for self-reporting. Information on how to implement the challenge is available on our website at www.phdmc.org/NASP

Mobilize community action through partnerships

Addressing Childhood Asthma

Public Health is working with Dayton Children's Hospital's Center for Child Health and Wellness, Dayton Public Schools, American Academy of Pediatrics, Community Health Centers of Greater Dayton, CareSource and other partners to establish an Asthma Alliance to improve the health and wellness of asthmatic children in the Dayton area. Childhood asthma is a significant public health issue within Montgomery County. During FY 2014-2015, Dayton Children's Hospital reported 14,191 Emergency Department visits for asthma and 895 admissions. Dayton Public Schools data indicate 14% of students have asthma and it is a major contributor to school absenteeism.

Nationally, it is estimated that 1 in 11 children have been diagnosed with asthma. In Ohio, nearly 1 in 5 children living at or below the poverty level have asthma, and Black children are significantly more likely to have asthma than White, Hispanic or Asian children.

The Asthma Alliance will use the collective impact framework to:

- investigate evidence-based best practices based on local clinical and community data
- implement selected evidence-based best practices and promising strategies
- educate, advocate and engage on behalf of asthmatic children
- create and support focused subcommittees
- report actions and outcomes to families, officials, organizations and the public

Intended long-term outcomes include a reduction in:

- the number of asthma-related Emergency Department visits
- the number of asthma-related admissions
- school absenteeism
- job absenteeism for caregivers

One initial focus of the Alliance is a clinical – community linkage pilot project aimed at families whose asthmatic children attend two Dayton Public Schools' buildings: Kiser and Louise Troy. The pilot project will include education, care coordination and home environmental assessments to identify and mitigate indoor asthma triggers. Public Health's RAPCA staff is conducting the home assessments.

Prepare for and respond to PH emergencies

Opiate Summit at Sinclair Community College

The Montgomery County Opiate Summit was held on November 9th at Sinclair Community College. The Summit addressed the multi-system challenges the opiate epidemic has created for the Miami

Valley. The keynote speaker was Igor Elman, M.D. from the Wright State University Boonshoft School of Medicine. Dr. Elman presented the laboratory and clinical findings when Naloxone pharmacotherapy was used in opiate-addicted individuals.

Participants had the opportunity to choose two breakout sessions to attend. The following topics were presented: the rise of opiate use in the Miami Valley, combating infectious disease through harm reduction, prescription pain pills and sports, Ohio's response to the opiate epidemic, and the continuum of care for opiate addicted mothers.

Ebola Virus Disease

The Ebola outbreak in West Africa continues to decline. The World Health Organization reports that there have been a cumulative total of 28,634 cases (suspect and confirmed) of Ebola virus disease with 11,314 deaths, as of November 18, 2015. There are currently no countries with widespread transmission. Liberia, declared Ebola-free in September, had 3 confirmed cases from the same family identified November 19th. Guinea has reported no cases since October 29th.

On November 7th, the WHO declared the end of Ebola transmission in Sierra Leone. Total cases reported through November 18th: Guinea (3,804 cases), Sierra Leone (14,122 cases), Liberia (10,672 cases), Nigeria (20 cases), Mali (8 cases), the United States (4 cases), Senegal (1 case), United Kingdom (1 case), Italy (1 case) and Spain (1 case).

Influenza Activity

The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention's (CDC) Influenza Division collects and analyzes surveillance data year-round and produces a weekly report on U.S. influenza activity from October through May. During November, overall influenza increased slightly but pneumonia and influenza mortality remained below the epidemic threshold. For week 45 (ending November 14, 2015), Guam reported widespread influenza activity, no states reported widespread or regional influenza activity, 4 states reported local spread of influenza, 40 states (including Ohio) reported sporadic influenza activity and 6 states reported no influenza activity. Regionally (Auglaize, Champaign, Clark, Darke, Greene, Miami, Montgomery, Preble, Shelby, and Warren counties), there were 14 cases of influenza A and 2 cases of influenza B in November, with 4 influenza-related hospitalizations through week 45.

Annual MMRS Steering Committee Meeting

The annual Dayton Metropolitan Medical Response System (MMRS) Steering Committee held their annual meeting on November 10th in the Bieser Auditorium at Miami Valley Hospital. The event brings together multiple response partners from the West Central Ohio region. The meeting included updates from preparedness sub-committees and featured guest speakers addressing different preparedness topics.

Over 150 individuals from multiple response organizations were on hand to hear keynote speaker James J. Jones, M.D., Dr. P.H., M.H.A., Executive Director, Society for Disaster Medicine and Public Health provide his lecture on technical advances in disaster care. The lecture was well received and hailed as the best presentation at the event. Special Agent Richard Maier, Federal Bureau of Investigation, provided a presentation on active shooters and responding to similar incidents. In addition, Public Health's Larry Cleek, Emergency Preparedness Coordinator, provided updates for upcoming exercises in 2016 and presented an overview of the updated Regional Biological Response Plan.

Serve as the public health information resource

Global Effort to Eliminate Measles

Global efforts to immunize more children against measles have saved more than 17 million lives since 2000, according to data released by the World Health Organization (WHO) and the U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC). Measles is one of the most contagious diseases ever known. A sick person will infect 90% of the unimmunized people they come in contact with.

Children are especially vulnerable to this disease. In 2001, WHO, the CDC, the American Red Cross, the United Nations Foundation, and UNICEF launched the Measles & Rubella Initiative. The goal of the program was to cut deaths by 95% by 2015 and to eliminate measles altogether in five of six global regions by 2020. Since 2000, annual deaths from measles dropped from almost 550,000 to slightly more than 110,000. Total cases dropped from 146 per million people to just 40 per million people.

WHO officials credit massive vaccination campaigns in the Democratic Republic of the Congo and Nigeria for decreases in reported measles cases in Africa. Cases there fell from more than 170,000 in 2013 to under 75,000 in 2014. Cases also fell in Southeast Asia. Unfortunately, only half of the world's children get the recommended second vaccine dose. The numbers suggest that the plan to eradicate measles is in jeopardy. Last year there were outbreaks in China, India, the Philippines, Vietnam, Somalia, Ethiopia, and the Russian Federation. In addition, recent years have seen major conflicts with historic numbers of refugees. Refugee camps provide opportunities for infectious diseases to spread. However, camps also give aid groups an opportunity to vaccinate many people in one location.

Mass Media Interactions

During the past few weeks, we have had numerous contacts with TV, radio, and print.

The following are a few examples:

- Interviews with Chn 2, and Chn 7 and DDN on Narcan in the schools
- News Release on Halloween Safety Tips
- News Release on Thanksgiving Food Preparation Tips
- Interview with Chn 2 on pre-term birth rates
- Interview with Chn 2, Chn 7, Chn 22/45, and DDN on flu season
- Interviews with Chn 2 on violence prevention programs in the school
- Interviews with Chn 2, Chn 7 and DDN on bedbugs in the Reibold
- Interview with Chn 7 on chlamydia and HIV cases
- Interview with DDN and Chn 2 on HIV cases
- Live interview on Chn 2 about decline in number of smokers
- Interview with Chn 7 on decline of smokers

Jeff Cooper and Tom Herchline, M.D.