

## Board of Health

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*Promoting and Protecting the Health of Delaware County*

## September 12, 2024, Delaware County Board of Health Meeting Delaware County Department of Health Status Report

### **Administrative Services:**

#### Highlights/Successes

- o Continuous development, implementation and improvement of strategic and efficient strategies, procedures and activities aimed at improving the daily operations of DCHD. Particularly focusing on the areas of infrastructure and capital improvements, procurement and inventory management, fleet, specialized data systems, and staff engagement.
  - Updated DCHD procurement workflow and support forms is assisting in streamlining procurement sourcing/requests, as well as drives consistency in how grant-related expenses are being categorized, coded and reported. This enhance visibility into spending patterns and allocation of funds is a valuable tool for forecasting future budgetary needs and demonstrating compliance with grant requirements.
  - Updated fleet management logs provide grant related information that assists in the reporting of services/activities that align with a particular grant's objectives.

### **Administration - Operations**

#### Old Business

- o Infrastructure/Capital Improvements:
  - The completion of the Yeadon Wellness Center's "Phase 3" encompasses the establishment of a staff "Rest & Restore" (Lactation Room), a designated Call Center Area, and two Community Meeting Rooms. To date, these facilities have successfully hosted a variety of engaging events, including DCHD Delco Revive press conference and the inaugural Back to School Community Fair.

### Yeadon Wellness Center Rest & Restore Room



- o Specialized Data Systems:
  - Collaborating with both external and internal partners to continue to optimize DCHD's UKG Kronos timekeeping system.

### New Business

- o Infrastructure/Capital Improvements:
  - The design needs analysis to define staff/work environment requirements for the future location of the Administrative and Environmental Health Divisions at Building 1 in Fair Acres has been completed. Key features of the design encompass a spacious flex room capable of accommodating 100 individuals for training sessions and meetings; a dedicated lab and storage area for the West Nile Virus/Mosquito Borne Disease Program; high density storage; lockers and shower facilities for Environmental Health inspections; and an EV charging infrastructure, to name a few.
- o Specialized Data Systems:
  - A Data Modernization Specialist has been hired. The Specialist is responsible for optimizing the functionality of the current DCHD specialized systems, defining the best approach to gather data from state and other public health sources, and conducting a comprehensive needs analysis across all DCHD divisions. The Specialist, when applicable, will recommend integrated data solutions that meet the organization's objectives and seamlessly integrate with DCHD's existing systems and the county's broader technology and data infrastructure.
  - DCHD is implementing new specialized data systems, including RX Scan for the Personal Health Division and Achieve IT (a performance management platform) for cross-divisional use. This implementation involves defining network specifications and providing staff training.
- o Procurement:
  - DCHD will participate in pilot County office supply program. This program will involve sourcing basic office supplies directly from Fair Acres' bulk inventory. This partnership is intended to leverage Fair Acres' economies of scale and potentially achieve cost savings

for the County.

## **Administration - Financial & Administrative Services**

### Old/New Business

- o Grants:
  - Public Health Infrastructure Grant (PHIG), May 2023 – November 2027, PADOH
    - o Cumulative spend down = \$630,258.63
    - o Balance remaining = \$4,336,808.37
    - o Furnished Yeadon Phase 3; implemented Lactation/Quiet Rooms at Yeadon and Chester; paying personnel for the Administration Realignment and Data Modernization Specialist; funding coaching, trainings, and conferences for leadership and all of DCHD staff; funding strategic planning, enhanced communications, and Community Health Improvement Plan development and implementation.
  - o Public Health Preparedness, July 2023-June 2024, PADOH
    - o Full year spend = \$1,152,330.53
    - o Unspent base funding balance = \$137,334.55 (28.2%)
    - o Unspent SAF balance = \$35,705.23 (4.25%). Unspent SAF eligible for rollover into July 2024-June 2025 grant.
  - o ELC Enhancing Detection, July 2023-June 2024, PADOH
    - o Due to a PADOH delay in providing DCHD with the appropriate invoicing workbook, no reimbursements have been requested/received. PADOH has indicated that the invoicing workbook is forthcoming and will allow expenses dated July 2023-June 2024.
    - o Anticipated reimbursement = \$1.4 million.
  - o HIV, July 2023-June 2024, PADOH
    - o Full year spend = \$416,373.33
    - o Unspent base funding balance = \$110,351.27 (21.7%)
    - o Unspent SAF balance = \$32,745.04 (65.5%)
  - o Immunizations, July 2023-June 2024, PADOH
    - o Full year spend = \$460,223.19
    - o Unspent base funding balance = \$20,192.72 (5.15%)
    - o Unspent SAF balance = \$111,272.47. Unspent SAF eligible for rollover into July 2024-June 2025 grant.
  - o Delaware County Immunization Coalition, July 2023-June 2024, PA Immunization Coalition
    - o Year spend = \$8,152.43
    - o Unspent balance = \$847.57
  - o Tuberculosis, July 2023-June 2024, PADOH
    - o Year spend = \$62,113.73
    - o Unspent base funding balance = \$9,665.40 (17.5%)
    - o Unspent SAF4 balance = \$10,676.92 (53.8%)
  - o Maternal-Child Health Title V, July 2023-June 2024, PADOH
    - o Year spend = \$260,858.19.
    - o Unspent balance = \$21,841.81. (7.7%)

- o Mosquito-borne Disease Control, January-December 2024, PA Department of Environmental Protection
  - o January-June spend = \$79,072.96 (37.73%)
  - o Remaining balance = \$130,511.68
- o Health Equity, August 2023-July 2025, (Congressionally Directed Spending) Health Resources and Services Administration (HRSA)
  - o Reimbursements received for August 2023-June 2024 = \$344,694.15
- o Doula, June 2024-May 2027, (Congressionally Directed Spending) Department of Labor; No reimbursement requests have been submitted yet.

## **Environmental Health:**

### Highlights/Successes

- o DCHD EH is successfully implementing the department's sewage and water program. Year to date total well and septic permits/license Issued in 2024: 64 (27 well, 37 septic).
  - Sewage Enforcement Officer (SEO) re-certification training completed on 8/22/24 with both DCHD SEOs. Second class will be held next month.
  - DCHD's new Liquid Waste Hauler (LWH) Program went live 7/1/24. Working with Delcora on possible ways to support each other.
- o DCHD EH successfully supported the Pennsylvania Department of Agriculture's summer food program this season. DCHD conducted six inspections of local camps this summer. Collaborated with Personal Health/Epidemiology to provided immunization information, heat advisory information, and MDC fliers to camp staff and/or person in charge of the summer camp.

### Old Business

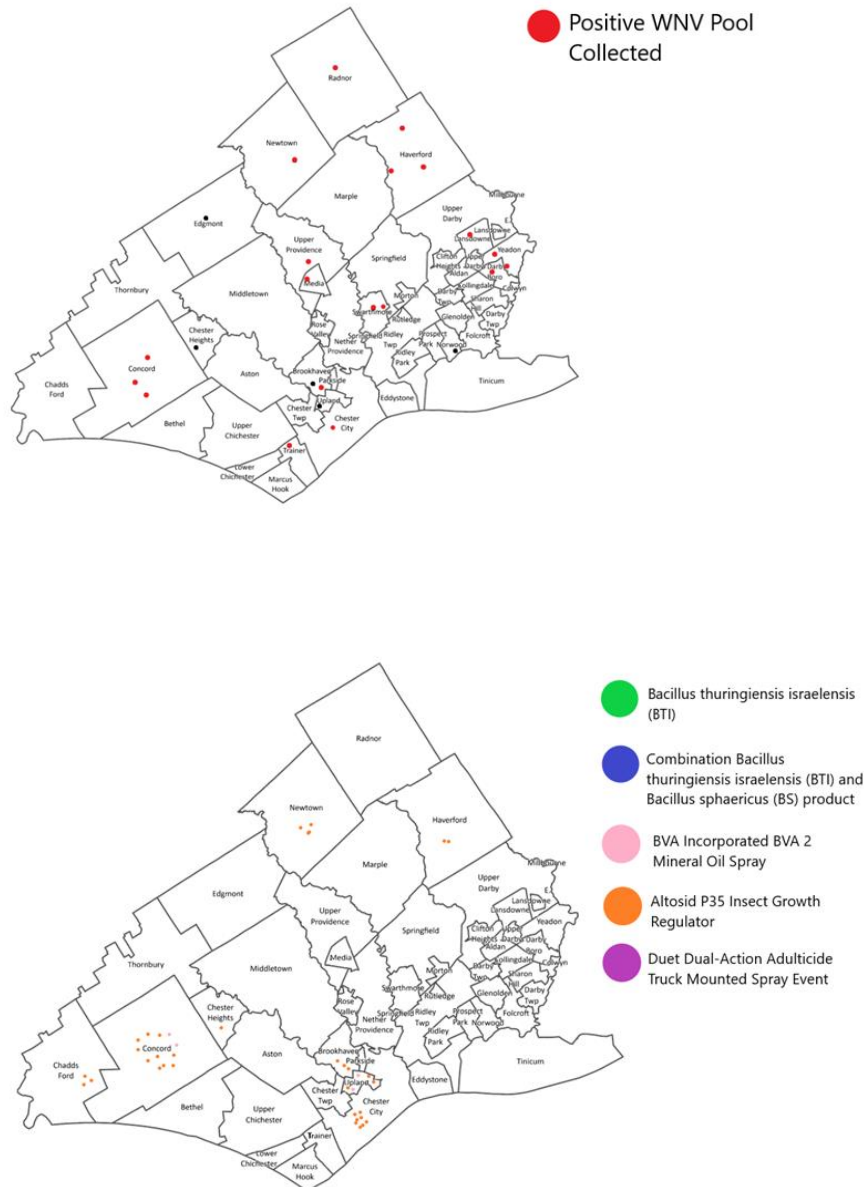
- o Personnel: EHS position approved and posted; ongoing interviews.
- o DCHD EH is currently on track to have all seasonal pools receive an additional inspection by the end of August.
- o Ongoing Mosquito-borne Disease Control (MDC) program implementation since May 2024, including new for the 2024 season expanded outreach component (see table summarizing outreach events at the close of this section).
  - Approximately 100 mosquito larvae have been collected by MDC staff between 8/15/24 and 8/22/24.
  - Approximately 700 adult mosquitoes have been collected by MDC staff between 8/15/24 and 8/22/24.
  - No spray events during the week of 8/19/24. Our trap locations either have a low vector index, or low specimen counts. This information has been communicated to the DEP and they did not recommend a spray event.

### New Business

- o Pennsylvania Department of Environmental Protection (PADEP) Office of Environmental Justice Regional Supervisor visited DCHD and presented to DCHD leadership to open a discussion on partnering and/or collaboration in environmental justice work in Delaware County.
- o DCHD EH is collaborating with EH Personal Health on early childhood learning center inspections. Personal Health is conducting ECLC Immunization Reviews of selected early childhood centers; EH will conduct joint institution inspections at two of the four centers that Personal Health will be visiting in August 2024.

- o A presumptive human WNV case was reported to DCHD on 8/8/24. A three-day investigation took place on 8/9, 8/12 and 8/13/24.
  - The neighborhood was surveilled, mosquito sources were identified for trap placement and control efforts, and outreach and education materials were distributed to homes in the surrounding neighborhood.
  - Samples from traps placed around site were sent to state for testing. No positive WNV alerts in DCHD trap sites received during the week of 8/19/24 – 8/22/24.

## 2024 DCHD MDC Program Fixed Trap Sites



## MDC Treatments Conducted 8/15/24 - 8/22/24

2024 DCHD MDC Outreach Events					
<b>April</b>					
Date	Type of Outreach	Municipality	Audience Type	Location	Status
4/5/2024	Tabling	Yeadon	Yeadon Residents/ Mammogram Patients	DCHD Wellness Center	Completed
4/25/2024	Presentation	165th Legislative District	General Public	Virtual	Completed
<b>May</b>					
5/3/2024	Tabling	Chester	Seniors	Harrah's Casino	Completed
5/8/2024	Presentation	Chester	Seniors	Chester Senior Center	Completed
5/22/2024	Presentation	Upper Darby	Seniors	Upper Darby Senior Center	Completed
5/30/2024	Tabling	Chester	Conference Attendees	Widener University	Completed
<b>June</b>					
6/17/2024	Presentation	Newtown	Newtown Township EAC Members, HOA Members, Birdtown USA, Newtown TWP Residents	Newtown Township Municipal Building	Completed
6/26/2024	Presentation	Concord & Chester Heights	Municipal Leaders	Virtual	Completed
<b>August</b>					
9/7/24	Tabling	Concord	Community Members	Township Park – 701 Smithbridge Rd	Scheduled

**DCHD Environmental Health’s Inspection Management System:  
January to mid August 2024 Summary**

	<b>YTD 2024</b>
Known Facilities (Does not include injunction)	2349
Number of facilities Licensed	1802
<b>TTL Number of Routine inspection Performed</b>	2854
Food Facility	2146

Institution	265
Public Bathing Place	190
Parks/Campgrounds	2
Temp Event inspections performed	251
<b>TTL Number of Follow up inspections Performed</b>	<b>607</b>
Food Facility	569
Institution	17
Public Bathing Place	19
Parks/Campgrounds	2
<b>Number of Complaint/Requests Received</b>	<b>1060</b>
<b>Total Current Open and Active</b>	<b>69</b>
<b>TTL Number of Complaint Based inspections Performed</b>	<b>129</b>
Food Facility	112
Institution	7
Public Bathing Place	9
Parks/Campgrounds	1
<b>Total Inspections Performed</b>	<b>3590</b>
<b>Total Well and Septic Permits/License Issued</b>	<b>64</b>
Well Permit	27
Septic Permit	37
Well Driller License	0
Pump Hauler License	0
Accounts Receivable by Program	\$ 500,281
Food Facility	\$ 351,676
Institution	\$ 30,189
Public Bathing Place	\$ 13,270
Temp Food Facility	\$ 13,803
Well Program	\$ 9,688
Septic Program	\$ 81,655
Accounts Receivable by payment type	\$ 500,291
Cash	\$ -
Check	\$ 409,470
Credit	\$ 71,380
Other (Money Order)	\$ 17,721
Credits from Over Payments	\$ (72)

Open Credits applied to amount Due \$ 1,792

## **Personal Health:**

### Highlights/Successes

- o DCHD is excited to report progress in the programming to improve identification and mitigation of childhood lead exposures in Delaware County. This work is being implemented under the HRSA Health Equity Congressional Directed Funding grant.
  - DCHD purchased point of care blood lead capillary screening equipment and testing supplies and is distributing them to healthcare providers in the county. As of August 2024, devices have been provided to two private practices (CHOP testing as of 7/10/24, and Advocare setup in process) and a HRSA Federally Qualified Health Center (ChesPenn testing as of 7/15/24). DCHD is also using two devices in DCHD's two wellness centers, and is facilitating testing at a Women, Infants and Children (WIC) office once a month (Upper Darby location testing as of 7/15/24).
  - Another component of this project is a public outreach campaign. The goal of this campaign is to educate and provide resources to families, healthcare providers, and property owners to understand and successfully implement lead poisoning reduction and mitigation strategies. On June 12, 2024, DCHD selected and notified "AB&C Creative" as the design firm to partner with DCHD in running a lead awareness campaign to encourage testing of children and homes. This outreach campaign is scheduled to start in late September.
- o DCHD Personal Health immunization team is continuing to find ways to collaborate with partners to increase immunization in Delaware County.
  - DCHD is collaborating with Upper Darby School District to break down barriers and provide students/families more opportunities and access to vaccines. DCHD Personal Health is working closely with the school nurses and Director of Student Services.
  - DCHD continues to collaborate with Centro de Apoyo, Chester County/Delaware County Migrant Program, and Murphy's Giving Market to connect families to vaccination clinics.
  - To accommodate the influx of vaccine appointments, DCHD is offering more appointments during the day. DCHD is also providing evening and weekend times.

## **Personal Health - Maternal and Child Health**

### Old Business

- o On June 30, 2024, DCHD's first Title V contracts with MCC, Pettaway Pursuit Foundation, The Foundation for Delaware County, and the Delaware County Intermediate Unit came to an end. Throughout the course of the grant agreements, partners provided doula care to individuals who would otherwise not have been able to access them, trained 20 new doulas, and purchased assistive technology devices to support Delaware county children with special health care needs. All 4 partners have declared their intent to continue on with Title V projects into fiscal year 2024 – 2025 and are currently in the process of negotiating updated contracts with DCHD.

### New Business

- o On May 30, 2024, DCHD was officially given its Notice of Award for the Department of Labor funded Doula and Birth Companion training grant; the duration of this grant is 6/1/24 through 5/31/27. DCHD representatives attended their onboarding meeting with the federal grants manager and began moving forward with Temple University, The Foundation for Delaware County, and Main Line Health to start working towards grant objectives of establishing a centralized intake for maternal and child health resources, developing a registry of doulas operating in Delaware County, increasing doula state certification rates, training doulas in billing



- insurance/Medicaid, establishing a birth companion training course for students in a school of nursing program, and improving maternal and child health overall in Delaware County.
- o On June 14, 2024, DCHD notified Once Upon a Premie (OUAP) that their training project for healthcare professionals in Delaware County under the HRSA Health Equity grant was approved. DCHD and OUAP are now moving forward with project implementation. OUAP will provide free virtual training through their accredited e-learning academy for up to 100 healthcare professionals working in Delaware County. The program provides evidence-based health and racial equity training targeted at reducing racial disparities in maternal and infant healthcare. Training is scheduled to commence in January 2025.
  - o On June 28, 2024, DCHD held its first full Community Health Improvement Plan (CHIP) meeting focusing on promoting maternal, parental, and child health. The meeting included reviewing goals and objectives to be achieved by December 2028 and going over collective strategies to achieve those goals.

## **Personal Health - Immunizations**

### Old Business

- o June 8, 2024, Tdap/MCV4 Vaccine Clinic for rising 7th and 12th grade students. Delaware County students, regardless of insurance status, were able to receive free Tdap and/or MCV4 vaccines. This initiative was in response to a data review that showed Delaware County's rate of vaccination for Tdap and MCV4 was less than the state of Pennsylvania. 24 vaccines were provided.
- o DCHD sent 3 members of the Personal Health Division to Hershey, PA for the annual Pennsylvania Immunization Conference.
- o June 25, 2024, Murphy's Giving Market (MGM) Vaccine, Lead Testing, and Health Education event. This was the second event held at MGM. 30 vaccines were provided to school aged children. And 3 lead tests were performed on children under the age of 6. Population Health provided health education and giveaways.
- o Pennsylvania State Hepatitis A and Hepatitis B Vaccine Program for residents in Drug & Alcohol Recovery Programs. DCHD has partnered with Harwood House to provide education and vaccinations for Hepatitis A and Hepatitis B to residents. DCHD visits Harwood House approximately once a month. To date 7 residents are fully vaccinated for Hepatitis B. Residents are provided with the DCHD Wellness Line number to make a 6-month follow-up appointment for their second Hepatitis A vaccine at either our Chester or Yeadon Wellness Center.
- o August 10, 2024, Back to School Fair. Tdap/MCV4 Vaccine Clinic for rising 7th and 12th grade students. Delaware County students, regardless of insurance status, were able to receive free Tdap and/or MCV4 vaccines. 23 students received vaccines.
- o DCHD provided lead testing and education at WIC in Upper Darby. To date, 5 children have been tested. All children with elevated lead levels plan to follow up with their primary care provider.

### New Business

- o September 5, 2024, DCHD is partnering with Upper Darby School District to provide a walk-in clinic to 7th and 12th graders that have been excluded from school because they do not have their Tdap and/or MCV4 vaccine. Students will be able to walk-in at the Yeadon Wellness Center and receive the Tdap and/or MCV4 regardless of insurance status. An UDSD School Nurse will be present at the clinic to assist with locating student's immunization records and recording the vaccines they receive. Student can return to school the same day.
- o Personal Health will be assisting Population Health with their Drive-Thru Flu Clinics. They will be providing vaccines, medical supplies, and nurses to help at these events.

- o DCHD will continue to provide monthly lead testing and education to different WIC locations across Delaware County.
- o DCHD will continue to support Harwood House with Hepatitis A and Hepatitis B vaccines and education.

## **Personal Health – Tuberculosis (TB)**

### Old Business

- o Positive Interferon Gamma Release Assay (IGRA) (blood test that can determine if a person has been infected with TB bacteria) reporting continues to be high in Delaware County.
  - 65 positive IGRAs in June and 79 in July; DCHD is already at 66 positive IGRAs as of 8/22/2024 - total of 207 since June 2024.
  - Each case requires follow up to determine if the patient is an active case or latent TB infection (LTBI), each of which may require a chest x-ray referral, sputum cultures, and/or consult with Dr. Berkowitz.
- o Currently, DCHD has 11 active TB cases.
  - Down from a high of 15 active cases in June.
  - All are participating in electronic Direct Observation Therapy.
  - All require case management and follow up to ensure treatment is effective and completed in a timely manner, medications are provided, changes in treatment take place as ordered by Dr. Berkowitz, and all updates are entered in the state surveillance system (PaNEDSS).
- o DCHD is treating 27 LTBI patients here at the Chester clinic.
  - 11 patients have completed treatment since June.
  - 10 patients started treatment since June
  - DCHD is building back cases being treated as it was necessary to suspend treatments temporarily due to Rifampin back order in May and June.

### New Business

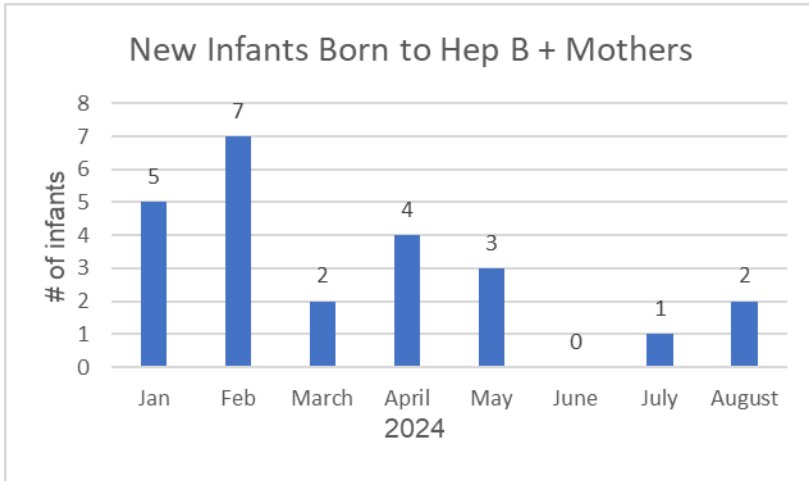
- o Complex active TB cases
  - 2 peritoneal TB cases, one of which has required rehospitalization due to worsening of symptoms which required changes to treatment, frequent follow-up, and close contact with surgeon who has treated this patient at Jefferson Hospital.
  - 1 case is resistant to Isoniazid, so specimen has been sent to CDC for a complete series of sensitivities and Levofloxacin has been added to treatment.
  - 3 cases lost >30 lbs due to their TB infection and require supplemental calories which DCHD is providing.

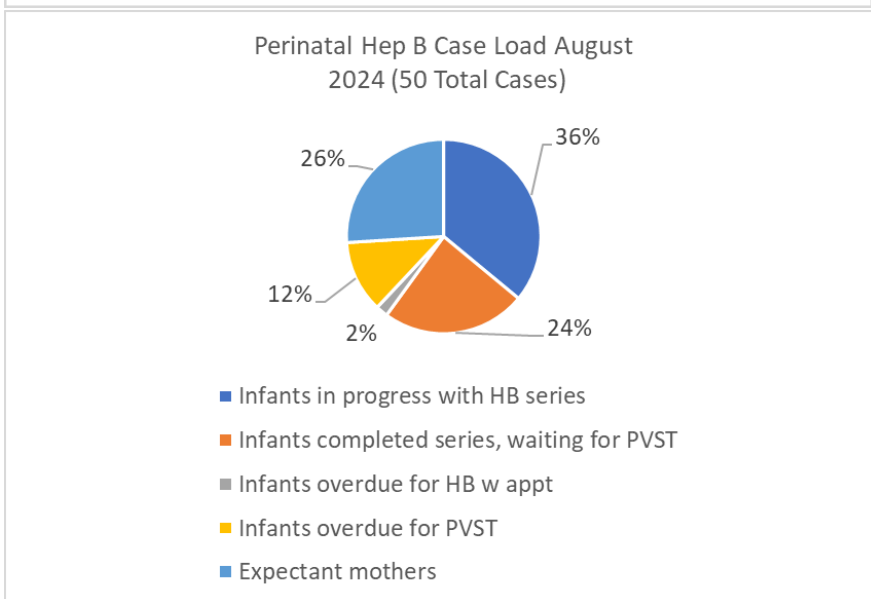
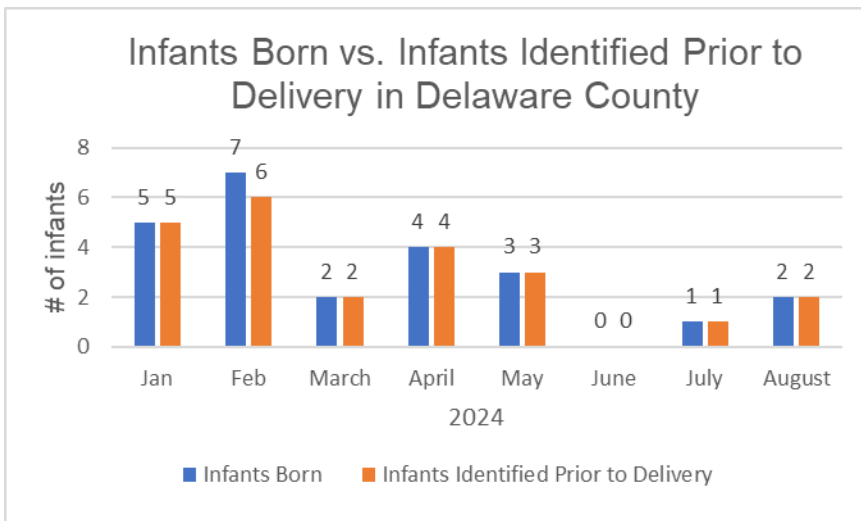
## **Personal Health – Communicable Diseases**

### Old/New Business

- o DCHD continues to work on ongoing complex healthcare acquired infection responses.
  - Facility A
    - 6/17/24 - 29 screened; 10 positives
    - 7/1/24 – 9 screened; 2 positives
    - 7/15/24 – 12 screened; 1 positive
    - 8/20/24 – 11 screened; awaiting results
  - Facility B
    - 7/24/24 – 16 screened; 1 positive

- 8/5/24 – 7 screened; 2 positives
    - 8/13 – 14 screened; 2 positives
  - Facility C
    - 6/26/24 – 26 screened; 0 positives
- o Pertussis Cases: This continues to be a high year for pertussis transmission. In Delaware County for MMWR Year 2024 to date, there have been a total of 148 confirmed cases of pertussis. From June 1, 2024 – mid August 2024, there have been a total of **51** confirmed cases of pertussis so far.
- o Perinatal Hepatitis B:
  - Infants Born to Hepatitis B Positive Mothers in Delaware County, PA (January 2024—August 2024)





## **Population Health:**

### Highlights/Successes

- o **DCHD’s First Back-to-School Event** occurred on Saturday, August 10, 2024, and was an overwhelming success by all expectations. An estimated 500+ people attended the event at DCHD’s Yeadon Wellness Center. Items were donated through various partnerships, donations, and collaborations. Service providers included Eagle Eye for vision screenings, Kids Smiles for dental screenings, and local barbershop, The Line Up, (see images below).

- 301 backpacks distributed
- 23 immunizations provided
- 135 dental screenings provided
- 50 vision screenings conducted
- 22 haircuts provided
- Large number of informational and support items were distributed, including free food from Harry's Helping Hands, Delaware County Library System resources, free hair barrettes for girls, sporting equipment, Narcan, etc.

**Back to School attendees in front of the Yeadon Wellness Center**



**The Line Up Owner/Barber providing free haircuts**





### Backpack giveaways



### Tabling at the event



### Council Chair Dr. Taylor and Vice Chair Womack



### Old Business

- o In April though July 2023, DCHD Population Health supported 26 community outreach events.
  - April-July programming included 2 mammogram screening events where DCHD partnered with Jefferson on 04/05/24 and 07/24/24.
- o DCHD distributed 452 COVID-19 home test kits between April and July 2024.
- o DCHD Population Health's Delco Revive program increased its provision of CPR, Narcan, and Stop the Bleed Trainings in summer 2024, especially after transitioning to become the centralized distributor of Narcan in Delaware County. Emergency responders, 911 Call Center, organizations, partners, etc. all replenish or receive Narcan kits from DCHD.

- o From 1/1/24 through 9/2/24, DCHD's Wellness Line has handled 4,137 calls. Figures below detail calls by division (primary choice), volume per month, and reason for call.

Primary Choice



Call Volume by Month (2024)



New Business

- o Intense planning for the launch of DCHD's public health vending machines/Test and Go kiosks is underway. The contract was signed between the county and vendor on 07/19/2024, and the launch is planned for mid/late September.
- o Numerous activities are in progress, including finalization of the items in the kiosk, preparing the three locations for kiosk install (Yeadon Wellness Center-Yeadon, Government Center-Media, Keystone First Wellness Center-Chester), finalizing the wrap design of kiosk, and logistics for the final procurements for products.
- o Tentative kick-off ribbon cutting date is set for Monday, September 16, 2024, at the Keystone First Wellness Center in Chester.
- o DCHD will monitor usage and data that will be collected at the kiosk when dispensed. DCHD is considering HIV/STI test kits.

## Test N Go Kiosk Imagery (minor adjustments in progress)

testandgo  
DCHD Custom Option

Photo On Side



## Epidemiology:

### Highlights/Successes

- o Developed meaningful networking relationships with external organizations including participation in data-driven policies / strategies committees and workgroups addressing DCHD Community Health Assessment/Community Health Improvement Plan (CHA/CHIP) public health priorities.
- o Continuing to discover associations of maternal risk factors with fetal and infant mortality in Delaware County (e.g., Premature Rupture of Membranes/breaking of amniotic sac before the process of labor begins, which is associated with significant morbidity and mortality).
- o Identified changes in infant mortality rates that could be associated with ongoing interventions (health and social services) provided by the Foundation for Delaware County, Healthy Start project.
- o Enabled access and use of protected data files needed to secure funding of a federal \$5.5M grant addressing infant mortality in Delaware County.
- o Facilitated distribution of COVID-19 tests to Life Center of Eastern Delaware County a 50-bed facility-based shelter for single adult men and women and affiliated with Community Action Agency of Delaware County, Inc.
- o Provided training to DCHD Population Health staff on Qualtrics (an online survey tool where users can build and distribute surveys, collect responses, analyze response data) on DCHD Call Center inputs and outputs (type of calls, nature of callers, typical questions, and workflow / coordination with other departments).

### Old Business

- o Personnel: ongoing recruitment for Epidemiological Research Assistant position.
- o DCHD Epidemiology is providing ongoing technical assistance and consultation to all three Community Health Improvement Plan (CHIP) Planning Committees addressing priority areas of the 2024 DCHD Community Health Assessment project (CHA). Committees were tasked to



develop goals, objectives, and strategies under each identified priority area. Committees are comprised of key community partners and DCHD staff.

- DCHD staff from all divisions are participating in the CHIP. As we move into implementation, DCHD staff will be facilitating meetings, developing partnerships, and ensuring that established goals and priorities are carried out.
- CHIP plans for each priority area are currently being finalized and formatted in coordination with the DCHD Strategic Plan.
- Committee chairs are working to expand community representation on committees and identify routine meeting dates for CHIP implementation committees. Plans are being developed for a CHIP kick-off event in the fall.
- o Continuing to provide consultation to the Delaware County Child Mortality Review Committee.
- o Updated surveillance and reporting methodologies for detecting weekly increases of above average confirmed/probable/suspected cases of reportable diseases.
- o Routinely monitor and report by age categories Delaware County hospitals' visits due to the following syndromes: COVID-19, pneumonia, influenza-like illness, gastrointestinal, asthma and injuries.
- o On a weekly basis, monitor Delaware County wastewater detection of genetic material of COVID-19, RSV, Influenza A, B, Norovirus, Mpox clade II, Rotavirus, Candida auris (fungus), and Hepatitis A.
- o Providing ongoing technical assistance and consultation on lead poisoning, maternal and child health hospitalizations and poor birth outcomes to Chester City Health Board members.

#### New Business

- o The Epidemiology Division (Epi) was asked to provide technical assistance and consultation on data-driven policy projects by three external partners, The Foundation for Delaware County (TFDC), Chester City Board of Health (BOH), and a Federally Qualified Health Center (FQHC).
  - TFDC – assistance with the Perinatal Period of Risk (PPOR) data analysis to guide policies and strategies regarding outputs of a \$5.5M HRSA grant for the reduction of disparities in infant mortality.
  - Chester City BOH - asked for assistance with analysis of data on childhood lead poisoning and to help assess if high infant mortality and high congenital deformity is associated to increased substance abuse.
  - FQHC – asked Epi to join workgroup developing performance clinical measures of chronic diseases e.g., cardiovascular diseases, breast cancer).
- o Joined the Foundation for Delaware County, Community Action Network of stakeholders working on community-driven strategies to reduce disparities in infant and maternal mortalities.
- o Developed networking relationships and data acquisition agreements with Delaware County Medical Examiner Office.
- o Updated surveillance and reporting methodologies for detecting weekly increases of above average confirmed/probable/suspected cases of reportable diseases.
- o Provided technical assistance and consultation to infection prevention nurses in long term care facilities, rehabilitation centers, and shelters on information regarding control and prevention of COVID-19 outbreaks and frequency of testing of asymptomatic residents and staff.
- o Joined Delaware County Healthcare Emergency Preparedness coalition of hospitals.
- o Assisted DCHC staff with interpretation of a Notice of Funding Opportunity and provided data for a HUD grant application addressing lead poisoning in children less than 6 years of age.

- o Provided technical assistance to Delaware County IT staff on the installation, deployment, and testing, of a HIPAA secure web application for building and managing online surveys and databases - REDCap Consortium (thousands of institutional partners in over one hundred countries)
- o Joined coalitions addressing environmental health and asthma in southern Delaware County.
- o Implemented quality assurance method to identify misclassified reports (estimated range 1.68% to 1.90%) in Pennsylvania Department of Health, National Electronic Disease Surveillance System (PA NEDSS) of pregnant people with a laboratory report positive for sexually transmitted infections and subsequently facilitated the initiation of case investigation and management activities to prevent adverse birth outcomes.
- o Joined the President Judge Cartisano at the Government Center for a youth tour on July 15, 2024. An exercise on disease transmission and spread to 17 high-school age students. A demonstration on disease spreading person-to-person and the positive impact of vaccination in preventing the spread. Flyers with educational materials and DCHD contact information were provided as well as supplemental information including interactive videogames from the CDC (via e-mail after the presentation).

## **Communications:**

### Highlights/Successes

- o Highly successful promotion and turnout for DCHD's 8/10/24 Back to School Event and initial coverage for DCHD's plan for public health kiosks/Test and Go kiosks:
  - Back to School Event: [https://www.fox29.com/news/back-school-delaware-county-focuses-more-than-school-supplies-kids-prepare-school-year?utm\\_campaign=trueanthem&utm\\_medium=trueanthem&utm\\_source=facebook&fbclid=IwY2xjawEm5H5leHRuA2FibQIxMQABHT\\_w7SISPz-BLUParY-W6AaGuCgYIDLrQ-LhWI6oERvGDBFMY\\_amvI61iQ\\_aem\\_wwf3vrrUFqoZXNVBQARCSQ](https://www.fox29.com/news/back-school-delaware-county-focuses-more-than-school-supplies-kids-prepare-school-year?utm_campaign=trueanthem&utm_medium=trueanthem&utm_source=facebook&fbclid=IwY2xjawEm5H5leHRuA2FibQIxMQABHT_w7SISPz-BLUParY-W6AaGuCgYIDLrQ-LhWI6oERvGDBFMY_amvI61iQ_aem_wwf3vrrUFqoZXNVBQARCSQ)
  - Test and Go: <https://www.fox29.com/video/1473593>
- o Continued promotion of DCHD's specialized teen focused clinics through out the summer and leading up to the new school year - [DCHD's Teen STI Clinic at the Wellness Center at Chester is available every other Tuesday. The next available Teen STI clinic will be on Tuesday, August 20th.](#)
- o DCHD accepted applications from local non-profit organizations interested in purchasing [cold storage equipment for food pantries](#). Through HRSA grant funding DCHD was able to help address communities experiencing food insecurities, also known as "food deserts". Cold food storage is essential to keeping fresh food longer in pantries and preventing food-borne illnesses.
- o Daily heat health messaging and tips through the hottest periods of the summer when the heat index would consistently rise to [dangerous levels](#).
- o Old Business
- o Ongoing promotion and support to DCHD's Delco Revive program. E.g., Delco Revive - "Another amazing Delco Revive training is in the books! Parents and teens were recently trained and received crucial CPR Certifications."

- o Ongoing collaboration with Environmental Health to share MDC/West Nile Virus information and alerts throughout the May-October season (see social media postings and website information at <https://delcopa.gov/health/environmentalhealthalerts.html>).

#### New Business

- o Collaborated with Personal Health and created a DCHD YouTube channel to host a new educational STI video targeting teens, posted in August 2024: [Are You Tricked By Myths - HIV & STI Misconceptions \(youtube.com\)](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=aMx_Bypx5yl) - [https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=aMx\\_Bypx5yl](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=aMx_Bypx5yl)
- o Preparing for public information campaign for DCHD's launch of the public health vending machines/Test and Go kiosks for late September.