Public Health Program Updates
BOH Meeting 3/15/16

Irwin Lake Area EPA report

Feb 17—worked with Community Development and Attorney's office regarding an EPR report showing potential high levels of arsenic in samples taken from the area in July, 2014. Press releases and individual notifications were completed. Public Health received minimal calls or concerns from public. Coordinated referral method for testing of private wells with CSU extension.

Immunization Funding – Childcare Health Consultant

Two current grants from CDPHE totaling $31,740 will end June 30, 2016. They will be replaced by one grant for $3,000. This funding helped support on-site nurse visits to 7 childcare centers. Purpose of funding was to assess immunization rates, but health consultation was extended during those visits. With this significant reduction in funding, only clinic hours will be supported.

Potential solutions are being considered: other grant opportunities, combining visits to reduce costs. Childcare consultation is not statutorily required of Public Health. But it is a licensing requirement for childcare centers. Other centers either hire a consultant at $50-$85 per visit or a parent who is a RN can fill the role. The centers are very disappointed as they see the services they have received for many years from Public Health as important and of high quality. Future meetings will be held to seek solution.

Multicultural Resource Services

The primary funding from the Caring for Colorado Foundation for Health Navigation will be ending in May. A few hours have recently been added from other new funding sources: Tobacco grant and CCPD to assist the Worksite Wellness coordinator with linkage to the grants' target populations: "Straight To Work". A contract with RCCO (Regional Care Coordination Organization), a Medicaid program is pending. There are other grants pending that will contribute several hours to this program.

Communities That Care RFA

Public Health and GCSAP are combining efforts to address substance use in teens through this grant opportunity. Funding comes from the marijuana tax and is being distributed through CDPHE. Grant requirements include keeping high fidelity to the "Communities That Care" model for which training will be provided. This is a 5 year non-competitive grant with $90,000 to $500,000 available per year. The Multicultural Resource Services will participate in this to strengthen engagement of the Hispanic population in these prevention efforts. Letter of Intent was just sent.

Staff Updates

Two new part time staff have joined the Early Childhood Council. Holly Harmon is working 12 hours per week funded by two different grants but all related to staff development of the childcare centers. Katherine Melland will work 8 hrs./wk. to assist with data in updating the West Central Public Health Partnership Regional Health Assessment.