2015 BUILDING A healthy FOUNDATION

Butte County
PUBLIC HEALTH

Butte County Public Health
Annual Report

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Public Health

Director's Welcome

As I look back on the 2015 year, I am amazed at how productive a year it was, especially given that it has been a very turbulent year as well due to staff leaving for greener pastures and the difficulties in recruiting high quality personnel. Nevertheless, we assessed the health of our community and worked with community members to develop plans to address the most important issues. We revised and modernized the department's Policies and Procedures, developed a comprehensive departmental Safety Plan, established a Performance Management and Quality Implementation Team and an Employee Engagement Committee. Finally, we published the results of our first employee satisfaction survey and developed a training needs assessment for staff.

The Divisions, in addition to their regular workload, have submitted grants and worked on cleaning up ordinance language. They have revised and modernized their Divisional Policies and Procedures, worked toward meeting their Programmatic and Divisional goals to improve the community's health, participated in Quality Improvement training and activities, and exercised emergency plans.

Looking forward, we will continue to work with our partners to improve the priority health issues identified by our community. The department will have a reconstructed foundation by summer. Finally, our employees will be on their way to being safer, better recognized, and better trained.

2016 promises to be a very good year!

Cathy Raevsky

Cathy Raevsky
Public Health Director

Road to Accreditation

In April 2015, the department published a countywide Community Health Assessment (CHA) for public review and feedback. The document describes our community's health status; defines areas for improvement, and identifies assets that can be mobilized to improve health for our residents. Thousands of local partners and community members contributed to the project.

The completion of the CHA then led to the development of a countywide Community Health Improvement Plan (CHIP). After an extensive stakeholder planning and review process, the CHIP was launched in October 2015. The following health issues were selected by the community to address during the CHIP process:

1. Substance Abuse
2. Chronic Disease
3. Socioeconomic Issues that Affect/Influence Health

The CHIP outlines the agreed upon activities for each issue and the parties responsible for implementing those steps. Each action plan provides a set of goals and specific objectives that are centered on evidence-based strategies that have proven to be successful in other communities. Specific CHIP focus areas include:

- Prescription opioid misuse and abuse (substance abuse)
- Substance abuse, misuse, and dependence among our youth (substance abuse)
- Collaboration among local substance abuse treatment providers (substance abuse)
- County wide adult smoking prevalence (chronic disease)
- Capacity of local schools to meet required physical activity rates (chronic disease)
- Utilization of existing resources among the homeless population (socioeconomic factors)
- Food insecurity (socioeconomic factors)

Above: Casting votes to assess our community health system during a CHA planning meeting.

Opposite Page: Small workgroup during CHA planning session. Includes BCPHD staff and local health partners.

Both the CHA and the CHIP can be found at: http://togetherwecanbc.com/

In May 2015, the department completed a new 3-year (2015-2018) internal strategic plan. The plan outlines our strategies to meet objectives and/or measures in the following priority areas:

1. Improve Quality of Life
2. Enhance Community Access, Engagement, & Collaboration
3. Foster Employee Engagement, Development, & Performance
4. Increase the Efficacy of our Business Practices through Innovations, Process Improvement, and Maximizing Efficiencies.

The new strategic plan aligns our work with national, state and local health improvement objectives including: Healthy People 2020, the Let's Get Healthy California Task Force Report, and our local CHA and CHIP plans. Quality improvement methods are incorporated into all facets of the department's operations.

Completion of the CHA, CHIP and Strategic Plan are the three pre-requisites required for Public Health Accreditation. In December 2015, the department received notification that our accreditation application to the national Public Health Accreditation Board (PHAB) had been approved. The application is a formal notification to PHAB of our official commitment to initiate the accreditation process. The department now has up to one year to identify and submit documentation that demonstrates conformity with the required PHAB standards and measures. We look forward to continuing our journey of becoming an accreditated health department in 2016!

Environmental Health

Enhanced management of data capacity.
In 2015 a major effort was made to improve our handling and utilization of data. We completed an optical imaging project for our Assessor Parcel Number files resulting in over 1.2 million pages scanned and catalogued. Land use data can now be efficiently retrieved using Laserfiche. File space has been recovered that can be used effectively by other programs such as hazmat. Data requested by the customer can be retrieved more readily. The impact in terms of efficiency for staff and our valued customers has been a positive one.

In addition to more efficiently storing data, capabilities to utilize computer tablets and laptops for performing inspections was enhanced. Computerized inspections are now performed for food facilities, public pools, and body art facilities, with further use of tablets and laptops for inspection of hazmat facilities and consumer complaint investigations anticipated for 2016.

Through the divisions data management system, significant progress was made in generating reports that identify facilities that have not been inspected at the required frequency, including the name of the assigned specialist required to perform the inspection. This powerful report protects the public's health by assuring that facilities needing inspections by Environmental Health are easily identified.

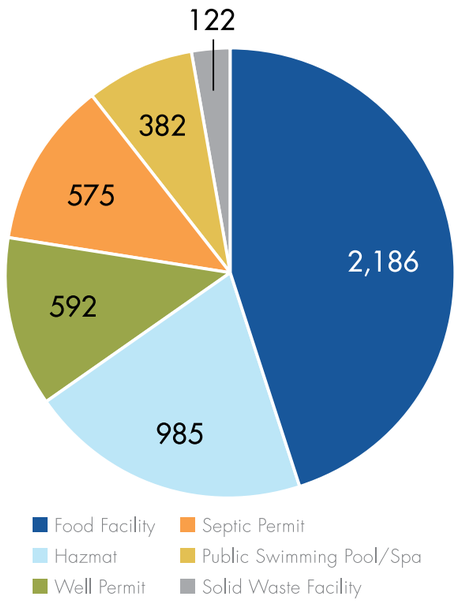
Increased community involvement in program development.
Environmental Health currently collaborates with four independent citizen groups that provide direct input from stakeholders, covering Food Safety, Hazardous Materials, Wastewater, and Well Drillers respectively. The Hazmat Advisory Group was established in 2015, representing the major groupings of stakeholders that the division regulates, as well as an environmentalist and an environmental consultant. Although this advisory group is not governed by the Brown Act, it is structured as if it were, with adopted By-Laws, elected officers, advertised meetings, and detailed minutes. With consultation and concurrence by members of the Hazmat Advisory Group, our Inspection and Enforcement Policy and Procedure (IEPP) was amended with new policies and procedures for administrative enforcement, which provides an alternative to seeking assistance from the District Attorney's office for every enforcement case encountered.

1.2 MILLION
PAGES SCANNED & CATALOGUED

The **Hazmat Advisory Group** , formed in 2015, assisted the division in planning expansion of hazmat enforcement of the agricultural community to meet state requirements. With input from the advisory group and from additional experts invited to participate in the group's meetings, a workplan and timeline were developed and presented to the Butte County Farm Bureau's Board of Directors and a large group of farmers at an agricultural convention held at the Silver Dollar Fairgrounds.

The **Wastewater Advisory Committee,** appointed by the Board of Supervisors, has been active since it was formed in 2010. In 2015, the group assisted with updates to the Onsite Wastewater Manual, addressing the repair of failed systems. Updates and enhancements were also made to the Onsite Wastewater Systems Ordinance. These updates will clarify certain provisions and enhance both documents' effectiveness in protecting water quality and public health. These updates will be incorporated into the County's Local Area Management Program for on-site wastewater systems required by the State Water Resources Control Board in May 2016.

4,842 Inspections Performed by Environmental Health in 2015



The **Food Safety Advisory Group,** formed in 2013, identified new program innovations to improve the safety of food provided at retail food facilities. A free, one day class called "Food School," was developed and offered to retail food workers and managers on a quarterly basis covering topics such as the importance of employee hygiene, proper cooking and holding temperatures, clean equipment and sourcing safe foods.

To recognize outstanding food safety practices at food facilities, a special green colored placard was designed to be posted following the inspection of food facilities with no food safety violations. In addition, criteria for issuing Awards of Excellence to food facilities with outstanding food safety practices were developed and awards will be granted at the end of 2016.

The **Well Drillers Advisory Group** worked with the Division to update the Water Adequacy Policy to incorporate more thorough inspection of well installations prior to final approval and water quality testing prior to occupancy of new residences. The final policy incorporated input from stakeholders, including the Building Contractor's Advisory Group and the User's Group facilitated by the Department of Development Services.

In addition to working with the advisory groups and committees previously referenced, the Division planned, marketed, and facilitated a workshop on water resource management that included water resource management officials, regulators, and local stakeholders. The highly successful workshop was attended by over 160 people traveling to Oroville from 38 counties.

New green placard for food facilities with no food safety violations.

Updated Smoking Ordinance

Butte County Code regulating smoking in the workplace had not been updated since 1982. The updated ordinance included prohibition of the use of electronic smoking devices where tobacco use is currently prohibited in the workplace and enclosed public places. The updated code will further protect county employees from the danger and nuisance second hand smoke.

Community Health and Sciences

Communicable Diseases

The Communicable Disease (CD) Program detects and monitors infectious diseases and outbreaks in our community. CD conducts surveillance of infectious diseases, investigates disease outbreaks and contacts to cases of specific communicable disease, collaborates with other divisions and agencies to prevent, investigate and control infectious diseases, provides information, guidance, and training to area providers, and performs active monitoring for persons with specific exposures/ potential exposures, such as Ebola, and directly observed treatment for diseases such as Tuberculosis.

In 2015, CD staff, together with Immunization staff, prepared outbreak control binders containing guidance and tools for facility staff on the prevention and control of acute respiratory illness outbreaks (including influenza) in skilled nursing facilities. Binders were hand delivered to facilitate rapport with Directors of Nursing and allow facility staff to orient on and ask questions about the binders. In addition, CD staff were trained in use of Personal Protective Equipment (PPE) for use in the event of a suspect or known Ebola case.

Nancy Miller, Evelyn Jones and Cassandra Miracle prepare outbreak control binders for facility staff.

CD staff investigated a total of **16 infectious disease outbreaks** including:

***3**
SKIN RASH OUTBREAKS
*Affecting 4 to 16 people

***6**
RESPIRATORY INFECTION OUTBREAKS
*Affecting 4 to 32 people

***7**
GASTRO INTESTINAL OUTBREAKS
*Affecting 6 to 37 people

HIV Program

Working closely with community partners, the HIV Care Program works to prevent the early onset of AIDS-related symptoms by helping persons living with HIV to access healthcare and treatment services. Funding allocated by the State Office of AIDS in October of 2015 allowed the program to expand outreach and early intervention services with a focus on high-risk and hard to reach individuals. Through targeted screening, the HIV Program identified and investigated 9 HIV cases and 1 AIDS case in 2015. **The HIV program's case load increased over 25%,** a substantial increase in the number of HIV infected persons receiving case management, linkages to care, and referrals to community resources, thereby improving their health and reducing the likelihood of disease transmission.

3000
CONDOMS
DISTRIBUTED

Public Health Laboratory

Public Health Laboratories play a key role in protecting the public's health by conducting laboratory testing and providing critical expertise for multiple programs in the department. Conducting over 4000 tests for infectious diseases and conditions on site in 2015, the lab serves as the conduit through which local providers can submit specific tests not commercially available, including bacterial "fingerprinting", viral subtyping, and tests for unusual or emerging disease to the state health department and Centers for Disease Control Laboratories. Importantly, BCPHD's lab stands ready to provide immediate support for outbreaks of vaccine-preventable diseases, tuberculosis, foodborne illness, possible rabies exposures, and viral illnesses, including influenza and emerging illnesses.

LAB TESTS
PERFORMED IN 2015

Nearly **1500** tests each for chlamydia & gonorrhea

200+ animals tested for rabies

130+ cultures for bacteria

100+ ticks identified

50+ ticks tested for Lyme disease

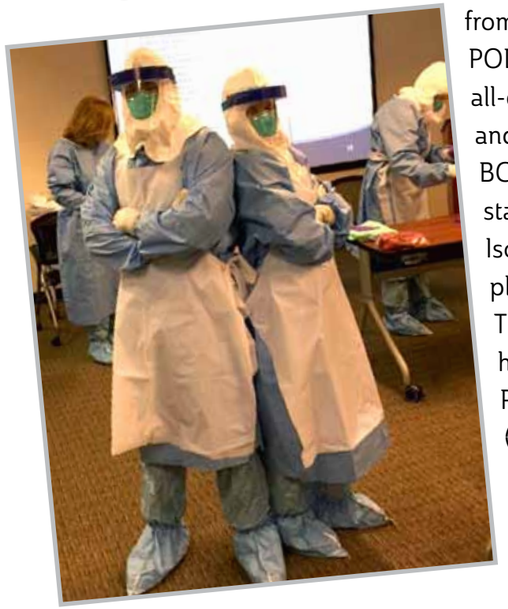
Community Health

The Community Health SNAP-Ed program provides nutrition education to students, teaches affordable and healthy food preparation, and works with small businesses to promote healthy food options. **In 2015, the program educated over 12,000 community members in over 300 nutrition education classes.** Staff partnered with Butte County Office of Education to educate approximately 300 preschool students and their families. The SNAP-Ed program established a Kids Farmer's Market to promote increased fruit and vegetable consumption among children. Students shopped (with pretend money) and were able to sample a produce-based recipe at the Kids Farmers' Market to practice purchasing locally grown fresh produce in a farmers' market setting. **Over 11,000 pounds of fresh fruits and vegetables were provided to the children who learned a new way to think about food and shopping.**

Emergency Preparedness

The Emergency Preparedness Program collaborates with local hospitals, health care providers, first responders, law enforcement and other county departments to protect the public's health during times of emergency or disaster. In 2015, the program increased local capacity for emergency shelter and medication dispensing by completing memorandums of understanding to ensure sites for employer based, Point of Dispensing (POD) and an At Risk Medical Shelter, thereby increasing our community's capacity to care for areas residents during an emergency.

Training, Drills and Exercises: Representatives from large employer based PODS participated in an all-day training workshop and tabletop exercise. BCPHD management staff were trained on Isolation and Quarantine planning and response. The program also hosted three Personal Protective Equipment (PPE) trainings on the proper donning and doffing procedures for Ebola PPE for first responders and BCPHD staff. BCPHD sponsored a FEMA Biological Incidents Awareness Training to raise awareness and increase preparedness for responding to naturally occurring and terrorism related biological hazards. Drills and exercises conducted included: a multi-agency Emerging Infectious Disease/ Ebola Tabletop Exercise; a statewide Medical and Health Tabletop exercise on communications during the local emergence and spread of a novel avian influenza.



Above: Emergency Preparedness staff participating in Protective Equipment (PPE) training for first responders.

45 Ebola/Infectious Disease PPE Go Bags were created, containing: P100 face masks, gloves, scrubs, face shields, hand sanitizer, thermometers, boot covers and more.

Ebola Preparedness: During 2015, with the Ebola epidemic in West Africa, program staff prepared for one or more local cases of Ebola illness. Forty-five Ebola/Infectious Disease Go Bags were created to provide the needed personal protective equipment for responding to a suspect Ebola case. During the Ebola crisis, staff monitored 10 persons who were returning to Butte County from Ebola affected countries.

***7,500**
FLU VAX DOSES DISTRIBUTED
*Supplied by the State

Immunizations: Each year the immunization program distributes state-supplied influenza vaccine to community partners providing free and low cost flu vaccine to vulnerable persons such as elderly individuals and children. In addition, immunization program staff, together with Emergency Preparedness staff and CD staff, conducted an influenza vaccination clinic at an elementary school serving mostly low-income families. These clinics allow staff to exercise a mass vaccination clinic, increasing staff readiness in the event of an influenza pandemic or other disease event that would require mass administration of vaccine or medications.

Promoting immunizations is a core public health practice that is increasingly important today when a greater proportion of people are living with chronic diseases or conditions that put them at higher risk for vaccine preventable diseases.

Nursing Programs

Right: Public Health Nurse and staff look over educational materials that will be presented to patients for STD education.

Did You Know...

Chico Clinic
Offers the only travel clinic in the county.

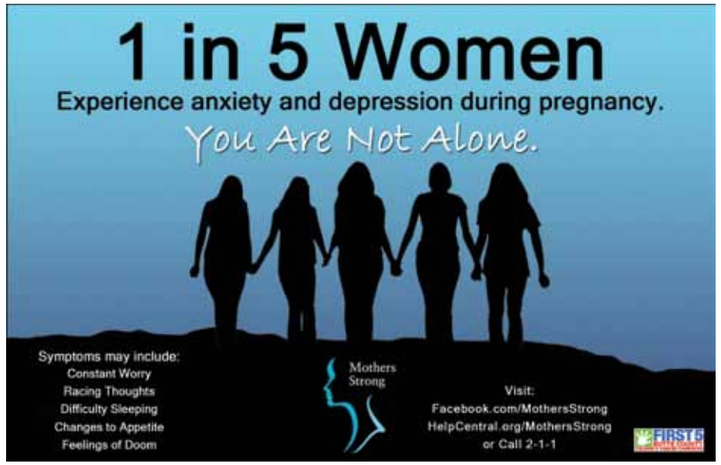
Oroville Clinic
Provides Suboxone services under the supervision of our Health Officer, Dr.Mark Lundberg.

What is Suboxone?
Suboxone is a medication approved by the FDA for the treatment of opiate dependence such as pain killers and heroin addiction.

Public Health Clinics

Both clinics garnered enthusiastic reviews for excellence in reproductive health care during an audit by the California Family Health Council (CFHC). Five of our staff members completed a two-day certification training to become certified Family Planning Health Care Workers. Our Nurse Practitioner was trained to perform Nexplanon implants, a form of Long-Acting Reversible Contraception (LARC). Our Health Education Specialist has met with focus groups to improve our educational offerings regarding birth control methods. We are currently recruiting for two mid-level providers and one public health nurse to meet the demand for clinic services. These efforts are aimed at continuously improving the care of Title X family planning recipients.

A major issue that was addressed but not yet resolved is securing contracts with the Managed Medi-Cal plans assigned to our county, California Health and Wellness and Anthem Blue Cross. We are awaiting final contracts and credentials with both carriers. We are hopeful that we will be designated as a multi-specialty clinic, enabling us to serve as an in-network provider for recipients of either plan. This will also enable us to expand the types of services offered to our community.



Billboard campaign for "Mothers Strong," launched in 2015 to raise awareness about anxiety and depression during pregnancy.

Maternal Child Adolescent Health

Significant progress was made this year in addressing Perinatal Mood and Anxiety Disorder (PMAD) in our community. Through the involvement of several staff members in PMAD work groups facilitated by the California Health Collaborative, an awareness campaign was launched and a mothering summit was held on May. As a direct result, support groups are being held in Chico and Paradise on a regular basis, which are co-facilitated by mothers and mental health professionals. Our Maternal Child Adolescent Health (MCAH) five year plan includes a detailed framework to address PMAD through partnerships with area medical providers, community agencies, and Nursing Division programs that serve women in the childbearing years.

Uplifting table decorations at the "Embrace Motherhood," Mothering Summit, held at the Enloe Conference Center.

Public Health Nursing

Partnerships with the Department of Social Services (DESS) continue to provide a multitude of opportunities for Public Health Nurses (PHN's) to address the needs of vulnerable population groups. These include clients served through Adult Protective Services, In Home Supportive Services, Children's Services Division, Options for Recovery, and Wellness to Work.
Public Health Nurses work in conjunction with social workers to provide medical case management, consultation, and education to clients, foster parents, care providers, and other program stakeholders. Annual reports for these programs show positive client outcomes strengthened by PHN involvement.

California Children's Services

The California Children's Services (CCS) program provides case management, treatment authorizations and processing of new referrals in Butte County. The two Medical Therapy Programs (MTP) in Chico and Oroville provide physical and occupational therapy to an average of 140 children per month.

In conjunction with the state CCS program, the Butte County MTP successfully completed a year-long pilot study to improve the way prescriptions are written for physical and occupational therapy. The project was so successful that the state will be issuing guidelines for MTP's in other counties to follow this methodology.

922 CHILDREN AVERAGE CCS CASELOAD

Women, Infants and Children (WIC)

October 2015 marked the beginning of a four year contract with the state WIC program. WIC serves families at our two main offices in Chico and Oroville, as well as satellite offices in Paradise and Gridley. Services include nutrition education, lactation support, and supplemental food vouchers for thousands of pregnant, postpartum, and breastfeeding women, and to infants and children through five years of age.

An exciting new element of WIC is the ability to use cash value vouchers at the local Farmers' Markets throughout the county. Our local WIC supervisor and Program Manager met with state WIC officials and Farmers' Market managers to facilitate this process. WIC participants may now use these vouchers year-round, as well as the specific WIC Farmers' Market coupons that are distributed in the summer. This effort was captured in a story by North State Public Radio, which featured one of our participants and her child shopping at a local market.

Click the photo to listen to the North State Public Radio story about the Farmer's Market approved WIC Cash Value Vouchers.

6,580 PARTICIPANTS ENROLLED IN WIC FOR YEAR ONE

$355,136 MONTHLY FOOD VOUCHERS REDEEMED

Animal Control

Rabies Vaccination & Education

In 2015, Animal Control held three low cost rabies clinics during the early spring and summer to increase community awareness of the importance of keeping family pets current on rabies vaccination. Clinics were held in Oroville, Chico and Magalia. The clinic in Magalia was the first clinic ever held in the area and was done in collaboration with Magalia Veterinary Clinic. These clinics provide the opportunity to educate the public about the need for rabies vaccinations and the importance of licensing and microchipping animals. Members of the public were also educated on county animal control services, programs and responsibilities.

Left: The first successful adoption of the program! Larry adopted Bella, a yellow lab mix.

Bottom: Animal Control officer Lynette Brennan logged countless hours at the jail to get the program off the ground.

Canines for Veterans Program

Animal Control staff assisted the Butte County Sheriff's office with the design of dog kennels and the inmate dog training program. The program officially kicked off in November of 2015, with the first group of dogs being trained and adopted to local veterans. This is a win-win program for everyone. Before shelter dogs are adopted into their forever home, they are evaluated for the program and trained. Inmates who qualify for work release are trained to work with the dogs while gaining job skills and seeing positive results of their efforts. Local veterans are able to adopt dogs that have already been trained in basic obedience, making it much easier to care for them.

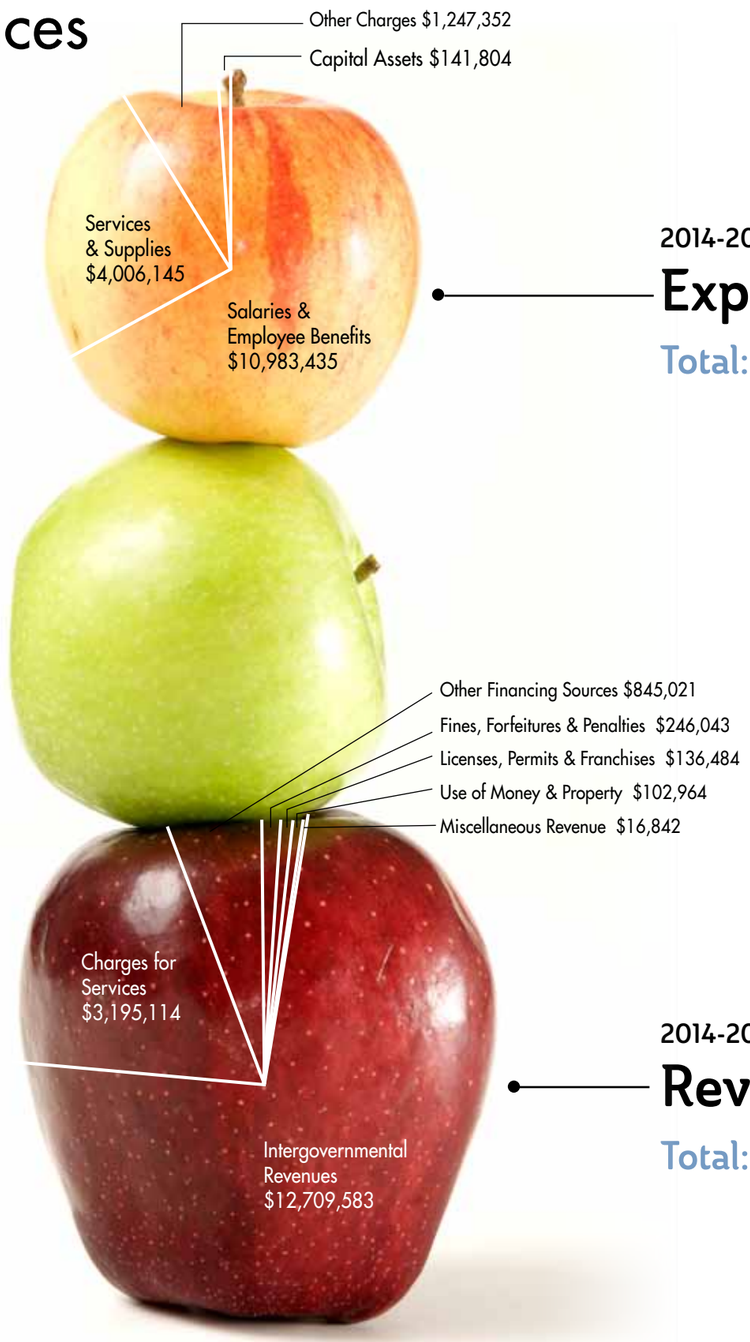
Paw's Laws: Dog Bite Prevention

In response to an increase in dog bite related injuries among young children, Animal Control worked closely with the department's Communication Manager to develop a school based "Paw's Laws" dog bite prevention campaign geared at third graders. Each presentation includes a short education video, a presentation by one of our animal control officers, and a poster and stickers for the class. The goal of these presentations is to promote safe interactions between children 7-9 years old and dogs by teaching children behaviors that reduce the likelihood of being bitten. The program has been initially implemented in high risk areas of the county, identified by current and past bite reports. Phase two of the program is to implement in all elementary schools in the county and to modify the program for adults.

Can you spot Paws our faux training dog? Durham Elementary School 3rd graders had a great time during our class visit.

Paws' Laws poster provided to third grade classrooms.Poster graphics reinforce messages that were communicated in the video shown to students.

2014-2015 Finances



2014-2015 Fiscal Year

Expenditures

Total: $16,378,736

2014-2015 Fiscal Year

Revenue

Total: $17,252,051

BUTTE COUNTY ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★

2015 PUBLIC HEALTH AWARDS

CALIFORNIA ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★

Ann Dickman
Public Health Nurse Senior

Award of Excellence

Recognizes a person for creative work and collaboration in improving the health status of people living in Butte County.

Ann has done an amazing job of collaborating with many groups to improve the health status of students at Oakdale Heights Elementary School. Ann works closely with the principal, teachers, and UC Co-op in the school. Her partnership with Public Works received "Safe Routes to School" funding.

Nancy Jennings
Public Health Nurse Associate

Outstanding Customer Service

Recognizes a person who demonstrates a customer focused approach by creating and implementing a service standard in a program or division.

Nancy assists her clients with access to care issues, including advocating for them with insurance companies and attending doctor appointments to help clients voice their concerns. She goes above and beyond with case management services provided to her at risk clients.

Mindy Stark
Administrative Assistant

Quality Improvement

Recognizes a person who has improved a process or program in a way that demonstrates methods of efficiency relating to time and/or money.

Mindy developed a more efficient process for transforming birth record data. This has increased the Vital Records program capacity to analyze data, detecting trends in birth records, such as rate of adverse birth outcomes and labor and delivery services funded by Medi-Cal.

Social Migration

Website Migration to NEW County Platform

Between May and September, the department worked toward moving web content and documents over to the County's new platform. This was not a small task, considering that we had over 7,000 documents to update, edit, and move to the new site. The Communications Manager, along with staff from County Administration, coordinated several web trainings for key Public Health staff. We re-structured the department's entire file and document management system, creating consistency across divisions. The NEW Public Health Website has been live since October 1, 2015.

Social Media

In January of 2015, the department established a social media presence which includes pages on both Facebook and Twitter. These platforms allow the department to coordinate information sharing with health partners and to communicate valuable public health resources to the residents of Butte County in a timely manner.

Twitter Handle:
@BC_PubHealth

Our Twitter account is most utilized in coordination with other county departments and health partners during time sensitive or emergency situations.

Likes: 1,104 (as of March 2016)
Avg. Reach: 3-8K per post

Our Facebook page is updated regularly with local and state health information.