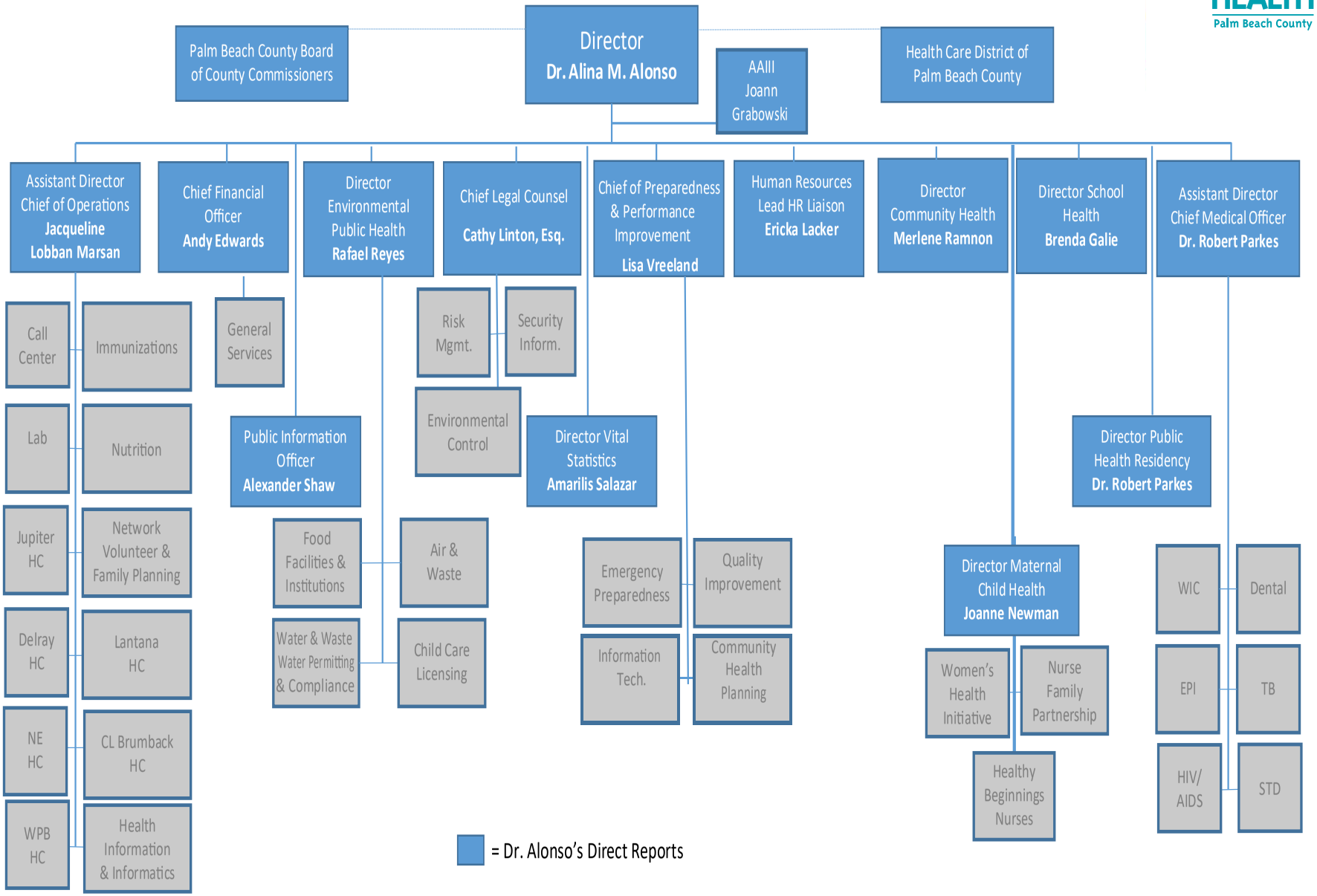
Florida Department of Health Palm Beach County

ANNUAL HEALTH PROFILE

2019

DOH-Palm Beach
Functional Organizational Chart 2018



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)

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.

TABLE OF CONTENTS

Director's Message 3
County Health Ranking, Florida 4
Administration 5
Vital Statistics 5
Finance & Accounting 5
General Services 6
Communicable Diseases 6
Epidemiology & Disease Control 6
TB Control Program 8
Sexually Transmitted Disease 10
HIV/AIDS 11
Public Health Dentistry 13
Community & School Health 14
Healthiest Weight Florida 14
Tobacco Prevention & Control Program 15
School Health 15
Environmental Public Health 16
Health Access 19
Health Centers Highlights 19
Community Immunization Services 21
Comprehensive Nutrition Program 22
Maternal Child Health 23
FDOH Palm Beach Laboratory 23
WIC 24
Performance, Improvement and Preparedness 25
Preventive Medicine / Public Health Residency Program 27
Volunteer Health Care Provider Program 27
Volunteer Health Services Program 27

As an Accredited Health Department by the Public Health Accreditation Board, the Florida Department of Health in Palm Beach County (FDOH-Palm Beach) is seen as a trusted source of information for our community leaders. The public relies on our skilled and competent work force to battle emerging communicable diseases, provide emergency responses, provide lifesaving preventive services, maintain and protect our environment, and improve and promote a healthier lifestyle to ensure that all residents and visitors to our county have full and equitable access to opportunities that enable them to lead healthier lives. Our future looks brighter and stronger than ever.

Through our Strategic Plan which coordinates with the FODH Strategic State Plan we are steadily making progress toward improving our strategies and objectives. Using the Community Health Assessment (CHA) and the Community Health Improvement Plan (CHIP) participation has increased to include more and more partners that make up our Public Health System.

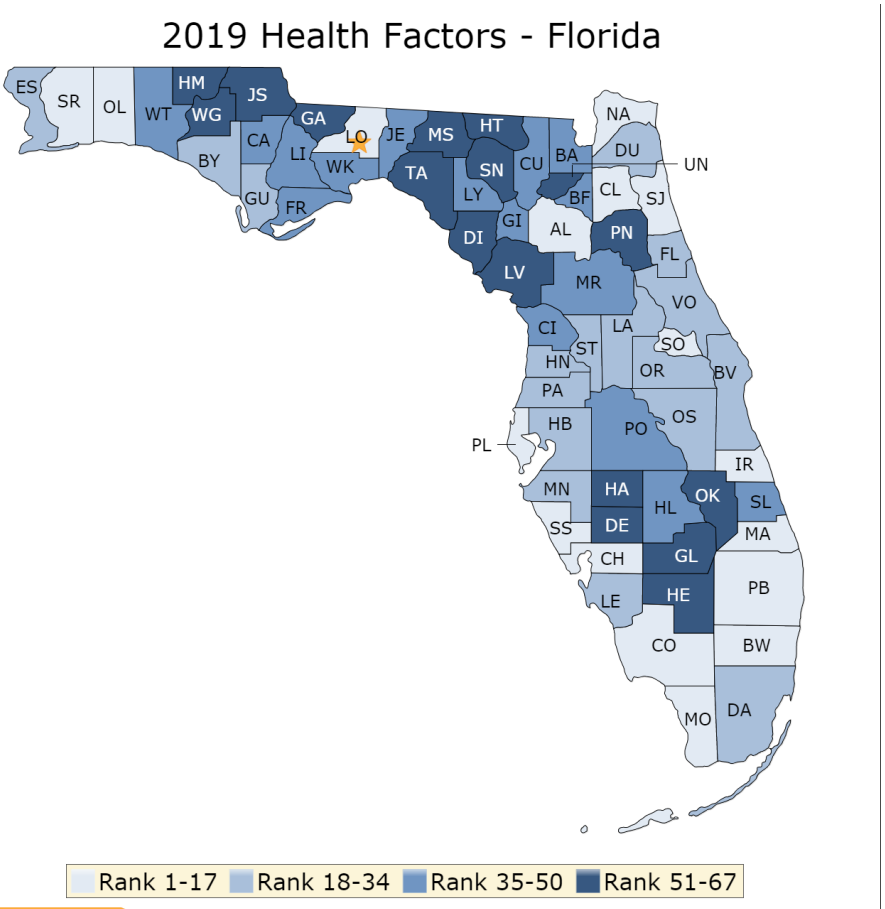
The Department's role as an agent of change, allows our staff to constantly remind our partners about the issues of equity, racial disparities, and social justice. These principals allow us to use that lens of equity to improve the health of our community. We have demonstrated that to create change we can help the community develop their own tools and skill sets to be more self-sufficient, improve their economic stability, and get involved in policy changes. Those changes must dive deep into the root causes of racial biases and systemic injustices at every level. In other words, when the fish are dying in the lake, we must look at the ground water not just the fish.

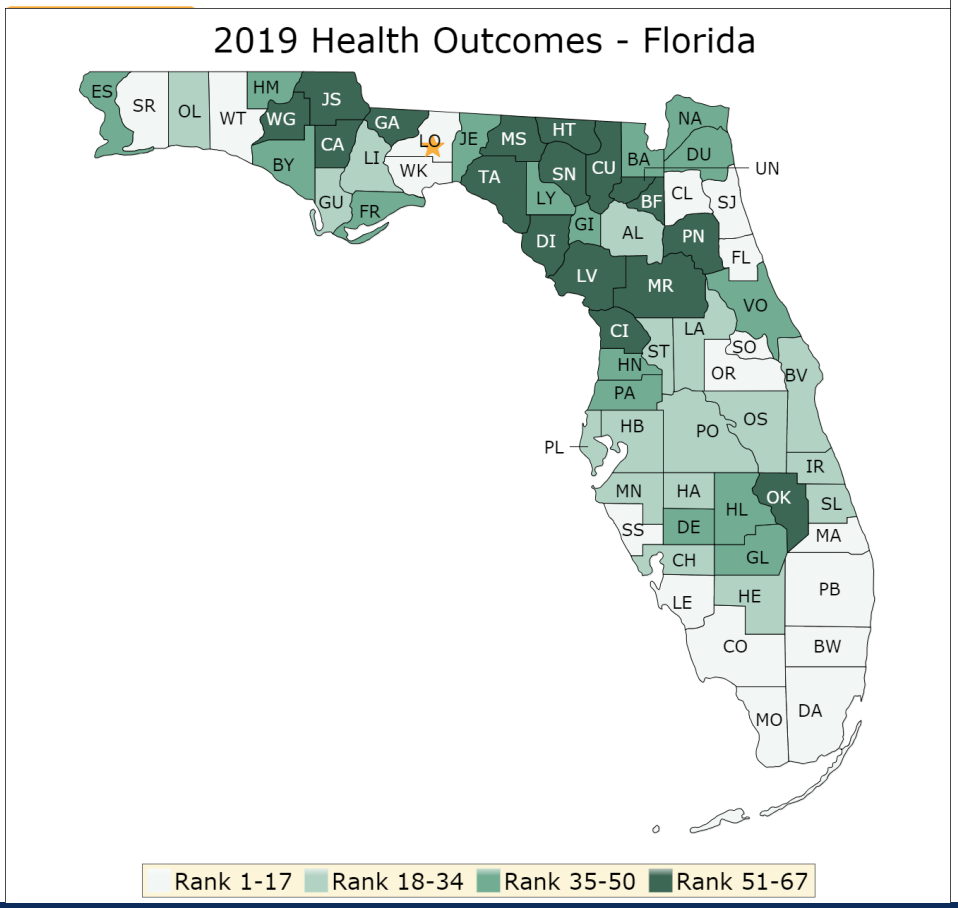
Public health is the science of protecting and improving the health of families and communities through promotion of healthy lifestyles, research for diseases, injury prevention, detection and control of infectious diseases. We will remain data driven and use science in pursuing our goals of excellence.

Alina Alonso, MD
Director
Florida Department of Health
Palm Beach County

COUNTY HEALTH RANKINGS 2019

County	Health Outcomes	Health Factors
Alachua	26	5
Baker	49	41
Bay	44	37
Bradford	64	49
Brevard	32	18
Broward	11	12
Calhoun	55	57
Charlotte	28	11
Citrus	57	39
Clay	27	19
Collier	2	6
Columbia	61	50
DeSoto	38	55
Dixie	63	62
Duval	45	34
Escambia	47	29
Flagler	17	22
Franklin	34	48
Gadsden	65	66
Gilchrist	42	43
Glades	41	54
Gulf	31	36
Hamilton	58	63
Hardee	25	64
Hendry	43	65
Hernando	37	33
Highlands	46	44
Hillsborough	19	24
Holmes	48	51
Indian River	14	16
Jackson	50	60
Jefferson	56	45
Lafayette	39	42
Lake	24	20
Lee	16	15
Leon	9	23
Levy	59	58
Liberty	30	46
Madison	62	56
Manatee	15	17
Marion	53	38
Martin	4	4
Miami-Dade	6	32
Monroe	8	8
Nassau	33	9
Okaloosa	12	14
Okeechobee	52	61
Orange	7	21
Osceola	18	31
Palm Beach	**10**	**7**
Pasco	36	26
Pinellas	23	10
Polk	35	40
Putnam	66	67
St. Johns	1	1
St. Lucie	29	30
Santa Rosa	13	13
Sarasota	5	3
Seminole	3	2
Sumter	22	25
Suwannee	54	52
Taylor	60	53
Union	67	47
Volusia	40	27
Wakulla	21	28
Walton	20	35
Washington	51	59

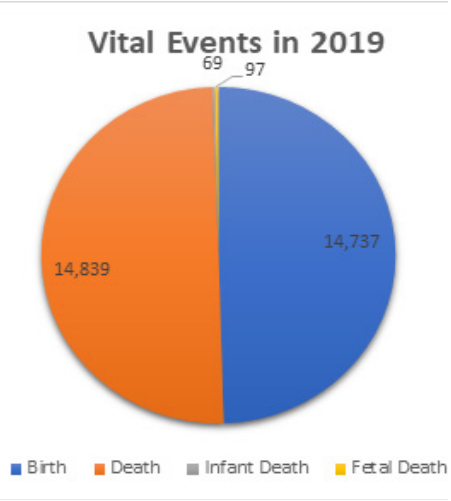




Administration

Vital Statistics

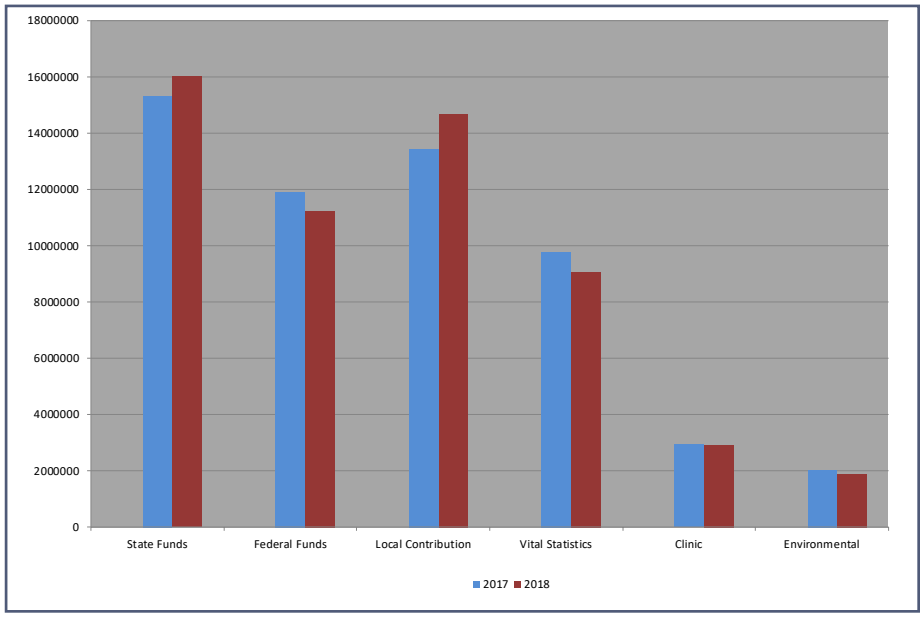
The Office of Vital Statistics is tasked with issuing vital records to all residents of our multicultural community. In 2019, we issued a total of 104,000 vital records. Of those records a total of 14,737 were birth, 14,839 death; 69 infant death; and 97 Fetal Death. We ensure that these records are carefully handled in compliance with Chapter 382 of the Florida Statutes. We supervise and assist seven Tax Collectors in Palm Beach County that also issue birth certificates. Our office also provides other essential services and projects. In 2019, Vital Statistics began to offer Public Notary Services to our community. A total of 522 documents were notarized. On July 2019, our office also worked in conjunction with the Medical examiner in delivering a lecture to Medical Residents about the procedures of completing Death Certificates as mandated by Chapter 382 of the Florida Statutes.

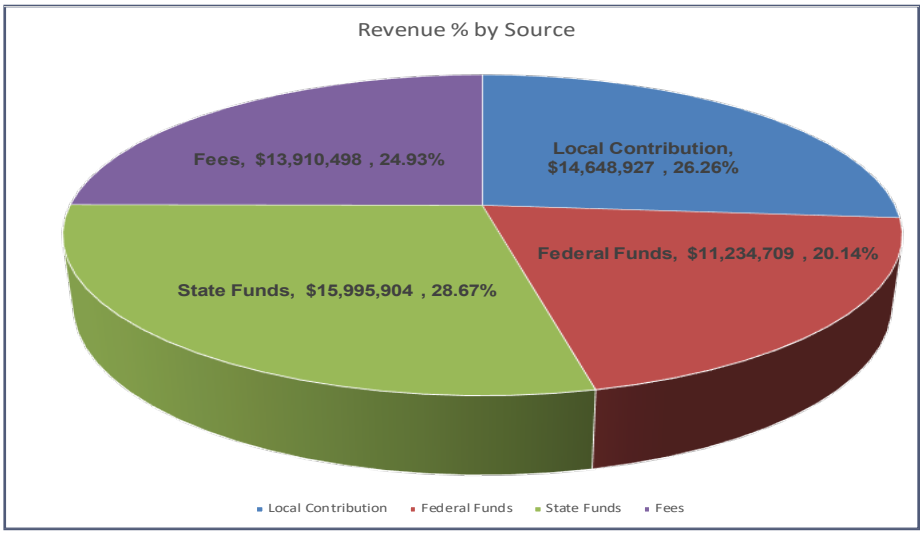


Finance & Accounting

State Funds	15,995,904
Federal Funds	11,234,709
Local Contribution	14,648,927
Vital Statistics	9,063,952
Clinic	2,946,522
Environmental	1,900,024
TOTAL	$55,790,038

Local Contribution	$14,648,927
	26.26%
Federal Funds	$11,234,709
	20.14%
State Funds	$15,995,904
	28.67%
Fees	$13,910,498
	24.93%





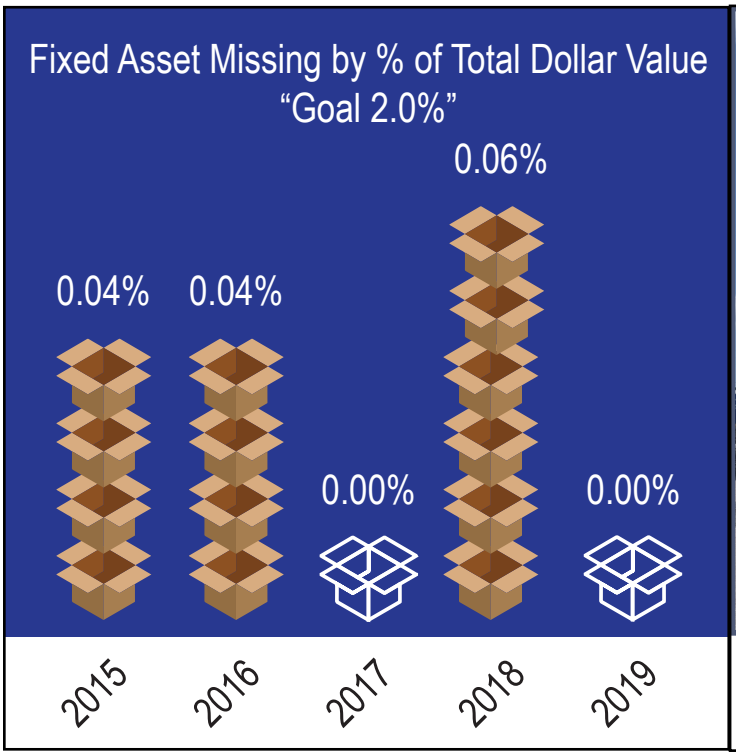
General Services

The SNS and RDS exercises were an excellent training experience. The FDOH team exercised the push receipt of materials, staging, inventory control, picking, and the distribution to both open and closed POD's for dispensing operations.

This provided the FDOH team the opportunity to experience a simulation of a complete mass dispensing plan and operation.

The success of these ongoing trainings became very apparent during Hurricane Dorian when the supplying and setup of the special needs shelters was completed efficiently and in record time.

The training of FDOH staff is always varied and continuously ongoing in preparation for any event and scope that may arise.



Lakeside Hospital Western Shelter Tent - Belle Glade

COMMUNICABLE DISEASE

Epidemiology

The Division of Epidemiology is responsible for monitoring, investigating and reporting to the Florida Department of Health on all communicable diseases that appear on the "Reportable Diseases/Conditions in the 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 of diseases and the application of intervention strategies, we strive to avert further transmission into the community. We comply with Florida Statutes 64 D-3 which states, "Any practitioner licensed in Florida to practice medicine, osteopathic, chiropractic, naturopathy or veterinary medicine, who diagnoses or suspects the existence of a disease of public health significance shall immediately report the fact to the Department of Health. "

Hepatitis A

- Hepatitis A remained above the previous 5-year average since April 2018.
- 79 cases were reported for Palm Beach at the end of December 2019, compared to same time frame in 2018 which reported 13 cases.
- Incidence remained highest among adults 30-39 years old.
- White non Hispanic males were the highest group affected.
- Drug use was the most commonly reported risk factor, including injectable and non injectable drugs, homelessness and a smaller percentage involved MSM (men who have sex with men).

- Since January 2018, 95% of cases were not up to date on hepatitis A vaccinations.
- There was 1 Hepatitis A associated death in 2019.

Hepatitis A is a viral illness that causes inflammation of the liver and is typically transmitted through the fecal-oral route. This can happen through:

- Close person-to-person contact with an infected person
- Sexual contact with an infected person
- Ingestion of contaminated food or water

Cyclosporiasis

There was a significant increase in the number of cyclosporiasis cases. There were 44 cases reported in Palm Beach County at the end of December 2019, compared to 2018 which reported 5. These were classified as sporadic cases. There were no identified links in persons or any specific food item. Cyclosporiasis is an intestinal illness caused by the microscopic parasite Cyclospora . People can become infected with Cyclospora by consuming food or water contaminated with the parasite. Cyclosporiasis occurs in many countries, but it seems to be most common in tropical and subtropical regions. In areas where cyclosporiasis has been studied, the risk for infection is seasonal. In the United States, food-borne outbreaks of cyclosporiasis have been linked to various types of imported fresh produce, such as raspberries, basil, snow peas, mesclun lettuce, and cilantro; there were no commercially frozen or canned produce that were linked to the increase in the number of cases.

2019 Palm Beach County Communicable Disease Report

DISEASE	2019	2018
Disease Count	Total	Total
Amebic infections (B. mandrillaris) - 13625	0	1
Anaplasmosis, HGA (A. phagocytophilum) - 08381	2	0
Arsenic poisoning - 98080	1	1
Babesiosis - 08882	4	2
Botulism, infant - 00511	0	1
Brucellosis - 02300	0	1
California serogroup virus neuroinvasive disease - 06250		1
Campylobacteriosis - 03840	270	318
Carbon monoxide poisoning - 98600	38	18
Chikungunya fever - 06540	1	1
Ciguatera fish poisoning - 98809	7	8
Creutzfeldt-Jakob disease (CJD) - 04610	6	0
Cryptosporidiosis - 13680	27	18
Cyclosporiasis - 00720	44	5
Dengue fever - 06100	31	5
Ehrlichiosis, HME (E. chaffeensis) - 08382	2	0
Giardiasis, acute - 00710	88	87
H. influenzae invasive disease - 03841	34	26
Hemolytic uremic syndrome (HUS) - 42000	0	2
Hepatitis A - 07010	79	13
Hepatitis B, acute - 07030	27	60
Hepatitis B, chronic - 07032	406	340
Hepatitis B, perinatal - 07744	1	0
Hepatitis B, pregnant women - 07039	49	44
Hepatitis C, acute - 07051	30	39
Hepatitis C, chronic - 07054	1139	1328
Hepatitis C, perinatal - 07058	3	2
Hepatitis D - 07052	2	0
Herpes B virus, possible exposure - 07103	3	4
Influenza, ICU (special project) - 48710	15	7
Influenza-associated pediatric mortality - 48700	0	1
Lead poisoning - 94890	135	247

DISEASE	2019	2018
Legionellosis - 48280	48	37
Listeriosis - 02700	3	5
Lyme disease - 06959	20	16
Malaria - 08460	0	4
Meningitis, bacterial or mycotic - 32090	24	3
Meningococcal disease - 03630	3	0
Mercury poisoning - 94899	2	18
Mumps - 07290	6	3
Pertussis - 03390	20	25
Pesticide-related illness and injury, acute - 09894	2	14
Rabies, animal - 07102	4	4
Rabies, possible exposure - 07101	307	238
Ricin toxin poisoning - 98830	0	4
Rocky Mountain spotted fever and spotted fever rickettsiosis - 08309		12
S. pneumoniae invasive disease, drug-resistant - 04823		1312
S. pneumoniae invasive disease, drug-susceptible - 04830		4532
Salmonella Paratyphi infection - 00210	5	0
Salmonella Typhi infection - 00200	10	9
Salmonellosis - 00300	609	562
Saxitoxin poisoning (paralytic shellfish poisoning) - 98840		2
Scombroid poisoning - 91000	11	3
Shiga toxin-producing E. coli (STEC) infection - 00800	63	68
Shigellosis - 00490	174	67
Varicella (chickenpox) - 05290	67	52
Vibriosis (other Vibrio species) - 00193	7	3
Vibriosis (V. alginolyticus) - 00195	8	8
Vibriosis (V. fluvialis) - 00194	2	1
Vibriosis (V. parahaemolyticus) - 00540	4	5
Vibriosis (V. vulnificus) - 00199	2	2
West Nile virus neuroinvasive disease - 06630	0	2
Zika virus, non-congenital - 06010	1	8
TOTAL	**3905**	**3789**

Tuberculosis (TB) Control Program

Tuberculosis is one of the world's most prevalent diseases. There are approximately 10 million people who become sick with TB disease annually. The United States reported 8,920 cases in 2019, about 1% decrease from the previous year . Approximately half of all the cases in the U.S. were reported in California, New York, Texas and Florida. Along with the rest of the nation, Florida's yearly count of TB occurrence has steadily decreased and holds a current incidence rate of 2.6 cases per every 100,000 persons. The national goal is to reach less than 1 case for every 1 million persons as the mark for TB elimination in the United States.

The TB Control Program is a part of the elimination effort. The program maintains a surveillance system and is responsible for the control and prevention of TB disease throughout Palm Beach County. Despite prevention and intervention efforts, the percentage of cases seen in our area continue to be higher among minority groups and those born outside of the United States. The Florida Department of Health is committed to ensuring everyone exposed to TB disease receives proper care by offering clinical services for screenings and evaluations, identifying contacts to cases and providing Direct Observed Therapy (DOT) for individuals receiving treatment.

Program Goals:

Program Performance Indicator	Goal by 2025	Palm Beach	Dade	Broward
Treatment Initiation	96.0%	100%	88.2%	100%
Recommend Initial Therapy	97.0%	100%	96.6%	96.4%
Drug Susceptibility	100%	100%	97.7%	100%
Sputum Culture Reported	99.0%	100%	97%	97.8%
Known HIV Status	99.0%	97.5%	100%	100%
Sputum Culture Conversion*	83.0%	72.7%	66.0%	76.5%
Completion of Therapy *	95.0%	91.2%	95.2%	100%

** Still preliminary*

- Identify and treat TB disease until cured.
- Provide preventive treatment to those with latent Tuberculosis infection (LTBI) who are at most risk of developing active TB disease.

Program Accomplishments:

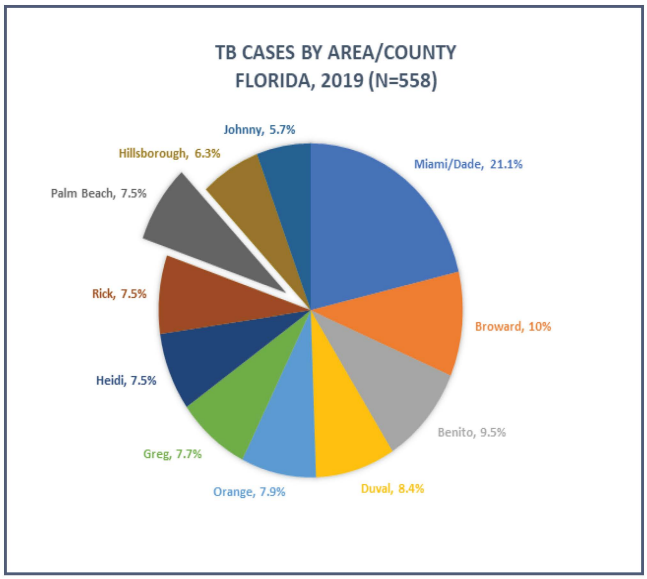
- Palm Beach County has met and/or exceeded some performance indicators' goals set by 2025. The year 2019 is as of today preliminary for the following indicators: sputum culture conversion and treatment completion because some patients are still undergoing treatment.

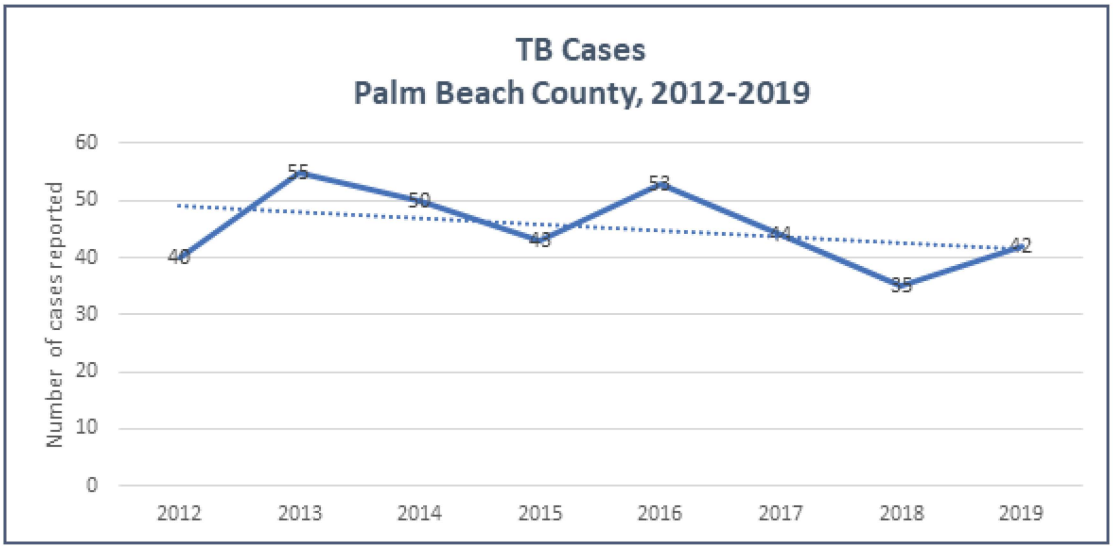
TB Reporting

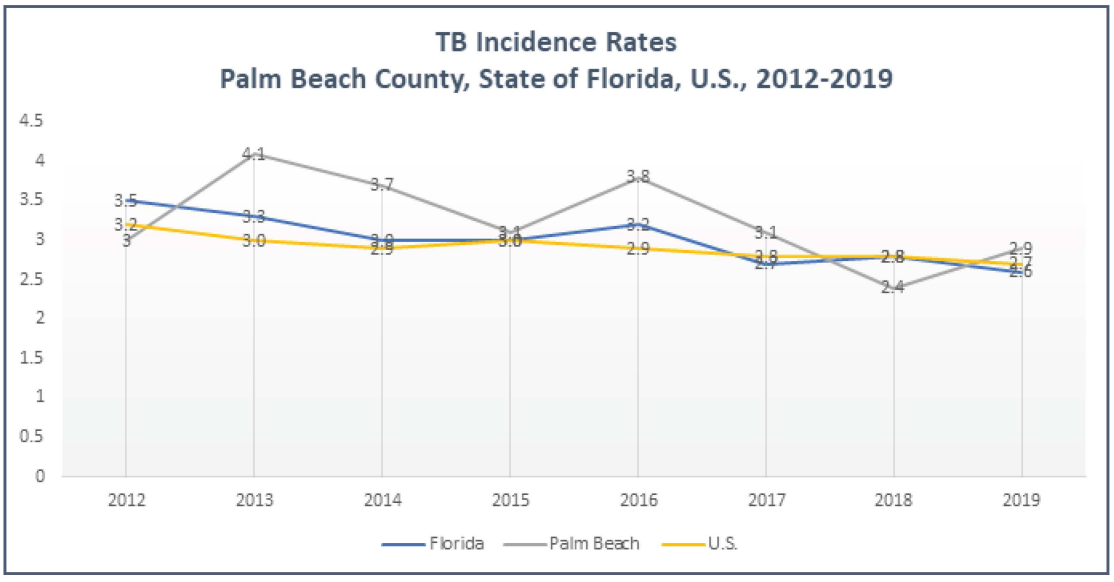
Florida law requires the Department of Health to periodically issue a list of diseases determined to be of public health significance that are required to be reported to the local health departments. As such, strong suspects of tuberculosis disease need to be reported to the program immediately.

- Health Care Providers: By law health care providers in Palm Beach County are required to report TB cases and suspects within one (1) business day of diagnosis.
- 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 complex to the TB Control Program.

For additional information or to submit a report, please call (561) 803-7342 or fax the confidential line (561) 840-0171.


TB CASES BY AREA/COUNTY
FLORIDA, 2019 (N=558)
Johnny, 5.7%
Hillsborough, 6.3%
Miami/Dade, 21.1%
Palm Beach, 7.5%
Rick, 7.5%
Broward, 10%
Heidi, 7.5%
Benito, 9.5%
Greg, 7.7%
Orange, 7.9%
Duval, 8.4%

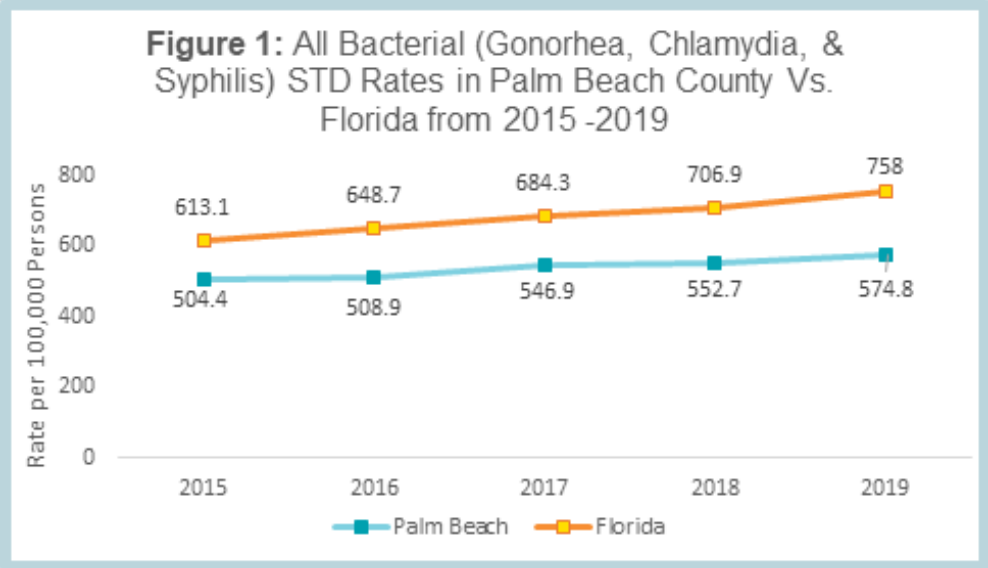

TB Cases
Palm Beach County, 2012-2019
Number of cases reported
60
50
40
30
20
10
0
40
55
50
43
53
44
35
42
2012
2013
2014
2015
2016
2017
2018
2019

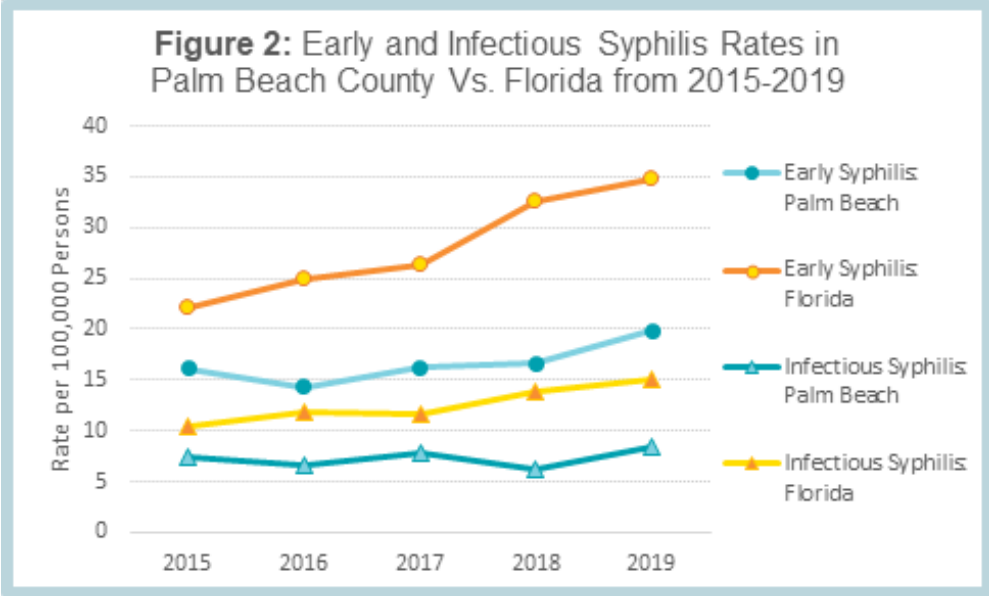

TB Incidence Rates
Palm Beach County, State of Florida, U.S., 2012-2019
4.5
4
3.5
3
2.5
2
1.5
1
0.5
0
2012
2013
2014
2015
2016
2017
2018
2019
Florida
Palm Beach
U.S.

Sexually Transmitted Diseases (STD)

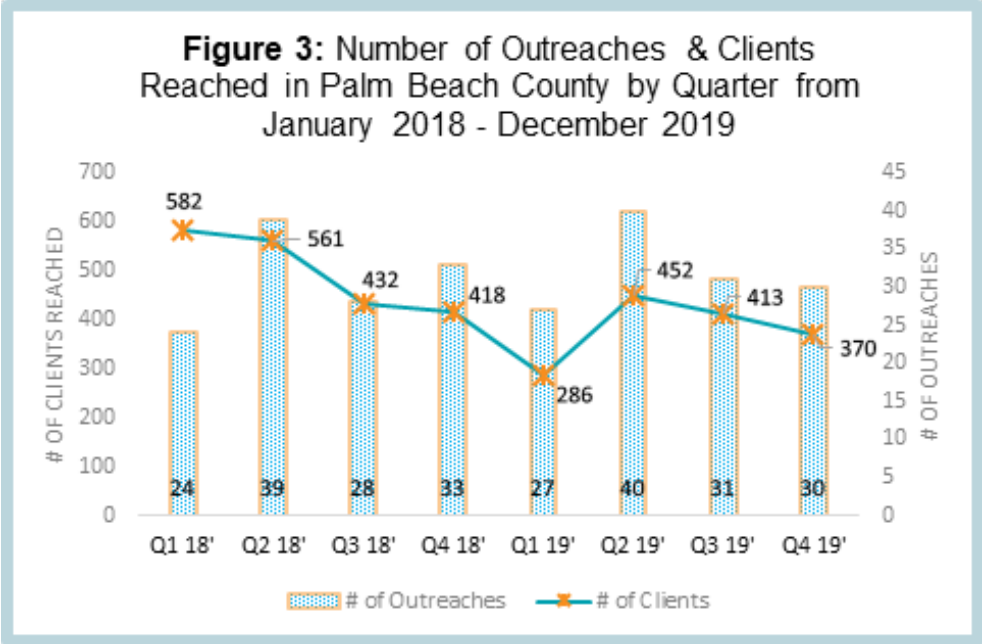
The rates of Bacterial Sexually Transmitted Diseases (Syphilis, Chlamydia, and Gonorrhea) have been increasing in Florida, reflecting the increases in local jurisdictions. The STD program continues to combat by surveillance and partner services, as well as targeted outreaches to the populations most at risk and by partnerships with various community organizations, for example, the Congenital Syphilis Morbidity and Mortality Review Board (CSRB), launched in June 2018. Cooperation and communication between the STD staffs and DOH clinic staffs has been critical to facilitate timely access to treatment and improved outcome for the clients. These ongoing efforts has helped maintain Palm Beach County's Bacterial STDs at below Florida state rates and widened the gap in Early Syphilis rates.

Surveillance and partner services are the core of the STD program and essential to control transmission of STD's. Once an infection is reported the baton is passed from surveillance to Disease Intervention Specialists (DIS) for partner services. A DIS wears many hats including being a counselor, investigator, educator, mediator, contact tracer, phlebotomist, and transporter. A DIS communicates and coordinates with DOH clients, DOH clinics, private clients, and medical providers to prevent and control STD transmission and complications.





An indispensable branch is the outreach program comprised of educational presentations, high impact screenings, counselling and informative displays. Examples of our targeted outreach locations include treatment centers, LGBTQ community centers, youth homeless shelters, homeless shelters/halfway houses, schools, adult education center, health fairs targeting high risk communities. Presentations and literature are given in either English or Spanish. In 2019, the hepatitis outreach program continued to expand and improve with 128 outreaches conducted and over 1,500 clients reached.



HIV / AIDS

"Ending the Epidemic: A Plan for America" was announced in February 2019, with a goal to reduce new HIV infections by 75% by 2025, and by 90% by 2030. The four pillars established for ending the epidemic are:

- Diagnose: all people with HIV as early as possible after infection.
- Treat: people with HIV rapidly and effectively to reach sustained viral suppression.
- Prevent: new HIV transmissions by using proven interventions, including pre-exposure prophylaxis (PrEP) and syringe services programs.
- Respond: quickly to potential HIV outbreaks to get needed prevention and treatment services to people who need them.

Palm Beach County has implemented all four pillars. Through collaboration with community partners, the HIV program works actively to expand its impact and reach toward the vision of zero new HIV infections, zero discrimination and zero AIDS-related deaths.
The situation in Palm Beach County: The table to the right provides a summary of the impact to Palm Beach County.

Palm Beach had a 13.6% decrease in newly diagnosed HIV cases, a 16.7% increase in newly diagnosed AIDS cases, and a 22% decrease in HIV-related deaths. We are making significant strides with pediatric HIV/AIDS cases and perinatal HIV transmission. From 2010 to 2019, HIV diagnoses decreased among Blacks by 38%, yet in contrast, there has been a 4% increase in diagnoses among Whites, and a 26% increase among Hispanics. Blacks continue to be among the highest diagnosed in Palm Beach County. The majority of newly diagnosed HIV cases were male-to-male sexual contact (MMSC).
One-in-Statements for Persons Living with HIV, Year-end 2019:

- One in 177 adults in Palm Beach County were known to be living with HIV
- One in 415 Whites were living with HIV
- One in 55 Blacks were living with HIV
- One in 253 Hispanics were living with HIV

The Continuum of Care in Palm Beach County: The continuum of care is closely tied to the Ending the Epidemic strategy and the State of Florida's Integrated HIV Prevention and Care Plan goals, which include:

- Reduce new HIV infection.
- Increase access to care and improve health outcomes for people living with HIV.
- Reduce HIV-related health disparities.

Monitoring the continuum of care is vital to ensuring that we're improving engagement at every stage in the continuum, and that we're joined in striving for the global target of 90-90-90, where 90% of all persons with HIV (PWH) will know their HIV status, and 90% of all people with diagnosed HIV will receive sustained antiretroviral therapy (ART), and 90% of all people receiving ART will have achieved viral suppression (viral load <200 copies/mL).

Significant new and highly-advanced treatments have delivered hope and enhanced the quality of life for those who are affected; however, these considerable advancements can only help individuals if they know their HIV status and are linked into lifesaving medical care.

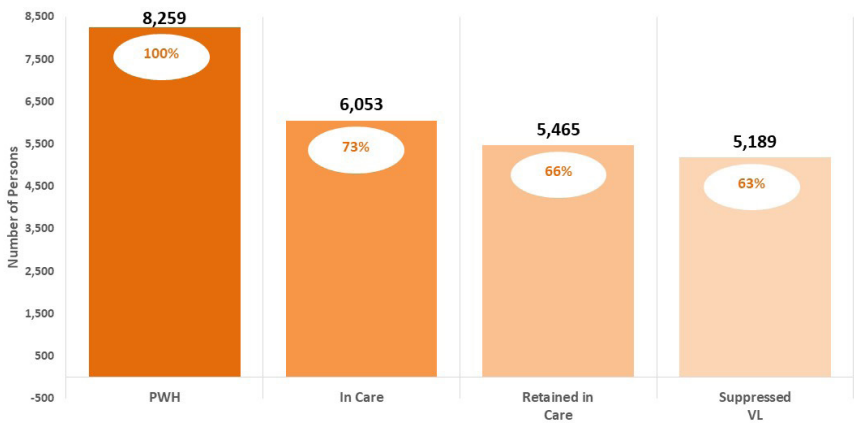
The Epidemic in Palm Beach County

	2018	2019	Trend
Population	1,442,281	1,458,576	1.1% increase
Diagnosed HIV cases	287	248	13.6% decrease
Diagnosed AIDS cases	96	112	16.7% increase
Pediatric AIDS cases diagnosed	0	0	---
Perinatal HIV cases	0	0	---
People living with HIV (Prevalence)	8,266	8,259	0.08% decrease
HIV-related deaths	50	39	22.0% decrease

Division of Disease Control and Health Protection

1

The Epidemic in Palm Beach County



Division of Disease Control and Health Protection

2

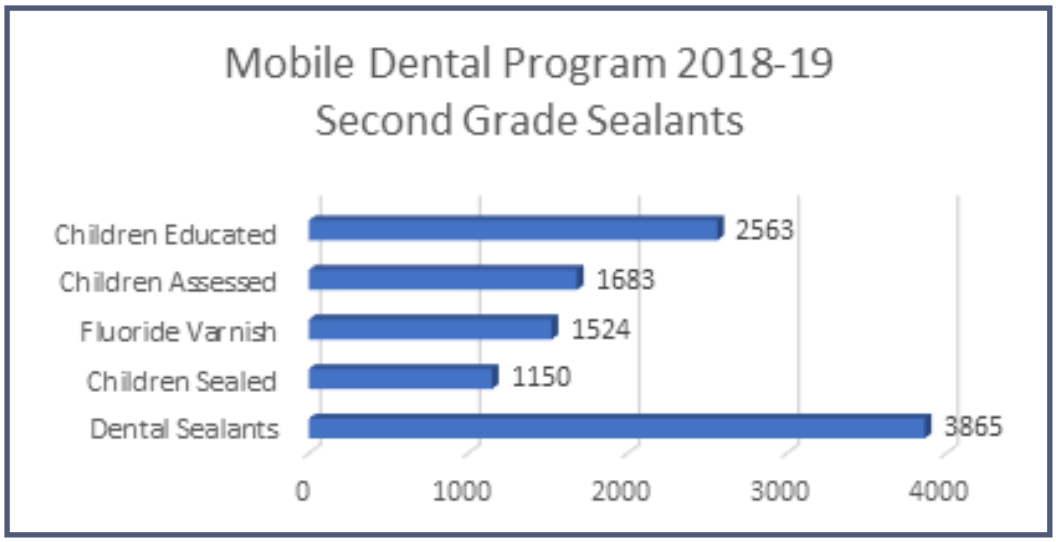
Public Health Dentistry

The goal of the Dental Program is to reduce the oral disease burden in underserved school aged children and the adult HIV population in Palm Beach County.

The Dental Program provides comprehensive dental services including diagnostic, preventive, restorative and surgical services for adult HIV clients and focuses on school based preventive services for children including referrals for urgent dental needs.

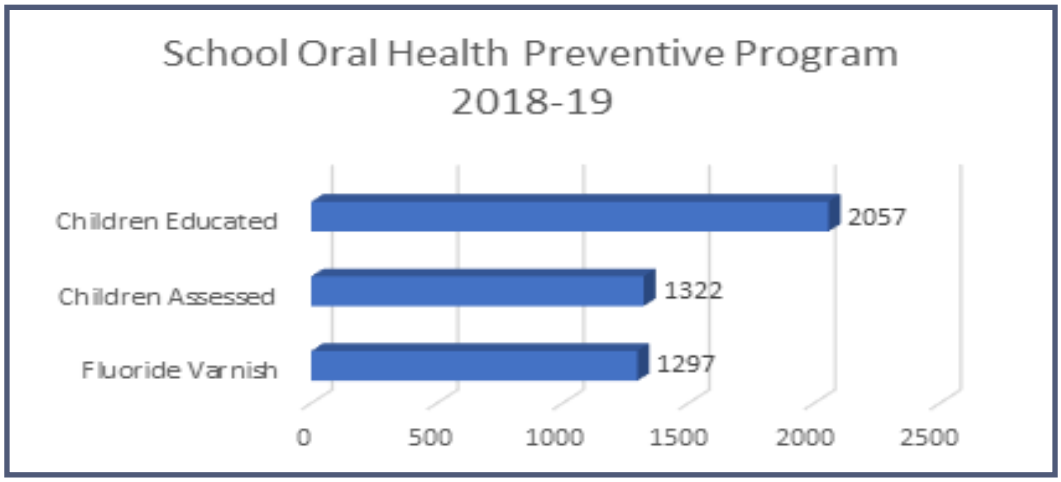
In calendar year 2019, dental staff provided 10,270 dental services to 599 HIV clients in 2,509 dental visits.

School based services are provided by the Marjorie S. Fisher Tooth Fairy Mobile Dental Program and the School Oral Health Preventive Program. In the school year ending in 2019, the Mobile Dental Program provided preventive services for second graders in 31 Title 1 elementary schools. Children were provided oral health education, an oral health assessment, fluoride varnish and dental sealants. The numbers for each are shown in the included graph.



In addition, an urgent need was identified in 121 second graders referred for emergency care. The Mobile Dental Program also provided 1,317 dental assessments and 1,289 fluoride varnish treatments for Head Start and Community Programs in Palm Beach County. Since its inception in 1997, the Mobile Dental Program has screened nearly 35,000 second graders and provided 91,126 sealants.

The School Oral Health Preventive Program served all grades in 7 Title 1 elementary schools in the school year ending in 2019. This program provides oral health education, oral health assessments, fluoride varnish and referrals for emergency care. The numbers are presented in the included graph. This program identified 115 children with an urgent need that were referred for emergency care.



COMMUNITY HEALTH

The Child Abuse Death Review

The Child Abuse Death Review Circuit #15 Committee reviewed 14 cases called into the Florida Abuse Hotline in 2019. The cases reviewed consisted of five (5) accidental deaths, one (1) natural death, one (1) homicide death, two (2) drowning deaths, one(1) medical condition death and four (4) undetermined deaths. Children 0-7 months had the highest death which were related to unintentional asphyxia. The CADR committee is focused on identifying the gaps, deficiencies or problems in service delivery to children and families by public and private agencies that may be related to child abuse deaths; developing strategies to bridge health disparity and equity, to continue applying health promotion and disease prevention technologies and interventions designed to improve and enhance quality of life. Participation with the community and working closely with the community on safe sleeping practices for our children are some of the action plan of the committee.

Healthiest Weight Florida

Over the next 20 years in Florida, obesity is expected to contribute to millions of cases of preventable chronic diseases such as type 2 diabetes, heart disease and cancer. The cost for these chronic diseases is estimated to be $34 billion. The Department of Health launched the Healthiest Weight Florida Initiative in January 2013 to address the issue of obesity and chronic diseases as an aftermath to the obesity problem.

Healthiest Weight Florida is a public-private collaboration bringing together state agencies, not for profit organizations, businesses, and entire communities to help Florida's children and adults make consistent, informed choices about healthy eating and active living. As of 2016, 34.5% of Floridians are at healthy weight. Florida's current trend has predicted that by 2030, approximately 60 % will be obese. In addition, six out of ten children born today will be obese by the time they graduate from high school.

According to 2016 data, Palm Beach County showed 45.6 % of adults ages 18 and up with healthy weight. Healthy weight was defined as a BMI of 18.5 to 24.9. Unfortunately, 58.5% of Palm Beach County Residents reported being inactive or insufficiently activity. This percentage is slightly above the state average of 56.7%. Healthiest Weight Florida continues to work towards promoting Healthy BMIs across the lifespan. Community Health Division utilizes five strategies to promote a healthy weight. These strategies include:

1) Increase opportunities for physical activity.
2) Make healthy food available everywhere; increase fruits and vegetables consumption..
3) Promote health in the worksite.
4) Strengthen schools as the heart of health .
5) Market what matters for a healthy life.

Our goal is to continue increasing healthy weight for all ages in Palm Beach County regardless of age, sex, race or ethnicity.

Florida Healthy Babies

Using the Florida's Healthy Babies action plan, we partnered with many local agencies and community groups such as Florida Institute for Health Innovation, Children Services Council, Maternal and Child Health among other local service agencies to carry out project activities. Identifying health clinics and hospital protocols for providing families with qualified interpreters to ensure medical information is accurately relayed to patient; addressing health equity by working with local economic planners, attending regular scheduled meetings to participate in community events such as walk and ride your bike to school, participating in health and wellness events with Palm Beach School District Wellness Promotion Task Force, and school health fairs such as the Manatee Lagoon, Tabernacle Missionary Baptist Church and Northwest Community Consortium and the Town of Jupiter's Community Center Health Fair where Safe Sleep information and promotional items were distributed. Community Health Division plans on having more educational strategies and health promotional activities to combat infant mortality, a community and social problem.

SNAP-Ed
Program and the Diabetes Prevention Program were two new programs added to Community Health in 2019.

1. SNAP-Ed: In 2019 Palm Beach County was awarded funding for the supplemental nutrition assistance education program. The program is to serve residents living at or below the Federal poverty level threshold of 185%. The program is an evidence-based program that helps people lead healthier lives and teaches people using or eligible for SNAP about good nutrition and how to make their food dollars stretch further. Participants also learn to be physically active. The program works by building partnerships with all types of community organizations. Communities have social marketing campaigns, hold nutrition education classes, and improve their policies, systems, and the environment of the community.

2. Diabetes Prevention Program: In 2019 Palm Beach County was awarded funding for a Diabetes Prevention Program, an evidenced based lifestyle change program recognized by CDC, demonstrated to prevent or delay Type 2 diabetes among people at high risk. The program is geared to serve residents of Palm Beach County. Lifestyle Coach Training is a requirement for anyone who will be facilitating the sessions. The goal of the program is to delay and or prevent Type 2 Diabetes among Palm Beach County Residents

Tobacco Free Florida Palm Beach County

Tobacco use is the leading cause of death in Florida, resulting in over 32,000 deaths annually in the state . But there is good news: the youth cigarette smoking rate in Palm Beach County reached a historic low of 1.4% in 2018 according to the 2018 Florida Youth Tobacco Survey (FYTS).

Tobacco Free Florida Palm Beach County seeks to improve the health of our community through policy, systems and environmental change. In 2019 we identified 175 multiunit housing communities with smokefree living policies, of which 55 communities have entire grounds policies, meaning tobacco use and vaping are not allowed indoors and within 25 feet of any entrance. Tobacco Free Florida Palm Beach County has partnered with the Lesiureville Condominiums in Boynton Beach and La Fontana in West Palm Beach to educate owners on the importance and benefits of smokefree housing policies. Both communities will vote on policies in early 2020. A partnership with the Women's Chamber of Commerce of Palm Beach County enabled over 5000 business leaders to receive information on the benefits of tobacco free worksites policies.

Addressing tobacco related health inequities remained a focus in 2019. Surveys conducted at 150 tobacco retailers across Palm Beach County revealed low-income, high-minority population neighborhoods still had more tobacco retailers, more tobacco industry marketing (interior and exterior) and more tobacco products sold at tobacco-licensed retailers. Retailers in low-income neighborhoods were more likely to be located with 1000 feet of a school or park, and were less likely to have healthy food and beverage options available. Presentations at community centers, schools and faith-based organizations in these neighborhoods helped educate community members on the importance of tobacco prevention and cessation and raised awareness about the impact of tobacco advertising on youth initiation and cessation efforts.

To learn more about the statewide and local efforts of our program visit www.tobaccofreeflorida.com

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.

The goal of the School Health Program is to promote student health through prevention, education, early intervention, and referral for acute or chronic health problems.

Nurses train designees to provide safe medication administration in all schools when or where a nurse may not be present.

For school year 2018-2019, the School Health Program staff included 228 nurses and 10 health aides.
- There were 194,322 students in pre-k through 12th grade.
- Nearly 1,300,000 school health services were provided.
- There were medications and/or procedures provided to 11,600 students.

School health services including health screenings are available to all students attending public schools in Palm Beach County. The school nurses are dedicated to promoting the well-being, academic success, and lifelong achievement and health of students. They care for students that have chronic health conditions, injuries, illnesses or communicable diseases. They provide health counseling, referral and follow-up of suspected or confirmed health problems.

School nurses from the Department of Health continue to conduct specific classes to promote student health and reduce risk-taking behaviors to high school students throughout the county. They also conduct lessons in summer camps and incorporate activities with children to promote messages from the 5-2-1-0 healthy lifestyle campaign to teach children healthy behaviors.

Department of Health 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 that include: an increase in parents seeking religious exemptions for their children, significant turnover of private provider staff, education of school administrative staff, and principals on state statute. During school year 2018-2019, a review of 21,671 student school health records from K-12 found 92.41% meeting state health requirements.

ENVIRONMENTAL PUBLIC HEALTH

Community Sanitation Program

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

- Inspections, licensing, monitoring, and enforcement activities in food service operations in schools and colleges, assisted living facilities, adult day care, group homes, and residential treatment facilities, civic/fraternal organizations, stand- alone bars, and detention facilities.
- Investigation of reports of food borne illnesses in restaurants, nursing homes, assisted living facilities, schools, child care facilities, and other food service establishments.
- Inspections and monitoring of sanitation and safety at schools and colleges, adult family care homes, assisted living facilities, group homes, and other residential facilities.
- Inspections, licensing, and monitoring of sanitation and safety at mobile home parks, recreational vehicle parks, migrant labor housing and migrant labor camps.
- Investigations of complaints from the public regarding allegations of sanitary nuisances and other health related issues across the county.
- In 2019, community sanitation program staff performed 3165 inspections in 1,650 facilities.

Child Care Program

Under Chapter 2010-249, Laws of Florida, the Environmental Public Health Division administers the Child Care Licensing program for the Palm Beach County 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 licenses and inspects 435 child care facilities and 253 family child care homes. It also inspects 195 license-exempt sites that offer Voluntary Prekindergarten or After School program for compliance with School Readiness Health and Safety Standards. In 2018, child care program staff conducted 2,312 licensing inspections an additional the inspections of license-exempt School Readiness facilities.

2019 Child Care Section Inspection Activities:

Inspection Type	# Completed
Complaint	294
Consultation	41
Initial	31
New Home	24
Other	122
Reinspection	492
Renewal	645
Routine	485
School Readiness	197
Grand Total	2331

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.
- Complaint 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.

Water Programs

Healthy Beaches Program

A total of 468 samples were collected and analyzed. Based on the data, beach 33 advisories were issued for a total of 66 days during the year. For the 13 beaches, the water quality was considered good to moderate 98.6% 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 division was assigned 79 facilities. Samples were collected from 45 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

- The division issued a total of 1,277 water well permits; issued permits to water plants, distribution permits and ..Limited Use Systems; conducted 196 facility inspections; investigated 29 complaints and initiated 68 enforcement cases.
- The State deligated Safe Drinking Water Act Program scored 100% on the Annual State Audit.

Domestic Wastewater Program

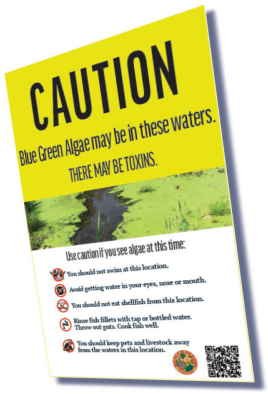
Monitors for compliance the collection, transmission, treatment and disposal of domestic wastewater.

- Issued 1,106 permits for the construction, repair and modification of septic tank systems, issued 450 letters of no objections, conducted 5,887 construction and operating inspections, performed site evaluations, issued investigated 101 complaints and initiated 41 enforcement actions.
- In addition, under the delegated DEP program, 137 permit applications were processed , 758 private lift stations inspected, 170 complaint/ spill response investigations conducted and 65 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 154 initial operating permit applications or new or modified pools, conducted 10,325 inspections and re-inspections, investigated 67 complaints and initiated 15 enforcement actions.
- The EPH division was required to close 1,934 pools for violations of a health or safety requirement or both.
- Coordinated the placement of dozens of "Caution" and "Health Alert" signs for Blue-Green Algae & other harmful algae blooms (HABs).



Air Pollution Control

Air & Waste Section processes and issues permits for air pollution sources within the County for compliance with State and Federal regulatory requirements. The County has 184 regulated facilities including 165 minor and 19 major facilities. Staff conducted 208 facility inspections, witnessed 143 air pollutant tests and 265 visible emissions tests, and reviewed 397 compliance reports such as pollutants tests, visible emissions tests, continuous monitoring reports, annual operating reports and statement of compliance reports. The Program issued 18 air pollution permits including construction, Operation and Title V Operation permits.

The Program monitored 289 regulated demolition/renovation asbestos projects and conducted 636 compliance inspections at these projects. 84 air pollution related complaints were investigated. 9 open burning sites, for land clearing activities associated with residential and non- residential land clearing, were authorized and inspected. The Program collected $6,000.00 from enforcement actions, which were resolved through consent agreements.

Ambient Air Monitoring

The Palm Beach County Ambient Air Monitoring network monitors the concentrations of Ozone (O_3), and Particulate Matter (PM_{10} & $PM_{2.5}$) in ambient air. The air quality is reported via an air quality index (AQI) that correlates to the concentrations of seven designated priority pollutants These monitoring stations are located in Royal Palm Beach (O_3, $PM_{2.5}$), Lantana (O_3,), Belle Glade ($PM_{2.5}$), and Delray Beach ($PM_{2.5}$, PM_{10}). In 2019, air quality was reported 'good' for 282 (78%) days, 'moderate' for 78 (21%) days and 5 days missed due to severe weather. There were no days reported as 'Unhealthy for Sensitive Persons.' AQI forecast can be obtained at www.airnow.gov.

Solid Waste

The Solid Waste Program regulates construction and demolition (C&D) debris 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 2019 the Solid Waste Program monitored 50 regulated facilities. Staff conducted 36 facility inspections and responded to 31 solid waste related complaints. 5 permits including closure and operating permits were issued.

Disaster Debris Management Sites

Disaster Debris Management Sites (DDMS) function as an intermediate staging area between the initial removal and the disposal or recycling of the debris (such as vegetative debris, construction and demolition debris, white goods, and vehicles & vessels) during storm events. In 2019, 47 Pre-Authorization disaster debris management sites were reviewed and inspected.

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 2963 routine inspections and processed 470 applications; 358 of them for new facilities. Staff also responded to 22 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. 667 routine inspections were conducted on permitted facilities and 48 applications processed. Staff also responded to 16 hazardous waste complaints during the year.

Body Art

Encompasses both the body art 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 and C and other communicable diseases. 328 routine inspections were conducted on new and permitted tattoo establishments and body piercing salons. 114 new tattoo establishment applications were processed, and 814 tattoo artist applications processed; 234 of these are for new artists in 2019. In addition, staff investigated 14 body art complaint investigations.

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. Routine inspections were conducted at all permitted facilities with eight new applications received for 2019 and one complaint investigation.

HEALTH ACCESS

Highlights:

The Health Access Division includes seven clinic locations throughout Palm Beach County. It also includes comprehensive Nutrition and Laboratory Services, Community Immunization Services, Family Planning (Title X) Services, Volunteer Services, Centralized Scheduling (Call Center) and a host of additional support services.

Medical Care is provided by highly skilled physicians, nurse practitioners, nurses, licensed dietitians and technicians. These staff perform their tasks with integrity and respect. Bi-lingual staff communicate in Spanish, French, and Creole. Programs are designed to meet the individual needs of each patient. Services that are available in our clinics include:

- Family Planning
- Family Planning Waiver Program
- Sterilization Referrals
- Gynecology Services
- Maternity prenatal and postnatal
- HIV/AIDS Testing and Medical Care
- Sexually Transmitted Disease Screening & Treatment
- Tuberculosis Screening and Treatment
- Teen Clinic
- Immunization Services (Adults & Children)
- Nutrition Services (Dietary Counseling)
- Volunteer Services
- WIC (Women, Infants and Children) on site
- On site Laboratory Services

Number of People Served in 2018

- Clients = 33,224
- Visits = 101,867

Services Expanded to Better Serve

Through seven Health Center locations the Department served over 35,205 clients in 2019.
Services Provided by location can be found on the chart below.

	FLORIDA DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH, PALM BEACH COUNTY HEALTH CENTERS						
Services	Belle Glade	Delray	Delray Annex	Jupiter	Lantana	Northeast	West Palm Beach
Civil Surgeon - Immigration Medical Exams	√	√					
Dental (Infectious Disease)						√	
Family Planning	√	√		√	√	√	√
Family Planning Waiver Program	√	√			√		√
Gynecology	√	√			√		√
Health Education	√	√		√	√		√
HIV AIDS Medical Care	√		√				√
HIV STD Screening and Prevention	√	√	√		√	√	√
Immunizations	√	√	√	√	√	√	√
Laboratory Services	√	√	√	√	√	√	√
Maternity Prenatal and Postnatal	√	√		√	√		√
Maternity Centering Program					√		
Nutrition Services	√	√	√	√	√		√
Overseas Immunizations					√		
PEPW (Presumptive Medicaid Eligibility for Pregnant Women)	√	√		√	√		√
Refugee Program						√	
Ryan White Referral Services	√		√				√
Sterilization Referrals	√	√		√	√		√
STD Screening and Treatment	√	√	√	√	√	√	√
TB Treatment	√		√			√	
TB Testing	√		√		√		√
Teen Clinic	√	√		√			√
Volunteer Services	√	√	√		√		√
Centralized Appointment Line 1-855-GET-APPT (438-2778) or (561-625-5180)							
OTHER SERVICES							
Maternal Child Health 561-671-4140							
WIC (Women Infants and Children 561-357-6007 or 877-693-6703	√	√		√	√		√

C.L Brumback Health Center

The C.L. Brumback Health Center is the oldest rural Department of Health in Palm Beach County servicing the entire Glades Community to include a large migrant population. This center provides core Public Health functions to maternity and post-partum patients, family planning services (all methods), gynecological assessments, sexual health, infectious disease management, health education (teen clinic), laboratory collection/testing, civil surgeon exams, immunizations, child birth classes, nutritional counseling and patient centered approached for the LGBTQ population.

In 2019, the center focused their attention on creating a Teen programs called, "Teen Social Vibes". The program hosts approximately 15-25 teenagers (12-18 year old) students from the local area schools (Glades Central High School, Pahokee Middle/Senior School, Lakeshore Middle School, and a boys group called Project Lift) which consists of at risk boys between12-19 year old. The program provides Reproductive Health education and/or advice to unanswered questions. Healthcare Providers are available to provide clinical exam, and confidential counseling. In addition, several presenters are invited to discuss topics ranging from tabacco, tattoo, drug abuse, mental health and introduction to financial counseling to name a few. Overall, the program proved to be very successful and informational for the Glades Community.

Delray Beach Health Center

Throughout 2019, the Delray Beach Health center continued to provide immunization to adults and children, testing and treatment of STD, family planning services, HIV testing, treatment, counseling and coordination of referrals and services. Pre-Exposure Prophylaxis (PrEP) continues to be offered to those patients seeking to protect themselves from exposure to HIV. Other patients coming in for different services may be offered this beneficial program if the provider identifies a risk. The HIV Test and Treat initiative continues to bring newly diagnosed HIV patients or previous positive patients who have fallen out of care – into the clinic for treatment within 72 hours of testing positive.

The TB clinic staff in collaboration with the agency's TB program staff provided clinical assessments, X-rays and treatment when necessary for TB cases and contacts.

Maternity prenatal and post-partum services saw an overall increase in 2019. The health centers continue to offer "Welcome Bags" to our pregnant moms with numerous resources and educational materials that are essential during and after pregnancy. The Center hosts Spanish and Creole childbirth education group classes.

The Health Center completed a total of 21,354 visits in the combined clinic areas - a total increase in patient and visits from 2018.

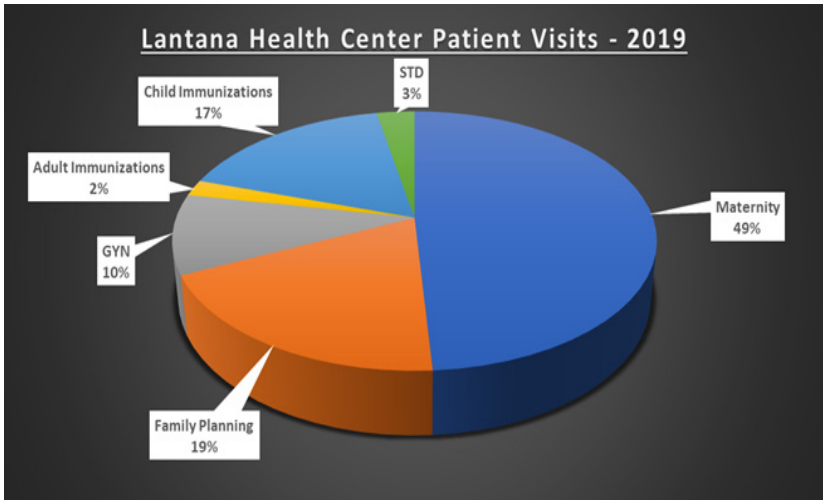
Delray continued its Wednesday afternoon teen clinic. The teens earn community service hours for school by attending weekly educational presentations. If interested, they received individual assessment, counseling and testing with one of our providers. Throughout the school year an average of 40 teens attended the weekly afternoon sessions. Along with our own staff, several guests from various community agencies volunteered their time to speak on selected topics.

Delray Beach Health Center is one of two Health centers in Palm Beach County that offers Civil Surgeon exams for external and internal clients. This is a comprehensive service that covers the required STD testing, TB testing, physical and mental health examinations and immunizations. In addition to having a competitive cost for clients have the advantage of having all services provided under one roof. It allows the community to learn more about what public health has to offer.

There were many updates to our electronic medical record throughout the year and several in-services to keep staff current on various topics. Staff are forever in learning mode to best serve our patients and community.

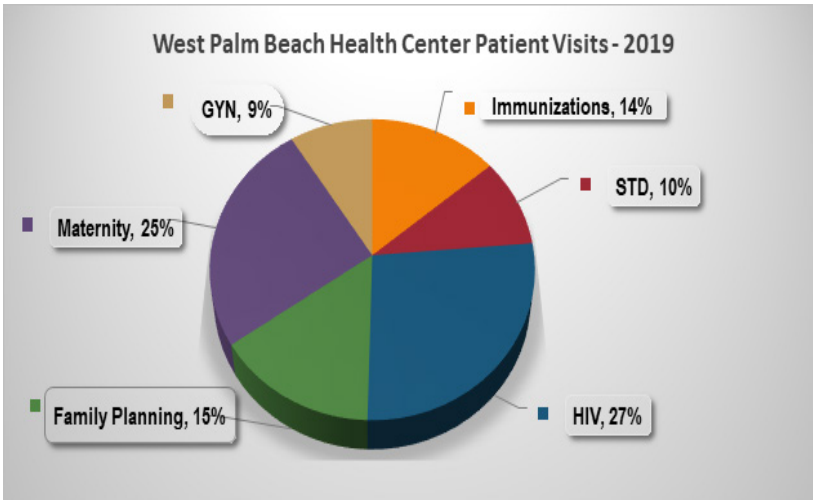
Lantana Health Center

The Lantana Health Center provides clients with a variety of public health services including but not limited to prenatal and postnatal maternity services, family planning, women's health, health education, nutrition, laboratory, and routine & overseas immunizations. Dedicated to improving health and health outcomes, this center's team consists of three physicians, seven advanced practice registered nurses (APRNs), and over 30 medical support staff. Together, these highly-trained professionals offer over 50 years of combined experience providing quality health services to meet the daily, complex needs of a culturally diverse clientele.



During 2019, the Lantana Health Center continued to operate the largest maternity program of any Department of Health center in Palm Beach County. The center's 12,019 prenatal visits provided to expectant mothers represented 49% of the center's total patient volume. The continued success of this maternity program can be attributed in part to the health center's strong, long-standing partnership with the Healthy Mothers Healthy Babies Coalition of Palm Beach County, Inc. and The Children's Services Council of Palm Beach County. Through this joint effort, the Lantana Health Center continues to offer patients the Centering Pregnancy Model, an internationally recognized, evidence-based model of group maternity care that effectively addresses the complex social determinants of health. This unique, evidenced-based, comprehensive model of care not only includes the clinical/medical aspect of pregnancy but also provides education, social support, and health promotion to participants in a group setting. By bringing patients out of the traditional exam room and into a group setting, patients are more likely to develop skills and confidence to take control of their own health and achieve better health outcomes.

West Palm Beach Health Center and Satellite Clinics



The West Palm Beach Health Center provides services in Family Planning, Sexual Health, PrEP, Maternity, Gynecology, HIV, Test and Treat, Immunizations, Nutrition, and on-site laboratory services. Clinic hours are extended on Tuesday accepting clients until 6:00pm for Sexual Health testing and treatment. Childbirth education classes are held every Monday at 9:00am for Spanish speaking clients and every Tuesday at 9:00am for Creole speaking clients. Volunteer Services is open daily to clients in need of food, clothes, and other personal necessities. Volunteer Services offers special events and services to clients during back to school Immunization Crunch, Thanksgiving and Christmas. The West Palm Beach Health Center provided services to 12,614 clients in 37,845 visits providing a total of 466,020 services in 2019. The West Palm Beach Health Center experienced a 24% increase in clients served in 2019. The West Palm Beach Health Center has satellite locations in Jupiter and Riviera Beach.

Jupiter Health Center

The Jupiter Health Center offers Immunization, Maternity, Family Planning, Sexual Health and on-site laboratory services. Volunteer Services are offered at the Jupiter Health Center providing food, clothes and personal necessities to clients in need. The Jupiter Clinic was closed in November and December for building upgrades to include a new roof.

Northeast Health Center

The Northeast Health Center in Riviera Beach provides Refuge Services to eligible refugees, Asylees, Cuban/Haitian Entrants, Amerasians, Afghan, and Iraqi Special Immigrant Visas. The Northeast Health Clinic offers comprehensive health assessments and immunizations. The refugee program helps to eliminate health-related barriers and to protect public health in the U.S. All clients regardless of their immigration status are seen within 90 days of arrival. The Northeast Health Center is the introduction of health care in the U.S. for many of the clients. The Northeast Health Center is under the Refugee Health Program which also provides services for clients whom are Victims of Trafficking. In 2019 the Northeast Health Center added vaccines for children opening another location for Immunizations in the County

Centralize Appointment Line Call Center

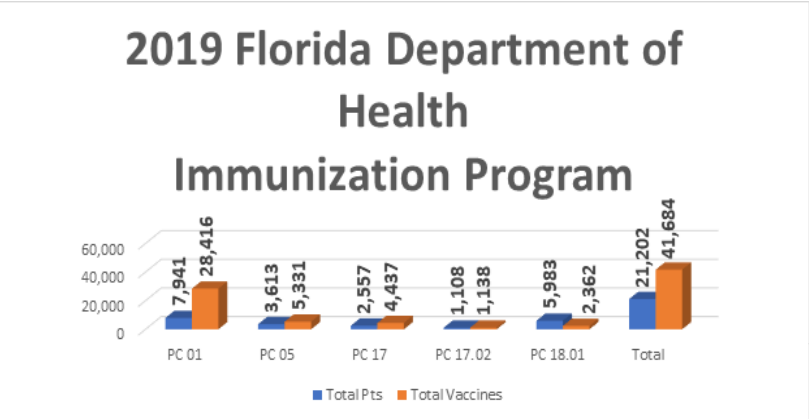
On September 16, 2011 the Health Access Call Center was established as an effort to provide Palm Beach County residents with the opportunity to call just 1 telephone number in order to schedule and appointment in any of our Health Center sites throughout the County.

The Call Center does not just have the Appointment Line but also includes the Operator lines for the 6 Health Department Health Centers in addition to answering the main telephone number for the agency (561-840-4500). It is equipped with bilingual staff, fluent in English, Spanish and Creole, which is representative of the majority languages of our client base/those who call.

This combined coordinated call center continues to serve as support for our health department's emergency preparedness infrastructure. For 2019, we took 98,683 incoming calls, and made 26,069 appointments.

Community Immunization Program

The Immunization Program at the Florida Department of Health Palm Beach County has been hard at work vaccinating residents who are underserved or uninsured. In 2019 at the Health Department clinics or outreach activities through the Community Immunization Services program saw a total of 21, 202 patients and administered a total of 41, 684 vaccines. The vaccine program components are: PC 01 (Vaccines for Children- 18 years and younger); PC 17 (Vaccines for Adults- 19 years and older who are uninsured or underinsured); PC 17.02 (Vaccines for Adults- Hepatitis A) and PC 18.01 (Refugee Clinic- Adults 19 years and older). The Immunization program staff and nurses are committed to protecting the residents of Palm Beach County. Immunizations are important to receive to decrease the incidence of disease and prevent community spread of various diseases.



If you are in need of vaccinations, please contact the Florida Department of Health Palm Beach County Appointment line at 561-625-5180 to schedule your appointment.

Follow all immunization activities in Palm Beach County at: http://palmbeach.floridahealth.gov/programs-and-services/clinical-and-nutrition-services/immunizations/index.html

Visit https://www.noshotsnoschool.com/ to review school requirements today.

Comprehensive Nutrition Program

The Comprehensive Nutrition Program of the Health Access Division provided nutrition services in all the Health department clinic as well as within the community. Registered and licensed dietitians provide medical nutrition therapy for clients in the maternity, Infectious Disease Clinics, including HIV/AIDS and TB, family planning and women's health clinics. Medical nutrition therapy (MNT) is a plan of care that focuses on the nutrition assessment, counseling, treatment and evaluation and continued monitoring of a client. The following details the number of nutrition services received by health department clients in 2019– 2020 Fiscal Year:

- Nutrition Assessment/ Counseling 3,932
- Unduplicated number of clients 2,727
- Case Management..... 5,839
- Community Presentations..... 18

Food security is a chronic problem in Palm Beach County and the Therapeutic Nutrition Treatment (TNT) program is a very successful initiative to address this health issue. TNT is a program designed for HIV/AIDS clients. It provides healthy foods tailored to the therapeutic dietary needs. HIV/AIDS clients who are seen by the nutritionist for medical nutrition therapy can receive up to $35.00 of healthy groceries monthly. The TNT program funded by Part B of Ryan White facilitates improved access to healthy foods and helps increase dietary compliance. An on-site therapeutic food pantry, including special foods for homeless clients, is maintained by the registered dietitian. The nutrition program has adapted COVID19 social distancing measures for food delivery for this vulnerable population.
The TNT program is viewed as a best practice by the Bureau of HIV/AIDS. A program evaluation survey to assess program effectiveness and client satisfaction indicated that over 98% of HIV/AIDS clients rated the TNT program as excellent or good and over 50% reported trying new foods such as brown rice, sardines, canned salmon and olive oil. In 2017, the Prudential Productivity Team Award was given to the Comprehensive Nutrition Program staff along with staff from the HIV/AIDS Program and the 1050 Service Center. The following is the number of HIV clients served during the 2019-2020 Fiscal year:

- HIV Nutrition Assessment and Counseling.....1382
- TNT Foods provided.....1253
- Dollar value of Food Distributed..... 41,190

In FY 2019-2020 the Comprehensive Nutrition Program nutritionists continues to teamed with the Maternity and Family Planning Clinics to increase nutrition referrals for prenatal and inter-conceptual women. Providers were encouraged to refer all maternity clients to the nutritionist for medical nutrition therapy. For family planning clients, a focus area was maintaining or achieving a "healthy weight" and lifestyle. The number of maternity clients that were provided medical nutrition therapy services continues to increase annually.

Fiscal Year	FY17-18	FY18-19	FY19-20
Maternity Clinic	778	1434	2059

At the start of the COVID19 pandemic in March, services decreased to thwart the spread disease. The introduction of telehealth has gradually increased the number client served.

The nutrition component of Teen Clinic included nutrition resources for teens as well as presentations and food demonstrations by our nutritionists and dietetic Interns. Teen-friendly nutrition curriculum was identified. A healthy snack option is offered at every meeting. Teens enjoyed the hands-on experience preparing a Healthy Snack -Yogurt/Fruit Parfait and a Healthy breakfast Oatmeal and fruits Parfait. This program has been postponed because its current delivery mode lacks the social distancing requirement. The nutrition program will work with schools and community centers with teens to deliver valuable nutrition information using teleconferencing venues.

FDOH Palm Beach Laboratory

Located on second floor of the West Palm Beach Health Center, The Main Laboratory is Federally licensed by CLIA as a highly complex laboratory as required by Federal Law. Successful participation in proficiency testing for all testing specialties is also required, in addition to State Licensed technical and testing personnel. Federal licensure inspections are performed bi-annually.

The Laboratory Program supports the Clinic Programs in all Health Centers County-wide by offering testing services to their clients and has satellite lab locations in all the Health Centers, providing phlebotomy services and CLIA waived testing to include Urine Screens, Pregnancy Tests and Glucometer Glucose testing. We also provide testing services to the County's Healey Rehabilitation and Nursing Home, RPICC and several Community Based Organizations (CBO's).

Approximately 523,649 tests were processed through The Main Laboratory, Satellite labs and Contracted Labs.
Test orders are generated through the Clinical Health Management System (HMS) and sent electronically to our LIS (Laboratory Information System). After testing is completed, results are released from the LIS reported back to HMS electronically so they can merge into patient's medical record for provider to review. Florida Statute requires Electronic Laboratory Reporting of certain test results to the different surveillance systems that include STARS, Merlin and e-HARS. Testing in the Main Lab is performed by State licensed Medical Technologists and Medical Technologist Supervisors.

All specimens collected in satellite locations are sent to the Main Lab via courier for processing and testing. The following is an overview of in-house testing offered:

- Chemistry: Routine & Urine Chemistry, Thyroids, Hormones, Tumor Markers, Diabetes, Therapeutic Drugs, Vitamins, Virology, Hepatitis, Drugs of Abuse, Urinalysis, Syphilis Confirmation and HIV 4th Gen. with Confirmation.
- Hematology: CBC with or without Automated Differential, Manual Differential, Sed Rates, Retics, Protime (PT) and Partial Thromboplastin (PTT) and Hemoglobin Electrophoresis for screening all Maternity patients for abnormal Hemoglobins like Sickle Cell.
- Immunology: RPR for syphilis, General Immunology, Measles, Mumps, Rubella, Varicella and Quantiferon (IGRA) to test for exposure of Tuberculosis.
- Blood Bank: ABO and Rh Group and Antibody screening on all maternity patients for detection of possible antibodies that can cause Hemolytic Disease of Newborn.
- Microbiology: Bacteriology like Urine, Throat and GBS cultures, Mycology, Parasitology and FIT testing for colorectal cancer screening.
- Molecular Biology: T Cells for CD_4 monitoring of HIV patients, HIV Viral load by PCR for detection of amount of HIV virus in blood. GC/Chlamydia on Urine or provider collected samples, HPV testing for 16, 18 and other high-risk genotypes.

The Maternal Child Health Division

The Maternal Child Health Division (MCHD) provides no cost voluntary home visiting programs for pregnant women and families with newborns in Palm Beach County. These programs are managed though the Florida Department of Health in Palm Beach County and are funded by the Healthy Start/Healthy Beginnings Coalition of Palm Beach County and the Children's Services Council of Palm Beach. The Healthy Start Coalition of Palm Beach County Inc. also known as the Healthy Beginnings Coalition was created to provide a cohesive system of care in the county. Healthy Beginnings seeks to improve birth outcomes by providing access to direct health and social services for pregnant women whose chances of having a healthy baby are hampered by such risk factors as poverty, limited access to health care, poor nutrition, age, substance abuse, homelessness, domestic violence and more.

Public Health Registered Nurses provide health education, care coordination, case management, screenings and interventions, referrals and linkages to needed services, anticipatory guidance and ongoing support to participants who have risk factors associated with an increase

in preterm delivery, low birth weight delivery and infant mortality. Nurses help families identify and mitigate the risk factors that can lead to maternal mortality and morbidity and conduct comprehensive nursing assessments to identify concerns that could lead to poor health outcomes.

Our three nurse programs, Healthy Beginnings Nurses, Nurse-Family Partnership and Women's Health Initiative are designed to meet the individual needs of each family by actively engaging with them, listening to their needs, understanding their strengths and advocating on their behalf.

Program goals are to:

- Improve pregnancy outcomes.
- Improve child health, development and safety.
- Improve life-course development by promoting pregnancy planning, educational achievement and employment.
- Promote supportive relationships among family and friends .

Healthy Beginnings Nurses Program

The Healthy Beginnings Nurses (HBN) Prenatal-Plus Model provides case management, nutrition guidance and psychosocial services to pregnant women in Palm Beach County who are at risk of having a low weight baby or poor birth outcome. Services are provided by a nurse, registered dietitian and a mental health clinician and continue until the child's first birthday. Since its launch in 2013, prenatal clients receiving this service had been shown to experience a significantly higher average birthweight, a longer gestational period and lower scores on screening for postnatal depression.

Nurse-Family Partnership Program

The Nurse-Family Partnership (NFP) Program is an evidenced-based program that promotes positive pregnancy outcomes and healthy infant development for first-time low-income mother living in Palm Beach County. Mothers are enrolled in the NFP program early in their pregnancy and receives nurse home visits that continue until the child's second birthday. In Palm Beach County, mothers who have participated in the program, consistently demonstrate improved prenatal health, fewer subsequent pregnancies, increased employment, improved school readiness of children and less child abuse, neglect and injuries.

Women's Health Initiative Program

The Women's Health Initiative Program (WHIN) focuses on reducing racial and health disparities intensive education and community focused activities. Black women who are pregnant or have a newborn, residing in zip codes 33401, 33403, 334040, and 33407 receive services from a nurse, a registered dietitian and a mental health clinician and continue until the child's first birthday. In addition to home visits, the WHIN program provides community education focused on the social determinants of health.

MCHD 2019 Highlights

- 850 unduplicated families received nurse home visiting services.
- In addition to Safe Sleep education, each family received a specially designed blanket that fastens using a zipper to replace the use of unsafe loose blankets.
- Incorporated Social Determinants of Health Education into home visiting curriculums .
- Infant Mortality Rate in Palm Beach County was 4.7% for 2019.

Women, Infants & Children (WIC) Program

Another study validates that WIC saves babies' lives and helps moms grow healthy toddlers and young children. December 2019, a study published in the Journal of the American Medical Association (JAMA) found that WIC participation is associated with lower preterm birth and infant mortality. Specifically, the study found that babies born to WIC participants are 33% less likely to die in the first year of life.

The Special Supplemental Nutrition Program for Women, Infants, and Children - better known as the WIC Program - serves to safeguard

the health of low-income pregnant, postpartum, and breastfeeding women, infants, and children up to age 5 who are at nutritional risk by providing nutritious foods to supplement diets, information on healthy eating including breastfeeding promotion and support, and referrals to health care.

Palm Beach County has six active thriving sites located throughout the county. Clients receive core WIC certification services including eligibility determination, nutrition assessment and counseling and Breastfeeding education and support. WIC nutrition services are provided by Registered and Licensed Nutritionist, Nutrition Educators, Breastfeeding Peer Counselors and International Board-Certified Lactation Consultants.
Palm Beach County WIC Program provides rich learning experiences for Dietetic Intern students. The agency has served as a regional site for the Florida Department of Health Pasco County Dietetic Internship since 1997. Annually the department host 4 students and since its inception more than 90 Dietetic Interns have graduated from the local program. This internship provides nutrition employees advanced training in nutrition practice and leadership skills. Upon successful completion, they are eligible to take the Registration Examination for Dietitians. Each year, the four interns placed in Palm Beach County participate in over 1,368 hours of didactic and supervised practice experiences in a variety of settings. By providing this internship, our local agency increases the availability of Registered/Licensed Dietitians and enhances the quality of nutrition services provided to Florida's WIC clients.

The WIC Program promotes breastfeeding as the best food for your baby. We encourage exclusive breastfeeding by offering a food package with more nutritious foods especially for breastfeeding mothers. Locally celebrated World Breastfeeding Week 2019 with educational updates from professional of various background. Among those were Dr. Craig Lustman, Pediatric Dentist specializing in tongue and or lip tie that interferes with breastfeeding, Dr. Nancy Jones, professor in Psychology and Behavior Neuroscience at FAU specializing in breastfeeding mothers with depression and Dr. Jillian Hardin who spoke on Kangaroo Care and the effects of preemie baby breastfeeding early on.

WIC is an effective intervention to improve birth outcomes and ensure the healthy growth and development of our children. At its core, WIC helps grow healthy babies.

WIC 2019

- Client Enrollment 34,273
- Client Participation 28,623

- Partnered with 108 chain stores and 30 independent stores; totaling 138 chain stores
- Served 47,576 unduplicated participants at six clinics
- Provided $23,384,579 of nutritionally appropriate foods to Palm Beach County WIC participants
- 85% of WIC Infants Initiated Breastfeeding

Primary Language for Participants 2019

- English 57%
- Spanish 30%
- Haitian 13%

Client Type

- Children 53%
- Infants 23%
- Breastfeeding 10%
- Pregnant 8%
- Postpartum 6%

The Office of Public Health Preparedness & Response

The Public Health Preparedness & Response (PHP) Program , and the Cities Readiness Initiative (CRI) Program, continues to train, educate, prepare, and protect the health of all people in our community. 2019 was a successful year for the PHP Program. Staff within the program designed and created the Bioshield 2019 full-scale exercise. The program had yet another robust schedule educating and preparing the community for Public Health threats and All-Hazards incidents. In March of 2019 a tabletop exercise was conducted and then in November 2019 the full-scale exercise was completed. There was a large participation throughout the region including Palm Beach County (PBC) partner agencies.

The PHP Program participated in several exercises throughout PBC and the state including: the annual St. Lucie Nuclear Power Plant full scale exercise (FSE), Heatshield III law enforcement FSE, and the Statewide Hurricane FSE. The CRI program conducted several face-to-face Point of Dispensing (POD) trainings to closed POD partners. These exercises prepare the staff and their respective community agencies to better respond to real world events. After every exercise or real-life event, an After-Action Report and Improvement Plan (AAR/IP) is created to implement best practices for future events.

In August 2019, the PHP program activated to the Palm Beach County Emergency Operations Center (EOC) in response to Hurricane Dorian. PHP along with the Tuberculosis (TB) and Epidemiology (EPI) programs supported the Bahamian Relief efforts days after Hurricane Dorian.

In November 2019, the PHP program began monitoring COVID-19 as cases in China were increasing. By December, the PHP and Epi program began their COVID-19 response planning.

As the PHP program continues to educate, train, and respond to all-hazard incidents county and statewide, we look forward to strengthening the solid collaborative relationships with internal and external partners.

Quality Improvement

The Palm Beach County Community Health Improvement Plan (CHIP) released in June 2017 is a multi-year plan lasting through 2021. The CHIP is a collaborative effort by a diverse group of community partners and stakeholders that serves as a directional roadmap committed to improving the health and quality of life of Palm Beach County residents.

The Community Health Assessment (CHA) for Palm Beach County identified the current health needs and emerging health issues facing the County. The CHIP is the plan to address several of these needs; it is an action plan, detailing intervention strategies, activities, how progress will be measured, and sources of data related to each measure. Based on the CHA results and the prioritization process of our community partners and stakeholders, the CHIP priority areas are:

- Mental and Behavioral Health
- Active Living and Healthy Lifestyles
- Access to Care and Services

"The Community Health Improvement Plan sets the direction for improving the health of our community," said Dr. Alina Alonso, Director, DOH-Palm Beach. "It focuses us on the key areas with unmet health needs." DOH-Palm Beach, along with our community partners, will continue to work on our CHIP priority areas over the coming years.

The Community Health Assessment was updated in 2019 to include updated data for many indicators relating to the CHIP priority areas, as well as community demographic data related to the social determinants of health. The Community Health Improvement Plan was also updated in 2019 to include updated objectives for the three CHIP priority areas, as well as information from community focus groups. A full list of revisions is available inside the CHA and CHIP documents. 2019 CHIP accomplishments include:

- CHIP Objective 1.4 involves reducing the percentage of high school students who binge drink in our community, and our community made major strides in this endeavor. Through a countywide effort, we have already exceeded targets, reducing the rate of high school students binge drinking from 9.8% to 6.9%.
- CHIP Objective 2.3 involves maintaining the percentage of mothers who initiate breastfeeding at 81.9% or higher; through a countywide effort, this target was exceeded for the second year in a row, with the latest rate at 88.6%.
- CHIP Objective 3.1 involves decreasing the rate per 100,000 of preventable hospitalizations to below 1128.3. Through a countywide effort, this target was exceeded for the second year in a row, with the latest rate at 944.4 per 100,000.

Preventive Medicine Public Health Residency Program

The 2019 academic year had momentous changes to the Residency Program; Robert Parkes, MD, MPH - Program Director and Cynthia Oxley, BAS, AA - Program Coordinator & Contract Manager, and Merlene Ramnon, PhD, MPH, MSN, RN - Designated Institutional Official, respectively. The Residency Program has a Continued Accredited Status in accordance to the governance of ACGME. The Graduates of the Residency Program, who have been first time ABPM Board test takers have achieved a 100% pass rate over the past 5 years.

Alumni (2019), Dr. Peter Edemekong and Dr. Solaide Akintade both efficaciously presented Posters at the 2019 American College of Preventive Medicine (ACPM) Annual Conference in Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania. Dr. Tasha Alexis and Dr. Farhat Shireen also attended the 2019 ACPM Annual Conference with their colleagues.

Dr. Tasha Alexis Research Project was 'A Descriptive Analysis of the Positive COVID-19 Clients' in Palm Beach County, and Quality Improvement Project: 'Enhancing Diabetic Patient Compliance Using Motivational Interviews'. Dr. Farhat Shireen Research Project was 'A Descriptive Analysis of the COVID-19 Preparedness of Long-Term Care Facilities' in Palm Beach County, and Quality Improvement Project on 'Methods to Improve COVID-19 Preparedness of Long-Term Care Facilities' in Palm Beach County. They both successfully graduated for the Residency Program in June 2020.

Dr. Jean Dominique Morancy and Dr. Ziqiang Yu, advanced to the PGY-3 year. The new PGY-2 additions to the Residency Program are Dr. Thaint Naing and Dr. Kingsley Anurugwo. Both the PGY-3 and PGY-2 Residents are effectively on the pathway in meeting all rotation requirements.

Volunteer Health Care Provider Program

The Volunteer Health Care Provider Program (VHCPP) Annual Report is provided in accordance with section 766.1115(8), Florida Statutes, to summarize contributions made by Volunteer Health Care Provider Program. Created by the Access to Health Care Act in 1992, VHCPP improves access to health care for uninsured and underserved low-income residents by providing sovereign immunity to licensed health care professionals in exchange for providing free medical and dental services to these underserved populations. The Florida Department of Health promotes the use of volunteers to augment it public health duties and functions. The Department contracts with licensed health care professionals to volunteer with VHCPP.

The following fiscal year 2019-2020 report summarizes aggregate information for Palm Beach County the number of clinics and organizations participating in the program, health care services, licensed volunteers and eligibility and referral specialists and the value of contributions countywide.

- Total Number of Volunteers: 1,594.
- Total Number of Licensed Volunteers: 546.
- Total Number of Patient Visits: 40,072.
- Value of Total Contributions: $11.2 million.

Volunteer Health Services 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 Statues.

Services Provided: Medical and Support Staff, Auxiliary Services I.e. Sponsorships, Food Pantry, Food Gift Cards, Diaper Assistance, Maternity Incentives, Clothing Closet and Annual Volunteer Recognition Luncheon

- Total Number of Volunteers: 116.
- Total Number of Volunteer Hours: 22,110.
- Cost saving equivalents to the Department: $1.5 Million.

HEALTH CENTERS

C. L. Brumback Health Center (Belle Glade)
38754 State Road 80
Belle Glade, FL 33430
561-983-9220

Delray Beach Health Center
225 S. Congress Ave.
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 Dr.
Lantana, FL 33462
561-547-6800

Northeast Health Center (Riviera Beach)
851 Avenue P
Riviera Beach, FL 33404
561-803-7300

West Palm Beach Health Center
1150 45th St.
West Palm Beach, FL 33407
561-514-5300

Greenacres WIC Center
5985 10th Ave.
Greenacres, FL 33463
561-357-6000

chd50feedback@flhealth.gov

palmbeach.floridahealth.gov

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Palm Beach County

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