



# ANNUAL HEALTH PROFILE 2014





### **Mission:**

To protect, promote & improve the health of all people in Florida through integrated state, county, & community efforts.

### **Vision:**

To be the Healthiest State in the Nation

### **Core Values: (I CARE)**

**I**nnovation: -----We search for creative solutions and manage resources wisely.

**C**ollaboration:-----We use teamwork to achieve common goals & solve problems.

**A**ccountability: --We perform with integrity & respect.

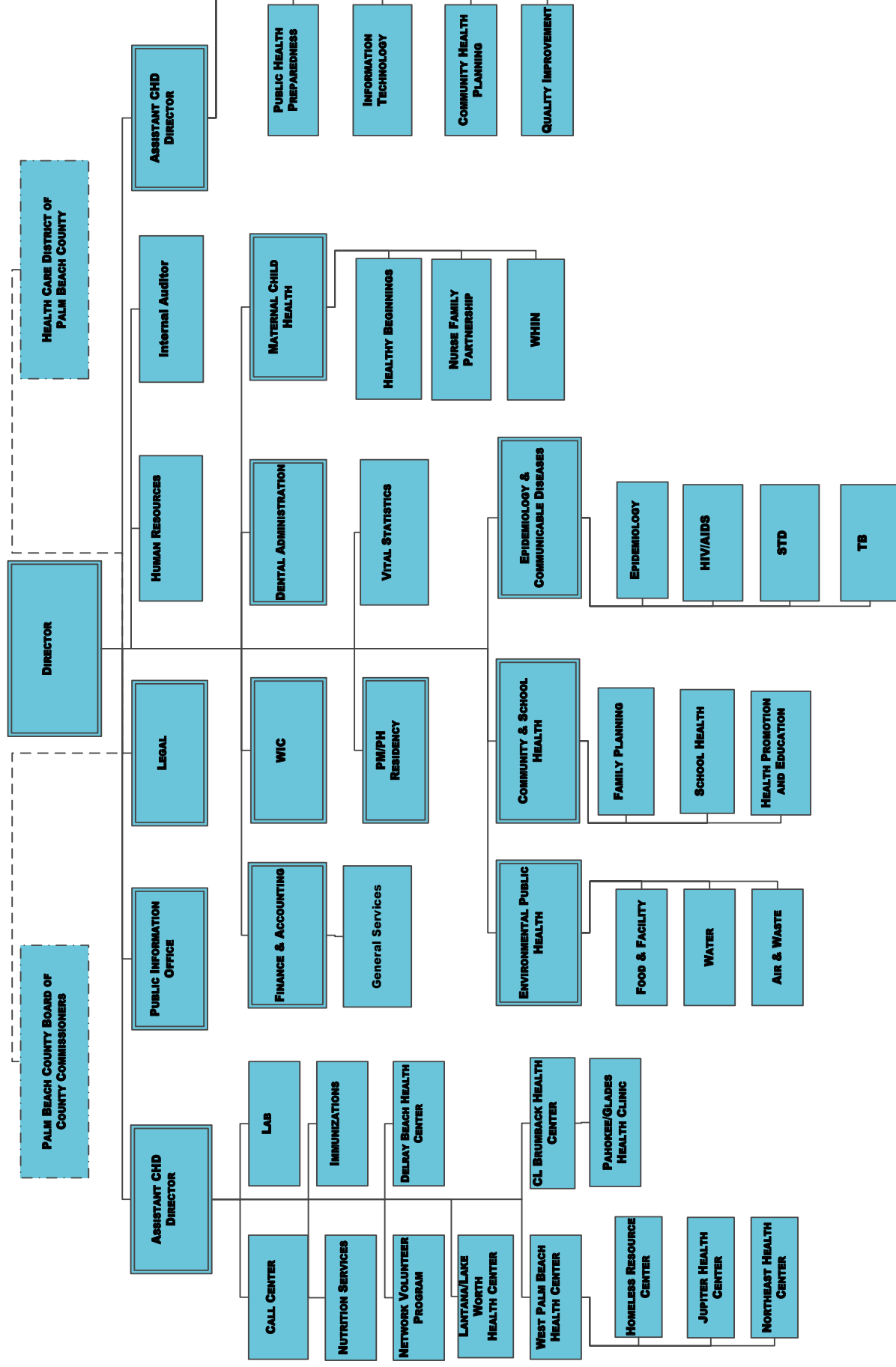
**R**esponsiveness: We achieve our mission by serving our customers & engaging our partners.

**E**xcellence: -----We promote quality outcomes through learning & continuous performance improvement.

## **TABLE OF CONTENTS**

|  |       |
|--|-------|
| Director's Message.....                                    | 3     |
| Administration .....                                       | 4-8   |
| 2014 Celebrating 125 Years of Public Health .....          | 4     |
| Vital Statistics .....                                     | 5     |
| Preventive Medicine / Public Health Residency Program..... | 5     |
| Public Health Dentistry .....                              | 6     |
| County Health Rankings .....                               | 6-7   |
| Finance & Accounting .....                                 | 8     |
| Epidemiology & Communicable Diseases .....                 | 9-13  |
| Epidemiology & Disease Control .....                       | 9-10  |
| TB Control Program .....                                   | 11-12 |
| Sexually Transmitted Disease .....                         | 12    |
| HIV/AIDS .....   | 13    |
| Community & School Health .....                            | 14-17 |
| School Health.....   | 14    |
| Community Health Initiatives .....                         | 15-16 |
| Tobacco Prevention & Control Program .....                 | 16-17 |
| Environmental Public Health.....                           | 18-20 |
| Health Access .....  | 21-24 |
| Health Centers Highlights.....                             | 21-22 |
| Immunization Health Profile .....                          | 23    |
| Comprehensive Nutrition Services .....                     | 23    |
| Volunteer Services.....                                    | 24    |
| Maternal Child Health.....                                 | 25    |
| Performance, Improvement and Preparedness.....             | 26-27 |
| Public Health Preparedness .....                           | 26    |
| Community Health Improvement Plan.....                     | 26-27 |
| WIC .....  | 27-28 |

**800 Clematis Street  
West Palm Beach, FL 33401-5107  
www.pbchd.com**





## 2014 Annual Health Profile Palm Beach County, Florida

The Florida Department of Health in Palm Beach County has been busy on many issues in the past year. We have seen a historic decrease in tuberculosis incidence statewide. Laws have been revised toward improving child safety by utilizing age - and size - appropriate car seats, booster seats, and seat belts to reduce the risk of serious and fatal injuries for young passengers. We continue to urge residents to get the flu vaccine to reduce their risk of complications from flu and the department continues to work closely with the medical provider community in an effort to maintain its current level of readiness to identify cases and respond to any diagnosed cases of measles or any other communicable diseases in Florida.

However, the number one public health threat to Florida's future is unhealthy weight. Currently, only 36 percent of Floridians are at healthy weight. On our current trend, by 2030, almost 60 percent will be obese. Additionally, six out of ten children born today will be obese by the time they graduate high school. Today is the time to get healthy in Florida.

This year, 65 local governments have already been recognized by the Florida Department of Health as Healthy Weight Community Champions - meaning they have implemented evidence-based policies that led to residents increasing physical activity and improving nutrition. 60 of the designated local governments also submitted a proclamation signed by elected area officials. These resolutions demonstrate a community commitment to the Healthiest Weight Florida campaign and a dedication of local resources to implement healthier policies.

The initiative works closely with partners to leverage existing resources to maximize reach and impact. These partners include the business community, hospitals, non-governmental organizations, non-profit agencies, other federal, state or local government agencies and volunteer coalitions. The overall goal is to bend the weight curve by 5% by 2017.

Healthy Promise Florida is an interactive campaign promoting commitments to healthy choices during 2015. Start your new year with the small step of making a healthy promise today. "Our personal health is the sum of seemingly small choices over time", said Florida State Surgeon General and Secretary of Health Dr. John Armstrong. "By participating in the Lifestyle Change Program and implementing small changes in our daily life, Floridians can achieve a healthy weight".



A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Alina Alonso'.

Alina Alonso, M.D.  
Director  
Palm Beach County Health Department



- ◆ 1889-Yellow Fever Epidemic grips the State of Florida. Legislature forms Board of Health. Dr. Joseph Y. Porter named first State Health Officer. Having contracted

yellow fever himself in 1867 while living in Key West he was one of the first to respond to the call during the yellow fever outbreak of 1888 in Jacksonville and worked without remuneration until the epidemic was quelled. Dr. Porter resigned in 1917.

- ◆ Late 1880's-South Florida had one Doctor, Richard Potter who was faced with not only yellow fever, but smallpox, malaria and other unidentified dreaded diseases. He traveled by bicycle to make home visits but with limited resources and knowledge of these emerging diseases there was not much he could do. The nearest hospital was in St. Augustine.

- ◆ 1914- A small emergency hospital was built in West Palm Beach

- ◆ 1920-Good Samaritan Hospital opened Dr. W.E. Van Landingham named Administrator where he served five years before being appointed County Physician and started the small City Health Department for West Palm Beach.

- ◆ 1938-St. Mary's Hospital was founded. A small hospital began in Belle Glade and another in Pahokee. Most patients were transferred to the coastal facilities.

- ◆ 1948-Board of County Commissioners established County Health Department but, West Palm Beach voted to keep its small health department.

- ◆ 1950-A County Commissioner met with Dr. C.L. Brumback in Oak Ridge, Tennessee where he had reorganized the health system for the U.S. Atomic Energy Commission. Following the interview Dr. Brumback was appointed Health Department Director and began organizing the new department. He formed collaborations with West Palm Beach, School Board who had four nurses, and the Kiwanis Clubs who had supported a small dental clinic. At first the Palm Beach County Medical Society saw public health as a threat to their private practices and was uncooperative. Dr. Brumback convinced them to join the collaboration for the good of the people and through the newly formed consortium identified the direction and 56 major problems needing attention.

- ◆ 1956-Polio, neonatal tetanus, tuberculosis, malaria, yellow fever, smallpox, mental illness, infant mortality,

migrant health, childhood dental problems, venereal disease, pollution were just a few of the issues facing the community. Recognizing a need for more Public Health Doctors Dr. Brumback created the first Public Health Residency within a health department. The Preventive Medicine/ Public Health Residency program still exists today.

- ◆ 1962-Environmental Public Health and Engineering established to review public and private water supplies, septic tanks, sewage treatment, labor camps, public swimming pools, trailer parks all under the Environmental Control Board.

- ◆ 25,000 migrant workers annually come to Palm Beach County. Migrant Health Act introduced to congress by Paul Rogers as a result of efforts and services provided in the county.

- ◆ 1970's-School nurses began visiting all county schools. Health centers were established in Lake Worth, Jupiter, West Palm Beach to supplement the work being conducted in Belle Glade and Pahokee.

- ◆ 1980's—The cost of hospitalizing indigent patients became an increasing problem and two hospital districts were formed in the western and southeastern parts of the county. St. Mary's Hospital absorbed the majority of patients in the Northeast until the financial burden became so great they could no longer provide the needed care. Rather than form a third hospital district a task force recommended abolishing the separate districts and form a county wide district responsible for payments to hospitals, other health care expenses, trauma, outpatient care and health services. 1988-Health Care District of Palm Beach County approved by the County Commission, State Legislature and a referendum vote.

- ◆ 1990's—State of Florida forms the Florida Department of Health and integrates all 67 County Health Departments. Dr. James Howell from Palm Beach County named first Secretary of Health under the newly formed Department.

- ◆ 2000's—Florida Department of Health in Palm Beach County continues to protect, promote, and improve the health of all people in Florida through integrated state, county and community efforts.



## Administration

### Vital Statistics

#### BIRTHS 2014

| White | Black/Other | Unk | Total  |
|-------|-------------|-----|--------|
| 9,362 | 5,039       | 22  | 14,423 |

#### DEATHS 2014

| White  | Black | Other | Unk | Total  |
|--------|-------|-------|-----|--------|
| 12,082 | 1,185 | 235   | 13  | 13,515 |



### Did you know?

- ▲ Leading causes of death among whites is heart disease.
- ▲ Leading causes of death among blacks is heart disease, cancer then stroke.
- ▲ Births to teens in Palm Beach County were down for the third year.
- ▲ Beginning in 2014 you will be able to obtain a birth certificate at any tax collector office in the county in addition to the Health Department.
- ▲ Cancer was the second leading cause of death in 2013, accounting for 3,208 of all deaths in Palm Beach County.

More Information on Vital Statistics online at [http://www.pbchd.com/vitals/birth\\_death.html](http://www.pbchd.com/vitals/birth_death.html)

## Preventive Medicine / Public Health Residency Program

The Florida Department of Health, Preventive Medicine/Public Health Residency Program is the nation's only dually accredited program. Over the present practicum year our physician residents have worked very closely with the Epidemiology Department in field investigations. Medical residents have been locally and nationally recognized for their project entitled "Emerging Locally-Acquired Chikungunya in Florida."

Residents are active in the countywide Ebola No-Touch Temperature monitoring/Ebola preparedness response and have completed two quality improvement projects at the Veterans Administration Medical Center. "Best Foot Forward" dealt with streamlining the process of podiatry consults and "Enhanced Employee Performance through Better Health" will likely be adapted for our agency. More specifically the latter project will be proposed to our Worksite Wellness Group as a future Florida Health Palm Beach County project. For more details about our program visit our updated website at [www.PBCHDResidency.org](http://www.PBCHDResidency.org).



Dr. Carl L. Brumback, Founder of the Public Health Residency Program

**41**  
physicians have  
graduated since 2000

**15**  
are working in the  
field of Public Health

**8**  
in Occupational  
Medicine

**17**  
work in research  
and/or medical fields  
outside of public  
health

**1**  
deceased



## Division of Public Health Dentistry

The Dental Division provides basic comprehensive dental services including diagnostic, preventive, emergency, restorative and surgical services. Most clients are eligible under the Medicaid and Health Care District programs.

Dental Health delivers care for clients in the following programs: The Women's Health Initiative, Nurse Family Partnership and Healthy Beginnings Programs funded through the Children's Services Council; Head Start, Children's Medical Services, as well as clients with HIV/AIDS.

During calendar year 2014 the Dental Division had over 15,260 clients and provided over 28,500 patient services. Marjorie S. Fisher's Tooth Fairy Staff provided screenings on 2,315 second graders and placed 5,539 dental sealants as it visited 29 schools. Children with immediate dental needs were referred for further treatment.

**The WIC/Dental Oral Health Early Intervention Program** – Examines and provides preventive services for the very young.

**Save a Molar Program** – Eight private practice endodontists see underprivileged teenagers in need of a root canal. Until these doctors began the program, the only alternative for these teens was extraction of the affected tooth. Upon referral from the Health Department, young patients are treated at no charge in the private offices of these generous dentistry specialists.



## County Health Rankings

The Florida Department of Health in Palm Beach County recognizes the value in measuring health outcomes and acknowledged the sixth annual County Health Rankings & Roadmaps tool released by the University of Wisconsin and the Robert Wood Johnson Foundation. This study highlights the many community factors that influence health and uses established data, much of which is available from the department at [www.floridacharts.com](http://www.floridacharts.com).

"There is always room for improvement and we remain committed to moving health forward in Palm Beach," said Palm Beach County health director Alina Alonso, MD. "We are very pleased that through the collaboration of our many local partners that Palm Beach County continues to be in the top 10 of healthy communities in the State."

These rankings are a snapshot of the health of counties across the country and they emphasize that health is not a singular effort but a combined work in progress across all community partners. The department works in collaboration with local governments, non-profit organizations, health care facilities, business groups, schools, faith-based organizations and many other stakeholders to improve the health of all people in Palm Beach County. These rankings use data related to physical environments, social and economic factors, health behaviors and clinical care.

In Palm Beach County, the Community Health Improvement Plan (CHIP) is designed to address specific opportunities for improved health that have been identified by the community. The joint efforts identified in CHIP have shown improvements in the areas of diet and exercise by improving the fitness areas within parks, adding walking paths and encouraging the "Let's Move" campaign to combat obesity.

Palm HealthCare Foundation has played a pivotal role in encouraging a healthy lifestyle in Palm Beach County. They have promoted Diabetes Awareness, 5-2-1-0 Let's Go, Let's Move fitness campaigns and more. "We are dedicated to improving the health of our community," said Marge Sullivan of Palm Healthcare.

## Palm Beach (PB)

|                                      | Palm Beach<br>County | Error<br>Margin | Top U.S.<br>Performers* | Florida | Rank<br>(of 67) |
|--------------------------------------|----------------------|-----------------|-------------------------|---------|-----------------|
| <b>Health Outcomes</b>               |                      |                 |                         |         | <b>10</b>       |
| <b>Length of Life</b>                |                      |                 |                         |         | <b>8</b>        |
| Premature death                      | 6,164                | 6,002-6,327     | 5,200                   | 6,893   |                 |
| <b>Quality of Life</b>               |                      |                 |                         |         | <b>21</b>       |
| Poor or fair health                  | 12%                  | 11-15%          | 10%                     | 16%     |                 |
| Poor physical health days            | 3.3                  | 2.8-3.8         | 2.5                     | 3.7     |                 |
| Poor mental health days              | 3.4                  | 2.8-3.9         | 2.3                     | 3.8     |                 |
| Low birthweight                      | 9.1%                 | 8.9-9.3%        | 5.9%                    | 8.7%    |                 |
| <b>Health Factors</b>                |                      |                 |                         |         | <b>10</b>       |
| <b>Health Behaviors</b>              |                      |                 |                         |         | <b>4</b>        |
| Adult smoking                        | 14%                  | 12-16%          | 14%                     | 18%     |                 |
| Adult obesity                        | 22%                  | 20-25%          | 25%                     | 26%     |                 |
| Food environment index               | 7.3                  |                 | 8.4                     | 7.0     |                 |
| Physical inactivity                  | 22%                  | 20-25%          | 20%                     | 23%     |                 |
| Access to exercise opportunities     | 98%                  |                 | 92%                     | 93%     |                 |
| Excessive drinking                   | 15%                  | 13-18%          | 10%                     | 16%     |                 |
| Alcohol-impaired driving deaths      | 31%                  |                 | 14%                     | 29%     |                 |
| Sexually transmitted infections      | 290                  |                 | 138                     | 402     |                 |
| Teen births                          | 30                   | 29-31           | 20                      | 36      |                 |
| <b>Clinical Care</b>                 |                      |                 |                         |         | <b>13</b>       |
| Uninsured                            | 25%                  | 24-26%          | 11%                     | 24%     |                 |
| Primary care physicians              | 1,299:1              |                 | 1,045:1                 | 1,423:1 |                 |
| Dentists                             | 1,449:1              |                 | 1,377:1                 | 1,874:1 |                 |
| Mental health providers              | 597:1                |                 | 386:1                   | 744:1   |                 |
| Preventable hospital stays           | 49                   | 48-50           | 41                      | 59      |                 |
| Diabetic monitoring                  | 86%                  | 84-88%          | 90%                     | 85%     |                 |
| Mammography screening                | 72.9%                | 71.2-74.5%      | 70.7%                   | 67.7%   |                 |
| <b>Social &amp; Economic Factors</b> |                      |                 |                         |         | <b>27</b>       |
| High school graduation               | 77%                  |                 |                         | 75%     |                 |
| Some college                         | 61.5%                | 60.4-62.7%      | 71.0%                   | 60.1%   |                 |
| Unemployment                         | 7.3%                 |                 | 4.0%                    | 7.2%    |                 |
| Children in poverty                  | 23%                  | 20-25%          | 13%                     | 25%     |                 |
| Income inequality                    | 4.9                  | 4.8-5.0         | 3.7                     | 4.6     |                 |
| Children in single-parent households | 37%                  | 36-38%          | 20%                     | 38%     |                 |
| Social associations                  | 6.3                  |                 | 22.0                    | 7.3     |                 |
| Violent crime                        | 503                  |                 | 59                      | 514     |                 |
| Injury deaths                        | 68                   | 66-70           | 50                      | 69      |                 |
| <b>Physical Environment</b>          |                      |                 |                         |         | <b>24</b>       |
| Air pollution - particulate matter   | 10.6                 |                 | 9.5                     | 11.4    |                 |
| Drinking water violations            | 6%                   |                 | 0%                      | 6%      |                 |
| Severe housing problems              | 25%                  | 24-25%          | 9%                      | 22%     |                 |
| Driving alone to work                | 79%                  | 78-79%          | 71%                     | 80%     |                 |
| Long commute - driving alone         | 33%                  | 32-34%          | 15%                     | 38%     |                 |

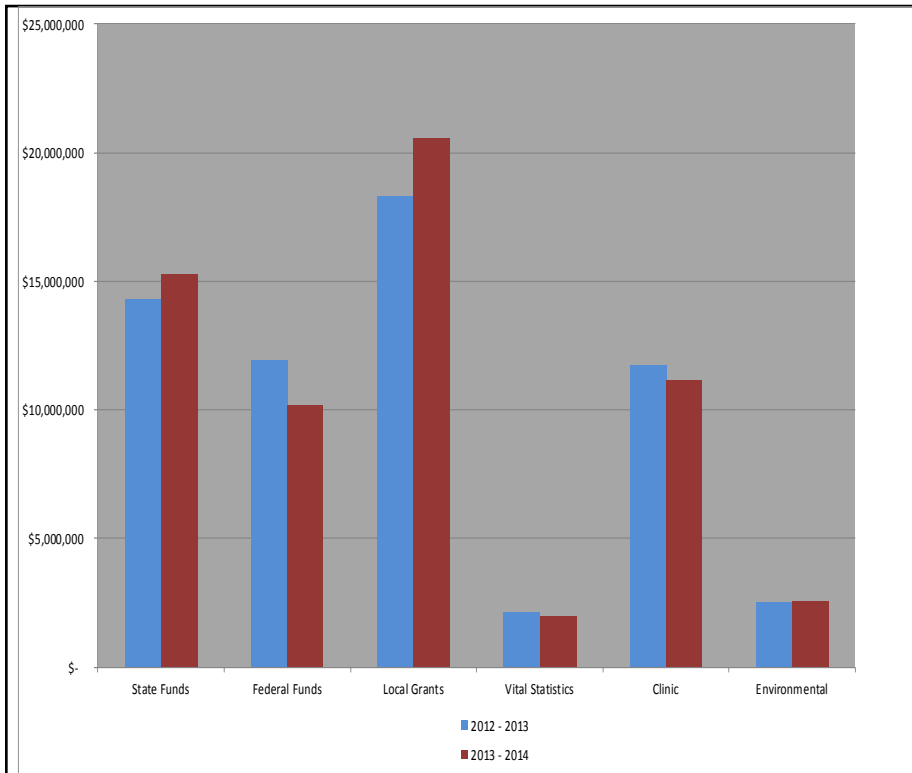
\* 90th percentile, i.e., only 10% are better.

Note: Blank values reflect unreliable or missing data

2015



## Finance & Accounting



### State Funds

**\$ 15,272,581**

### Federal Funds

**\$ 10,186,370**

### Local Grants

**\$ 20,560,094**

### Fees

### Vital Statistics

**\$ 1,962,127**

### Clinic

**\$ 11,174,509**

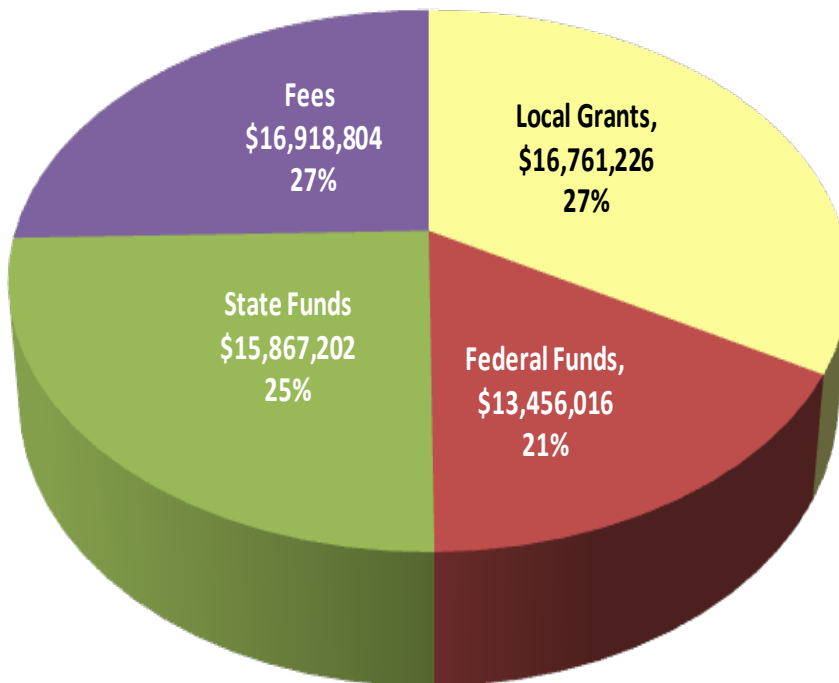
### Environmental

**\$ 2,558,480**

## TOTAL INCOME 2014

**\$61,714,161**

### Revenue % by Source



## Epidemiology and Communicable Diseases 2014

The Division of Epidemiology is responsible for monitoring, investigating and reporting to the Florida Department of Health all communicable diseases which appear on the "Reportable Diseases/ Conditions in Florida Practitioner List". The intent of this list is to identify conditions or clusters which may be of public health concern. With the institution of early detection and intervention measures, further transmission into the community can be averted.

The Epidemiology Department complies with the Florida Statutes 64 D-3 which states, "Any practitioner, licensed in Florida to practice medicine, chiropractic, naturopathy or veterinary medicine, who diagnosis or suspects the existence of a disease of public health significance shall immediately report the fact to the Department of Health. Florida Department of Health in Palm Beach county serves as the DOH's representative in this reporting requirement.

### Norovirus

In March, there was a norovirus outbreak associated with a grocery store. Epidemiology was notified of a possible foodborne illness outbreak associated with a luncheon at a local church in Boca Raton. Initial reports indicated that 15 individuals from different families had become ill with abdominal cramps, diarrhea and vomiting lasting for 24-48 hours after eating catered foods from a local grocery store in Boca Raton. In response to this complaint an outbreak investigation was done by Food and waterborne disease programs, Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services and DOH-Palm Beach. Interviews were conducted to determine causative agent related to food item and intervention strategies were implemented to prevent further transmission. Stool samples were sent to Bureau of Public laboratories which confirmed norovirus G2.

### Chikungunya

In July Epi confirmed the first locally acquired case of Chikungunya in a 51 yr old male with no history of international travel. The disease is caused by the bite of an infected mosquito characterized by fever, bilateral joint pains, muscle aches, headaches and fatigue. A Countywide Chikungunya advisory was issued for Palm Beach on 7/17 and upgraded to an alert on 7/31 with the confirmation of the second locally acquired case. The incident command structure was activated with the collaborations of multiple internal and external partners, local hospitals, medical providers, mosquito control, environmental health, and deployment of strike teams for communities surveillance. The objectives were defined: to determine if there was sustained

transmission, establish intervention strategies, assess the quality of our surveillance systems, and improve on our outreach messages to the public and the providers. A sero-survey was conducted which provided education, mosquito repellent, Drain and Cover messages, and gathered relevant data which was critical to mosquito control for the targeted eradication of mosquito breeding sites. Three separate deployments within 100 mile radius of confirmed cases to determine degree of spread. At the end of December, there were five locally acquired cases of Chikungunya and 44 imported cases in Palm Beach County. The State totals for the year were 11 locally acquired cases and 459 imported cases.

### Enterovirus D68

In September, a nationwide outbreak of enterovirus D68 across the United States was detected which was characterized by a severe respiratory illness primarily affecting children. The outbreak was first detected in Colorado which involved nine hospitalized children with neurologic illness with limb weakness that was preceded by respiratory symptoms. As with infections from other respiratory viruses, severe illness resulting from EV-D68 infection is more common among children with pre-existing respiratory conditions, such as wheezing and asthma. Bureau of Epidemiology responded by increasing surveillance and making clinical diagnostic testing for enterovirus available to hospitals with pediatric intensive care units interested in enterovirus PCR testing, culture and strain typing in cases involving severely ill children who test negative for influenza and respiratory syncytial virus. Palm Beach Epidemiology provided regular communications utilizing dialogics blast fax system to relay testing guidelines and protocols to local hospitals, urgent care, walk-ins and the medical community which offered fee-based screening for enteroviruses through the Bureau of Public Health Laboratories. At year end there were 14 confirmed cases of entero-viruses D68 reported in Florida ( Alachua, Columbia, Clay, Escambia, Gadsden, Lake, Leon, Polk, Walton. Although multiple samples were forwarded to the state lab from Palm Beach, all tests results were reportedly negative.

### Ebola monitoring

In October as part of Florida's response to the ongoing Ebola outbreak in West Africa, individuals traveling to Florida from Ebola impacted countries were monitored twice daily for symptoms consistent with Ebola ( nausea, vomiting, diarrhea, abdominal cramps, fever) for a 21 day period. These were travelers from the impacted areas of Sierra Leone, Liberia, Guinea and Mali. Mali was subsequently removed from the list (no new cases in 2 incubation cycles).

Centers for Disease Control in collaboration with DOH Guidance documents and screening algorithms were provided to the hospitals and medical provider community. In addition multiple seminars, conferences, trainings on donning and doffing of personal protective equipment, and waste disposal were provided. Collaborations with state and local agencies for appropriate triage, transport and management of clients were provided through experts from all over the United States. At the end of 2014, there were no known cases of Ebola in Florida. From October to December, there were 14 travelers to Palm Beach County from Ebola impacted countries that were monitored for 21 days.

## Influenza

2013-2014 Influenza Season Surveillance Report.

The influenza season typically starts in October and ends in May of each year, and is comprised of collaborative data collection sources.

## Palm Beach County Influenza Surveillance Systems

The Epidemiology program utilizes multiple surveillance systems to monitor influenza activity. The systems are:

- ◆ ESSENCE System (Syndromic surveillance system that monitors emergency room (ER) visits through chief complaint data)
- ◆ Skilled nursing facilities (SNFs) and assisted living facilities (ALFs) weekly influenza-like illness (ILI) reports and outbreaks
- ◆ Viral surveillance from local hospitals and specimens submitted to the Florida Department of Health Bureau of Laboratories
- ◆ Students with ILI reported by school nurses in Palm Beach County
- ◆ Other influenza or ILI outbreaks.
- ◆ ESSENCE-FL Pneumonia& Influenza Mortality
- ◆ Outpatient Influenza-Like Illness Surveillance Network (ILINet)

ILI is defined as fever  $\geq 100^{\circ}$  F and cough and/or sore throat (in the absence of a known cause other than influenza)

## Figure 1: Influenza -like Illness (ILI) emergency room (ER) visits during 2013-2014 Flu Season

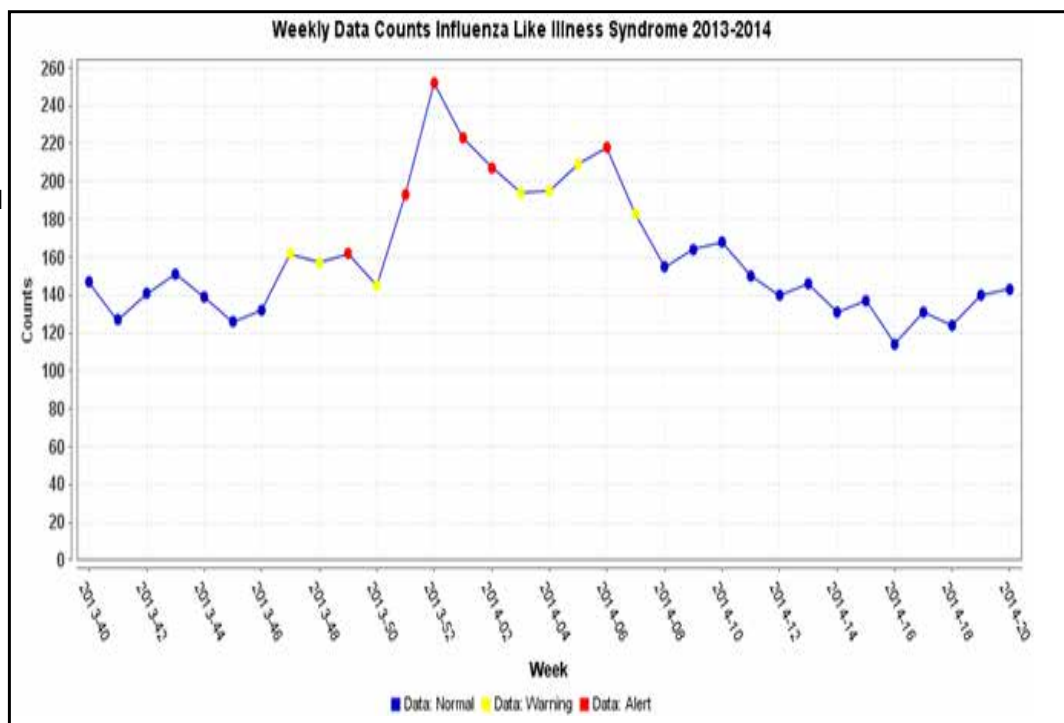
During the 2013-2014 influenza season there was an increase in ILI ER chief complaints from week 50/2013 to week 52/2013 and week 06/2014. The morbidity trend began to decrease from that point.

No Flu outbreaks were reported during the 2013-2014 flu season.

## Shigellosis

Palm Beach County saw a dramatic increase in the number of Shigellosis cases.

There were 335 confirmed cases of Shigella in 2014 compared to 38 cases reported in 2013. Many of these cases have occurred in children. Collaborations are underway to work with environmental health, school health and the school district to determine new strategies to address the issue, inclusive of an education campaign



## Communicable Diseases

### Tuberculosis (TB) Control Program

TB is a disease caused by a germ called *Mycobacterium tuberculosis* that is spread from person to person through the air. When a person with active TB coughs or sneezes, droplet nuclei containing *M. tuberculosis* are expelled into the air. If another person (contact) inhales air containing these droplet nuclei, he or she may become infected.

However, not everyone infected with TB bacteria becomes sick. As a result, two TB related conditions exist: latent TB infection (LTBI) and TB disease.

Persons with LTBI do not feel sick and do not have any symptoms. They are infected with *M. tuberculosis*, but do not have TB disease. The general symptoms of TB disease include feelings of sickness or weakness, weight loss, fever, night sweats, coughing, chest pain and coughing up blood.

TB disease occurring in the lungs is contagious and requires immediate isolation to protect others. The Palm Beach County Tuberculosis Control Program is responsible for TB prevention and control countywide.

Our Goal is to:

- ◆ Identify, treat TB disease until cured
- ◆ Provide preventive treatment to those (LTBI) most at risk of developing TB disease
- ◆ Provide training and education

TB Control Program oversees, manages, and facilitates the various activities and interventions necessary to assure identification and proper treatment of all individuals with TB to eliminate its subsequent spread to others.

The TB Program also maintains a surveillance system for TB in the health department's service area. One of the National TB Program Objectives and Performance Targets for 2015 is to increase the proportion of patients who complete treatment within 12 months to 93.0%.

The Florida State Health Improvement Plan (SHIP) goal is to reduce the Florida TB case rate to 3.5 cases per 100,000 populations by the year 2015.

The Palm Beach County TB Control Program aims to prevent the transmission of TB and the progression of Latent TB Infection to TB disease. In recent years, the TB Control Program has achieved important improvements.

The reduction of the burden of TB disease by early detection and completion of TB treatment and the prevention of transmission to close contacts of infectious TB patients are just some of them. These improvements were achieved while facing and overcoming a challenging scenario of constrained resources and decreased categorical funds for previous fiscal years.

### TB Program Accomplishments:

- ◆ The number of new TB cases in the county, has been reduced from 167 in the year 1994 to 50 cases in 2014. The TB case rate was estimated at 3.7 per 100,000 in Palm Beach County in the year 2014 compared to 4.1 per 100,000 in the year 2013.
- ◆ The reduction of the burden of TB disease by early detection and completion of TB treatment and the prevention of transmission to close contacts of infectious TB patients are just some of them.
- ◆ 95.9% of TB patients were started on the recommended initial four drug regimen when suspected of having TB in Palm Beach County in the year 2013. 91.7 % of TB patients were started on the recommended initial four drug regimen when suspected of having TB in Palm Beach County in the year 2014. The national target for the year 2015 is 93.4%.
- ◆ The percentage of eligible TB patients completing therapy within 12 months was 85.3% for the year 2013 in Palm Beach County. The national target for this indicator is 93% for the year 2015.

### TB Laws and Rules

Florida State Statutes – Tuberculosis Control Act, Chapter 392

TB Reporting

Florida law requires the Department of Health to periodically issue a list of diseases determined to be of public



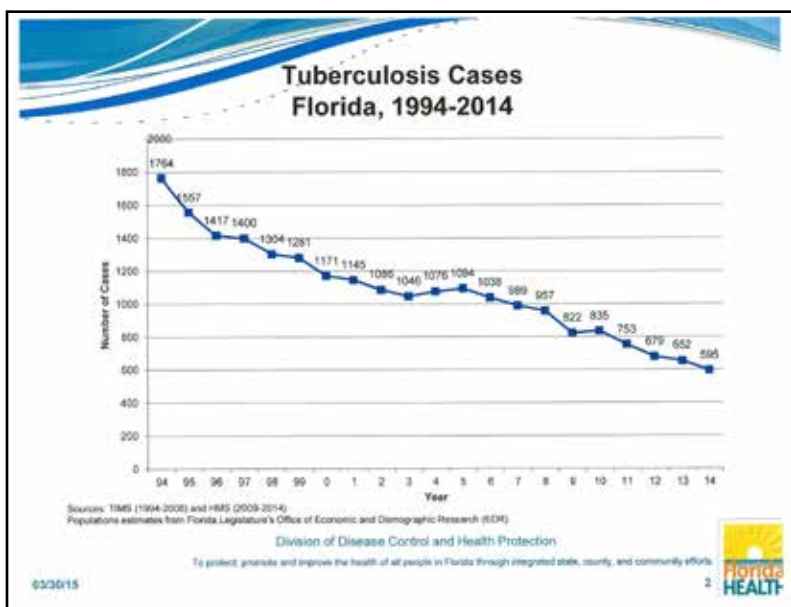
health significance and that are required to be reported to the county health departments. Note Tuberculosis has to be reported immediately.

### TB Reporting Requirements for Health Care Providers:

By law health care providers are required to report TB cases and suspects within one business day of diagnosis, and must provide supporting documentation for the diagnosis within 72 hours.

### TB Reporting Requirements for Laboratories:

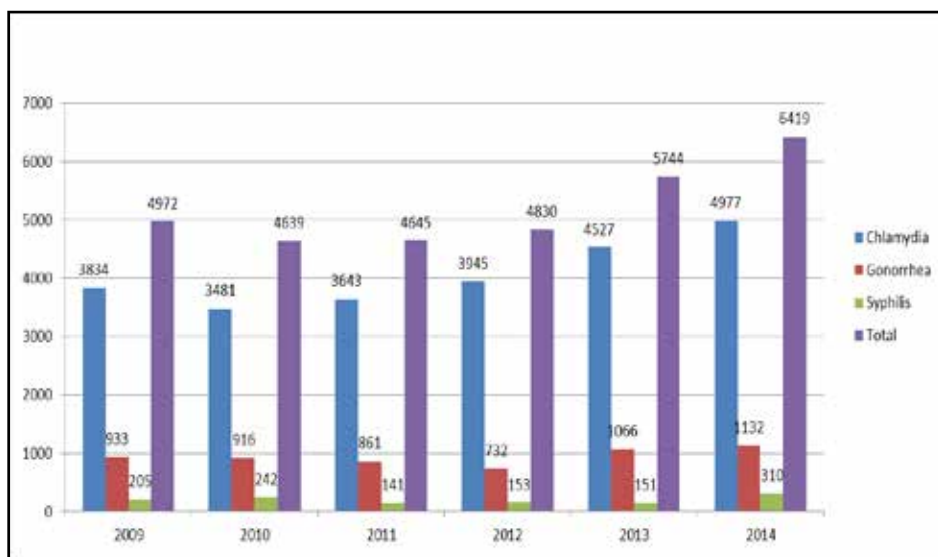
Each person in charge of a laboratory which performs cultures for mycobacteria or refers specimens for mycobacterial cultures to other laboratories is required to report all specimens positive for *Mycobacterium tuberculosis*, *M. Bovis* or *M. Africanism* within 72 hour.



## Sexually Transmitted Diseases

Palm Beach County reported 6,419 Sexually Transmitted Disease cases in 2014 (Syphilis - Under one year duration, Chlamydia and Gonorrhea) which accounts for 6% of the total cases reported by the State of Florida. This is also an increase from the number of cases reported 2013 (5,744).

Palm Beach County Reported Cases of Chlamydia, Gonorrhea and Syphilis 2009 – 2014



Palm Beach County reported 5% increase in the number of Gonorrhea cases in 2014 (1,132) when compared to 2013 (1,066). Likewise, Palm Beach County reported 9% increase in the number of Chlamydia cases (4,527 cases in 2013 to 4,977 cases in 2014) and 51% increase in the number of early Syphilis cases (151 cases in 2013 to 310 cases in 2014). The county reported five infants treated for Syphilis shortly after birth when appropriate treatment history was not verified with the mothers before and/or after delivery.

The implementation of the Private Reporting Option TEXT – PROTEXT (patients receive their Chlamydia and Gonorrhea test results via coded text messaging using a cellular phone) project has proven worthy along with other measures to reduce the period between positive lab results from patients to treatment. Palm Beach County was recently recognized as a large county that achieved high ratings (96%) for patients diagnosed and treated within County Health Department Clinics within 14 days or less.

Currently there is an effort to expand PROTEXT to PROTEXT-Plus which we hope to include Syphilis and HIV results. This is certain to improve service and service delivery for the citizens of our county.

# HIV/AIDS

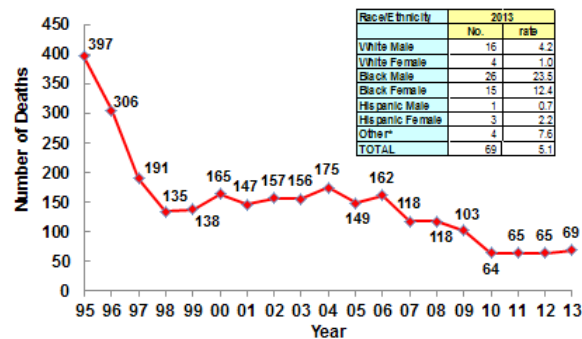
**1. Resident Deaths due to HIV Disease:** Significant decrease continues in the HIV Resident Death Rate! This data represent an 83% decline in HIV Resident Deaths due to HIV Disease from the peak year of 1995 to 2013. This is much higher than the 78% decline observed by the state. In order to estimate the current burden of HIV/AIDS care and treatment needs within Palm Beach County, it is important to analyze the HIV/AIDS case deaths over a period of time.

## 2. The Continuum of HIV Care in Palm Beach County, 2014

Why should we be concerned with the continuum of HIV Care in Palm Beach County?

- The continuum of care is closely tied to the National HIV/AIDS strategy goals, which include: reducing the number of people who become infected with HIV, increasing access to care and improving health outcomes for people living with HIV and reducing HIV-related health disparities.
- The continuum of HIV care is vital to improve engagement at every stage in a continuum of care, including: HIV testing and subsequent diagnosis, linkage to HIV medical care, continuous engagement in HIV medical care (retention), initiation of antiretroviral therapy (ART) and suppressed viral load (<200 copies/mL). Having a suppressed viral load (undetectable HIV viral load of <200 copies ML) indicates that the person's HIV medications are working

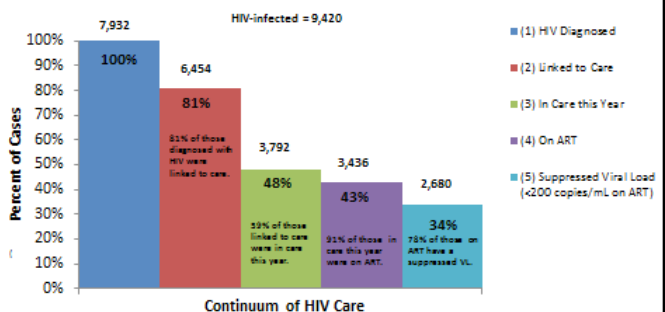
### Resident Deaths due to HIV Disease, By Year of Death, 1995-2013, Palm Beach County



Source: Florida Department of Health, Bureau of Vital Statistics, Death Certificates (as of 05/16/2014). Population data are provided by Florida CHARTS. \*Other includes Asian/Pacific Islanders, Native Alaskans/American Indians and mixed races.



### Number and Percentage of HIV-Infected Persons Engaged in Selected Stages of The Continuum of HIV Care – Palm Beach County - 2013



- ▲ Number of cases known to be alive and living in Palm Beach County through 2013, regardless where diagnosed, as of 06/30/2014.
- ▲ Ever in Care = 81% of those cases were linked to care, based on persons living with HIV disease in Palm Beach County (regardless of where diagnosed) who ever had a CD4 or Viral load (VL) test in the electronic HIV/AIDS Reporting System (eHARS).
- ▲ 59% of cases were in care this year for persons living with HIV in Palm Beach County (regardless of where diagnosed) and having at least one HIV-related care service involving either a VL or CD4 test or a refill of HIV-related RX.
- ▲ Estimated 91% of In care and on ART this year in Palm Beach County.
- ▲ Estimated 78% on ART & the viral load is <200 this year in Palm Beach County

## 3. Palm Beach County is the first county in Florida to use density mapping to indicate that there is a direct correlation between elevated community viral loads and new HIV infection.

- ▲ The Health Department and the Palm Beach County Department of Community Services partnered together to present an abstract entitled "Density mapping shows a correlation of elevated community viral loads and new HIV infection in Palm Beach County." The abstract was presented during the 2014 South Florida GIS Expo in October.
- ▲ The use of Geographical Information System (GIS) to create density maps improved upon past practice that limited mapping HIV disease incidence by zip code boundaries. Density mapping provided a more accurate description of the HIV disease and identified changes in geographical concentration and distribution of HIV disease in the county. (Palm Beach is the first county in Florida to use density mapping in this way.)
- ▲ Preliminary analysis of the results showed that areas with high density of persons living with HIV disease were positively correlated with new HIV infection diagnosis. Both agencies will use this data to develop a more concise strategic HIV prevention plan and encourage collaboration with other community organizations Enhancing resource allocations that link clients to HIV care will aid in reducing the community viral load and HIV incidence.

## COMMUNITY & SCHOOL HEALTH

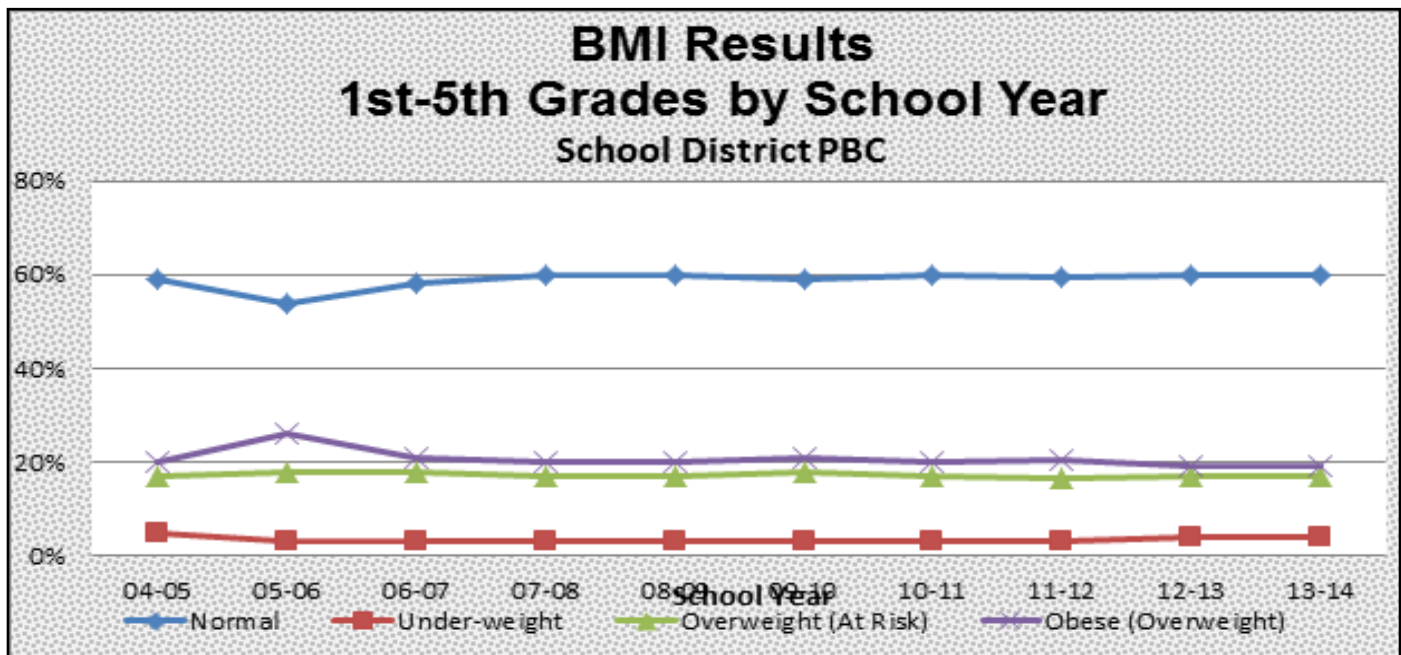
Protecting and improving the health of all people and all communities within Palm Beach County are the overall goals for staff providing services within the division. These are achieved through a variety of means including education, promotion of healthy lifestyles, monitoring health status, policy promotion and provision of specific health services. Collaboration, respect for cultural diversity, embracing innovation and incorporating evidence-based and best practices are fundamental in working effectively to support and promote healthy communities.

### School Health

The Palm Beach County School Health Program is a collaborative partnership of the health department with the School District of Palm Beach County and the Health Care District of Palm Beach County. The health department is responsible for administrative oversight of the program. School health services including health screenings and nursing services are available to all students attending public schools in Palm Beach County. The goal is to promote student health through prevention, education, early intervention, and referral for acute or chronic health problems.

School nurses care for students that have chronic health conditions, injuries, illnesses or communicable diseases. Nurses provide health counseling, referral and follow-up of suspected or confirmed health problems. The Health Care District monitors and reports to the health department the incidence of influenza like illness (ILI) recorded weekly by the school nurses. This provides important trending information to enable quick response to influenza outbreaks in schools and the community at large. For school year 2013-2014, there were a total of 179,542 students in pre-K through 12th grade. School health program staff included 226 nurses and 12 health aides. They provided a total of 1,301,972 school health services and administered 182,119 medication doses during the school year.

Mandatory health screenings for vision, hearing, scoliosis and growth and development are provided in designated grades. The screening of student's height, weight, and BMI has been helpful in tracking the obesity rate among school children in our county. School nurses counsel and educate parents and their children on healthy eating and the health benefits of increased physical activity. For students with underlying health problems related to weight, the school nurse's case management can be helpful in impacting positive health outcomes later in life.

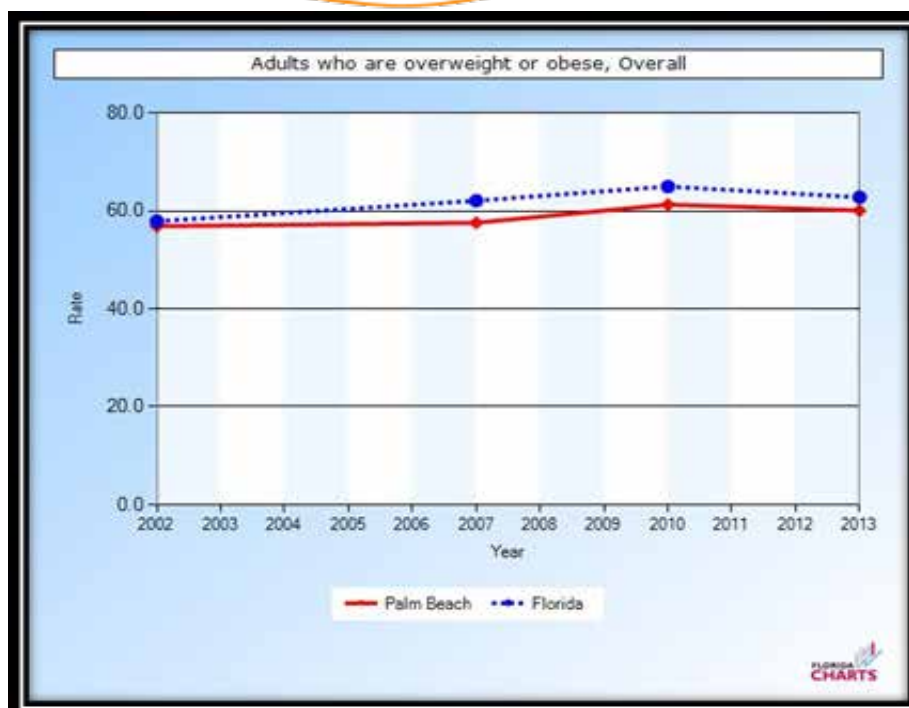


School health staff target efforts to increase immunization compliance in the county through education and training of school nurses, school administrative staff, local healthcare providers and their office staff, parents and the general public on vaccine standards and school requirements. Multiple challenges exist to improving compliance rates and include a large immigrant population without immunization documentation, significant turnover of provider staff, and an increase in parents seeking religious exemptions for their children. During school year 2013-2014, review of 9,647 student school health records from grades K-12 found 95.48% meeting state requirements for immunization.

## Community Health

The process of community engagement and collaboration strengthens the work we do daily with our public health partners to plan, prioritize, and make decisions on the most effective prevention strategies that address the health problems. To maximize our resources to address the health status of the community, it is imperative that we continuously share health data; review the health behavior, socioeconomic factors and environmental conditions; and engage the consumers as often as possible to achieve successful health outcomes. Partnerships in action facilitate a convincing force in supporting a healthier community.

Adults in Palm Beach County who are overweight or obese decreased from 61.3% to 60.1%. Our goal is 59% by 2017. With the help of our internal resources and subject matter experts and community partnerships, we are certainly heading in the right direction.



### Accomplishments:

#### Healthiest Weight FL Initiative



The Healthiest Weight FL is a statewide initiative led by our State Surgeon General, Dr. Armstrong with the intent of forging public and private collaboration in our communities to help children and adults make better choices about healthy eating and active living.

- ◆ Provided health education to 40 external customers during Customer Service Week, by disseminating 5-2-1-0 Let's Go palm cards, DASH diet pocket guides, and hypertension brochures.
- ◆ Promoted Food Day on October 24th with our internal staff to celebrate and encourage healthier eating.
- ◆ Participated in our first "FL Health Cleans Up" at the Boynton Beach Oceanfront Park and Public Beach to promote physical activity and contribute to a healthier, litter-free environment.



Since its inception in February 2012, the Community Call to Action on Obesity has accomplished much in addressing the strategies outlined in their strategic plan. The three strategies include the 5-2-1-0 Let's Go! Initiative, the National Diabetes Prevention Program, and the Commit to Change Initiative.

This social marketing campaign is an evidence-based community-wide strategy for improving children and their family's health by promoting healthy behaviors. The goal is to create a supportive environment for the family. This message communicates four key behaviors (5-2-1-0) that promote healthy weight and overall good health.

- 5** or more fruits and vegetables a day
- 2** hours or less of recreational screen time (TV, computer, smart phones, video games, or tablets)
- 1** hour or more physical activity
- 0** sweet drinks



- ◆ 5-2-1-0 Let's Go! has been invited to participate in over 200 events.
- ◆ Our collaboration with the Quantum Foundation and the University of Miami's MD/MPH Program provided a valuable Capstone Project; which enabled the medical student, Diana Roman to pair up with our 5-2-1-0 Let's Go! Action Team to create a Healthy Habits to Live By summer pilot program.
- ◆ The program ran for eight weeks for students in grades three to five at three schools. Over 130 students participated, which focused on physical activity (Zumba) and health education on the four healthy behaviors.
- ◆ The program successes included increased awareness of the overall 5-2-1-0 message; an increase of water or milk intake instead of soda; and some other common attitudes expressed toward healthy behavior changes included, eating more vegetables, eating dinner with their family more, watching less TV and playing outside.
- ◆ The program expands during the summer to over 286 youth ages 6-11 and 98 teens ages 12-15.
- ◆ Community Call to Action on Obesity's 5-2-1-0 Let's Go! Action team received a grant from Quantum Foundation to launch a marketing campaign. These funds will allow the residents to become more familiar with the adoption of this initiative.

## The National Diabetes Prevention Program

This year-long program is designed to bring communities an evidence-based lifestyle change program for preventing Type 2 diabetes. The program goals for successful health outcomes for the participants include improving food choices by losing 5 to 7 percent of their body weight and increasing their physical activity to 150 minutes per week.

- ◆ A total of 12 participants graduated successfully with 72 pounds lost.
- ◆ Community Call to Action on Obesity Coalition, the Diabetes Coalition of Palm Beach County, and over 32 community stakeholders teamed up again during Diabetes Month in November to provide community awareness and screenings.
- ◆ With sponsorship from Palm Healthcare Foundation, more than 2,578 residents were screened from 67 different sites.
- ◆ The Community Call to Action on Obesity's Diabetes Prevention Action Team distributed over 2,000 brochures entitled "Could You Have Diabetes & Not Know It?"

## Commit to Change Initiative

To promote healthy living for our residents, we want to build partnerships with our local governments, elected officials, and businesses to develop, implement, and sustain a commitment to change by encouraging healthy eating and promoting physical activity.

- ◆ Palm Healthcare Foundation, WPEC Channel 12, and Community Call to Action's Commit to Change Action Team—launched the second annual "Let's Move Commit to Change Challenge." The objective of this campaign is to motivate residents to take charge of their health by increasing and tracking their physical activity using a website application. Over 660,745 minutes were documented during the second campaign.



## Tobacco Free Florida Palm Beach County

Tobacco use is a leading cause of death in Florida. Over 32,000 die each year. Data from the 2013 Behavioral Risk Factor Surveillance Systems Report (BRFSS) shows a 9.5% adult smoking rate in Palm Beach County, compared to a state adult smoking rate of 16.8%. The 2014 Florida Youth Tobacco Survey (FYTS) reveals 9.5% of youth ages 11-17 in Palm Beach County are current tobacco users.

Trained 12 of our community partners on the issue of retailer point of sale advertising and how to implement the Retailer Advertising Tobacco surveys developed by the Research Triangle Institute.

In the past five years, our program has accomplished much, ranging from collaborating with the School District of Palm Beach County to create the first comprehensive tobacco-free schools model policy in the state to mentoring a high school student through the legislative process that resulted in sponsorship of a bill to exempt parks and beaches from preemption. Students Working Against Tobacco (SWAT) Chapters exist in fifteen local middle and high schools and they work on educating both their peers and local decision makers about the impact of tobacco use on our community. Our program regularly presents to community organizations and business leaders on the importance of tobacco prevention policies.

#### MILESTONES:

- ◆ Proclamation from the City of Lake Worth encouraging all tobacco retailers in the city to refrain from selling flavored tobacco products.
- ◆ Creation and implementation of a SWAT Summer Leadership Institute, providing leadership and advocacy training to 10 youth.
- ◆ Assessed residents at Madison Chase Apartments in West Palm Beach to determine the demand for smoke-free housing accommodations. Meetings with management resulted in a commitment to convert six buildings into smoke-free housing properties.
- ◆ Educated SunFest of the Palm Beaches on the impact of tobacco industry marketing and the unknowns of electronic nicotine delivery systems, which resulted in a board policy to refuse sponsorship from electronic nicotine delivery systems vendors.



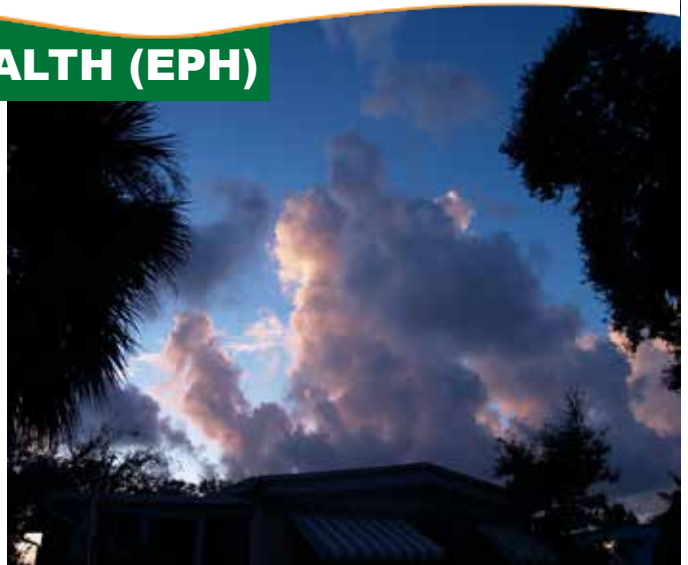
- ◆ Engaged over 50 youth in a “Thank You CVS” campaign to acknowledge CVS/Caremark for their decision to stop selling and marketing tobacco products.
- ◆ Partnered with The Education Network and the Summer Leadership Institute youth to create a Back-To-School PSA promoting the School District’s Tobacco Free Schools policy.
- ◆ Continued a partnership with Roger Dean Stadium to promote Tobacco Free Florida Palm Beach County during Spring Training and the Florida State League season.
- ◆ Collaboration with the School District of Palm Beach County to conduct the 2014 Florida Youth Tobacco Survey in local middle and high schools.
- ◆ Presented the Florida Tobacco Cessation Alliance’s first-ever Worksite Wellness Award to Boca Raton Regional Hospital.
- ◆ Partnership with the City of Boca Raton Fire Department to address and promote smoke-free multiunit housing policies.
- ◆ Monthly beach cleanups at Ocean Ridge Park hosted by John I. Leonard SWAT to raise awareness about the environmental toll of tobacco use.

Since 2009, Tobacco Free Florida Palm Beach County has worked to reduce the health impact and economic burden of tobacco use through policy and systems change. Our work focuses on the following policies approved by the Bureau of Tobacco Free Florida:

- Policy to Restrict or Prohibit the Sale of Flavored Tobacco Products not Covered by the Food and Drug Administration (FDA)
- Policy to Counteract Tobacco Product Marketing at the Point of Sale
- Policy to Implement Tobacco Control Model Policies in K-12 Schools
- Policy to Create Tobacco-Free Multi-Unit Dwellings
- Policy to Increase Cessation Services
- Policy to Maintain Local Partnerships
- Policy to Maintain Local SWAT Chapters.

## ENVIRONMENTAL PUBLIC HEALTH (EPH)

Environmental Public Health Permit holders can now pay for their annual license renewals online! A secure online bill payment system was initialized in May, allowing permit holders to pay invoices and print their permits, saving time and mailing costs for both clients and the department. There is no sign up cost, and clients can pay their renewals by credit card or e-check at their convenience, 24 hours a day. Renewal reminders for payments made online will be sent via email in subsequent years, further improving efficiency. During our first major renewal cycle using the new system, nearly 20% of our funds were received through the online payment portal. The website can be found at [www.MyFloridaEHPermit.com](http://www.MyFloridaEHPermit.com).



### Community Sanitation Program

The Community Sanitation program constitutes the fundamental activities of community environmental health. Highlights of these activities include:

- ◆ Inspections, licensing, monitoring, and enforcement activities of food service operations in schools and college cafeterias, assisted living facilities, adult day care, group homes and residential treatment facilities, civic/fraternal organizations, bars, and detention facilities
- ◆ Investigation of reports of food borne illnesses in restaurants, nursing homes, assisted living facilities, and other food service establishments
- ◆ Inspections and monitoring of sanitation and safety at schools and colleges, foster homes, adult family care homes, assisted living facilities, and other residential facilities
- ◆ Inspections, licensing, and monitoring of sanitation and safety at mobile home parks, recreational vehicle parks, migrant housing and migrant labor camps
- ◆ Investigations of complaints from the public regarding allegations of sanitary nuisances and other health related issues across the county. Staff continued to respond to a large number of complaints related to rodent infestations and stagnant swimming pools in abandoned or foreclosed properties.

### Child Care Program

Under Chapter 2010-249, Special Acts, Laws of Florida, the Environmental Public Health Division administers the Child Care Licensing program for Palm Beach County's Board of County Commissioners (sitting as the Child Care Facilities Board). The purpose of the child care licensing program is to protect the health, safety, and welfare of the children of Palm Beach County and promote their emotional and intellectual development and care. This makes child care licensing an important public health function.

**The Division regulates 439 licensed child care centers and 290 licensed family day care homes countywide.**

Three main types of child care arrangements are licensed: Child Care Facilities which provide care for six or more children in a commercial or institutional setting, Family Child Care Homes in which care is provided for 1-6 children, and Large Family Child Care Homes, in which care is provided for up to 12 children. Anyone receiving any type of compensation to care for a child or regularly offer custodial care for children must be licensed, and the license number must be included in any advertisement.

The activities for child care licensing include:

- ◆ Plan review
- ◆ Background screening for child care personnel

- ◆ Licensing inspections and compliance enforcement
- ◆ Complaints investigations
- ◆ Licensing consultations and public information
- ◆ Personnel training and technical assistance

The Division's program of regulation, monitoring, and enforcement activities helps to protect the health, safety and welfare of children in the following ways:

- ◆ Reduces risks related to communicable disease outbreaks and injuries due to unsafe physical environment
- ◆ Protects children from various forms of harm in out-of-home settings due to unfit or unqualified caregivers
- ◆ Prevents inadequate supervision, child abuse and neglect, and other general inappropriate and harmful treatment of children.

Child care licensing remains an important element in the local and statewide systems designed to ensure the health and safety of children while they are in out-of-home care.



## Water Programs

### Healthy Beaches Program

Monitors 13 beaches for potential bacteriological contamination (enterococci) by collecting samples every two weeks.

- ◆ A total of 338 samples were collected and analyzed. Based on the data, beach advisories were issued for a total of 26 days during the year. For the 13 beaches, the water quality was considered good to moderate 92.9% of the year.

### Well Surveillance Program

Identifies and monitors areas in Palm Beach County where groundwater contamination is suspected and may pose a threat to public health. The program is funded through the Florida Department of Environmental Protection (DEP) so the division can conduct well surveys and sampling.

- ◆ The division was assigned 161 facilities and located 171 wells within the designated facility areas. Samples were collected from 68 for analysis by the Florida Department of Health's Laboratory in Jacksonville. Of the samples collected 100% were found free of contamination or at levels below the standards of the Safe Drinking Water Act.

### Drinking Water Program

Monitors compliance of the 241 active public water systems and the construction of water wells through the review of permit applications and monitoring reports, conducting site inspections and investigating complaints.

- ◆ The division issued 318 public water system permits and 967 water well permits, conducted 167 facility inspections, investigated 38 complaints and initiated 66 enforcement cases.

### Domestic Wastewater Program

Monitors for compliance the collection, transmission, treatment and disposal of domestic wastewater. The program includes implementation of the Onsite Sewage Treatment and Disposal System (Septic Tank) program and portions of the DEP's domestic wastewater program through the review of permit applications and monitoring reports, conducting site inspections and investigating complaints.

- ◆ Issued 1,196 permits for the construction, repair and modification of septic tank systems, conducted 1,504 system-related inspections, conducted 247 facility inspections, investigated 135 complaints and initiated 94 enforcement actions. In addition, under the delegated DEP program, 243 permit applications were processed, 88 facilities inspections conducted, 689 private lift stations inspected, 34 complaint/spill response investigations conducted and 55 enforcement actions initiated.

### Public Pools and Bathing Places Program

The division monitors compliance with the health and safety regulations for public pools and bathing places.

- ◆ Processed 29 initial operating permit applications, conducted 10,677 inspections and reinspections, investigated 46 complaints and initiated 19 enforcement actions. The EPH division was required to close 1,335 pools for violations of either a health or safety requirements or both.





## Air & Waste Section

### Solid Waste

Regulates construction and demolition debris of recycling facilities, yard trash processing facilities, landfills, and waste tire processing facilities. Groundwater is sampled and analyzed at some of the regulated facilities to evaluate the impact, if any, on groundwater quality from those operations. In 2014 the Waste Program conducted 36 inspections of regulated solid waste facilities and responded to 20 solid waste related complaints, three involving equestrian waste.

### Air Pollution Control

Monitors air pollution sources within the county for compliance with state regulatory requirements. The air program inspected all 195 regulated facilities, monitored the activities of 193 regulated demolition/renovation projects for asbestos, and responded to 151 air pollution related complaints. Staff conducted 315 regulated facility site visits, witnessed 25 air pollutant tests and witnessed 148 visible emissions tests, and reviewed 229 reports. The air program collected \$13,350 from enforcement actions resolved through consent agreements.

### Biomedical Waste

Functions to minimize the risk from potentially infectious medical waste to health care workers, environmental services and treatment personnel, transporters and the general public. The section regulates all aspects of the biomedical waste program as it relates to segregation, packaging, storage, transport and treatment at permitted facilities. The programmatic staff conducted 2,673 routine inspections and processed 380 new applications. The staff also responded to 17 complaints related to biomedical waste in the community.

### Hazardous Waste

Provides oversight of the generation and management of hazardous waste in Palm Beach County. Commercial facilities such as automotive body and repair shops, dry cleaners, laboratories, and hospitals generating hazardous waste are inspected for compliance and permitted through County Ordinance 97-58. 1,101 routine inspections were conducted on permitted facilities and 30 new applications were processed. Staff also responded to 23 hazardous waste complaints during the year.

### Body Art

Encompasses both body piercing and tattooing programs and is intended to protect the health, safety and welfare of the public from the spread of infectious diseases. The regulation of these establishments and the education and licensure of tattoo artists can reduce not only the occurrence of infection of the procedure site, but also the incidence of transmission of blood-borne pathogens such as hepatitis B or C and other communicable diseases. Routine inspections were conducted on all permitted body piercing salons and tattoo establishments. Tattoo facilities:128, Inspections conducted: 135.

### Tanning Facilities

Establishes comprehensive and uniform procedures to ensure that new and existing tanning facilities are operated in accordance with applicable rules and regulations. These facilities are regulated, not only to reduce the threat of over exposure to non-ionizing (ultra violet) radiation, but also to prevent the occurrence of communicable diseases associated with the lack of sanitary operation of the facility. There were 100 inspections conducted at the 38 permitted facilities; six new applications were processed.



## HEALTH ACCESS

### Services Expanded to Better Serve

In an effort to assure continued care to the less fortunate within our county, primary adult and pediatric care in the health centers is now operated by the Health Care District of Palm Beach County. These centers, called the C.L. Brumback Primary Care Clinics, are co-located within the health centers in Delray Beach, Lantana, West Palm Beach and Belle Glade. The following is a list of services provided in these centers:

Together bringing you quality health care

#### Health Department Services

- ◆ Maternity (Prenatal and Postnatal Services)
- ◆ Prenatal Risk Assessments
- ◆ Maternity Check-ups with Delivery Referral to Local Hospital
- ◆ Maternity Education and Counseling
- ◆ Laboratory Testing
- ◆ Prenatal Health Insurance Assistance (PEPW)
- ◆ Centering Programs
- ◆ Gynecological Services
- ◆ Family Planning / Sexual Health
- ◆ Post Partum Check-ups
- ◆ Pregnancy Testing
- ◆ Variety of Birth Control Methods
- ◆ Mammogram Referral
- ◆ HIV/STD Prevention
- ◆ Teen Clinic
- ◆ Immunizations
- ◆ Nutrition & WIC Services
- ◆ Dental Services
- ◆ Communicable Diseases, TB, HIV
- ◆ Refugee Screening

#### C.L. Brumback Primary Care Clinics Services

- ◆ Primary Care Services
- ◆ Adult Medical Clinic
- ◆ Yearly Physicals
- ◆ Medical Evaluations and Diseases Management
- ◆ Laboratory Testing Referrals
- ◆ Diabetes/Hypertension Screenings
- ◆ Mammogram Referrals
- ◆ Nutritional Assessment and Referrals
- ◆ Referrals for Specialty Care
- ◆ Adult Immunization
- ◆ Employment, School and Housing Physicals
- ◆ Pharmacy Services
- ◆ Financial Counseling for Eligibility Determination
- ◆ Health Care for the Homeless
- ◆ Pediatric Clinic
- ◆ Well Child Visits
- ◆ Sick Child Visits
- ◆ School and Sport Physicals
- ◆ Childhood Immunization
- ◆ Hearing and Vision Testing
- ◆ Lead Screening
- ◆ Laboratory Testing
- ◆ School Forms 680 and DH 3040 completion

### Health Center Highlights

#### C.L. Brumback Health Center Belle Glade

- ◆ Incorporated HIV food pantry to assist with HIV nutrition education program
- ◆ Outsourced LTBI X-ray services resulting in cost savings
- ◆ Fast track maternity and STI results to streamline processes and reduce wait time
- ◆ Conducted community outreach to clarify role of Health Department and Health Care District in providing health services to the community
- ◆ Assumed HCDPBC responsibility for pharmaceuticals from the central pharmacy and prime vendor eliminating dispensing fees to HCDPBC
- ◆ Credentialed providers with various Medicaid HMO as part of U.S. Affordable Healthcare Act to ensure continuity of services
- ◆ Continued education partnership with Nova Southeastern University for health care professional education and the Health Care District Palm Beach County rural health residency program

#### West Palm Beach Health Center

- ◆ Initiated full service immunization four times per week
- ◆ Fast track maternity and STI results to streamline processes and reduce wait time
- ◆ Incorporated HIV food pantry to assist with HIV nutrition education program
- ◆ Increased nutrition services 50% and incorporated HIV food pantry to assist with HIV nutrition education program

- ◆ Maximized provider re-certification in HIV to ensure providers kept up with current trends in HIV treatment
- ◆ Scheduled weekly Creole speaking provider in HIV clinic to meet population demand
- ◆ Credentialed providers with various Medicaid HMO as part of US Affordable Healthcare Act to ensure continuity of services
- ◆ Assumed HCDPBC responsibility for pharmaceuticals from the central pharmacy and prime vendor eliminating dispensing fees to HCDPBC
- ◆ Partnership with the University of Miami Miller School of Medicine M.D. program's public healthcare practicum and residency clinical rotation

### **Northeast Health Center**

- ◆ Credentialed nursing staff and incorporated nursing assessment model for providing refugee health assessments to streamline processes and reduce wait time
- ◆ Finalized Lymphatic Filariasis eradication project funded by CDC
- ◆ Assumed HCDPBC responsibility for pharmaceuticals from the central pharmacy and prime vendor eliminating dispensing fees to HCDPBC

### **Jupiter Auxiliary Health Center**

- ◆ Maintained maternity and family planning services; maternity one time per week and family planning two times per week
- ◆ Provided STI services two times per week
- ◆ Assumed HCDPBC responsibility for pharmaceuticals from the central pharmacy and prime vendor eliminating dispensing fees to HCDPBC
- ◆ Credentialed providers with various Medicaid HMO as part of U.S. Affordable Healthcare Act to ensure continuity of services

### **Delray Beach Health Center**

- ◆ The Delray Beach Health Center continues to offer services to maternity clients. In 2014 there were 12,308 maternity visits. In partnership with Healthy Mothers Healthy Babies and Children's Services Council; the Center recorded 921 visits in the Centering Program. (The Centering Program ended October 2014)
- ◆ Teen Clinic continues to be a success on Wednesday afternoons. Several outreaches were conducted at community high schools
- ◆ The Annex continues to offer nutrition classes for the HIV patients
- ◆ Over 4,900 patient visits were made to the in TB clinic as cases, suspects, contacts and LTBI
- ◆ Nutritional counseling is offered to all family planning patents
- ◆ Glucose testing was offered to staff and patients on Diabetes Awareness Day

### **Pahokee Clinic**

- ◆ Conducted My Time, Teen time partnership with local community groups to provide adolescent services and health education; dedicated clinic time solely to teens providing enhanced confidentiality in a rural community
- ◆ Assumed HCDPBC responsibility for pharmaceuticals from the central pharmacy and prime vendor eliminating dispensing fees to HCDPBC

### **Lantana/Lake Worth Health Center**

- ◆ Staff had the opportunity to educate Medical Students from the University of Miami, Residents from Lakeside Medical Center in Belle Glade Florida and Residents from our own Health Department Residency program.
- ◆ Placed a staff person that speaks three languages, Spanish, Creole & English at our front door that functions as a greeter to assist all clients to access services in a more timely manner.
- ◆ Adapted an in-house fast track program for clients seeking the second and third doses of the HPV vaccine that reduces the wait time significantly for these clients.

### **Homeless Resource Center**

- ◆ The Homeless Resource Center and the Senator Philip Lewis Center continue to work collaboratively to provide a medical home and shelter for the homeless population. The hours of operation are Monday through Friday 8 am-5 pm with on call services 24 hours per day. Homeless clients are assessed, screened for sexually transmitted diseases and chronic medical/psychiatric illnesses.
- ◆ During the 2014 calendar year, we saw 3,846 clients accounting for 5,244 visits and a total of 7,715 services

## Immunization Health Profile

The availability of safe and effective vaccines continues to save lives and prevent illness in thousands of children and adults in Palm Beach County. Vaccines have had a remarkable impact on the health of thousands of residents – thus making it one of the most important medical advances of the twentieth century.

In 2014, the immunization program administered approximately 23,205 vaccines to children from birth to 18 under the Vaccines for Children Program and gave 18,475 vaccines to adults. The majority of vaccines were administered at our Health Centers, which included the West Palm Beach Health Center where vaccines are provided four days a week by the team from the immunization van.

During July and August, all of the Immunization sites are very busy giving the vaccines that the children need for school health and wellness. All of the Centers and the immunization outreach van, working in conjunction with schools and community agencies, gave a total of 4,656 vaccines during the month of August. This vaccine protection insures that children are protected from at least 14 different contagious diseases.

Adult vaccines are also important. Some 1,013 adult vaccines were given under the PC 17 Vaccine program to uninsured adult clients in our clinics as well as at community sites, like food pantries, churches and community programs for the homeless. 302 vaccines were given to protect against hepatitis A and B in our clinics and in coordination with our STD program serving clients at risk for these vaccine preventable diseases. Local physicians also refer eligible clients for this vaccine protection.

In addition to providing immunizations to eligible children, case management services are provided to the infants of mothers who have hepatitis B. It is essential for these babies to receive the vaccine series in a timely manner, followed by lab titers to confirm that the infants remain hepatitis B negative. This program works to immunize families and their contacts throughout Palm Beach County in order to prevent hepatitis B infection.

Education of the community regarding the purpose of vaccines is also our goal. Working in partnership with the Immunization Coalition of Palm Beach County, monthly meetings are held to discuss the vaccine issues that affect our county and work with community partners regarding vaccine resources. Additionally, support is offered to the Coalition through an annual Immunization update for local health care providers.

Immunization staff works with the Environmental Team to provide monthly classes to educate the day care providers regarding the immunization requirements for their day care and pre-k sites. This insures that the children can remain healthy and protected against vaccine preventable diseases.

## Comprehensive Nutrition Services

The Comprehensive Nutrition Program of the Health Access Division provided nutrition services in all the health centers and in the community. Registered and licensed dietitians provide Medical Nutrition Therapy (MNT) for clients in the maternity, Infectious Disease Clinics, including HIV/AIDS and TB, family planning and women's health clinics. MNT provided by Registered Dietitian Nutritionists (RDN's) is a plan of care that focuses on the nutrition assessment, counseling, treatment and evaluation and continued monitoring of a patient or client. Clinical nutrition services including MNT, nutrition follow-up, case management and group education were provided in the Agency's four large health centers as well as the Homeless Resource Center Clinic. The following details nutrition services received by health

|   |       |
|---|-------|
| ▲ Nutrition Assessment/Counseling ..... | 3,802 |
| ▲ Unduplicated number of clients.....   | 2,546 |
| ▲ Case Management.....                  | 5,832 |
| ▲ Group Education Contacts.....         | 56    |
| ▲ Community Presentations.....          | 22    |

In 2014, nutritionists became approved Medicare providers which allows for reimbursement for diabetes and renal insufficiency. Additionally, nutritionists were credentialed by select Medicaid HMOs that contract with the health department. DOH-Palm Beach registered and licensed dietitians continue to provide medical nutrition therapy to the Health Care District C. L. Brumback Primary Care Clinics that are housed within the health department buildings. Nutrition referrals are provided to HCDPBC clients with chronic diseases such as diabetes or cardiovascular disease.



MNT is provided to other clients using a sliding-fee scale for services. Nutrition is a core public health function and continues to be incorporated into clinical, community and outreach programs.

This year, an innovative nutrition program started in the Infectious Disease Clinics with HIV/AIDS clients. Funding was identified, under Food Bank/Home Delivered Meals, from the Ryan White Part B grant, which allowed us to implement the Therapeutic Nutrition Treatment (TNT) program at the West Palm Beach, Delray Beach (Annex) and C. L. Brumback (Annex) Health Centers. Clients enrolled in the TNT program receive a grocery bag of healthy foods after their medical nutrition therapy consult with a registered dietitian nutritionist which includes the following: assessment of an individual's immune function, body weight changes, metabolic parameters and lifestyle choices, identification of nutritional goals, intervention designed to achieve these goals, and evaluation of clinical outcomes. The healthy food package is tailored to meet the specific nutritional and educational needs of the client. TNT has helped improve client dietary adherence and also helps address the problem of food insecurity that many of the clients face. The TNT program is now in its second year and has been noted as a "Best Practice" by the Florida Department of Health HIV/AIDS Program.



In addition to clinical nutrition services, the Comprehensive Nutrition Program continues to provide community nutrition programs in schools, community groups and faith-based organizations. Promotion of State Surgeon General's Healthiest Weight Florida initiative is core to all nutrition education programs. Additionally, staff is involved in clinic and community health promotion initiatives including the 5210 Program, Worksite Wellness Team and the Community Call to Action Against Obesity.

## Volunteer Services

### Volunteer Health Care Provider Program

This annual report is provided in accordance with Section 766.1115(8), Florida Statutes to summarize contributions made through the Volunteer Health Care Provider Program. The Florida Department of Health promotes the use of volunteers to augment its public health duties and functions. From July 1, 2013 through June 30, 2014, the value of health-related goods and services provided to Florida's citizens through volunteers and donations.

- ◆ Volunteer clinics/referral agencies 13
- ◆ Number of Volunteers in the program 1,518
- ◆ Services provided: medical, dental, vision, health fairs, referral and eligibility services
- ◆ Value of donated services from Doctors, Professional Associations, Community Centers, Faith Based Organizations and Hospitals: \$6,929,499

### Volunteer Health Service Program

Volunteers and public/private partnerships are an integral part of the Department's efforts to increase access to quality health care for Florida residents. This section of the report summarizes the contributions and donations made to the Department by various volunteers, as defined in Chapter 110, Part VI, Florida Statutes. From July 1, 2013 through June 30, 2014, the majority of donated goods and services provided at the county health department.

- ◆ Number of Volunteers in the program 593
- ◆ Services provided: medical, dental, support staff, auxiliary services i.e. Food Pantry, food vouchers, Sponsorships, Clothing Closet, Client Incentives
- ◆ Cost savings equivalents to the department: \$1,806,050

# Maternal Child Health Division

The Maternal Child Health Division (MCHD) provides home visits to families throughout Palm Beach County. The service providers are Registered Nurse Case Managers. This Division has a wide variety of clients but services are typically provided to women throughout their pregnancies and to new moms and infants after birth. Our three programs, Healthy Beginnings Nurses, Nurse Family Partnership and Women's Health Initiative are designed to meet the individual needs of each family.

MCHD Nurse visits are provided as part of the Healthy Beginnings Network funded by Healthy Start and Children's Services Council. Services include:

- ◆ Education utilizing the Healthy Start Standards and Guidelines, The Nurse Family Partnership and Partners for a Healthy Baby curriculums
- ◆ Breastfeeding education
- ◆ Smoking cessation
- ◆ Parenting education and support
- ◆ Interconception education and counseling
- ◆ Childbirth education in Spanish and Creole
- ◆ A Nurse of the Day advice line
- ◆ Brief nurse consultations with other network providers

## Program Goals

- ◆ Improve pregnancy outcomes
- ◆ Reduce low birth weights
- ◆ Increase parenting skills and knowledge
- ◆ Establish medical homes for women and their babies
- ◆ Coordinate immunizations for children
- ◆ Reduce child abuse and neglect by offering family support
- ◆ Improve parental literacy through referrals to GED, High School and ESOL
- ◆ Promote increased levels of family self-sufficiency

## Number of Families Served 2014

- ◆ Healthy Beginnings Nurses - 535
- ◆ Nurse Family Partnership - 257
- ◆ Women's Health Initiative - 56

*2014 Graduation Celebration Nurse Family Partnership Families*



# Performance Improvement and Preparedness

## Office of Public Health Preparedness

The Office of Public Health Preparedness, which includes the Cities Readiness Initiative (CRI) Program, continuously trains, educates, prepares, and protects the health of our community.

University of Miami MD/MPH students rotated through the Office of Public Health Preparedness, attended a Healthcare Emergency Response Coalition Meeting and toured the Palm Beach County Regional Fusion Center. The rotations occur monthly with a different group of students.



Staff participated at the Palm Beach County Emergency Operations Center as members of the Health and Medical Unit during the statewide hurricane exercise. Preparedness and partners like the Medical Reserve Corps and the Dialysis Coalition worked together during the exercise.

The DOH-Palm Beach preparedness section also provides support for “real world” events. For example, in July the first two cases of nationally locally acquired Chikungunya Virus (Chik V) were confirmed at the same time in Palm Beach and Miami-Dade Counties. Preparedness staff worked closely with DOH-Palm Beach Epidemiology staff to plan and implement a response. Similarly, the teams worked together to educate first responders and community partners on Ebola, including developing plans and implementing monitoring.

In 2014, Preparedness staff participated in numerous exercise and training events throughout the year. For example, there was an exercise to simulate and assess the county’s response should radioactive elements be released as a result of a failure at the St. Lucie Nuclear Power Plant. Palm Beach County has been designated as the Host County with two Radiological Emergency Reception Centers. At the two park sites those who may have been exposed to radiation were evaluated, decontaminated, and offered treatment and housing assistance. In a “real world” event, the numbers could be as high as 125,000 people, half of the 250,000 people living within the Emergency Planning Zone’s 10 mile radius, who would have to evacuate and head south to escape. Once authorized by Florida Department of Health Bureau of Radiation Control, the Public Health Preparedness Office, working with the Medical Reserve Corps, would operate the KI dispensing area including basic forms triage, medical records capturing, and medication dispensing.

## Community Health Improvement Plan (CHIP)

The Palm Beach County CHIP is a comprehensive, achievable plan that is used in the community’s health planning activities over several years. The health priorities addressed in this plan emerged from an analysis of the Community Health Assessment.

The CHIP is the product of much collaboration, brainstorming, review, and discussion by many dedicated individuals representing several organizations which included state and local government, hospitals, and community organizations who came together to form an Advisory Council that meets regularly to work on CHIP implementation.

While the Health Department is acting in the role of facilitator for implementation of the plan, it is important to note that the CHIP is a Palm Beach County community plan.

The Top three Health Priorities Identified by the CHIP Advisory Council:

- ◆ Obesity (including childhood and adult obesity and associated co-morbidities)
- ◆ Shortage of Primary and Oral Healthcare Providers for the uninsured and underinsured
- ◆ Mental and Behavioral Health

In 2014, the Advisory Council conducted a CHIP Annual Review and revised the CHIP. A monitoring tool and the Annual Review were used to track progress for measures and activities related to the CHIP.

## Accreditation

The Health Department continued its preparation for accreditation through the Public Health Accreditation Board (PHAB), the national accrediting organization for public health departments. Our accreditation efforts fall under the State of Florida Department of Health integrated application. By becoming an accredited agency, we will demonstrate our ability to meet the three core functions of public health and the associated 10 essential public health services. In 2014, DOH-Palm Beach submitted official documentation to PHAB, which entailed identifying and uploading documents that demonstrate our conformity with the 32 standards and 104 measures set by PHAB. The process will continue into 2015 with further submissions of documentation, statewide site visits conducted by PHAB, and an official accreditation decision expected in the first half of 2015.

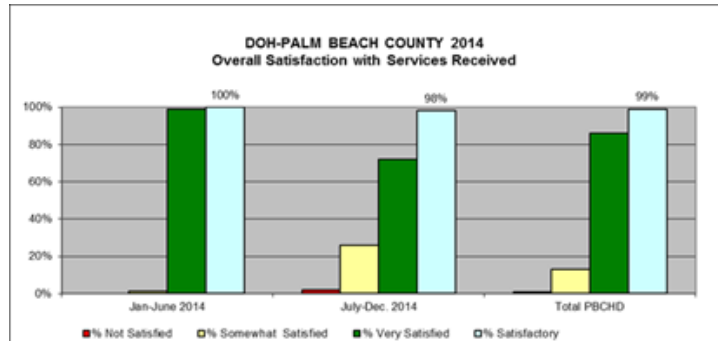
## Quality Improvement

Quality practices continue to be the way business is conducted. The DOH-Palm Beach Strategic Plan is very simply a process by which we look into the future, paint a picture of that future based on current trends, and develop a plan to meet the challenges and opportunities that will affect us.

In 2014, our agency continued implementation of the Strategic Plan, conducted an Annual Review, and extended the Strategic Plan into 2016 in order to better align with the State DOH Strategic Plan. Strategic

planning is an integral aspect of the DOH performance management system. The Plan-Do-Check-Act process used in developing the Strategic Plan reflects the policy of the FDOH, as outlined in the Department's QI Plan, to maintain an agency wide quality improvement program that engenders a culture of quality. Specifically, the process allows for a systematic identification of opportunities for improvement, implementation of data-supported improvement initiatives, sharing of best practices, and evaluating measurable impacts on strategic priorities. The QI program at DOH-Palm Beach continues to participate in statewide quality improvement projects, provide trainings to staff on quality improvement tools and techniques, and instill a culture of quality throughout the agency.

Numerous formal teams and councils are utilized to focus on performance improvement. The members of one of these teams, Customer Satisfaction, continue their efforts working to identify customer service needs and ensure superior response to customer service-related issues. The team consists of members from all staff levels. Survey results continue to reflect a high level of satisfaction with the excellent quality of service provided, as shown.



## Women, Infants and Children (WIC)

For 40 years, The Special Supplemental Nutrition Program for Women, Infants, and Children, WIC has transformed the lives of countless mothers, infants and young children, offering a hand up, on their journey to healthier lives. Mothers have had healthier pregnancies, baby lives were saved, and young children have thrived because of WIC's quality health and nutrition benefits. Countless families throughout Palm Beach County have been touched by the helping hearts and hands of WIC. WIC marks 40 years of providing nutritious food and education, breastfeeding support and referrals to health and social services for many young families. The program has evolved from an underfunded hunger relief effort into the nation's premier public health nutrition program.



- ◆ Began as a formula give-away program and is now the nation's go to Breastfeeding program.
- ◆ Established as an effort to put an end to malnutrition in America now the nation's premiere public health nutrition program
- ◆ Dramatically impacting birth outcomes, infant mortality, immunization rates, and childhood obesity rate

WIC helps safeguard the health of low income pregnant, breastfeeding, and postpartum women as well as infants and children up to the age of five who are at nutritional risk by providing supplemental foods, nutrition education, and health care referrals at no cost. To be eligible on the basis of income, applicants' income must be at or below 185 percent of poverty. Promoting quality nutrition services is the key to WIC's continued success. Nutrition services



are provided by Registered and Licensed Nutritionists, Nutrition Educators, Breastfeeding Peer Counselors and International Board Certified Lactation Consultants (IBCLC).

Palm Beach County WIC experienced a decrease in client participation and redemption of food dollars during 2014. Despite continuing to have six active WIC sites located throughout the county, the local agency serviced 4.1 percent fewer unduplicated clients than the previous year. The approved vendor list increased to 136 stores and food prescription cost decreased by \$2.2 million dollars in 2014. WIC monthly food prescriptions are nutritious foods tailored to supplement the dietary needs of participants ensuring good health, growth, and development. The foods are specifically chosen to provide consistency with the Dietary Guidelines for Americans and establish dietary recommendations for infants and children less than 5 years of age. The selected foods also reinforce WIC nutrition education messages, address emerging public health nutrition related issues and provide wide appeal to the diverse WIC population.

**Palm Beach County WIC served 46,440 unduplicated participants at six clinics in 2014**

- ◆ 18% Pregnant Women
- ◆ 6% Breastfeeding Women
- ◆ 6% Postpartum Women
- ◆ 30% Infants
- ◆ 39% Children

**Racial Distribution 2014**

- ◆ 50% White
- ◆ 45% Black
- ◆ 8% American Indian
- ◆ 5% Multi-racial
- ◆ 1% Asian

**Breastfeeding**

Research has shown no better food than breast milk for a baby's first year of life. Breastfeeding provides health, nutritional, economical and emotional benefits to mother and baby. Since a major goal of the WIC Program is to improve the nutritional status of infants, WIC mothers are encouraged to breastfeed their infants. WIC has historically promoted breastfeeding to all pregnant women as the optimal infant feeding choice, unless medically contraindicated. Breastfeeding promotion and education is provided by staff in all locations during the certification process and in nutrition education contacts. For clients needing more support, intense one-on-one assistance is available at the Lactation Center staffed by two IBCLCs. Peer Counselors provide breastfeeding support evenings and weekends, as well as teach groups and provide individual consultations during clinic hours.

**WIC 2014**

- ◆ WIC Infants Ever Breastfed increased from 71.9% to 76.7%
- ◆ WIC Overweight and Obese children decreased; 35.6% to 32.3%
- ◆ Change in Racial Distribution; 5% of clients report Multi-Race
- ◆ Partnered with 136 vendors; added 5 during 2014
- ◆ Provided \$21,829,062 of nutritionally appropriate foods to local participants



This year the agency converted to an Electronic Benefit Transfer (EBT) system to redeem food benefits from its vendors. Families now have the opportunity to purchase prescribed healthy foods with an electronic card similar to a credit or debit card. These cards are used over and over for food purchases. Benefits are electronically downloaded to the cards allowing families to have more control over the purchase of their prescribed foods; specifically the amount and item to purchase during a single shopping visit. Participants will be able to choose between a few or a lot of WIC foods at one time which is significantly different from purchases with WIC checks.

Florida WIC EBT Card



800 Clematis Street  
West Palm Beach, FL 33401