

Florida Department of Health  
Palm Beach County  
Annual Health Profile 2013





### **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:**

**Innovation:** We search for creative solutions and manage resources wisely.

**Collaboration:** We use teamwork to achieve common goals & solve problems.

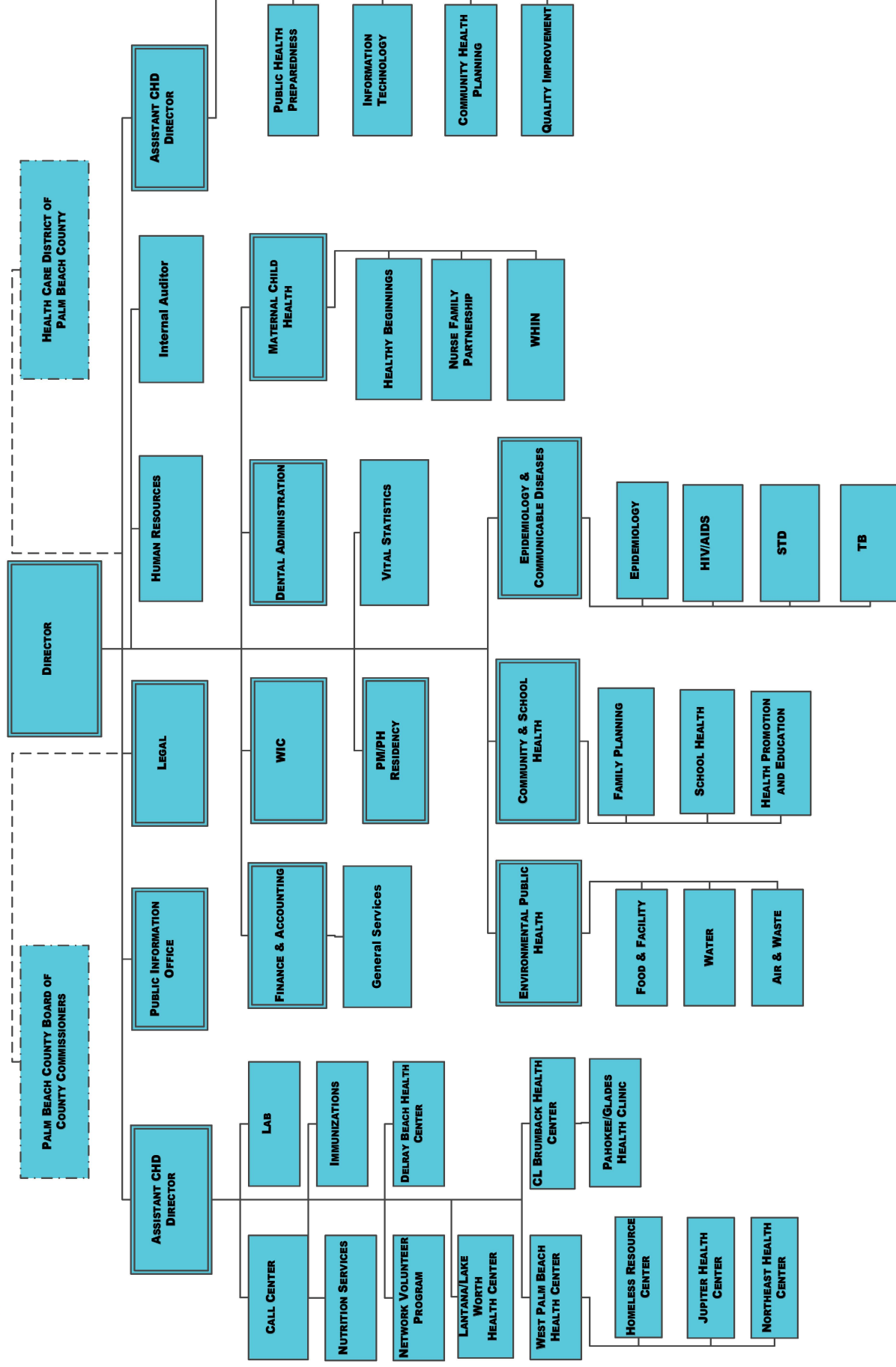
**Accountability:** We perform with integrity & respect.

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

**Excellence:** We promote quality outcomes through learning & continuous performance improvement.

**(I CARE)**

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



# TABLE OF CONTENTS

|  |              |
|--|--------------|
| <b>Director's Message .....</b>                                    | <b>4</b>     |
| <b>Administration .....</b>  | <b>5-9</b>   |
| <b>Vital Statistics .....</b>                                      | <b>5</b>     |
| <b>Preventive Medicine / Public Health Residency Program .....</b> | <b>5</b>     |
| <b>Public Health Dentistry.....</b>                                | <b>6</b>     |
| <b>Epidemiology &amp; Disease Control .....</b>                    | <b>6-8</b>   |
| <b>County Health Rankings .....</b>                                | <b>8</b>     |
| <b>Finance &amp; Accounting.....</b>                               | <b>9</b>     |
| <b>Communicable Diseases .....</b>                                 | <b>10-13</b> |
| <b>TB Control Program .....</b>                                    | <b>10</b>    |
| <b>Sexually Transmitted Disease .....</b>                          | <b>11</b>    |
| <b>HIV/AIDS .....</b>  | <b>12</b>    |
| <b>Community &amp; School Health .....</b>                         | <b>13-16</b> |
| <b>School Health .....</b>   | <b>13</b>    |
| <b>Community Health.....</b>                                       | <b>14</b>    |
| <b>Tobacco Prevention &amp; Control Program.....</b>               | <b>14</b>    |
| <b>Community Call to Action on Obesity Coalition.....</b>          | <b>15</b>    |
| <b>Environmental Public Health.....</b>                            | <b>17-19</b> |
| <b>Health Access.....</b>  | <b>20-22</b> |
| <b>Health Centers Highlights.....</b>                              | <b>20</b>    |
| <b>Immunization Health Profil .....</b>                            | <b>21</b>    |
| <b>Comprehensive Nutrition Services.....</b>                       | <b>22</b>    |
| <b>Maternal Child Health.....</b>                                  | <b>23</b>    |
| <b>Performance, Improvement and Preparedness .....</b>             | <b>24-26</b> |
| <b>Public Health Preparedness .....</b>                            | <b>24</b>    |
| <b>Community Health Improvement Plan.....</b>                      | <b>26</b>    |
| <b>Accreditation.....</b>  | <b>26</b>    |
| <b>Quality Improvement.....</b>                                    | <b>26</b>    |
| <b>WIC .....</b>   | <b>27-28</b> |
| <b>Volunteer Services .....</b>                                    | <b>28</b>    |

## 2013 Annual Health Profile Palm Beach County, Florida

The number one public health threat that challenges the future of our country is weight. In Florida, only 35% of Floridians are at healthy weight. One quarter is obese, and the rest are overweight. If our current trend continues, by 2030, almost 60% will be obese. The costs of care for chronic diseases from obesity alone — diabetes, heart disease, high blood pressure and arthritis — are unsustainable, estimated to be \$34 billion over the next 17 years. We must act, and in fact we have.

In 2013 State health officials in Tallahassee surveyed 6,089 students in 73 high schools and found the number of students who drank soda one or more times daily dropped from 31 percent in 2007 to 22 percent in 2013.

At the same time, the number of students who exercised for an hour during five of the past seven days increased from 38 to nearly 44 percent. And the number of students who watched three or more hours of TV on an average school day went from 40 percent to 31 percent.

The Florida Department of Health and the Florida Department of Education are working to create school environments that help students make healthier choices, such as drinking more water and staying active. Locally, our county launched a Call to Action on Obesity to promote healthier weight using the 5-2-1-0 campaign and specific goals and objectives. This coalition is headed jointly by our local health department and the Palm Beach County Medical Society. I am very happy to report that at each meeting we have had greater participation from partners in the community.

The single most important change that can improve your health is achieving a healthier lifestyle. Making those changes are difficult because it involves changing our behavior not getting on a diet. That is why we believe that a good tool to help us achieve that behavior modification is our own [www.5210letsgo.com](http://www.5210letsgo.com) site. This site provides the tools our community can use to get on the right track to a healthier lifestyle. The goal is to change unhealthy behaviors by creating supportive environments where the people live, learn, work and play.

By 2017, our goal is to increase by 5% the number of residents in Palm Beach County who achieve a healthy weight. Our initiatives are based on three overarching strategies that are delivered in six sectors throughout the county. We are well on our way. Won't you join us?



A handwritten signature in black ink, which appears to read "Alina Alonso". The signature is fluid and cursive.

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

## ADMINISTRATION

### Vital Statistics

#### BIRTHS 2013

| White | Black/Other | Unk | Total  |
|-------|-------------|-----|--------|
| 9,208 | 4,926       | 26  | 14,160 |

#### DEATHS 2012

| White  | Black | Other | Unk | Total  |
|--------|-------|-------|-----|--------|
| 12,067 | 1,185 | 235   | 10  | 13,497 |



### Did you know?

- ▲ Leading causes of death among whites is cancer followed by heart disease and stroke.
- ▲ 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 2012, accounting for 3,208 of all deaths in Palm Beach County.

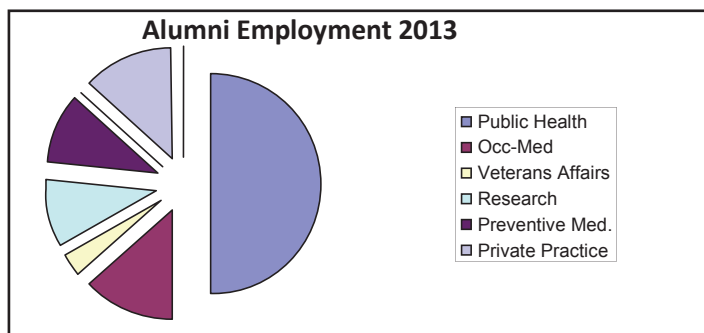
More Information on Vital Statistics online at [http://www.pbchd.com/vitals/birth\\_death.html](http://www.pbchd.com/vitals/birth_death.html)

## Preventive Medicine / Public Health Residency Program

Training Physicians in preventive medicine and public health to meet future needs

The two-year residency program offers the academic and clinical education necessary to promote and encourage good public health.

- ▲ The program is open to allopathic and osteopathic physicians.
- ▲ A Master of Public Health degree is provided by our education partner, Nova Southeastern University-College of Osteopathic Medicine.
- ▲ It is accredited by both the ACGME and the AOA.
- ▲ Our graduates are eligible to sit for the Preventive Medicine board exam.



**38**  
physicians have  
graduated since 2000

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

**7**  
in Occupational  
Medicine

**15**  
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, Healthy Palm Beaches, and Health Care District programs.

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

During calendar year 2013 the Dental Division had over 34,000 patient visits treating almost 17,500 clients.

Marjorie S. Fisher's Tooth Fairy - the mobile two chair dental clinic provided dental sealants and dental exams to over 2100 second graders at 29 schools.

The Fluoride Mouth Rinse Program - Provides weekly topical fluoride rinses for children in grades K-5. Over 40 schools had children participating in this program.

Head Start Program - Over 500 preschool children in the program received preventive screenings by department dentists.

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.

In 2013 Mrs. Fisher renewed her commitment to the oral health of children by contributing another five years of operating funds to the Tooth Fairy.

## Epidemiology and Disease Control

The Epidemiology Program (Epi) provided over 25,000 services in 2013, which included investigation, intervention, and education for clients with diseases/conditions reportable by state law; outbreak investigations and consultation and information to residents, visitors and medical providers on disease-related and other public health issues like foodborne and waterborne complaints.

The most frequently reportable diseases/conditions investigated during 2013 were chronic hepatitis B and C, salmonellosis, campylobacteriosis, animal bites and possible rabies exposures.

### Cases of Interest

#### VIBRIO

Infections-seafood related

Onsets of illness occurred between June and August. All were related to eating seafood. Three restaurants and one market were investigated. The shellfish were identified as originating from Florida, Louisiana, and Connecticut waters. The six cases ranged in age from 42-87 years. Three of the individuals were identified as having pre-existing chronic health problems. One individual died as a result of his illness. *Vibrio cholera*, *parahaemolyticus*, *vulnificus* and *fluvialis* were the strains of *Vibrio* that were identified.

#### BABESIOSIS

Two reported cases of malaria were later identified as Babesiosis, a disease caused by ticks. Epidemiology was notified of the first case in August and the second in September. Both cases had symptoms consistent with malaria and the lab testing at the Miami State laboratory identified *Plasmodium* species. Neither case had travelled outside the U.S. Both had recent travel to New York and New Jersey and both had tick exposure. It was suggested that the clinicians test for Babesia because of the discrepancies between the date of onset and travel history. Both specimens were forwarded and tested at the CDC and *Babesia microti* was confirmed positive. Both cases were treated and recovered.

#### RABIES

168 persons were investigated and treated due to a bite or other contact with a potentially rabid animal. Sixteen animals, 14 raccoons and two cats tested positive for rabies and exposed humans. Many other domestic and wild animals causing human exposures were either stray or wild animals that could not be located, so rabies vaccine was recommended.

#### CARBON MONOXIDE

Carbon Monoxide exposure and poisoning continues to be a concern. Using ESSENCE, a syndromic surveillance system, the Epi staff identified two clusters of persons exposed to carbon monoxide who went to two

local hospitals in March. Eight people were evaluated at one hospital and four at another. Fire Rescue had received a call from an apartment building. Symptoms reported were shortness of breath, nausea and vomiting. On arrival CO monitors went off, prompting the entire apartment building to be evacuated. 17 people were evaluated at the scene, and 14 transported to two local hospitals; all were treated and released. Environmental testing found high levels of carbon monoxide in three of the apartments. A charcoal grill had been used for cooking in one of the apartments and fumes spread to nearby apartments through the ventilation system. No other problems were found. Education was provided to the residents regarding prevention of carbon monoxide poisoning.

Another cluster of carbon monoxide exposure occurred in September. Six individuals from one family were taken by EMS to two hospitals. The area had been out of electricity for several hours so the family had been using a generator. The generator was outside, but by an open window. Family members started feeling ill with symptoms of headache, dizziness, vomiting and loss of consciousness. All family members remained in the two emergency departments overnight for treatment and were released the next day.

#### **CHEMICAL EXPOSURE**

Six Sheriff's Department employees were exposed to fire extinguisher fumes after entering a building to respond to a burglary. The suspects involved in the burglary started a fire in the building and then put it out using fire extinguishers; unaware of the chemical releases, deputies entered the building. Those exposed were assessed on the scene and taken to two local emergency departments. Symptoms included headache, congestion, and sore throat which lasted for 2-3 days. All were treated and released.

#### **NOROVIRUS**

Norovirus was responsible for three separate outbreaks in assisted living facilities and one in a charter school. The outbreaks in the assisted living facilities affected 65 residents in three facilities. Laboratory samples were positive for norovirus. Guidelines and control measures were provided to each facility and surveillance continued until there were no further illnesses and the facilities could return to normal operating procedures.

A gastrointestinal illness outbreak at a local charter school (K-8) was reported in October. 80 students were reported absent, and another 30-35 students were sent home with vomiting. The school nurse reported that the predominant symptom was vomiting, primarily in the lower grades. School administrators notified parents of the illnesses. Initial illness was consistent with norovirus infection. The Epi staff conducted interviews with parents and ruled out food borne exposure. It appeared

to be through person-to-person transmission. Three stool specimens confirmed positive for Norovirus G2. The school was closed three days for in-depth cleaning before reopening. The Epi program continued to work with the school until the outbreak was over.

#### **Enhanced Hepatitis Surveillance Project**

In the past several years Florida has seen an increase in the incidence rate among young adults infected with Hepatitis C. In 2013 the State of Florida received funding from the CDC to conduct enhanced surveillance and identify risk behaviors in young adults, aged 18-30, with reported infections of chronic Hepatitis C and B.

Palm Beach County was chosen as one of four counties to receive funding and participate in the Enhanced Surveillance Project over the next three years.

The number of Palm Beach County residents eligible for investigation and inclusion in the project was 903. However, 240 changed residence and were referred to their current state or county for investigation.

Eligible individuals infected with chronic Hepatitis B or C are contacted and an interview is completed by phone whenever possible. All individuals also received a Hepatitis Resource Guide.

The goals of the project are to:

- 1) Collect risk factor information for all newly identified cases of acute and chronic Hepatitis B and C that fall within the selection category
- 2) Identify cases of Hepatitis C that may have been misclassified as chronic infections when they were in fact acute infections
- 3) Improve the accuracy of chronic Hepatitis C reporting in Florida

#### **2012-2013 Influenza Report Summary**

The influenza surveillance system is a collaborative effort to monitor influenza activity at the national, state and local level. The influenza season starts in October and ends in May each year. Influenza surveillance in Palm Beach County consists of several surveillance

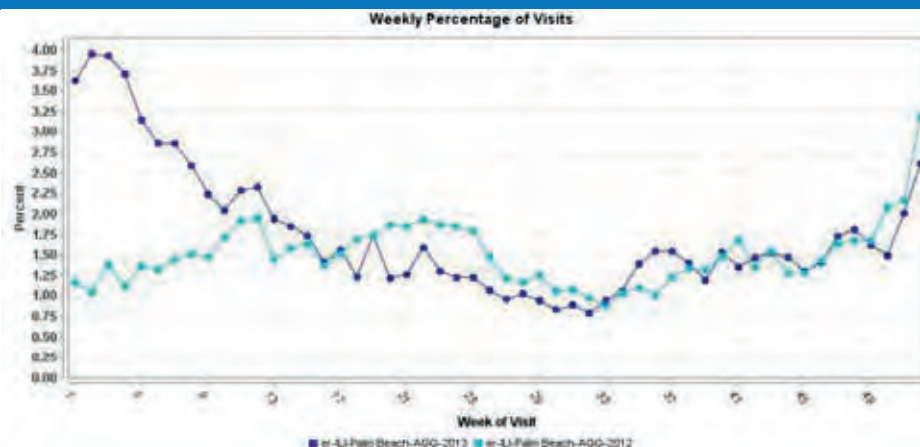


components including schools, hospitals, long-term care facilities and child care centers. During the 2012-2013 influenza season the highest percentages of influenza-like-illness seen in county emergency rooms (ER) occurred from December 2012



through March 2013. The morbidity trend started decreasing following the peak in January but continued to remain higher as compared to the previous two flu season. Influenza A H3 was the predominant circulating virus.

Overall the weekly influenza surveillance data in Palm Beach County showed mild and moderate influenza activity throughout the influenza season.



## County Health Rankings

Palm Beach County recognizes the value in measuring health outcomes. The County Health Rankings & Roadmaps tool released by the University of Wisconsin and the Robert Wood Johnson Foundation highlights the many community factors that influence health and uses established data.

“We are very pleased that through the collaboration of our many local partners that Palm Beach County continues to be in the top tier of healthy communities in the state and Nation,” said Palm Beach County Health Director, Alina Alonso, M.D.

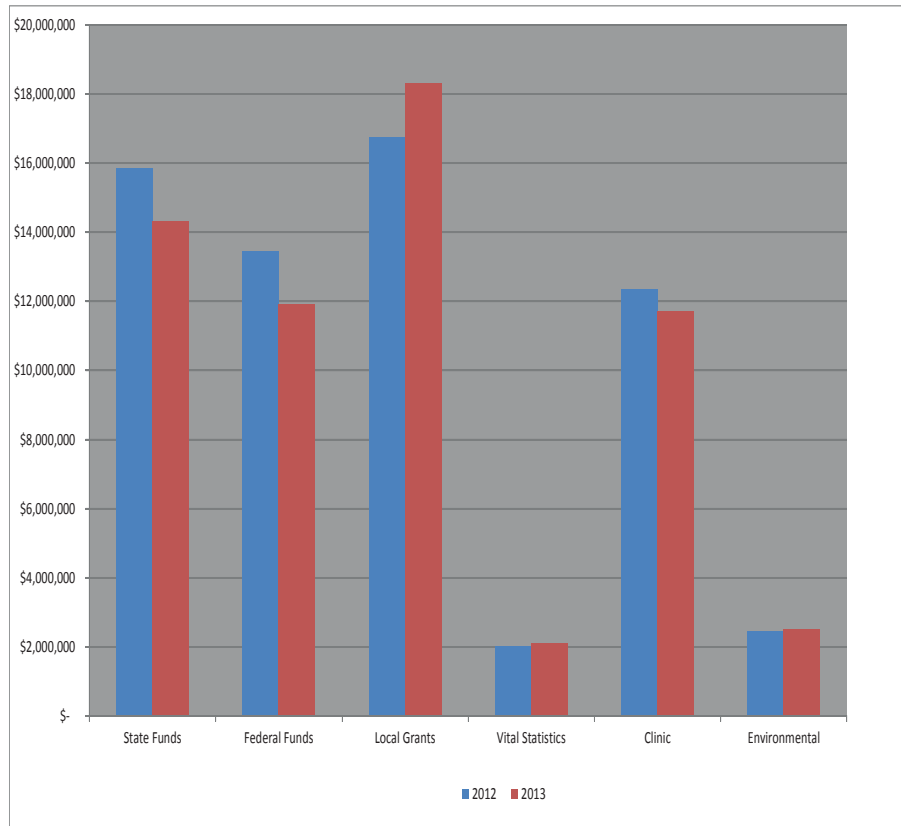
These rankings are a snapshot of the health of counties across the country and they emphasize that health is not a singular effort but a combined work in progress across all community partners. The Department works in collaboration with local governments, non-profit organizations, health care facilities, 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 Department has partnered with many stakeholders to implement the CHIP and collaborates regularly to track progress. 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.

For more information, please go to: [www.countyhealthrankings.org](http://www.countyhealthrankings.org)

|   |  |   |
|---|--|---|
| <b>Health Outcomes Rank ..... 16</b>      | Access to Exercise Opportunities.....87% | <b>Social &amp; Economic Factors ..... 16</b> |
| Mortality Rank.....11                     | Excessive Drinking ..... 15%             | High School Graduation .....74%               |
| Premature Death .....6,874                | Alcohol-impaired Driving Deaths .....30% | Some College.....61%                          |
| Quality of Life.....23                    | Sexually Transmitted Infections.....273  | Unemployment .....8.8%                        |
| Poor or Fair Health .....12%              | Teen Births.....32                       | Children in Poverty .....23%                  |
| Poor Physical Health Days .....3.3%       | <b>Clinical Care Rank ..... 7</b>        | Inadequate Social Support.....19%             |
| Poor Mental Health Days.....3.4%          | Uninsured .....25%                       | Children in Single Parent Households.....37%  |
| Low Birthweight.....9.2%                  | Primary Care Physicians .....1,288:1     | Violent Crime .....550                        |
|   | Dentist .....1,527:1                     | Injury Deaths .....74                         |
|   | Mental Health Providers .....734:1       |   |
| <b>Health Factors Rank..... 6</b>         | Preventable Hospital Stays .....51       | <b>Physical Environment ..... 19</b>          |
| Health Behaviors .....5                   | Diabetic Screening .....86%              | Air Pollution-Particulate Matter .....10.6    |
| Adult Smoking .....14%                    | Mammography.....73%                      | Drinking Water Violations .....0%             |
| Adult Obesity .....22%                    |  | Severe Housing Problems.....24%               |
| Food Environment Index .....7.4           |  | Driving Alone to Work .....79%                |
| Physical Inactivity (New Measure).....23% |  | Long Commute - Driving Alone.....33%          |

## Finance & Accounting



### State Funds

**\$14,332,382**

### Federal Funds

**\$11,925,404**

### Local Grants

**\$18,317,079**

### Fees

### Vital Statistics

**\$2,099,897**

### Clinic

**\$11,700,678**

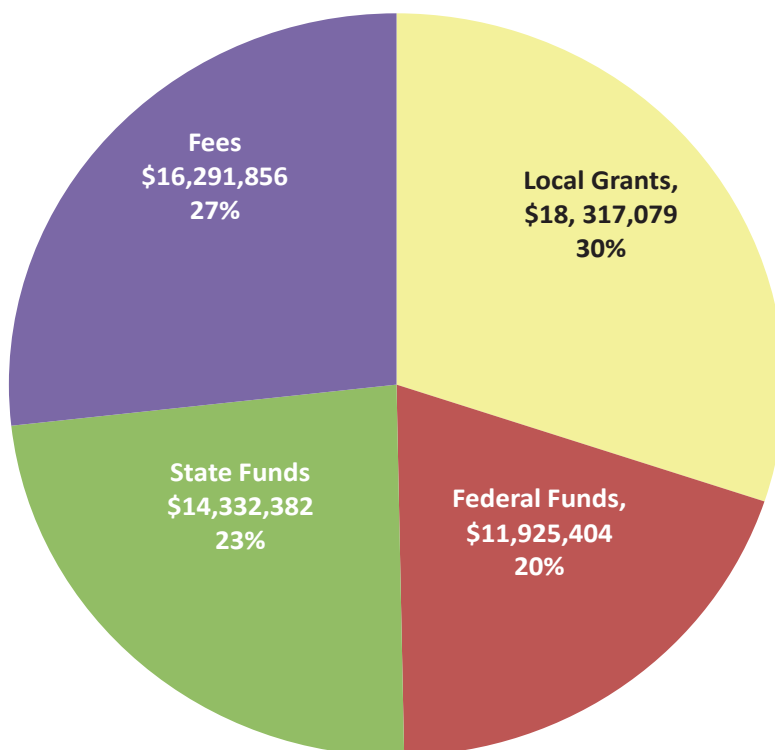
### Environmental

**\$2,491,282**

### TOTAL INCOME 2013

**\$61,043,714**

## Revenue % by Source



## Communicable Diseases

### Tuberculosis (TB) Control Program

The TB Case Rate was estimated at 4.1 per 100,000 in Palm Beach County in the year 2013.

The 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 in Palm Beach County 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

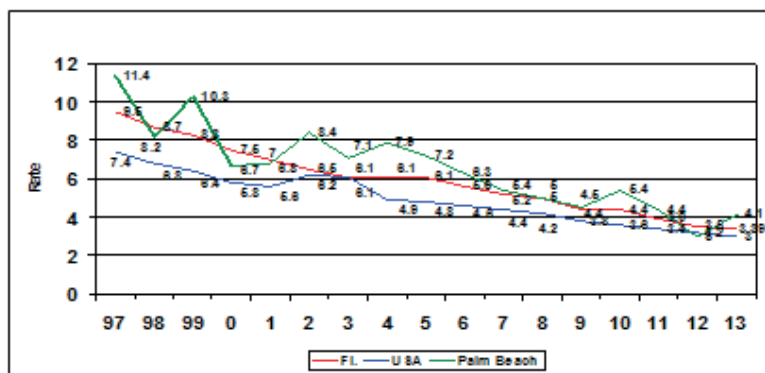
1. The number of new TB cases in Palm Beach County has been reduced from 167 in the year 1994 to 55 cases in the year 2013.

2. The TB case rate was estimated at 4.1 per 100,000 population in Palm Beach County for the year 2013. This rate was above the national and State of Florida rate for the year 2013.

3. 93.9% 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. The national target for the year 2015 is 93.4%.

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.

### Tuberculosis case rate per 100,000 population. Palm Beach County, Florida and USA 1997-2013



5. In reference to the second intervention (identification of close contacts of infectious TB cases and treatment of those at risk of progressing to TB disease or with TB disease) the following preliminary performance was achieved during the year 2013:

- ▲ 629 close contacts to sputum smear positive cases were identified.
- ▲ 355 (56%) of them were medically evaluated. The national target for evaluation is 93% for the year 2015.
- ▲ 5 secondary TB cases were identified among contacts.
- ▲ 104 patients with Latent TB Infection (LTBI) among contacts were identified.
- ▲ The treatment rate for patients with LTBI was 48%. The national target for this indicator is 88% for the year 2015.

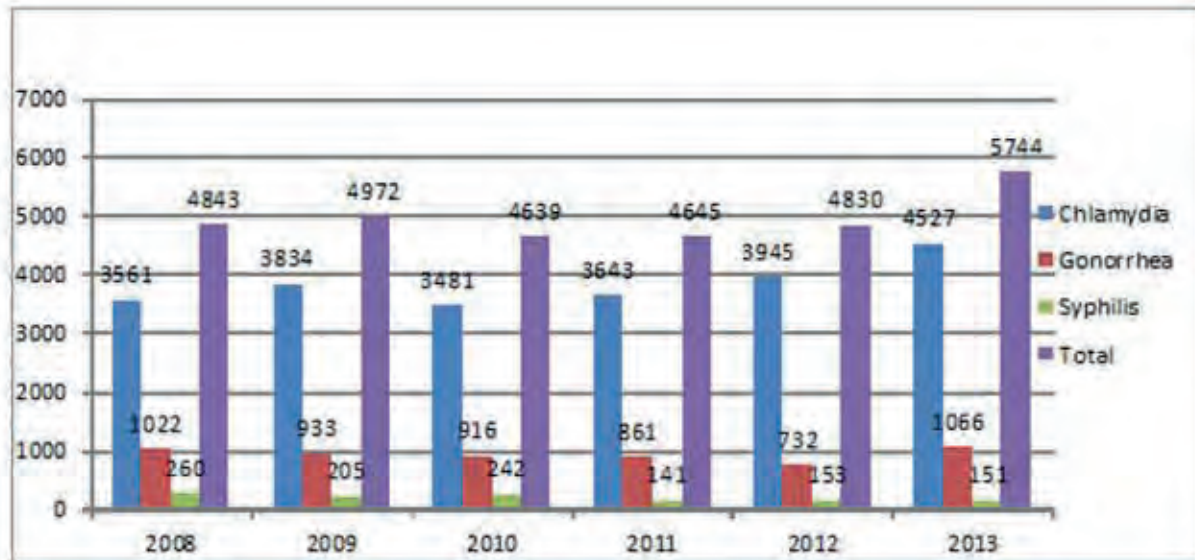
*Above results are still preliminaries and subject to improvement as completion of treatment is achieved and information updates become available during current year 2014.*



## Sexually Transmitted Diseases

Palm Beach County accounted for 6% of the reported STD (syphilis under one year duration, chlamydia and gonorrhea) cases in Florida for 2013. The number of STDs in Palm Beach County increased by 15% from 4,830 cases in 2012 to 5,744 cases in 2013.

Palm Beach County Reported Cases of Chlamydia, Gonorrhea & Syphilis 2008-2013



Palm Beach County reported a 31% increase in the number of gonorrhea cases in 2013 from 732 cases in 2012 to 1066 cases in 2013. There was also an increase in the number of chlamydia cases reported from 3945 in 2012 to 4527 in 2013 (12%). There was a slight decrease (2%) in the number of early syphilis cases (153 cases in 2012 to 151 cases in 2013). The ratio of infection with chlamydia among female to male in 2013 was 3 to 1 and the ratio of early syphilis of male to female was 4 to 1. Gonorrhea was steady with the ratio of male to female infection as 1 to 1.

### New Implementation:

To address the issues mentioned above, the STD Program has launched the pilot project: Private Reporting Option through coded Text (PROTEXT), which will provide the lab results of chlamydia and gonorrhea tests to the client via a coded text message. The ultimate goal is to ensure that the time period between STD positive lab results to treatment is less than or equal to 14 days for greater than or equal to 90% of STD cases. Early treatment would result in a shortened period of communicability, and thus decreased incidence of STDs in Palm Beach County.





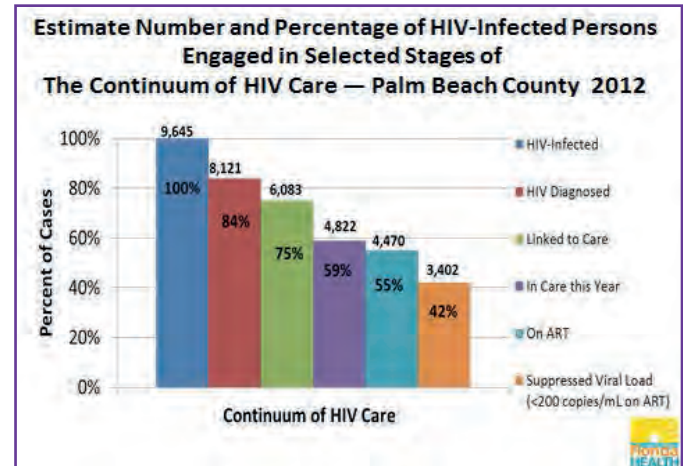
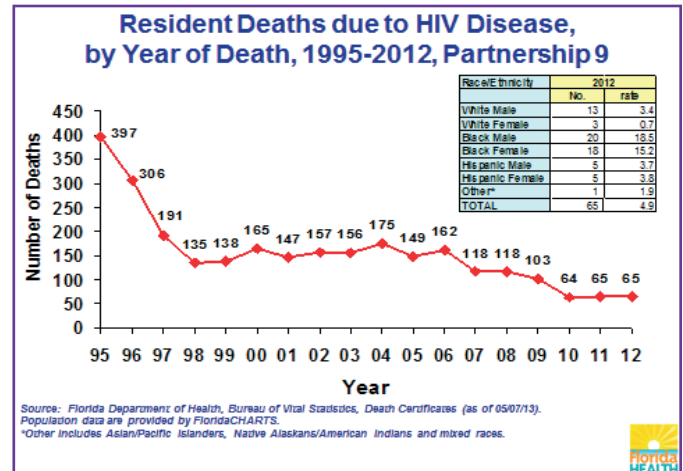
## HIV/AIDS 2013

**1. Resident Deaths** due HIV Disease: Significant decreases continue in the HIV Resident Death Rate! This data represent an 84% decline in HIV Resident Deaths due to HIV Disease from the peak year of 1995 to 2012. This is much higher than the 79% 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, 2012

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.



- ▲ *HIV-infected = Persons living with HIV disease, including those unaware of their status and undiagnosed.*
- ▲ *HIV Diagnosed = Number of cases known to be alive and living in Palm Beach County through 2012, regardless of where diagnosed*
- ▲ *Linked to Care (Ever in Care) = Persons with HIV disease in Palm Beach County who ever had a CD4 or Viral load test in the HIV/AIDS surveillance database (eHARS)*
- ▲ *In Care this Year = Persons living with HIV in Palm Beach County and having at least 1 HIV-related care service involving either a VL or CD4 test, or a refill of HIV-related Rx*
- ▲ *On ART = Estimated 92.7% In care this Year in Florida on antiretroviral therapy in Palm Beach County*
- ▲ *Suppressed VL = Estimated 76.1% on ART are in care this year in Palm Beach County*

**3. HIV Surveillance Pilot Project:** Palm Beach County was one of 4 counties selected in 2013 to help the State Health Office in Tallahassee to assess the completeness of their HIV laboratory data in the State's HIV and AIDS database (eHARS).

- ▲ Newly reported HIV and AIDS cases, viral loads and CD4s are reported statewide and entered into the State's database. Complete HIV laboratory data are needed in order to generate line lists of persons living with HIV disease who are NOT in care and may require follow-up. Steps are underway to use CD4s and viral loads to determine which HIV positive persons have not been linked to care or have been lost to care. Once identified, actions can be taken to link these people to care and antiretroviral therapy.
- ▲ Palm Beach County was selected because we had already implemented a local Early Intervention Services program, whose role is to assist with evaluating local linkage to care and retention to care had already been implemented. In addition, our County had previously put a request for a line list of cases, so that the care patterns in Palm Beach County could be assessed.
- ▲ Data was generated for cases diagnosed January-June, 2012. Palm Beach County received a list of 75 cases with one or no identified viral load or CD4 results to investigate. Using various patient care databases, our HIV surveillance and Early Intervention Services staff are in the process of record searching these cases and linking those persons, who are not in care or have been lost to care.



## COMMUNITY & SCHOOL HEALTH

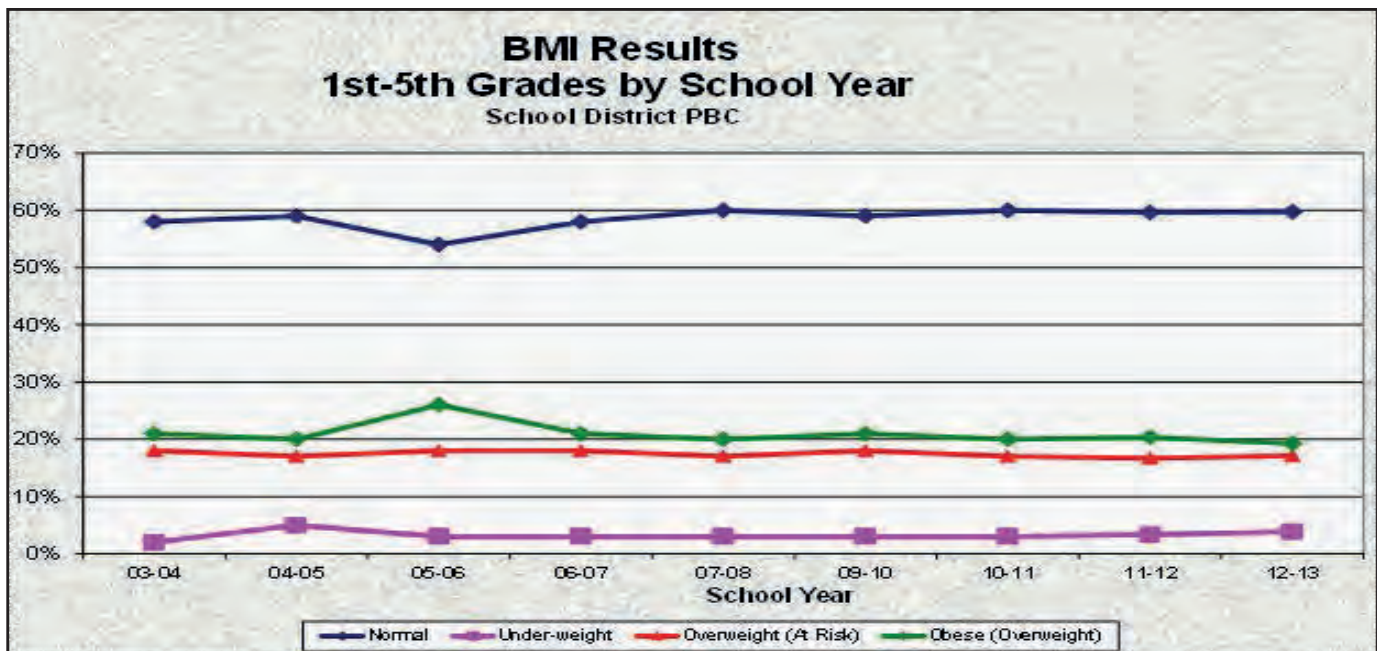
Protecting and improving the health of all people and all communities within Palm Beach County are the overall goals for staff providing services within the division. These are achieved through a variety of means including education, promotion of healthy lifestyles, monitoring health status, policy promotion 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, 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.

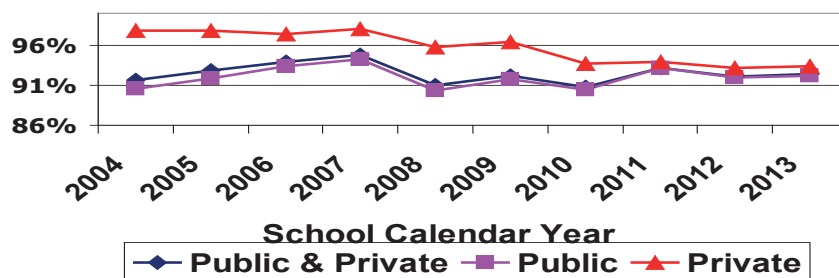
School nurses care for students that have chronic health conditions, injuries, illnesses or communicable diseases. Nurses provide health counseling, referral and follow-up of suspected or confirmed health problems. The Health Care District monitors and reports to the health department the incidence of 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 2012-2013, there were a total of 179,262 students in pre-K through 12th grade. School health program staff provided a total of 1,058,422 school health services and administered 224,820 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 2012-2013, review of 11,641 student school health records from grades K-12 found 95.34% meeting state requirements for immunization.

### Palm Beach County Immunization Compliance Statistics For Kindergarten: School Calendar Years 2004 - 2012



## Community Health

To impact the health of our community requires a continuous process of nurturing effectual relationships with our partners to assist us with accomplishing our goals. We have an obligation to engage our community in addressing and solving its health problems and concerns. The paradigm shift from focusing solely on the individual to implementing evidence based interventions and health promotion strategies to improve the health status and quality of life for populations yield the best return on investment. Focusing on prevention remains the best approach to improving the health of our community.



## Tobacco Free Florida - Palm Beach County

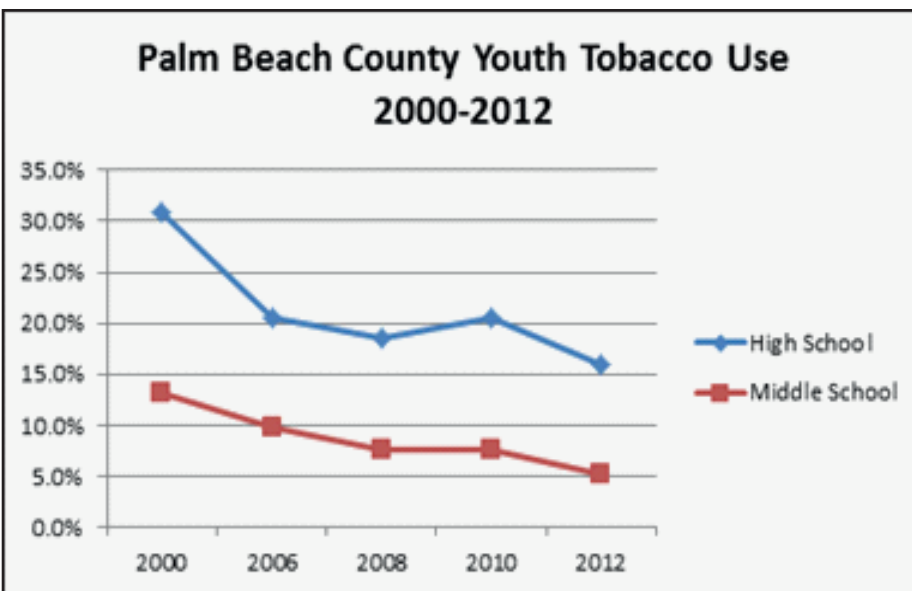
Tobacco use continues to be the leading cause of preventable deaths in Florida, resulting in over 28,000 deaths annually. Through our collaborative efforts with community partners and decision makers, we are making great strides in addressing the best practice strategies and policy areas to help protect our community from the health and financial burdens of tobacco use and exposure. Through 2012 Palm Beach County has experienced a significant drop in the number of middle and high school students who do not use tobacco products.

In 2013, we built upon previous years' achievements to further advance tobacco prevention and control in Palm Beach County. Our program addresses tobacco control policies under the following policy areas that have been 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).

Internal documents obtained from the tobacco industry reveal that flavored tobacco products have been specifically developed to gain a share of the youth market. We provide education, training, and technical assistance to middle and high schools in their efforts to secure resolutions from municipalities in support of the policy.

**2013 Accomplishment:** Passage of resolutions by the Towns of Haverhill and Tequesta.



### **Policy to counteract tobacco product marketing at the point of sale at retail outlets.**

Sufficient evidence exists demonstrating a direct correlation between the initiation of daily tobacco use and high exposure to tobacco industry promotion. A 2004 study of middle school students found that youth who made weekly visits to convenience, liquor, or mall grocery stores and were exposed to intensive retail tobacco marketing had a 50% greater chance of ever smoking.

#### **2013 Accomplishments:**

- ▲ Trained twelve 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.
- ▲ Conducted surveillance at 144 licensed tobacco retailers using the surveys to gather data on the volume of tobacco advertising in the community. Only six of these retailers surveyed did not display any form of tobacco advertising.
- ▲ Facilitated presentations on the issue of retailer advertising to raise community awareness to over 325 individuals.

### **Policy to create tobacco-free multi-unit dwellings.**

Multi-unit dwellings comprise nearly 42% of the housing structures in our county. These multi-unit dwellings provide a prime opportunity to reduce secondhand smoke exposure and promote tobacco use cessation.

#### **2013 Accomplishments:**

- ▲ Conducted tobacco-free housing policy surveys at five sites of the Palm Beach Housing Authority and the San Marco Villas in Lake Park. The majority of individuals surveyed indicated a desire to have a smoke-free housing policy in their community. To build support for these policies, events commemorating the Great American Smokeout were held at both locations.
- ▲ The West Palm Beach Housing Authority announced their intentions to reopen the Dunbar Village community as a smoke-free property.

#### **Other Initiatives to promote tobacco free environments and awareness:**

- ▲ Sponsorship at SunFest of the Palm Beaches to facilitate the event's support for promoting tobacco prevention and awareness activities.
- ▲ Partnership with Roger Dean Stadium to host tobacco prevention and awareness events throughout the year, including Kick Butts Day during the Florida Marlins Spring Training, and Say No to Tobacco Day during the Florida State League season.
- ▲ Collaborated with a youth volunteer from Matlock Preparatory Academy worked with the Jupiter Town Council to pass a policy designating tobacco-free parks and playgrounds.

## **Community Call to Action on Obesity Coalition**

The Community Call to Action on Obesity is a coalition comprised of over 50 local community stakeholders that first came together in 2012 to holistically address the issues surrounding obesity from a socio-ecological standpoint in six sectors (childcare, healthcare, workplace, community, school and after school). The coalition aligned their activities and efforts to help support and contribute to the actions already identified as priorities by other community coalitions within Florida's State Health Plan, Healthy People 2020 and the Surgeon General's Healthiest Weight Florida Initiative.

For Palm Beach County, the Florida's Healthiest Weight Profile indicated that 61.4% were considered overweight or obese.

With similarly dismaying overweight and obesity measurements for our children in schools, our county needed remedies that would help transform their current unhealthy habits into healthy ones and improve the current and future health of all.

The coalition created a strategic plan in 2013 that identified action strategies that were either evidence-based or considered best/promising practices that would help us reduce obesity from 61.4% to 59% by 2017. Although seven action strategies were identified by the coalition as top priorities, it was agreed to focus efforts on three strategies initially, which include:

### 1. 5-2-1-0 Let's Go! Initiative



This strategy encompassed developing a unique message and logo as a foundation for sharing a consistent message in all coalition activities. Information from other national campaigns and evidence-based programs was reviewed and the Let's Go! Program in Maine was utilized as a model. The 5-2-1-0 Let's Go logo and message encourage adoption of four healthy habits: increase consumption of fruits and vegetables, increase physical activity, reduce screen time, and reduce consumption of sugary drinks.

#### 2013 Accomplishments:

- ▲ The health department launched the 5-2-1-0 Let's Go! website and first official use of 5-2-1-0 Let's Go! logo and messaging at the South Florida Fair. The health department's booth at the fair was visited by 1,840 fair attendees who received 5-2-1-0 Let's Go! wallet cards and an introduction to the four healthy behaviors that are important for all residents and their families to adopt to reduce obesity.
- ▲ WPEC Channel 12 asked to incorporate the 5-2-1-0 Let's Go! Initiative and message into their Subway Fit Kids Commercial to create awareness and adoption of all four healthy behaviors.
- ▲ Dr. Cynthia Clayton, a founding member of Call to Action, was invited to participate in the 2013 Florida Medical Association Symposium which also included Florida's Surgeon General, Dr. John Armstrong. She presented the work of the coalition and encouraged participants to use the Palm Beach County model for ideas and initiatives to infuse into other communities.
- ▲ Through participation in support of partners and their community events, over 7,948 residents were educated about the importance of 5-2-1-0 Let's Go!

### 2. The National Diabetes Prevention Program

This strategy promotes use of an evidence-based lifestyle change program for preventing Type 2 diabetes from the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention. Studies of this program have demonstrated that by making modest behavior changes, such as improving food choices and increasing physical activity to at least 150 minutes per week, participants in the program are able to lose 5 to 7 percent of their body weight. This reduced the participant's risk of developing Type 2 diabetes by 58 percent.

#### 2013 Accomplishments:

- ▲ In January, the first National Prevention Diabetes Program started in Palm Beach County and participants graduated from the program with significant health outcomes as the result of lifestyle modifications. Changes included weight loss of over 80 lbs. collectively, improvements in mobility and strength, and reductions in use of blood pressure medications.
- ▲ Community Call to Action on Obesity Coalition and the Diabetes Coalition of Palm Beach County teamed up during Diabetes Month in November to provide community awareness and screenings. With sponsorship from Palm Healthcare Foundation, more than 11 organizations participated in screening about 1,000 residents to determine if they were at increased risk for developing type 2 diabetes. The health department alone conducted 301 of the total screenings and identified about 123 individuals at risk for type 2 diabetes.
- ▲ Palm Health Care Foundation printed and distributed over 4,500 brochures titled "Could You Have Diabetes & Not Know It?"

### 3. Commit to Change Initiative

This strategy encompasses county-wide campaigns that urge all residents to be conscious about their health status and take actions to improve their well-being.

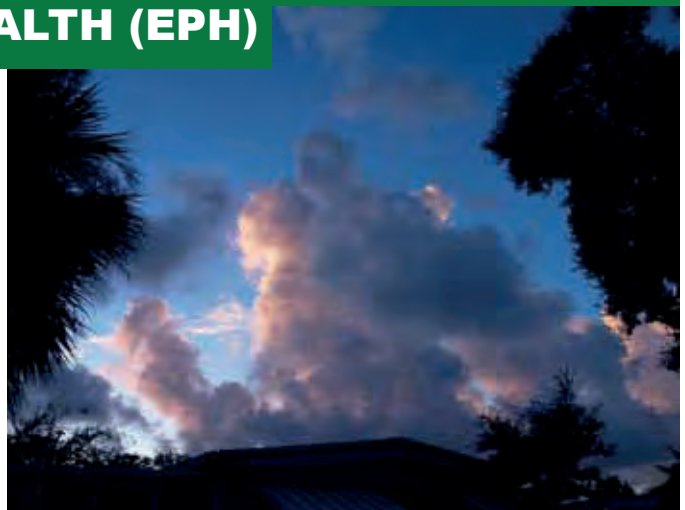
#### 2013 Accomplishment:

- ▲ During April, two coalition partners – WPEC Channel 12 and Palm Healthcare Foundation – launched the first annual "Let's Move Commit to Change Challenge". Residents were urged to increase their physical activity and log in their minutes of activity using a website application. Over 100,000 minutes were documented for the inaugural year.



## 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 2013, 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](http://www.MyFloridaEHPermit).



## 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. Other issues of note include bed bugs infestations and pest infestations in rental apartment complexes
- ▲ Staff managed, maintained and collected regular blood samples from nine flocks of chickens that are kept as sentinels for early warnings for mosquito-borne diseases such as West Nile Virus and encephalitis

## 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 432 licensed child care centers and 310 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 8 days during the year. For the 13 beaches, the water quality was considered good to moderate 97.8% 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. Of the 171 wells located, samples were collected from 153 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 229 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 154 public water system permits and 942 water well permits, conducted 227 facility inspections, investigated 43 complaints and initiated 25 enforcement cases.

### Domestic Wastewater Program

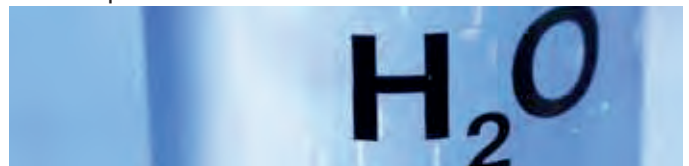
Monitors for compliance the collection, transmission, treatment and disposal of domestic wastewater. The program includes implementation of the Onsite Sewage Treatment and Disposal System (Septic Tank) program and portions of the DEP's domestic wastewater program through the review of permit applications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

- ▲ Issued 948 permits for the construction, repair and modification of septic tank systems, conducted 1,376 system-related inspections, conducted 134 facility inspections, handled 2067 customer inquiries, investigated 109 complaints and initiated 94 enforcement actions. In addition, under the delegated DEP program, 128 permit applications were processed, 74 facilities inspections conducted, 324 private lift stations inspected, 163 complaint/spill response investigations conducted and 63 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 38 initial operating permit applications, conducted 9,929 inspections, investigated 48 complaints and initiated 19 enforcement actions. The EPH division was required to close 1,284 pools for violations of either a health or safety requirements or both.



## Air & Waste Section

### Solid Waste

Regulates the construction and demolition (C&D) of debris recycling facilities, yard trash processing facilities, landfills, and waste tire facilities. Groundwater is sampled and analyzed at some of the regulated facilities to evaluate the impact, if any, on groundwater quality from these operations. In 2013 the Waste Section conducted 23 inspections of regulated solid waste facilities, responded to 32 solid waste related complaints, 10 involving equestrian waste.

### Air Pollution Control

Monitors air pollution sources within the county for compliance with state regulatory requirements. The air program inspected all 196 permitted facilities, monitored the activities of 240 demolition/renovation projects for asbestos, and responded to 146 air complaints. Staff conducted 121 site visits to witness 52 pollutant tests and 107 visible emissions tests at 69 facility sites, and reviewed 244 reports. The Air program collected \$22,514 in penalties from enforcement actions resolved through consent agreements. Enforcement action also resulted in a municipality investing over \$52,000 to replace city lighting for buildings, offices, and parking lots with more energy efficient LED lighting in lieu of a cash penalty.

### 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 2,477 routine inspections and processed 367 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. 924 routine inspections were conducted on permitted facilities and 47 new applications were processed. Staff also responded to 31 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.

### 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 73 inspections conducted at the 36 permitted facilities; 3 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:

- ▲ Hosted annual Community Health Reach Fair
- ▲ Continued educational partnership with Nova Southeastern University for health care professional education and the Health Care District Palm Beach County rural health residency program
- ▲ Transitioned adult and pediatric primary care through a partnership with the Health Care District of Palm Beach County allowing center to focus on core public health

### West Palm Beach Health Center:

- ▲ Continued Emergency Room diversion clinic
- ▲ Provided adult immunization through Community Immunization Services
- ▲ Transitioned adult and pediatric primary care through a partnership with the Health Care District of Palm Beach County allowing center to focus on core public health

### Northeast Health Center:

- ▲ Continued Lymphatic Filariasis eradication project funded by the CDC
- ▲ Made way for construction to add a dental clinic for the homeless population

### **Jupiter Auxiliary Health Center:**

- ▲ Maintained maternity and family planning services 2 days per week
- ▲ Provided LTBI services for potential exposure to TB incident in Jupiter
- ▲ Continued partnership with EL SOL Resource Center, Town of Jupiter and Jupiter Medical Center to provide free primary care clinical services to the migrant population on Saturdays. Services provided exclusively by volunteers including physician, ARNP, PA and RN

### **Delray Beach Health Center:**

- ▲ The Delray Beach Health Center continues to offer services to maternity clients in partnership with Healthy Mothers Healthy Babies and the Children's Services Council; 1,618 visits were recorded.
- ▲ Teen clinic continues to be a success on Wednesday afternoons. Several outreaches were conducted at community high schools
- ▲ The Annex continued to offer nutrition classes for the HIV patients
- ▲ Nutritional counseling is offered to all family planning patients
- ▲ Glucose testing was offered on Diabetes Awareness Day

### **Homeless Resource Center:**

The Homeless Resource Center and the Senator Philip Lewis Center continues to work collaboratively to provide a medical home and shelter for the homeless. The hours of operation are Monday through Friday with on call services 24 hours per day. Homeless clients are assessed, screened and treated for sexually transmitted diseases and chronic medical/psychiatric illnesses. In addition, the homeless team continues to provide outreaches quarterly after hours at the Philip Lewis Center to capture those clients who work during the day and unable to seek medical care during business hours.

During the year we saw 4,901 clients accounting for 6,256 visits and a total of 8,146 services.

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

- ▲ Staff had the opportunity to educate ARNP's and Nursing students from FAU and South University about Public Health. For many students this was the first exposure to Public Health
- ▲ Staff vaccinated 678 children and 53 adults for a total of 731 people during our immunization crunch. This was 24 more than the same time last year. We also provided immunization certificates (680 or 681) to 247 children

## **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.

The immunization program administered approximately 30,454 vaccines to children under the Vaccines for Children Program and gave at least 1,284 vaccines to adults. The majority of vaccines were administered at our Health Centers. In addition, about 706 pediatric vaccines were given at our Rams School Clinic and another 7,768 were given to protect children on our immunization van that visited community sites throughout the County.

Adult vaccines are also important. Some 966 adult vaccines were given at community sites, like Food Pantries church programs for the homeless, and in coordination with our STD program serving clients at risk for vaccine preventable diseases, like hepatitis A

and B. 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 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.



## COMPREHENSIVE NUTRITION SERVICES

The Comprehensive Nutrition Program provides nutrition services in all the health centers and in the community. Registered and licensed dietitians provide Medical Nutrition Therapy for clients in maternity, Infectious Disease Clinics including HIV/AIDS and TB, family planning and women's health clinics. Medical Nutrition Therapy provided by Registered Dietitians 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 department clients in 2013.

### Nutrition Services Received in 2013

|   |       |
|---|-------|
| ▲ Nutrition Assessment/Counseling ..... | 4,361 |
| ▲ Unduplicated number of clients.....   | 3,371 |
| ▲ Case Management.....                  | 6,307 |
| ▲ Group Education Contacts.....         | 70    |
| ▲ Community Presentations.....          | 18    |

As part of the restructuring, the Comprehensive Nutrition Program was transitioned to the leadership of the Health Access Division, a major change from being part of the WIC and Nutrition Division. The Comprehensive Nutrition Program is now closely aligned with clinical services but continues to work very cooperatively with the WIC Program. Registered and licensed dietitians continue to provide medical nutrition therapy to the new C. L. Brumback Primary

Care Clinics that are housed within the health department buildings. A nutrition referral procedure was developed to ensure that Health Care District clients with chronic disease such as diabetes or cardiovascular disease receive ongoing medical nutrition therapy. Nutrition is a core public health function and continues to be incorporated into clinical, community and outreach programs.

In addition to clinical nutrition services, the Comprehensive Nutrition Program continues to provide community nutrition programs in schools and for community groups and faith-based organizations. Staff is involved with the planning and coordinating of Cooking Matters® and was trained for the CDC's National Diabetes Prevention Program Lifestyle Coach Program. Promotion of the 5210 Program is core to all nutrition education programs. Fee for service trainings are provided on a contractual basis for local assisted senior living centers. Additionally, staff is involved in clinic and community health promotion initiatives including the WIC Healthy Families Team, Worksite Wellness Team and the Community Call to Action Against Obesity.





# MATERNAL CHILD HEALTH DIVISION

## Programs

- ▲ Healthy Beginnings Nurses
- ▲ Nurse Family Partnership
- ▲ Women's Health Initiative

The Maternal Child Health Division provides home visits. The providers are Registered Nurse Case Managers. The services are provided to women throughout their pregnancies and to new moms and infants after birth. Our three programs are designed to meet the individual needs of each family.



## 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

## Services Provided

- ▲ Registered Nurse home visits to pregnant women and infants
- ▲ Positive Parenting Program-Level 3
- ▲ Spanish and Creole interpretation provided by certified staff
- ▲ Depression screening for women, with referrals to counseling services
- ▲ Infant/child developmental screening to identify developmental delays and refer for further assessments
- ▲ Child birth education classes in Spanish and Creole
- ▲ Breast-feeding education and support
- ▲ Immunization assessment and referral
- ▲ Parenting classes in Spanish and Creole
- ▲ Family Planning education and referral
- ▲ Community education, participation in community events
- ▲ Assistance with linkage to vital Palm Beach County Services

## Number of Families Served 2013

- ▲ Healthy Beginnings Nurses - 804
- ▲ Nurse Family Partnership - 404
- ▲ Women's Health Initiative - 93

## Maternal Child Health Indicators

| Indicator                | State 2013*   | Palm Beach County 2013* | Trend |
|--------------------------|---|-------------------------|-------|
| Infant Mortality Total   | 6.2   | 5.1                     | Good  |
| Black Infant Mortality   | 10.2  | 8.5                     | Good  |
| White Infant Mortality   | 4.6   | 3.2                     | Good  |
| Neonatal Mortality Total | 4.2   | 3.1                     | Good  |
| Neonatal Mortality Black | 7.2   | 4.9                     | Good  |
| Neonatal Mortality White | 3.0   | 2.2                     | Good  |
| Low Birth Weight         | 8.5   | 8.0                     | Good  |
| Medical Home             | Not Available 790 families with medical home 1/1/13 to 12/31/13** |                         |       |

\*Provisional Data from Florida Charts Jan-Sep, 2013  
 \*\* Data from Healthy Beginnings Database

# 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.

Active Shooter Trainings were conducted by Sergeant BK Davis of the Palm Beach County School District Police. Over 400 staff at eight different locations from DOH-Palm Beach participated in the training.



EOC Group 1 – Statewide Hurricane Exercise – May 2013

Citizen's Corps hosted several presentations entitled Ready Fest for vulnerable populations. Preparedness staff attended and presented on medication management, preparedness before disasters, and importance of having a go-kit, and the types of emergency shelters available in the County.

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.

Participated in a Post Disaster Redevelopment Plan Tabletop Exercise. This exercise provided an excellent opportunity to consider the challenges Palm Beach County must be prepared to confront in the aftermath of a catastrophic disaster.

Attended a Hospital Disaster Planning symposium at Jackson Health Systems.

Presented at the Public Health Preparedness Summit in Atlanta, Georgia. The presentation focused on pharmacy collaborations and specifically DOH-Palm Beach's work with pharmacies during the H1N1 flu pandemic.

Held annual meeting of Cities Readiness Initiative (CRI) Planning and Advisory Group. The purpose of this meeting was for the multi-discipline planning/ advisory group to update the Strategic National Stockpile Planning Elements in the All Hazards Plan.

More than one-hundred senior leadership and response team employees participated in a Chemical Suicide Awareness and Response Workshop as part of the "All-Hazards" Preparedness Day.

CRI Program participated in a training and exercise program for Local Staging Area Inventory Management Teams hosted by Miami-Dade County.

Region 7 Strike Team Epidemiology and Environmental Public Health Exercise. The purpose of this exercise was to evaluate player actions against current response plans and capabilities for an environmental public health and epidemiology hazard.

The United States Postal Service (USPS) conducted a Biohazard Detection System (BDS) tabletop training at the West Palm Beach Processing and Distribution Center. This tabletop training reviewed preparedness, notification, response, and recovery activities related to a local BDS alert/presumed positive for Anthrax scenario.

Tactical and live training component of the Active Shooter Exercise took place at the Port of Palm Beach. The US Coast Guard, Law enforcement, Fire Rescue, and numerous other agencies were present to both participate and observe this exercise. Health and the acute care hospitals participated in the patient tracking and transfer components of the exercise.

Health and Medical Unit trained staff participated in the statewide hurricane exercise at the Palm Beach County Emergency Operations Center. Preparedness and partners like the Medical Reserve Corps, Agency for Healthcare Administration and the Dialysis Coalition worked together during the exercise.

Florida Healthcare Association hosted a tabletop exercise for long-term care organizations at Morse Geriatric Center.

Participated in the St. Lucie Nuclear Power Plant Off Year Exercise (OYEX13) at the Palm Beach County Emergency Operations Center. This tabletop exercise was designed to show the response capabilities of the EOC in the context of an overall response to a nuclear power plant emergency.

Participated in Florida Atlantic University's Annual Health and Safety Fair and staffed an educational



Radiological Preparedness Practice Field Exercise – April 2013

The Medical Management Facility planning team met to discuss the higher level of care needed by some individuals in the county during emergency situations.

Deployment exercise of a Western Shelter Tent System (WSTS) Portable Field Hospital at the Veterans Affairs Medical Center in Riviera Beach. Under the supervision of a WSTS Vendor and VA personnel, staff deployed one 20'X20' Administration Tent, one 15'X35" Treatment Tent, and one Hygiene Station. By participating in the training deployment, DOH-Palm Beach is better prepared to deploy our own WSTS that has the capability to handle 44 patients and serve as a Health and Medical Asset for Region 7 in preparation for a catastrophic public health event that

booth at the Boca Raton Campus. The Fair attracted thousands of students, faculty, and visitors.

CRI Program gave a brief overview of Mass Antibiotics Dispensing at the Disaster Recovery Coalition meeting. Representatives from faith based organizations, not-for profits, county agencies, and many others attended this meeting. The goal of the presentation was to engage one of the individual organizations, with the hope of the organization eventually becoming a closed point of dispensing for their staff and clientele. The Disaster Recovery Coalition serves as a hub to some organizations we do not work with on a regular basis.

FBI Academic Biosecurity Workshop at Florida Atlantic University. The workshop goal was to improve the cooperation among law enforcement agencies and research institutions to mitigate potential biosecurity issues that may affect public health and safety.

Retired FBI Special Agent George Layton of the Terrorist Screening Center educated management on the TSC. The Terrorist Screening Center "one-stop shopping" so that every government screener is using the same terrorist watch list. The TSC allows government agencies to run name checks against the same comprehensive list with the most accurate, up-to-date information about known and suspected terrorists.

Post Graduate Year 3 medical residents toured and viewed a presentation at the Palm Beach County Medical Examiner's Office as part of their rotation in the Public Health Preparedness Program.

would overwhelm local resources and capabilities.

In coordination with the Healthcare Emergency Response Coalition, conducted an Alternate Care Site tabletop exercise. Together, agency representatives worked through the issues the community would face in a scenario that involves the opening of alternate care sites. Representatives from the County, area hospitals, Emergency Medical Service providers, Law Enforcement, and healthcare organizations participated in an effort to better prepare our community in case of disaster.

Radiological Emergency Reception Center exercise, in response to a simulated emergency at the St. Lucie Nuclear Power Plant. Exercise participants include Fire Rescue, Hazmat, Public Health, Law Enforcement, Public Affairs, Public Transportation, and Emergency Management.



AED/CPR Course – November 2013



## Community Health Improvement Plan (CHIP)

The Palm Beach County CHIP is a comprehensive, achievable plan that will be 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.

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 3 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 2013, the Advisory Council revised the CHIP and developed an implementation work plan. The work plan is used to identify initiatives related to the CHIP and measure success at achieving the targets identified in the CHIP. The revised CHIP can be viewed at <http://www.pbchd.com/pdfs/community-assessment/palm-beach-county-health-improvement-plan-2012.pdf>

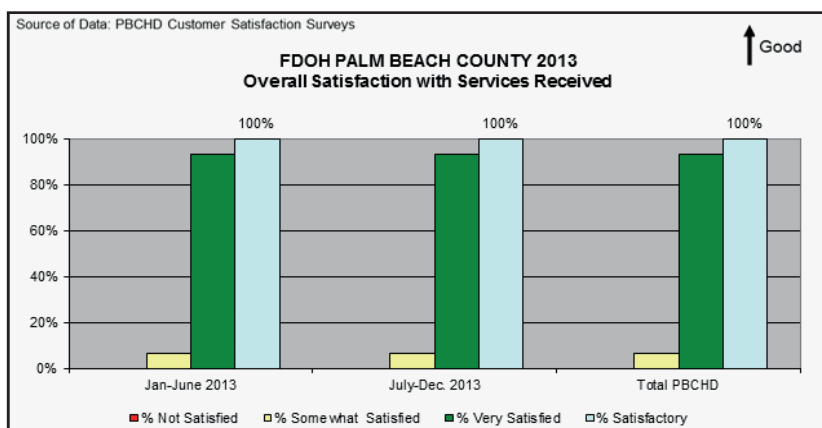
## Accreditation

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 2013, DOH-Palm Beach County began the documentation phase of the accreditation process. This entails identifying and uploading documents that demonstrate our conformity with the standards and measures set by PHAB. The process will continue into 2014, with the aim of becoming accredited by the end of the year.

## Quality Improvement

Quality practices continue to be the way business is conducted. An analysis of the agency's strengths, weaknesses, opportunities and threats, a SWOT assessment, was completed. Also in 2013, the agency finalized its Strategic Plan for 2014-2015. This Strategic Plan charts a definite course based on strong indicators of what the public health environment will be like in the next two years. Our indicators included demographics, economic indicators, government policies, health status indicators, and technological advances. The Plan-Do-Check-Act Process Improvement/Problem-Solving Cycle, which views quality as a continuous effort to improve services, products, and processes, continues to be used locally and throughout the Florida Department of Health.

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)

In this age of paperless banking, WIC continues to issue paper checks to its clients; averaging 12,000 issuances per month. However the agency is preparing to convert to an Electronic Benefit Transfer (EBT) system to redeem food benefits from its vendors. Once the transition to electronic benefits is complete, families will have the opportunity to purchase prescribed healthy foods with an electronic card similar to a credit or debit card. These cards will be used over and over for food purchases. Benefits will be 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



Palm Beach County WIC served **48,386** unduplicated participants at six clinics

- ▲ 19% Pregnant Women
- ▲ 6% Breastfeeding Women
- ▲ 5% Postpartum Women
- ▲ 29% Infants
- ▲ 39% Children

WIC continues to maintain enrollment and participation numbers despite temporarily suspending services at the Pahokee-Glades Health Center during 2013. The program has six active thriving sites located throughout the county. Clients receive core WIC certification services including eligibility determination, nutrition assessment and counseling, WIC checks and special formula issuance. WIC nutrition services are provided by Registered and Licensed Nutritionists, Nutrition Educators, Breastfeeding Peer Counselors and International Board Certified Lactation Consultants (IBCLC). Numbers remain stable from the previous year.

Although the approved vendor list decreased by four; food cost increased by \$300,000. 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 established dietary recommendations for infants and children less than 2 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. Racial distributions of enrollees were unchanged since the previous year.

Racial Distribution 2013  
47% White  
43% Black  
5% American Indian  
3% Multiracial  
2% Asian

Palm Beach County WIC partnered with 134 vendors throughout the county providing \$24,030,846 of nutritionally appropriate foods to WIC families

### Breastfeeding – Good for Mom and Baby

Research has shown that there is 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 Breastfeeding

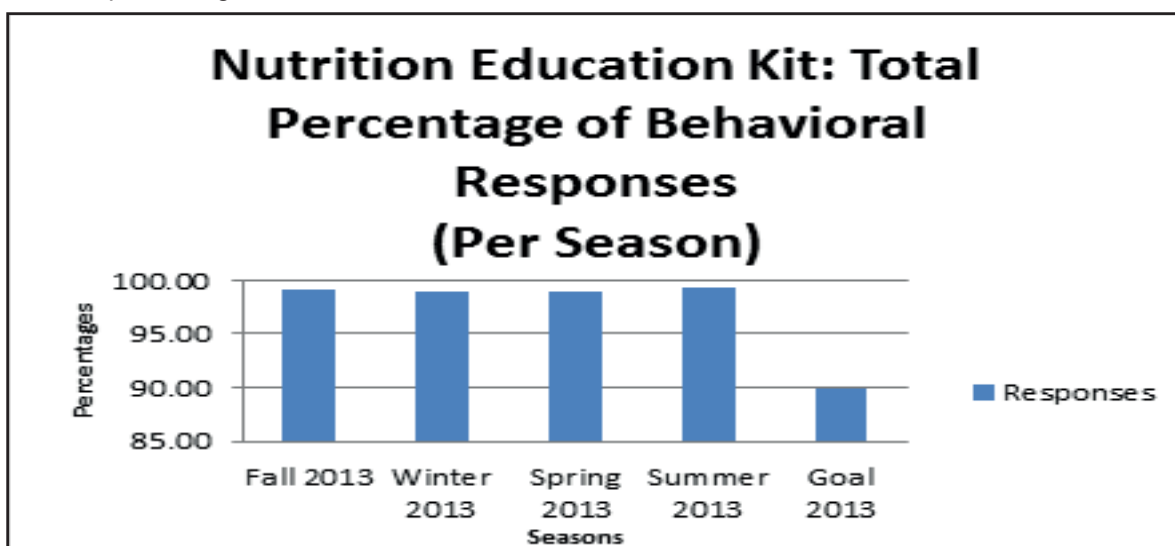


Coordinator retired after 20 years of service. During her tenure, the program grew to become the county's leader in Breastfeeding education and promotion.

The percentage of currently certified infants/children between 26 weeks and 24 months of age who have been fully breastfed (no formula from WIC) for at least 6 months increased from 15.8% to 16.3%.

- ▲ Breastfeeding mothers receive follow-up support through peer counselors.
- ▲ Breastfeeding mothers are eligible to participate in WIC longer than non-breastfeeding mothers.
- ▲ Mothers who exclusively breastfeed their infants receive an enhanced food package.
- ▲ Breastfeeding mothers can receive breast pumps, breast shells or nursing supplements to help support the initiation and continuation of breastfeeding.

One of the many benefits of the WIC Program is the free nutrition education provided to WIC participants and their families. During the year, participants were able to respond appropriately to the behavior questions at the end of the group sessions. Various group topics were discussed and responses to behavior questions were monitored. The results indicated the percentages of clients who responded appropriately to the campaign behavioral question continued to surpass the goal at all sites for each month.



Appropriate Responses Following Education

Relationships with key community partners continue to be strengthened and activities are focused on achieving the programs indicators, goals and objectives.

- ▲ WIC staff participated in over 30 community health resource fairs
- ▲ Over 40 presentations were made in the community
- ▲ More than 200 community partners received WIC Program Information

*USDA is an equal opportunity provider and employer*

## Volunteer Services

### Volunteer Health Care Provider Program

Volunteer clinics/referral agencies 13  
 Number of Volunteers in the program 947  
*Services provided: medical, dental, referral and eligibility services*

Value of donated services from hospitals and doctors  
 \$5,991,736

### Volunteer Health Service Program

Number of Volunteers in the program 480  
*Services provided: medical, dental, support staff, auxiliary services  
 i.e. Food Pantry, food vouchers, Clothing Closet, Client Incentives*

Cost savings equivalents to the department \$2,183,120



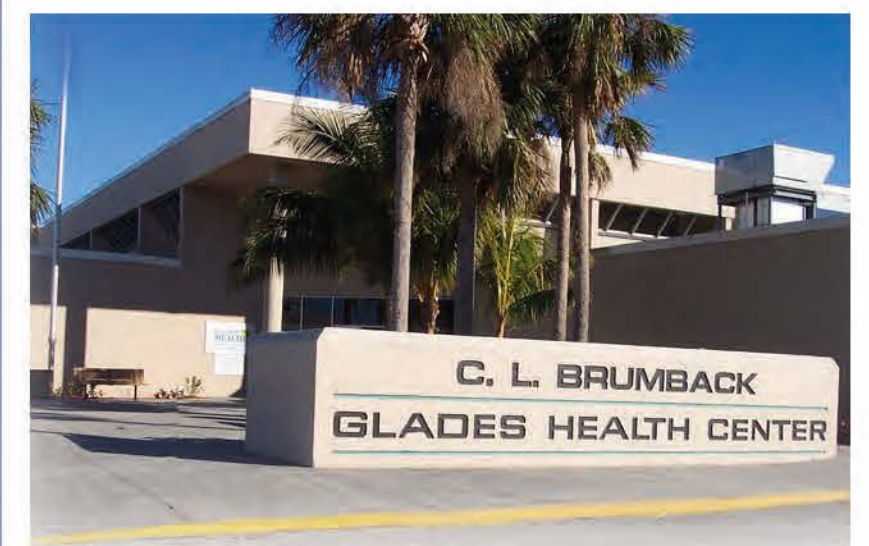


### Administrative Services

800 Clematis Street  
West Palm Beach, FL 33401  
(561) 671-4000

### C.L. Brumback Health Center

38754 State Road 80  
Belle Glade, FL 33430  
(561) 996-1600



### Delray Beach Health Center & Annex

225 South Congress  
Avenue  
Delray Beach, FL 33445  
(561) 274-3100

### Jupiter Auxiliary Health Center

6405 Indiantown Road  
Jupiter, FL 33458  
(561) 746-6751



### Lantana / Lake Worth Health Center

1250 Southwinds Drive  
Lantana, FL 33462  
(561) 547-6800

### Northeast Health Center

851 Avenue "P"  
Riviera Beach, Florida 33404  
(561) 803-7362



### Pahokee-Glades Health Center

1839 East Main Street  
Pahokee, Florida 33476  
(561) 924-4500

### West Palm Beach Health Center

1150 45th Street  
West Palm Beach, FL 33407  
(561) 514-5300

