January 10, 2024
Assembly Health Policy Committee

Please note: all report outs are related to November program activities unless otherwise noted. This is due to the timing of this meeting.

Director’s Office

- The PIO worked with the Mayor’s Director of Communications and other PIOs to disseminate information about city closures and weather during the snow emergency.
- AHD used its social media to encourage people to get vaccinated for RSV, the flu, and COVID-19, educate people about food safety, advertise job openings at AHD, promote people plugging in their vehicles at 20 degrees and riding the bus to improve air quality, raise awareness on World Diabetes Day, advertise the Anchorage Senior Activity Center Health and Wellness Fair, celebrate public health professionals on Public Health Thank You Day, tell people about ordering four free at-home covid tests, advertise additional support and resources on World AIDS Day in the clinic during regular walk-in STI testing, and recognize November as Assistive Technology Awareness Month.
- Information was added to Child Care Licensing’s website about Proposition 14 – the Anchorage Child Care and Early Education Fund to provide a funding timeline and direct residents to the ACCEE Fund website.
- AHD hosted a food drive throughout November. AHD staff donated 111 pounds of food to the Food Bank of Alaska!

Administration Division

Human Resources
Recruitment efforts remain the same.

**Anchorage Safety Center/Patrol (ASC/P):** Under Title 47, respond to and provide safe shelter for individuals who are incapacitated by substance misuse 365 days per year/24 hours per day.

- Intakes: 498.
- Responded to calls: 1,086.
- Transported: 379.
- Unduplicated clients: 291.

Overall, 291 individuals utilized services more than once therefore creating 498 intakes/occurrences due to multiple visits.

Public Health Division

**Environmental Health Services (EH):**

The Environmental Health (EH) section of the AHD is responsible for the enforcement of numerous sections of the Anchorage Municipal Code including Title 15 (Health), 15.30 (Clean Air Code), and 16.60 (Food Code). Food Safety & Sanitation (FS&S) permits, regulates, and inspects over 2,000 public facilities in the Municipality of Anchorage. FS&S also conducts initial plan reviews, opening inspections, change of ownership and remodel plan review approvals. Regulated public facilities include food/beverage establishments, school kitchens, childcare
kitchens, public pools and spas, beauty salons, barbershops, Correctional Community Residential Centers (CCRCs), pesticide applicators, adult establishments, and marijuana retailers. The program also responds to public health complaints regarding food, noise, pest harborage, smoking in public places, mold in hotels, healthcare transparency, and recreational pools/spas. Air Quality monitors and reports levels of air pollutants, such as fire smoke and fine dust particles, within the Municipality of Anchorage. The program responds to local air quality complaints and is responsible for various air quality projects. Additionally, EH issues health permits, temporary health permits, beauty and barber permits, pool and spa permits, noise permits, CCRC, open burn permits, raw shell egg vending permits, pesticide control applicator permits, and cottage food licenses. EH also reviews special activity permits, liquor licensing applications, planning case conditional use permits (CUPs) and special land use permits (SLUPs), making comments/recommendations regarding how they may be impacted by codes AHD regulates. Education and Outreach coordinates with community partners to participate in public events, promotes activities focused on air quality and reducing use of single-occupancy vehicles, and produces food safety education materials.

- Addressed 45 complaints in October.
- Performed 68 inspections.
- Made 406 Customer Service contacts.
- Responded to 8 food borne illness reports.
- Completed 6 Plan Reviews. Worked 27 Plan Reviews.
- Issued 49 permits.
- Issued 2 Food Worker Cards.

**Air Quality Awareness Grant/ Environmental Health Educator**

The purpose of the Air Quality and Business Awareness Education Campaign (AMATS) is to help improve air quality in the Anchorage area through advertising and education targeting a reduction in CO and other carbon emissions from high-emissions vehicles. Clean, non-motorized travel such as biking and walking are promoted.

During November our Air Quality Specialist completed:

- Draft Air Quality Conformity Demonstration for the Draft 2050 MTP (Metropolitan Transportation Plan: has 20-Yr planning horizon) and presented it to the Interagency Consultation Team (ADOT, ADEC, EPA, FTA, FHWA, + AMATS Planning group) to explain AQ data statistics, methodology & affirmed AMATS’ compliance with transportation planning administrative rules.
- Sought FHWA guidance to resolve the planning group’s concern regarding conformity rules specific to addition of National Electric Vehicle Infrastructure project to the MOA TIP (Transportation Improvement Program) and the Alaska STIP (State Transportation Improvement Program).
- Tested to renew his certification as a smoke opacity reader.
- Assisted TD Environmental with maintenance of AQ Earth’s air quality instruments.
During November, EH staff participated in these:

- Distributed Plug@20 kits at events and from the office.
- Set up Plug@20 advertising for Jan/Feb 2024
  - Alaska Public Media, I Heart Radio, Alaska Channel
- Participated in Health Fair, Senior Activity Center, 11/16
- Radio interview with Alaska Public Media about Plug at 20
- Created/posted social media content for AQ and Food programs, bike safety, and event promotion.
- Participated in the EPA JUSTICE-HIA Project Team Workshop #3
**Women, Infants & Children Program (WIC):**

- October WIC participant total: 3,724.
- WIC hosted a fruit and vegetable giveaway for the Thanksgiving Holiday in partnership with Arctic Harvest Deliveries and Johnny’s Produce to encourage more fruits and vegetables and Thanksgiving meals. They provided 60 boxes of seasonal fruits and vegetables to WIC and SNAP families and twenty-eight $50 vouchers for Johnny’s Produce.
- WIC Outreach Nutrition Educator presented and tabled at several events in November: Aurora Maternal Fetal Medicine, Kids’ Corps, Inc-HeadStart Potluck, JBER USO, and thread’s Infant and Toddler symposium.
- Facebook: 70 posts: 11,443 reach.

**WIC Breastfeeding Peer Counselor Program (BFPC)**

*Provide consistent education, support, and guidance to breastfeeding participants.*

- One Breastfeeding Peer Counselor (BFPC) on staff, providing breastfeeding support to 57 women currently enrolled.
- 78 total contacts were made in October to the 57 enrollees.
- WIC had paused referrals to the BFPC program during August – October due to staffing shortage. We opened referrals to the BFPC program in November.
- Facebook: 9 posts: 304 reach.
- Instagram: 11 posts: 72 reach.

**WIC Goal:** *Increase enrollment and participation to roughly 9,557 participants by 2025.*

**Anchorage Health Department WIC Clinic Data Outcomes:**

![WIC Participation and Enrollment](image-url)
Opioid Remediation
  o The Anchorage Opioid Task Force Town Hall meeting was cancelled on 11/9/2023 and AHD staff are currently looking at dates to reschedule. More information to come.

Community Health Nursing (CHN):
  • We continue to provide Immunizations Records and COVID Card Replacements upon request and with a 2-3 business day turnaround.
  • Reestablished tracking and investigation of enteric disease in partnership with the state.
  • 44 COVID-19 vaccines given.
  • Tracked 11 pathogen cases in October.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Pathogens</th>
<th>Aug 2023</th>
<th>Sept 2023</th>
<th>Oct 2023</th>
<th>Nov 2023</th>
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<tr>
<td>Giardiasis</td>
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Disease Prevention and Control (DPC)

Immunizations
  • AHD Clinic (scheduled appointments and walk-ins, to include vaccines given during TB or sexual health services): 147 Routine vaccines were provided:
    o 44 Moderna bivalent
    o 0 Moderna SPIKEVAX - discontinued
    o 26 high-dose flu (65yo or older)
    o 24 regular-dose flu (64yo and younger)
    o 1 Mpox (monkeypox)
    o 52 assorted other
**Tuberculosis Control**

- We treated and case managed 6 clients with Active TB.
  - TB tests performed IGRA: 17
  - Tuberculosis Skin Test: 14
Sexual Health Clinic (SHC)

- STI express service is a walk-in screening focused specifically on STI screenings with low barriers and no cost to client that can reduce visit times, decrease time to treatment, and use provider time more efficiently.
- 69 clients seen in the STI self-referral walk-in clinic ages 15 – 65 years old.
- **| Tested | Pos**
  - Rapid HIV | 69 | 0
Rapid HCV 58 0
Chlamydia Trachomatis (CT) 191 13
Neisseria Gonorrhoeae or Gonorrhea Clampier (GC) 191 7
Syphilis 65 3
Trichomoniasis 99 2
Substance Initiative in PHN Grant
- 14 Naloxone opioid kits given out by AHD in October.
  - 3 kits by Sexual Health Clinic
  - 11 kits by HIM/clinic front desk staff.
  - Reportable activities:
    - 11/7/2023 – Supplied Walgreens Huffman pharmacy with medication disposal bags.

**Narcan Kits Distributed**

HIV Prevention
- 4,400 condoms distributed (at various locations citywide to include 825 L St.).
  - Increase due to previous months depletion of condoms at various sites throughout MOA and awaiting new contract with vendor.
  - Highest distribution site is University of Alaska Anchorage

TUPP (Teen Unintended Pregnancy Prevention)
- 226 teens educated on sexual health and relationships at 6 community organizations: OCS Independent Living, Mears Middle School, Alaska Child & Family, Stellar Secondary, & East High School
- Reportable Activities:
  - N/A
BOARDS & COMMISSIONS 2024 MEETING DATES

JANUARY  3    Wednesday  4:00-5:30   Homeless, Housing & Neighborhood Development Commission
            10   Wednesday  5:30-7:00   Health & Human Services Commission
            11   Thursday   5:00-6:30   Anchorage Women's Commission
            24   Wednesday 10:00-12:00 Senior Citizens Advisory Commission
            25   Thursday   5:30-7:00   Animal Control Advisory Board

Due to Term Expirations, actively recruiting for anticipated Board/Commission Vacancies:
  Anchorage Women’s Commission
  Health and Human Service Commission
  Homeless, Housing & Neighborhood Development Commission
  Senior Citizens Advisory Commission