



Colorado Department
of Public Health
and Environment

CDPHE Strategy Submission

2014-2015

MISSION- The mission of the Colorado Public Health and Environment is to protect and improve the health of Colorado's people and the quality of its environment.

VISION- Colorado will be the healthiest state with the highest quality environment

Major Policy Initiative #1- Effective and efficient use of health data and technology

Primary Contact- Chris Wells, DCEED

Brief Description- The public health programs in the Department receive (and disseminate) various public health data. The systems are not currently fully integrated with each other, local providers or the Department of Health Care Policy and Financing. Health care providers are not able to quickly and easily share information with the Department's data collection systems. In many cases, the provider enters data into their electronic health records system and then is required to duplicate the entry into the Department's systems. With a cohesive, integrated solution, data entry will occur only once, reducing the potential for error, and alleviating workload. Health Information Exchanges (HIE) enable providers, hospitals, laboratories and other health care organizations to use approved standards to securely submit clinical information to various state public health systems and programs. Finally, being able to accommodate Electronic Health Record (EHR) interface requests from providers and hospitals will become more essential with the implementation of the Health Information Technology for Economic and Clinical Health Act because the importance is placed on establishing ongoing data exchange instead of simple test message submissions from EHRs to the Department's data collection systems.

3 year strategic goal-

- By June 30, 2017, increase the percentage of hospitals and clinics engaging in bi-directional, real-time messaging with the Colorado Immunization Information System by 50%
- By June 30, 2017, increase the number of hospital laboratories reporting all relevant reportable conditions through a validated Electronic Laboratory Reporting feed from 0 to 20

1 year strategic goals-

- By June 30, 2015, CDPHE will have a department wide working foundational technology framework (FTF).
- By June 30, 2015, CDPHE will identify existing and future data interface needs for the top 20% of CDPHE IT systems in order to develop a standard data interoperability plan in year two.

Major Policy Initiative #2- Advance Governor’s Health Plan and address emerging public health issues in alignment with the Affordable Care Act

Primary Contact- Karen Trierweiler, PSD/Tista Ghosh, Deputy CMO

Brief Description: Oral Health

Tooth decay, although mostly preventable, is the most common chronic disease of childhood. Cavities affect children’s concentration, ability to learn, speech development, eating habits, activity levels and self-esteem. Untreated tooth decay can cause pain and tooth loss. Nationally, dental decay is five times more common than childhood asthma and seven times more common than hay fever. In Colorado, nearly 40% of kindergarteners have already experienced decay. 30-50% of low income children experience severe, aggressive cavities at a young age called Early Childhood Caries (ECC) which can result in high costs for complex restorative, hospital based treatments costing upwards of \$15,000 per admission.

By establishing a dental home by age one, we can help prevent early childhood caries. CDPHE and its partners are working to improve access to preventive dental services and educate communities about oral health in young children.

3 year strategic goal-

- By June 30, 2017, at least 15% of children aged 1-3 years old visit a dentist by age one.

1 year strategic goal

- By June 30, 2015, train 20 new dental providers in the Cavity Free at Three model
- By June 30, 2015, collaborate with Colorado Community Health Network (CCHN) to develop patient-centered dental home guidelines for federally qualified health centers.
- By June 30, 2015, support pilot testing and implementation of CDA’s “hub and spoke” model to provide services in areas of limited dental access.
- By June 30, 2015, link Colorado Health Service Corps grantees to Cavity Free at Three training opportunities.

Brief Description- Obesity

The proportion of Colorado adults who are obese more than doubled during the past 15 years. Obesity increases a person’s risk for several serious illnesses: heart disease, type 2 diabetes, high blood pressure, high cholesterol, stroke and some types of cancer. As a result, health care for conditions related to obesity costs Coloradans more than \$1.6 billion each year. The Colorado Department of Public Health and Environment and its partners are engaged in a number of proven and promising strategies to fight this battle. Strategies include providing businesses, schools and communities with tools, best practices, guidance and support.

3 year strategic goal-

- By June 30, 2017, CDPHE will build a movement that reverses the obesity epidemic, Colorado will align and intensify its efforts to develop a culture of health, establishing and enforcing policies, standards, benefits, and procurement that create places and conditions to achieve healthy weight across the lifespan.

1 year strategic goal-

- By June 30, 2015, CDPHE will implement U.S. Health and Human Services Guidelines for healthier beverages in vending operations in all 19 state agencies under the administration of the CDHS's Business Enterprise Program.

-By June 30, 2015, CDPHE will use the results of PSD's 2013 Built Environment Active Living Policy Scan to provide technical support to at least 25 Colorado communities that are developing policies to enhance physical activity in the built environment.

- By June 30, 2015, CDPHE will recruit 10 hospitals to join the Colorado Healthy Hospital Compact in which participating hospitals agree to implement a set of graduated steps to improve their food and beverage environments.

Brief Description- Substance Abuse and Mental Health

Substance abuse (excessive alcohol consumption, binge and heavy drinking and use of illicit drugs) is a completely preventable health issue, and has been linked to a host of other problems including increased rates of HIV/AIDS and other sexually transmitted infections/diseases; domestic violence and child abuse; automobile accidents; crime and homicide; and suicide. Colorado is one of 10 states with a Screening, Brief Intervention, and Referral to Treatment program which informs people about health consequences and reinforces responsible health behaviors. In addition to providing client screenings, the program has partnered with HealthTeamWorks to develop and increase use of standardized substance abuse screening guidelines in health care settings across Colorado. The Department will continue to work with its partners to improve mental health and substance abuse outcomes for Colorado residents.

3 year strategic goal-

By June 30, 2017, CDPHE will develop and implement strategies to increase public awareness and prevention of prescription drug abuse

By June 30, 2017, CDPHE will develop and implement strategies for the public to prevent, recognize, and take action related to depression

1 year strategic goal-

- By June 30, 2015, CDPHE will decrease the rate of deaths due to unintentional prescription drug overdose.

- By June 30, 2015, CDPHE will increase the percentage of obese or overweight adults who report experiencing current depression.
- By June 30, 2015, CDPHE will decrease the percentage of Coloradans age 12 and older who report nonmedical use of prescription pain relievers.
- By June 30, 2015, CDPHE will increase the percentage of adults who report taking medicine or receiving treatment for any type of mental health condition or emotional problem.
- By June 30, 2015, CDPHE will increase percentage of adults who report experiencing depressive symptoms.

Brief Description- Marijuana Research and Education

CDPHE is engaged in a variety of marijuana research and education initiatives intended to increase public awareness around health impacts of marijuana use. The Department is proposing a number of research, public health surveillance activities, and public education initiatives designed to ensure that information about the health impacts of marijuana is available to citizens and medical providers.

3 year strategic goal-

- By June 30, 2017, CDPHE will engage public, private, and non-profit experts in the development of a policy and education agenda that is strongly supported by medical evidence, surveillance data, and emerging research.

1 year strategic goal-

- By June 30, 2015, CDPHE will develop and implement a marijuana prevention campaign based on recommendations from the Retail Marijuana Public Health Advisory Committee.
- By June 30, 2015, CDPHE will partner with select public and private entities to pilot marijuana surveillance projects.

Major Policy Initiative #3- Efficiently manage environmental permitting, inspection, and monitoring programs to ensure public health protection, improve and protect Colorado’s environment, and promote a vibrant economy

Primary Contact- Andrew Putnam, Environmental Programs

Brief Description- CDPHE’s Environmental Programs (Air Pollution Control, Water Quality Control, Hazardous Materials and Waste Management, and Environmental Health and Sustainability) currently interface with multiple different customer groups through various regulatory programs. For the most part, these programs operate independently. The customer experience is equated with working with several different organizations that don’t interact with one another and use cumbersome paper based processes. Additionally, most programs do not have processes in place with established customer best practices. CDPHE has established a strategic initiative to address these issues through the construction and operation of a customer focused, integrated and interactive electronic information system. This five

year project is slated to dramatically change the operation of the Environmental Divisions. The implementation of this project will include:

- Create an electronic single point of entry for customers to interface easily with CDPHE's Environmental Programs
- Standardization of key business processes and data across core business functions (e.g. permitting activities)
- Increased government transparency through the improved accessibility of agency records
- Increased process efficiency through less burdensome processes for staff and, therefore, improved services to customers

3 year strategic goal-

- By June 30, 2017, CDPHE will have 40 discrete CDPHE environmental program processes in the online system

1 year strategic goal-

- By June 30, 2015, CDPHE will have purchased a pilot system that will allow for the online submittal of permit applications.